

Global Minds (A005569)

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

Credits 5.0

Study time 150 h

Course offerings and teaching methods in academic year 2025-2026

A (semester 2)

English

Gent

lecture

group work

seminar

Lecturers in academic year 2025-2026

Van Gijssel, Leen

LW03 staff member

Frankl, Amaury

WE12 lecturer-in-charge

Boeckx, Pascal

LA24 co-lecturer

Defloor, Bart

EB21 co-lecturer

Desmet, Ellen

RE22 co-lecturer

Keygnaert, Ines

GE39 co-lecturer

Levecke, Bruno

DIO4 co-lecturer

Lietaert, Ine

PP04 co-lecturer

Vanhaute, Eric

LW03 co-lecturer

Offered in the following programmes in 2025-2026

[Bachelor of Arts in History](#)

crdts

offering

5

A

[Bachelor of Laws in Laws](#)

5

A

[Bachelor of Science in Political Science](#)

5

A

[Master of Science in Teaching in Science and Technology\(main subject Biology\)](#)

5

A

[Master of Science in Teaching in Social Sciences\(main subject Sociology\)](#)

5

A

[Master of Science in Complementary Studies in Business Economics\(main subject Business Economics\)](#)

5

A

[Master of Science in Sustainable Land Management\(main subject Land and Groundwater Management\)](#)

5

A

[Master of Science in Sustainable Land Management\(main subject Urban Land Engineering \)](#)

5

A

[Master of Arts in Global Studies](#)

5

A

[Master of Science in Biology](#)

5

A

[Master of Science in Electromechanical Engineering](#)

5

A

[Master of Science in Engineering: Architecture](#)

5

A

[Master of Science in Engineering: Ships and Marine Technology](#)

5

A

[Master of Science in Engineering: Ships and Marine Technology](#)

5

A

[Master of Science in Geography and Geomatics](#)

5

A

[Master of Science in Mechanical and Electrical Systems Engineering](#)

5

A

[Master of Science in Sociology](#)

5

A

[Master of Science in Sociology](#)

5

A

[Exchange Programme Global Studies and World Societies](#)

5

A

[Exchange Programme History](#)

5

A

[Exchange Programme in Political and Social Sciences](#)

5

A

[Linking Course Master of Science in Social Work and Social Welfare Studies](#)

5

A

[Ghent University Elective Courses](#)

5

A

[Ghent University Elective Courses](#)

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A

[Ghent University Elective Courses](#)

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Ghent University Elective Courses	5	A
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Teaching languages

English

Keywords

global challenges, global justice, critical global citizenship, Global South, interdisciplinarity, multi-perspectivism

Position of the course

Due to the nature of the subject and the activating working methods (including group work), registration for this course is possible until 14 February at the latest.

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This course offers a critical introduction to global challenges and debates on global justice from different scientific disciplines. It focuses on the interaction between science and society and allows students from different scientific backgrounds to reflect critically and ethically on the international and global dimensions of their own discipline and work field.

Exchange students may take up this course unit, for which no prior knowledge of Dutch is required.

Contents

The course promotes critical reflection on and critical engagement with global challenges and an ethical relationship to difference, complexity and power asymmetries. It does so by addressing unequal power relations in historical and contemporary processes of globalization, highlighting multiple scientific and societal perspectives, with special attention to perspectives from the global South. Interdisciplinarity and multiperspectivism are central to the course, addressing not only convergences and similarities, but also embracing difference and debating conflicting positions in the academic and societal debate on global challenges and global justice.

Initial competences

Final competences

- 1 Reflect critically and ethically on the global dimensions of one's own academic discipline and work field. Point out different scientific and societal perspectives, and especially perspectives of the Global South.
- 2 Grow in intercultural critical skills (such as respect for diversity, pluralism and solidarity) and interdisciplinary collaboration.
- 3 Being aware of the multifaceted nature of global challenges and demonstrate a willingness to integrate other perspectives in one's own academic work.

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

Group work, Seminar, Lecture, Independent work

Extra information on the teaching methods

Thematic modules with an introductory lecture, followed by group work: the aim is to set-up group discussions and portfolio-assignments around each of the respective modules. As such, we aim to stimulate the interdisciplinary perspective bottom-up: students engage in interaction around the global challenges from their

own interdisciplinary background and aim to arrive at complementary understandings.

To achieve this aim, we will divide the group in smaller groups of max 10 students (dependent on the total number of students) and these groups will be (necessarily) interdisciplinary and (preferably) also internationally mixed.

Study material

Type: Slides

Name: Slides

Indicative price: Free or paid by faculty

Optional: no

Language : English

Available on Ufora : Yes

References

Course content-related study coaching

Ufora, tutor

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, 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

100% continuous assessment: participation, group work, individual assignments. Students have to successfully follow all modules. Full and active participation in all the components of the course is mandatory in order to pass.

Calculation of the examination mark

The final mark is a combination of the marks on the group assignments and the individual assignments (including participation, reflection tasks).

Facilities for Working Students

Class attendance is mandatory and will be included in the calculation of the final mark.