

## Language Policy and Practice (A005095)

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

**Credits 6.0**

**Study time 180 h**

**Course offerings and teaching methods in academic year 2026-2027**

A (semester 1)

English

Gent

independent work

**Lecturers in academic year 2026-2027**

Deygers, Bart

LW22

lecturer-in-charge

**Offered in the following programmes in 2026-2027**

[Master of Arts in Advanced Studies in Linguistics \(main subject Linguistics in a Comparative Perspective\)](#)

**crdts**

6

**offering**

A

**Teaching languages**

English

**Keywords**

- language policy
- language politics
- language management
- language and migration
- school language policy
- family language policy

**Position of the course**

This course is part of the master in advanced linguistics, but is open to master students from other linguistic programs.

**Contents**

- Language policy models
- Theories of policy formation
- Language and power
- Language policy instruments
- Language and migration
- School language policy
- University language policy
- Family language policy

**Initial competences**

Students hold a bachelor degree in applied linguistics or linguistics. Students are proficient in English at the B2 level or higher

**Final competences**

- 1 Students have insight into language policy theories and can also apply those theories.
- 2 students understand how policy is made
- 3 Students can apply theoretical frameworks including critical theory and interpretative language policy
- 4 Students understand the mechanisms governing language and migration policy and can apply them to concrete cases
- 5 Students understand the mechanisms governing school language policy and can apply them to concrete cases
- 6 Students understand the mechanisms governing university admission language policy and can apply them to concrete cases
- 7 Students understand the mechanisms governing family language policy and can

apply them to concrete cases

### 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

Independent work

### Extra information on the teaching methods

The classes are interactive and dialogic. Students attend class prepared and have read the required papers.

This course assumes the responsible use of generative artificial intelligence (GAI).

During the lessons, what this means will be explained.

### Study material

Type: Handouts

Name: Handouts, slides and papers available via ufora

Indicative price: Free or paid by faculty

Optional: no

### References

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- Johnson, D. C., & Ricento, T. (2013). Conceptual and theoretical perspectives in language planning and policy: Situating the ethnography of language policy. *International Journal of the Sociology of Language*, 2013(219), 7-21.
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- Ricento, T. & Hornberger, N. (1996). Unpeeling the onion: language planning and policy and the ELT professional. *TESOL Quarterly* 30(3). 401-427.
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Spolsky, B. (2004). *Language Policy*. Cambridge University Press.

Spolsky, B. (2009). *Language Management*. Cambridge University Press.

Spolsky, B. (Ed.). (2012). *The Cambridge Handbook of Language Policy*. Cambridge University Press.

Spolsky, Bernard (2012) "What is language policy?", in Spolsky, Bernard (ed.) *The Cambridge Handbook of Language Policy*, 3–15. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.

Tollefson, James W. 2006. Critical theory in language policy. In Thomas Ricento (ed.), *An introduction to language policy: theory and method*, 42–59. Malden, MA: Blackwell Publishing.

### **Course content-related study coaching**

Any additional guidance provided by tutor

### **Assessment moments**

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

Assignment

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

Assignment

#### **Examination methods in case of permanent assessment**

#### **Possibilities of retake in case of permanent assessment**

not applicable

#### **Extra information on the examination methods**

Description and analysis of a language policy case study

#### **Calculation of the examination mark**

Score is determined by performance on written assignment. Formative evaluation is provided throughout semester.

#### **Facilities for Working Students**

To be determined in dialogue with tutor.