

Extra requirement research master Linguistics (date August 29 2014)

Introduction

From Academic year 2014-2015 on there will be an extra requirement for research master students who started their studies in that academic year. The goal of this extra requirement is twofold:

- (i) To distinguish the programme of the research master from the programme of the regular (one-year) master.
- (ii) To train the research master students in academic skills, more particularly writing an academic paper and reflecting on research methodology.

What is the extra requirement?

Each student has to follow two linguistics courses of each 10 EC (so in total 20 EC) from the regular (one year) MA Linguistics Programme within Leiden, or from other regular (one year) MA Programmes at the Faculty of Humanities in Leiden that offer linguistics courses (Russian Studies, Asian Studies, etc.) with an **extra requirement**:

- The first extra requirement is that the student writes a final paper in the form of an **academic article** (including the number of pages/words that is customary within the field). What the form is of an article will be determined by the lecturer of the class, who will use the format of an academic article of his/her own linguistic subdiscipline. To give an idea, a possible structure could be:
 - Title
 - Abstract
 - Key words
 - Introduction (with research question)
 - Literature review (or: Background, Theoretical framework)
 - Methods/methodology
 - Results
 - Conclusion
 - References
- The second extra requirement is that the student pays extra attention to methodology of the research. This means, for example, that the student should reflect on why a particular methodology is chosen instead of another one, and what the implications are of choosing for a particular methodology.

What is the procedure?

- The student is responsible for choosing two 'upgraded' courses during the course of his/her study.
- Courses where there is no final paper but another type of exam (for example a written exam or an oral exam) are not eligible for an 'upgrade'.
- In normal cases the student follows these two courses in the first year of his/her programme.
- At the beginning of the class the student lets the lecturer know that he/she want to follow the course with an extra requirement.
- The lecturer will let the student know how the extra requirement should be interpreted for the course in question (for example the format of an academic article).
- In grading the paper, the lecturer takes into account whether the extra requirement has been met and in what way.

- After the paper is graded the lecturer lets the secretary of the research master know whether the student has passed the exam and what his/her grade is. For this there is a separate USIS-code.

Course exemption

- Exemption for the extra requirement is only possible in the case of a course for the same amount of EC that is specifically designed for research master students in linguistics (for example a course from another research master linguistics in the Netherlands).
- The student asks the Exam Committee in advance whether he/she is eligible for exemption.