

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 in academic year 2026-2027

A (semester 1) English Gent

Lecturers in academic year 2026-2027

Schepens, Lisa	LW17	staff member
Jonckheere, Koenraad	LW17	lecturer-in-charge
Remond, Jaya	LW17	co-lecturer

Offered in the following programmes in 2026-2027

	crdts	offering
Bachelor of Arts in Art History, Musicology and Theatre Studies	5	A
Exchange Programme Art Studies	5	A
Preparatory Course Master of Arts in Art History, Musicology and Theatre Studies	5	A
Elective Set Art Studies	5	A

Teaching languages

English

Keywords

Visual arts in the Low Countries, history, Flemish Primitives

Position of the course

This basic course situates the field of study in a broader social and cultural perspective, with the possibility of laying specific emphasis on some topics. Furthermore, scientific and methodological aspects of the personal field of study will be extended in order to give specific insights in the field of study. The course wants to expand the general academic and field-specific skills.

Contents

The course aims to provide an insight into the historiography, critical analysis of visual and written sources, and traditional as well as recent methods of research by focusing on a number of classic case studies of artistic production in the Southern Netherlands during the 15th century (the so-called 'Flemish Primitives') and the early 16th century. For example, the course looks at the division of labour in the Ghent Altarpiece by the Van Eyck brothers, among other themes. There is a strong focus on the role of scientific research methods in shaping the current discourse within the discipline.

Initial competences

Final competences

- 1 Insight into the late medieval and Renaissance 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 develop independent critical and creative thinking.
- 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 will be available on Ufora.

Lectures are not recorded, except in special cases (such as, for example, when the instructor is absent due to illness)

Study material

None

References

Course content-related study coaching

Individual 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 can 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, with justification
 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