

Research Seminar: World History (A005254)

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 2024-2025

A (semester 1)	English	Gent	seminar lecture group work
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Lecturers in academic year 2024-2025

Latham-Sprinkle, John	LW03	lecturer-in-charge
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Offered in the following programmes in 2024-2025

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Master of Science in Teaching in Arts and Humanities (main subject History)	5	A
Master of Arts in Global Studies	5	A
Master of Arts in Global Studies	5	A
Master of Arts in History	5	A
Exchange Programme Global Studies and World Societies	5	A
Exchange Programme History	5	A

Teaching languages

English

Keywords

History, transitions, slavery, labour history, civilizations, history of capitalism, globalisation, ideology and world views, social sciences

Position of the course

An introduction into the broad field of 'global studies' and world history, or 'global history', with applications starting from a set of historical and current research questions. The aim is to gain a critical insight into the diverse and diverging explanatory models of long-term social change on a global scale. This year's topic will be the history of slavery in global perspective. Students should acquire a nuanced view on the historiography of slavery and a broad theoretical perspective which can be applied to multiple different types of asymmetric social dependency in various time periods and world regions.

Contents

The first part of the course will comprise thematic seminars, for example on the definition of slavery and on 'modern slavery'. Each seminar will require two compulsory pieces of reading to be completed before the class, plus in some cases further optional reading. The second part of the course will demonstrate the application of these theories; this may take the form of guest speakers giving lectures on the application of theories of slavery to their work, Q&A session with scholars in the field, and/ or student presentations on a topic of their choice related to the overall theme of the course.

Initial competences

Bachelor degree

Final competences

- 1 To have the ability to take a critical approach to the history of a particular period or subject.
- 2 To have the ability to originally use and deepen basic knowledge of neighbouring sciences in research and/or professional activities.
- 3 To have the ability to employ historical scientific methodology in research or professional

activities.

- 4 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.
- 5 To be able to set up historical research.
- 6 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).
- 7 To have the ability to write a relevant and coherent historical scientific research project.
- 8 To have the ability to independently select, correctly use and critically evaluate methods for qualitative and quantitative research.
- 9 To have the ability to creatively design and implement one's own historical research.
- 10 To possess the techniques required to independently collect, criticise, and process historical sources and literature (also in another language than Dutch), and to integrate these in a historical argument.
- 11 To be able to give a nuanced interpretation and correct presentation of the results of one's own research in the form of a report, thesis or article.
- 12 To systematically act with scientific integrity
- 13 To have the ability to critically reflect upon the limits of one's own skills, thoughts, and actions.
- 14 To have the ability to write down the results of one's own historical scientific research in a clearly structured, academically justified text, written in a clear and academically correct language
- 15 To have the ability to communicate (also in another language than Dutch), collaborate and act in an inspiring, advisory or authoritative manner, depending on the situation.
- 16 To have the ability to undertake independent historical research, and the ability to fit into a group conducting historical scientific research.
- 17 To have the ability to adjust to specialist interdisciplinary and multidisciplinary professional situations.

Conditions for credit contract

Access to this course unit via a credit contract is determined after successful competences assessment

Conditions for exam contract

Access to this course unit via an exam contract is unrestricted

Teaching methods

Group work, Seminar, Lecture

Extra information on the teaching methods

Classes, group work, independent work, group work.

Since this class relies heavily on discussions between students, there will be no recordings of classes. However, students always have access to PowerPoint slides which introduce the following week's themes and readings.

Study material

Type: Syllabus

Name: Syllabus

Indicative price: Free or paid by faculty

Optional: no

Number of Pages : 2

Available on Ufora : Yes

Type: Reader

Name: Readings (articles and book chapters)

Indicative price: Free or paid by faculty

Optional: no

Available on Ufora : Yes

References

Course content-related study coaching

Via Ufora, email

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, Peer and/or self assessment, Assignment

Possibilities of retake in case of permanent assessment

examination during the second examination period is possible

Extra information on the examination methods

Participation and reports 50%, final paper 30%, oral exam 20%

Calculation of the examination mark

Periodic evaluation: 20% (oral exam)

Non periodic evaluation: 80% (papers, participation etc.)

Nota Bene:

When a student does not take part in one or more parts of the evaluation, it is not possible to pass the course. If the final score is higher than 7/20, it will be reduced to the highest non-delinquent grade (7/20).

When a student receives a score of less than 10/20 for one of the course components, it is not possible to pass the entirety of the course unit. If the final grade would have been 10/20 or higher, this grade will be reduced to the highest non-passing grade (i.e. 9/20).

Facilities for Working Students

Facilities:

- 1 Student attendance during educational activities is required
- 2 Possible rescheduling of the examination to a different time in the same academic year
- 3 Feedback, both final and interim (the latter of which is optional), can be given by email or face-to-face by appointment. There is the possibility of submitting an essay draft prior to final submission, which will not count towards the final grade.

Extra information:

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