

Ancient Greeks Literature: Epic (A005783)

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 |
| Exchange Programme Linguistics and Literature | 5 | A |
| Preparatory Course Master of Arts in Linguistics and Literature(main subject Greek) | 5 | A |

Teaching languages

Dutch

Keywords

Ancient Greek, literature, epic.

Position of the course

This advanced course wants to make the students familiar with important poetic genres. It also demonstrates how to apply methods of ancient and modern literary theory to ancient Greek literary texts.

An important side-objective of the course is to have the students read canonical texts, both in Greek and in translation.

Exchange students may take up this course unit. The lecturers will provide an alternative with proper guidance, for which no prior knowledge of Dutch is required. Exchange students will be set an alternative exam.

Contents

Study of the cultural and historical context; reading and interpretation of an extensive selection of the Iliad (verses from all 24 books), and more limited passages from the Odyssey and some post-classical epic poems.

Initial competences

To have completed the courses Classics in Translation, Ancient Greek Literature I, and Ancient Greek linguistics I, or to have acquired the necessary skills by other means.

Students are expected to have a good knowledge of Homeric Greek (morphology, syntax) and a basic knowledge of Greek metre (dactylic hexameter).

Final competences

- 1 To have a knowledge of the historical meaning and place of the studied texts and genres within the evolution of ancient Greek literature.
- 2 To be able to put the methods of analysis of literary theory into practice.
- 3 To be able to explain and indicate metrical, stylistic and thematic characteristics

of the studied genre in selected passages.

- 4 To be able to understand, explain and interpret Greek literary texts.
- 5 To be able to read Greek texts independently making use of standard academic tools (dictionaries, editions and commentaries).
- 6 To be able to write an academic paper and/or to present the result of one's research to the fellow students.

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, Practical, Independent work, Peer teaching

Extra information on the teaching methods

Seminars
Independent work: reading.
Student presentation or essay.

Study material

Type: Handbook

Name: Tekstuitgave Ilias: Loeb Classical Library 170 & 171, of een andere wetenschappelijke tekstuitgave.
Indicative price: € 50
Optional: yes
Language : English
Available in the Library : Yes
Usability and Lifetime within the Course Unit : intensive
Usability and Lifetime within the Study Programme : regularly

Type: Syllabus

Name: Syllabus over achtergrond epos / tekstbundel / leeshulp
Indicative price: € 10
Optional: no
Language : Dutch
Available through Student Association : Yes

Type: Slides

Name: Slides en occasionele handouts
Indicative price: Free or paid by faculty
Optional: no
Language : Dutch
Available on Ufora : Yes

References

Course content-related study coaching

Help with and intermediate feedback on the essay (teaching assistant).
Coaching of the presentation + 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

Presentation, Peer and/or self assessment, 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

Oral exam: explanation and/or translation, situating and interpreting text

fragments.

Calculation of the examination mark

Periodegebonden (75%) + evaluatie essay c.q. presentatie (25%)

Facilities for Working Students

1. Class attendance is recommended to successfully complete the course, but absence is allowed, except for the student presentation.
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).

Extra information:

For more information concerning flexible learning: contact the monitoring service of the faculty of Arts and philosophy