



# Course and Examination Regulations

valid as of 1 September 2026

Programme-specific section:

## Bachelor's Programme: Urban Studies

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, 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 general section that is the same for all bachelor's programmes and
- a section that contains information specific to a particular bachelor's programme.

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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### Appendices

Appendix E – Prospectus (see <https://studiegids.universiteitleiden.nl/>)

## Appendix F – transitional arrangements

### Chapter 2 Description of the Programme

#### Article 2.1 Objectives of the Programme

The aim of the programme is to promote the student's academic development in terms of knowledge, understanding and skills in the field of Urban Studies 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

Not applicable.

#### Article 2.3 Learning outcomes

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

##### Knowledge and understanding

The student:

1. has a general understanding and orientation of the foundations of Urban Studies (urbanisation, urban governance, urban economy, urban culture, and the representation of the city) and its themes (multiculturalism, well-being and health, safety, and sustainability); is aware of the humanities approach to urbanisation.
2. has basic knowledge and general understanding of the reciprocity between international, national and local aspects of socio-cultural urban issues;
3. has knowledge and understanding of the long term perspectives of urbanisation processes;
4. has basic knowledge and understanding of state-of-the-art methods and techniques used in the following disciplines, to the extent that they are relevant for urban studies:
  - a. Humanities
  - b. Social sciences
  - c. Sciences

##### Applying knowledge and understanding

The student:

5. is able to apply and compare knowledge and understanding of at least two of the following themes within Urban Studies;
  - a. multiculturalism
  - b. well-being and health
  - c. safety
  - d. sustainability
6. is able to systematically search and select relevant literature;
7. is able to apply basic qualitative and quantitative research methods and techniques in humanities, social sciences and (environmental) sciences and more advanced methods and techniques in at least one of these disciplines;
8. is able to analyse and conceptualise phenomena in a comparative perspective;
9. is able to formulate coherent solutions for urban problems based on existing scientific theories and contemporary research;
10. is able to set up and conduct research with limited complexity within the interdisciplinary context of Urban Studies.

## **Judgement**

The student:

11. is aware of proper scientific conduct as part of a scientific attitude in the field of Urban Studies;
12. is able to judge the value of theories and research practice from a philosophy of science-perspective;
13. is self-critical, is particularly able to put culturally instilled attitudes into perspective.
14. is capable of analysis, conceptualisation, reasoning;
15. is able to formulate problems and (help) find solutions;
16. is able to assess (basic) research methods and research outcomes;
17. is able to judge his or her own research as well as the research of others;
18. is able to reflect on the profession and work of practitioners.

## **Communication**

The student:

19. is able to report comprehensively, correctly and critically in English on matters pertaining to Urban Studies;
20. is able to present research results in a comprehensive manner both written and verbally to a specialist and non-specialist public.
21. is able to discuss, and come up with arguments;
22. gives feedback to peers in a constructive fashion
23. is sociable and communicative when working with others;

## **Learning skills**

The student:

24. uses feedback and reasoned criticism from peers to revise his/her own point of view or argumentation;
25. takes on board the instructions and criticism of supervisors, and takes previous instructions and criticism into account in comparable situations;
26. is able to make a realistic schedule and to stick to the agreed schedule and prioritisation.
27. is able to make a conscious choice in favour of continued studies (e.g. master's programme) or of a position in the labour market.

## **Article 2.9 Language of Instruction**

2.9.1. Subject to the Code of Conduct on the Language of [*Gedragcode voertaal*<sup>1</sup>], 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(s) of instruction and examination in 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, 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<sup>2</sup>.

## **Chapter 3 Curriculum**

### **Article 3.2 Optional Components**

3.2.9 Not applicable.

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<sup>1</sup> [Code of Conduct on Language of Instruction](#)

<sup>2</sup> [Guideline on Language Policy](#)

## Chapter 4 Examinations and Final Examination

### Article 4.2 Obligatory sequence

4.2.1 The Prospectus specifies the sequence in which examinations must be taken. Students may only sit examinations that are subject to a compulsory sequence once they have passed the examinations for one or more other components.

<i>Component:</i>	<i>Participation in class and examination after passing:</i>
Thesis and thesis seminar	Obtained 100 EC from the BA Urban Studies, including two methodological and two thematic electives
Research Labs (third year)	Obtained 100 EC from the BA Urban Studies, including two methodological and two thematic electives
Elective Inferential Statistics (second year)	Methodological Seminar (first year)
Elective Linear Models for Urban Research (second year)	Elective Inferential Statistics (second year)
Urban Environmental Science Graduation Project	Entry requirement: Elective Inferential Statistics & Elective Sustainable City: Biodiversity in the City (second year); Advised: Linear Models for Urban Research (second year)
Urban Arts, Culture, and Society Thesis Track	Entry requirement: Reading the City (second year); Advised: Humanities and Urbanism: Productive Methodologies (second year)
Urban Behavioural Science Thesis Track	Entry requirement: Inferential Statistics (second year); Advised: Linear Models for Urban Research (second year)
Urban History and Development Thesis Track	Entry requirement: Reading the City (second year); Advised: Humanities and Urbanism: Productive Methodologies (second year)

### Article 4.6 Assessment

4.6.4 The examination result of the BA thesis is 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 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 arrangements

#### Changes in the programme

*Valid for cohort 2025-2026 and earlier:*

Due to changes in the programme of the BA Urban Studies as of 1 September 2026, some courses have gotten a different place in the curriculum. Students from the cohort 2025-2026 and earlier can consult the following chart to see which transitional arrangements are valid if the position of a course in the curriculum has changed.

Transitional arrangements BA2	
Course in the old programme	Transitional arrangement
<i>Philosophy of Science and the City</i>	<i>Philosophy of Science (co-taught with BAIS)</i>

*Valid for cohort 2022-2023 and earlier:*

Due to changes in the programme of the BA Urban Studies as of 1 September 2024, some of the courses in BA2 and BA3 have been replaced. Students from cohort 2022-2023 and earlier can consult the following chart to see which transitional arrangements are valid if a course, not offered from 2024-2025 onwards, still needs to be completed.

Transitional arrangements BA2	
Course in the old programme	Transitional arrangement
<i>Professional Orientation</i>	<i>Reading the City</i>  If the student has already completed <i>Reading the City</i> as a methodological elective, they should instead follow <i>Humanities and Urbanism: Productive Methodologies</i>

Transitional arrangements BA3	
Course in the old programme	Transitional arrangement
<i>Urban Studies in Practice</i>	One of the three Research Labs: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Urban arts, culture and society Research Lab</i></li> <li>• <i>Urban Behavioral Science Research Lab</i></li> <li>• <i>Urban History and Development Research Lab</i></li> </ul>

During the 2024-2025 academic year a thesis seminar and thesis supervision will be offered for the last time in semester 1. From 2025-2026 onwards all thesis supervision will be concentrated in semester two, and there will no longer be a thesis seminar in semester 1. For students who have completed the thesis seminar the preceding academic year, but who have not received a sufficient mark for their thesis after the resit, there will be the possibility to write a thesis on a new topic within the same graduation track during the first semester.

From 2023-2024 onwards the first-year courses *Introduction to Methodology* and *Data Collection Methods* were merged into one *Methodological Seminar*. The following transitional arrangements remain in place:

- Students who started their BA Urban Studies before September 2023 and have not yet completed **both** *Introduction to Methodology* **and** *Data Collection Methods* should take the *Methodological Seminar* in its entirety.
- Students who started their BA Urban Studies before September 2023 and have not yet completed *Introduction to Methodology* should take the new *Methodological Seminar* **in block 3**, including the midterm exam and the two work group modules of that block.
- Students who started their BA Urban Studies before September 2023 and have not yet completed *Data Collection Methods* should take the new *Methodological Seminar* in **block 4**, including the final exam and the two work group modules of that block.