Course Specifications
Valid as from the academic year 2023-2024

Methodology II (A005452)

Course size

Credits 3.0
Study time 90 h

Course offerings and teaching methods in academic year 2023-2024
A (semester 2) Dutch Gent

seminar
independent work
peer teaching

Lecturers in academic year 2023-2024
Dikova-Milanova, Miglena LW21 staff member
Geerardyn, Tilde LW21 staff member
Moravcevic, Slobodanka LW21 staff member
Petric Lasnik, Ivana LW21 staff member
Saelman, Helena LW21 staff member
Stern, Dieter LW21 lecturer-in-charge
Dhooge, Ben LW21 co-lecturer
Troch, Pieter LW21 co-lecturer
Yudin, Aleksey LW21 co-lecturer

Offered in the following programmes in 2023-2024
Bachelor of Arts in East European Languages and Cultures 3 A
Preparatory Course Master of Arts in East European Languages and Cultures 3 A

Teaching languages
Dutch

Keywords
Methodology, academic writing skills, reflexion, reviewing, Slavic and East European Studies

Position of the course
This course aims at preparing students for writing up their BA theses. It builds upon the skills acquired in the course Methodology I. The students' knowledge and familiarity with methodological approaches applied in Slavic and East European studies shall be increased and deepened by teaching them to critically assess secondary source materials through the medium of review writing. Furthermore, diverse aspects of academic writing will be addressed and trained. The course is meant as a practical guidance through the process of formulating, writing and completing a BA thesis in the field of Slavic and East European studies.

Contents
The course consists of tutorials supporting students in searching and finding suitable literature for their BA theses. It further focuses on critical close reading of relevant source literature by teaching students to properly identify basic assets and ideas and to critically assess conflicting viewpoints, situating them within their specific methodological framework. The students will be made acquainted with the basic features of the genre of review writing. They will be trained to become critical readers, capable of formulating a viewpoint of their own on pertinent issues. The tutorials are meant to supervise and support the process of writing up BA theses. Students are expected to learn how to build up and structure an argument making adequate use of secondary source material, footnotes and quotes according to academic standards. A further aim is to monitor language use to make students write in a well-balanced, readable academic style. Students are expected to provide peer review comments on draft chapters of their colleagues' BA theses.

(Approved)
Initial competences
Successfully having attended Methodology I

Final competences
1 A thorough knowledge of pertinent methods of scientific research within Slavonic and East European Studies.
2 Being able to deal critically with scientific literature (by writing a review)
3 Application of acquired knowledge and competences in writing up your BA thesis
4 Capability of properly applying research skills (critical assessment of sources, building up an argument, setting up a complex text structure, appropriate use of language style, correct use and application of footnotes and other devices)
5 Application of different aspects of scientific literature research: searching and summarising relevant literature, critically comparing and analysing it
6 to devise and set up a research project under supervision
7 to formulate an extensive problem and precise research questions on the basis of summarizing research
8 to communicate over one's research in Dutch and in one of the target languages
9 to formulate constructive feedback in an open dialogue
10 Observing the rules of scientific integrity.

Conditions for credit contract
Access to this course unit via a credit contract is determined after successful competences assessment

Conditions for exam contract
This course unit cannot be taken via an exam contract

Teaching methods
Seminar, Lecture, Independent work, Peer teaching

Extra information on the teaching methods
Seminary on campus: tutorials aiming at illustrating and explaining basic academic skills en genres.
self-study: writing an outline in Dutch and some parts in the target language (an abstract, table of contents and a short piece in the introduction); writing a scientific review and two response papers based on scientific lectures/reading exercise

Microteaching: writing two peer reports on these submitted designs

Because of COVID-19, modified forms of work can be rolled out if necessary.

Learning materials and price
Course script “Onderzoek en wetenschapscommunicatie over Oost-Europa: methodologische richtlijnen voor slavisten in spe” (2020) and additional illustratieve material (e.g. examples of book reviews) on Ufora.

References

Course content-related study coaching
Since the course is organized in the form of tutorials, immediate feedback can be provided on all relevant matters. Each teacher may be consulted on the specific topics taught by them.

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
Participation, Peer and/or self assessment, 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

(Approved)
Non-period evaluation:

- 2 response papers based on scientific lectures
- 1 scientific review (report) with introduction in the target language;
- 1 outline (document from the BA test);
- 2 peer-reports on project designs by fellow students;
- 1 abstract in the target language

**Calculation of the examination mark**

Non-period evaluation: 100%
- 2 response papers: 10%
- 1 scientific review: 20%
- 1 set-up: 30%
- 2 peer evaluations: 15%
- 1 abstract: 10%
- participation: 15%

Compulsory participation in all non-period-bound forms of evaluation.

**Facilities for Working Students**

Absences are allowed

i. No additional supportive course material will be provided

ii. Supportive learning materials will be provided (specify what exactly: slides, lesson recording, online learning path, etc.)

No opportunity to take an exam at another time

Possibility of feedback at a different time: by appointment

(Approved)