GHENT UNIVERSITY

Course Specifications

Valid as from the academic year 2024-2025

Ancient Greek Linguistics II (A000891)

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

Credits 5.0 **Study time 150 h**

Course offerings in academic year 2026-2027

Lecturers in academic year 2026-2027

Bentein, Klaas	LW06	lecturer-in-charge

Offered in the following programmes in 2026-2027	**crdts**	**offering**

Teaching languages

Dutch

Keywords

Ancient Greek, discourse analysis, historiography, language system, language change

Position of the course

This course familiarizes students with a discourse-analytic approach to Ancient Greek, based on the reading of historiographical texts. It also gives a brief introduction of linguistic change in later stages of the Greek language.

Contents

After a brief overview of the different discourse-analytic approaches to Ancient Greek, one specific approach, the functional linguistic one, is considered from closeby and applied to Classical Greek prose. Various linguistic systems, such as 'transitivity', 'causality', 'information structure', and 'evaluation', are introduced, and explored through historiographical texts. The emphasis is on the synchronous language system, in particular the synchronous connection between language and context, but attention is also paid to the diachronic evolution of the language system, and its impact on the earlier-mentioned linguistic systems.

Initial competences

Students have already attended previous language acquisition courses and the course Ancient Greek Linguistics I (or have acquired the necessary skills by other means). Good command of Attic Greek (morphology, vocabulary, and syntax) is thus assumed.

Final competences

1 Being able to apply modern functional-linguistic insights to ancient Greek prose, with particular attention to the relationship between language and context.
2 Being able to read, explain and interpret Greek texts independently, using scientific dictionaries, editions and commentaries.
3 To have a basic understanding of the diachronic development of Classical Greek to Post-classical Greek.
4 Being able to use the learned methods to compile a linguistic dataset and on this basis to compare authors and their work with each other.
5 To have an insight in the main digital tools that can be used for a discourse-analytic approach of Ancient Greek texts, and to be able to work with them.

Conditions for credit contract

Access to this course unit via a credit contract is determined after successful competences assessment

Conditions for exam contract

This course unit cannot be taken via an exam contract

Teaching methods

Group work, Seminar, Lecture, Independent work

Extra information on the teaching methods

* Lecture: background to discourse analysis and its application to Ancient Greek (no recordings are made available).
* Seminar: reading historiographical texts, applying digital methods.
* Independent work: preparing texts to be read in class.
* Group work: presentation at the end of the semester.

Study material

None

References

* Martin, J. R., & D. Rose. *Working with Discourse: Meaning beyond the Clause*. 2nd ed. London; New York, 2007.
* Wilson, N. G. *Herodoti Historiae*. Scriptorum classicorum bibliotheca Oxoniensis. Oxford,
2015.

Course content-related study coaching

Help with and feedback on independent study and self-study, guided exercises, feedback during class and on appointment.

Assessment moments

end-of-term and continuous assessment

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

Written assessment

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

Written assessment

Examination methods in case of permanent assessment

Participation, Assignment

Possibilities of retake in case of permanent assessment

examination during the second examination period is possible in modified form

Extra information on the examination methods

- Participation (non-periodical): preparation of primary literature, active participation during class.
- Paper/report (non-periodical): short presentation of own research.
- Written exam (period-specific): linguistic analysis of text fragments that have been. analysed in class or read cursorily. At least one text fragment is polled for language proficiency (via morphological and syntactic control questions).

Calculation of the examination mark

- Non-periodical (30%): 10% participation, 20% presentation
- Periodical (70%): written exam.

Facilities for Working Students

1. Possible exemption from specific educational activities requiring student attendance.
2. Possible rescheduling of the exam to a different time in the same academic year.
3. Feedback is possible on appointment during office hours.