

Master Prospectus English Language and Culture, 2008/2009

Programme overview, 2008/2009

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Full-time and Part-time

The full-time programme spans one year, the part-time programme eighteen months. The only difference between the two programmes is in the length of time required for their completion; in content they are identical.

Structure

Students can choose a Master's programme in the following sections: Philology, Literature, Linguistics and Language Acquisition. It is also possible to put together a more general programme by selecting courses from all of the sections.

In the first semester of the programme, all Master's students are expected to follow the online course 'Leiden Online Thesis Training' (5 ects), as well as two other courses (for 10 ects each). One of these two courses should be extended into an independent research project for 5 ects. In the second semester, students take one more course and write their Master's thesis.

Master's thesis and requirements for graduation

In order to graduate, students must have completed a total of 60 ects, as well as their Master's thesis. The Master's thesis should be based on one of the courses the student followed in the context of the programme; it should be written according to the MLA Style Sheet guidelines and correspond to 20 ECTS (a maximum of 17,000 words, including notes, bibliography and appendices.). Each thesis has two supervisors. Once the thesis has been approved, it must be defended orally. A Thesis scenario is available in this guide.

See also: http://www.arts.leidenuniv.nl/students/ma_mphil.jsp

Programme schedule Master English Language and Culture

sem	course title	ISIScode	t.a.	level	ECTS
I	LOTT	LOTT	s/bb	500	5
I	Course A		s	500	10
I	Course B		s	500	10
I	Extension on course A or B			500	5
					30
II	Course C		s	600	10
II	MA-thesis		research	600	20
					30

Specialisation Philology

sem	course title	ISIScode	t.a.	level	ECTS
I	LOTT	LOTT	s/bb	500	5
I	Medieval Dream Allegories	MA/FIL16	s	500	10
I	Marvels of the East	MA/FIL15	s	500	10
I	Language Variation and Change	MA/FIL10	S	600	10
I	Extension on one of the courses			500	5
					30
II	Language and 18th-century Letters	MA/FIL18	s	500	10
II	Middle English from Script to Print	MA/FIL07	s	600	10
II	Grammars, Grammarians and Grammar Writing	MA/FIL18	s	600	10
II	MA-thesis	Thesis	s	600	20
					30

Specialisation Literature

sem	course title	ISIScode	t.a.	level	ECTS
I	LOTT	LOTT	s/bb	500	5
I	Short Stories from Britain and Ireland, 1870-1950	MA/LIT28	s	500	10
I	Editing the Poetry of John Donne (1572-1631)	MA/lit18	s	500	10
I	Exorcists, Blasphemers and Renegades: Religious Struggle in Early Modern English Literature	MA/LIT29	s	500	10
I	Voices and Visions of Multicultural America	MA/LIT16	s	500	10
I	Extension on one of the courses		s	500	5

30

II	Stormy Secrets in Melancholy Landscapes: Literary Sensations	MA/LIT30 s	600	10
II	American and Caribbean Women Writers	MA/LIT31 s	600	10
II	Shakespeare's Sister: Gender Troubles in the Early Modern Period	MA/LIT32 s	600	10
II	Novels of Quest and Adventure, 1880-1920	MA/LIT33 s	600	10
II	MA-thesis	Thesis s	600	20
				30

Specialisation Linguistics

sem course title ISIScode t.a. level ECTS

I LOTT LOTT s/bb 500 5

I	Historical English Phonology	MA/TK03 s	500	10
I	English Historical Syntax	MA/TK05 s	500	10
I	Language Change	MA/TK12 s	500	10
I	Extension on one of the courses		500	5
				30

II	The Phrasal Verb in English	MA/TK14 s	600	10
II	English Historical Syntax	MA/TK05 s	600	10
II	MA-thesis	Thesis s	600	20
				30

Specialisation Language Acquisition

sem course title ISIScode t.a. level ECTS

I	LOTT	LOTT s/bb	500	5
I	Second Language Acquisition	MA/TV01 s	500	10
I	English Around the Globe	MA/TV02 s	500	10
I	American Rhetoric: The 2008 US Presidential Election for Students of English	MA/TV15 s	600	10
I	Extension on one of the courses		500	5

II	Creative Writing	MA/TV10 s	600	10
II	The Sociolinguistics of English	MA/TV09 s	500	10
II	MA-thesis	Thesis s	600	20
				30

Key:

sem: semester

t.a.: teaching activity

s: seminar

l: lecture

sst: self-study

level: level-indication according to the Leiden 100-600 system

General Information 2008-2009

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Objectives

The programme's primary objective is to enable graduates to acquire the knowledge, skills and attitude required in order to successfully fill positions for which an advanced academic education in the field of English Language and Culture is either required or useful.

Attainment Levels

Graduates in English Language and Culture:

1. Have acquired a level of insight into the results, concepts and methods of the field, or a part thereof, which enables them, by making use of specialist literature, to recognize the most relevant questions and problems of the field, and to formulate a well-argued opinion concerning these questions;
2. Are capable of reporting in an extensive, appropriate, well-argued and critical manner on the state of the art concerning a number of subjects within one or more fields of study of English Language and Culture, and of subsequently drawing well-considered conclusions from the results;

3. Have acquired a level of knowledge and skills in the field sufficient to be applied in filling positions in society for which an academic education at Master's level is required or useful;
4. Have developed insight into the nature and function of academic pursuit.

Assignments

All assignments and essays must be written in accordance with the guidelines set out in the *MLA style sheet*. Students hand in their essays and assignments directly to the relevant lecturer (or by putting them into his/her pigeon hole). The corrected assignments are returned in person or in the student pigeon holes in the hall on the first floor of building 1168, P.N. van Eyckhof 4, 1st floor.

Examination

The written examinations will take place:

1st semester Tuesday 6 -Thursday 15 January

2nd semester Wednesday 27 May - Tuesday 9 June

Resit 1st semester Wednesday 27 May - Tuesday 9 June

Resit 2nd semester Monday 24 - Friday 28 August

The final essays must be handed in:

First semester courses on Tuesday 6 January; resit essays Wednesday 27 May

Second semester courses on Wednesday 27 May; resit essays Monday 24 August

Plagiarism

Plagiarism may be defined as 'the act of passing off the thoughts, writings, inventions, etc. of another person as one's own' (Concise Oxford Dictionary). This definition includes not only books and articles but also electronic material, such as internet texts. If plagiarism is detected in a paper or an essay, the student is expected to rewrite the essay or the paper during the resit period. The incident will also be reported to the Director of Studies. If a student is caught again for the same offence, the case will be brought before the Board of Examiners. Their decision might involve expulsion from the course and the student will not be allowed to take part in the resits for the relevant subject for the remainder of the academic year. If the offence occurs a third time, the Board of Examiners will take more drastic measures. In case of plagiarism when writing the final thesis, a different topic and a different supervisor will be found, in consultation with the Board of Examiners.

Studying Abroad

Students wishing to follow courses abroad during their Master's degree should contact Mrs K. van der Zeeuw-Filemon for more information.