GHENT UNIVERSITY

Course Specifications

Valid as from the academic year 2026-2027

German Literature: Enlightened Classics (A005748)

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

Credits 5.0 **Study time 150 h**

Course offerings in academic year 2026-2027

A (semester 2)	German	Gent

Lecturers in academic year 2026-2027

Gilson, Elke	LW07	staff member
Martens, Gunther	LW07	lecturer-in-charge

Offered in the following programmes in 2026-2027	crdts	offering
Bachelor of Arts in Linguistics and Literature(main subject Dutch - German)	5	A
Bachelor of Arts in Applied Language Studies: a combination of at least two languages(main subject Dutch, English, French)	3	A
Bachelor of Arts in Applied Language Studies: a combination of at least two languages(main subject Dutch, English, German)	3	A
Bachelor of Arts in Applied Language Studies: a combination of at least two languages(main subject Dutch, English, Italian)	3	A
Bachelor of Arts in Applied Language Studies: a combination of at least two languages(main subject Dutch, English, Language Technology)	3	A
Bachelor of Arts in Applied Language Studies: a combination of at least two languages(main subject Dutch, English, Russian)	3	A
Bachelor of Arts in Applied Language Studies: a combination of at least two languages(main subject Dutch, English, Spanish)	3	A
Bachelor of Arts in Applied Language Studies: a combination of at least two languages(main subject Dutch, English, Turkish)	3	A
Bachelor of Arts in Applied Language Studies: a combination of at least two languages(main subject Dutch, French, German)	3	A
Bachelor of Arts in Applied Language Studies: a combination of at least two languages(main subject Dutch, French, Italian)	3	A
Bachelor of Arts in Applied Language Studies: a combination of at least two languages(main subject Dutch, French, Language Technology)	3	A
Bachelor of Arts in Applied Language Studies: a combination of at least two languages(main subject Dutch, French, Russian)	3	A
Bachelor of Arts in Applied Language Studies: a combination of at least two languages(main subject Dutch, French, Spanish)	3	A
Bachelor of Arts in Applied Language Studies: a combination of at least two languages(main subject Dutch, French, Turkish)	3	A
Bachelor of Arts in Applied Language Studies: a combination of at least two languages(main subject Dutch, German, Italian)	3	A
Bachelor of Arts in Applied Language Studies: a combination of at least two languages(main subject Dutch, German, Language Technology)	3	A
Bachelor of Arts in Applied Language Studies: a combination of at least two languages(main subject Dutch, German, Russian)	3	A
Bachelor of Arts in Applied Language Studies: a combination of at least two languages(main subject Dutch, German, Spanish)	3	A
Bachelor of Arts in Applied Language Studies: a combination of at least two languages(main subject Dutch, German, Turkish)	3	A
Bachelor of Arts in Linguistics and Literature(main subject English - German)	5	A
Bachelor of Arts in Linguistics and Literature(main subject French - German)	5	A
Bachelor of Arts in Linguistics and Literature(main subject German - Greek)	5	A
Bachelor of Arts in Linguistics and Literature(main subject German - Italian)	5	A
Bachelor of Arts in Linguistics and Literature(main subject German - Spanish)	5	A

Bachelor of Arts in Linguistics and Literature(main subject German - Swedish)	5	A
Exchange Programme Applied Language Studies	5	A
Exchange Programme Linguistics and Literature	5	A
Linking Course Master of Arts in Linguistics and Literature(main subject German)	5	A
Preparatory Course Master of Arts in Linguistics and Literature(main subject Dutch - German)	5	A
Preparatory Course Master of Arts in Linguistics and Literature(main subject English - German)	5	A
Preparatory Course Master of Arts in Linguistics and Literature(main subject French - German)	5	A
Preparatory Course Master of Arts in Linguistics and Literature(main subject German)	5	A
Preparatory Course Master of Arts in Linguistics and Literature(main subject German - Italian)	5	A
Preparatory Course Master of Arts in Linguistics and Literature(main subject German - Spanish)	5	A

Teaching languages

German

Keywords

German, literary studies, 18th century German literature

Position of the course

This advanced course helps students to become thoroughly proficient in German and to gain a strong linguistic awareness. The course offers a profound scientific insight in the specific characteristics of literary texts and shows the ways in which literature functions historically.

Contents

In this course, students are stimulated to reflect on the concrete ideology-critical and text-strategical problems in texts, also from older periods (18th century). Starting point, methodology and analyses are now strongly theoretically founded. Themes change every year (revolution, emancipation, anthropology, ...).

Initial competences

To have successfully completed the course German literature III or to have acquired the necessary skills by other means.

Final competences

1 To be able to put a thorough knowledge of German into practice.
2 To be able to apply thorough knowledge of German literary traditions while analysing literary texts and situating them in a historical and stylistic context.
3 To be able to put the tools of analysis into practice.
4 To be able to critically reflect on concrete ideology-critical and text-strategical problems from older periods (18th century).
5 To have a sound insight in literary theory and literary studies
6 To be able to use genAI in an advanced and responsible way to write texts

Conditions for credit contract

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

Conditions for exam contract

Access to this course unit via an exam contract is unrestricted

Teaching methods

Lecture, Independent work

Extra information on the teaching methods

Lectures (30h)
Self-study (15h): the elaboration of the glossary of analytical terms, reading literary scholarship, reflection on the primary reading list and facultative literature.
Attendance and participation in class are expected. For specific groups, lectures may be recorded on request. In such cases, the participation component will be fulfilled through alternative assignments.

Study material

Type: Other

Name: six literary texts in German, mostly in paperback editions, complemented by scans on Ufora
Indicative price: € 50
Optional: no
Available on Ufora : Yes
Online Available : Yes
Available in the Library : Yes
Available through Student Association : Yes
Additional information: The reading list will be communicated via Ufora. All texts are available in digital editions online. The recommended paper editions are convenient for page references in class and can always be found in the library.

References

Course content-related study coaching

Individual and collective tutoring.

Assessment moments

end-of-term and continuous assessment

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

Oral assessment, Assignment

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

Oral assessment, Assignment

Examination methods in case of permanent assessment

Participation

Possibilities of retake in case of permanent assessment

not applicable

Extra information on the examination methods

Assessment moment
Periodical: exam (90%)
Non-periodical: participation (10%)
Assessment form
Portfolio (take-home exam, questions testing personal comprehension), completed by an oral exam.

Calculation of the examination mark

End of term assessment: Portfolio: 50%
Oral exam: 40%
Continuous assessment: Participation in class: 10%
Students who participate in the bonus programme, can earn an extra bonus mark. Those with a failing grade for either of the two end-of-term forms of assessment cannot pass the course as a whole. If the final score would nevertheless be a mark of 10 or more out of 20, this will be reduced to the highest unsuccessful mark (i.e. 9/20). If one does not participate in the evaluation of one or more components, one can no longer pass the course unit as a whole and the final grade, if higher than 7/20, will be reduced to the highest non-deliberable grade (i.e. 7/20).
The extra bonus mark can only be awarded to students who pass the course as a whole.

Facilities for Working Students

1 Although attendance is highly desirable, working students may be exempted from attendance. Students can make use of extra learning materials on Ufora or of recordings of classes to reach the course goals. For those classes where active participation is evaluated (e.g., tutorials), you will need to complete a substitute task that demonstrates your attainment of the intended competencies. The substitute task will be communicated to you by the instructors.
2 The exam can be scheduled at a different time within the academic year.
3 You can receive feedback at times other than those designated, preferably through conversations (on campus or online), both during and after office hours, or via email.
For all information on these facilities, be sure to contact the responsible instructor or one of the co-instructors at the start of the semester.