

**1. Language of instruction**

This code of conduct determines for each phase of the study programme the language of instruction and the language of examinations and tests for all programmes of Leiden University, hereinafter called: the language of instruction.

**2. Scope**

2.1 This code of conduct applies to all programmes, except those that have the study of a specific language as their subject.

2.2 This code of conduct does not apply to instruction given within the framework of guest lectures by a foreign lecturer.

**3. The bachelor's programme: the *propaedeuse* (first year) programme**

In the *propaedeuse* programme the language of instruction is Dutch. If necessary, because of the students' country of origin, the language of instruction may be English.

**4. The bachelor's programme: the second and third years**

4.1 In the second and third years of the bachelor's programme the language of instruction is Dutch. If necessary, because of the students' country of origin, the language of instruction may be English.

4.2 Part of the curriculum, including the tests, may be offered in English or another language, if:

- a. it is necessary because of the students' country of origin,
- b. the relevant part of the curriculum is taught by foreign lecturers,
- c. the relevant part of the curriculum is optional and is offered as a convenience to Dutch-speaking students
- d. it is deemed necessary for the relevant part of the curriculum, that students acquire speaking or writing skills in English or in another language, or
- e. the relevant part of the curriculum is a preparation for the requirements of a master's programme in another language and participation in this part of the curriculum is demonstrably necessary to prepare students for such a master's programme.

**5. The master's programme**

5.1 In the master's programme the language of instruction, where appropriate, is English or another language. The appropriateness of English or another language as language of instruction is determined by the international orientation of a programme in terms of the academic field of study or in terms of the preparation for a field of activity or professional career. In addition, English or another language of instruction may also be deemed appropriate if its use is required by the specific nature, structure, or quality of the education, or by the students' country of origin.

5.2 If the language of instruction is Dutch, part of the curriculum, including the tests, may be offered in English or another language if:

- a. it is required by the students' country of origin,
- b. the relevant part of the curriculum is taught by foreign lecturers,
- c. the relevant part of the curriculum is optional and is offered as a convenience to Dutch-speaking students, or
- d. it is deemed necessary for this part of the curriculum that students acquire speaking and writing skills in English or

another language.

- 5.3 If the language of instruction is English, part of the curriculum, including the tests, may be offered in another language if:
- e. it is required by the students' country of origin,
  - f. the relevant part of the curriculum is taught by foreign lecturers,  
or
  - g. it is deemed necessary for this part of the curriculum that students acquire speaking and writing skills in another language.
6. If a faculty board wishes to use a language of instruction other than Dutch for a programme or parts of a programme, this is stipulated in the Teaching and Examination Regulations for the relevant programme.
7. The previous code of conduct (gedragcode d.d. 18 april 1994) still applies to programmes that have not yet been converted to the BA/MA system.

### **Explanatory notes**

#### **General**

Article 7.2 of the Higher Education and Research Act offers the following possibilities for instruction in a foreign language:

The instruction is offered in Dutch and the students are examined in Dutch. In contravention of the first sentence, another language may be used:

- a. if the subject of the programme is the language in question,
- b. if the instruction is offered within the framework of guest lectures by a foreign lecturer, or
- c. if it is rendered necessary by the specific nature, structure, or quality of the instruction or by the students' country of origin, in accordance with a code of conduct determined by the board of the relevant institution

This code of conduct is applicable to initial degree programmes only.