GHENT UNIVERSITY

Course Specifications

Valid as from the academic year 2026-2027

Master's Dissertation (A004410)

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

Credits 15.0 **Study time 450 h**

Course offerings in academic year 2027-2028

A (Year)	Dutch	Gent

Lecturers in academic year 2027-2028

Kreil, Aymon	LW21	lecturer-in-charge
Bosteels, Sigrid		co-lecturer
Goddeeris, Anne	LW21	staff member
Vandevelde, Sabrina	LW21	staff member

Offered in the following programmes in 2027-2028	**crdts**	**offering**
Master of Arts in Gender and Diversity	15	A

Teaching languages

Dutch

Keywords

Research report, research methods and techniques

Position of the course

The master's thesis is the final part of the study program in which students demonstrate that they can integrate the acquired scientific insights and skills into a scholarly reflection in the elaboration of a gender and / or diversity-related theme of their own choosing. The master's thesis is an individualized work in which the student demonstrates aquisition and application to academic knowledge, research skills and attitudes. In addition to a scientific research attitude, the graduation work also emphasizes self-motivation, problem-solving thinking and creativity, and a general, critically reflective attitude.

Contents

The master's thesis integrates the scientific insights and research skills acquired in the study program in a specialized domain of gender studies and / or the study of gender and diversity. In the master's thesis, the students develop an original scientific and socially relevant research question, as well as its theoretical embedding, under the supervision of the supervisor and any co-supervisor. In doing so, they substantiate the chosen research method, data collection techniques and reports the results. The research can take various forms, for example a critical discussion of theories, in which the theory is explored or improved; a (limited) empirical study according to methods and techniques adapted to the theme; an analysis of certain text content, codes or cultural expressions. Students report their research in the form of a thesis or scientific article.

Initial competences

Having completed the three core courses of the master gender and diversity.

Final competences

1 To demonstrate the ability to process and integrate knowledge from the programme into an original paper.
2 To make a well-defined, substantial research contribution in the field of gender and diversity proportions, from an intersectional perspective.
3 To define a problem, and to formulate research questions, whether through responsible use of generative AI tools or not.

4 To design a research project, with a sound scientific basis, and to set up and implement a research plan, whether through responsible use of generative AI tools or not.
5 To be able to formulate critical reflections on the literature and on the data that were collected, whether through responsible use of generative AI tools or not.
6 To be able to write an academic text on a specific, well-defined specialist topic, whether through responsible use of generative AI tools or not.

Conditions for credit contract

This course unit cannot be taken via a credit contract

Conditions for exam contract

This course unit cannot be taken via an exam contract

Teaching methods

Master's dissertation

Extra information on the teaching methods

Master's thesis: set of individualized counseling sessions and independent learning situations in which students work on a research related dissertation.

Study material

Type: Handbook

Name: Gender en diversiteit. Een gids voor onderzoekers.
Indicative price: € 26
Optional: yes
Language : Dutch
Author : Katrien De Graeve
ISBN : 978-9-40149-577-6
Number of Pages : 154
Online Available : No
Available in the Library : Yes
Available through Student Association : No
Usability and Lifetime within the Course Unit : regularly
Usability and Lifetime within the Study Programme : regularly

Type: Other

Name: Masterproefbrochure
Indicative price: Free or paid by faculty
Optional: no
Language : Dutch
Available on Ufora : Yes
Online Available : Yes

References

Course content-related study coaching

Supervision by the (co-) supervisor by appointment. The students are responsible for developing a schedule that leads to interim work that can be submitted for discussion. Feedback moments (written/in person/online) are organized on the basis of these drafts.

Assessment moments

continuous assessment

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

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

Examination methods in case of permanent assessment

Professional practice, Oral assessment, 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

The assessment is based on the process, written assingment and oral defence. All

evaluators use the assessment form in which the paper and oral defence are assessed on the basis of various evaluation criteria (see master's thesis brochure). (Co-) supervisors also include the process in their assessment.
It is a shared responsibility of the student, the supervisor and/or the adviser to hold at least three meetings during the dissertation process. Participation in these meetings is required to submit the written dissertation.

Calculation of the examination mark

Each master's thesis has two evaluators (promotor and reading commissioner). However, if a co-supervisor has been appointed, a third evaluator will be approached.
The final mark is determined once the three compulsory assessment components (process, written dissertation, oral defence) are completed. It is not simply the sum of these components but reflects the extent to which the student has achieved the intended learning outcomes. In this regard, the oral defence is essential for determining whether the student can justify the content and genesis of the Master's dissertation and whether the dissertation meets the criteria for academic integrity.
Students who fail to fulfil any one of these three requirements cannot pass the Master's dissertation.

Facilities for Working Students

Individual agreements with (co-) supervisor are established in consultation.