



Universiteit Leiden

Course and Examination Regulations

valid as of 1 September 2016

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 .

Article 2.3 **Achievement Levels**

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

- 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 [*Gedragcode 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 is comprised of a total study load of 60 credits. Of these the compulsory components including the thesis have a total of 50 credits. These are to be supplemented by electives with a total of 10 additional credits.

¹ The Code of Conduct on the Language of Instruction and Examination [*Gedragcode 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 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 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>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)

In addition, 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', will be admitted to the programme.

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 The following qualitative admission requirements apply to applicants other than those described in 5.2.1 and 5.2.2 for the programme pursuant to Article 7.30b, second paragraph, of the Act:

- a. applicants 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
- b. applicants 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
- c. 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:
 - o knowledge in the field of theology and/ or religious studies and history; and
 - o knowledge of the study of Christianity, Islam and/or Judaism; and
 - o knowledge of methodologies of either social sciences or history and/or philology; and
 - o the ability to reflect on current debates and developments regarding religion; and
 - o the ability to formulate problems and the skill to select the correct methodological approach as well as literature/data to analyse these problems.

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

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)**

Applicants who fulfil the requirements in 5.2.4 a and 5.2.4.b, but do not possess comparable qualities in the field of knowledge, understanding and skills listed under 5.2.4. c. will be expected to fulfil a tailor-made premaster programme consisting of a maximum of 60 credits in order to meet these requirements.