

## Culture and Society of the Spanish-speaking World (A005864)

**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, Spanish Gent

**Lecturers in academic year 2026-2027**

Goethals, Patrick	LW22	lecturer-in-charge
Vervaeke, Jasper	LW07	co-lecturer

**Offered in the following programmes in 2026-2027**

	<b>crdts</b>	<b>offering</b>
Bachelor of Arts in Applied Language Studies: a combination of at least two languages(main subject Dutch, English, Spanish)	5	A
Bachelor of Arts in Applied Language Studies: a combination of at least two languages(main subject Dutch, French, Spanish)	5	A
Bachelor of Arts in Applied Language Studies: a combination of at least two languages(main subject Dutch, German, Spanish)	5	A
Exchange Programme Applied Language Studies	5	A
Linking Course Master of Arts in Multilingual Communication: a combination of at least two languages	5	A
Linking Course Master of Arts in Translation: a combination of at least two languages	5	A
Preparatory Course Master of Arts in Interpreting: a combination of at least two languages	5	A
Preparatory Course Master of Arts in Multilingual Communication: a combination of at least two languages	5	A
Preparatory Course Master of Arts in Translation: a combination of at least two languages	5	A

**Teaching languages**

Spanish, Dutch

**Keywords**

Spain, Latin America , society, history, politics, the economy, environment, education, image, rights of minorities

**Position of the course**

This course offers a structured insight into recent social developments in Spain and Latin America. Exchange students may take up this course unit. Exchange students may take up just one module, worth 3 credits, of this course unit. No prior knowledge of Dutch is required for this module.

**Contents**

This course unit has two sub-units.

Spain: This module focuses on specific topics related to the recent history of Spanish society from 1982 to the present. Topics are introduced thematically and include: (a) the electoral system, political parties and major political events; (b) regional autonomies in Spain (Basque Country and Catalonia); (c) multilingualism in Spain; (d) the image of Spain abroad; (e) the economical strengths and weaknesses.

Latin America: this module covers social developments in Latin America and the Caribbean. This is done from different perspectives: demographics, health, social issues, media, politics, economics, finance, human rights. a selection from a number of current topics is covered, e.g. North-South relations (in particular relations between the U.S. and some Latin American countries), guerilla, regional

leadership, left/right regimes, economic growth, drug war, corruption, violence, the role of women, indigenous rights.

This course also includes reading assignment (reader and book). Details will be communicated via the electronic learning environment.

Spanish Erasmus students taking this course have to do an extra assignment for the Spain section for the oral exam: they study on their own initiative the outlines of the 80-year War (la Guerra de Flandes) and work out a presentation of about 8 PPT slides (10 min) on a specific topic of their choice.

### **Initial competences**

The knowledge acquired in the courses from the first year Spanish program.  
Spanish language skills at least B1.

### **Final competences**

- 1 Having a command of Spanish at level B2 of the CEFR [M.1.1. ; assessed]
- 2 Having advanced knowledge of the cultural and institutional backgrounds of Spain and Latin America and, based on that knowledge, critically reflecting on social developments and intercultural transfers in Spanish. [M. 1.2.; assessed]
- 3 Actively following new developments in the general context of the language and culture of Spain and Latin America; reflecting on these critically and placing them in a broad context [M. 3.1. ; assessed]

### **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**

This course unit cannot be taken via an exam contract

### **Teaching methods**

Lecture, Independent work

### **Extra information on the teaching methods**

The lessons are being recorded.

### **Study material**

Type: Syllabus

Name: Latin-America  
Indicative price: € 10  
Optional: no

Type: Syllabus

Name: Spain  
Indicative price: € 12  
Optional: no

Type: Other

Name: Novel: title to be communicated  
Indicative price: € 25  
Optional: no

### **References**

### **Course content-related study coaching**

### **Assessment moments**

end-of-term 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**

### **Possibilities of retake in case of permanent assessment**

not applicable

### **Calculation of the examination mark**

Oral exam (100%)

Spain (50%)

S4MO\_LA (50%)

Second session: same

To pass this course, you must achieve an average score of 10, with a minimum score of 8/20 for both parts (Spain and Latin America). It is possible to obtain a partial exemption for the second exam period for the parts Latin America, Spain (course) and reading if you achieve a score of 50% for these parts.

### **Facilities for Working Students**

Absence from lectures is allowed but not additional supporting teaching material is provided (slides and course book are available) Lectures are recorded and can be viewed afterwards It is possible to take the exam at a different time within the regular exam period (the catch-up day for students who were ill during the exams) Possibility to receive feedback at another time: by appointment