

Capita Selecta Ancient History (A005253)

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

Credits 5.0

Study time 150 h

Course offerings and teaching methods in academic year 2026-2027

A (semester 2)

English

Gent

lecture

seminar

peer teaching

Lecturers in academic year 2026-2027

Verrijssen, Jeroen

LW03

lecturer-in-charge

Menéndez Sánchez, Guillermo

LW03

co-lecturer

Russo, Gabrielle

LW03

co-lecturer

Offered in the following programmes in 2026-2027

[Master of Science in Teaching in Arts and Humanities \(main subject History\)](#)

crdts

5

offering

A

[Master of Arts in History](#)

5

A

[Exchange Programme Classics](#)

5

A

[Exchange Programme History](#)

5

A

Teaching languages

English

Keywords

Antiquity; Current research

Position of the course

The main aim of the course is to introduce master students to the opportunities and challenges of ancient historical research-in-progress. Such a confrontation with research 'in action' should help students to reflect on the formulation of proper research questions, the selection of appropriate methodologies and theoretical frameworks, and the critical analysis of relevant sources, types of reflection in which they will constantly have to engage throughout their MA program as they work on their own MA theses.

Contents

This MA course rotates amongst researchers affiliated with the research group Ancient History, focuses on ongoing research project(s) in which they are engaged. The topic of the course is adapted accordingly. The topic for 2025-2026 will be 'War, Violence and the Disintegration of the Roman Empire in the West'.

Initial competences

The student possesses all the final competences formulated in the bachelor curriculum in History of Ghent University.

Final competences

- 1 To have the ability to use advanced insights into historical conceptual frameworks (also in another language than Dutch) to analyse and evaluate new and complex ideas.
- 2 To have general insight into the field's literature (also in another language than Dutch), and the ability to use sources (also in another language than Dutch) in an original and creative way.
- 3 To have the ability to critically analyse and make original use of current national and international scientific debates in the field of history (also in another

language than Dutch).

- 4 To have the ability to present the results of one's own historical research, to both experts and peers, in a clearly structured oral presentation, in a clear and academically correct language.

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

Seminar, Lecture, Peer teaching

Extra information on the teaching methods

Students are required to read academic literature and/or source material for each class. Part of the class is taught by the instructor, the other part consists of a seminar on the assigned readings. The final classes consist of student presentations, followed by a discussion.

Study material

Type: Slides

Name: Slides

Indicative price: Free or paid by faculty

Optional: no

Language : English

Available on Ufora : Yes

Type: Reader

Name: Reader with primary and secondary sources

Indicative price: Free or paid by faculty

Optional: no

Language : English

Available on Ufora : Yes

References

This will be announced during the first lecture

Course content-related study coaching

Tutoring is provided during the classes as well as via Ufora. The classes are taught interactively. The lecturer provides time for questions and answers.

Individual coaching is possible via email or in person after booking an appointment.

Assessment moments

end-of-term and continuous assessment

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

Oral assessment

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

Oral assessment

Examination methods in case of permanent assessment

Participation, Presentation

Possibilities of retake in case of permanent assessment

examination during the second examination period is possible

Extra information on the examination methods

Non-periodic evaluation (40%): oral presentation of a case study (20%), and participation in discussions in class (20%).

Periodic evaluation (60%): oral exam (with time for preparation).

Calculation of the examination mark

Non-periodic evaluation: 40% (20% presentation, 20% participation in discussions)

Periodic evaluation: 60%

Facilities for Working Students

1. Possible exemption from educational activities requiring student attendance, a task is imposed in substitution.

2. Possible rescheduling of the examination to a different time in the same academic year.
3. Possibility for feedback at an alternative moment during or after office hours either digitally (by email or videocall) or in person.