

History in Practice I (A006716)

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

Year	Language	Location	Teaching Methods	Hours
A (Year)	Dutch	Gent	independent work	0.0h
			seminar	0.0h
			lecture	0.0h
B (Year)	Dutch	Gent	lecture	0.0h
			seminar	0.0h
			independent work	0.0h
C (Year)	Dutch	Gent	seminar	0.0h
			lecture	0.0h
			independent work	0.0h
D (Year)	Dutch	Gent	lecture	0.0h
			independent work	0.0h
			seminar	0.0h
E (Year)	Dutch	Gent	lecture	0.0h
			independent work	0.0h
			seminar	0.0h

Lecturers in academic year 2026-2027

Everaert, Janna	LW03	staff member
Goddeeris, Anne	LW21	staff member
Rea, Andrés	LW03	staff member
Vandersmissen, Jan	LW03	staff member
Zuiderhoek, Andries Johan	LW03	lecturer-in-charge
Daveloose, Alexis	LW03	co-lecturer
De Graef, Katrien	LW21	co-lecturer
Deneckere, Gita	LW03	co-lecturer
Vanden Broecke, Steven	LW03	co-lecturer
Vanderputten, Steven	LW03	co-lecturer

Offered in the following programmes in 2026-2027

Programme	credits	offering
Bachelor of Arts in History	5	A, B, C, D, E
Linking Course Master of Arts in History	5	A, B, C, D, E

Teaching languages

Dutch

Keywords

Ancient Near East; Ancient History; Middle Ages; Early Modern Period; Modern and Contemporary History

Position of the course

This introductory course aligns with the course Introduction to Historical Research. This hands-on course will familiarize the student with the historian's methodology.

The student goes through the full scientific research cycle (problem definition, literature and source research, presentation of findings). These skills are further refined in the follow-up course in Historical Practice II (second bachelor's year).

Contents

This is a practical subject that teaches specific basic skills for independent historical research. In doing so, students can choose from five modules: the Ancient Near East, the Greek and Roman world, the Middle Ages, the Early Modern Period, and the Modern and Contemporary Period.

The course teaches basic skills necessary for independent historical research: (1) Understanding the specific objectives of scholarly research in history; (2) Understanding the role of interpretation, questioning, and modeling in the initiation of a historical investigation; (3) Mastering the basic terminology of historical research; (4) Learning to read and process historical literature efficiently; (5) Learning to search for, and work critically with, sources, historical literature and use of libraries; (6) Learning to formulate one's own research question; (7) Learning to answer a research question through examination of historical sources; (8) Independently reporting research results in a logically constructed and clearly formulated research paper.

Initial competences

Have an elementary understanding of historical developments (i.e. have reached the final attainment levels of the history subject in secondary education (or a similar level).

Have sufficient skills for writing texts in clear and correct Dutch.

Have sufficient (passive) knowledge of English and French.

Final competences

- 1 has an understanding of historical criticism and can apply it to scientific practice.
- 2 can, under supervision, develop a research design with a relevant problem definition, a thorough source heuristic, a literature review and an analysis culminating in a synthesis.
- 3 can independently select and process sources and literature in a scientifically sound manner, and has insight into the functioning of libraries, archives and other scientific preservation institutions.
- 4 can critically interpret, evaluate, contextualize and place historical research in a social frame of reference.
- 5 handles historical sources, scholarly literature and technological tools with scientific integrity.
- 6 can communicate orally and in writing about historical research with clarity and academic accuracy.
- 7 can correctly interpret and use historical sources and scientific professional literature in Dutch and in other languages - at least English and French.

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

Seminar, Lecture, Independent work

Extra information on the teaching methods

Classes will not be recorded, since they consist of practical sessions with classroom exercises

Study material

None

References

Course content-related study coaching

- During and after classes there is an opportunity for questions
- Multiple collective and individual feedback moments
- Interactive support via learning platform

- The instructor can be reached 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, Presentation, Written assessment

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

No oral or written examination. Grading will be based on the midterm assignments, participation and the quality of the final paper.

In case of failing the paper (50%) in the first session, the paper may be resubmitted in second session to still obtain a passing grade for this section. In case of failing the midterm assignments (50%) during the first session these too might be resubmitted in the second session, or replacement assignments might be submitted, to obtain a passing grade for this section.

Calculation of the examination mark

100% non-period based evaluation based on:

-Intermediate assignments (50%)

-Final paper (50%)

To pass this course, the student should:

1) obtain an average passing grade (minimum 10/20) for the intermediate assignments

and

2) obtain a passing grade (minimum 10/20) for the final paper

If the student obtains an average fail grade (lower than 10/20) for the intermediate assignments, or if the student obtains a fail grade (lower than 10/20) for the final paper, then the student cannot pass the course, even if the total final score is mathematically a passing grade. The final score will then be brought back to 9/20.

Facilities for Working Students

1. Possibility of exemption from attendance with substitute assignment in consultation with instructor.
2. Possibility of examination at different time throughout the academic year.
3. Possibility of feedback at an alternative time during or after office hours, either digitally (via email or video call) or in person.