



Course and Examination Regulations

valid as of 1 September 2016

Programme-specific section:

Master's Programme: Linguistics (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 Linguistics;
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 programme have attained the following learning outcomes, listed according to the Dublin descriptors:

I. Knowledge and understanding

Graduates demonstrate, in their written and oral work:

1. a thorough knowledge and understanding of the discipline of linguistics, the academic study of human language;
2. familiarity with the history of the field, its basic concepts, research methods and techniques, and current developments in the field; graduates have a good overview of various approaches to linguistic diversity, the way in which variation and uniformity in languages can be identified and studied;
3. an in-depth knowledge of at least one subdiscipline of linguistics, such as descriptive, formal, experimental, or comparative linguistics; being acquainted with its specific research questions and methodology.

II. Application of knowledge and understanding

Graduates demonstrate, in their written and oral work, the ability to:

1. define a research topic, formulate research questions, and collect data, e.g. through fieldwork, study of existing corpora or an experimental setup;
2. perform an analysis and interpretation of the object of inquiry;
3. relate the analysis to the relevant literature;
4. contribute to on-going debates in the discipline, based on independent research and theoretical reflection.

III. Making judgments

Graduates demonstrate, in their written and oral work, the capacity to:

1. critically evaluate their sources;
2. build an argument that leads to its conclusion in a cogent, clear and verifiable manner;

3. take into account the philosophy and ethics of linguistic research in doing research;
4. be able to relate the results of their research to the existing literature.

IV. Communication

Graduates demonstrate, in their written and oral work, the ability to:

formulate clear and well-founded research questions, hypotheses and analyses in grammatically correct English, and present this in a coherent and convincing way.

V. Learning skills

Graduates demonstrate, in their written and oral work, the ability to:

apply learning skills that allow them to initiate and conduct a research project with a great degree of independence and autonomy, under expert national or international supervision; this means that the student:

- a) has articulated the research question or thesis independently;
- b) has independently conducted relevant bibliographical research;
- c) has drawn up a realistic research plan;
- d) has applied other relevant linguistic research skills in an independent way.

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.

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 2016-2017 and following years

5.2.1 Not applicable.

5.2.2 The Board of Admissions may, on request, grant admission to the programmes to persons who do not meet the requirements specified in 5.2.1 but who can demonstrate to the satisfaction of the Board of Admissions that they possess an equal level of knowledge, understanding and skills as the holders of a degree specified in 5.2.1, possibly under conditions to be further determined, without prejudice to the requirements in 5.2.4.

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.

5.2.4 Alongside the requirements specified in 5.2.1 and 5.2.2, the following qualitative admission requirements apply for the programme pursuant to Article 7.30b, second paragraph, of the Act:

- have earned the degree of Bachelor at a university, 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 language of instruction, to be assessed by the Faculty Board (English IELTS 7.0, TOEFL 100 (internet-based) or Cambridge English: Proficiency (CPE); for the 'speaking' and 'writing' components a minimum score of IELTS 6.5 or TOEFL 22 is required); and
- have completed a bachelor's programme in Linguistics, a language and culture programme or a comparable degree with a relevant specialisation; and
- possess the following qualities regarding knowledge, understanding and skills:
 - the ability to understand basic linguistic analyses and read linguistic literature (in English) at the appropriate (handbook) level; and
 - the ability to collect linguistic data and discover patterns in those; and
 - a demonstrable interest in and talent for linguistic research.

5.2.5 If the Executive Board has determined a maximum capacity for the programme, the order of admission will be determined by the qualitative admission requirements as referred to in Article 5.2.4 and Appendix F.

Article 5.4 Bridging Programmes (Premasters)

Not applicable.