

# MA Literary Studies

## Programme assessment 2025

The assessment committee concluded that the MA Literary Studies meets the four assessment standards of the accreditation framework and issued a positive general final assessment. Below are the most important recommendations of the committee and the responses of the study programme to them.

### Recommendations

*Think of ways to optimize the matching of lecturers with curriculum components and actively engage in continuous dialogue with the research institutes about this.*

- The programme does this already when setting up the programme of courses for the coming year, in coordination with the MT of LUCAS. The outcome is that lecturers with very relevant individual teaching and research strengths teach in the programme: they teach courses that match their expertise. The curriculum roots itself in the strengths of our teachers, so the matching of lecturers to curriculum components is intrinsic.

*Continue to invest in good communication and collaboration within the programme and between faculty administration, programme management, lecturers and institutes regarding faculty deployment and the financial challenges that call for reduction in programs.*

- We frequently meet to promote good communication and collaboration. The programme chair, education coordinator, and study adviser meet at least monthly. The chair and the 'onderwijsdirecteur' of LUCAS liaise regularly. Moreover, the programme chair arranges meetings with colleagues to discuss pressing matters and arranges a yearly *heidag* at which issues are debated and decided on collectively.

*Consider ways to strengthen the collective identity of the programme, for example by organizing a collective meeting in the beginning of the programme or a student conference. In this context, the panel encourages plans to introduce a new core course for all students.*

- A core course has been set up that will strengthen the programme's collective identity. The course will a) provide all students with necessary analytical and methodological skills, b) foster social interconnections among the entire student cohort and forge links between the five tracks of the MA Literary Studies, and c) ensure that all students are introduced to core skills. The new compulsory course starts in autumn 2026.

### Development Dialogue

During the development dialogue representatives of both the BA English Language and Culture and the MA Literary discussed the following topics with the assessment panel: 1) the use, misuse and effects of AI and Large Language Models in teaching practice, 2) the balance between workload and increasing efforts to innovate in assessment methods, and 3) how to maintain active, small scale teaching under pressure of the financial constraints of the faculty.