

## Bachelor's Essay (A005329)

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

**Credits** 10.0

**Study time** 300 h

**Course offerings and teaching methods in academic year 2026-2027**

A (Year)

Dutch, English

Gent

independent work

**Lecturers in academic year 2026-2027**

de Schryver, Gilles-Maurice

LW21

lecturer-in-charge

Stroeken, Koenraad

LW21

co-lecturer

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

[Bachelor of Arts in African Languages and Cultures](#)

**crdts**

10

**offering**

A

**Teaching languages**

English, Dutch

**Keywords**

BA dissertation, research task, paper

**Position of the course**

In the research task the student must prove that he/she is capable to conduct independent scientific research, is able to reflect critically, and can situate the research topic within a broader context.

The BA dissertation is a year-course, which means that the student must start with the work during the first semester. For students who opt for the Africa-track during the first semester, this thus further implies that they will need to have both a topic and a UGent supervisor before they leave for the field!

**Contents**

The student writes a paper of the genre 'scientific article', in Dutch or English, and between **7,000** and **12,500** words long, including footnotes and the references (but excluding addenda).

**Initial competences**

Having gained sufficient critical reflection in previous years of study.

**Final competences**

- 1 Being able to independently formulate a research question.
- 2 Being able to reach the answer to that research question independently and in a scientific manner.
- 3 Being able to reflect critically about a research topic.
- 4 Being able to frame a research question in a wider context.
- 5 Being able to delimit and process the scientific literature of a certain field.
- 6 Being able to use generative AI (which is allowed and encouraged), being fully aware of the ethical and deontological implications.

**Conditions for credit contract**

This course unit cannot be taken via a credit contract

**Conditions for exam contract**

This course unit cannot be taken via an exam contract

**Teaching methods**

Independent work

**Extra information on the teaching methods**

It is a shared responsibility of the student, the supervisor and/or the adviser to hold at least three meetings during the bachelor dissertation process. Participation in these meetings is required to submit the written dissertation.

**Study material**

Type: Other

Name: To be discussed with the supervisor.

Indicative price: Free or paid by faculty

Optional: no

**References**

To be discussed with the supervisor.

**Course content-related study coaching**

See the 'roadmap' in the Vademecum of the BA AL&C.

**Assessment moments**

continuous assessment

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

Assignment

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

examination during the second examination period is possible

**Calculation of the examination mark**

The student is evaluated by the supervisor who supervised him/her for the BA dissertation and by a second reader who is a member of the academic and/or teaching staff of the Department of African Languages and Cultures and chosen by the examination board based on the topic of the thesis. Both submit their marks to the secretary of the examination committee, who, after (electronic) deliberation within the examination committee, enters the final mark in Oasis.

**Facilities for Working Students**

To be discussed with the supervisor.