

Education and Examination Regulations 2025-2026

Degree Programme: History (research) / Ancient, Medieval and Renaissance Studies; Modern and Contemporary History

Clause 2.1 – requirements for admission to the programme

1. Consideration for admission to the degree programme **History (research)** requires a Dutch or foreign diploma that demonstrates knowledge, understanding and skills at the level of a university Bachelor's degree and that shows its holder has the following specific knowledge, understanding, and skills:
 - a. knowledge in the field of History, as demonstrated by a minimal of 45 EC in History or a relevant field;
 - b. understanding of basic concepts in one of the above-mentioned field and insight into relevant qualitative and quantitative methods;
 - c. intellectual curiosity and motivation for further research;
 - d. skills pertaining to the conduct of independent research in primary and secondary sources;
 - e. a high standard of academic achievement as evidenced in academic transcripts;
 - f. ability to use English as a working language.
2. The following conditions for consideration for admission apply to the various programmes.

Programme Ancient, Medieval and Renaissance Studies

Consideration to the programme Ancient, Medieval and Renaissance Studies requires the following specific knowledge, understanding, and skills:

- a clear interest in Ancient, Medieval, Insular or Renaissance Studies as evidenced in a minimum of 45 EC in a relevant field at BA level;
- knowledge of basic concepts in Ancient, Medieval, Insular or Renaissance Studies and insight into relevant methods;
- Competence in reading and interpreting primary sources (in their original language) relevant to the student's research interests. Fields of competence may include Latin, Ancient Greek, and vernacular languages, as well as the reading and interpreting of archaeological, iconographic and musicological sources. Competence is defined as having completed relevant BA courses or, in case of Greek or Latin, a Dutch Gymnasium diploma or international equivalent.
- Experience locating and critically assessing primary sources found, for example, in archives and digital databases.

Programme Modern and Contemporary History

Consideration for admission to the degree programme History requires the following specific knowledge, understanding, and skills:

- a clear interest in historical research as evidenced by a minimum of 45 EC obtained in History at BA level (relevant courses in affiliated fields are also considered);
- knowledge of basic concepts in history and insight into relevant methods;
- ability to design, perform, and report on research based on primary or secondary sources;
- experience locating and critically assessing primary historical sources found, for example, in archives and digital databases.

3. Students will be selected on the basis of an assessment of the following core competencies:
 - a. motivation and talent (also on the basis of GPA and student progress monitoring);
 - b. level of required knowledge and the mastery of research methods and techniques used in the subject area;
 - c. general academic level of knowledge and skills;
 - d. command of the language(s) used in the programme.

This information is used to consider whether the student concerned can be expected to successfully complete the Master's programme within the nominal time period.

Clause 3.1 – aim of the programme

Programme Ancient, Medieval and Renaissance Studies

The programme aims to:

- provide specialised knowledge, insight and skills in the field of Ancient, Medieval, Insular or Renaissance Studies;
- prepare students for a career as a researcher in the field of Ancient, Medieval, Insular or Renaissance Studies in the broadest sense;
- prepare students for a PhD programme in the field of Ancient, Medieval, Insular or Renaissance Studies.

The graduates:

- have profound knowledge of and insight into the field of Ancient, Medieval, Insular or Renaissance Studies;
- have thorough knowledge of a specialism within the programme, or thorough knowledge of an interdisciplinary field which relates to Ancient, Medieval, Insular or Renaissance Studies;
- have the academic skills to independently identify, formulate, analyse and suggest possible solutions to problems in the field of Ancient, Medieval, Insular or Renaissance Studies; this includes the ability to navigate and process a wide variety of textual and/or material sources;
- have the academic skills to conduct research in the field of Ancient, Medieval, Insular or Renaissance Studies and to report on it in a manner that meets the general standards of the discipline;
- possess professional and academic skills, particularly in relation to Ancient, Medieval, Insular or Renaissance Studies while being able to look beyond the boundaries of the programme;
- are able to apply knowledge, understanding and transferable skills in a way that demonstrates a professional approach to academic and non-academic activities the graduates may be involved in upon completion of the programme;
- are able to communicate (both orally and in written form) conclusions, as well as the underlying knowledge, grounds and considerations, to an audience composed of specialists or non-specialists. This includes being able to transfer academic knowledge in support of broader societal purposes.

Programme Modern and Contemporary History

The programme aims to:

- provide specialized knowledge, insight and skills in the field of the methodological and theoretical concepts of History, with an emphasis on researching the Modern and Contemporary periods;
- prepare students for a career as a researcher in the field of historical science in the broadest sense, including both academic and non-academic research settings;
- prepare students for a PhD programme in the fields related to Modern and Contemporary History.

The graduates:

- gain knowledge on and develop an insightful understanding of the current state of the field in historical research of the modern and contemporary periods in one of the following historical domains: economic and social history, cultural history, political history and the history of international relations and conflict studies;
- learn how to work independently on a detailed, well-formulated historiographical analysis within their chosen thematic domain;
- acquire a thorough understanding of the most important historical and/or related social-scientific theories in at least one of the four thematic domains: economic and social history, cultural history, political history and the history of international relations and conflict studies;
- acquire a thorough understanding of important historical and/or related social-science and humanities methods;
- learn how to set up and execute historical research independently, including choosing and applying the appropriate theory and methods, as well as reflect critically on their individual contribution to the field;
- learn how to express the social relevance of their research both in written and spoken word

- and reflect upon its impact;
- learn how to express themselves accurately in both written and spoken word to both specialist and non-specialist target audiences. They will be able to expound - and form a critical view - on different theoretical schools, themes and contemporary debates within their chosen area(s) of expertise;
- learn how to deploy scholarly, critical and ethical research practices in line with the standards in the field;
- learn how to recognize their transferable skills acquired during training (such as conducting individual research, teamwork, data analysis, oral/written communication, planning and organization) and present them on the academic and non-academic job market;

Clause 3.2 – attendance mode

Both programmes are taught full-time.

Clause 3.3 – language in which the programme is taught

The programme is taught in English: 100% of the courses for the degree programme are taught in English. Appendix 3 provides the reasoning behind the programme's language policy.

Clause 3.6.1 – components of the study programmes

Ancient, Medieval and Renaissance Studies

The study programme comprises four specializations, i.e. Ancient Studies, Medieval Studies, Insular Studies and Renaissance Studies. Students choose one of these specializations.

The programme includes the following components, having the specified credit load:

Core curriculum	Courses	Compulsory	30 EC
Core curriculum track	Courses	Compulsory	20 EC
Electives/internship/study abroad	Courses	Compulsory choice	30 EC
Research School	Courses	Compulsory	10 EC
Research project	Thesis	Compulsory	30 EC

Modern and Contemporary History

The programme includes the following components, having the specified credit load:

Core curriculum	Courses	Compulsory	50 EC
Research School	Courses	Compulsory	10 EC
Electives/research internship	Courses	Compulsory choice	30 EC
Research project	Thesis	Compulsory	30 EC

Clause 4.6 – evaluation of quality of the education

1. The Director of Education is responsible for monitoring the quality of the courses and teaching. To this end the Director of Education will ensure that quality assurance involves evaluating courses and an evaluation at curriculum level. In ensuring the quality of courses the Director of Education will draw on the advice and suggestions for improvement of the curriculum committees on promoting and safeguarding the quality of the course.
2. The courses and teaching in the degree programme will be evaluated using one or more of the following means:
 - a. course evaluation: at the end of the course, the participating students are asked to evaluate the course through the digital survey system;
 - b. evaluation at curriculum level: through curriculum dialogues (in Dutch *onderwijsgesprekken*)
 - c. by means of the National Student Survey (*Nationale Studenten Enquête – NSE*) the students will be asked for their opinion on all aspects of the courses, teaching and the

- facilities.
3. Students who have participated in courses offered by the Faculty of Humanities will be informed of the results of the course evaluations.

Appendix 1. Composition degree programme

Programme Ancient, Medieval and Renaissance Studies (120 EC)

Core curriculum (30 EC)

Course code	Course name	EC	Period
GKRMV19001	The Potential of the Past: The Classical Tradition	5	1
GKRMV16017 or GKRMV19002 or GKRMV19023 or GKRMV19020	Knowledge and Skills: Epigraphy or Knowledge and Skills: Medieval Palaeography or Paleography of the 16th and 17th Century or Paleography (Medieval)	5	2 2 3 4
GKRMV19003	AMRS in Practice 1	5	3
GKRMV19004	AMRS in Practice 2	5	4
GKRMV25001	Reading and Interpreting Sources I	5	1 2 3 4
GKRMV25002	Reading and Interpreting Sources II	5	1 2 3 4

Core Curriculum Ancient Studies (20 EC)

Course code	Course name	EC	Period
GKRMV16008	Rome	5	1
GKRMV19005	The Greek Polis	5	2
GKRMV16012	Late Antiquity	5	3
GKRMV16011	The Hellenistic World: Cultural Encounters Between East and West	5	4

Core Curriculum Medieval Studies (20 EC)

Course code	Course name	EC	Period
GKRMV16009 or GKRMV17009 or GKRMV25009	Medieval History or Medieval Literature or Art History and Heritage	5	1
GKRMV16018 or GKRMV17006 or GKRMV19014	Advanced Medieval History or Media and Persuasion in Premodern Europe or Master-apprentice elective IV**	5	2
GKRMV16019	Medieval Written Culture I	5	3
GKRMV16020 or GKRMV19006	Medieval Written Culture II or Literature and Premodern Societies	5	4

** This master-apprentice elective has an art historical focus.

Core Curriculum Early Medieval Insular Studies (20 EC)

Course code	Course name	EC	Period
GKRMV19007	Early Medieval History and Pseudo-History in the Insular World I	5	1
GKRMV19008	Early Medieval History and Pseudo-History in the Insular World II	5	2
GKRMV19009	Early Medieval Insular Religion	5	3

GKRMV19010	Early Medieval Insular Law	5	4
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Core Curriculum Renaissance Studies (20 EC)

Course code	Course name	EC	Period
GKRMV17005	Renaissance in Interdisciplinary Perspective	5	1
GKRMV17006	Media and Persuasion in Premodern Europe	5	2
GKRMV17007	History of the Early Modern Book	5	3
GKRMV19006	Literature and Premodern Societies	5	4

Electives (30 EC)

Course code	Course name	EC	Period
GKRMV17021	Cultural Transfer I: Premodern Sources in Modern Contexts	5	1
GKRMV17022	Cultural Transfer II: Tangible and Intangible Heritage	5	1
GKRMV16025	Cultural Transfer III: Theory and Practice in Archaeology and Monument Preservation	5	1
GKRMV25003	Language elective I	5	1 2 3 4
GKRMV25004	Language elective II	5	1 2 3 4
GKRMV17025	Master-apprentice elective I	5-15	1 2 3 4
GKRMV16031	Master-apprentice elective II	5-15	1 2 3 4
GKRMV19013	Master-apprentice elective III	5-15	1 2 3 4
GWRMV16001	Study Abroad	30	1 2 3 4
GKRMV22003	Research Internship I	15-30	JAAR

Students of the AMRS programme can acquire a maximum of 10EC additional language competency at BA level by participating in the language elective courses. If a student wishes to do so, the following four criteria have to be met: 1) the chosen course is part of the cluster of courses selected by the RMA programme coordinator 2) the additional language competency is relevant for the chosen specialisation; 3) acquiring this additional language competency can amount to no more than 10EC in relation to the total exam programme; 4) the language competency is acquired within the elective courses. The selection of courses needs to be approved by the coordinator of the programme and the Board of Examiners.

You may also opt for courses or tutorials on offer in other AMRS tracks, or in other MA programmes at Utrecht University or elsewhere in the Netherlands. Your choice must be approved in advance by the programme coordinator or the key teachers, as well as the Board of Examiners.

Research School (10 EC)

Students are required to take at least 10 EC by the Research School in the Netherlands. The selection of courses needs to be approved by the coordinator of the programme.

Course code	Course name	EC	Period
GKRMV16005	Research School OGK I	5	1 2 3 4
GKRMV16006	Research School OGK II	5	1 2 3 4

Master's Thesis (30 EC)

Course code	Course name	EC	Period
GKRMV19022	RMA Thesis Ancient, Medieval and Renaissance Studies	30	JAAR

Programme Modern and Contemporary History (120 EC)

Core curriculum (50 EC)

Course code	Course name	EC	Period
GKRMV24001	Fundamentals: Perspectives and approaches across the historical discipline	10	1
GKRMV24002	Research as a profession: skills, pathways and strategies	5	1
GKRMV24003	History Lab: tools, methods and techniques for deciphering the past	10	2-3
GKRMV24004	Research Seminar: exploring new historical territory	10	2-3
GKRMV24005	History in practice: the research apprenticeship	10	3-4
GKRMV24006	Research design: crafting original projects	5	4

Research School (10 EC)

Students take courses for at least 10 EC with one of the National Research Schools, preferably in their first year.

Course code	Course name	EC	Period
GKRMV16005	Research School OGK I	5	1 2 3 4
GKRMV16006	Research School OGK II	5	1 2 3 4

Master's Thesis (30 EC)

Course code	Course name	EC	Period
GKRMV16046	Research MA Thesis History	30	1-2

Research internship (30 EC)

Course code	Course name	EC	Period
GKRMV17024	Research internship	15-30	3-4

If students take a research internship of 15EC, the remaining 15EC can be obtained by taking courses or tutorials on offer within the Modern and Contemporary History programme, the National Research Schools, in other MA programmes at Utrecht University or elsewhere in the Netherlands. Your choice must be approved in advance by the programme coordinator and the Board of Examiners.

Appendix 2 - Transitional provisions 2025-2026

There are no transitional provisions for students who started before 2022-2023. These students should contact the study advisor if they have questions about their study programme.

Students who started in the academic years 2022-2023, 2023-2024 or 2024-2025 need to complete the education programme as described in the EER-attachment for their academic year. If certain components of the programme are not offered in the current academic year 2025-2026, the following transitional provisions will apply.

It is possible to make the transition from the exam programme of an earlier cohort to the programme of the current academic year (2025-2026). If the student chooses to do so, they must comply to all regulations of the exam programme of the current academic year and must request approval from the Board of Examiners. Please contact your study advisor if you are considering this.

The new compulsory courses are equivalent to the old courses (see below), unless stated otherwise. If a student has completed the old course, the new equivalent course can't be taken as well.

Students who still need to complete one or more electives, should choose from the courses offered in 2025-2026. They should make sure to choose a course that does not have a major overlap with already completed courses. Courses with too much overlap are indicated in the tables below. If two courses are labelled equivalent, only one of them can count toward the student's study programme.

Programme Ancient, Medieval and Renaissance Studies

Transitional provisions for students who started in 2022–2023 (cohort 2022), 2023-2024 (cohort 2023) or 2024-2025 (cohort 2024) [Examination programme HI-OAMM-19]

Course programme compulsory

Not yet completed	EC	To do in 2025-2026	EC	Notes
GKRMV22001 Latin I GKRMV22002 Latin II GKRMV20001 Ancient Greek I GKRMV20002 Ancient Greek II GKRMV19016 Old Irish 1 GKRMV19017 Old Irish 2 GKRMV20003 Old English and Medieval Languages GKRMV19019 Latin in Late Antiquity GKRMV23001 Latin: Medieval Universal Language	5	Individual trajectory	5	Students who have not yet completed one of these courses should contact the programme coordinator for a substitute arrangement.
GKRMV19011 Language Requirement I	5	GKRMV25003 Language elective I	5	
GKRMV19012 Language Requirement II	5	GKRMV25004 Language elective II	5	

Programme Modern and Contemporary History

Transitional provisions for students who started in 2022–2023 (cohort 2022), 2023-2024 (cohort 2023) [examination programme HI-HIST-19]

There are currently no transitional provisions for this exam programme.

Transitional provisions for students who started in 2024-2025 (cohort 2024) [examination programme HI-HIST-24]

There are currently no transitional provisions for this exam programme.

Appendix 3 (art. 3.3) - Language Policy

Programme Ancient, Medieval and Renaissance Studies

Academic research is an international playing field, and the field of Ancient, Medieval and Renaissance Studies is no exception. About one third of our students come in with a Bachelor diploma from outside the Netherlands, so the programme has an international classroom in which English is used as a lingua franca for all levels of communication. Our teaching staff is not only strongly internationally oriented but also internationally trained. This setting constitutes a natural preparation for the future career of our graduates in the Netherlands or abroad, whether inside or outside of academia.

Programme Modern and Contemporary History

The RMA Modern and Contemporary History is an international programme wherein the lingua franca is English. The use of English enables us to attract the best students worldwide. At any given time, as many as half of our students are non-Dutch speakers. We do not wish to divide our students into separate language tracks since we believe that both Dutch and international students profit from the exchange of the international classroom. Indeed, this is what attracts many of them to our programme. Our courses integrate the latest international academic literature, which is primarily written in English, and some research internships require English language skills. By offering students training not only in reading, but also in writing and speaking/presentation skills in English, we thus prepare them for an international career. Many of our students are interested in eventually publishing some of their work and also writing grant proposals for a PhD, all of which is invariably done in English.