



Universiteit Leiden

Course and Examination Regulations

valid from 1 September 2026

Programme-specific section:

Bachelor's programme: English Language and Culture

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 Study Advice;
- the Leiden Register of Study Programmes Framework Document;
- the Academic Calendar;
- the Regulations for Student Registration, Tuition Fees and Examination Fees;
- the Online Proctoring Protocol;
- the Guidelines for Elective Credits and Minors.

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 OER and assesses, for the purpose of monitoring and, if necessary, adjusting the study load, i.e. 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 OER are implemented.

These Course and Examination Regulations consist of two sections:

- a faculty section that is identical for all bachelorprogrammes,
- 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 develop the students' academic development in terms of knowledge, understanding and skills in the field of English language and culture 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 or in a wider academic Humanities context are required or desirable.

Article 2.2 Specialisations

Not applicable.

Article 2.3 Learning outcomes

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

I. (Knowledge and understanding) The graduate has:

- a. *Philology*: (a) knowledge of the systematic and historical development of the English language and of literature, from the earliest stages of the English language (Old English, Middle English, Early and Late Modern English) and (b) understanding of the development of the older English language and literature in a historical-cultural and socio-historical linguistic perspective, characteristic of the multidisciplinary aspect that is specific for this discipline.
- b. *Literature*: knowledge and understanding of a limited, yet representative corpus of primary texts, and their social, political and cultural contexts, from the 16th to the 21st centuries, as well as the ability to define common and relevant basic literary concepts, and to apply these in the analyses of these texts.
- c. *Linguistics*: (a) knowledge of the basic concepts of English phonetics, phonology, morphology, syntax, and historical linguistics, and (b) understanding of the way in which these basic concepts are used in linguistic analyses of varieties of English.
- d. *English Language (or Language acquisition)*: knowledge of basic concepts of applied linguistics, and understanding of the way in which these basic concepts are used in linguistic analyses of present-day English.

II. (Applying knowledge and understanding) The graduate is able to:

- a. *Philology*: approach historical linguistic and literary questions in an expert manner in the context of a potential professional practice. The graduate has the skill to read texts from older English periods in their original form, and to understand and evaluate the general line of argumentation in relevant historical linguistic and historical literary secondary literature.
- b. *Literature*: approach questions on literature in an expert manner in the context of a potential professional practice. The graduate has the competence to carry out research assignments independently based on relevant secondary literature.

- c. *Linguistics*: approach questions on linguistics in an expert manner in the context of a potential professional practice. The graduate is able to understand and evaluate the general line of argumentation in linguistic specialist literature.
- d. *English Language (or Language acquisition)*: (a) approach questions on English applied linguistics in an expert manner in the context of a potential professional practice. Graduates are able to give an accurate, substantiated and critical account of the current situation concerning such questions both orally and in writing and (b) use English vocabulary and grammar showing an active and passive proficiency in English that meets the requirements set in the Common European Framework of Reference (CEFR):

| | <i>First year</i> | <i>Bachelor</i> |
|--------------------|-------------------|-----------------|
| Listening | C1 | C2 |
| Reading | C1 | C2 |
| Spoken interaction | B2 | C1 |
| Spoken production | B2 | C1 |
| Writing | B2 | C1 |

III. (Making judgements) The graduate is able to:

- a. *Philology*: translate primary linguistic and literary texts from the oldest stages of the English language (Old English, Middle English, Early and Late Modern English) at an elementary scholarly level and to analyse their historical and cultural context in a multidisciplinary way. Graduates are able to carry out research assignments based on historical linguistic and literary specialist literature.
- b. *Literature*: read, analyse and understand primary literary texts at an elementary scholarly level in their national and international literary, cultural and historical contexts. Graduates are able to understand, evaluate and convey the general line of argumentation in specialist literary scholarship to an audience consisting of specialists and non-specialists.
- c. *Linguistics*: recognize and analyse historical, geographical and social language varieties of English and processes of language change based on relevant linguistic data. Graduates are able to carry out research assignments based on linguistic specialist literature and to clearly and unambiguously communicate their findings in English.
- d. *English Language (or Language acquisition)*: to present a critical and coherent account, both orally and in writing, on a subject in applied English linguistics based on selected data and on a reading of relevant background literature. Graduates are able to present this account in a standard academic form to an audience consisting of specialists and non-specialists.

IV. (Communication) Graduates are able to:

clearly and unambiguously communicate their findings in English to an audience consisting of specialists and non-specialists in the field. Furthermore, each humanities programme at Leiden University trains its students in the general academic skills formulated by the Faculty. These skills relate to the Dublin descriptors Judgement, Communication, and Learning skills as specified in Appendix A of the general section.

Article 2.9 Language of instruction

2.9.1 Subject to the Code of Conduct on the Language of Instruction [*Gedragscode voertaal*¹], the

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

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 5.2.4. All written examinations, as well as the final BA thesis, are presented in English.

As appropriate, the Faculty publishes the Course and Examination Regulations in English for English-taught programmes.

2.9.2 Not applicable.

Chapter 3 Curriculum

Article 3.2 Optional components

3.2.9 Not applicable.

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:

| <i>Component:</i> | <i>Participation in classes and examination only after passing:</i> |
|---|---|
| BA3 Literature 5 | 10 EC in Literature courses |
| BA3 Literature 6 | 10 EC in Literature courses |
| BA3 Philology 5A | - BA1 Philology 2 |
| BA3 Philology 5B | - BA2 Philology 3 |
| BA3 Philology 6 | - BA1 Philology 1 |
| BA3 Linguistics 5B | - BA2 Linguistics 3(A) |
| BA3 Linguistics 5A | - BA2 Linguistics 3(B) |
| BA3 Linguistics 6A | - BA2 Linguistics 3(B) |
| BA3 Linguistics 6B | - BA2 Linguistics 3(A) |
| BA3 Thesis English Language and Culture | - 130 EC of the BA English Language and Culture |

Article 4.6 Assessment

4.6.4 The examination result is expressed in a number to a maximum of one decimal, up to and including 1.0 and 10.0. The examination result is not expressed as a number between 5.0 and 6.0.

Chapter 6 Student Counselling and Study Advice

Article 6.3 Study advice

6.3.2 Not applicable

Chapter 7 Evaluation of the programme

Article 7.1 Evaluation of the programme

The programme is evaluated as follows:

- course evaluations
- programme evaluations

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

Appendix F Transitional provisions

Due to changes in the BA English Language and Culture programme as of September 2025, transitional provisions will apply. Courses listed in the left column which are no longer offered are replaced by courses listed in the right column.

| Transitional provisions BA1 | |
|--|--|
| Course in old programme (2024-2025) | Replacement (new) course (2025-2026) |
| Linguistics 1: Analysing English Sounds and Words (5 EC) | Linguistics 1: Discovering English Sounds and Words (5 EC) |
| Linguistics 2A: The Phonetics of English (5 EC) + Linguistics 2B: The Syntax of English (5 EC) | Linguistics 2: Describing English Sounds and Sentences (10 EC) |
| Language Acquisition 1: From Scratch to Print (5 EC) | English Language 2: From Scratch to Print (5 EC) |
| Language Acquisition 2: The Spoken Word (5 EC) | English Language 1: The Spoken Word (5 EC) |
| | |
| Transitional provisions BA2 | |
| Course in old programme (2024-2025) | Replacement (new) course (2025-2026) |
| Linguistics 3A: The Syntax of English (5 EC) + Linguistics 3B: The Phonology of English (5 EC) | Linguistics 3: Analysing English Syllables and Sentences (10 EC) |
| | |

Due to changes in the BA English Language and Culture programme as of September 2026, transitional provisions will apply. Courses listed in the left column which are no longer offered are replaced by courses listed in the right column.

| Transitional provisions BA1 | |
|--|---|
| Course in old programme (2025-2026) | Replacement (new) course (2026-2027) |
| Linguistics 1: Discovering English Sounds and Words (5 EC) | Introduction to Linguistics (5 EC) |
| Literature 1B: The Classical and Christian Legacies in Literatures in English (5 EC) | Intercultural Literary Legacies: Italian and English Exchanges (5 EC) |
| Literature 1A: Introduction to Literary Studies in English (10 EC) | Literature 1: Introduction to Literary Studies in English (10 EC) |
| | |
| Transitional provisions BA2 | |
| Course in old programme (2025-2026) | Replacement (new) course (2026-2027) |

| | |
|--|---|
| English-language Popular Culture (5 EC) | Contemporary Concerns in Film and Literature (5 EC) |
| Language Acquisition 3: Rhetorical Grammar (5 EC) | English Language 3: Rhetorical Grammar (5 EC) |
| Language Acquisition 4: Dimensions of Written Text Composition and Generation (5 EC) | English Language 4: Dimensions of Written Text (5 EC) |