GHENT UNIVERSITY

Course Specifications

Valid as from the academic year 2026-2027

Literature in English: Genre and Innovation (A006667)

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) English Gent

Lecturers in academic year 2026-2027

Van Remoortel, Marianne	LW07	lecturer-in-charge

Offered in the following programmes in 2026-2027	crdts	offering
Master of Science in Teaching in Languages(main subject Linguistics and Literature)	5	A
Master of Arts in Linguistics and Literature(main subject Dutch - English)	5	A
Master of Arts in Linguistics and Literature(main subject English)	5	A
Master of Arts in Linguistics and Literature(main subject English - German)	5	A
Master of Arts in Linguistics and Literature(main subject English - Greek)	5	A
Master of Arts in Linguistics and Literature(main subject English - Italian)	5	A
Master of Arts in Linguistics and Literature(main subject English - Latin)	5	A
Master of Arts in Linguistics and Literature(main subject English - Scandinavian Studies)	5	A
Master of Arts in Linguistics and Literature(main subject English - Spanish)	5	A
Master of Arts in Linguistics and Literature(main subject French - English)	5	A
Exchange Programme Cultures and Languages in Context	5	A
Exchange Programme Linguistics and Literature	5	A

Teaching languages

English

Keywords

poetry, protest, long nineteenth century, literature in English, Digital Humanities

Position of the course

Poetry and Protest.
This course focuses on poetry in English as a medium for social, political and cultural protest in the long nineteenth century. It equips students with a range of traditional and innovative digital research methods to study and analyse this poetry in its original historical contexts.

Contents

This course explores the relationship between poetry in English and social, political, and cultural protest in the long nineteenth century (c. 1780-1920). It studies not only individual poets such as Alfred Tennyson, Elizabeth Barrett Browning, and Dante Gabriel Rossetti but also the close relationship between poetry and major nineteenth-century emancipation movements such as abolitionism, socialism and feminism. By going back to the original publication contexts of protest poetry in, for instance, newspapers and periodicals, the course examines how poetry not only engaged with but also helped shape key events, evolutions, debates and themes (e.g. war, child labour, slavery, women's rights, and the significance of the arts).
Methodologically, this course is situated at the intersection of textual analysis, historical contextualisation, and Digital Humanities. Students will process and build on insights acquired in class in a small research project of their own, and present the results of their research in the form of a blog post on the digital web publishing platform Omeka S.

Initial competences

To have successfully completed at least one of the “English Literature III” courses or to have acquired the necessary skills by others means.
To be competent in analysing poetry.
To master English at CEFR C1 level (“Expert”/“Effective operational” proficiency).

Final competences

1 Demonstrate insight into the relationship between poetry in English and social, political, and cultural protest in the long nineteenth century
2 Analyse poetry in the context of wider social, political and cultural developments.
3 Use digital search environments and strategies to identify research objects;
4 Formulate an original research question about a chosen topic and conduct the research necessary to answer that question;
5 Independently select, use and critically evaluate appropriate theories and concepts;
6 Independently select, use and critically evaluate appropriate digital and traditional research methods, tools, and strategies;
7 Report on the research process and results orally and in writing in academically sound English;
8 Give constructive and academically sound feedback on the work of peers;
9 Publish research data and results digitally.

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

Group work, Seminar, Independent work

Extra information on the teaching methods

• Group work
For their digital research project, students collaborate in groups of two or three.
• Seminar
The poems are analysed and contextualised in class in an interactive and in-depth way. Students are also trained to use a number of digital tools. They share outlines of their projects in small groups, give feedback on each other's work-in-progress, and discuss their ideas collectively. Students are encouraged to ask questions during class and to participate actively in the discussions.
• Independent work
Students are expected to come to class prepared. They prepare for each lecture by studying a number of sources prior to the lecture (for example an article, poem, magazine, ...) and reflecting on a number of guiding questions. Students work individually or in small groups on a digital research project.
All classes take place on campus and are not recorded.

Study material

Type: Slides

Name: Slides
Indicative price: Free or paid by faculty
Optional: no
Language : English
Available on Ufora : Yes

Type: Reader

Name: Reader
Indicative price: Free or paid by faculty
Optional: no
Language : English
Available on Ufora : Yes

Type: Software

Name: Omeka S
Indicative price: Free or paid by faculty
Optional: no
Available on Athena : No
Online Available : Yes

References

Course content-related study coaching

Students can talk to the teacher after class. They can ask questions via the digital learning platform Ufora or make an appointment via email.

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, Peer and/or self assessment, Assignment

Possibilities of retake in case of permanent assessment

examination during the second examination period is possible

Extra information on the examination methods

1. Participation
• active participation in the seminars
2. Peer assessment
• written feedback and active participation in the oral peer feedback session
2. Assignment
• project registration and first outline (intermediate deadlines)
• digital research project (final version)
Responsible use of generative AI tools for the written assignments is permitted.

Calculation of the examination mark

1 Participation: 10%
2 Peer assessment: 20%
3 Digital research project: 70%
If a student fails during the first examination period, their marks for Participation and Peer assessment will be carried over to the second examination period. If a student does not take part in the Participation and Peer Assessment components of the continuous assessment, they may contact the lecture to discuss submitting an alternative assignment during the second examination period.

Facilities for Working Students

1. Attendance is highly recommended for successful completion of the course, as the seminars are interactive and are not recorded.
2. Feedback can be given via appointment during or after office hours.
For more information concerning flexible learning: contact the monitoring service of the faculty of Arts and philosophy