

Ancient Greek Literature: Genres and Periods (A005779)

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

Credits 5.0 **Study time 150 h**

Course offerings in academic year 2026-2027

A (semester 2) Dutch Gent

Lecturers in academic year 2026-2027

Vanacker, Katrien	LW07	staff member
Demoen, Kristoffel	LW07	lecturer-in-charge

Offered in the following programmes in 2026-2027

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

Teaching languages

Dutch

Keywords

Ancient Greek, literature

Position of the course

This basic course teaches students how to understand Greek texts from different genres and periods and to place them within the wider context of the history of Greek literature from antiquity to the medieval period.

Contents

Reading and interpretation of Greek literary texts from various genres and periods (complete short texts and parts of larger texts), complementing and building on the course 'Ancient Literature in Translation'.

The first part of each class deals with slightly more difficult Greek literary texts (mostly poetry, different dialects) which will be discussed in detail by the lecturer.

In the second part of each class, the lecturer and students discuss a selection of Greek literary prose texts, which the students have already read at home in preparation of the classes. The final classes will be devoted to later phases of literary history to give the students a first taste of the rich and uninterrupted tradition of Greek literature after Antiquity.

There is also a compulsory reader with texts in translation and an assignment (essay) on one of the authors discussed during the course.

Within the student's learning curve of language proficiency, this course contributes to the development of reading skills, with a focus on comprehensive reading and literary discourse, by means of individual exercise and joint reading sessions.

Initial competences

Students have completed the courses Ancient Literature in Translation and Ancient Greek: language acquisition I or have acquired the necessary skills by other means.

Final competences

1 To be able to illustrate Greek literary genres by means of the original texts.

- 2 To be able to situate Greek literary texts in their historical context.
- 3 To be able to analyse and interpret classical and post-classical prose texts stylistically and content-wise.
- 4 To be familiar with the variations in style, language and register within and between the literary Attic of different genres and periods.
- 5 To be able to compile a correct academic bibliography on a specific topic from Greek Literature.
- 6 To be able to write a comprehensible and critical academic essay based on secondary literature in international languages.
- 7 To be acquainted with the principles of Greek Meter.

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, Practical, Independent work

Extra information on the teaching methods

- Lectures (with preparation by the students)
- Independent work: personal reading and essay
- Seminar (heuristics, feedback sessions essay, exercises in prosody and scansion)

Study material

Type: Syllabus

Name: Reader

Indicative price: € 10

Optional: no

Available through Student Association : Yes

Type: Slides

Name: Slides

Indicative price: Free or paid by faculty

Optional: no

Available on Ufora : Yes

References

Course content-related study coaching

assistance with the personal reading; feedback

Assessment moments

end-of-term and continuous assessment

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

Oral assessment

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

Oral assessment

Examination methods in case of permanent assessment

Assignment

Possibilities of retake in case of permanent assessment

examination during the second examination period is possible

Extra information on the examination methods

Assessment form

An oral exam with written preparation, designed to test the students' knowledge of the subject-matter (translation, explanation and interpretation of the texts studied).

In case of a make-up exam at a later date, the responsible lecturers can decide to use a different form of examination (written or oral via videoconference).

Essay.

In case of a second chance exam in the second examination period, students can be exempted from submitting the essay anew. There are no exemptions for the oral exam.

Calculation of the examination mark

Periodical (80%).

Essay (20%)

Facilities for Working Students

1. Class attendance is recommended to successfully complete the course, but absence is allowed.
 2. No online/digital facilities (lectures take place on campus, without recordings)
 3. Possible rescheduling of the examination to a different time in the same academic year
 4. Feedback can be given by appointment (online or on campus).
- For more information concerning flexible learning: contact the monitoring service of the faculty of Arts and philosophy