

## Global Developments in Historical Perspective (A002630)

**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 2) Dutch, English Gent

**Lecturers in academic year 2026-2027**

Limberger, Michael	LW03	lecturer-in-charge
Guéné, Enid	LW03	co-lecturer

**Offered in the following programmes in 2026-2027**

	crdts	offering
<a href="#">Bachelor of Arts in Oriental Languages and Cultures(main subject India)</a>	5	A
<a href="#">Bachelor of Arts in Oriental Languages and Cultures(main subject Japan)</a>	5	A
<a href="#">Bachelor of Arts in African Languages and Cultures</a>	5	A
<a href="#">Bachelor of Arts in History</a>	5	A
<a href="#">Linking Course Master of Arts in History</a>	5	A
<a href="#">Preparatory Course Master of Arts in History</a>	5	A
<a href="#">Elective Set History</a>	5	A

**Teaching languages**

English, Dutch

**Keywords**

Global integration, history, religion, monotheism, empire, state formation, science, technology, modernisation, westernisation, imperialism, secularisation, Late Antiquity, Middle Ages, Early Modernity, Modernity

**Position of the course**

This advanced course aims to acquaint the students with the historical dimension of contemporary globalisation, which is defined as the increasing global integration within which structurally unequal power relations have come into being. We will especially undertake a critical analysis of the concept of 'modernity' and 'modernization'. The subject of this course follows up from the learning outcomes obtained through the course 'World History'.

**Contents**

This course offers a world historical perspective on the growing integration of the world. Throughout the course, a selection of global processes are defined, confirmed and/or contested as agents of continuity and change on a global level. Different angles (macro- & micro-historical, theoretical and empirical) will be adopted. The concept of modernity and the process of modernization is being reviewed diachronically and synchronically. This long-term approach enables to explain the contingency of the 'rise of the west', and the role of colonization in the process of modernization, making use of different case studies and a comparative approach of technological, economic and institutional factors.

**Initial competences**

- To have successfully completed the course 'Introduction to world history' or to have acquired the necessary skills by other means.
-

## Final competences

- 1 Having a substantial historical knowledge of the processes of globalisation and on the making of world economies and world-systems from the Middle Ages to the contemporary period.
- 2 Being able to situate current societal processes within this historical context.
- 3 Autonomously identifying elements of modernization and modernization theory in historical discourses.
- 4 Critically evaluating claims for the historic reality and robustness of these dimensions.
- 5 Comparing interpretations of a single process of globalisation in their respective strengths, weaknesses, and differences.

## 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

- Lectures
- Individual work: selection of articles and chapters available on Minerva.

Due to COVID-19 changes to your teaching methods can be implemented in case this is necessary.

## Study material

Type: Slides

Name: Powerpoint Slides  
Indicative price: Free or paid by faculty  
Optional: no  
Language : Dutch  
Number of Slides : 400  
Oldest Usable Edition : 2024-25  
Available on Ufora : Yes

Type: Reader

Name: Reader  
Indicative price: Free or paid by faculty  
Optional: yes  
Language : English  
Number of Pages : 500  
Oldest Usable Edition : 2024-25  
Available on Ufora : Yes

## References

## Course content-related study coaching

Electronic support via Minerva (forums, e-mail)  
Individual: by email-appointment, or during the lecturers' office hours.

## Assessment moments

end-of-term assessment

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

Written assessment

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

Written assessment

## Examination methods in case of permanent assessment

## Possibilities of retake in case of permanent assessment

not applicable

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

Written exam with open questions on the subjects discussed in the lectures and in the reader.

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

100 % periodical assessment (written exam).

### **Facilities for Working Students**

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