



Universiteit Leiden

Course and Examination Regulations

valid from 1 September 2026

Programme-specific section:

Bachelor's programme: Philosophy

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 Philosophy 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:

- Ethiek en politieke filosofie (Ethics and political philosophy)
- Continentale filosofie (Continental philosophy)
- Geschiedenis van de filosofie (History of philosophy)
- Theoretische filosofie (Theoretical philosophy)
- Global and Comparative Perspectives

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

Graduates have knowledge and understanding of the professional options in the field of philosophy.

In addition, they have knowledge and understanding in the area of philosophy in particular as regards:

- a. the historical development of philosophy, including Ancient and Modern philosophy, also in relation to the development of the various branches of learning, that far exceeds the level of secondary education;
- b. the societal and cultural significance of philosophy, also from a global and comparative perspective, that far exceeds the level of secondary education;
- c. the main traditional elements of philosophy including logic, metaphysics, philosophy of knowledge and science, political philosophy, Continental philosophy, philosophy of culture, and ethics, their problems, their methods and their key concepts, that far exceeds the level of secondary education;
- d. for the specialisations Ethiek en politieke filosofie (Ethics and political philosophy), Continentale filosofie (Continental Philosophy), Geschiedenis van de filosofie (History of philosophy) and Theoretische filosofie (Theoretical philosophy): history of political philosophy, and also recent developments in the area of the specialisation;

- e. for the specialisation Global and Comparative Perspectives: the philosophical traditions of India, China, Africa and the Middle East, and also recent developments in the area of comparative philosophy.
2. Applying knowledge and understanding
- a. graduates are able to apply their knowledge and understanding in the area of philosophy by: independently collecting philosophical literature relating to a theme, using both traditional and modern methods, and evaluating this literature in terms of relevance and quality;
 - b. independently studying and analysing philosophical texts in terms of arguments and conclusions, evaluating them in terms of their argumentative qualities, understanding their interconnections and situating them in a broader historical, societal or academic context;
 - c. independently identifying and analysing problems in the area of the specialisation, critically evaluating proposed solutions.
 - d. independently formulating a philosophical, clearly delineated research question in the area of the specialisation, situating this question in a philosophical context, and developing an argument to answer the question.
 - e. independently reflecting on both the domain-specific and widely applicable skills (transferable skills), that are required in a future professional environment.

3. Making judgements

Graduates are able to:

- a. formulate a concise and constructive critique of philosophical standpoints and substantiate this critique with arguments;
- b. determine a standpoint on philosophical questions and substantiate this with arguments.

4. Communication

Graduates are able to:

- a. clearly express themselves in both oral and written form in the programme's language(s) of instruction (Dutch and English for the specialisations Ethiek en politieke filosofie [Ethics and political philosophy], Continentale filosofie [Continental philosophy], Geschiedenis van de filosofie [History of philosophy] and Theoretische filosofie [Theoretical philosophy], and English for the specialisation Global and Comparative Perspectives);
- b. concisely and constructively participate in and lead academic discussions;
- c. give a clearly structured and accessible argument in the form of an oral presentation, supported by digital presentation techniques;
- d. clearly explain complex issues in written form.

5. Learning skills

Graduates are able to:

- a. ask for other people's criticism and process this;

- b. independently formulate and execute a research plan.

Furthermore, each humanities programme at Leiden University trains 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 regarding Language of Instruction [*Gedragcode voertaal*], 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 Global and Comparative Perspectives 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 Policy¹.

Chapter 3 Curriculum

Article 3.2 Optional components

3.2.9 Contrary to Article 3.2.3, students may not choose the following minor programmes because their content is similar, fully or in part, to compulsory components in the programme:

- Ethiek, politiek en cultuur: filosofie en de uitdagingen van onze tijd (Ethics, politics and Culture: Philosophy and the Challenges of our Time)

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 only after completing:</i>
Specialisation courses in the second year (10 EC, level 200)	<p>A minimum of 70 EC in compulsory courses from the first and second year and must include the courses listed below per specialisation.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - All specialisations: Filosofische vaardigheden / Philosophical Skills - Theoretische filosofie: Logica, Global and Comparative: Logic - Continentale filosofie: Continentale filosofie: de vraag naar het heden, Global and Comparative Philosophy:

¹ [Guideline on Language Policy](#)

	<p>Continental Philosophy from a Global Perspective</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Ethiek en politieke filosofie: Ethiek, Global and Comparative: Ethics - Geschiedenis van de filosofie: Griekse en Romeinse filosofie, Global and Comparative Philosophy: World Philosophies: Greek and Roman Antiquity - Global and Comparative Perspectives: Concepts of Selfhood, Filosofie: Comparative Philosophy
Components of the third year	<p>A minimum of 70 EC in compulsory courses of the first and second year, including</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Filosofische vaardigheden / Philosophical Skills - the courses stated below for the various specialisations
Specialisation courses in the third year Theoretische filosofie (Theoretical philosophy) (10 EC, level 300/400)	<p>For students with the specialisation Global and Comparative Perspectives:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Logic - Metaphysics <p>For students with other specialisations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Logica - Metafysica
Specialisation courses in the third year Continentale filosofie (Continental philosophy) (10 EC, level 300/400)	<p>For students with the specialisation Global and Comparative Perspectives:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Philosophy of Culture - Concepts of Selfhood <p>For students with other specialisations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Cultuurfilosofie - Continentale filosofie
Specialisation courses of the third year Ethiek en politieke filosofie (Ethics and political philosophy) (10 EC, level 300/400)	<p>For students with the specialisation Global and Comparative Perspectives:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Ethics - Political Philosophy <p>For students with other specialisations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Ethiek - Political Philosophy
Specialisation courses in the third year Geschiedenis van de filosofie (10 EC, level 300/400)	<p>For students with the specialisation Global and Comparative Perspectives:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - World Philosophies: Greek and Roman Antiquity - World Philosophies: Modern Europe <p>For students with other specialisations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Griekse en Romeinse filosofie - Medieval Philosophy
Specialisation courses of the third year Global and Comparative Perspectives (10 EC, level 300/400)	<p>For students with the specialisation Global and Comparative Perspectives:</p> <p>At least one of the components World Philosophies: China, World Philosophies India, World Philosophies: Middle East, World Philosophies: Africa</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Concepts of Selfhood

Article 4.6 **Assessment**

4.6.4 The examination results are expressed as a half number between 1.0 and 10.0, including both limits.

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

Appendix F Transitional provisions

From 1 September 2026, the specialisations within the BA Philosophy programme will have changed.

<u>BA Philosophy before September 2026</u>	<u>BA Filosofie beginnend in september 2026</u>
<u>Specialisations:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <u>Ethiek en politieke filosofie</u> - <u>Filosofie van mens, techniek, en cultuur</u> - <u>Geschiedenis van de filosofie</u> - <u>Theoretische filosofie</u> - <u>Global and Comparative Perspectives</u> - 	<u>Specialisations:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <u>Ethiek en politieke filosofie</u> - <u>Continentale filosofie</u> - <u>Geschiedenis van de filosofie</u> - <u>Theoretische filosofie</u> - <u>Global and Comparative Perspectives</u>

The specialisation in *Filosofie van mens, techniek, en cultuur* (*Philosophy of Humans, Technology, and Culture*) has been converted to the new specialisation *Continentale filosofie* (*Continental Philosophy*) as of 1 September 2026.

Students who had already started this specialisation before 1 September 2026 may complete this programme in 2026-2027 by following the curriculum of the new specialisation in *Continental Philosophy*. Students who do not complete this specialisation in 2026-2027 will be transferred to the new specialisation *Continental Philosophy*.

Furthermore, students that are missing any of the specific courses below, will be able to compensate for them through assigned 'Reading Courses'.

<u>Course specific transitional arrangements</u>	
<u>Old course</u>	<u>New course</u>
<u>5012VGLT Language and Thought</u>	<u>Reading Courses</u>
<u>5012VGPSA Philosophy of Science</u>	<u>Reading Courses</u>
<u>5012VCPH Continentale filosofie: de vraag naar het heden</u>	<u>Reading Courses</u>
<u>5012VPOM Philosophy of Mind</u>	<u>Reading Courses</u>

Only the Board of Examiners is authorised to make an exception to this transitional arrangement.