



Universiteit Leiden

Course and Examination Regulations

valid as of 1 September 2020

Programme-specific section:

Master's Programme: Classics and Ancient Civilizations

These Course and Examination Regulations (henceforth OER) have been drawn up in accordance with the Higher Education and Research Act [*Wet op het hoger onderwijs en wetenschappelijk onderzoek*; WHW] (henceforth the Act) and the following Leiden University regulations:

- the Leiden Register of Study Programmes Framework Document;
- the Academic Calendar;
- the Regulations for Student Registration, Tuition Fees and Examination Fees;
- the Regulations for Admission to Master's Programmes.

Pursuant to Article 7.14 of the Act, the Faculty Board regularly evaluates the Course and Examination Regulations and considers, for the purpose of monitoring and adjusting the study load, how much time it takes students to comply. In accordance with Article 9.18 of the Act, the departmental committee is assigned the task of annually assessing the implementation of the OER.

These Course and Examination Regulations consist of two sections:

- a faculty section that is the same for all programmes and
- a section that contains information that is specific to a particular programme, what is known as the programme-specific section of the Course and Examination Regulations.

In the text below the relevant articles will refer to this section.

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Chapter 2 Description of the programme

Article 2.1 Objectives of the programme

The programme has the following objectives:

1. to enable students to acquire academic knowledge, understanding and skills, and train them in the use of academic methods in the fields of Classical Antiquity and its reception, Ancient and Coptic Egypt, or the Ancient Near East as represented in the tracks Assyriology and Hebrew and Aramaic Studies;
2. to enable students to develop the following academic and professional skills:
 - independent academic reasoning and conduct,
 - the ability to analyse complex problems,
 - the ability to clearly report academic results, both in writing and orally;
3. to prepare students for an academic career and further education;
4. to prepare students for a career outside academia.

Article 2.2 Specialisations

The programme has the following specialisations:

- Assyriology
- Classics
- Egyptology
- Hebrew and Aramaic Studies

Article 2.3 Learning outcomes

Graduates of the programme have attained the following learning outcomes, listed according to the Dublin descriptors:

1. *Knowledge and understanding*
 - a. Knowledge and understanding of one of the following fields of study: Assyriology, Classics, Egyptology or Hebrew and Aramaic Studies, and its principal concepts, heuristic instruments, research methods and techniques;
 - b. Knowledge and understanding of interdisciplinary aspects of the specialisation, such as connections with the other specialisations within the programme and connections with other disciplines, including philology, linguistics, material culture, economic, social and legal history, and reception studies.
2. *Applying knowledge and understanding*
 - a. The ability to apply different methodologies relevant to the specialisation;
 - b. The ability to analyse a problem and formulate a research question, under expert supervision;
 - c. The ability to take on a research topic of moderate size and bring it to a conclusion under expert supervision.
3. *Judgement*
 - a. The ability to critically select and assess relevant primary source material;
 - b. The ability to critically assess secondary literature and to contribute to scholarly debate.
4. *Communication*
 - a. The ability to give a clear and well-argued oral presentation on a research topic in accordance with the academic standards of the relevant specialisation;

- b. The ability to give a clear and well-argued oral presentation that aims at a wider audience of humanities scholars and / or the general public;
- c. The ability to write a clear and well-argued written presentation on a research topic in accordance with the academic standards of the relevant specialisation.

5. *Learning skills*

- a. The learning abilities required to be able to follow post-master's professional training or a PhD training of a largely self-determined or autonomous nature.

Learning outcomes per specialisation

1. Graduates of the specialisation **Assyriology** will have attained the following achievement levels:

1. *Knowledge and understanding*

- a. Knowledge and understanding of the grammar, and an adequate reading level in the original script, of Akkadian, Sumerian or Hittite;
- b. Knowledge of the cultural and historical context of the period in order to interpret these written sources;
- c. Knowledge and understanding of methodologies which are both specific to the field and of a general historical nature.

2. *Applying knowledge and understanding*

- a. The ability to formulate and discuss research questions concerning the history of ancient Mesopotamia and/or Anatolia;
- b. The ability to select and analyse primary sources relevant to a research question, and to use methodologies which are both specific to the field and of a general academic or historical nature.

2. Graduates of the specialisation **Classics** will have attained the following achievement levels:

1. *Knowledge and understanding (varying in emphasis according to the special subject chosen)*

- a. Knowledge and understanding of the formal and linguistic aspects of Greek and Latin textual sources;
- b. Knowledge and understanding of literary aspects of Greek and Latin textual sources;
- c. Familiarity with scholarly approaches to the history of ancient Greece and Rome and / or ancient philosophy;
- d. A diverse and well-balanced view of Greco-Roman antiquity on the basis of an integrated linguistic, literary, cultural-historical approach, and reflection on the relation between classical antiquity and later periods (in particular early modern Europe and the twenty-first century world).

2. *Applying knowledge and understanding*

- a. The ability to formulate and discuss research questions concerning the semantics and the communicative and persuasive functions of Greek and Latin texts;
- b. The ability to formulate and discuss research questions concerning literary devices in Greek and Latin texts, and to assess their influence in a broader literary context;
- c. The ability to formulate and discuss research questions concerning the history of ancient Greece and Rome and / or ancient philosophy;
- d. The ability to interpret the complex connections between classical antiquity and the modern world on the basis of primary and secondary sources.

3. Graduates of the specialisation **Egyptology** will have attained the following achievement levels:

1. *Knowledge and understanding*

- a. Knowledge of Egyptian archaeology and cultural history;

- b. Knowledge of various language phases and script types of Egyptian, mainly of the language and script developments in the Hellenistic and Roman periods;
- c. Knowledge of modern Egypt and recent developments in archaeology and research facilities in Egypt.

2. *Applying knowledge and understanding*

- a. The ability to formulate and discuss research questions concerning the history of ancient or Coptic Egypt;
- b. The skills necessary to combine textual and archaeological sources in this research.

4. Graduates of the specialisation **Hebrew and Aramaic Studies** will have attained the following achievement levels:

1. *Knowledge and understanding*

- a. Knowledge and understanding of the source material which was written in various periods in Hebrew and Aramaic;
- b. Knowledge and understanding of the present scholarly debate in the field of Hebrew and Aramaic language, literature and cultural studies;
- c. Knowledge and understanding of linguistic aspects of Hebrew and Aramaic.

2. *Applying knowledge and understanding*

- a. The skills to apply either linguistic or literary research methods of the field of expertise;
- b. The skills to process source materials in Hebrew or Aramaic.
- c. The ability to formulate and discuss research questions concerning Hebrew and Aramaic language, literature and culture.

Article 2.5 **Study load**

The programme has a study load of 60 credits.

Article 2.8 **Language of instruction**

2.8.1. Subject to the Code of Conduct on the Language of Instruction¹ the language in which the instruction is given and in which the examinations and final examinations are held is English. Students are expected to have an adequate command of the language of instruction and examination in the programme, in accordance with the requirements stated in Article 5.2.3.

2.8.2. Contrary to Article 2.8.1, in individual cases the Board of Examiners can permit the student to write the final thesis in another language, in accordance with the Guideline on Language Policy.²

Chapter 3 **Curriculum**

Article 3.1 **Compulsory components**

3.1.1 The programme includes compulsory components worth a total study load of 60 credits. These compulsory components include the set components from which a student is obliged to choose. Students in the specialization *Classics* are allowed to take 10 EC from the national Masterlanguage curriculum as one of the compulsory components.

¹ [Code of Conduct on Language of Instruction](#)

² [Guideline on Language Policy](#)

Chapter 4 Examinations, Final Examination and Further Education

Article 4.2 Obligatory sequence

4.2.1 Students who have been admitted to the Master's programme in September 2020, on the basis of having completed at least 165 EC of the relevant Bachelor's programme, cannot start their Master's thesis before successfully completing their Bachelor's thesis.

Article 4.3 Form of examination

4.3.5 Not applicable.

Chapter 5 Admission to the programme

Article 5.2 Admission to the programme

5.2.1 Pursuant to Article 7.30b (1) of the Act holders of (one of) the following degrees may be admitted to (the indicated specialisation(s) of) the programme and one of its specialisations, or who have successfully completed the following prescribed pre-master's/bridging programme:

- a. a bachelor's degree from a Dutch research university (in the specialisation) in:

<i>Specialisation Master</i>	<i>Admission on the basis of Bachelor programme, with specialisation</i>
Assyriology	Ancient Near Eastern Studies/Ancient Cultures of the Mediterranean World: Assyriology
Classics	Classics
Egyptology	Ancient Near Eastern Studies/Ancient Cultures of the Mediterranean World: Egyptology
Hebrew and Aramaic Studies	Ancient Near Eastern Studies/Ancient Cultures of the Mediterranean World: Hebrew and Aramaic

- b. Not applicable.
- c. a prescribed pre-master's/bridging programme pursuant to article 5.4.1. The prescribed pre-masters/bridging programme must be completed within the nominal duration plus one semester (in case of a pre-master's/bridging programme of 30 EC or less) or plus one study year (in case of a pre-master's/bridging programme of more than 30 EC).

5.2.2 The Faculty Board may, on request, grant admission to (one or more of the specialisations of) the programme to applicants who do not meet the requirements as specified in 5.2.1, but who can demonstrate to the satisfaction of the Faculty Board that they possess a level of knowledge, understanding and skills equal to that of holders of a degree specified in 5.2.1, points a and b possibly under further conditions, without prejudice to the requirements in 5.2.4.

To be considered as holding a degree equal to the one specified in 5.2.1a, applicants must meet the following requirements:

- a Bachelor's degree from a research university, equivalent to the level of a Dutch academic Bachelor's degree, or demonstrate to meet the requirements for such a degree, including the General Academic Skills listed in Appendix B.

In addition, applicants must also meet the following specific requirements per specialisation:

Specialisation Assyriology

Detailed knowledge of at least one of the following, obtained through an academic Bachelor's degree with a particular focus on Assyriology or the Ancient Near East:

- the grammar of the most important phases of the Akkadian, Hittite or Sumerian language, of the relevant scripts and of the historical development of the language and scripts;
- the archaeology, the material culture and art history of the region involved;
- the cultural history of the region involved, including its literature, its religion, its social structure and its material culture.

Specialisation Classics

An academic Bachelor's degree in Classics or a comparable discipline, with classes on Greek and Latin texts in the original language, equivalent to the 95 credits required in the Dutch system. Applicants are required to submit an overview of ancient Greek and Latin texts that they have read in the original language during their undergraduate/graduate studies.

Specialisation Egyptology

Detailed knowledge of at least one of the following, obtained through an academic Bachelor's degree with a particular focus on Egyptology:

- the grammar of the most important phases of the Egyptian language, of the relevant scripts and of the historical development of the language and scripts;
- the archaeology, the material culture and art history of the region involved;
- the cultural history of the region involved, including its literature, its religion, and its social structure.

Specialisation Hebrew and Aramaic Studies

An academic Bachelor's degree in Theology or Semitic Languages or a comparable degree, with at least one full-year course (normally amounting to 15 credits) of academic study of Biblical Hebrew.

Applicants as referred to in Article 5.2.1b and Article 5.2.2. are requested to provide the Board of Admissions with information demonstrating that the applicant possesses the same level of knowledge, understanding and skills as holders of a degree as specified in Article 5.2.1a.

For further information on the admission procedure and required application documents please see <https://www.universiteitleiden.nl/en/education/admission-and-application/masters>.

Article 5.2.3 Dutch and English languages

5.2.3.1 As further clarification of Article 2.8 concerning command of the language of instruction, a student who wishes to be admitted to an English-taught master's programme must have one of the following diplomas, or must meet the criteria of:

- an [International Baccalaureate](#) diploma (or other with English A);
- a diploma of secondary or higher education completed in the United States of America, the United Kingdom, Ireland, New Zealand, Australia or Canada (with the exception of French-taught education in Canada);
- a diploma of an English-taught university degree programme completed at a Dutch research university;
- a pre-university education (VWO) diploma.

5.2.3.2 If a student who wishes to be admitted does not meet the requirements in 5.2.3.1, at least one of the following English language requirements for this master's programme can be set:

- IELTS 7.0;
- Toefl (internet-based) 100;
- C2 Proficiency (former CPE) or C1 Advanced (former CAE) 185.

A minimum score of IELTS 7.0 or TOEFL 25 is required for each of the four components.

5.2.3.3 Not applicable.

5.2.3.4 Not applicable.

The Faculty Board may request that applicants demonstrate an adequate command at this level. For more information on language tests and diplomas which are sufficient with regard to the required command of English please see <https://www.universiteitleiden.nl/en/education/admission-and-application/masters/admission-requirements#language-requirements>.

Article 5.2.4 **Qualitative admission requirements**

5.2.4.1 Not applicable.

Article 5.2.5 **Capacity limitation**

5.2.5.1 Maximum capacity: not applicable.

Article 5.4 **Pre-master's programmes**

Not applicable.

Chapter 7 Evaluation of the programme

Article 7.1 **Evaluation of the programme**

The programme is evaluated as follows:

- Course evaluations
- Programme evaluation

The Programme Committee advises the Programme Board based on the outcomes of the evaluation.