

Classical languages of South Asia: language, text and context 2 (A005136)

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 2023-2024

A (semester 2) English Gent independent work

Lecturers in academic year 2023-2024

De Clercq, Eva LW21 lecturer-in-charge

Offered in the following programmes in 2023-2024

	crdts	offering
Master of Science in Teaching in Languages (main subject Oriental Languages and Cultures)	6	A
Master of Arts in Oriental Languages and Cultures (main subject India)	6	A
Exchange Programme Oriental Languages and Cultures	6	A

Teaching languages

English

Keywords

Sanskrit, Prakrit, Apabhramsha, Indian literary history, Jainism

Position of the course

This specialized course broadens the knowledge of and insight into classical literary Indian languages, by introducing Apabhramsha language and texts from the Jaina repertoire. Secondly, knowledge of and experience with Sanskrit and Prakrit is deepened further by reading a text from among the *kāvya* repertoire, in the frame of academic discourses on Indian literary and cultural history, and by reading inscriptions. Finally, the student chooses a text (Sanskrit/Prakrit/Apabhramsha), which s/he will present and explain using fragments.

Contents

- 1 Overview of Apabhramsha language and literature
- 2 Overview of the grammar of Apabhramsha
- 3 Reading and analysing a text from the Apabhramsha Digambara Jaina repertoire. Framing of this text within the broader religious and literary context of Jainism.
- 4 Reading and analysing a text from the classical *kāvya* repertoire. Framing of this text within the broader religious, social, political and literary context. Reading inscriptions.
- 5 Presenting a Sanskrit, Prakrit or Apabhramsha text chosen by the student, and contextualizing it (social, religious, arthistorical,...) using fragments.

Initial competences

This course requires a thorough knowledge of Sanskrit, of the basics of the religious traditions of India (Jainism and the Hindu traditions), and a basic knowledge of Prakrit.

Final competences

- 1 Have a thorough knowledge of Prakrit and Apabhramsha grammar and phonology.
- 2 Being able to read and explain the Sanskrit, Prakrit and Apabhramsha texts discussed in class.
- 3 Being able to present and contextualize a Sanskrit, Prakrit or Apabhramsha text of choice using fragments.

4 Being able to sketch the historical frame of the treated texts

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

Lecture, seminar, independent work

Extra information on the teaching methods

Lecture: background to Apabhramsha language and literature

Seminar: reading and analysing texts.

Self reliant study: individual analysis and study of predetermined texts

(Sanskrit/Prakrit/Apabhramsha), background literature, preparation of presentation.

Learning materials and price

- De Clercq, E. *The Apabhramsa of Svayambhudeva's Paumacariu*. Mumbai: Hindi Granth Karyalay
- Van Den Bossche, F. *A Reference Manual to Middle Prakrit Grammar*. Gent Universiteit Gent, 1999
- All other materials are available on Minerva.

References

- Dundas, Paul. *The Jains*. London, N.Y. Routledge. 2nd ed. 2002.
- Pollock, S. *Language of the Gods in the World of Men*. Berkeley: UCP, 2009

Course content-related study coaching

Interactive support via Ufora (forums, e-mail) or after appointment

Evaluation methods

continuous assessment

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

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

Examination methods in case of permanent evaluation

Oral assessment, participation, assignment

Possibilities of retake in case of permanent evaluation

examination during the second examination period is possible

Extra information on the examination methods

Oral exam: presentation of analysis and contextualisation of selected text

Paper: homework assignments

participation: being present and actively participating in the discussions.

Calculation of the examination mark

Presentation: 50%

Paper: homework assignments 50%

Participatie: 10%

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 Concerning exemption from educational activities: presence is obligatory.
- 2 Concerning rescheduling of examinations: possible rescheduling of the examination to a different time in the same academic year
- 3 Concerning alternative time for feedback: feedback can be given by email, telephone or during an appointment during or after office hours

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