

## Anthropology of Visual and Material Cultures in Africa (A005324)

**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) Dutch Gent lecture

**Lecturers in academic year 2026-2027**

Andriessen, Laura	LW21	staff member
DeBlock, Hugo	LW21	lecturer-in-charge

**Offered in the following programmes in 2026-2027**

	<b>crdts</b>	<b>offering</b>
<a href="#">Bachelor of Arts in African Languages and Cultures</a>	5	A
<a href="#">Bachelor of Arts in Art History, Musicology and Theatre Studies</a>	5	A
<a href="#">Exchange Programme African Languages and Cultures</a>	5	A
<a href="#">Linking Course Master of Arts in African Studies</a>	5	A
<a href="#">Preparatory Course Master of Arts in African Studies</a>	5	A
<a href="#">Elective Set African Studies</a>	5	A
<a href="#">Elective Set Art Studies</a>	5	A
<a href="#">Elective Set Culture and Society</a>	5	A

**Teaching languages**

Dutch

**Keywords**

Material culture and art of Africa, visual culture of Africa, contemporary art and visual culture of Africa, diaspora and identity in the arts of Africa

**Position of the course**

Introduction to the material culture and art of Africa and, more broadly, anthropology of art

**Contents**

Introduction to the art history of West and Central Africa and, more broadly, art anthropological perspectives and theories, with a focus on contemporary trends in the material and visual cultures of Africa and in the Diaspora; museology; decolonisation of museums; restitution debates

**Initial competences**

None

**Final competences**

- 1 To critically discuss current debates surrounding art, anthropology and material cultures.
- 2 To be able to reflect on the work of contemporary artists and creators from Africa or the African diaspora, whilst demonstrating sensitivity to intercultural diversity.
- 3 To be able to situate the material and visual cultures of Africa and the African diaspora within an anthropological framework.
- 4 To reflect critically and creatively on the pluridisciplinarity of art anthropology in Africa
- 5 Have an understanding of power relations at the intersection of art and anthropology, with specific attention to North-South issues.
- 6 Understand and be able to apply the theory and practice of the anthropology of

art, and visual and material cultures, in general and with regard to Africa in particular.

#### **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**

Excursion, Lecture

#### **Extra information on the teaching methods**

Lessons will not be recorded

#### **Study material**

Type: Slides

Name: Anthropology of Visual and Material Cultures in Africa

Indicative price: Free or paid by faculty

Optional: no

Language : Dutch

Available on Ufora : Yes

#### **References**

#### **Course content-related study coaching**

Coaching available by e-mail and/or by appointment

#### **Assessment moments**

end-of-term assessment

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

Written assessment

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

Written assessment

#### **Examination methods in case of permanent assessment**

#### **Possibilities of retake in case of permanent assessment**

examination during the second examination period is possible

#### **Calculation of the examination mark**

#### **Facilities for Working Students**

1. Absence is allowed, no additional supporting teaching material is provided
  2. No online/digital facilities (lectures take place on campus, without recordings)
  3. It is possible to take the exam at a different time within the regular exam period
  4. Possibility to receive feedback at another time: by appointment
- For more information concerning flexible learning: contact the monitoring service of the faculty of Arts and philosophy