GHENT UNIVERSITY

Course Specifications

Valid as from the academic year 2026-2027

Dutch Literature: Early Modern Period (A005711)

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

Credits 5.0 **Study time 150 h**

Course offerings in academic year 2027-2028

A (semester 1)	Dutch	Gent

Lecturers in academic year 2027-2028

van der Haven, Kornee	LW07	lecturer-in-charge
Adams, Sarah	LW07	staff member
Vergeer, Tim	LW07	co-lecturer

Offered in the following programmes in 2027-2028	crdts	offering
Bachelor of Arts in Linguistics and Literature(main subject Dutch - English)	5	A
Bachelor of Arts in Linguistics and Literature(main subject Dutch - French)	5	A
Bachelor of Arts in Linguistics and Literature(main subject Dutch - German)	5	A
Bachelor of Arts in Linguistics and Literature(main subject Dutch - Greek)	5	A
Bachelor of Arts in Linguistics and Literature(main subject Dutch - Italian)	5	A
Bachelor of Arts in Linguistics and Literature(main subject Dutch - Latin)	5	A
Bachelor of Arts in Linguistics and Literature(main subject Dutch - Spanish)	5	A
Bachelor of Arts in Linguistics and Literature(main subject Dutch - Swedish)	5	A
Exchange Programme Linguistics and Literature	5	A
Linking Course Master of Arts in Linguistics and Literature(main subject Dutch)	5	A
Preparatory Course Master of Arts in Linguistics and Literature(main subject Dutch)	5	A
Preparatory Course Master of Arts in Linguistics and Literature(main subject Dutch - English)	5	A
Preparatory Course Master of Arts in Linguistics and Literature(main subject Dutch - French)	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 Dutch - Italian)	5	A
Preparatory Course Master of Arts in Linguistics and Literature(main subject Dutch - Spanish)	5	A

Teaching languages

Dutch

Keywords

Dutch, literature

Position of the course

In line of the course Dutch literature: Benchmarks & Middle Ages, this advanced course tries to provide students with a profound survey of the Dutch literary history. The survey is thematic rather than chronological with attention to specific problems (genres, European influences) per theme.

Contents

The lectures provide an overview of Dutch literature of the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries. Taught through a thematic approach, these classes will focus on literary genres and authors, but also on how early modern Dutch literature rooted in the broader cultural and social life of the Netherlands.
In the exercise classes a number of case studies from the early modern period are

discussed and analysed in relation to their cultural-historical context.

Initial competences

- To have completed the course Dutch literature: Benchmarks & Middle Ages or to have acquired the necessary skills by other means.
- To have a survey of Dutch literature, from its origins until the time of the rhetoricians and early rensaissance (16th century) in particular.
- To be able to identify and situate names, titles, schools and genres.
- To have good oral and written language skills in Dutch.

Final competences

1 To have a general survey of the development of Dutch literature in the discussed period.
2 To be able to situate important authors and works within their historical context and to have nowledge of the structural and stylistic characteristics of the genres and texts that have been discussed in the lectures.
3 To have a clear insight into the thematic and formal relationship between the texts of the reading list and the presented survey of developments and movements.
4 Being able to analyse (fragments of) an early modern literary text in light of an issue or question discussed in class.
5 Being able to critically connect personal reading experiences and contemporary societal issues to the literary-historical context of a text.
6 Being able to track down relevant research material and process it in a critical and accurate manner in an academic paper, with particular emphasis on critically evaluating digital information sources for their relevance, reliability, and validity.
7 To have very good oral and written language skills in Dutch and to be able to use those skills in order to present (under supervision) research results in a clear, well-structured argument.

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

Seminar, Lecture, Independent work

Extra information on the teaching methods

Formal lecture: the students need to take notes in addition to the handbook. A number of primary works (the reading list) are read at home, along with an anthology of short poems. Both the reading list and the anthology are discussed in the lectures.
Formats for exercises: guided self-study where students are required to read several articles related to the texts covered. They also write a paper focusing on both the substantive elaboration from a specific perspective and on learning to handle and properly process source material. In guiding the assignment, we also address the advantages and disadvantages associated with the use of AI in elaborating this paper.
Tutorial: During the exercises, a number of cases are discussed which the students have prepared by reading preparatory material and on which they can reflect orally and in writing during the classes.
Recordings: Formal lectures are recorded (not the seminars), and recordings are only made available upon request to working students and students with a special status.

Study material

Type: Handbook

Name: Dutch Literature in the Age of Rembrandt
Indicative price: Free or paid by faculty
Optional: no
Language : Dutch
Author : M.A. Schenkeveld-van der Dussen
ISBN : 9-061-31351-1

Additional information: We lezen uit dit handboek enkele hoofdstukken.

Type: Handbook

Name: Literature of the Enlightenment
Indicative price: Free or paid by faculty
Optional: no
Language : Dutch
Author : Marleen de Vries
Online Available : Yes

Type: Reader

Name: Anthology of poems from the 17th and 18th centuries
Indicative price: Free or paid by faculty
Optional: no
Language : Dutch

Type: Other

Name: Boeken onder druk : censuur en pers-onvrijheid in Nederland sinds de boekdrukkunst
Indicative price: Free or paid by faculty
Optional: no
Language : Dutch
Author : Marita Mathijsen
ISBN : 978-9-08964-306-3
Online Available : Yes
Available in the Library : Yes
Additional information: We lezen uit dit boek twee hoofdstukken. Het boek hoeft niet te worden aangeschaft. Verdere details volgen bij de start van de colleges.

References

Course content-related study coaching

Possibility to ask the lecturer questions during the formal lectures.
In the exercise classes there is permanent monitoring, in groups but also individually.

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

Assessment moment
Formal lecture: 100% periodical
Exercises: 50% periodical and 50% non-periodical
Assessment form
Formal lecture: written exam about the course and the reading list. The exam is in line with the intended competences and aims at testing knowledge as well as insight.
For the exercises: written exam, paper, active participation.

Calculation of the examination mark

Periodical (100%) for the lectures. Periodical (50%) and non-periodical (50%) for the exercises, where the non-periodical part consists of a written assignment and active participation (including oral and written contributions) in the seminars. The non periodical part counts for 25% and the periodical part for 75% of the final mark.
Passing the entire course is only possible if the student obtains a score of at least

10 out of 20 on the written exam and at least 8 out of 20 on the written assignment. Students who are unjustifiably absent from or do not participate in (part of) the assessment during either the period-bound or non-period-bound evaluation moments cannot pass the course. If their calculated final score would otherwise be 8 or more out of 20, they will receive the highest non-passable mark (a maximum of 7 out of 20).
A sufficient score (10 out of 20) in one of the two components — the non-period-bound evaluation and the period-bound evaluation— may be carried over to the resit examination period.
Note: In the case of 2 or more d/t spelling errors in the written exam, 1 point will be deducted from the relevant partial score (lectures and/or tutorials) for each d/t error (with a maximum penalty of 3 points). When assessing the written components of the continuous evaluation, attention will be paid to content, style, spelling, and the correct use and accurate referencing of sources.

Facilities for Working Students

1. Possible exemption from educational activities requiring student attendance, with online teaching for the lectures (recordings) and an alternative assignment for the exercises.
2. Possible rescheduling of the examination to a different time in the same academic year
3. Feedback can be given by email, telephone or during an appointment during or after office hours

For more information concerning flexible learning: contact the monitoring service of the faculty of Arts and philosophy