Level 100
Introductory course, builds upon the level of the final pre-university education examination.
Characteristics: teaching based on material in textbook or syllabus, pedagogically structured, with practice material and mock examinations; supervised workgroups; emphasis on study material and examples in lectures.

Level 200
Course of an introductory nature, no specific prior knowledge but experience of independent study expected.
Characteristics: textbooks or other study material of a more or less introductory nature; lectures, e.g. in the form of capita selecta; independent study of the material is expected.

Level 300
Advanced course (entry requirement level 100 or 200).
Characteristics: textbooks that have not necessarily been written for educational purposes; independent study of the examination material; in examinations independent application of the study material to new problems.

Level 400
Specialised course (entry requirement level 200 or 300).
Characteristics: alongside a textbook, use of specialist literature (scientific articles); assessment in the form of limited research, a lecture or a written paper. Courses at this level can, to a certain extent, also be on the master’s curriculum.

Level 500
Course with an academic focus (entry requirement: the student has been admitted to a master’s programme; preparatory course at level 300 or 400 has been followed).
Characteristics: study of advanced specialised scientific literature intended for researchers; focus of the examination is solving a problem in a lecture and/or paper or own research, following independent critical assessment of the material.

Level 600
Very specialised course (entry requirement level 400 or 500)
Characteristics: current scientific articles; latest scientific developments; independent contribution (dissertation research) dealing with an as yet unsolved problem, with verbal presentation.

The classification is based on the Framework Document Leiden Register of Study Programmes.