

Bachelor's Dissertation (A005647)

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

Credits 10.0

Study time 300 h

Course offerings in academic year 2026-2027

A (Year)

Dutch

Gent

Lecturers in academic year 2026-2027

Bleys, Kjell	LW01	staff member
Lefever, Merel	LW01	staff member
Schreel, Louis	LW01	staff member
Vanmeerhaeghe, Emilie	LW17	staff member
Vercoutere, Sofie	LW01	staff member
Vervisch, Thomas	LW01	staff member
Claes, Tom	LW01	lecturer-in-charge

Offered in the following programmes in 2026-2027

[Bachelor of Arts in Moral Sciences](#)

crdts	offering
10	A

Teaching languages

Dutch

Keywords

Bachelor's thesis, Research assignment, Academic paper, Research competencies, Literature review, Argumentation competencies, Reporting, Ethics, Moral Science.

Position of the course

This course component constitutes the capstone of the bachelor's programme in moral sciences and, as such, integrates and realises essential competencies from that programme. The research elaborated in the bachelor's thesis realises competencies in moral philosophy, moral science, and normative ethics, through the development and substantiation of an ethical argument and position. As such, it is a continuation of the philosophical ethics courses, and in particular the course in normative ethics, that the student follows during the bachelor's programme.

Contents

Under the supervision of a promotor, the student works on a bachelor's paper that connects to the research profile of the Department of Philosophy and Moral Science at Ghent University, thereby realising essential competencies in moral philosophy and moral science.

The topic is determined in consultation with the promotor and must be approved by him/her. The promotor or supervisor oversees the progressive acquisition of a scientific habitus.

The written work contains a well-considered and clearly structured elaboration and argumentation of the research topic, with correct use of footnotes and a bibliographic reference system.

Throughout the year, group seminars are organised. During these sessions, the progress of the bachelor's thesis is discussed and students receive interim assignments that contribute to the attainment of the final competencies.

Initial competences

To possess sufficient critical reflection, research, and reporting skills that are further developed during the writing process and in the paper itself. To have

successfully completed the courses Introduction to Philosophical and Moral Scientific Research and Normative Ethics, or to have acquired the competencies aimed at therein by other means.

Final competences

- 1 Having a critical insight in selected domains in philosophy that tie in with the bachelorpaper.
- 2 Having a critical insight in the links between philosophical issues and social, cultural and (if needed) scientific developments.
- 3 Being able to develop a research project on bachelor level.
- 4 To be able to critically reflect on one's own views and to substantiate them argumentatively in dialogue with philosophical, ethical, and moral scientific sources.
- 5 To communicate orally and in writing about the results of philosophical, ethical, and moral scientific research with both specialists and non-specialists.

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

Independent work

Study material

Type: Syllabus

Name: Bachelor's paper

Indicative price: Free or paid by faculty

Optional: no

Language : Dutch

Available on Ufora : Yes

Type: Slides

Name: Slides

Indicative price: Free or paid by faculty

Optional: no

Language : Dutch

Available on Ufora : Yes

References

Depends on the chosen project.

Course content-related study coaching

By the promoter and other members of the department.

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

Extra information on the examination methods

Written work: the evaluation is carried out by the promotor and a second reader. The evaluation is conducted by means of a rubric and a written assessment report. In evaluating the bachelor's thesis, the student is assessed both on his/her knowledge of ethics and moral science, and on ethical and scientific competencies. The student's intellectual attitude and insight into the relationship between ethics and society, the individual, and contemporary issues also play a role in the assessment. The work process and the student's active collaboration with the promotor and other supporting staff members are likewise taken into account in

the evaluation.

A second examination opportunity is possible, provided the student has passed the component 'participation' in the first examination period.

Calculation of the examination mark

Written paper: 80%

Participation: participation in the group seminars including mid-term assignments (20%).

When a student fails one of the two components, they cannot pass the course unit as a whole. Should the final score nonetheless amount to ten or more out of twenty, it is reduced to the highest non-deliberable grade.

Facilities for Working Students

In consultation with the supervisor and the collaborators of this course.