

French Literature: Overview (A005767)

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 2026-2027

A (semester 1)	French	Gent	seminar	0.0h
			independent work	0.0h
			lecture	0.0h

Lecturers in academic year 2026-2027

Theeten, Griet LW07 lecturer-in-charge

Offered in the following programmes in 2026-2027

	crdts	offering
Bachelor of Arts in Linguistics and Literature(main subject Dutch - French)	5	A
Bachelor of Arts in Linguistics and Literature(main subject French - English)	5	A
Bachelor of Arts in Linguistics and Literature(main subject French - German)	5	A
Bachelor of Arts in Linguistics and Literature(main subject French - Greek)	5	A
Bachelor of Arts in Linguistics and Literature(main subject French - Italian)	5	A
Bachelor of Arts in Linguistics and Literature(main subject French - Latin)	5	A
Bachelor of Arts in Linguistics and Literature(main subject French - Spanish)	5	A
Bachelor of Arts in Linguistics and Literature(main subject French - Swedish)	5	A
Exchange Programme Linguistics and Literature	5	A
Linking Course Master of Arts in Linguistics and Literature(main subject French)	5	A
Preparatory Course Master of Arts in Linguistics and Literature(main subject Dutch - French)	5	A
Preparatory Course Master of Arts in Linguistics and Literature(main subject French)	5	A
Preparatory Course Master of Arts in Linguistics and Literature(main subject French - English)	5	A
Preparatory Course Master of Arts in Linguistics and Literature(main subject French - German)	5	A
Preparatory Course Master of Arts in Linguistics and Literature(main subject French - Italian)	5	A
Preparatory Course Master of Arts in Linguistics and Literature(main subject French - Spanish)	5	A

Teaching languages

French

Keywords

French, literature

Position of the course

This basic course wants to provide an introduction to the history of French Literature and to the analysis of literary texts. The course wants to present the general frame of reference as well as the basic techniques of reading. As a whole, this course forms the basis for later literary studies.

Exchange students may take up this course unit, provided they have the required language proficiency and initial competencies. No prior knowledge of Dutch is required.

Contents

This basic course introduces students to the major periods of French literary history from the 17th to the 21st century. Through a series of case studies,

students are introduced to how to analyze and interpret literary texts, using correct French terminology. Emphasis is placed on major canonical authors. Students prepare the reading of the selected text. During the class, the teacher works out a comprehensive analysis, based on a discussion with the students.

Initial competences

Language competencies in French corresponding to the final competencies in French of the 6th year of secondary education ASO in Flanders.

Final competences

- 1 To be able to discuss a short literary text (novel, fragment) in an organized way in correct French.
- 2 Have basic knowledge of French literary history and be able to situate literary texts within it.
- 3 Have knowledge of the basic concepts of literary text analysis.
- 4 To show the ability to think analytically and synthetically during commentary on texts. Be able to use learned literary analysis methods and terminology in the process.
- 5 To be able to reflect on personal reading with an eye for problems.
- 6 To recognise the importance of contextualisation (intertextual, historical, biographical).

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

Access to this course unit via an exam contract is unrestricted

Teaching methods

Seminar, Lecture, Independent work

Extra information on the teaching methods

Students prepare the reading of the selected texts. During class, the lecturer works out a comprehensive analysis, based on a discussion with the students. Personal reading completes the whole.

Lecture-based sessions are recorded and made available to specific target groups (upon request).

Study material

Type: Handbook

Name: Histoire de la littérature française

Indicative price: € 16

Optional: no

Author : Xavier Darcos

Type: Slides

Name: Slides

Indicative price: Free or paid by faculty

Optional: no

Available on Ufora : Yes

Type: Reader

Name: Choix de textes

Indicative price: Free or paid by faculty

Optional: no

Available on Ufora : Yes

Type: Other

Name: Novels for personal reading

Indicative price: € 20

Optional: yes

Additional information: Approxamitaly three novels, available in folio edition; can also be borrowed from the library.

The titles will be announced via Ufora at the start of the lectures.

References

Course content-related study coaching

- Questions asked during the lecture courses.
- Specific questions can be asked to the lecturer (by appointment).

Assessment moments

end-of-term assessment

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

Written assessment

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

Written assessment

Examination methods in case of permanent assessment**Possibilities of retake in case of permanent assessment**

not applicable

Extra information on the examination methods

Written exam (100%) with open-ended questions that probe both knowledge and critical understanding in the analysis of texts covered during classes and of personal reading.

Calculation of the examination mark

written examen (100%)

Facilities for Working Students

1. Class attendance is recommended to successfully complete the course
2. It is possible to take the exam at a different time
3. Possibility to receive feedback at another time: by appointment