

## Introduction to the Geography and Archeology of Africa (A005315)

**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)

Dutch, English

Gent

lecture

**Lecturers in academic year 2024-2025**

Coutros, Peter

LW21

lecturer-in-charge

Goossens, Rudi

WE12

co-lecturer

**Offered in the following programmes in 2024-2025**

[Bachelor of Arts in African Languages and Cultures](#)

**crdts**

5

**offering**

A

[Linking Course Master of Arts in African Studies](#)

5

A

[Preparatory Course Master of Arts in African Studies](#)

5

A

[Elective Set African Studies](#)

5

A

[Elective Set Archaeology](#)

5

A

**Teaching languages**

English, Dutch

**Keywords**

Africa, Geography, Archaeology

**Position of the course**

This basic course will give inside in the most important aspects of Africa. Special attention will be given at the physical geography of Africa, the social geography and archaeology of Africa. Besides that, special attention will be given at the interaction of man with its physical environment from the early hominidea until recent history.

**Contents**

This course has 2 parts: 2/3 about the Geography of Africa, 1/3 about the Archaeology of Africa. The geographical part of the course deals with the physical geographical aspects of the African continent: geology, relief and topography, climate, vegetation, soils...In the second part more social geographical items are discussed: agriculture, population and demography, mining, transport....  
Impact of Geography on Archaeological research, evolution of men, Stone-age southern the Sahara, Bantu spreading and agriculture in the Central African Tropical Forest, the start of political structures in the southern savanna.

**Initial competences**

High school level

**Final competences**

- 1 To have overview knowledge of the most important Geographical aspects of the African continent.
- 2 To have inside in the interaction between men and its physical environment, also in time.
- 3 To have inside in the archaeology of Africa, southern the Sahara.

**Conditions for credit contract**

Access to this course unit via a credit contract is unrestricted: the student takes into consideration the conditions mentioned in 'Starting Competences'

**Conditions for exam contract**

Access to this course unit via an exam contract is unrestricted

**Teaching methods**

Lecture

**Study material**

None

**References**

Verkoren, O. & Harts-Broekhuis (eds.) , 2000, Tropisch Afrika , Van Gorcum; ISBN 90 232 34057

Geselecteerde hoofdstukken uit Livingstone-Smith, A., Cornelissen, E., Gosselain, O. & MacEachern, S. (eds.), 2017. *Field Manual for African archaeology*, Royal Museum for Central Africa, available at <http://www.africamuseum.be/research/publications/rmca/online/fmaa>

**Course content-related study coaching**

Consultation hours

**Assessment moments**

end-of-term assessment

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

Written assessment with open-ended questions

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

Written assessment with open-ended questions

**Examination methods in case of permanent assessment****Possibilities of retake in case of permanent assessment**

not applicable

**Calculation of the examination mark**

100% periodic evaluation