

## Methodology: Preparation to Master's Dissertation (A005950)

**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) | Dutch | Gent |                  |      |
|----------------|-------|------|------------------|------|
|                |       |      | peer teaching    | 0.0h |
|                |       |      | independent work | 0.0h |
|                |       |      | seminar          | 0.0h |
|                |       |      | group work       | 0.0h |

### Lecturers in academic year 2026-2027

|                          |      |                    |
|--------------------------|------|--------------------|
| De Keyser, Raissa        | LW21 | staff member       |
| Dikova-Milanova, Miglena | LW21 | staff member       |
| Hanssen, Leander         | LW21 | staff member       |
| Moravcevic, Slobodanka   | LW21 | staff member       |
| Petric Lasnik, Ivana     | LW21 | staff member       |
| Yudin, Aleksey           | LW21 | lecturer-in-charge |
| Dhooge, Ben              | LW21 | co-lecturer        |
| Stern, Dieter            | LW21 | co-lecturer        |
| Troch, Pieter            | LW21 | co-lecturer        |

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

|                                                                                                               | crdts | offering |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------|----------|
| <a href="#">Master of Science in Teaching in Languages(main subject East European Languages and Cultures)</a> | 5     | A        |
| <a href="#">Master of Arts in East European Languages and Cultures</a>                                        | 5     | A        |

### Teaching languages

Dutch

### Keywords

Research (design, presenting, reviewing, ...), Master's thesis, Slavic and East European Studies

### Position of the course

This third and last of the three methodology courses builds on the skills acquired through the Methodology I and II. The students fine-tune their research skills and further refine themselves in methods and aspects of Slavic and East European Studies as a scholarly discipline or conglomerate of scholarly disciplines. The students deepen their knowledge of the methods from the area of the master's thesis research. Through this guided series of individual and group assignments the student perfect themselves in terms of research. Thus, this course is the ultimate preparation for the Master thesis.

### Contents

Guided seminars aimed at having the students - in mutual discussion with their peers - to formulate a research question, to choose an appropriate research method and to design the Master's thesis.

One-on-one workshops with the supervisor, aimed at demarcating the research topic and elaborating a fitting research strategy.

To prepare the research for the Master's thesis on an independent basis.

To further qualify in communicating their own research and the research carried out by others in different languages.

**Initial competences**

To have successfully completed the courses Methodology I and II or to have acquired the necessary skills by other means.

**Final competences**

- 1 To conduct research under limited supervision and on an independent basis.
- 2 To devise and set up original scholarly research under limited supervision and in reflection with others.
- 3 To have and to acquire specialized knowledge of the method(s) of Slavic and East European Studies required to carry out the Master's thesis.
- 4 To reflect critically and constructively, and to communicate in Dutch and the target languages on the specific methods of and research in Slavic and East European Studies.
- 5 To put the earlier acquired knowledge of the target languages into productive use in specific scientific contexts.
- 6 To present one's own research in oral and written form, in Dutch and in the target languages.
- 7 To formulate feedback on the research process by peers in a constructive manner and in open dialogue.
- 8 To adopt a critical attitude towards issues of scientific integrity.

**Conditions for credit contract**

This course unit cannot be taken via a credit contract

**Conditions for exam contract**

This course unit cannot be taken via an exam contract

**Teaching methods**

Group work, Seminar, Independent work, Peer teaching

**Extra information on the teaching methods**

Seminars: guided seminars aimed at honing the students - in mutual discussion with their peers - to take steps in defining a problem and formulating a fitting research question(s) and objectives; in choosing an appropriate theoretical frame and dito research method; in designing the Master's thesis (MA project proposal); in acquiring the necessary presentation skills..

One-on-one workshops with the supervisor, aimed at demarcating the research topic, elaborating a fitting research strategy and carrying out the actual research, including the study of relevant scientific literature (independent work).

Group work: seminars with peers; peer review report.

Output: MA project proposal; an abstract on the thesis in a Slavic language; a presentation on the conducted research in Dutch and in the target language; a peer review report.

**Study material**

Type: Handouts

Name: Handouts, stylesheet, ...

Indicative price: Free or paid by faculty

Optional: no

Available on Ufora : Yes

Online Available : No

Available in the Library : No

Available through Student Association : No

Usability and Lifetime within the Course Unit : regularly

Usability and Lifetime within the Study Programme : regularly

Usability and Lifetime after the Study Programme : not

**References****Course content-related study coaching**

As the course is taught in the form of seminars and one-on-one workshops and several meetings with the supervisor are planned, quick feedback is possible.

**Assessment moments**

continuous assessment

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

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

**Examination methods in case of permanent assessment**

Participation, 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**

Non-periodical evaluation:

- MA proposal
- Abstract of the MA thesis in a Slavic language
- Presentations of the research proposal
- peer review report

If the student does not pass the non-periodical evaluation, a second chance is offered through assignments - in altered form - between the first and second exam period.

**Calculation of the examination mark**

Non-periodical evaluation: 100%

- MA proposal (40%)
- Abstract of the MA thesis and presentation in a Slavic language (15%)
- Abstract and presentation in Dutch (10%)
- Peer review report (in Dutch) (5%)
- Participation (preparations, attendance, logbook) (30%)

**Facilities for Working Students**

Attendance is required to successfully complete the course.

Possibility of feedback at a different time: please make an appointment.