

## Low Countries Studies (A005539)

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

**Credits 3.0**

**Study time 90 h**

**Contact hrs**

22.0h

**Course offerings and teaching methods in academic year 2022-2023**

A (semester 2)

English

Gent

seminar

5.0h

lecture

12.5h

online discussion group

5.0h

**Lecturers in academic year 2022-2023**

De Reu, Martine

LW51

staff member

T'Sjoen, Yves

LW07

lecturer-in-charge

**Offered in the following programmes in 2022-2023**

[European Master of Science in Clinical Linguistics](#)

**crdts**

3

**offering**

A

[Micro-credential Low Countries Studies](#)

3

A

[Exchange Programme History](#)

3

A

**Teaching languages**

English

**Keywords**

Low Countries, culture, identity, history, art history, ethics, economy

**Position of the course**

This general introductory course aims to provide an insight into the history and current society of the Low Countries (Belgium, the Netherlands and Luxembourg) in all its facets. In addition to this, the course aims to stimulate students to reflect on their own cultural identity in relation to the identities within the society of the Low Countries.

**Contents**

Twelve lectures deal with just as many aspects of the historical, social, economic, political and cultural situation of the Low Countries in the present and the past. The specific topics are announced each year on the course website (<https://www.ugent.be/lw/lcs/en/programme>).

**Initial competences**

No specific prior knowledge required.

**Final competences**

- 1 The student has advanced knowledge of various aspects of the historical, social, economic, political and cultural situation of the Low Countries, past and present.
- 2 The student is able to collect, select and critically process relevant (historical) scientific information in the field of various aspects of the historical, social, economic, political and cultural situation of the Low Countries in the present and the past. He/she can reflect on it, synthesize the results, report and communicate on the findings.
- 3 The student recognizes the influence of his/her own ideas and presuppositions on the analysis of historical, social, economic, political and cultural situations of a (possibly temporary) host country.
- 4 The student is receptive to the value of diversity in multicultural contexts.

**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**

Online discussion group, Seminar, Lecture

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

Self-reliant study activities: a short introduction to the theme is posted in Ufora for each lecture. Students go through this information and come to class prepared.

Lectures: deal with various aspects of the historical, social, economic, political and cultural situation of the Low Countries, past and present.

Seminar: after each lecture there is an (oral) group discussion.

Online discussion group: after the lecture + (oral) group discussion, students post at least nine times a reflection on a lecture in the discussion forum within the online learning environment Ufora.

### **Learning materials and price**

Syllabus (PowerPoint slides of the lectures, further background information) is offered through the online learning environment Ufora.

### **References**

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

### **Assessment moments**

end-of-term and continuous assessment

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

Assignment

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

Assignment

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

Participation

### **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**

1) Participation: after each lecture, the students post a short reflection (approx. 300 words) in the appropriate discussion forum. The students are encouraged to interact with each other in this way. Students are expected to respond to at least nine of the twelve lectures.

2) Assignment: after the completion of the course, students write an essay (approx. 4000 words). For this essay, students can choose from two options. Or they write a reflection on the entire program: what was interesting, what are the most striking differences with the home country, which subjects were clearly lacking (always thoroughly substantiated); or they write an essay on one topic from the course, comparing thoroughly the situation in Belgium with the situation in their home country. The comparison must be accompanied by a reflection on the differences.

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

Contributions to the online discussion forum: 30%

Essay: 70%

If one does not take part without a valuable reason in one of the evaluation forms (1-2), then one can not pass and will, if his or her total would be more than 8/20, get a final score of max. 7/20.