

## 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

**Lecturers in academic year 2026-2027**

Frateur, Amber

LW21

staff member

Vitackova, Martina

LW21

lecturer-in-charge

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

[Bachelor of Arts in African Languages and Cultures](#)  
[Micro-credential Literatures of Africa and Asia](#)  
[Exchange Programme African Languages and Cultures](#)  
[Linking Course Master of Arts in African Studies](#)  
[Preparatory Course Master of Arts in African Studies](#)  
[Elective Set African Studies](#)  
[Elective Set Literature](#)

**crdts**

**offering**

5

A

5

A

5

A

5

A

5

A

5

A

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.

### **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>.