

History and Culture of German Speaking Countries (A000883)

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 2023-2024

B (semester 2)	Dutch, English, German	Gent	lecture
			independent work
			practical

Lecturers in academic year 2023-2024

Leuschner, Torsten	LW06	lecturer-in-charge
Kurtz, Paul Michael	LW03	co-lecturer

Offered in the following programmes in 2023-2024

	crdts	offering
Bachelor of Arts in Oriental Languages and Cultures(main subject Arabic and Islamic Studies)	5	B
Bachelor of Arts in Oriental Languages and Cultures(main subject China (China Track))	5	B
Bachelor of Arts in Oriental Languages and Cultures(main subject China (UGent Track))	5	B
Bachelor of Arts in Linguistics and Literature(main subject Dutch - German)	5	B
Bachelor of Arts in Linguistics and Literature(main subject English - German)	5	B
Bachelor of Arts in Linguistics and Literature(main subject French - German)	5	B
Bachelor of Arts in Linguistics and Literature(main subject German - Greek)	5	B
Bachelor of Arts in Linguistics and Literature(main subject German - Italian)	5	B
Bachelor of Arts in Linguistics and Literature(main subject German - Spanish)	5	B
Bachelor of Arts in Linguistics and Literature(main subject German - Swedish)	5	B
Bachelor of Arts in Oriental Languages and Cultures(main subject India)	5	B
Bachelor of Arts in Oriental Languages and Cultures(main subject Japan)	5	B
Bachelor of Arts in African Languages and Cultures	5	B
Bachelor of Arts in Archaeology	5	B
Bachelor of Arts in Art History, Musicology and Theatre Studies	5	B
Bachelor of Arts in East European Languages and Cultures	5	B
Bachelor of Arts in History	5	B
Bachelor of Arts in Moral Sciences	5	B
Bachelor of Arts in Philosophy	5	B
Exchange Programme Linguistics and Literature	5	B
Preparatory Course Master of Arts in Linguistics and Literature(main subject German)	5	B

Teaching languages

German, English, Dutch

Keywords

History, culture, German-speaking countries

Position of the course

In this introductory course, students are familiarised with various aspects from both the history of the German-speaking countries and the 'Landeskunde' and culture of the German-speaking countries.

Contents

The course consists of three part of four weeks each: Landeskunde, History, Culture. Landeskunde and Culture are taught in German, History is taught in English.

The Landeskunde part covers various aspects of the German-speaking countries such as geography, population, the political system, the media etc. The emphasis is on Germany, but other German-speaking countries such as East Belgium are dealt with.

The History part, all periods from the Middle Ages until the present day are dealt with in chronological order. These lectures are taught in English. For each weekly lecture, there is a mandatory reading assignment in German.

The Culture part finally covers the history of German-medium culture up to the present. For each weekly lecture, there is a mandatory reading assignment in German.

Initial competences

general historical, geographical, political and cultural knowledge from secondary education.

Final competences

- 1 To demonstrate insight into important historical, political and cultural aspects of the German-speaking countries.
- 2 To demonstrate knowledge of the culture of the German-speaking countries in the wider sense, including e.g. cultural history and aspects of civic culture.
- 3 To demonstrate an overview of the outlines (and possibly constants) of the history of the German-speaking countries.
- 4 To apply the above-named knowledge and insights in the interpretation of topical developments in the German-speaking countries.

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, Practical, Independent work

Extra information on the teaching methods

- Lecture, prepared by weekly mandatory background readings (as specified at the beginning of the term)
- Independent work: paper (optional, written normally in German, exceptionally in Dutch) including self-reflection on the sources and their use in the paper

Learning materials and price

Powerpoint slides accompanying the lectures and mandatory background reading, provided in part or fully through Ufora

Mandatory background reading for the Culture part: W. Gössmann, *Deutsche Kulturgeschichte im Grundriss* (Wiesbaden: Grapello 2006)

The mandatory background reading for the History part will be announced no later than the beginning of term.

References

Course content-related study coaching

The lecturers are available for questions from students both during and outside their official office hours and by e-mail.

Assessment moments

end-of-term assessment

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

Written assessment, Assignment

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

Written assessment, Assignment

Examination methods in case of permanent assessment

Possibilities of retake in case of permanent assessment

not applicable

Extra information on the examination methods

Assessment moment

post-sessional: written exam (mandatory; written normally in German, exceptionally in Dutch)
in-sessional: one or two papers (optional; written normally in German, exceptionally in Dutch)

Calculation of the examination mark

100% post-sessional (written exam) OR 75% in-sessional (written exam) and 25% in-sessional (optional paper).

The Landeskunde part of the exam counts for six points of the final mark, History and Culture for seven points each.

Facilities for Working Students

Students can be excused from attending lectures.-