

## Africa: Current Affairs, Discourse and Representation (A005327)

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

**Credits 5.0**

**Study time 150 h**

### Course offerings in academic year 2025-2026

A (semester 2)

Dutch

Gent

### Lecturers in academic year 2025-2026

Frateur, Amber

LW21

staff member

Brinkman, Inge

LW21

lecturer-in-charge

### Offered in the following programmes in 2025-2026

Bachelor of Arts in African Languages and Cultures

crdts

offering

5

A

Bachelor of Arts in History

5

A

Bachelor of Science in Political Science

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 Culture and Society

5

A

### Teaching languages

Dutch

### Keywords

media, discourse, representation, Africa

### Position of the course

This course forms a sequel to the course 'Language, Culture, and Society in Africa (I)'. The aim is to critically assess texts and images from various areas (media, arts, tourism, academia, ...) in which (problematic) representations of Africa, Africans and Afro-descendants prevail.

### Contents

This course is aimed at teaching students how to critically assess discourse and representation of Africa through postcolonial theories, the history of ideas, and discourse-analytical theorising.

Processes of representation of Africa will be related to one another and placed within their historical (colonial) context. Topics like white saviour complex, white-washing and white privilege will be discussed.

From a contextual framework the students will subsequently analyse a chosen text or body of texts that concretizes the discussed topics.

### Initial competences

Having successfully completed the course 'Language, Culture and Society in Africa (I)' or having acquired the competences thereof by other means.

### Final competences

- 1 Having acquired a profound knowledge of patterns and recurrent processes of representations of Africa.
- 2 Having acquired a profound insight into the relations between language (use), textual representation and media in/from Africa and to be able to put this insight into practice.
- 3 To be able to critically reflect on representation as linguistic, textual and social

process.

- 4 To be able to prepare and conduct a modest research project from a discourse analytical angle and to be able to present the results both orally and in writing.

#### **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**

This course unit cannot be taken via an exam contract

#### **Teaching methods**

Seminar, Excursion, Lecture, Independent work, Peer teaching

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

<http://www.flw.ugent.be/jsmets/aanbodsessies/didactische%20werkvormen.html>

Guided self-study; self-reliant study activities; seminar, plenary exercises, response-teaching, micro-teaching, guided exercises, lecture.

#### **Study material**

Type: Other

Name: course not taught next academic year

Indicative price: Free or paid by faculty

Optional: no

#### **References**

Apart from the compulsory reading materials, no specific references

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

Feedback in class, interactive teaching methods

#### **Assessment moments**

end-of-term and continuous assessment

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

Participation, Oral assessment open-book, Assignment

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

Participation, Oral assessment open-book, Assignment

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

Skills test, Participation

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

examination during the second examination period is not possible

#### **Extra information on the examination methods**

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

End-of-term evaluation (80%) in the form of a paper and a take-home exam that will be discussed orally.

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

End-of-term evaluation (80%) in the form of a paper and a take-home exam that will be discussed orally.

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

De NPE (20%) consists of participating in the debates during the sessions, an oral presentation of the preliminary results of the research for the paper, and participating in various exercises during the sessions.

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

NPE: 20%

PE: 80%

Students are required to have obtained a pass mark for both the non-periodical evaluation and the periodical evaluation.

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

1. Possible exemption from educational activities requiring student attendance upon permission from the lecturer.
  - 2 In case of proven *force majeure*, possible rescheduling of the examination to a different time in the same academic year.
  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 student counselling unit of the faculty of Arts and Philosophy and <http://www.flw.ugent.be/flexibelstuden> .