

## Introduction to Flemish Sign Language (A001884)

**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 2025-2026

A (semester 1)

Dutch

Gent

lecture

independent work

group work

### Lecturers in academic year 2025-2026

Van Herreweghe, Marieke

lecturer-in-charge

### Offered in the following programmes in 2025-2026

	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
Bachelor of Arts in Linguistics and Literature(main subject English - German)	5	A
Bachelor of Arts in Linguistics and Literature(main subject English - Greek)	5	A
Bachelor of Arts in Linguistics and Literature(main subject English - Italian)	5	A
Bachelor of Arts in Linguistics and Literature(main subject English - Latin)	5	A
Bachelor of Arts in Linguistics and Literature(main subject English - Spanish)	5	A
Bachelor of Arts in Linguistics and Literature(main subject English - Swedish)	5	A
Bachelor of Arts in Linguistics and Literature(main subject French - English)	5	A
Bachelor of Arts in Linguistics and Literature(main subject French - German)	5	A
Bachelor of Arts in Linguistics and Literature(main subject French - Greek)	5	A
Bachelor of Arts in Linguistics and Literature(main subject French - Italian)	5	A
Bachelor of Arts in Linguistics and Literature(main subject French - Latin)	5	A
Bachelor of Arts in Linguistics and Literature(main subject French - Spanish)	5	A
Bachelor of Arts in Linguistics and Literature(main subject French - Swedish)	5	A
Bachelor of Arts in Linguistics and Literature(main subject German - Greek)	5	A
Bachelor of Arts in Linguistics and Literature(main subject German - Italian)	5	A
Bachelor of Arts in Linguistics and Literature(main subject German - Spanish)	5	A
Bachelor of Arts in Linguistics and Literature(main subject German - Swedish)	5	A
Bachelor of Arts in Linguistics and Literature(main subject Latin - Greek)	5	A
Bachelor of Arts in Linguistics and Literature(main subject Latin - Italian)	5	A
Bachelor of Arts in Linguistics and Literature(main subject Latin - Spanish)	5	A
Bachelor of Arts in Linguistics and Literature(main subject Latin - Swedish)	5	A
Master of Science in Teaching in Health Sciences(main subject Medical Sciences)	5	A
Master of Science in Teaching in Health Sciences(main subject Pharmaceutical Sciences)	5	A
Master of Science in Teaching in Health Sciences(main subject Social Health Sciences)	5	A
Master of Science in Teaching in Health Sciences(main subject Veterinary Medicine)	5	A
Elective Set Linguistics	5	A

**Teaching languages**

Dutch

**Keywords**

Flemish Sign Language, Deaf Culture, Flemish Deaf Community

**Position of the course**

In this introductory subject insights are offered into the linguistic aspects of Flemish Sign Language and the Flemish Deaf Community, next to a restricted basic competence in Flemish Sign Language.

**Contents**

Linguistic aspects of sign languages versus spoken languages, with specific focus on phonological, morphosyntactic, lexical and sociolinguistic aspects of Flemish Sign Language

**Initial competences**

No requirements concerning prior knowledge of Flemish Sign Language and the Deaf community in Flanders.

**Final competences**

- 1 Analyzing the phonological, morphosyntactic and lexical structures of sign languages, and in particular of Flemish Sign Language (e.g. VGT structure, typology, language variation).
- 2 Evaluating existing views on deafness, Flemish Sign Language and Deaf culture
- 3 Interpreting the sociolinguistic context and aspects of Deaf culture
- 4 Interpreting the developmental linguistic context and educational context of deaf children
- 5 A limited basic language proficiency in Flemish Sign Language
- 6 Project-based interdisciplinary collaboration to translate content into a practical context

**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**

Group work, Lecture, Practical, Independent work

**Extra information on the teaching methods**

- Weekly lecture
- 1 practical: limited language skills VGT
- 1 group work: interdisciplinary
- Independent work: pre-processing scientific literature

**Study material**

Type: Handbook

Name: Grammatical aspects of the Flemish-Belgian Sign Language

Indicative price: Free or paid by faculty

Optional: no

Language : Dutch

Author : Vermeerbergen

**References****Course content-related study coaching**

In group; individual guidance is possible.

**Assessment moments**

end-of-term and continuous 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**

Assignment

### **Possibilities of retake in case of permanent assessment**

examination during the second examination period is possible

### **Extra information on the examination methods**

1. Continuous evaluation: interdisciplinary group work (20%)
2. end-of-term evaluation: oral exam

### **Calculation of the examination mark**

- oral exam (16/20)
- paper (4/20)

Students who do not take part in the assessment of all the parts of the course evaluation cannot pass the course evaluation as a whole. Should the average mark be higher than 10/20, the final mark will be reduced to the highest non-pass mark (= 9/20).

### **Facilities for Working Students**

1. Exemption from educational activities requiring student attendance is possible, but not from NPE-assignment.
2. It is possible to reschedule the examination to a different time in the same academic year.
3. Feedback can be given by email or by appointment.