

## Introduction to Text-Linguistics (A002714)

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

**Credits 3.0**                      **Study time 90 h**

**Course offerings and teaching methods in academic year 2023-2024**

A (semester 2)                      Dutch                      Gent                      lecture

**Lecturers in academic year 2023-2024**

Verroens, Filip                      LW06                      staff member  
Willems, Klaas                      LW06                      lecturer-in-charge

**Offered in the following programmes in 2023-2024**

	crdts	offering
Bachelor of Arts in Oriental Languages and Cultures(main subject Arabic and Islamic Studies)	3	A
Bachelor of Arts in Oriental Languages and Cultures(main subject China (China Track))	3	A
Bachelor of Arts in Oriental Languages and Cultures(main subject China (UGent Track))	3	A
Bachelor of Arts in Linguistics and Literature(main subject Dutch - English)	3	A
Bachelor of Arts in Linguistics and Literature(main subject Dutch - French)	3	A
Bachelor of Arts in Linguistics and Literature(main subject Dutch - German)	3	A
Bachelor of Arts in Linguistics and Literature(main subject Dutch - Greek)	3	A
Bachelor of Arts in Linguistics and Literature(main subject Dutch - Italian)	3	A
Bachelor of Arts in Linguistics and Literature(main subject Dutch - Latin)	3	A
Bachelor of Arts in Linguistics and Literature(main subject Dutch - Spanish)	3	A
Bachelor of Arts in Linguistics and Literature(main subject Dutch - Swedish)	3	A
Bachelor of Arts in Linguistics and Literature(main subject English - German)	3	A
Bachelor of Arts in Linguistics and Literature(main subject English - Greek)	3	A
Bachelor of Arts in Linguistics and Literature(main subject English - Italian)	3	A
Bachelor of Arts in Linguistics and Literature(main subject English - Latin)	3	A
Bachelor of Arts in Linguistics and Literature(main subject English - Spanish)	3	A
Bachelor of Arts in Linguistics and Literature(main subject English - Swedish)	3	A
Bachelor of Arts in Linguistics and Literature(main subject French - English)	3	A
Bachelor of Arts in Linguistics and Literature(main subject French - German)	3	A
Bachelor of Arts in Linguistics and Literature(main subject French - Greek)	3	A
Bachelor of Arts in Linguistics and Literature(main subject French - Italian)	3	A
Bachelor of Arts in Linguistics and Literature(main subject French - Latin)	3	A
Bachelor of Arts in Linguistics and Literature(main subject French - Spanish)	3	A
Bachelor of Arts in Linguistics and Literature(main subject French - Swedish)	3	A
Bachelor of Arts in Linguistics and Literature(main subject German - Greek)	3	A
Bachelor of Arts in Linguistics and Literature(main subject German - Italian)	3	A
Bachelor of Arts in Linguistics and Literature(main subject German - Spanish)	3	A
Bachelor of Arts in Linguistics and Literature(main subject German - Swedish)	3	A
Bachelor of Arts in Oriental Languages and Cultures(main subject India)	3	A
Bachelor of Arts in Oriental Languages and Cultures(main subject Japan)	3	A
Bachelor of Arts in Linguistics and Literature(main subject Latin - Greek)	3	A
Bachelor of Arts in Linguistics and Literature(main subject Latin - Italian)	3	A
Bachelor of Arts in Linguistics and Literature(main subject Latin - Spanish)	3	A
Bachelor of Arts in Linguistics and Literature(main subject Latin - Swedish)	3	A
Bachelor of Arts in African Languages and Cultures	3	A

Bachelor of Arts in East European Languages and Cultures	3	A
Bachelor of Arts in Moral Sciences	3	A
Bachelor of Arts in Philosophy	3	A

### Teaching languages

Dutch

### Keywords

Functions of language, language system, language variation, language use, text structure, text interpretation, types of meaning.

### Position of the course

This general introductory course provides a basic insight in the phenomenon language to create an elementary linguistic consciousness.

### Contents

This course is based on two questions, "What is natural language?" and "What is a text?", and consists of two parts. In the first part, the specific semiotic and systematic character of language is discussed and the variation in natural language in general and the languages in the world (including multilingualism, language change, the variation of writing systems etc.) are introduced. The link between language and thought receives attention and comprehensible introductions to sign language research and modern neurolinguistics are given as well. The second part of this course draws the students' attention to functions of language in language use (texts and dialogues). The structure of texts (including the distinction between spoken and written language) is especially focused on the interpretation and decoding of texts (discourse analysis), including the creative use of texts, viz. translation. A number of specific aspects can be studied in depth on the basis of additional reading material.

### Initial competences

No specific prerequisites.

### Final competences

- 1 To have a basic knowledge of the essential terminology of modern linguistics.
- 2 To have a basic knowledge of the diversity of language systems and of the diversity of language use.
- 3 To put the basic concepts of modern linguistic scientific research into practice.
- 4 To have an elementary linguistic awareness.
- 5 To have a basic insight in the semiotic characteristics of natural languages.
- 6 To be able to put the basics of linguistic analysis into practice for the study of a representative number of manifestations of language.

### 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

### Extra information on the teaching methods

1. Lectures with plenary exercises, based on the syllabus and the texts of the reading list.
  2. Exercises (multiple choice questions) are posted on Ufora after each lecture, along with correct answers.
- Lectures on campus; as a rule, there are no recordings of the lectures.

### Learning materials and price

Consists of two parts:

- 1 a syllabus with a summary of all lectured subject matter and an index of all terms which students should be able to provide definitions of and/or put into practice,
- 2 a compulsory reading list which consists of accessible linguistic texts which students should read using a number of guiding questions.

Cost: 10 EUR

### References

Reading list:

- First-language acquisition (A. M. Schaeferlaekens 2000)
- Sign languages (A. Baker 2008)
- Multilingualism in multicultural Europe (G. Extra & K. Yagmur 2004)
- Translation studies: Translation of culture-specific items (D. Grit 2004).

#### **Course content-related study coaching**

Group tutoring and individual tutoring supported by one assistant and two student coaches (who take care of all General Courses lectured at the faculty).

#### **Assessment moments**

end-of-term assessment

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

Written assessment with multiple-choice questions

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

Written assessment with multiple-choice questions

#### **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*

End-of-term evaluation (100%).

*Assessment form*

Written exam consisting of 50 multiple-choice questions (syllabus, reading list and lectures).

Cut-off score:  $30/50 = 10/20$ .

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

100% written exam consisting of multiple-choice questions.

#### **Facilities for Working Students**

Facilities:

- 1 Possible exemption from educational activities requiring student attendance
- 2 Feedback can be given by email

Extra information:

Studying the notes of fellow students is recommended to fully understand the subject matter which is summarized in the syllabus.

For more information contact the monitoring service of the Faculty of Arts and Philosophy:

<https://www.ugent.be/lw/nl/student/studiestudentenbegeleiding/trajectbegeleiding.htm>