

Research Assignment (A005333)

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, English Gent

Lecturers in academic year 2026-2027

de Schryver, Gilles-Maurice LW21 lecturer-in-charge

Offered in the following programmes in 2026-2027

	crdts	offering
Linking Course Master of Arts in African Studies	5	A
Preparatory Course Master of Arts in African Studies	5	A

Teaching languages

English, Dutch

Keywords

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.

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

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

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 research-task process. Participation in

these meetings is required to submit the written research task.

Study material

None

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 assessed by the supervisor who has supervised him or her in the research project and by a second examiner who is a member of the academic and/or teaching staff of the Department of African Languages and Cultures and has been selected by the Examination Board on the basis of the thesis topic. Both submit their marks to the secretary of the Examination Board, who, following (electronic) deliberation within the Examination Board, enters the final mark into Oasis.

Facilities for Working Students

To be discussed with the supervisor.