

Public History (A006785)

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

Credits 8.0

Study time 240 h

Course offerings in academic year 2027-2028

A (Year)

Dutch

Gent

Lecturers in academic year 2027-2028

Deploige, Jeroen

LW03

lecturer-in-charge

Danniau, Fien

LW03

staff member

Deneckere, Gita

LW03

co-lecturer

Offered in the following programmes in 2027-2028

[Master of Science in Teaching in Arts and Humanities \(main subject History\)](#)

crdts

8

offering

A

[Master of Arts in History](#)

8

A

Teaching languages

Dutch

Keywords

history and society, history and ethics, public history, historical practices, historical media, heritage, cultural heritage studies

Position of the course

The course unit is part of the Public History Major. Students are confronted in an in-depth way with a (annually changing) theme related to history in society outside a strictly academic context. As academically trained historians, they can play their part in various historical practices and learn to think critically about heritage and heritage policy.

Contents

The annually changing themes are selected on the basis of topical relevance and in collaboration with actors outside academia. Experts give lectures and workshops. Students elaborate a practice in public history. They practice with media, techniques of presentation and the organisation of an event of public history. They are given the opportunity and are encouraged to make a concrete social commitment in the process. All historical periods can be dealt with. Every two years, students on the course organise the 'Ateliers' for the programme's project week, Verleden Week. The Ateliers are designed as public history projects, to which history students sign up and contribute.

Initial competences

Bachelor in History

Final competences

- 1 To be able to analyze complex historical insights from the perspective of the epistemology of historiography, societal views, and ethical considerations, with a view toward producing a public history product or project.
- 2 To be able to apply knowledge and insights from related social and human sciences in public history activities.
- 3 To be able to independently design and carry out research with a relevant research question, thorough source heuristics, comprehensive literature review, and critical interpretation, generating new knowledge in the context of a public history project.
- 4 To be able to independently select, evaluate, and apply appropriate qualitative

and/or quantitative research methods. To make use of digital methods for collaborative, project-based work in one or more phases of the research process, and to collect and manage analog and digital research materials in a structured manner.

- 5 To be able to communicate clearly and in an academically correct manner, both orally and in writing, about historical research. To be capable of making the necessary translation to communicate academic research to a broader audience. To have knowledge of digital publication methods for disseminating research data or results tailored to a specific target audience.
- 6 To be able to make self-critical and value-conscious judgments about historical issues and to systematically approach problems from multiple perspectives (multiperspectivism) in a public history context.
- 7 To be able to correctly interpret and use historical sources and scholarly literature in Dutch and in other languages—at least English and French—in a public history context.
- 8 To be able to communicate and debate about historical research and the role of the past in the present with both peers and non-experts from the heritage sector and the broader society.
- 9 To be able to collaborate in a constructive, project-based manner with both experts and non-experts in a public history context.
- 10 To be aware of and critically reflect on the complexity of history, recognizing that every perspective on the past is bound by place and time and is never value-free. To be able to communicate this to a broader, non-historically trained audience. To be aware of the societal impact, needs, and ethical dimensions of the digital turn and the position of the humanities within it.

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, Excursion, Independent work

Extra information on the teaching methods

- Weekly seminars led by the lecturers or invited experts
- Individual papers and reports
- Several excursions related to the annual theme (exhibition, archive, seminar)
- Students work in groups on a project for which they get professional assistance and that they present to each other
- No class recordings

Study material

Type: Handouts

Name: PowerPoints, reader, possible field trip.

Indicative price: € 25

Optional: no

Available on Ufora : Yes

References

www.ipg.ugent.be

www.verledenweek.be

Thomas Cauvin, Public History: A Textbook of Practice, 2016, Routledge.

Course content-related study coaching

Lecturers' office hour, teaching assistant

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, 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

Attendance at lessons is required. Throughout the semester, at least one individual and one group assignment will be given. Tasks are given in function of the lectures and excursions.

Calculation of the examination mark

Continuous assessment (100%)

Facilities for Working Students

Facilities:

- 1 Student attendance during educational activities is required
- 2 Feedback can be given by email or during an appointment during office hours

Extra information:

For more information concerning flexible learning: contact the monitoring service of the faculty of Arts and philosophy