



Universiteit Leiden

# Course and Examination Regulations

Valid from 1 September 2013

**Programme-specific section**

**Master's Programme: North American 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.

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

## **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 American Studies;
2. to enable students to develop the following academic skills:
  - independent academic reasoning and conduct,
  - the ability to analyse complex problems,
  - academic reporting;
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 have attained the following achievement levels:

1. *Knowledge and understanding*
  - a. comprehensive knowledge and understanding of major issues in the history, literature and culture of the United States, such as the struggle for civil rights, immigration, ethnic/racial identity, and U.S. foreign policy, as well as the main scholarly and theoretical debates on these issues;
  - b. a critical understanding of theories of U.S. exceptionalism;
2. *Applications of knowledge and understanding*
  - a. the ability to critically analyse American historical and literary texts and place them in a cultural and historical context;
  - b. the ability to conduct independent multidisciplinary research in the area of North American Studies, thereby showing the ability to comprehend and apply relevant theoretical insights and methodological approaches;
  - c. the ability to identify and collect primary and secondary sources in the area of North American Studies by means of conventional and electronic databases;
  - d. the ability to apply knowledge of North American history, literature and culture to contemporary social, political, literary and cultural developments;
  - e. the ability to apply the acquired skills of analysis, research and communication in the area of North American Studies to other fields and professional contexts in which academic training at master's level is necessary or useful;
3. *Judgment*
  - a. the ability to critically assess and utilise primary and secondary sources to construct an extended argument in the form of a master's thesis in the area of North American Studies;
  - b. the ability to judge the relative merits of academic opinions and arguments on contemporary developments in North American Studies;

#### 4 *Communication*

- a. the ability to orally present and defend the result of individual research in a group context;
- b. the ability to effectively communicate research results in written English in various formats, such as book reviews, essays and a master's thesis;

#### 5 *Learning skills*

- a. the learning abilities required to be able to follow post-master's professional training or a PhD training of a largely self-determined or autonomous nature.

### **Article 2.5 Study Load**

The programme has a study load of 60 ECTS credits.

### **Article 2.8 Language of instruction**

In compliance with the Code of Conduct regarding Foreign Languages [*Gedragscode voertaal*] the language of instruction and examination of the programme is English.<sup>1</sup> Students are expected to have an adequate 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 60 ECTS 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 3.4 Participation in courses**

3.4.2 Not applicable.

### **Article 4.2 Obligatory Order**

Not applicable.

### **Article 5.1 Direct Admission**

Direct admission to the programme is reserved for persons who are in possession of the following degree:

- a Bachelor's degree in the specialisation American History of the History programme from Leiden University.

### **Article 5.3 Entry Requirements**

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

- 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;

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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 at on the following website: [media.leidenuniv.nl/legacy/language of instruction.pdf](http://media.leidenuniv.nl/legacy/language%20of%20instruction.pdf).

- are sufficiently proficient in the language of instruction, to be assessed by the faculty board (English TOEFL 600/250/100 or IELTS 7.0); a minimum IELTS score of 7.5 for English is required for the ‘Speaking’ and ‘Writing’ components, evidenced by an appropriate test.
- have earned a university bachelor’s degree in the field of American Studies or another university bachelor’s degree that includes components in the field of American Studies worth at least 30 ECTS credits, for example the minor in American Studies at Leiden University;
- possess comparable qualities in the field of knowledge, understanding and skills with those acquired upon graduating from the bachelor’s programme referred to in article 5.1 i.e.,
  - knowledge and understanding of the defining events and developments in the history and culture of the United States and/or familiarity with the canonical works of American literature

## **Article 5.5 Bridging Programme**

5.5.1 The programme has organised the following bridging programmes (for the following target groups) in order to remedy deficiencies:

Students who have earned a bachelor’s degree at a research university and who have successfully completed the minor in ‘American Studies: Introduction to the history and culture of the United States’ worth 30 ECTS credits can be admitted to the master’s programme in North American Studies.

Students who have earned a bachelor’s degree at a university of professional education [*HBO*] in **History, English, European Studies, or Journalism** will be admitted to the master’s programme in North American Studies if they have successfully completed a pre-master programme of **60 ECTS** in American Studies.

5.5.2 Information regarding the bridging programmes can be requested from the Co-ordinator of Studies of North American Studies.

Masteropleiding 2013-2014

North American Studies

<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>
MA 1	I	Major Issues in American History and Culture	5224VNA1	WC	500	10	V	4	Retake	wp, op	1a, 1b, 2a, 2b, 2c, 2d, 2e, 3a, 3b, 4a, 4b
MA 1	I	* The Civil Rights Movement	5224KNA1	WC	500	10	K	3	Retake	wp, op	1a, 2a, 2c, 2d, 3a, 4a, 4b
MA 1	I	* Slavery and Memory in Transatlantic Perspective	5224KNA6	WC	500	10	K	3	Retake	wp, op	1a, 1b, 2a, 2b, 2c, 2d, 2e, 3a, 3b, 4a, 4b
MA1	I	Thesis Seminar	5224VNA2	WC	500	geen	V				2b, 2c, 4b
						30					
MA 1	II	* Migration Matters: (Im)migration, Memory and Identity in American Literature and Film	5224KNA3	WC	500	10	K	3	Retake	wp, op	1a, 1b, 2a, 2b, 2c, 2d, 2e, 3a, 3b, 4a, 4b, 5a
MA 1	II	* Peace Movements in U.S. History	5224KNA7	WC	500	10	K	3	Retake	wp, op	1a, 2a, 2c, 2d, 2e, 3a, 4a, 4b
MA 1	II	* Rise and Fall of the American Empire	5774IPRG	WC	500	10	K	7		wp, op	1a, 1b, 2a, 2b, 2c, 2d, 4a, 4b, 5a
MA 1	II	** Readings in American History	5224KNA5	WC	500	10	V	9		wp, op	1a, 1b, 2a, 2b, 2c, 2d, 2e, 3a, 3b, 4a, 4b
MA 1	II	Thesis Seminar	5224VNA2	WC		geen	V				2b, 2c, 4b
MA 1	II	MA Thesis	5224VNA3	ZS	600	20	V				1a, 2a, 2c, 3a, 4b, 5a
						30					

<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>
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\* Studenten dienen minimaal twee van de met \* aangegeven keuzecursussen te volgen. Men mag eventueel een cursus van 10 ECTS buiten de eigen opleiding volgen of een stage van 10 ECTS lopen

\*\* Deze cursus is bedoeld voor februari instromers als vervanging van Major Issues in American History and Culture