

## Master's Dissertation (A003412)

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

**Credits** 20.0

**Study time** 600 h

**Course offerings and teaching methods in academic year 2024-2025**

A (Year)

Dutch

Gent

master's dissertation

**Lecturers in academic year 2024-2025**

Bleys, Kjell

LW01

staff member

Lefever, Merel

LW01

staff member

Schreel, Louis

LW01

staff member

Van Dyck, Maarten

LW01

lecturer-in-charge

**Offered in the following programmes in 2024-2025**

**crdts**

**offering**

[Master of Arts in Moral Sciences](#)

20

A

[Master of Arts in Philosophy](#)

20

A

**Teaching languages**

Dutch

**Keywords**

Research project, scientific communication

**Position of the course**

The master's dissertation completes the academic formation in the field of philosophy/moral sciences. The student is expected to conduct scientific research individually and report on his/her findings within a given time-frame, both by handing in a written dissertation and by an oral presentation and defense in which he/she demonstrates that all the final competences are acquired.

**Contents**

The emphasis is not exclusively on the originality of the theme, but also on the scientific exploration of the theme. Important objectives are:

- formulating a research question against the backdrop of recent literature
- analysing sources of information (primary sources, historical literature,...)
- interpreting the collected materials consistent with current knowledge
- demonstrating writing skills, capacity to synthesize and formulating conclusions.

**Initial competences**

Basic knowledge about the specific area of research is expected. The student also has advanced knowledge of and insight into the field of philosophy/moral sciences.

An investigating attitude and basic skills relating to the ability to conduct research individually, formulating research questions, reporting and communicating about research findings etc. are expected. The student will develop these skills further by working on the Master's dissertation.

**Final competences**

- 1 Identify and delineate relevant philosophical or ethical problems.
- 2 Select and interpret relevant sources of information regarding a specific research question.
- 3 Formulate a clear *status quaestionis* regarding a specific research question in the fields of philosophy/ethics/moral sciences.
- 4 Select the most suitable methodology to contribute to a solution to the research question.
- 5 Properly apply a theoretical framework to a specific research question.
- 6 Formulate a strong philosophical/ethical argumentation concerning a specific research question in a structured, clear and coherent manner.
- 7 Deal with sources of information in a critical and scientifically correct way.

- 8 Process relevant literature adequately in an original and relevant contribution that answers the initial research question.
- 9 Founding intermediary and final conclusions on presented material, analyses and argumentation.
- 10 Using correct academic language, both grammatically, orthographically and stilistically (professional, clear, scientific).
- 11 Applying a transparent and consistent reference system.
- 12 Compiling a complete and consistent bibliography and list of references.
- 13 Neatly presenting a thesis (lay-out, typography, page numbers, title page,...).
- 14 Adequately incorporating feedback into a research project.
- 15 Communicating the contents of a research project in a brief, clear and scientific presentation.
- 16 Orally explaining scientific findings and properly responding to critical questions regarding those findings.

**Conditions for credit contract**

This course unit cannot be taken via a credit contract

**Conditions for exam contract**

This course unit cannot be taken via an exam contract

**Teaching methods**

Master's dissertation

**Study material**

None

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

**Calculation of the examination mark**