Course and Examination Regulations

valid as of 1 September 2015

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

Appendix E – E-prospectus (see https://studiegids.leidenuniv.nl)

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:

   – 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 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 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;

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 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.

8. 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;

III. Making judgments

Graduates 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

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 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

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 that 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 language of instruction and examination of the programme is English. Students are expected to have an adequate 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.

These compulsory components also include 10 credits for electives offered by the recognised national research schools. For this programme Leiden Global is regarded as a recognised national research school.

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 2015-2016**

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, equivalent to the level of a Dutch academic Bachelor's degree, or demonstrate that they 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 language of instruction, to be assessed by the Faculty Board (English IELTS 7.0, TOEFL 100 (internet-based) or Cambridge English: Proficiency (CPE); a minimum score of IELTS 6.5 or TOEFL 22 is required for each of the four components); and

- possess knowledge of the fundamentals of Middle Eastern Studies and/or area studies, literary studies, linguistics, history and/or social sciences, that ideally, but not necessarily, includes knowledge and understanding of the regional languages.

5.2.3   Not applicable.

Article 5.3 **Admission to the academic year 2016-2017**

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, equivalent to the level of a Dutch academic Bachelor's degree, or demonstrate that they 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 language of instruction, to be assessed by the Faculty Board (English IELTS 7.0, TOEFL 100 (internet-based) or Cambridge English: Proficiency (CPE); a minimum score of IELTS 6.5 or TOEFL 22 is required for each of the four components); and

- possess knowledge of the fundamentals of Middle Eastern Studies and/or area studies, literary studies, linguistics, history and/or social sciences, that ideally, but not necessarily, includes knowledge and understanding of the regional languages.

5.3.3   Not applicable.

Article 5.5 **Bridging Programmes (Premasters)**

Not applicable.

Appendix D - Curriculum

Master's programme 2015-2016
Middle Eastern Studies (research)

Year	Semester	Block	Course title	Prospectus number	Mode(s) of instruction	Level	EC	Status	Number of examinations	Assessment methods	Achievement applied
1	Fall	1 & 2	Common Core Course (Fall semester): Theory and Issues in Area Studies	5474VTI14	sem	500	10	C	4	wp, op, pa, as	I-V
			Core Elective Course (choose one of the following courses):				10	C			
1	Fall	1 & 2	*Sacred Journeys: Pilgrimage and Holy Places (ResMA)*	5474ISJ14	sem	600	-10	O	3	wp, op, pa	I-V
1	Fall	1 & 2	*The Ottoman Empire and Turkey (1908 - 1945) (ResMA)*	5474IOT14	sem	600	-10	O	3	pa, op, wp	I-V
1	Fall	1 & 2	*Persian Manuscripts: From Author to Text (ResMA)*	5474IPM14	sem	600	-10	O	2	op, wp	I-V
1	Fall	1 & 2	*From Inkwell to Internet: Text and Transmission in the Muslim World (ResMA)*	5474IIII14	sem	600	-10	O	2	as, pa	I-V
1	Fall	1 & 2	*The Middle East in the International Political Economy (ResMA)*	5474IMIPE	sem	600	-10	O	3	pa (pa, op, discussant duties), wp (2x)	I-V
			Alternatively students may opt to choose one or more (600-level) courses from one of the other Research Masters or from one of the research schools (see http://www.hum.leiden.edu/research/research-schools/schools.html). NB: students should be aware, though, that not all courses on offer carry a weight of 10 EC and additional courses may thus be required.								
1	Fall	1 & 2	Elective Course from one of the MA programmes (choose one or two courses from the list that can be found in the e-prospectus)*			400/500	10	C			
			Additionally, students can apply to participate in a series of extra-curricular lectures:								
1	Fall	1 & 2	Discipline and Place in the Social Sciences and the Humanities	NA	sem	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	I
							30				
1	Spring	3	Common Core Course (Spring semester): Mixed Methods in the Social Sciences and Humanities	5474VMM15	sem	500	10	C	6	wp (5x), op	I-II
			Core Elective Course (choose one of the following courses):				10	C			
1	Spring	3 & 4	*Arts and Culture in Area Studies: Culture and Conquest: the Impact of the Mongols and their Descendants (ResMA)*	5474IAC14	sem	600	-10	O	3	as (AQCI), op (+pa), wp	I-V
1	Spring	3 & 4	*Topics in Arabic Linguistics (2015) (ResMA)*	5474IAL15	sem	600	-10	O	4	pa, wp, wp+op, as	I-V
1	Spring	3 & 4	*From Persian to Tajik: Language and Power in the Persianate World (ResMA)*	5474IPT14	sem	600	-10	O	4	w (2x ACQI), wp, op, pa	I-V
1	Spring	3 & 4	*Anthropology of Muslim Societies (ResMA)*	5474IAM14	sem	600	-10	O	3	pa, op, wp	I-V
			Alternatively students may opt to choose one or more (600-level) courses from one of the other Research Masters or from one of the research schools (see http://www.hum.leiden.edu/research/research-schools/schools.html). NB: students should be aware, though, that not all courses on offer carry a weight of 10 EC and additional courses may thus be required.								
1	Spring	3 & 4	Elective Course from one of the MA programmes (choose one or two courses from the list that can be found in the e-prospectus)*			500	10	C			
							30				

Year	Semester	Block	Course title	Prospectus number	Mode(s) of instruction	Level	EC	Status	Number of examinations	Assessment methods	Achievement applied
2	Fall	1 & 2	Study abroad and/or fieldwork (including at least 10 EC of fieldwork or 600 level tutorial) ***			600	30	C			I-V
							30				
2	Spring	3 & 4	Thesis Writing Seminar	5474VTWSS	sem	600	5	C	2	pa, op	I-V
2	Spring	3 & 4	ResMA Thesis	5474VTH14	ss	600	25	C	1	wp	I-V
							30				
			February start								
1	Spring	3	Common Core Course (Spring semester): Mixed Methods in the Social Sciences and Humanities	5474VMM15	sem	500	10	C	6	wp (5x), op	I-II
			Core Elective Course (choose one of the following courses **):				10	C			
1	Spring	3 & 4	Arts and Culture in Area Studies: Culture and Conquest: the Impact of the Mongols and their Descendants (ResMA)	5474IAC14	sem	600	-10	O	3	as (AQCI), op (+pa), wp	I-V
1	Spring	3 & 4	Topics in Arabic Linguistics (ResMA)	5474IAL14	sem	600	-10	O	4	pa, wp, wp+op, as	I-V
1	Spring	3 & 4	From Persian to Tajik: Language and Power in the Persianate World (ResMA)	5474IPT14	sem	600	-10	O	4	w (2x ACQI), wp, op, pa	I-V
1	Spring	3 & 4	Anthropology of Muslim Societies (ResMA)	5474IAM14	sem	600	-10	O	3	pa, op, wp	I-V
			Alternatively students may opt to choose one or more (600-level) courses from one of the other Research Masters or from one of the research schools (see http://www.hum.leiden.edu/research/research-schools/schools.html). NB: students should be aware, though, that not all courses on offer carry a weight of 10 EC and additional courses may thus be required.								
1	Spring	3 & 4	Elective Course from one of the MA programmes (choose one or two courses from the list that can be found in the e-prospectus)*			500	10	C			
							30				
1	Fall	1 & 2	Common Core Course (Fall semester): Theory and Issues in Area Studies	5474VTI14	sem	500	10	C	4	wp, op, pa, as	I-V
			Core Elective Course (choose one of the following courses **):				10	C			
1	Fall	1 & 2	Sacred Journeys: Pilgrimage and Holy Places (ResMA)	5474ISJ14	sem	600	-10	O	3	wp, op, pa	I-V
1	Fall	1 & 2	The Ottoman Empire and Turkey (1908 - 1945) (ResMA)	5474IOT14	sem	600	-10	O	3	pa, op, wp	I-V
1	Fall	1 & 2	Persian Manuscripts: From Author to Text (ResMA)	5474IPM14	sem	600	-10	O	2	op, wp	I-V
1	Fall	1 & 2	From Inkwell to Internet: Text and Transmission in the Muslim World (ResMA)	5474III14	sem	600	-10	O	2	as, pa	I-V
1	Fall	1 & 2	The Middle East in the International Political Economy (ResMA)	5474IMIPE	sem	600	-10	O	3	pa (pa, op, discussant duties), wp (2x)	I-V
			Alternatively students may opt to choose one or more (600-level) courses from one of the other Research Masters or from one of the research schools (see http://www.hum.leiden.edu/research/research-schools/schools.html). NB: students should be aware, though, that not all courses on offer carry a weight of 10 EC and additional courses may thus be required.								
1	Fall	1 & 2	Elective Course from one of the MA programmes (choose one or two courses from the list that can be found in the e-prospectus)*			400/500	10	C			
			Additionally, students can apply to participate in a series of extra-curricular lectures:								
1	Fall	1 & 2	Discipline and Place in the Social Sciences and the Humanities	NA	sem	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	I

Year	Semester	Block	Course title	Prospectus number	Mode(s) of instruction	Level	EC		Status	Number of examinations	Assessment methods	Achievement applied
							30					
2	Spring	1 & 2	Study abroad and/or fieldwork ***			600	30		C			I-V
							30					
2	Fall	3 & 4	Thesis Writing Seminar	5474VTWSS	sem	600	5		C	2	pa, op	I-V
2	Fall	3 & 4	ResMA Thesis	5474VTH14	ss	600	25		C	1	wp	I-V
							30					

Notes:

* Students can take up to 10 EC maximum of language courses at beginner's or intermediate level. If they want to take more courses, these will not be counted towards their degree. They will, however, be listed on their Diplom
More language courses at level 400 or 500 are allowed pending approval of the Board of Examiners.

** Depending on their individual study plan, students can also choose Core Elective Courses from the ResMA Asian Studies, other Research MAs, or courses from the Research Schools, after getting permission from the Board

*** Students who want to go abroad need to contact a potential supervisor of their project early in the semester previous to the semester in which they go abroad to write a sound proposal.

This proposal needs to be submitted to the Board of Examiners for approval at least two months before the student leaves (preferably before the end of the semester previous to the semester in which they go abroad).

Students who do not go abroad take one tutorial (10 EC), one Core Elective Course (10 EC) and one or two Elective Courses (with a minimum total of 10 EC).

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

Retake:
R   (retake) if students who have not been successful in the first attempt can take a second examination for the course;
            see art. 4.1 of the general section of the Course and Examination Regulations

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