



Universiteit Leiden

Course and Examination Regulations

valid as of 1 September 2016

Programme-specific section:

Master's Programme: Middle Eastern 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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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 Middle Eastern 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**

The programme has the following specialisations:

- Arabic Studies
- Islamic Studies
- Modern Middle East Studies
- Persian Studies
- Turkish Studies

Article 2.3 **Achievement Levels**

Graduates of the programme have attained the following learning outcomes, listed according to the Dublin descriptors:

Graduates will:

- a1. *Knowledge and understanding*
 - a. possess comprehensive knowledge of and skills in the area of history, literature, culture or religion of the Middle-East;
 - b. possess the ability to use the relevant primary and secondary literature;
 - c. have acquired various skills including independent academic thinking and acting, analyzing complex issues; and be able to report academically sound;
 - d. have acquired academic knowledge, insight, and skills in theories and methods used in various fields such as social sciences, literary studies, and anthropology, and be able to apply this knowledge to the field of Middle Eastern Studies.
- a2. *Applying knowledge and understanding*
 - a) have the ability to make use of knowledge acquired at different courses in their specific field in their theses, but also in their further career with tasks such as teaching, supervising, consulting, writing, translating and editing;

- b) have the ability to use the knowledge in policy making and public relations, as the majority of graduates of a non-European language and culture in their professional career deal with foreign people;
- c) have acquired knowledge and understanding, geared towards problem-solving in new or unfamiliar environments within a broader scholarly and applied context.

a3. *Judgment*

- a) are able to identify and formulate an original research question, to analyze primary and secondary sources, and to draw conclusions;
- b) have the ability to gauge scholarly publications in the field critically;
- c) are able to write and present orally clarifications and explanations of implicit issues related to the state of the art of the field of research: concepts, ideas, theses and hypotheses;
- d) are able to integrate the knowledge and understanding they have acquired during the study for handling complexity, and formulating judgments;
- e) have the ability to reflect on the academic, social and ethical responsibilities that arise from the field of Middle Eastern Studies.

a4. *Communication*

- a) are able to present the result of independent research not only in writing but also through oral presentations both for a general and professional public;
- b) are able to contribute to a public debate communicating the conclusions of their scholarly research, knowledge and understanding of the Middle East to an audience beyond traditional academia;
- c) have learned to academically contribute to the field of research.

a5. *Learning skills*

have developed abilities to follow post-master's professional training or a PhD training of a largely self-determined or autonomous nature.

In addition to the achievement levels above, the following achievement levels per specialisation apply:

b1. *Arabic Studies*

Knowledge and understanding of the history of Arab peoples and culture, contemporary developments in the Arab world, Arabic literature and rich manuscript traditions. This also includes a thorough understanding of Islam.

b2. *Islamic Studies*

Knowledge and understanding of Islamic law and anthropology of the Muslim world from the perspective of the social sciences combined with philology.

b3. *Modern Middle East Studies*

General knowledge and understanding of the cultures, literatures and religions of the strategically important Middle Eastern regions with a focus on the modern period.

In-depth knowledge and understanding of the Modern Middle East, depending on the choices of the student, either directed at the Middle East in general, or at one of the regions of the Middle East in depth.

B4. *Persian Studies*

Knowledge and understanding of the history, literature, politics, religion and Persian visual arts of the Persian cultural realm from the advent of Islam to the present day.

B5. Turkish Studies

Knowledge and understanding of Turkish history and culture and Turkey's relation to Europe, viewed against its transition from the multi-ethnic Ottoman state to a nation state.

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.

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 [*keuzevakken*] from which a student is obliged to choose.

Article 4.2 Obligatory Order

4.2.1 In the classes and examination of the following components can only be taken part once the examination of the preceding components specified below have been successfully completed:

<i>Component:</i>	<i>Participation in class and examination after passing:</i>
Beginner's Turkish 2	Beginner's Turkish 1
Modern Standard Arabic 2	Modern Standard Arabic 1
Language Acquisition Persian 2	Language Acquisition Persian 1
Language Acquisition Modern Hebrew 2	Language Acquisition Modern Hebrew 1
MA course(s) in Turkey	At least successful completion of 20 EC of the MA-programme

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 Pursuant to Article 7.30b, first paragraph, of the Act holders of one of the following degrees may be admitted to the programme and one of its specialisations:

<i>Specialisation master</i>	<i>Admission on the basis of bachelor programme, with specialisation</i>
Arabic Studies	Middle Eastern Studies: Arabic Language and Culture (Leiden University)
Islamic Studies	Middle Eastern Studies: Arabic Language and Culture (Leiden University)

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).

	Middle Eastern Studies: Modern Middle East Studies (Leiden University) Middle Eastern Studies: Persian Language and Culture (Leiden University) Middle Eastern Studies: Turkish Language and Culture (Leiden University)
Modern Middle East Studies	Middle Eastern Studies: all specialisations (Leiden University)
Persian Studies	Middle Eastern Studies: Persian Language and Culture (Leiden University)
Turkish Studies	Middle Eastern Studies: Turkish Language and Culture (Leiden University)
Israel Studies (from September 2017)	Middle Eastern Studies: Israel Studies (Leiden University)

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.

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
- 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)).

In addition to the requirements set out above, the following additional entry requirements apply to the following specialisations:

- Specialisation Arabic Studies:
 - a bachelor's degree in the field of Arabic, Islamic studies, Middle Eastern Studies; and
 - a good working knowledge of Modern Standard Arabic (Common European Framework of Reference for Languages: listening B1; reading B2; spoken interaction B1; spoken production B1; writing B1).
- Specialisation Islamic Studies:
 - a bachelor's degree in Islamic Studies, Islamic Law, Islamic History, Islamic Theology combined with at least 30 credits of Middle East related subjects; or a bachelor's degree in one of the major languages current in the Muslim world, with at least 30 credits of Islam-related subjects combined with at least 30 credits of Middle East related subjects in the curriculum; or a bachelor's degree in World Religions with a specialisation in Islam or an equivalent bachelor's degree with a relevant disciplinary specialisation or minor (Islamic Studies, Islamic Law, Islamic History, Islamic Theology) of at least 30 credits combined with at least 30 credits of Middle East related subjects; and

- an adequate proficiency in reading one of the major languages current in the Muslim world (Common European Framework of Reference for Languages: reading B2).
- Specialisation Modern Middle Eastern Studies:
 - a bachelor's degree with a relevant regional or disciplinary specialisation or minor of at least 30 credits.

Applicants with a Bachelor's degree in International Studies from Leiden University who

 - have completed all area courses for the Middle East, and
 - wrote their BA Thesis and/or completed optional courses worth 10 credits on the Middle East

are considered to have fulfilled all entry requirements for this specialisation.
- Specialisation Persian Studies:
 - a bachelor's degree in the field of Persian Studies, Islamic studies or Middle Eastern Studies; and
 - a good working knowledge of Persian (Common European Framework of Reference for Languages: listening B1; reading B2; spoken interaction B1; spoken production B1; writing B1).
- Specialisation Turkish Studies:
 - a bachelor's degree in Turkish Studies or another relevant discipline; and
 - an adequate proficiency in reading Turkish (Common European Framework of Reference for Languages: reading B2).
- Specialisation Israel Studies:
 - a bachelor's degree in Israel Studies or another relevant discipline; and
 - a good working knowledge of Modern Hebrew (Common European Framework of Reference for Languages: listening B1; reading B2; spoken interaction B1; spoken production B1; writing B1).

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)**

5.4.1 Standardized bridging programmes are available for the specialisations Islamic Studies and Modern Middle East Studies.

5.4.1.a Students who

- have earned the degree of bachelor at a university of applied sciences [*HBO*], equivalent to the level of a Dutch HBO bachelor's degree, in a relevant field or demonstrate they meet the requirements for such a degree; 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)); but

- lack the qualifications mentioned above in article 5.2.4.

will be admitted to the Master's programme Middle Eastern Studies, specialisation Modern Middle East Studies or Islamic Studies after they have successfully completed one of the following premaster programmes of 60 credits, depending on the start date of their programme.

60 EC start in FALL				
Kerncurriculum: Area Studies	50000VASH	hc	100	5
Introduction to the Study of Islam	5851VITSI	hc	100	5
History of Contemporary Iran	5852VHCI	wc	200	5
Politics, Ideologies and Societies in the Middle East	5852VPME	wc	200	5
Diasporas and Minorities in the Middle East	5853VDIA	wc	300	5
Academic Skills				5
History of the Middle East 2 (1500-present)	5851VGM2	hc	200	5
Economies of the Middle East	5851VEME	hc	200	5
Language & Identity in the Middle East	5851VLIME	hc	200	5
Rituals and symbols of Islam	5852VRSI	wc	200	5
BA Thesis			400	10
				60
60 EC start in SPRING				
Language & Identity in the Middle East	5851VLIME	hc	200	5
Economies of the Middle East	5851VEME	hc	200	5
History of the Middle East 2 (1500-present)	5851VGM2	hc	200	5
Rituals and symbols of Islam	5852VRSI	wc	200	5
Modern Thinkers and Trends in Islam	5852VTTI	hc	300	5
Academic Skills				5
History of Contemporary Iran	5852VHCI	wc	200	5
Politics, Ideologies and Societies in the Middle East	5852VPME	wc	200	5
Diasporas and Minorities in the Middle East	5853VDIA	wc	300	5
History and Culture of Modern Turkey	5853IHCMT	wc	300	5
BA Thesis			400	10
				60

5.4.1.b Students who

- have earned the degree of bachelor in a relevant field at a university, , equivalent to the level of a Dutch academic bachelor's degree, or demonstrate they 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))); but
- lack the qualifications mentioned above in article 5.2.4.

will be admitted to the Master's programme Middle Eastern Studies, specialisation Modern Middle East Studies or Islamic Studies, after they have successfully completed one of the following premaster programmes of 30 credits, depending on the start date of their programme.

30 EC start in FALL				
Kerncurriculum: Area Studies	50000VASH	hc	100	5
Introduction to the Study of Islam	5851VITSI	hc	100	5

History of Contemporary Iran	5852VHCI	wc	200	5
Politics, Ideologies and Societies in the Middle East	5852VPME	wc	200	5
Diasporas and Minorities in the Middle East	5853VDIA	wc	300	5
History and Culture of Modern Turkey	5853IHCMT	wc	300	5
				30
30 EC start in SPRING				
Islam in the modern World	5851VIMW	hc	200	5
Modern Thinkers and Trends in Islam	5852VTI	hc	300	5
Rituals and symbols of Islam	5852VRSI	wc	200	5
Language & Identity in the Middle East	5851VLIME	hc	200	5
Economies of the Middle East	5851VEME	hc	200	5
History of the Middle East 2 (1500-present)	5851VGM2	hc	200	5
				30

5.5.2 Information regarding the bridging programmes can be found in the e-propectus (<https://studiegids.leidenuniv.nl/en/studies/show/5087/middle-eastern-studies>).

