



Universiteit Leiden

Course and Examination Regulations

Valid from 1 September 2013

Programme-specific section

Master's Programme: Middle Eastern 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

1. General Provisions
2. Description of the Programme
3. Curriculum
4. Examinations, Final Examination and Further Education
5. Admission to the Programme
6. Student Counselling and Study Advice
7. Transitional Provisions
8. Final Provisions

Appendices

Appendix D – Curriculum

Article 2.1 Objectives of the Programme

The programme has the following objectives:

1. to enable students to acquire academic knowledge, understanding and skills, and train them in the use of scientific methods in the field of Middle Eastern Studies;
2. to enable students to develop the following academic and professional skills:
 - independent academic reasoning and conduct,
 - the ability to analyse complex problems,
 - academic reporting, both written and oral;
3. to prepare students for an academic career and further education;
4. to prepare students for a career outside academia.

Article 2.2 Specialisations

Not applicable.

Article 2.3 Achievement Levels

Graduates of the programme will have attained the following achievement levels:

I. Knowledge and understanding

The student has and can show knowledge and understanding of relevant models and theoretical notions at a level typical of a bachelor's student. He or she is capable of surpassing this level or deepening the knowledge and understanding, and appears capable of contributing to the growth of knowledge or to its applicability, the latter most likely in a team of researchers.

1. a profound awareness of the current issues and research questions in the relevant disciplines and regional fields of the programme;
2. a thorough understanding of various theories and methodological approaches that are commonly used in research programmes in Middle Eastern Studies as well as in different related disciplines;
3. the ability to identify a theoretical framework suitable for addressing relevant problems and issues, with a particular sensitivity to the significance of 'Asia' in this regard;
4. advanced, up-to-date knowledge of quantitative and qualitative research methodologies appropriate to particular projects and locations;
5. sensitivity to the relationship between theory, method, place and language;
6. appropriate language skills to access sources in original languages, as relevant;
7. the fundamentals of research project management, such as framing the research, gathering data, articulating a thesis and ordering and presenting findings in oral and written form.

II. Application of knowledge and understanding

The student can apply knowledge and understanding and problem-solving abilities in new or unfamiliar environments within broader (or multidisciplinary) contexts related to the field of study; he or she has the ability to integrate knowledge and handle complexity.

1. the capacity to apply a theoretical or descriptive framework in conducting independent basic research in Middle Eastern Studies;

2. the capacity to deploy the theoretical and methodological tool-sets of at least one mainstream academic discipline;
3. the capacity to think critically and creatively about the parameters and origins of disciplinary tool-sets;
4. the ability to critically select, study and analyse literature relevant to the issues and problems presented by the curriculum and the research programmes in question;
5. the ability to independently formulate, perform and assess scientific research at a level suitable to preparing scientific publications;
6. sensitivity to the relationship between theory, method, place and language;
7. ability to deploy comparison as an analytical tool.

III. Making judgments

Students can formulate judgments on the basis of incomplete or limited information, taking into account the social and ethical responsibilities linked to the application of their knowledge and understanding.

1. familiarity with the philosophy and ethics of Middle Eastern Studies research, and the limitations of individual research projects conducted in isolation;
2. sophisticated understanding of the stakes in the politics of knowledge and their relationship with the ethics of global citizenship;

IV. Communication

The student can clearly and unambiguously communicate conclusions and the knowledge and rationale underpinning these to specialist and non-specialist audiences.

1. the capacity to report independently on relevant research which has been carried out according to current academic standards;
2. the ability to write scientific reports in English;
3. the ability to give persuasive oral presentations;
4. the ability to engage in the international academic debate.

V. Learning skills

The student has the learning skills to allow him/her to continue studies in a largely self-directed or autonomous manner.

the focus on training to develop autonomy and confidence in designing and conducting all stages of research offers students a head start with respect to the curiosity and eagerness to learn that is expected in any future research position, be it in an academic setting or in that of applied research.

Article 2.5 Study Load

The programme has a study load 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.

Article 3.1 Compulsory Components

3.1.1 The programme includes compulsory components totalling a study load of 120 credits. These compulsory components include the optional courses [*keuzevakken*] from which a student is obliged to choose. The 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

3.4.2 Not applicable.

Article 4.2 Obligatory Order

Not applicable.

Article 5.1 Direct Admission

Not applicable.

Article 5.3 Entry Requirements

- possess the knowledge, understanding and skills that have been acquired upon completion of a bachelor's programme that includes the General Academic Skills as listed in Appendix C, preferably along the lines of a relevant regional or disciplinary specialisation that includes in particular sufficient knowledge and understanding of the required regional languages; and

Without prejudice to the provisions of article 5.2.1 with regard to capacity, persons will be admitted to the programme who:

- have a demonstrable affinity with and suitability for academic research; and
- are sufficiently proficient in the language of instruction, to be assessed by the faculty board (English TOEFL 600/250/100 or IELTS 7.0); and
- have earned the degree of Bachelor at a university not being a university of professional education, or demonstrate that they meet the requirements for such a degree, including the General Academic Skills listed in Appendix C;
- possess comparable qualities in the field of knowledge, understanding and skills that have been acquired upon graduating from a bachelor's programme, preferably along the lines of a relevant regional or disciplinary specialisation that includes in particular sufficient knowledge and understanding of the required regional languages.

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.

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Article 5.5 Bridging Programme

Not applicable.

Masteropleiding 2013-2014
Middle Eastern Studies (research)

Year	Semester	Course title	Prospectus number	Mode of instruction	Level	EC	Status	Number of examinations	Retake	Assessment methods	Achievement levels applied
		Common Core Course									
MA 1	I	Theory and Methods in Area Studies	5474VTM12	wc	500	10	V	3	No	wp, op, part	I-V
		Specialisation courses				20	V				
MA 1	I	Specialisation course (see list below and MA Middle Eastern Studies 60 EC)		wc	500	-10	K				
MA 1	I	Specialisation course (see list below and MA Middle Eastern Studies 60 EC)		wc	500	-10	K				
						30					
		Common Core Course:									
MA 1	II	Students choose one out of the two courses on offer:				10	V				
MA 1	II	Arts and Culture in Area Studies: Culture and conquest: the impact of the Mongols and their descendants.	5474OAC11	wc	500	-10	K	3	No	wp, op, part	I-V
MA 1	II	State and Society: Orientalism, Colonialism, and Post-Colonialism	5474OSS10	wc	500	-10	K	3	No	wp, op, part	I-V
		Two Specialisation courses				20					
MA 1	II	Specialisation course (see list below and MA Middle Eastern Studies 60 EC)		wc	500	-10	K				
MA 1	II	Specialisation course (see list below and MA Middle Eastern Studies 60 EC)		wc	500	-10	K				
						30					
		Common Core Course:									
		Thesis Writing Seminar	5474VTHWS			10	V	3	No	wp, op, part	I-V
		Two Specialisation courses				20	V				
MA 2	I	Specialisation course (see list below and MA Middle Eastern Studies 60 EC) / fieldwork or studying at an affiliated institution				-10	K				
MA 2	I	Specialisation course (see list below and MA Middle Eastern Studies 60 EC) / fieldwork or studying at an affiliated institution				-10	K				
						30					
MA 2	II	ResMA-thesis	5474VTRM		600	30	V				

<i>Year</i>	<i>Semester</i>	<i>Course title</i>	<i>Prospectus number</i>	<i>Mode of instruction</i>	<i>Level</i>	<i>EC</i>	<i>Status</i>	<i>Number of examinations</i>	<i>Retake</i>	<i>Assessment methods</i>	<i>Achievement levels applied</i>
						30					
		Specialisation courses are the courses offered by the various MA programmes affiliated with the ResMA.									
		Specialisation courses offered by the ResMA are:									
MA 1 or2	I	Pilgrimages and Holy Places	5474OPHP	wc	500	10	K	3	No	wp, op, part	I-V
MA 1 or2	I	The Information Age Across Asia and the Middle East	5474KIA13	wc	500	10	K	3	No	wp, op, webpostings	I-V
MA 1	II	Religion, Art, and Identity of Christian Societies in the Middle East	5474KRAI	wc	500	5 (10)	K				
MA 1	II	Art History and Archaeology of the Christian and Islamic Middle East	5474KAHA	wc	500	10	K				