

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 2024-2025

A (Year)

Dutch

Gent

independent work

master's dissertation

Lecturers in academic year 2024-2025

Yudin, Aleksey

LW21

lecturer-in-charge

Offered in the following programmes in 2024-2025

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

crdts

offering

15

A

Teaching languages

Dutch

Keywords

Research report, research methods and techniques

Position of the course

In this advanced course, at the end of the master's program, students are asked to demonstrate their mastery of a number of final competencies of the program by writing, orally presenting and defending a dissertation of approximately 25 000 words (possibly with an appendix).

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.

The Methodology learning track describes the design, possible themes, language use, the responsible use of GenAI, etc. explained in the context of the master's thesis. Every student is entitled to 3 hours of personal guidance per semester. In the first semester, the meeting times mainly serve to set up the research and guide it on the right track. In the second semester, the guidance consists of reading the documents submitted by the supervisor and discussing them together. The program determines a minimum number of feedback moments with the supervisor and co-supervisor via the Vademecum for the master's thesis. The supervisor receives the research plan, one chapter and the introduction and must read and discuss it in detail. The other chapters may only be assessed and commented on on a sample basis. In total, the supervisor may not read and comment on more than 40 percent of the master's thesis. The thesis includes a mandatory logbook in which the student's progress is recorded.

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. Use generative AI responsibly.
- 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.

Study material

None

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

The master's thesis is evaluated by the promoter and by one reader.
The defense of the master's thesis will take place in the form of an oral discussion.

Calculation of the examination mark

100% periodical (70% master dissertation + 30% oral discussion).
The student must participate in both parts. If the student does not participate in both components or has a deficit in one of the components, the grade will be reduced to a maximum of 9/20.

Facilities for Working Students

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