

Research Methods Language, Diversity and Policy (A006759)

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 (Year)

Dutch

Gent

Lecturers in academic year 2027-2028

De Wilde, Vanessa

LW22

lecturer-in-charge

Montero Perez, Maribel

LW06

co-lecturer

Offered in the following programmes in 2027-2028

[Master of Arts in Language, Diversity and Policy](#)

crdts

5

offering

A

Teaching languages

Dutch

Keywords

research methods, research design, language, mixed-methods research, qualitative research, quantitative research

Position of the course

In this course, we focus on research methods used in the various fields covered by the Master's programme in Language, Diversity and Policy. We discuss how to design a data collection process and the challenges this may entail. We cover qualitative and quantitative research methods, with a particular focus on 'mixed methods'. The course aims to enable students to understand the rationale behind the choice of specific research methods used in studies within the domains of the Master's programme in Language, Diversity and Policy, to interpret the results, and to select a relevant research method themselves and apply this method in practical exercises. An understanding of research methods will further enable students to analyse policy issues, justify policy choices and evaluate policy interventions.

Contents

Overview of data collection techniques within the various domains of the Master's programme in Language, Diversity and Policy (e.g. observations, corpus-based research).

1. Overview of commonly used research methods, designs and techniques for data analysis relevant to research on language, diversity and policy:

quantitative (e.g. surveys, interventions, experimental research) (semester 1)

qualitative (e.g. interviews, observation, thematic analysis) (semester 1)

mixed methods (e.g. embedded and sequential designs) (semester 1)

2. Exercises and analysis:

Analysis of methodological issues in recent academic research on language, diversity and policy. (semester 1)

Interpreting research findings using examples from the various domains. (semester 1)

Developing research methods in response to research questions on language, diversity and policy. (semester 1)

Selection of suitable research methods based on a research question. This section will focus on the advantages of using mixed-methods designs in research on current issues relating to language. (semester 1)

Communicating and presenting research findings to various stakeholders. (semester 2)

The exercises are linked to specific policy questions or real-world cases from sectors such as education, integration, healthcare or the labour market.

Initial competences

The core competencies expected of a graduate with an academic bachelor's degree in a discipline related to the programme.

Final competences

- 1 Students will gain an understanding of commonly used qualitative and quantitative research methods and mixed-methods designs in research on language, diversity and policy.
- 2 Students can assess the suitability of (mixed-methods) research methods in existing research
- 3 Students can formulate a research question.
- 4 Students can select an appropriate (mixed-methods) design to address a research question within the research areas of the Master's programme in Language, Diversity and Policy.
- 5 Students can apply or develop appropriate research methods in response to a research question relating to language, diversity and policy.
- 6 Students are able to interpret research findings within their field and communicate them to various stakeholders and translate them into policy recommendations..

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, Independent work

Extra information on the teaching methods

- Students take part in lessons and prepare assignments.
- Students receive feedback via Ufora and during interactive lessons.
- Students prepare exercises individually or in groups during the lesson and report on them.

Study material

Type: Syllabus

Name: Syllabus (cursus, artikels, casussen)

Indicative price: Free or paid by faculty

Optional: no

Available on Ufora : Yes

References

Course content-related study coaching

By appointment.

Assessment moments

end-of-term and continuous assessment

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

Written assessment

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

Written assessment

Examination methods in case of permanent assessment

Participation, Assignment

Possibilities of retake in case of permanent assessment

examination during the second examination period is possible

Calculation of the examination mark

- continuous assessment: coursework, participation, i.e. 50% of the final mark;

- end-of-term assessment: written exam, i.e. 50% of the final mark.

Students must pass both components (continuous and end-of-term assessment) to pass the course.

Facilities for Working Students

Attendance is compulsory as it counts towards the final mark for the course.