

History of Visual Arts in the Low Countries I (A000541)

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

Credits 5.0

Study time 150 h

Course offerings and teaching methods in academic year 2026-2027

D (semester 1)

Dutch

Gent

lecture

independent work

Lecturers in academic year 2026-2027

Schepens, Lisa

LW17

staff member

Martens, Maximiliaan

LW17

lecturer-in-charge

Offered in the following programmes in 2026-2027

[Bachelor of Arts in Art History, Musicology and Theatre Studies](#)

crdts

5

offering

D

[Preparatory Course Master of Arts in Art History, Musicology and Theatre Studies](#)

5

D

[Elective Set Art Studies](#)

5

D

Teaching languages

Dutch

Keywords

Visual arts in the Low Countries, history, Flemish Primitives

Position of the course

This basic course situates the personal field of study in a broader social and cultural perspective with the possibility of laying personal accents. Furthermore, scientific and methodological aspects of the personal field of study will be extended in order to create an insight in the state of affairs of that field of study. The course wants to expand the general academic and field specific skills, including oral presentation.

Contents

Through a number of classic case studies with respect to the artistic production in the Southern Netherlands during the 15th century (the so-called 'Flemish Primitives'), such as the division of hands in the Ghent Altarpiece of the brothers Van Eyck, the course provides insight into the historiography, the critical analysis of visual and written sources, and into traditional as well as recent methods of research. Much emphasis goes to the contribution of natural scientific research methods to current discourse in the discipline.

Initial competences

Final competences

- 1 Insight into the late medieval artistic production in the Southern Netherlands, with emphasis on historiography, the most important research methods of the discipline and the current state of knowledge.
- 2 To have an independent critical and creative reasoning power.
- 3 To have a coordinating insight with respect to the humanities.

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

Access to this course unit via an exam contract is unrestricted

Teaching methods

Lecture, Independent work

Extra information on the teaching methods

Lectures: 30 h

For each class a powerpoint and a video will be available on Ufora.

Study material

None

References**Course content-related study coaching**

Individual coaching, office hours

Coaching and follow-up of research paper

Assessment moments

end-of-term assessment

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

Written assessment with open-ended questions

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

Written assessment with open-ended questions

Examination methods in case of permanent assessment**Possibilities of retake in case of permanent assessment**

not applicable

Extra information on the examination methods

Exchange students will receive a list of literature in English, which will be examined orally after appointment.

Calculation of the examination mark

100 % periodical evaluation: written exam

Facilities for Working Students

1. Possible exemption from educational activities requiring student attendance
 2. Possible rescheduling of the examination to a different time in the same academic year
 3. Feedback can be given by email or during an appointment during office hours
- For more information concerning flexible learning: contact the monitoring service of the faculty of Arts and philosophy