

Master's Dissertation (A003903)

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 2023-2024

A (Year)	Dutch	Gent	master's dissertation seminar
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Lecturers in academic year 2023-2024

Driesen, Pauline	LW17	staff member
Sterckx, Marjan	LW17	lecturer-in-charge

Offered in the following programmes in 2023-2024

Master of Arts in Art History, Musicology and Theatre Studies	crdts	offering
	20	A

Teaching languages

Dutch

Keywords

scientific research

Position of the course

The master thesis is meant for further developing the competences for autonomous and critical scientific research.

Contents

In this course, students work on an elaborate research dissertation, showing their ability to conduct autonomous and quality scientific research in the domain of the art sciences. The theme of the research dissertation is determined by the students, in consultation with staff members with related research expertise. The dissertation is a further in-depth study of the competences acquired in the bachelor thesis and can also (but does not have to) carry forward the bachelor thesis with respect to the content.

Initial competences

Having successfully finished the bachelor program and the bachelor thesis.

Final competences

- 1 Formulate a well-defined and motivated research problem.
- 2 Construct a meticulous argument.
- 3 Formulate verifiable conclusions.
- 4 Have the skill to formulate scientific content with respect for the 1 international formal criteria.
- 5 Apply the prevailing scientific methodologies and terminologies.
- 6 Verify the practicability of the used methodologies and terminologies.
- 7 Analyse and interpret sources critically.
- 8 Present scientific results to a specialized audience.

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, Seminar

Extra information on the teaching methods

At the beginning of the academic year, students make a presentation of their research proposal

and the state of affairs of their research work, and receive feedback from their supervisor(s) and possibly fellow students. Throughout the year, feedback sessions are organized on a regular basis, individually or in group. Collective feedback sessions usually take the form of tutorials or microteachings in which students, guided by the supervisor(s), assess each other's presentation and work. In the case of individual supervision, students report on a regular basis the developments in their research work. The final form of the master thesis is a written research paper (the research dissertation) in which students demonstrate independent and quality research competences.

Learning materials and price

Varies in relation to the different research options.

Via the Minerva/Ufora digital learning platform, a brochure with guidelines for writing a dissertation in the art sciences will be made available.

References

Course content-related study coaching

Guidance, individually or in group, by the promotor in collaboration with an assistance or researcher.

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

The students are evaluated based on the submitted dissertation and their oral defence thereof.

The defense takes place after submitting the dissertation.

If the student has not passed the written part, the student will be given the opportunity to waive the oral defense (after advice from the supervisor).

Calculation of the examination mark

Dissertation: 80%

Oral presentation and defence: 20%

When the student obtains less than 10/20 for the written component, they can no longer pass the course unit as a whole.

If the total score does turn out to be a mark of ten or more out of twenty, this is reduced to the highest fail mark (9/20).

If the student obtained less than 10/20 for the written component, the student will be informed of this before the oral defense and he/she/they may choose not to participate in the oral defense.