GHENT UNIVERSITY

Course Specifications

Valid as from the academic year 2026-2027

Dutch Linguistics: Varieties of Dutch (A005713)

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 1) Dutch Gent

Lecturers in academic year 2027-2028

Ghyselen, Anne-Sophie LW06 lecturer-in-charge

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

Teaching languages

Dutch

Keywords

Dutch, sociolinguistics, dialectology

Position of the course

This advanced course offers students a deeper understanding of the various dimensions of linguistic variation in Dutch, as well as of the scholarly research conducted in this field. It builds on the first-year course *Dutch Linguistics: Introduction to Sociolinguistics*, in which students acquired foundational knowledge about the emergence of Standard Dutch and the variation landscape in Flanders. Building on that foundation, we now engage with academic research on language variation across the entire Dutch-speaking region - not only Flanders, but also the Netherlands, Suriname, and the Dutch Caribbean. Students learn to interpret and critically evaluate scientific studies, and as such also broaden and deepen their expertise in variationist linguistics.

Contents

Lectures on the diatopic, diastratic, and diafasial variation in Dutch, and on how scholars study this variation.

Initial competences

This course builds upon the competencies acquired in the subject 'Nederlandse

Taalkunde: Inleiding tot de sociolinguïstiek'. Proficiency in Dutch at a native or near-native level is essential.

Final competences

1 Students are capable of describing the basic principles of dialectology, variation linguistics, and sociolinguistics, and situating these disciplines in relation to other linguistic paradigms.
2 Students are able to describe existing variationist linguistic structures in the Dutch language area and relate them to socio-historical factors. In doing so, they demonstrate an understanding of the complex interplay between language production and perception, as well as between diatopic, diastratic, and diaphasic variation.
3 Students are able to analyze, interpret, and critically assess findings from variationist linguistic research, including academic publications.
4 Students have knowledge of methodological approaches in research on language variation (and of the advantages and disadvantages of these approaches).

5 Students are able to develop their own nuanced perspective on socially sensitive issues in variationist linguistics within the Dutch language area—such as the status of Standard Dutch—and to support this perspective with scientifically grounded argumentation.

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

Students prepare articles at home (independent work), followed by analysis and discussion in class.
The lectures are recorded, but are only made available to students with a valid reason for not attending the lectures.

Study material

Type: Reader

Name: Lectuurbundel Variëteiten van het Nederlands
Indicative price: Free or paid by faculty
Optional: no
Language : Dutch
Available on Ufora : Yes

References

Course content-related study coaching

Collective via Ufora. Individual supervision available by appointment.

Assessment moments

end-of-term assessment

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

Oral assessment

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

Oral assessment

Examination methods in case of permanent assessment

Possibilities of retake in case of permanent assessment

not applicable

Extra information on the examination methods

Oral exam on read articles.
As in all courses in Dutch linguistics, students are expected to speak and write idiomatically correct standard Dutch and to use the appropriate formal register of

language.

Calculation of the examination mark

100% periodical

Facilities for Working Students

- Attendance during classes is not mandatory (though strongly recommended).
- Access to lecture recordings available.
- Possibility of feedback at an alternative time.
- Possibility of taking an exam at another time during the regular examination period.