Course and Examination Regulations
Valid from 1 September 2012

Programme-specific section
Master’s Programme: Literary Studies (research)

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.

These course and examination regulations consist of two sections: a general section that is the same for all programmes and a section that contains information that is specific to a particular programme. This programme-specific section forms a whole with the general section, and only contains the articles with content that is specific to a particular programme.

Contents

2. Description of the Programme
3. Curriculum
4. Examinations, Final Examination and Further Education
5. Admission to the Programme
6. Student Counselling and Student Advice

Appendices
Appendix D – Curriculum
Article 2.1 Objectives of the Programme

The programme has the following objectives:

1. to broaden and deepen students’ knowledge, understanding and skills, and train them in the use of scientific methods in the field of Literary Studies;
2. to enable students to develop the following academic and professional skills:
   a. the ability to solve academic problems independently, critically and creatively;
   b. the ability to analyse complex problems;
   c. the ability to clearly report academic results, both in writing and verbally;
3. to prepare students for an academic career at a university and/or for postgraduate programmes as well as for non-academic positions in the public or private sector for which advanced research skills and practical research experience are a prerequisite;
4. to prepare students for a career in the public and/or private sector.

Article 2.2 Specialisations

Not applicable

Article 2.3 Achievement Levels

I. Knowledge and understanding

The master’s graduates demonstrate in their written and oral work:

1. a thorough knowledge and understanding of Literary Studies, its central research questions and problems, and its basic concepts, research methods and techniques (notably analysis and interpretation), and the developments in the specialisation;
2. an in-depth knowledge of the relevant (inter)cultural contexts of production, dissemination and reception of literature. Students are conversant with various approaches to narrative, the literary representation and construction of identity, space and time, and with current debates on for instance modernity, hybridisation or secularism;
3. a thorough knowledge and understanding of the interdisciplinary aspects of the specialisation, both in relation to Arts and Culture, History, Social Sciences, and other related fields. Literary studies are understood here as a broad, interdisciplinary, intermedial and intercultural field of inquiry into textual cultural and artistic practices.

II. Applying knowledge and understanding

The master’s graduates demonstrate the ability, in their written and oral work, to:

1. define a research topic, formulate research questions and identify an object of inquiry (a corpus of literary texts, images and texts or cultural practices) that will allow them to answer these research questions in a way that conforms with current scholarly practices in Literary Studies;
2. select an appropriate body of theory for the analysis and interpretation of the object of inquiry;
3. bring analysis and theory into critical interaction, that is: the object of inquiry is clarified and problematised by the concepts and methods, and the concepts and methods applied are clarified and problematised by the object of inquiry;
4. understand the social dimensions of both the researched literary or cultural practice and the theoretical approaches to it: its theoretical approach;
5. contribute creative solutions to on-going debates in the discipline, based on independent research and theoretical reflection.

III Making judgments
The master’s graduates show the capacity, in their written and oral work, to:
1. critically evaluate their sources;
2. build an argument that leads to its conclusion in a cogent, clear and verifiable manner;
3. reflect critically on the role played by the students’ personal points of view and interests;
4. include, in addition to theoretical aspects, social and ethical aspects, in the arguments that lead to the conclusion.

IV Communication
The master’s graduates show, in their written and oral work, the ability to:
1. formulate a clear and well-founded thesis, hypothesis and research questions, and to divide these into convenient and manageable parts;
2. give a clear, systematic and well-founded oral or written report of the state of the art in their research field, the selected object of inquiry and the concepts and theories used;
3. write grammatically correct English, according to the conventions of a specific style (e.g. MLA).

V Learning skills
The master’s graduates show, in their written and oral work, the ability to apply learning skills that allow them to initiate and conduct a research project with a great degree of independence and autonomy, under expert national or international supervision;

This means that the student:
- has articulated the research question or thesis independently;
- has conducted relevant bibliographical research;
- had drawn up a realistic research plan.

Article 2.5 Workload
This programme has a workload of 120 ECTS credits.

Article 2.8 Language of Instruction
In compliance with the Code of Conduct regarding Language of Instruction [Gedragscode voertaal] the language of instruction and examination of the programme is English.1 The student is expected to have a sufficient command of the language of instruction of the programme.

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1. The Code of Conduct regarding Language of Instruction [Gedragscode voertaal] was adopted by the Executive Board on 11 July 2002 and can be found at on the following website: media.leidenuniv.nl/legacy/language of instruction.pdf.
**Article 3.1  Compulsory Components**

3.1.1 The programme includes compulsory components totalling a study load of 120 ECTS credits. These compulsory components are listed in Appendix D. The study load (in credits) and the level are listed per course.

**Article 3.2 Freedom of Choice**

The student can use the free space on the research master’s for training provided by national research schools.

**Article 3.4  Participation in courses**

Not applicable.

**Article 4.2  Obligatory Order**

Not applicable.

**Article 5.1  Direct Admission**

Not applicable.

**Article 5.3  Entry Requirements**

Without prejudice to the provision in paragraph 5.2.1 regarding capacity, those applicants will be admitted to the programme who:

- have an affinity with and are capable of scholarly research. This may be demonstrated, for example, by good grades comparable with an average Dutch mark of at least 7.5, and a grade for the bachelor’s thesis of 8 or higher;
- have earned a bachelor’s degree in Comparative Literature/Literary Studies or in a specific Language and Culture (Dutch, English, French, etc.);
- have earned a bachelor’s degree at an academic university that is of an equal level to a Dutch bachelor’s degree, or who can demonstrate that they meet the requirements for such a degree, which includes the General Academic Skills listed in Appendix C; and
- are sufficiently proficient in the language of instruction, to be assessed by the Faculty Board (English TOEFL 570/230/88-90 or IELTS 6.5).

**Article 5.5 Bridging Programme**

Not applicable.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Studiejaar</th>
<th>Semester</th>
<th>Cursustitel</th>
<th>Studiegidsnummer</th>
<th>Werkvorm</th>
<th>Niveau</th>
<th>EC</th>
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<tr>
<td>MA 1</td>
<td>I</td>
<td>1 elective from <em>the period of specialization</em> or interculturality I;</td>
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<td>wc</td>
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<td>I</td>
<td>One MA seminar from discipline or language of interest: choice from MA-courses of English, German, Dutch, Literature, TCLA, Italian, French, etc. It is possible to change one of the elective courses for the Research master course 'Interculturality I: Key Concepts'. In the second semester of your first year it is possible to change one of the elective courses for the Research master course 'Interculturality II: The Global Imagination'.</td>
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One MA seminar from discipline or language of interest: choice from MA-courses of English, German, Dutch, Literature, TCLA, Italian, French, etc. It is possible to change one of the elective courses for the Research master course 'Interculturality I: Key Concepts'. In the second semester of your first year it is possible to change one of the elective courses for the Research master course 'Interculturality II: The Global Imagination'.

Both the discipline of specialization course and the period of specialization course can be replaced by Interculturality

MA 2 I  Colloquium:  n.n.b.  wc  500  5  V

MA 2 I  Thesis seminar  5794VTSH  wc  500  5  V

Choose

MA 2 I  1 Elective from the period of specialization  wc  500  10  V

MA 2 I  Medieval/Early Modern studies: Medievalism in Architecture, Art and Literature (1750-1900)  5794KRM03W  wc  500 -10  K

MA 2 I  Modern/Contemp. Studies: Monuments and Cultural Memory  5794KRM02W  wc  500 -10  K

MA 2 I  (c Interculturality 1: Key Concepts)  5934V2043H  wc  500 -10  K

One MA seminar from discipline or language of interest: choice from MA-courses of English, German, Dutch, Literature, TCLA, Italian, French, etc. It is possible to change one of the elective courses for the Research master course 'Interculturality I: Key Concepts'. In the second semester of your first year it is possible to change one of the elective courses for the Research master course 'Interculturality II: The Global Imagination'.
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