GHENT UNIVERSITY

Course Specifications

Valid as from the academic year 2026-2027

Dutch: Language Proficiency I (A005706)

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

Credits 3.0 **Study time 90 h**

Course offerings in academic year 2027-2028

A (semester 2)	Dutch	Gent

Lecturers in academic year 2027-2028

Ghyselen, Anne-Sophie	LW06	lecturer-in-charge
Dhondt, Arne	LW06	staff member
Triest, Liesbet	LW06	staff member
Vandenberghe, Roxane	LW06	staff member
Van Steen, Maxime	LW07	staff member
Vervaeke, Frauke	LW06	staff member

Offered in the following programmes in 2027-2028	crdts	offering
Bachelor of Arts in Linguistics and Literature(main subject Dutch - English)	3	A
Bachelor of Arts in Linguistics and Literature(main subject Dutch - French)	3	A
Bachelor of Arts in Linguistics and Literature(main subject Dutch - German)	3	A
Bachelor of Arts in Linguistics and Literature(main subject Dutch - Greek)	3	A
Bachelor of Arts in Linguistics and Literature(main subject Dutch - Italian)	3	A
Bachelor of Arts in Linguistics and Literature(main subject Dutch - Latin)	3	A
Bachelor of Arts in Linguistics and Literature(main subject Dutch - Spanish)	3	A
Bachelor of Arts in Linguistics and Literature(main subject Dutch - Swedish)	3	A
Master of Science in Teaching in Languages(main subject African Languages and Cultures)	3	A
Master of Science in Teaching in Languages(main subject East European Languages and Cultures)	3	A
Master of Science in Teaching in Languages(main subject Linguistics and Literature)	3	A
Master of Science in Teaching in Languages(main subject Oriental Languages and Cultures)	3	A
Exchange Programme Linguistics and Literature	3	A
Linking Course Master of Arts in Linguistics and Literature(main subject Dutch)	3	A
Preparatory Course Master of Arts in Linguistics and Literature(main subject Dutch)	3	A
Elective Set Dutch as a Foreign Language	3	A

Teaching languages

Dutch

Keywords

Dutch, language proficiency, speaking skills, writing skills, formal writing, register variation, pronunciation, presentation skills, language correctness, vocabulary

Position of the course

This foundational course aims to enhance the written and oral language proficiency of native speakers of Dutch. Emphasis is placed on concise formal text genres for writing proficiency, while attention in oral proficiency is primarily directed towards presentation skillls. Additionally, focus is given to language correctness and vocabulary mastery.
In a number of speaking and writing tasks, we build upon the content of the course 'Nederlandse Letterkunde: IJkpunten'.

Contents

The seminars consist of several components:

- In the *Language Accuracy* component, you will learn to identify and correct various language errors (including spelling mistakes).
- In the *Vocabulary* component, you will familiarize yourself with the meaning and usage context of a selection of business and academic words and expressions.
- In the *Writing Skills* component, you will practice writing a well-structured and reasoned professional text in correct and clear Standard Dutch.
- In the *Speaking Skills* component, you will be trained to deliver an engaging oral presentation in Standard Dutch.

Initial competences

- To have a thorough knowledge of Dutch in the field of reading, listening, writing and speaking skills (as a (near-)native speaker).
- Having taken or currently taking the course 'Dutch Literature: Milestones', or having acquired the content in another way.

Final competences

1 Students can write a well-structured, coherent, and stylistically appropriate professional text in correct Dutch (without using AI tools or other digital aids).
2 Students are able to correct errors in Standard Dutch in a professional text (without AI tools or other digital language aids).
3 Students are able to formulate alternatives for a selection of lexical North-South differences.
4 Students are familiar with the meaning and usage context of a selection of business and academic terms.
5 Students are able to deliver an engaging, substantively convincing, and coherent oral presentation in fluent Standard Dutch.

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

Seminar, Independent work

Extra information on the teaching methods

More info on teaching methods:

- Independent work: Students prepare course material or assignments at home, which are then developed further in class. They independently study the components “Language Correctness” and “Vocabulary.”
- Seminar session: Practical writing and speaking exercises conducted individually and in small groups.

Class recordings:

- For writing skills, all classes are recorded and made available to students.
- For speaking skills, only the theoretical classes are recorded and made available to students.

Study material

Type: Handouts

Name: Theory and exercices language proficiency
Indicative price: Free or paid by faculty
Optional: no
Language : Dutch
Available on Ufora : Yes
Online Available : Yes
Available in the Library : No
Available through Student Association : No

References

- Timmermans, Bernadette. 2021. *Klink Klaar. Uitspraak- en intonatiegids voor het Nederlands.* Leuven, Davidsfonds.
- Lacroix, Christel. 2024. *Goed gestemd!* Tielt, Lannoo.
- Renkema, J. 2020. *Schrijfwijzer*. Amsterdam: Boom uitgevers.

- *Van Dale Groot Woordenboek van de Nederlandse Taal*. 2022. Utrecht/Antwerpen: Van Dale Lexicografie.

Course content-related study coaching

Group and individual support

Assessment moments

end-of-term and continuous assessment

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

Oral assessment, Written assessment

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

Oral assessment, Written assessment

Examination methods in case of permanent assessment

Skills test, Assignment

Possibilities of retake in case of permanent assessment

examination during the second examination period is possible

Extra information on the examination methods

Continuous assessment:
- Students take a proofreading test in which they correct errors in standard language (without the use of AI tools or other language aids);
- Students write a formal text during class (without the use of AI tools or other language aids).

End-of-term assessment:
- Students write a formal text during a written exam (without the use of AI tools or other language aids);
- Students take a vocabulary test;
- Students give an oral presentation.

Calculation of the examination mark

The final score is calculated by summing up the scores for the various components of both the continuous and end-of-term assessment. The writing proficiency and speaking proficiency assignments contribute 70% and 30% respectively to the final score.

Failure to participate in one or more components of the evaluation will result in an inability to pass the course. Should the final score exceed a grade of ten out of twenty, it will be adjusted to the highest failing grade (9). Therefore, students can only pass if they complete the entire examination.

Facilities for Working Students

- Attendance in class is not mandatory, except during assessment moments.
- Assessment moments can be rescheduled in consultation with the instructors.
- The instructors are available for consultation and feedback by appointment.
- For writing skills, all classes are recorded and made available to students.
- For speaking skills, only the theoretical classes are recorded and made available to students.