



Universiteit Leiden

Course and Examination Regulations

valid as of 1 September 2014

Programme-specific section:

Master's Programme: Latin American 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.

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Appendix D – Curriculum

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Article 2.1 **Objectives of the Programme**

The programme has the following objectives:

1. to broaden and deepen the students' knowledge, understanding and skills, and train them in the use of scientific methods in the area of contemporary history, cultural and social analysis of Latin America and the Caribbean;
2. to enable students to develop the following academic and professional skills:
 - the ability to solve academic problems independently, critically and creatively;
 - the ability to analyse complex problems;
 - the ability to clearly report academic results, both in writing and orally;
3. to prepare students for an academic career at a university for postgraduate programmes;
4. to prepare students for a non-academic career in the public or private sector for which advanced research skills and practical research experience are a prerequisite.

Article 2.2 **Specialisations**

Not applicable.

Article 2.3 **Achievement Levels**

Graduates of the programmes will have reached the following achievement levels:

I. Knowledge and understanding

Graduates have and can show knowledge and understanding of relevant models and theoretical notions at a level typical of a master's student. They are capable of surpassing this level or deepening the knowledge and understanding and appear capable of contributing to the growth of knowledge or 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 Latin American and Caribbean Studies;
3. The ability to identify a theoretical framework suitable for addressing relevant problems and issues;
4. Advanced, up-to-date knowledge of the quantitative and qualitative research methodology appropriate to particular projects and locations;
5. Sensitivity to the relationship between theory, method and place;
6. Awareness of the role of comparison;
7. Appropriate language skills for accessing sources in the original languages;

II. Application of knowledge and understanding

Graduates 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; they have the ability to integrate knowledge and handle complexity.

1. The capacity to apply a theoretical or descriptive framework when conducting basic independent research in Latin American and Caribbean 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 for preparing scientific publications;
6. Sensitivity to the relationship between theory, method and place;
7. Ability to deploy comparison as an analytical tool;
8. The fundamentals of research project management.

III. Making judgements

Graduates can formulate judgments on the basis of the collected information, taking into account the social and ethical responsibilities linked to the application of their knowledge and understanding.

1. Profound knowledge of the philosophy and ethics of Latin American and Caribbean Studies research and the limitations of individual research projects;
2. Sophisticated understanding of the stakes in the politics of knowledge and their relationship with the ethics of fairness and objectivity;
3. Sophisticated understanding of the stakes in the politics of knowledge and an awareness of chauvinism in academic inquiry.

IV. Communication

Graduates 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 that has been carried out according to current academic standards;
2. The ability to write scientific reports either in English or Spanish;
3. The ability to give persuasive oral presentations;
4. The ability to engage in the international academic debate.

V. Learning skills

Graduates have the learning skills to allow them to continue studies in a largely self-directed or autonomous manner.

The curiosity and eagerness to learn that is expected in any future research position, be it in an academic setting or in a setting of applied research, which are acquired through the training to develop autonomy and confidence in designing and conducting all stages of research.

Article 2.5 **Study Load**

The programme has a study load of 120 credits.

Article 2.8 **Language of Instruction**

In compliance with the Code of Conduct regarding Language of Instruction [*Gedragscode voertaal*¹] the languages of instruction and examination of the programme are English and Spanish. Students are expected to have an adequate command of the languages of instruction of the programme.

¹ The Code of Conduct on the Language of Instruction and Examination [*Gedragscode voertaal*] was adopted by the Executive Board on 28 May 2013 and can be found on the following website: [media.leidenuniv.nl/legacy/language of instruction.pdf](http://media.leidenuniv.nl/legacy/language%20of%20instruction.pdf).

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. These compulsory components also include 10 credits for electives offered by the recognised national research schools.

Article 4.2 **Obligatory Order**

4.2.1 Not applicable.

Article 4.3 **Examination Formats**

4.3.7 Not applicable.

Article 5.2 **Admission to the academic year 2014–2015**

5.2.1 Not applicable.

5.2.2 Without prejudice to the stipulations in Article 5.1.1 regarding maximum capacity, persons will be granted admission to the programme, if they:

- have earned the degree of Bachelor at a university not being a university of professional education, or demonstrate to meet the requirements for such a degree, including the General Academic Skills listed in Appendix C; and
- have a demonstrable affinity with and suitability for scholarly 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
- possess knowledge, understanding and skills that have been acquired upon completion of a bachelor's programme and is preferably in the languages and cultures of Latin America, a language and culture programme or is a comparable degree with a relevant specialisation; and
 - proven affinity with a sub-region within the studies, demonstrable from a bachelor's thesis on that area or a comparable thesis in which the relevant literature and the research are covered;
 - knowledge of methods and techniques of literary, linguistic, historical, or social sciences research;
 - a good command of Spanish (CEFR; listening: B2; reading: B2; spoken interaction: B1; spoken production: B1; writing: B2). This command of Spanish is, however, not a strict requirement for students majoring in Caribbean studies who wish to specialise in North America and the non-Spanish speaking Caribbean;
 - sufficient command of Portuguese (CEFR; listening: B2; reading: B2; spoken interaction: B1; spoken production: B1; writing: B2), only for persons who want to specialise in Brazil.

5.2.3 Not applicable.

Article 5.3 **Admission to the academic year 2015-2016**

5.3.1 Not applicable.

5.3.2 Without prejudice to the stipulations in Article 5.1.1 regarding maximum capacity, persons will be granted admission to the programme, if they:

- have earned the degree of Bachelor at a university not being a university of professional education, equivalent to the level of a Dutch academic Bachelor's degree, or demonstrate to meet the requirements for such a degree, including the General Academic Skills listed in Appendix C; and
- have affinity with and suitability for scholarly research, demonstrated by good grades comparable with an average mark of at least 7.5 (Dutch grading system) for their entire bachelor's programme, and a grade for the bachelor's thesis of an 8 or higher; and
- are sufficiently proficient in the languages of instruction, to be assessed by the Faculty Board (English IELTS 7.0, TOEFL 100 (internet-based) or Cambridge English: Proficiency (CPE); and Spanish CEFR listening B2, reading C1, spoken interaction B2, spoken production B2, writing B2); and
- possess knowledge of the fundamentals of area studies, literary studies, history and/or social sciences, demonstrable from a bachelor's thesis in which relevant literature and research are covered; and
- only for persons who want to specialise in Brazil: have a good command of Portuguese.

5.3.3 Not applicable.

Article 5.5 **Bridging Programmes (Premasters)**

Not applicable.

Appendix D - Curriculum

Master's programme 2014-2015

Latin American Studies (research)

Year	Semester	Block	Course title	Prospectus number	Modes of instruction	Level	EC	Status	Language	Number of examinations	Assessment methods	Achievement levels applied
1	I	1,2	Academic research in Latin America and the Caribbean	5654V5020	lc/sem	500	10	C	SP/ENG	1	wp	I1, I6, II3, II6,7
1	I	1,2	Estado, Sociedad Civil y Políticas Públicas en América Latina	5654V5009	lc/sem	500	10	C	SP	4	wp, op	I1, I3, II3, II4, IV2, IV3
1	I	1,2	El lugar de lo político	5654VLA01	lc/sem	500	10	C	SP	4	wp, op, as, wp	I1, I3, II3, II4, IV2, IV3
							30					
1	II	3,4	Research seminar on Latin American and Caribbean Studies	5654V5021	sem	600	10	C	SP	3	wp	I, II3, II4, III1, III2, III3
							20					
Select 2 of the following 4 courses:												
1	II	3,4	Brazil Visiting Chair	5654I4039	lc/sem	600	-10	O	ENG	1	wp	I6, II3, II4, IV2, IV3
1	II	3,4	Chili Visiting Chair	5654KLA10	lc/sem	600	-10	O	SP	1	wp	I6, II3, II4, IV2, IV3
1	II	3,4	Displacement, Memory and Identity in Latin American Film and Narrative	5654KLA22	lc/sem	600	-10	O	ENG	2	op, wp	I6, II3, II4, IV2, IV3
1	II	3,4	Latin American Foreign Policy	5654KLA05	lc/sem	500	-10	O	ENG	3	op, as, wp	I6, II3, II4, IV2, IV3
							30					
2	I		Select courses (10 EC) offered by CEDLA, Caribbean-Amerindian Studies or one of the Graduate Schools		lc/sem	600	10	C				I1, I3, I5, I7, II3, II7
2	I		Fieldwork Latin American and the Caribbean	5654V5017	ss	600	20	C	SP/PORT/ENG	1	wp	I3, I4, I5, I7, II1, II2, II6, II8, III, IV1, IV2, IV4
							30					
2	II		MA Thesis Latin American Studies (research)	5654V5022	ss	600	30	C	SP/PORT/ENG	1	wp	all
							30					

Abbreviations

Mode(s) of instruction:

lc	lectures
sem	seminars
tut	tutorials
men	mentoring
ss	self-study
exc	excursion
is	internship

Level:

400 level of education according to the Leiden 100-600 structure

Status of the course:

C (compulsory) if the course is a compulsory component for all students of the programme/specialisation/track
O (optional) if the course is an optional component of the programme

Methods of assessment:

w	written examination
wm	written examination with multiple choice questions
we	written examination with essay questions
wth	take home examination
wp	paper, essay, thesis
oe	oral examination
op	oral presentation
tr	translation
pa	participation
as	(weekly) assignments
pro	protocol

Achievement levels applied:

According to the numeration of achievement levels in art. 2.3 of the programme section of the Course and Examination Regulations