

Translation Studies: Cultural Trends (A005815)

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

Credits 4.0 **Study time 120 h**

Course offerings in academic year 2026-2027

A (semester 1) Dutch Gent

Lecturers in academic year 2026-2027

Spiessens, Anneleen	LW22	lecturer-in-charge
Mus, Francis	LW22	co-lecturer

Offered in the following programmes in 2026-2027

	crdts	offering
Master of Science in Teaching in Languages(main subject Applied Language Studies)	4	A
Master of Arts in Translation: a combination of at least two languages(main subject Dutch, English)	4	A
Master of Arts in Translation: a combination of at least two languages(main subject Dutch, English, French)	4	A
Master of Arts in Translation: a combination of at least two languages(main subject Dutch, English, German)	4	A
Master of Arts in Translation: a combination of at least two languages(main subject Dutch, English, Italian)	4	A
Master of Arts in Translation: a combination of at least two languages(main subject Dutch, English, Russian)	4	A
Master of Arts in Translation: a combination of at least two languages(main subject Dutch, English, Spanish)	4	A
Master of Arts in Translation: a combination of at least two languages(main subject Dutch, English, Turkish)	4	A
Master of Arts in Translation: a combination of at least two languages(main subject Dutch, French)	4	A
Master of Arts in Translation: a combination of at least two languages(main subject Dutch, French, German)	4	A
Master of Arts in Translation: a combination of at least two languages(main subject Dutch, French, Italian)	4	A
Master of Arts in Translation: a combination of at least two languages(main subject Dutch, French, Russian)	4	A
Master of Arts in Translation: a combination of at least two languages(main subject Dutch, French, Spanish)	4	A
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Master of Arts in Translation: a combination of at least two languages(main subject Dutch, German, Italian)	4	A
Master of Arts in Translation: a combination of at least two languages(main subject Dutch, German, Russian)	4	A
Master of Arts in Translation: a combination of at least two languages(main subject Dutch, German, Spanish)	4	A
Master of Arts in Translation: a combination of at least two languages(main subject Dutch, German, Turkish)	4	A
Master of Arts in Translation: a combination of at least two languages(main subject Dutch, Italian)	4	A
Master of Arts in Translation: a combination of at least two languages(main subject Dutch, Russian)	4	A
Master of Arts in Translation: a combination of at least two languages(main subject Dutch, Spanish)	4	A

Teaching languages

Dutch

Keywords

Translation studies, culture, society

Position of the course

This course offers students an encompassing overview of theoretical models in an important strand of contemporary translation studies: literary and cultural aspects of translation. Students are expected to draw on these theoretical and conceptual frameworks to critically reflect on their own research.

A4CS builds on those competences that have already been acquired in the bachelor of applied language studies, namely in:

- Introduction to translation studies (Ba1)
- Dutch: translation from foreign language, language-independent classes (Ba2)
- Bachelor paper (Ba3)

Horizontally (MA), the course ties in with, mainly:

- General translation practice
- Specialized translation practice
- Theory of literary translation
- Master's dissertation

Contents

The first seminar provides an overview of recent theoretical and methodological insights in translation studies after the 'cultural turn'. The following seminars build on academic articles (a fundamental theoretical text or a case study), which will be thoroughly discussed in class and placed within their specific research tradition.

During the semester students work on an assignment that fits one of the course's themes.

Possible themes are: literary translation studies, cultural transfer, translation and ideology, translation ethics, translation sociology, translation and multimodality, transfiction, postcolonial translation studies, memory studies, museum translation, translation and globalization, translation and ecology, audiovisual translation, post-translation studies.

Initial competences

The general competences that can be expected from an academic bachelor, preferably in a discipline related to the study programme.

Final competences

- 1 Having advanced knowledge of translation studies and based on that knowledge, critically reflecting on translation as a process and a product. [MV.1.3; assessed]
- 2 Independently contributing to scientific research relating to one or more specialisms within, or connected to, the scientific study of translation. [MV.2.1; assessed]
- 3 Having a critical understanding of international specialist literature in the field of translation studies, with an eye for new trends and different methodologies. [MV.2.2; assessed]
- 4 Formulating a relevant, realistic research question and designing a fitting method. [assessed]
- 5 Communicating orally on their own research with a specialised audience. [MV.2.4; assessed]
- 6 Underpinning their views in a scientifically justified manner and sharing these with colleagues in a coherent and clear manner. [MV.3.2; assessed]
- 7 Judging and acting with the necessary dose of critical self-reflection in unpredictable, complex and specialist contexts. [MV.3.3; not assessed]
- 8 Displaying a commitment to lifelong learning. [MV.3.4; not assessed]

Conditions for credit contract

Access to this course unit via a credit contract is determined after successful competences assessment

Conditions for exam contract

Access to this course unit via an exam contract is unrestricted

Teaching methods

Group work, Seminar, Excursion

Extra information on the teaching methods

Students prepare each class at home by reading thoroughly the relevant text(s) and formulating questions. The lecturer discusses the literature in class, answers the students' questions and comments, and places the selected text within its broader field of research. Special attention is paid to methodological frameworks. Students are expected to actively express their own thoughts about the different themes and critically reflect on their own research practice.

During the second part of the semester, the students start working on their own research (presentation or assignment), in group or individually.

Study material

Type: Slides

Name: Slides

Indicative price: Free or paid by faculty

Optional: no

Language : Dutch

Available on Ufora : Yes

Type: Reader

Name: Academic articles

Indicative price: Free or paid by faculty

Optional: no

Language : English

Available on Ufora : Yes

References

Provided in the course of the semester.

Course content-related study coaching

Consultation hour

Feedback during seminars

Support via learning platform

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, Assignment

Possibilities of retake in case of permanent assessment

not applicable

Extra information on the examination methods

PE1: individual oral exam

PE2: individual oral exam

NPE: assignment or presentation

IMPORTANT: only students who take part in the non-periodic evaluation during the semester (assignment or presentation) will be admitted to the oral exam. It is mandatory to complete both forms of evaluation.

In exceptional cases (e.g., prolonged illness), an arrangement similar to that for working students can be made.

Calculation of the examination mark

Assignment or presentation (50%)

Individual oral exam (50%)

Facilities for Working Students

Class: Exemption from presence in class can be requested.

Evaluation: (PE) working students present themselves at the regular exam session for the oral exam; (NPE) in consultation with the teacher, a research assignment with slightly adjusted timing can be scheduled.