



Universiteit Leiden

Course and Examination Regulations

Valid from 1 September 2012

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.

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Appendices

Appendix D – Curriculum (will follow)

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 field of Middle Eastern 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

Graduates of the programme have attained 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 bachelor's student. They are 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 the 'Middle East' in this regard;
4. Advanced, up-to-date knowledge of quantitative and qualitative research methodology appropriate to particular projects and locations;
5. Sensitivity to the relationship between theory, method, place and language;
6. Appropriate language skills for accessing sources in the original language;
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

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; has the ability to integrate knowledge and handle complexity.

1. The capacity to apply a theoretical or descriptive framework when conducting basic independent 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

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

1. Profound knowledge of 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;
3. Sophisticated understanding of the stakes in the politics of knowledge and an awareness of the dangers of imperialism and racism 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 in English;
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 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 a setting 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(s) of instruction of the programme.

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 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 provisions of article 5.2.1 regarding maximum capacity, admission will be granted to persons who:

- have a demonstrable affinity and suitability for academic research; and
- 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
- 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; and
- in the opinion of the Faculty Board have a sufficient command of the language(s) of instruction of the programme (English, a score of 7.0 (IELTS) with a minimum of a 6.0 for the writing component or 600/250/99-100 (TOEFL test)).

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](http://media.leidenuniv.nl/legacy/language%20of%20instruction.pdf).

Article 5.5 Bridging Programme

Not

applicable.

Masteropleiding 2012-2013
Middle Eastern Studies (research)

Studiejaar	Semester	Cursustitel	Studiegidsnummer	Werkvorm	Niveau	EC	Status
MA 1	I	Theory and Methods in Area Studies	5474VTM10	wc	500	10	V
MA 1	I	Specialisation course (see list below and MA Middle Eastern Studies 60 EC; additionally some courses from (Res)MA African Studies)		wc	500	10	K
MA 1	I	Specialisation course (see list below and MA Middle Eastern Studies 60 EC; additionally some courses from (Res)MA African Studies)		wc	500	10	K
						30	
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
MA 1	II	State and Society: Orientalism, Colonialism, and Post-Colonialism	5474OSS10	wc	500	-10	K
MA 1	II	Specialisation course (see list below and MA Middle Eastern Studies 60 EC; additionally some courses from (Res)MA African Studies)		wc	500	10	K

MA 1	II	Specialisation course (see list below and MA Middle Eastern Studies 60 EC; additionally some courses from (Res)MA African Studies)		wc	500	10	K
						30	
MA 2	I	Thesis Writing Seminar*	5474VTHWS	wc	600	10	V
MA 2	I	Specialisation course (see list below and MA Middle Eastern Studies 60 EC; additionally some courses from (Res)MA African Studies) / fieldwork or studying at an affiliated institution				10	K
MA 2	I	Specialisation course (see list below and MA Middle Eastern Studies 60 EC; additionally some courses from (Res)MA African Studies) / fieldwork or studying at an affiliated institution				10	K
						30	
MA 2	II	MA-thesis	5474VTRM		600	30	V
MA 2	II	Thesis Writing Seminar*	5474VTHWS	wc	600	0*	V
						30	

* Thesis Writing Seminar (10 ec) is taught bi-weekly over two semesters.

Specialisation courses are the courses offered by the various MA programmes affiliated with the ResMA.

Five specialisation courses offered by the ResMA are:

MA 1	I	Art history and archaeology of the Christian Middle East	?	wc	500	10	K
MA 1	I	Historiography and Cultural History (Persian)	new code aanmaken	wc	600	10	K

MA 1	II	Pilgrimages and Holy Places	5474OPHP	wc	500	10	K
MA 1	II	Oral Traditions	5474OOT	wc	500	10	K
MA 1	II	Religion, art, and identity of Christian societies in the Middle East	59645701?	wc	500	5 (10)	K