

Master's Dissertation (A005440)

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

Credits 29.0

Study time 870 h

Course offerings in academic year 2023-2024

A (Year)

Dutch

Gent

Lecturers in academic year 2023-2024

| | | |
|------------------------|------|--------------------|
| Dralans, Sophie | LW02 | staff member |
| Bretschneider, Joachim | LW02 | lecturer-in-charge |
| Crombé, Philippe | LW02 | co-lecturer |
| De Clercq, Wim | LW02 | co-lecturer |
| Deforce, Koen | LW02 | co-lecturer |
| De Groote, Isabelle | LW02 | co-lecturer |
| De Mulder, Guy | LW02 | co-lecturer |
| De Smedt, Philippe | LW02 | co-lecturer |
| Devolder, Maud | LW02 | co-lecturer |
| Docter, Roald | LW02 | co-lecturer |
| Maes, Pieter-Jan | LW17 | co-lecturer |
| Vandenabeele, Peter | LW02 | co-lecturer |
| Van Poucke, Peter | LW17 | co-lecturer |
| Vermeulen, Frank | LW02 | co-lecturer |

Offered in the following programmes in 2023-2024

| | crdts | offering |
|---|--------------|-----------------|
| Master of Science in Teaching in Arts and Humanities (main subject Archaeology) | 29 | A |

Teaching languages

Dutch

Keywords

Scientific research in archaeology; (scientific) communication

Position of the course

This advanced course is the concluding general course unit of the educational master's programme in archaeology. It builds on the competences acquired in the Bachelor's course in archaeology. The course unit contributes to the realisation of the basic competencies for teachers and the educational competencies of the educational master's programme at UGent, as included in the competency matrix, to be consulted on www.ugent.be/educatievemaster. The formulated educational competences should be realised on the basis of specialised and integrated learning results in an unknown and uncertain situation without clearly defined preconditions and with an explicit final responsibility.

Contents

In this course unit, students work on an extensive research paper, on the basis of which they demonstrate their ability to carry out independent scientific research: formulating a problem definition based on recent literature, collecting and interpreting archaeological source material and communicating the research results. The theme of this research paper can be situated within the archaeology of one of the studied areas or periods, or with methodological aspects of archaeology, geoarchaeology and natural sciences in archaeology, and is determined by the student after consultation with the staff members who are responsible for the field of expertise concerned. In the course of the semester, the student reports on a regular basis about the developments of the research work to the supervisor(s), who supervise the proper progress

and make adjustments where necessary. This paper is a further elaboration of the acquired competences in the bachelor's paper and can be linked to them in terms of content. The official language of this course is Dutch, but some activities may be conducted in English, French or another language (depending on the subject). The thesis and oral defence may be conducted in English, French or another language, following a justified request and approval from the examination committee.

Initial competences

Have acquired all the final competences of the subject 'Academic Skills III' (Bachelor's thesis).
At least passive knowledge of English, French and German in order to be able to consult professional literature.

Final competences

- 1 Deepening the complexity of a specific area in one's own archaeological research and practice.
- 2 Using advanced understanding of the archaeological conceptual framework to analyse and evaluate new and complex ideas.
- 3 Critically analyse new and complex archaeological ideas from historical frameworks, social visions and geographical realities.
- 4 Independently apply methods and techniques and collect, document, analyse and process scientific archaeological remains.
- 5 Have the attitude to use the best research methods in professional archaeological activities or study.
- 6 Original and well-founded critical use of international archaeological scientific literature.
- 7 Writing a coherent and relevant strategy for archaeological research and implementing it independently.
- 8 Independently select and carry out appropriate analysis techniques and critically interpret the results in archaeological research.
- 9 Independently identify dynamics, processes or recurrences in complex historical and archaeological situations.
- 10 Have an attitude of integrity that demonstrates scientific (archaeological) curiosity, critical reflection and a spirit of lifelong learning.
- 11 Writing down your own archaeological research in a high-quality report.
- 12 Present and justify own archaeological research to experts, peers and non-experts.
- 13 Communicating, cooperating and acting in an appropriate, inspiring, advisory or authoritative manner.

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

Master's dissertation

Extra information on the teaching methods

Guided self-study: personal preparation for the integration seminars
Integration seminars: 3 sessions, spread over the year, in which students critically discuss their progress among themselves and under the guidance of one or more lecturers.
Master's thesis: individual supervision by supervisor(s); preparation of the defence.

Learning materials and price

Through UFORA the following documents are made available:

- a brochure with guidelines for writing a Master's thesis
 - an overview of the dates when the research methodology seminars take place.
- Specific literature related to the thesis is searched for by the student himself.
- Computer or word processor
 - Use of library and electronic files.
 - The contents of the course bundle belonging to the BA-courses Academic Skills I-III is assumed to be known.

Estimated cost: € 20 + printing cost master thesis

References

Depending on the chosen subject.

Course content-related study coaching

Interactive support through UFORA (forums), e-mail, TEAMS or ZOOM, in person: by electronic appointment, seminars research methodology.
Students are expected to contact their supervisor(s) regularly to discuss the progress of their project.

Assessment moments

end-of-term and continuous assessment

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

Oral assessment

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

Oral assessment

Examination methods in case of permanent assessment

Participation, Assignment

Possibilities of retake in case of permanent assessment

examination during the second examination period is possible in modified form

Extra information on the examination methods

Assessment criteria and procedures are stipulated in the infobrochure Master's Thesis which is made available through UFORA. The student is assessed on the basis of the submitted thesis and his/her oral presentation and defence. The latter takes place after the submission of the thesis. Evaluation by supervisor and at least one reading commissioner. Oral (defence): 15 minutes presentation and 15 minutes questioning. The supervisor is available to the students for feedback on the final score.

Calculation of the examination mark

Assessment of the thesis: 75%, whereby the assessment of the supervisor(s) on the one hand and the reading committee(s) on the other hand carry equal weight.
Oral presentation and defence: 25%, whereby the presentation and defence have equal weight. During the oral presentation, the students make use of digital visual material (e.g. PowerPoint), which will also be assessed.
Students who are legitimately absent during the research methodology seminars have to make up for it via an alternative assignment. Unjustified absence from the research methodology seminars results in a final grade of 0/20 and exclusion from the oral presentation and defence of the master's thesis.

Facilities for Working Students

Possibility of exemption from attendance with replacement assignment in consultation with the lecturer.
No possibility to take the exam at another time.
Possibility of feedback after appointment.