Towards a Minor African Studies for Leiden-Delft-Erasmus Rotterdam

Ton Dietz 21/10/2016; Fourth draft After a discussion with the ASA-education group on 6 October [present: Annelou van Gijn (Archaeology), Suliman Ibrahim (Law), Caroline Archambault (UCL The Hague) and Oda van Cranenburgh (FSW-Political Science); written input: Maarten Mous]. And written input afterwards from Maarten, Caroline, and Oda.

The LDE Minor African Studies at Bachelors’ level will have three components:

A. Making use of existing courses with a focus on Africa, and which are open as electives: “EXPERIENCING AFRICAN STUDIES”
B. Minor-specific introduction: “READING AFRICA”
C. Minor-specific educational research project (in Dutch ‘leeronderzoek’): “EXPLORING AFRICA PROJECT”.

Leiden students can get 30 ects at bachelors level; Delft students 18 and Rotterdam students 15.

To enable students from all three universities to participate, A will be 10 or 15 ects; B either 5 or 8 ects; C: 10 ects

For Leiden: A=15 + B=5 + C=10 = 30 ects
For Delft: A=8 + either A=10 or C=10
For Rotterdam: A=5 + either A=10 or C=10

A EXPERIENCING AFRICAN STUDIES

In annex 1 a list can be found with the existing Africa-oriented courses that exist in Leiden at Bachelors level and that are available as electives. These are either 5 ects courses or 10 ects courses. Some are in English and some in Dutch. Some are in the first semester, some in the second, mostly covering two blocks but not always.

So students who want to do a minor in African Studies in Leiden can chose three courses with 5 ects each, or one course with 10 ects and one course with 5 ects. Students who want to do a minor African Studies but come from Delft or Rotterdam can select one 10 ects course or two 5 ects courses (or they can opt out and do ‘Exploring Africa’ for 10 ects).

UCL currently offers four courses specifically focused on Africa, but their rules are that no other students can participate. UCL Africa lecturers are prepared to offer their courses as separate courses for minor students, if there are enough participants and if the AEG model for credit payment will be applied. Caroline will send the titles of these foru courses (and
maybe thoughts about additional courses which could be offered by UCL African Studies staff [Caroline Archambault; Ksenia Robbe, David Ehrhardt and Josien de Klerk].

The ASCL has been asked to develop a Bachelors’ course in ‘Economy and Society of Africa’, and this course can also be available as an elective for the Minor Students African Studies.

An attempt will be made to [gradually] develop additional courses on Africa (e.g., African archaeology, African architecture, Business in Africa, African Music and Art, African Heritage and Museum Studies; many more possible) by those Africa-oriented lecturers in Leiden, Delft and Rotterdam who are enthusiastic to do so.

B READING AFRICA

Minor students will be enabled to make an individual Africa-oriented portfolio, based on a few specific lectures (obligatory introduction in African Studies), on visiting and reporting about specific Africa-oriented seminars, on reading about Africa (scientific literature and novels/plays/poetry), and on making an analysis of African films/documentaries, or of African music. On top of that Minor students will interview practitioners. The Minor Coordinator will judge the portfolio and will have an oral exam at the end of the Minor trajectory. The majority of the activities proposed should be focused on products coming from Africa itself (publications by scientists based in Africa, films, novels, plays, poems, music made in Africa). Together this individual portfolio can be 5 ects (140 hours) or 8 ects (225 hours).

Example of a 5 ects (140 hours) portfolio:

- Three introductory lectures by the Minor coordinator, with literature to be read (3x10 hours = 30 hours), and to be evaluated during the oral exam
- Participation in five seminars about Africa, and brief written reports about those visits, to be evaluated during the oral exam (5 x 3 hours = 15 hours)
- Analysis of two films/documentaries about Africa and making a written report about those (2 x 10 hours = 20 hours)
- Interviewing two practitioners and making a written report (2 x 10 hours = 20 hours)
- Reading an African novel (150 pages x 10p/hr = 15 hours)
- Reading a scientific book or scientific articles about [and preferably coming from Africa] (200 pages x 5 p/hr = 40 hours).

C EXPLORING AFRICA PROJECT

Minor students work in small groups (5-10 students) with one lecturer on a research theme close to the area of expertise of the lecturer. They do a research based on reading (internet) sources, communicating with scholars and others elsewhere, and interviewing experts and/or people to be studied, if that is feasible [at Bachelors’ level there will be no fieldwork in Africa; unless students organise that themselves and pay for it themselves, including the
costs of the lecturer]. There can also be groups of 10-15 students, supervised/assisted by two lecturers from different disciplinary backgrounds. Lecturers can come from Leiden, Delft and Rotterdam (including ISS, IHS, UNESCO-IHE).

Each semester there will be an inventory of lecturers who propose Exploring Africa topics (alone or with a colleague); following that students make a choice [after a ‘market event’] and groups will be formed by the Minor Coordinator. It is the intention that each Exploring Africa group will produce a research report and a research summary for an academic audience, as well as a policy brief for practitioners. Publication of research report/summary/policy brief will mostly be done in English, but can also be done in French, and occasionally in other languages where that is appropriate and when the expertise of doing so is available. The supervising lecturers are responsible for organising the group meetings, and for evaluating the results. In general the 280 hours available for this project course (10 ects) will mean that students will spend an average of 14 hours per week on this project [in one semester of 20 effective project weeks]. For the lecturer it will mean that their time involvement will depend on the number of students, but will be around 15 working days (120 hours).

ORGANISING THE MINOR

The ASCL will be the organising hub for this minor. The proposal has to go to the University-wide minor committees in Leiden (in March 2017), and in Delft and Rotterdam to get approval, and probably at Faculty level Faculty-specific Minor committees have to approve of this Minor as an elective Minor for their students. As a proposed LDE Minor it probably also means that the LDE steering group has to agree as well. See Annex 2 for additional remarks.

The ASCL will appoint a Minor Coordinator, who will be responsible for the activity ‘reading Africa’, and for making sure that the A and C activities are well structured and properly marked/evaluated. (S)he will also organise the recruitment of supervising lecturers for the C activity, for marketing the Minor, and for monitoring/stimulating available electives (activity A).

The Minor will be offered as a lint and one-semester block minor (in the first semester; and if it becomes a success maybe also later in two semesters).

For Leiden students: (minor = 30 ects)

LINT

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>READING AFRICA 5 ECTS</th>
<th>EXPERIENCING AFRICAN STUDIES 5 ECTS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>EXPERIENCING AFRICAN STUDIES 10 ECTS</td>
<td>EXPLORING AFRICA PROJECT 10 ECTS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OTHER COURSES OF THE MAJOR PROGRAMME IN THE DISCIPLINE 30 ECTS</td>
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<tr>
<td>BLOCK (IN FIRST SEMESTER)</td>
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<tr>
<td>READING AFRICA 5 ECTS</td>
<td>OTHER COURSES OF THE MAJOR</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EXPERIENCING AFRICAN STUDIES 15 ECTS</td>
<td>PROGRAMME IN THE DISCIPLINE 30 ECTS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EXPLORING AFRICA PROJECT 10 ECTS</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

For Delft students: (minor = 18 ects)

LINT

| READING AFRICA 8 ECTS | EXPERIENCING AFRICAN STUDIES 5 or 10 ECTS |
| EXPERIENCING AFRICAN STUDIES 0 or 5 ECTS |
| OTHER COURSES OF THE MAJOR PROGRAMME IN THE DISCIPLINE 42 ECTS |

OR

| READING AFRICA 8 ECTS | EXPLORING AFRICA PROJECT 10 ECTS |
| OTHER COURSES OF THE MAJOR PROGRAMME IN THE DISCIPLINE 42 ECTS |

BLOCK (IN FIRST SEMESTER)

| READING AFRICA 8 ECTS | OTHER COURSES OF THE MAJOR |
| EXPERIENCING AFRICAN STUDIES 10 ECTS |
| OR |
| EXPLORING AFRICA PROJECT 10 ECTS |

For Rotterdam students (minor = 15 ects)

LINT

| READING AFRICA 5 ECTS | EXPERIENCING AFRICAN STUDIES 5 or 10 ECTS |
| EXPERIENCING AFRICAN STUDIES 0 or 5 ECTS |
| OTHER COURSES OF THE MAJOR PROGRAMME IN THE DISCIPLINE 45 ECTS |

OR

| READING AFRICA 5 ECTS | EXPLORING AFRICA PROJECT 10 ECTS |
| OTHER COURSES OF THE MAJOR PROGRAMME IN THE DISCIPLINE 45ECTS |

BLOCK (IN FIRST SEMESTER)

| READING AFRICA 5 ECTS | OTHER COURSES OF THE MAJOR |

4
The business model for the Minor African Studies

Suppose there are 20 participating students, and suppose these are all from Leiden and have to do a 30 ects programme. 20 students who graduate for a 30 ects programme means 20x30x100€ income. That would mean 60,000€.

This income will be distributed as follows:

A: EXPERIENCING AFRICA:

The department/faculty where the lecturer comes from who is responsible for the elective selected by a minor student gets 500€ per student for a 5 ects elective and 1000€ for a 10 ects elective.

B: READING AFRICA

The ASCL-based Minor Coordinator will be rewarded for her/his time: 20 students who all do 5 ects means 10,000€ income, which is the equivalent of ca 0.15 job or 240 hours of work on an annual basis.

C: EXPLORING AFRICA PROJECT

Each project lecturer with a group of five students (and 10 ects per student) gets 5,000€ for a job well done. For every additional student there is 1000€ more. In case there is a group of 10-15 students for a project supervised by two collaborating lecturers from different backgrounds this means 5,000-7,500€ per lecturer, or 0.07-0.1 fte (110-160 hours). Lecturers for these projects can come from all possible departments in Leiden, Delft and Rotterdam as long as they are Africa experts (and that includes Museums, ISS, IHS, UNESCO-IHE, and possibly others), and hence all departments can benefit; in business terms, but also in intellectual joy and working with research-oriented students, who potentially contribute to research projects of these lecturers. It will also create synergy between LDE’s Africa-oriented staff, and can be an important element of the joint Africa Strategy of the three universities. And another advantage can be: making Bachelors students enthusiastic for a Master or Research Master in African Studies later. And we can decide to accept a minor African Studies as a good foundation for Master’s in African Studies, even if students come from a completely different background.

In case of Minors there is always an issue about ‘students from elsewhere’. For Delft and Rotterdam it seems that problem has been solved as soon as this Minor has been accepted. Then ects credits of Delft and Rotterdam students will come to ASCL in Leiden (as the organising hub) and ASCL will then pay the various departments that have contributed
[always there is a two-year delay in the AEG model that is being used] and they can be from Leiden, Delft and Rotterdam.

But what to do with students from elsewhere? We could try to use our position as national knowledge hub, and through our Scientific Advisory Council come to some form of agreement with the various universities (also good to see how CEDLA does it for their Minor Latin American Studies. See: http://www.cedla.uva.nl/30_courses/BA/BA_index.html).

If no solution can be reached at the formal level of interuniversity agreements we can offer a possibility for students from elsewhere to pay for the extra costs that it takes to accommodate them.

Annex 1

List of electives on Africa at Bachelors’ level (in 2016-2017) in Leiden

First semester; 5 ects courses

Introduction languages and cultures of Africa

5 ects (140 hrs); semester 1, block 1 and 2; Prof. Maarten Mous; in English

Inleiding Afrikaanse talen en taalkunde

5 ects (140 hrs), semester 1, block 1 and 2; Dr Maarten Kossmann; in Dutch

Orale en geschreven literatuur in Afrika

5 ects (140 hrs), semester 1, block 1 and 2; Dr C.G. Postel; in Dutch

Klassiek Egyptisch

5 ects (140 hrs); level 300; semester 1, block 1 and 2; Dr S. van Walsem; in Dutch
https://studiegids.leidenuniv.nl/en/courses/show/63983/klassiek-egyptisch

Ancient Egyptian Law

5 ects (140 hrs); level 300; semester 1, block 1; Dr. K. Donker Van Heel; in English
Afrika Geschiedenis en Antropologie 1: Onderzoek in hedendaags Afrika:
5 ects; semester 1; Meike de Goede Dutch/English (not yet an elective, but available)

Afrika Geschiedenis en Antropologie 1: Bouwstenen van de Afrikaanse Geschiedenis
5 ects; semester 1; Jan Bart Gewald Dutch/English (not yet an elective, but available)
https://studiegids.leidenuniv.nl/courses/show/58137/building_blocks_for_african_history

First semester; 10 ects courses

Swahili 1
10 ects (280 hrs); semester 1, block 1 and 2; Drs. T. Schipper; in Dutch
https://studiegids.leidenuniv.nl/en/courses/show/58103/swahili-1

Swahili 3 (after Swahili 1 and 2)
10 ects (280 hrs); level 300; semester 1, block 1 and 2; Drs. T. Schipper; in Dutch
https://studiegids.leidenuniv.nl/en/courses/show/58117/swahili-3

Second semester; 5 ects courses

Africa History and Anthropology 1: Africa from Zero to Now
5 ects (140 hrs); semester 2, blocks 3 and 4; Prof. Jan-Bart Gewald and Dr. Meike de Goede; in Dutch

Communication in Africa
5 ects (140 hrs); semester 2; block 3 and 4; Dr Felix Ameka; in English
https://studiegids.leidenuniv.nl/en/courses/show/58109/communicatie-in-afrika

African Literature: Novels, Conflict and Dialogue
5 ects (140 hrs); semester 2; block 3 and 4; Dr Daniela Merolla (but now??); in Dutch
https://studiegids.leidenuniv.nl/en/courses/show/58113/afrikaanse_literatuur_romans_conflict_en_dialoog

Law, Sharia and Governance in North Africa and the Middle East
5 ects (140 hrs); semester 2; block 3 and 4; Prof Jan-Michiel Otto; Dr. Suleiman Ibrahim and guest lecturers; in English
Law and Governance in Africa

5 ects (140 hrs); semester 2; block 4; Dr. Carolien Jacobs and Mr. B.J. Braak; in English

https://studiegids.leidenuniv.nl/en/courses/show/62299/law_and_governance_in_africa

Second semester; 10 ects courses¹

Anthropology and Sociology of Sub-Saharan Africa

10 ects (280 hrs); semester 2, blocks 3 and 4; Dr Sabine Luning; in Dutch

https://studiegids.leidenuniv.nl/en/courses/show/62205/antropologie_en_sociologie_van_sub-sahara_afrika

Ties between the Netherlands and Morocco, 1605-present

10 ects; semester 2 (block 3 and 4); Dr. Nadia Bouras; in Dutch


Swahili 2 (after Swahili 1)

10 ects; semester 2 (block 3 and 4); Drs T. Schippers; in Dutch

https://studiegids.leidenuniv.nl/en/courses/show/58111/swahili-3

List of possible electives to be offered by LUC Leiden:

Caroline:
“The four Africa courses that we are currently offering at LUC are:

Josien de Klerk: Health and Development: HIV/AIDS in Africa

Ingrid Samset: Regional Trends: Political Transitions in Africa
https://studiegids.leidenuniv.nl/courses/show/63167/regional-trends-political-transitions-in-africa

David Ehrhardt: Politics and Development: Africa
https://studiegids.leidenuniv.nl/en/courses/show/62951/politics-of-africa

Caroline Archambault: Politics and Development: Coming of Age in Africa

¹ As long as the Minor African Studies will only be a lint or first-semester block programme; these 10 ects courses will not be available for Minor students in African Studies, unless the course can be followed partly, for 5 ects elements.
In principle we would be interested in exploring the possibilities of contributing our courses to the minor but would have to discuss if and how that might be possible.”

List of electives on Africa at Bachelors’ level (in 2016-2017) in Delft

At the TUD no specific courses for bachelors’ students could be found yet, focused on Africa. UNESCO-IHE does not have courses for undergraduate level.

There is information about Minors in Delft, accessible for Leiden-based students (studenten.tudelft.nl/fileadmin/Files/studentenportal/os/OS_algemeen/Informatie/Onderwijs/minor/20160524_Toelatingsmatrix_Delftse_Minoren_voor_UL_studenten.pdf) but no minor about Africa.

And for students from Rotterdam:


Also nothing about Africa.

List of electives on Africa at Bachelors’ level (in 2016-2017) in Rotterdam

In EUR School of Economics the space for doing a minor is restricted to 12 ects. (see http://www.eur.nl/ese/english/information_for/prospective_students/electives/electives/). No specific information about electives or minors about Africa. Elsewhere it is 15 ects. The ISS does not have courses for Bachelors’ students, and neither has IHS (Institute for Housing and Urban Studies).

LDE Minors

So far there are two LDE minors:

http://studenten.tudelft.nl/informatie/onderwijs/minors/minors-voor-leiden-delft-erasmus-studenten/

We know that also the Centre for Frugal Innovations in Africa is thinking about an LDE minor.

Hence, this Minor African Studies will be the fourth LDE Minor.
### Annex 2 Criteria for assessing minor proposals in the Faculty of Humanities (and probably elsewhere as well)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Criteria</th>
<th>Relevance for Minor African Studies</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Minor is part of the Faculty’s strategy</td>
<td>Yes, it is part of the teaching strategy of the ASCL and a major element of the Africa Strategy of Leiden ASA and of LDE</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Minor enriches the student beyond their own discipline</td>
<td>Yes, students not only learn about Africa, but will be discovering many different disciplinary approaches and methods of enquiry</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. The minor adds to the minor profile of the Faculty</td>
<td>Not relevant: it will be the only Minor of the ASCL (next to a joint minor with CFIA partners in Delft and Rotterdam)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. The minor has the potential to attract at least 20 students</td>
<td>Yes, we expect considerable numbers of students, also from International Studies in The Hague</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5. The language used is English</td>
<td>Yes, mostly. Students can select an elective on Africa with Dutch as the language of communication (most literature will be in English). In some cases the language in a project will be French.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6. The minor can be used as pre-master</td>
<td>Yes, for the MA and RESMA in African Studies</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7. The minor gets positive student evaluations</td>
<td>Cannot yet be evaluated.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8. The minor is multi/interdisciplinary</td>
<td>Yes, very much so</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9. The minor is relevant for society</td>
<td>Yes, the interest in Africa in society is growing, also in the business community</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10. The minor prepares for the labour market</td>
<td>Yes, there are specific elements where students can interview/experience practitioners. Most projects will have a societal angle and students have to prepare a policy brief after their project.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>