



Universiteit Leiden

Course and Examination Regulations

valid as of 1 September 2015

Programme-specific section:

Master's Programme: Theology and Religious 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

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

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 Religious 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;
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 . The following specialisations are being phased out:

- Christianity
- Islam
- Judaism
- Religion, Culture and Society
- Biblical Studies (ending date 31 August 2016)

Article 2.3 **Achievement Levels**

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

- I. the ability to design, conduct and evaluate research in the field of Religious Studies, against the background of current and past academic debates and in comparative perspective;
- II. the ability to employ the scholarly methods commonly used in the field of Religious Studies;
- III. the ability to integrate knowledge and handle complexity, formulate judgements with incomplete or limited information, offer suggestions for further research and arguments for solution of problems;
- IV. the ability to adequately and creatively use his or her knowledge and skills in professions that require knowledge of Religious Studies in general and his or her choice of focus within the field of Religious Studies;
- V. the ability to communicate conclusions of his or her research, and the knowledge and rational underpinning of these, to specialist and non-specialist audiences, clearly and unambiguously.

Article 2.5 **Study Load**

The programme has a study load of 60 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.

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 60 credits. These compulsory components include the optional courses [Psychology of Religion, Sharia in the West and Between Ideology and Historicity: Modern Jewish Historiography from which a student is obliged to choose.

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 Without prejudice to the stipulations of Article 5.1.1 regarding maximum capacity, persons who are in possession of (one of) the following degree(s) are granted direct admission to the programme:

<i>Admission on the basis of Bachelor programme,</i>
Theology (Leiden University)
Religious Studies (until 1 September 2014: World Religions) (Leiden University)
Islamic Studies (until 1 September 2013: Islamic Theology) (Leiden University)

5.2.2 Without prejudice to the stipulations in Article 5.1.1 regarding maximum capacity, persons who do not meet the entry requirements set in 5.2.1 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
- 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); and
- possess comparable qualities in the field of knowledge, understanding and skills with those acquired upon graduating from one of the Bachelor's programmes referred to in article 5.2.1, specifically:
 - knowledge in the field of theology and/ or religious studies and history; and
 - knowledge of the study of Christianity, Islam and/or Judaism; and
 - knowledge of methodologies of either social sciences or history and/or philology; and
 - the ability to reflect on current debates and developments regarding religion; and
 - the ability to formulate problems and the skill to select the correct methodological approach as well as literature/data to analyse these problems.

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

5.3.1 Without prejudice to the stipulations of Article 5.1.1 regarding maximum capacity, persons who are in possession of (one of) the following degree(s) are granted direct admission to the programme:

<i>Admission on the basis of Bachelor programme,</i>
Theology (Leiden University)
Religious Studies (until 1 September 2014: World Religions) (Leiden University)
Islamic Studies (until 1 September 2013: Islamic Theology) (Leiden University)

5.3.2 Without prejudice to the stipulations in Article 5.1.1 regarding maximum capacity, persons who do not meet the entry requirements set in 5.3.1 will be granted admission to the programme, if they have:

- 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
- 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); and
- possess comparable qualities in the field of knowledge, understanding and skills with those acquired upon graduating from one of the Bachelor's programmes referred to in article 5.3.1, specifically:
 - knowledge in the field of theology and/ or religious studies and history; and
 - knowledge of the study of Christianity, Islam and/or Judaism; and
 - knowledge of methodologies of either social sciences or history and/or philology; and
 - the ability to reflect on current debates and developments regarding religion; and
 - the ability to formulate problems and the skill to select the correct methodological approach as well as literature/data to analyse these problems.

Applicants who are in possession of a Bachelor's degree in Humanities or Social Sciences from Leiden University, and who have successfully completed the Leiden University minor 'Religion in a changing World', are considered to have fulfilled these requirements.

Applicants may be asked to submit a writing sample, proving the aforementioned qualities in the field of knowledge, understanding and skills.

Article 5.5 **Bridging Programmes (Premasters)**

Not applicable.

Appendix D - Curriculum

Master's programme 2015-2016
Theology and Religious Studies

Year	Semester	Block	Course title	Mode(s) of instruction	Level	EC	Status	Number of Examinations	Assessment methods	Achievement levels applied
MA 1	I		Tools and Theories in the Study of Religion: Historical, Cognitive and Social-scientific Approaches	sem	500	10	C		20% op, 20% wp, 20% as, 40% wp	I t/m V
MA1	I		Confronting Modernity	sem	500	10	C		0% pa, 0% op, 30% as , 70% wp	I, II, IV
			<i>Electives, choose 2 out of 3:*</i>			10				
MA1	I		<i>Psychology of Religion</i>	sem	500	-5	E		0% pa, op, we, 30% we, 70% wp	I t/m V
MA1	I		<i>Between Ideology and Historicity: Modern Jewish Historiography</i>	sem	500	-5	E		30% op, 70% wp	I t/m IV
MA1	I		<i>Sharia in the West</i>	sem	500	-5	E		pa, as, w, wn	I, II, III, IV, esp. V
						30				
MA 1	II		East-West Encounters: Religious Exchanges and Transformations	sem	500	10	C		pa, op, we, wp	I, II, IV, V, esp. III
MA 1	II		Thesis	ss	600	20	C		wp	
						30				

*elective offerings change yearly

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
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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
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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