Course and Examination Regulations

Valid from 1 September 2012

Bachelor’s Programme: Liberal Arts and Sciences: Global Challenges

Specialisation: International Studies

These course and examination regulations have been drawn up in accordance with Section 7.13 of the Higher Education and Research Act [Wet op het hoger onderwijs en wetenschappelijk onderzoek] (WHW) (henceforth the Act) and additional quality marks as set out in the framework document Leiden University Register of Study Programmes [Leids universitair register opleidingen].

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.

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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 International 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 graduate-level academic knowledge and skills in the above field are required or desirable.

Article 2.2 Specialisations

Not applicable.

Article 2.3 Achievement Levels

International Studies is an interdisciplinary, comparative programme which provides students with in-depth knowledge and understanding in the domain of the culture, history, politics and economics of a particular geographical area while also engaging in comparative studies. It equips the students with the specific skills necessary for applying this knowledge and understanding professionally or in continued studies, as well as with those general skills that may be expected of graduates of an academic bachelor’s programme.

These aims and objectives can be specified as follows.

A. Knowledge, understanding and skills
Graduates of the Leiden International Studies degree have a knowledge and understanding of:

1. the principal theories, models and approaches used in the following fields of study:
   a. history;
   b. culture;
   c. economy;
   d. politics and international relations;
2. methods in historical and cultural studies, as well as the social sciences, and the relevance of these methods for the different kinds of problems and questions to be addressed;
3. political, legal and economic aspects of international relations, and the formal and informal architecture of the international system;
4. the functions of the history, culture, economy, politics and societal development of a particular geographical area from a comparative perspective, leading to a profound understanding of the differences and similarities between areas of the world, fostering cross-cultural and international perspectives; students have chosen one of the following areas: East Asia; Latin America; Middle East; North America; Russia and Eurasia; South Asia and South East Asia; Sub-Saharan Africa; Western Europe;
5. those theories, methods and skills that enable them to continue their studies on a master’s programme in at least the domains of international studies relations, history and development studies; depending on the students‘ chosen specialisation and minor programme (see below, # 12), this list of master’s programmes can be considerably extended to include for instance political sciences, language and culture of a particular area, religious studies.

B. Specific academic skills
Graduates are able to
6. communicate actively and receptively, at a bachelor's level, and in relation to the disciplinary areas of the programme, in one modern language that is not English or the students’ native language, correlating to the areas mentioned above (# 4), and to be chosen from the following list: Mandarin (East Asia); Japanese (East Asia); Spanish (Latin America; North America; South and South East Asia; Western Europe); Arabic (Middle East); French (North America; Sub-Saharan Africa; Western Europe); Russian (Russia and Eurasia); Hindi (South and South East Asia); Indonesian (South and South East Asia); Swahili (Sub-Saharan Africa); Dutch (Western Europe). If a sufficient number of students choose to do so, the following languages can also be studied: Korean (East Asia); Portuguese (Latin America; Western Europe); Persian (Middle East); Turkish (Middle East); Afrikaans (Sub-Saharan Africa); Italian (Western Europe). The graduates will at least have reached the B2 level on the CEFR-scale;
7. apply research techniques that are current in the social sciences and in the humanities;
8. comprehend sophisticated academic debates in the English language, and report, both in oral and in written form, on their studies and their research in good English;
9. participate in debates in an active, prepared and informed way, respecting other people’s convictions and emotions;
10. understand fundamental cultural differences and divisions;
11. work and write under time pressure, and deal with deadlines.

Additionally, the graduates
12. have used 30 ec-points for a minor programme (or a set of individually selected courses, approved by the examination committee on the basis of sufficient level and coherence), study abroad or an internship. By means of these choices they have increased their knowledge and skills in the field of their specialisation, so as to reach a more profound level; broadened their knowledge and skills outside the field of their specialisation (within or without the programme of International Studies); or prepared themselves for a specific career in society.

Furthermore, each Humanities programme at Leiden University trains the students in general academic skills that the Faculty has formulated.

**Article 2.8 Language of instruction**

In compliance with the Code of Conduct regarding Foreign Languages [Gedragscode voertaal] the language of instruction and examination on the programme is English.

**Article 3.2 Freedom of choice**

Not applicable

**Article 3.4 Participation in courses**

Not applicable

**Article 4.2 Obligatory order**

Not applicable

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1. The Code of Conduct regarding Foreign Languages [Gedragscode voertaal] was adopted by the Executive Board on 11 July 2002 and can be found on the following website: media.leidenuniv.nl/legacy/language of instruction.pdf
Article 4.12 Further Education

4.12.1 Those who have been awarded a bachelor’s degree on the basis of having passed an examination as referred to in Article 2.8 (1) (b) of these Regulations have fulfilled the entry requirements for the International Studies specialisation of the Master’s Programme in International Relations at Leiden University.

Article 6.3 Study recommendation in the first year

Not applicable