GHENT UNIVERSITY

Course Specifications

Valid in the academic year 2023-2024

Historical Practice II: Modern and Contemporary Ages (A004030)

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 2023-2024

A (Year)	Dutch	Gent	seminar
			independent work

Lecturers in academic year 2023-2024

Verbruggen, Christophe	LW03	lecturer-in-charge
Aerts, Koen	LW03	co-lecturer
D'hondt, Bart	LW03	staff member
Peiren, Luc	LW03	staff member

Offered in the following programmes in 2023-2024	**crdts**	**offering**
Bachelor of Arts in History	5	A
Linking Course Master of Arts in History	5	A
Preparatory Course Master of Arts in History	5	A

Teaching languages

Dutch

Keywords

Acquisition of the central research skills of a historian, contact with primary sources and secondary literature.

Position of the course

This advanced course is the continuation of Historical Practice 1 and is a preparation for Historical Practice 3. The goal is to teach students, by means of a practical exercise, the skills and attitudes to (1) be able to independently look for sources and literature from a specific problem, (2) be able to choose and apply the correct research methods and strategies in order to interpret analyse these sources critically in function of the problem and (3) be able to make a syntheses of the results. This course is in line with the basic goals of the bachelor History in general: (1) knowledge of and insight into a) historical facts and processes, b) methods and techniques, c) explanations and theoretical models; (2) a scientific-critical attitude towards the past and the present; (3) to be able to do historical research on an independent basis and to present the results to a broad public, in written and/or oral form.
Due to Covid19, the forms of teaching and evaluation can be possibly adjusted. Such adjustments will be communicated through Ufora.

Contents

Critical introduction to sources, professional literature and methodes around a concrete research theme from the contemporary times. A number of research topics are being proposed which reflect the broad interests of the historical discipline and which use different methodologies. In order to ensure this thematic and methodological diversity, different lecturers are involved in this course. Students need to choose only 1 topic and they will continue to work on this topic during both semesters. Topics are announced at the start of the year.

Initial competences

Have successfully completed the course "Introduction to Historical Research" and a "Historical Practice I" class, or their equivalent. For Erasmus students, or students

who want to follow this course as a preparatory course, the lecturer is able to ascertain that they have acquired the requisite skills in another manner.

Final competences

1 Have insight into the methodology of history.
2 To have a basic knowledge of the diversity of sources and academic literature (also in another language than Dutch) used in historical research and the specialist skills required to read and interpret sources (also in another language than Dutch).
3 Be able to initiate problem-oriented historical research.
4 Have the ability to assess, employ, and place the result of historical research (also in another language than Dutch) within the correct national and international historiographical context.
5 To have the ability to set up a simple historical research strategy in the form of a roadmap.
6 Have the ability to critically apply quantitative and qualitative research methods and techniques.
7 Have the ability to indicate the most appropriate types of sources relative to a specific historical research question.
8 To have the ability to use scientific criteria to justify heuristic methods and bibliographical research in the field of history.
9 To be able to interpret, evaluate, and report on existant research (also in another language than Dutch) and on one's own initial research or research plans.
10 Have the ability to communicate the results of historical research with both experts and laypersons, either orally or in writing.
11 Have the ability to critically reflect upon the role of the global perspective, the dynamics of processes, and recurrences in historical situations.
12 Have an inquiring attitude with a love of historical critique and creativity, and with a positive attitude towards lifelong learning.
13 To have the ability to report in writing on current scientific discussions in historiography (also in another language than Dutch) using an adequate critical apparatus in a clearly structured, academically justified text, written in a clear and academically correct language.
14 To have the ability to participate actively in group discussions (also in another language than Dutch) and to communicate the results of historical research to both experts and peers in a clearly structured oral presentation, in a clear and academically correct language.
15 Have the ability to work with one's colleagues on a project.
16 Have insight into the way in which historical scientific research functions and is organized.
17 Have insight into how archives and heritage institutions work.

Conditions for credit contract

Access to this course unit via a credit contract is determined after successful competences assessment

Conditions for exam contract

This course unit cannot be taken via an exam contract

Teaching methods

Seminar, Independent work

Extra information on the teaching methods

- Independent work
- Seminars
- Field work: visit to archives, oral witnesses and other fieldwork (travel costs)
- Due to covid 19 other work forms can be introduced if necessary.

Learning materials and price

The lecturer can put a reader at the disposal by copies or by Minerva. Estimated cost: 10 EUR

References

Course content-related study coaching

Questions directly during the lessons or via e-mail.

Assessment moments

continuous assessment

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

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

Examination methods in case of permanent assessment

Participation, Assignment

Possibilities of retake in case of permanent assessment

examination during the second examination period is possible

Extra information on the examination methods

Assessment moment

Non-periodical assessment: as a general rule , 70% is allocated to the final paper and 30% to participation, but individual teachers may vary if they inform the students at the start of the exercise.
(If a student does not pass the non-periodical evaluation, a second chance is offered by means of a compensatory activity between the first and second exam period.)

Assessment form

No oral or written exam. The final mark will be based on the active participation in the workshops throughout the year and on the paper(s).

Calculation of the examination mark

100% non-periodical assessment
Students who do not take part in the assessment of one or more parts of the course evaluation or obtain a mark of less than 10/20 for one of its parts cannot pass the course evaluation. Should the average mark be higher than 10/20, the final mark will be reduced to the highest non-pass mark (= 9).

Facilities for Working Students

1. Possible exemption from certain educational activities requiring student attendance.
2. The examination cannot be rescheduled
3. Feedback can be given by email, telephone or during an appointment during office hours

For more information concerning flexible learning: contact the monitoring service of the faculty of Arts and philosophy