Universiteit Leiden

Course and Examination Regulations
valid from 1 September 2025

Programme-specific section:

Bachelor's programme: Art History / Kunstgeschiedenis

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 Regulation on the Binding Student Advice;
- the Leiden Register of Study Programmes Framework Document;
- the Academic Calendar;
- the Regulations for Student Registration, Tuition Fees and Examination Fees;
- the Remote Surveillance Protocol;
- the Guideline for elective space and minor policy.

The model OER are laid down in Dutch and then translated into English. In the event that there are differences between the two versions, the Dutch version will prevail.

Pursuant to Section 7.14 of the Act the Faculty Board regularly evaluates the course and examination regulations and assesses, for the purpose of monitoring and, if necessary, adjusting the study load, the time it takes students to comply with the regulations. In conformity with Section 9.18 of the Act, the department teaching committee is assigned the task of annually assessing how the course and examination regulations are implemented.

These Course and Examination Regulations consist of two sections;

- a faculty section that is the same for all bachelor programmes,
- a section that contains information specific to a particular degree programme (this document).

This programme-specific section forms a whole together with the faculty section and only includes the articles that contain details specific to a particular programme. Other sections are included in the faculty section.

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Chapter 2 Description of the Programme

Article 2.1 **Objectives of the programme**

The aim of the programme is to promote the students' academic development in terms of knowledge, understanding and skills in the field of Art History to such an extent that:

- the student meets the entry requirements for admission to the master's programmes that follow on from the bachelor's programme;

- the student is able to work in positions for which undergraduate-level academic knowledge and skills in the above field are required or desirable.

Article 2.2 **Specialisations**

The programme has the following specialisations:

- Kunst en Cultuur (Arts and Culture) (Dutch and English taught)
- Arts, Media and Society (English taught)

Article 2.3 **Learning outcomes**

Graduates of the programme Art History have attained the following learning outcomes, listed according to the Dublin descriptors: I. Knowledge and understanding, II. Applying knowledge and understanding, III. Making judgements, gathering and interpreting data, IV. Communication skills and V. Learning skills. The Dublin descriptors III, IV and V are the same for the entire programme. The Dublin descriptors I and II are formulated separately for each specialisation.

Graduates of the specialisation **Kunst en Cultuur** (Arts and Culture) have attained the following specific learning outcomes, listed according to the Dublin descriptors I and II:

I. Knowledge and understanding related to the specialisation Arts and Culture

1a) have understanding of the history of the visual arts, architecture and applied arts, that enable them to situate artworks within the context in which they were created and comment on the method of production;

2a) have knowledge and understanding of the history of the visual arts, architecture and applied arts, that enable them to relate these artworks to important theoretical and methodological frameworks that have been formulated, and to study them according to the latest scholarly opinions;

3a) have understanding of the art production and art concepts from different cultural regions that enables them to relate art forms from those different cultural regions to interdisciplinary scholarly publications and/or theoretical frameworks, and to the latest scholarly opinions in World Art Studies;

4a) have knowledge of collections, museums and cultural heritage that enables them to assess artworks at an elementary level in the light of collection formation and institutional presentations in the past and present;

5a) have understanding of formal, technical and material aspects of the visual arts, architecture and applied arts, and of the history of these technical and material aspects, that enable the

graduates to comment on the contexts in which these artworks function or have functioned (especially at the court, in the city and in religious places), and the meaning that is or was given to the objects;

II. Applying knowledge and understanding related to the specialisation Arts and Culture

6a) have understanding of the form, function and content, materials and techniques of artworks that enables them to analyse and describe them within relevant contexts and according to the accepted academic standards;

7a) have an analytical approach to various art historical texts, showing that they understand the questions, general structure and structure of the argumentation of these texts, as well as the theoretical and methodological frameworks that are employed by the author;

8a) can give a substantiated critique of scholarly texts in such a way that they can discriminate between those texts, and connect different approaches and methods, and moreover that they can critically assess scholarly texts in relation to various art forms;

9a) can independently accomplish substantive tasks at a third-year level related to art history, in preparation of the professional or educational practice, or another field of work relevant to the discipline – for example in museums, galleries, archives or libraries.

10a) have knowledge and understanding in the relevant field of work and are able to reflect on relevant art historical skills from the context of their future professional practice as well as on transferable skills that can be used more widely.

Graduates of the specialisation Arts, Media & Society have attained the following specific learning outcomes, listed according to the Dublin descriptors I and II:

I. Knowledge and understanding related to the specialisation Arts, Media and Society

1b) have understanding of the developments of the contemporary global visual arts, in relation to media and society, so that they can relate this to the context of their origin and production according to the latest scholarly opinions;

2b) have such understanding of major themes relating to the contemporary global visual arts, in relation to media and society, so that this enables them to situate major themes in the historiography of art history and according to the latest scholarly opinions;

3b) have such knowledge and understanding of themes related to the contemporary global visual arts, in relation to media and society, and their relation with global challenges, that they can approach these themes from the perspective of current discourses and debates;

4b) have such knowledge of collections, museums and cultural heritage that they can consider, on an elementary level, artworks as part of the creation of collections and institutional presentations in past and present, and policies pertaining to them;

5b) have such knowledge and understanding of technical and material features of various media and artforms, that they are able to relate them to methods of production in relation to their social context;

II. Applying knowledge and understanding related to the specialisation Arts, Media and Society

6b) have such understanding of the form, function, content, material and technique of artworks and media that they can analyse and describe these within the relevant contexts of media and society and according to the accepted academic standards;

7b) can give a substantiated critique of a wide range of art historical and humanities texts, showing that they understand these texts in terms of their structure, reasoning and argumentation, and that they can situate them within the specialisation.

8b) can give a substantiated critique of a scholarly viewpoint, demonstrating that they can discriminate between different approaches and can critically assess them in relation to various forms of the visual arts, in relation to media and society;

9b) are able to independently accomplish substantive tasks in a professional field of work relevant to the specialisation, related to the field of visual arts, in relation to media and society at a third-year level, for example supporting policy makers and carrying out supporting research for several institutions that are related to media and culture in any way whatsoever;

10b) have knowledge and understanding in the relevant field of work, and are able to reflect on relevant art historical skills from the context of their future professional practice as well as on transferable skills that can be used more widely.

Graduates of the specialisations **Kunst en Cultuur** (Arts and Culture) and **Arts, Media & Society** have attained the following learning outcomes, listed according to the Dublin descriptors III, IV and V:

III. **Making Judgements**

11) can independently and critically collect data in archives, library catalogues, image collections and other relevant documentation resources, such as written and digital sources, repertories and lexicons, so that they can formulate and develop a concrete research question based on these sources;

12) can process sources, literature and digital data files to produce a clear and substantiated written argument;

13) can relate art historical and cultural historical themes and scholarly research on these themes to their social relevance in past and present;

IV. **Communication skills**

14) can put into context and explain various media and art forms for a broad audience, using an analytical and critical oral or written argument, substantiated with reasons;

15) can give an oral and written report of their own research, both for specialists within their discipline and in a general professional situation;

V. **Learning skills**

16) can relate factual knowledge in the area of various media and art forms to the methods and development of theories that are standard within the history of art and media and, to the theoretical concepts that are standard within general cultural history;

17) can independently formulate an academic problem definition under the supervision of a lecturer, and formulate a methodology/theoretical framework to answer the research question satisfactorily. They can also develop this into a coherent argument independently and critically, in the form of a written thesis with a maximum length of 6,000 (+/- 5%) words (excluding scientific justification and literature);

Furthermore, each humanities programme at Leiden University trains students in the general academic skills formulated by the Faculty. These are specified in Appendix A of the general section.

Article 2.9 **Language of instruction**

2.9.1. Subject to the Code of Conduct regarding Language of Instruction [*Gedragscode voertaal*[1]], the languages in which the instruction is given and in which the examinations and final examinations are held are Dutch and English. The language of instruction and examination within the specialisation Arts, Media and Society is English. Students are expected to have an adequate command of the languages of instruction and examination used within the programme, in accordance with the requirements stated in Article 5.2.4. As appropriate, the Faculty publishes the Course and Examination Regulations in English for English-taught programmes.

2.9.2. Contrary to Article 2.9.1., for individual cases the Board of Examiners may allow that the thesis is written in another language, in accordance with the Guideline on Language Policy[2].

Chapter 3 Curriculum

Article 3.2 **Optional components**

3.2.9 Contrary to Article 3.2.2, students may choose the following minor programmes exclusively if the overlapping courses are substituted by courses that are not part of the Art History curriculum; the programme offers alternative optional courses (see attachment D – E-prospectus).

- Museums, Heritage and Collections
- De middeleeuwen en de vroegmoderne tijd (*The Middle Ages and the Early Modern Period*)

Chapter 4 Examinations and Final Examination

Article 4.2 **Obligatory sequence**

4.2.1 The student may only participate in classes and examinations of the following course components after he or she has successfully completed the examinations for the prior course components that are listed together below.

For the specialisation Arts and Culture:*

Component:	Participation in classes and examination only after passing:
BA2 seminars (semester 1 and 2)	- Academic Skills I - Academic Skills II - Visuele Analyse
BA2 seminar excursion	- Academic Skills I - Academic Skills II - Visuele Analyse - At least one BA2 seminar
BA3 seminar	- The complete first year (/propedeuse) in Art History - Two BA2 seminars
Elective space BA3	- All BA1 courses
Perspectieven op kunsthistorisch onderzoek en de beroepspraktijk / Perspectives in the study and professional practice of art history	- Aesthetics and the Impact of Art

[1] Code of conduct language of instruction
[2] Guideline on Language Policy

Final BA Thesis Art History	- The complete first year (/propedeuse) in Art History - Two BA2 seminars - Perspectieven op kunsthistorisch onderzoek en de beroepspraktijk / Perspectives in the study and professional practice of art history

For the specialisation Arts, Media and Society:*

Component:	Participation in classes and examination only after passing:
BA2 seminars	- Academic Skills I - Academic Skills II
AMS on Site	- Academic Skills I - Academic Skills II - At least one BA2 Seminar
BA3 seminar	- All first year courses of Arts, Media and Society completed - Both BA2 seminars
Elective space BA3	- All BA1 courses
Framing AMS Case Studies	- AMS on Site
Bachelor's Thesis Arts, Media and Society	- All first year courses on Arts, Media and Society - Two BA2 seminars - Framing AMS Case Studies

* These admission requirements are only applicable to students taking part in the above-mentioned courses in 2025-2026.

Chapter 6 Student Counselling and Study Advice

Article 6.3 **Study advice**

6.3.2 The programme imposes additional requirements regarding components that have to be completed for the first binding study advice referred to in 6.3.1. These are listed in the faculty section of the OER.

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.

Appendix F Transitional provisions

Course in old programme	Replacement (new) course
Transitional provisions BA1	
Westerse beeldende kunst en architectuur tot 1300: Oudheid en Middeleeuwen	Oudheid tot 1300: Europese Kunst in Mondiaal Perspectief I
Westerse Beeldende Kunst en Architectuur van 1300 tot c. 1550: Renaissance	1300-1550: Europese Kunst in Mondiaal Perspectief II
Moderne hedendaagse kunst en fotografie	Visual Arts in Europe and the US 1800-present
The Social Roles of Art in the Modern and Contemporary Period	Materials and Techniques in Art and Architecture
History of European Decorative Arts and Design	Architecture and Design in Europe and the US 1550-present (block 3)
Western Visual Arts and Architecture - 2000 part II	Architecture and Design in Europe and the US 1550-present (block 4)
Cultures of Exhibiting	Introduction to the History of Museums*
Photography: Analysis & Theory	Visual Analysis
Art in Western Europe – 1800	Art in Europe before 1800
Modern and Contemporary Visual Art after 1800	Visual Arts in Europe and the US 1800-present
Cinema: Analysis & Theory	Architecture and Design in Europe and the US 1550-present (block 4)

** Students who started their programme in 2024-2025 or earlier, and did not pass Cultures of Exhibiting, have to follow an online version of Cultures of Exhibiting in 2025-2026.*

Students of the specialisation *Arts and Culture* who started in 2024-2025 or before and who have not passed *Cultural Representation and Signifying Practices* yet, can still take this course in 2025-2026.

Part-time students of the specialisation *Arts and Culture* who started in 2024-2025 can take the course *BA2 werkcollege 1* in Semester I and *Kerncurriculum: Wetenschapsfilosofie* in Semester II of their second Bachelor year (2025-2026). They can take *Esthetica en de impact van kunst* in Semester I of their third Bachelor year (2026-2027).