

## RESEARCH CLINIC

### General information

Supervisor:	Jacqueline Hylkema
Title of clinic:	The Representation of the Dutch Republic in the <i>Encyclopédie</i> : Civil Liberties, Diversity and Refugees
Number of students:	Max. 3
Major (if applicable and approved by the Major Convener):	HD/WP
(Pre)requisites (if applicable):	None

### Research context

The *Encyclopédie, ou Dictionnaire raisonné des sciences, des arts et des métiers* (1751-1772) was by far the largest (28 volumes containing no less than 71,818 articles and 3,129 illustrations) and perhaps most important work of the French Enlightenment. Edited by Denis Diderot and Jean le Rond d'Alembert and with contributions from illustrious thinkers like Voltaire, Jean-Jacques Rousseau, Baron d'Holbach and Chevalier de Jaucourt, it not only aimed to describe all human knowledge but also took a very dangerous political stand on what a society should be like and how its members should be treated and treat each other.

I am currently preparing a contribution to a book on the politics of the artistic and intellectual relationship between France and the Dutch Republic in the Early Modern period and my chapter will focus on the *Encyclopédie*'s representation of the Dutch Republic as the ideal society, particularly in terms of its civil liberties and responsibilities, its religious diversity, and the cultural and intellectual impact of its welcoming attitude towards refugees.

### Students' tasks and activities

*Please specify the tasks and activities, timeline, the learning aims and how they are assessed, i.e. what the deliverables will be.*

In this research clinic, students will assist in mapping and analyzing the many references to the Dutch Republic in the *Encyclopédie*, and do several small research assignments into a number of specific entries and related subjects.

We will meet every two weeks in blocks 1 and 2, starting with a special seminar at the Special Collections at Leiden University Library where we will examine the first edition of the *Encyclopédie* and discuss the project, assignments and research methods.

The project will be concluded with short research presentations and a final discussion of the research data. The students' work will be assessed on the basis of the quality of their research assignments and participation.