

Introduction to the Literatures of Africa (A005326)

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 1)	Dutch	Gent	independent work lecture
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Lecturers in academic year 2026-2027

Frateur, Amber	LW21	staff member
Brinkman, Inge	LW21	lecturer-in-charge

Offered in the following programmes in 2026-2027

	crdts	offering
Bachelor of Arts in African Languages and Cultures	5	A
Micro-credential Literatures of Africa and Asia	5	A
Exchange Programme 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
Elective Set Literature	5	A

Teaching languages

Dutch

Keywords

Literatures; Africa

Position of the course

Acquiring a basic knowledge of African literary history, the most important forms and genres, and examples of African literatures.

Contents

This course forms an introduction into African literatures. This includes oral as well as written literatures, and furthermore attention will be given to literary forms expressed in the new media. The course will include various textual and audiovisual examples so as to arrive at a broad and diverse notion while at the same time emphasizing the intertextual relations of African literatures.

Initial competences

No specific prerequisites.

Final competences

The student acquires a profound insight into the literatures of Africa. This understanding includes the most important literary genres, literary history, the literary debates, and examples from African oral literatures, written literatures, and expressive forms in the new media.

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, Independent work

Extra information on the teaching methods

Lecture sessions, plenary exercises, guided debates, guided reading.
In case, the participation of non-Dutch speakers will be facilitated.
Course meetings will be on campus. There will be no live-streaming and no recordings of the meetings will be made available, unless in exceptional cases of force majeure.

Study material

Type: Handbook

Name: Afrikaanse Letterkunde. Tradities, genres, auteurs en ontwikkelingen (Amsterdam: Amsterdam University Press 2019)
Indicative price: € 36
Optional: no
Language : Dutch
Author : Mineke Schipper, Daniela Merolla, Inge Brinkman
ISBN : 978-9-46298-916-0
Number of Pages : 412
Oldest Usable Edition : 2019
Online Available : No
Available in the Library : Yes
Available through Student Association : Yes
Usability and Lifetime within the Course Unit : not applicable
Usability and Lifetime within the Study Programme : intensive
Usability and Lifetime after the Study Programme : intensive
Additional information: and a novel from the reading list

References

Course content-related study coaching

Interactive teaching – and learning methods; 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 with open-ended questions, Assignment

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

Written assessment with open-ended questions, Assignment

Examination methods in case of permanent assessment

Possibilities of retake in case of permanent assessment

not applicable

Extra information on the examination methods

The exam consist of open questions concerning the course material and the handbook.
Each student writes a review of an African novel

Calculation of the examination mark

Periodic

Facilities for Working Students

1. Possible exemption from educational activities requiring student attendance.
2. Possible rescheduling of the examination to a different time within the same exam period (nb: this may influence the exam form).
3. Feedback can be given by e-mail, telephone or on appointment during or before office hours.

For more information concerning flexible learning: contact the monitoring service of the faculty of Arts and Philosophy and <http://www.flw.ugent.be/flexibelstuden>.

