

Language, Culture and Society in Africa (A005325)

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

Credits 5.0 **Study time 150 h**

Course offerings in academic year 2026-2027

A (semester 2) Dutch Gent

Lecturers in academic year 2026-2027

Meeuwis, Michael	LW21	lecturer-in-charge
Gunnink, Hilde	LW21	co-lecturer

Offered in the following programmes in 2026-2027

	crdts	offering
Bachelor of Arts in African Languages and Cultures	5	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

Teaching languages

Dutch

Keywords

Africa; Language; Culture; Society; Decolonisation

Position of the course

This course is aimed at familiarizing the first-year students with the basic knowledge on language, culture, and society in Africa. It is in this way complementary with the first-semester course Inleiding tot de Afrikaanse taalkunde, which is linguistic-technical in nature.

Contents

This course discusses the African linguistic landscape from a sociolinguistic and linguistic-anthropological perspective, including the colonial and postcolonial legacy that characterizes that landscape and matters of decolonization.

Initial competences

Good passive knowledge of both English and French. This in order to be able to follow and understand the video, sound and text fragments from Africa in these languages.

Final competences

To have gained insight in the main concepts, approaches and facts with regard to language, culture and society in Africa and engage with them in a decolonial way.

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

Extra information on the teaching methods

Laptops and smartphones (including smartwatches) are **not** allowed during class. Students focus their attention exclusively and without distraction on class content

and take notes with pen and paper. Note-taking is better done by hand, see <https://www.vrt.be/vrtnws/nl/2024/11/27/laptop-schrijven-hand-papier-hersenen-leren-studie/>

Classes are not recorded.

Study material

Type: Syllabus

Name: syllabus Taal, Cultuur en Samenleving in Afrika

Indicative price: € 20

Optional: no

Language : Dutch

Available on Ufora : No

Online Available : No

Available in the Library : No

Available through Student Association : No

Type: Slides

Name: Taal, Cultuur en Samenleving in Afrika

Indicative price: Free or paid by faculty

Optional: no

Language : Dutch

Available on Ufora : Yes

References

References are provided during the classes.

Course content-related study coaching

Feedback during every phase of the learning process (on 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

not applicable

Extra information on the examination methods

Written examination

Calculation of the examination mark

100% Periodic evaluation.

Facilities for Working Students

Facilities:

1. Class attendance is recommended to successfully complete the course. Classes are not recorded.

2. No online/digital facilities (lectures take place on campus without recordings, except in case of corona measures).

3. It is not possible to take the exam at another time

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 and <http://www.flw.ugent.be/flexibelstuden>.