GHENT UNIVERSITY

Course Specifications

Valid as from the academic year 2026-2027

Dutch Linguistics: Construction Grammar (A006694)

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

Credits 5.0 **Study time 150 h**

Course offerings in academic year 2027-2028

A (semester 1)	Dutch	Gent

Lecturers in academic year 2027-2028

Delaby, Gauthier	LW06	lecturer-in-charge
Colleman, Timothy	LW06	co-lecturer

Offered in the following programmes in 2027-2028	**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)	5	A
Master of Arts in Linguistics and Literature(main subject Dutch - English)	5	A
Master of Arts in Linguistics and Literature(main subject Dutch - French)	5	A
Master of Arts in Linguistics and Literature(main subject Dutch - German)	5	A
Master of Arts in Linguistics and Literature(main subject Dutch - Greek)	5	A
Master of Arts in Linguistics and Literature(main subject Dutch - Italian)	5	A
Master of Arts in Linguistics and Literature(main subject Dutch - Latin)	5	A
Master of Arts in Linguistics and Literature(main subject Dutch - Scandinavian Studies)	5	A
Master of Arts in Linguistics and Literature(main subject Dutch - Spanish)	5	A
Exchange Programme Linguistics and Literature	5	A

Teaching languages

Dutch

Keywords

Dutch linguistics, syntax, semantics, construction grammar, grammatical theory

Position of the course

Discussion of topics from Dutch grammar from a construction grammar perspective

Contents

The lectures offer (i) an introduction to the basic concepts and principles of Construction Grammar and related “usage-based” approaches, illustrated as much as possible with examples from Dutch, and (ii) an in-depth discussion of a few recent scientific articles in which this constructionist perspective is applied to both longstanding and new problems in the grammatical study of Dutch.
In addition, all students give an individual presentation on an existing Construction Grammar case study (in a scientific article or a book chapter) (intended duration: 20 minutes, depending on the size of the group).
Finally, the students collaboratively develop an empirical research project under the supervision of the instructors. The process evaluation of that research is included in the participation grade.

Initial competences

To have a thorough knowledge of the grammatical description of the Dutch clause.

Final competences

1 To have a good knowledgde of the tenets and analytical concepts of construction grammar.
2 To have a good insight into the differences and similarities between different

theoretical-methodological approaches to the study of (Dutch) grammar.
3 To be able to critically approach existing descriptions of grammatical phenomena.
4 To be able to apply the analytical concepts of construction grammar to unseen grammatical problems.
5 To be able to report on the critical evaluation of existing case studies in construction grammar in an oral presentation.
6 To be able to take active part in group discussions about existing case studies in construction grammar.
7 To be able to design and conduct an empirical investigation in collaboration with fellow students, under the supervision of the lecturers.

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, Lecture, Independent work, Peer teaching

Study material

Type: Slides

Name: Power point presentations
Indicative price: Free or paid by faculty
Optional: no
Language : Dutch
Available on Ufora : Yes

Type: Other

Name: Scholarly articles on construction grammar
Indicative price: Free or paid by faculty
Optional: no
Language : English
Available on Ufora : Yes

References

Course content-related study coaching

group and individual support

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

Participation, Presentation

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

There is an oral exam in which students must apply concepts and methods from Construction Grammar to examples from real language use and critically reflect on existing Construction Grammar case studies.
In addition, all students give an individual presentation in which they provide a critical synthesis of an existing case study (i.e. an article or a chapter in a book).
The participation grade is based on active involvement in and qualitative contributions during the lectures, as well as on collaboration in the joint research project (process evaluation).
Second chance (NPE): during the second examination period, a (new) presentation may be given, but no new participation grade can be obtained. Students retain their participation score from the first examination period.

Calculation of the examination mark

50% oral exam
20% oral presentation
30% participation

Facilities for Working Students

Working students may be exempted from attending the lectures and therefore from the participation component. In that case, a substitute assignment will be provided for that component, which they can complete in their own time.