

Dutch Linguistics III: Language System (A004207)

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

Credits 5.0

Study time 150 h

Course offerings in academic year 2024-2025

A (semester 2)

Dutch

Gent

Lecturers in academic year 2024-2025

Colleman, Timothy

LW06

lecturer-in-charge

Offered in the following programmes in 2024-2025

crdts

offering

Bachelor of Arts in Linguistics and Literature(main subject Dutch - English)

5

A

Bachelor of Arts in Linguistics and Literature(main subject Dutch - French)

5

A

Bachelor of Arts in Linguistics and Literature(main subject Dutch - German)

5

A

Bachelor of Arts in Linguistics and Literature(main subject Dutch - Greek)

5

A

Bachelor of Arts in Linguistics and Literature(main subject Dutch - Italian)

5

A

Bachelor of Arts in Linguistics and Literature(main subject Dutch - Latin)

5

A

Bachelor of Arts in Linguistics and Literature(main subject Dutch - Spanish)

5

A

Bachelor of Arts in Linguistics and Literature(main subject Dutch - Swedish)

5

A

Master of Science in Teaching in Languages(main subject Applied Language Studies)

5

A

Exchange Programme Linguistics and Literature

5

A

Linking Course Master of Arts in Linguistics and Literature(main subject Dutch)

5

A

Preparatory Course Master of Arts in Linguistics and Literature(main subject Dutch)

5

A

Preparatory Course Master of Arts in Linguistics and Literature(main subject Dutch - English)

5

A

Preparatory Course Master of Arts in Linguistics and Literature(main subject Dutch - French)

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Preparatory Course Master of Arts in Linguistics and Literature(main subject Dutch - German)

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A

Preparatory Course Master of Arts in Linguistics and Literature(main subject Dutch - Italian)

5

A

Preparatory Course Master of Arts in Linguistics and Literature(main subject Dutch - Spanish)

5

A

Teaching languages

Dutch

Keywords

Historical linguistics, language change, internal history of the Dutch language, historical phonology, historical morphology, historical syntax, linguistic analysis of historical texts

Position of the course

This is an advanced course on the "internal" history of the Dutch language, which provides an overview of phonological, morphological, and syntactic language change in the period from early Middle Dutch to Present-day Dutch.

Contents

After an introduction on the "external" history of Dutch, this course provides an elaborate overview of the most important (types of) changes that have affected the different components of the Dutch language system (phonology, morphology, syntax) since the period of Old Dutch/early Middle Dutch, and of the mechanisms of language change underlying them. This overview gives ample attention to regional variation in older stages of Dutch and also touches on issues of social and stylistic variation.

Also, part of the classes is concerned with the linguistic analysis of specific texts from several periods and representing widely different text types (administrative texts, personal letters, scholarly prose, etc.). Students prepare exercises on specific texts in small groups and/or they identify and discuss textual properties in small groups during class.

Initial competences

To have successfully completed the courses Dutch Linguistics I: language system and Dutch Linguistics II: language system or to have acquired the necessary skills by other means.

Final competences

- 1 To have a profound knowledge of the historical development of Dutch in the domains of phonology, morphology, and syntax.
- 2 To have a good understanding of the major mechanisms of phonological, morphological, and syntactic language change.
- 3 To have a good knowledge of patterns of regional variation in older stages of Dutch.
- 4 To have a good understanding of the relation between regional and diachronic language change.
- 5 To be able to evaluate the pros and cons of different data sources and tools for the historical linguistics of Dutch.
- 6 To be able to approximatively localize and date older texts on the basis of their linguistic characteristics and to discuss their phonological, morphological and syntactic traits.
- 7 To be able to understand historical texts and translate them into present-day Dutch.
- 8 To be able to identify and analyse instances of specific phonological, morphological or syntactic phenomena in historical texts.

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

Group work, Seminar, Lecture, Independent work

Extra information on the teaching methods

Half of the class time is devoted to a theoretical overview of phonological, morphological and syntactic changes, the other half to the analysis of specific texts and examples. Students prepare the discussions of specific texts in small groups or individually, on the basis of questions and discussion points distributed in advance. Also, students are expected to read two or three scholarly articles. There is an online discussion group in which more complex questions can be further discussed.

Study material

None

References

Course content-related study coaching

Interactive support via Minerva (discussions). Personal support: appointment via e-mail.

Assessment moments

end-of-term and continuous assessment

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

Written assessment open-book

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

Written assessment open-book

Examination methods in case of permanent assessment

Participation

Possibilities of retake in case of permanent assessment

examination during the second examination period is not possible

Extra information on the examination methods

Written open book exam. The exam is in line with the intended final competences. As in all courses in Dutch linguistics, students are expected to speak and write idiomatically correct standard Dutch and to use the appropriate formal register of language.

The score for participation is based on students' active participation in class discussions and exercises.

Calculation of the examination mark

90% exam

10% participation

Facilities for Working Students

- Possible exemption from educational activities requiring student attendance.
- Possible rescheduling of the examination to a different time in the same academic year
- Feedback can be given by email, telephone or during an appointment during office hours