

## Low Countries Studies (A005539)

**Course size** *(nominal values; actual values may depend on programme)*

**Credits 3.0** **Study time 90 h**

**Course offerings and teaching methods in academic year 2025-2026**

A (semester 2)      English      Gent      lecture

**Lecturers in academic year 2025-2026**

De Reu, Martine	LW51	staff member
Van Hoof, Lieve	LW03	lecturer-in-charge

**Offered in the following programmes in 2025-2026**

	<b>crdts</b>	<b>offering</b>
<a href="#">European Master of Science in Clinical Linguistics</a>	3	A
<a href="#">European Master of Science in Nuclear Fusion and Engineering Physics</a>	3	A
<a href="#">Micro-credential Low Countries Studies</a>	3	A
<a href="#">Exchange Programme History</a>	3	A
<a href="#">Postgraduate Certificate Dutch as a Foreign Language and Applied Communication(main subject Level of Dutch: CEFR B2)</a>	3	A
<a href="#">Postgraduate Certificate Dutch as a Foreign Language and Applied Communication(main subject Level of Dutch: CEFR C1)</a>	3	A

**Teaching languages**

English

**Keywords**

Low Countries, culture, identity, history, art history, ethics, economy

**Position of the course**

This general introductory course aims to provide an insight into the history and current society of the Low Countries (Belgium, the Netherlands and Luxembourg) in all its facets. In addition to this, the course aims to stimulate students to reflect on their own cultural identity in relation to the identities within the society of the Low Countries.

**Contents**

Twelve lectures deal with just as many aspects of the historical, social, economic, political and cultural situation of the Low Countries in the present and the past. The specific topics are announced each year on the course website (<https://www.ugent.be/lw/lcs/en/programme>).

**Initial competences**

No specific prior knowledge required.

**Final competences**

- 1 The student has advanced knowledge of various aspects of the historical, social, economic, political and cultural situation of the Low Countries, past and present.
- 2 The student is able to collect, select and critically process relevant (historical) scientific information in the field of various aspects of the historical, social, economic, political and cultural situation of the Low Countries in the present and the past. He/she can reflect on it, synthesize the results, report and communicate on the findings.
- 3 The student recognizes the influence of his/her own ideas and presuppositions on the analysis of historical, social, economic, political and cultural situations of a (possibly temporary) host country.
- 4 The student is receptive to the value of diversity in multicultural contexts.

**Conditions for credit contract**

Access to this course unit via a credit contract is unrestricted: the student takes into consideration the conditions mentioned in 'Starting Competences'

**Conditions for exam contract**

This course unit cannot be taken via an exam contract

**Teaching methods**

Group work, Lecture

**Extra information on the teaching methods**

Lectures: deal with various aspects of the historical, social, economic, political and cultural situation of the Low Countries, past and present.

Group work: after each lecture there is an (oral) group discussion. In addition, students post at least nine times a reflection on a lecture in the discussion forum within the online learning environment Ufora and interact with each other.

**Study material**

Type: Slides

Name: Powerpoint Presentation

Indicative price: Free or paid by faculty

Optional: no

Language : English

Available on Ufora : Yes

**References****Course content-related study coaching****Assessment moments**

end-of-term and continuous assessment

**Examination methods in case of periodic assessment during the first examination period**

Written assessment with multiple-choice questions

**Examination methods in case of periodic assessment during the second examination period**

Written assessment with multiple-choice questions

**Examination methods in case of permanent assessment**

Participation

**Possibilities of retake in case of permanent assessment**

examination during the second examination period is not possible

**Extra information on the examination methods**

*Assessment moment:*

Permanent (50%) and periodical (50%)

*Assessment form:*

Periodical assessment: written exam with multiple choice questions.

Permanent evaluation: after at least 9 of the 12 lectures, students post a short reflection (approximately 300 words) in the appropriate discussion forum.

**Calculation of the examination mark**

Contributions to the online discussion forum: 50%

Multiple choice questions: 50%