GHENT UNIVERSITY

Course Specifications

Valid in the academic year 2021-2022

Capita Selecta Ancient History (A005253)

Due to Covid 19, the education and assessment methods may vary from the information displayed in the schedules and course details. Any changes will be communicated on Ufora.

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

Credits 5.0 **Study time 150 h** **Contact hrs** 45.0h

Course offerings and teaching methods in academic year 2021-2022

A (semester 2)	English	Gent	lecture	15.0h
			microteaching	7.5h
			seminar	11.25h

Lecturers in academic year 2021-2022

Oppeneer, Thierry	LW03	lecturer-in-charge

Offered in the following programmes in 2021-2022	**crdts**	**offering**
Master of Science in Teaching in Arts and Humanities (main subject History)	5	A
Master of Arts in History	5	A
Exchange Programme History	5	A

Teaching languages

English

Keywords

The Greek city under Rome, the Roman Empire, local autonomy, democracy, *polis*-institutions and identity

Position of the course

In this MA course, one or more researchers affiliated with the research group ancient history will teach a series of classes (lectures and/or seminars) based on an ongoing research project in which they are engaged. Themes and topics change regularly/annually, as different members of the research groups present classes on their research. The principal aim of the course is to introduce master students specializing in ancient history to the vicissitudes, opportunities and problems 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 presentation of hypotheses, 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. By thus providing master students with the possibility to engage (to some extent) with ongoing scholarly work carried out within the research group ancient history, the aim is not just to provide the students with in-depth knowledge of the research theme being explored, but also and particularly to sharpen the students' own research skills as they work on their thesis projects.

Contents

The subject of this course is the Greek city in the Roman period (ca. 50 BC-AD 350). The integration of the Greek cities into the Roman Empire affected the political institutions and identity of the polis. A first important theme within the course is the impact of Rome on forms of local autonomy and agency. To what extent and in which areas can we detect continuity and/or change? A crucial role in perpetuating forms of local autonomy or agency was played by local elites. The position of the latter within the polis is the second main theme within the course. We examine, among other things, the meaning and functions of euergetism and

the tension between oligarchizing tendencies and a certain continuity in democratic institutions and processes.

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

Microteaching, Seminar, Lecture

Extra information on the teaching methods

Students have to read scholarly literature and/or sources before each class. Part of the class is taught by the lecturer; the other part consists of discussion on the readings assigned.
The last classes consist of presentations by the students, followed by discussion.

Learning materials and price

The material consists of: a) scholarly literature; b) selected passages from ancient sources. Both will be made available through Ufora.

References

No specific recommended reading

Course content-related study coaching

Tutoring is provided during the classes as well as electronically via Ufora. The classes are taught interactively. The teacher provides time for questions and answers.
Individual coaching is possible through email communication or in person by electronic appointment.

Assessment moments

end-of-term and continuous assessment

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

Written examination with open questions

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

Written examination with open questions

Examination methods in case of permanent assessment

Participation, Assignment

Possibilities of retake in case of permanent assessment

examination during the second examination period is possible

Extra information on the examination methods

Students are evaluated as follows:
- participation: each student is asked to have read the literature and/or sources for every seminar and to demonstrate this by active participation in the discussion.

- assignment: each student gives a presentation in one of the final classes on a self-selected topic related to the Greek city under Rome (no written paper required)

At the end of the semester a written exam with open questions takes place. The questions in the written exam concern the lectures and the readings discussed in the seminars (source-passages and specialist literature).

Calculation of the examination mark

70% periodical assessment
30% non-periodical assessment (20% participation, 10% presentation)

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.