

Introduction to Language and Culture: English (A703309)

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

Credits 3.0

Study time 90 h

Course offerings and teaching methods in academic year 2026-2027

A (semester 2)

Dutch, English

Gent

seminar

independent work

Lecturers in academic year 2026-2027

Chan, David

LW22

lecturer-in-charge

Van De Walle, Céline

LW22

staff member

Offered in the following programmes in 2026-2027

	crdts	offering
Master of Arts in Multilingual Communication: a combination of at least two languages(main subject Dutch, English)	3	A
Master of Arts in Translation: a combination of at least two languages(main subject Dutch, English)	3	A
Master of Arts in Interpreting: a combination of at least two languages(main subject Dutch, English, French)	3	A
Master of Arts in Multilingual Communication: a combination of at least two languages(main subject Dutch, English, French)	3	A
Master of Arts in Translation: a combination of at least two languages(main subject Dutch, English, French)	3	A
Master of Arts in Interpreting: a combination of at least two languages(main subject Dutch, English, German)	3	A
Master of Arts in Multilingual Communication: a combination of at least two languages(main subject Dutch, English, German)	3	A
Master of Arts in Translation: a combination of at least two languages(main subject Dutch, English, German)	3	A
Master of Arts in Interpreting: a combination of at least two languages(main subject Dutch, English, Italian)	3	A
Master of Arts in Multilingual Communication: a combination of at least two languages(main subject Dutch, English, Italian)	3	A
Master of Arts in Translation: a combination of at least two languages(main subject Dutch, English, Italian)	3	A
Master of Arts in Interpreting: a combination of at least two languages(main subject Dutch, English, Russian)	3	A
Master of Arts in Multilingual Communication: a combination of at least two languages(main subject Dutch, English, Russian)	3	A
Master of Arts in Translation: a combination of at least two languages(main subject Dutch, English, Russian)	3	A
Master of Arts in Interpreting: a combination of at least two languages(main subject Dutch, English, Spanish)	3	A
Master of Arts in Multilingual Communication: a combination of at least two languages(main subject Dutch, English, Spanish)	3	A
Master of Arts in Translation: a combination of at least two languages(main subject Dutch, English, Spanish)	3	A
Master of Arts in Multilingual Communication: a combination of at least two languages(main subject Dutch, English, Turkish)	3	A
Master of Arts in Multilingual Communication: a combination of at least two languages(main subject Dutch, French)	3	A
Master of Arts in Translation: a combination of at least two languages(main subject Dutch, French)	3	A
Master of Arts in Interpreting: a combination of at least two languages(main subject Dutch, French, German)	3	A

Teaching languages

English, Dutch

Keywords

Introduction to language and culture; English

Position of the course

'Introduction to Language and Culture: English' (K4IE) aims to help students extend their practical competence in one of the available foreign languages (in this instance, English). Emphasis is placed upon communication skills within an overarching business context e.g. job applications, presentations, meetings, negotiations, etc. with particular attention given to work-place situations that the student may encounter in the near future.

Exchange students may take up this course unit, for which no prior knowledge of Dutch is required.

Contents

'Introduction to Language and Culture: English' (K4IE) focuses upon speaking, listening, writing and reading in realistic business situations: telephoning, applying for a job, welcoming a business colleague, explaining a new product, etc. A foundation of grammar is provided alongside relevant exercises. Vocabulary is studied throughout the term of the course. The learning materials are organised thematically.

Initial competences

The general competences that may be expected from an academic bachelor, preferably in a discipline related to the course of studies.

Final competences

- 1 Possesses an English language proficiency level of B2 (CEFR) in reading, speaking (production / interaction), writing and vocabulary. [tested]
- 2 Is able to effectively participate in general conversation in English and in more specific contexts such as a formal interview demonstrating acceptable level of pronunciation accuracy. [tested]
- 3 Possesses a sound knowledge of general and commercial English vocabulary.
- 4 Has a good command of basic English grammar. [tested]
- 5 Possesses knowledge of a range of cultural and historical contexts of the United Kingdom. [tested]
- 6 Demonstrates intellectual curiosity and an orientation towards lifelong learning.
- 7 As communication specialist, can function effectively in an international environment [MT.4.1, MV.4.1, MC.4.1, not tested]
- 8 In the communication process makes effective use of encyclopaedic, thematic and cultural knowledge, and can demonstrate an understanding of cultural factors. [MC.6.5, not tested]

Conditions for credit contract

Access to this course unit via a credit contract is determined after successful competences assessment

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

Interactive seminars (whole class and small group arrangements), also independent work

Study material

Type: Handbook

Name: Boeken:Woordenschat: McCarthy, M. en O'Dell, F. (2013) English vocabulary in use. Cambridge: CUP
Cursusdienst:Syllabus (Euro 35.90)

Indicative price: € 36

Optional: no

Type: Slides

Name: slides

Indicative price: Free or paid by faculty

Optional: no

References

Grammar: Swan, M. (2005) Practical English Usage. Oxford: University Press

Course content-related study coaching

Consultation hours

The lecturers may refer to material for extra exercises or self-study, available from the library. Moreover, the students may e-mail work to the lecturers at any time for comments and corrections.

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

Oral assessment, Written assessment

Examination methods in case of permanent assessment

Assignment

Possibilities of retake in case of permanent assessment

examination during the second examination period is possible

Extra information on the examination methods

Written exam (50%)

Written exam tests language skills, vocabulary and grammar.

Assignments (50%)

Second session: same.

The assignments are replaced by an oral exam (50%) .

Calculation of the examination mark

See heading 'Extra information on the examination methods'

Facilities for Working Students

- Possible exemption from educational activities requiring student attendance.
- Feedback can be given by email.
- The examination cannot be rescheduled.