

Master's Dissertation (A005077)

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

Credits 15.0

Study time 450 h

Course offerings and teaching methods in academic year 2023-2024

A (Year)

Dutch

Gent

master's dissertation
independent work

Lecturers in academic year 2023-2024

Yudin, Aleksey

LW21

lecturer-in-charge

Offered in the following programmes in 2023-2024

[Master of Arts in East European Languages and Cultures](#)

crdts

15

offering

A

Teaching languages

Dutch

Keywords

Research report, research methods and techniques

Position of the course

In this advanced course required for the final completion of the MA studies, the student is asked to demonstrate his/her mastery of a selection of final curricular competencies by writing a Master dissertation of approximately 25 000 words (possibly with attachments) that will be defended in an oral presentation.

The student learns to independently determine the nature and extent of the material, to justify the choice of material and to perform fieldwork (if necessary) and material analysis.

Contents

Determined in close consultation with and having the approval of the supervisor, the thesis topic should be original and innovative. The student submits a research paper (M.A. thesis) based on literature review and possibly corpus of primary sources or field research on a subject within the core areas of the study programme: language and literature, discourse analysis, folklore studies, philology, anthropology, (cultural) history and East European Studies. All PhDs associated with the ZAP or AAP can act as promoter.

Several tutorials will be organized in the lessons 'Methodology: Preparation to Master's Dissertation' in which objectives, possible themes, and language and the like will be explained. Each student is entitled to 3 hours of personal supervision per semester. The supervision meeting in the first semester should be devoted to setting up the research and deciding on its right direction. In the second semester, the guidance focuses on the supervisor's reading of the thesis' excerpts and a joint discussion of their content with the student. The promoter should read and discuss the study plan, one chapter and the detailed introduction. The other chapters may be only randomly reviewed and commented. In total, the promoter should not read and comment on more than 40 percent of the master's thesis.

Initial competences

Having successfully completed the standard trajectory of Ba3 (the Bachelor thesis course successfully completed in the event of and GIT) or the intended competences in another way.

Final competences

- 1 Identify and oversee current scientific literature within a defined area of research.
- 2 Detect historical and current sources and critically process them into a discourse.
- 3 Consult and study sources in the original languages.
- 4 Justify the appropriate methodological framework of a research topic.

- 5 Adopt an investigative approach towards sources, ideas, theories, and apply research methods and techniques.
- 6 Conduct independent research (interpreting and analyzing material).
- 7 Justify the results of your own research (argue, draw conclusions).
- 8 Understand and assess the social presuppositions of scientific publications in the field of Eastern European languages and cultures over time.
- 9 Writing longer analytical texts with a scientific character.
- 10 Presenting and defending your own research to an audience, also in one of the target languages.

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, Independent work

Extra information on the teaching methods

Tutorials, individual guidance by the promoter.
Depending on the subject: fieldwork.
Ufora and feedback.

Learning materials and price

Vademecum Masterproef (available on Ufora)

References

Turabian, Kate et al. 2013 [1995] *A Manual for Writers of Research Papers, Theses, and Dissertations*. Chicago: Chicago University Press.

Course content-related study coaching

Supervision by the supervisor both personally and in groups, interactive support through Ufora, consulting teacher via e-mail or by appointment.

Assessment moments

end-of-term and continuous assessment

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

Oral assessment, Assignment

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

Oral assessment, Assignment

Examination methods in case of permanent assessment

Participation

Possibilities of retake in case of permanent assessment

not applicable

Extra information on the examination methods

Public defense of the master dissertation in the presence of the exam committee will take place in the examination period. The master dissertation is marked by the promoter and one other referee.

Calculation of the examination mark

100% periodical (80% master dissertation + 20% oral defense).

Facilities for Working Students

- 1 Absence is allowed
- 2 Examination can not be rescheduled
- 3 Feedback appointment possibility