

Immersion: Language and Interculturality (A704060)

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

Credits 15.0 **Study time 450 h**

Course offerings and teaching methods in academic year 2026-2027

A (semester 1)	Dutch	Gent	lecture
			independent work

Lecturers in academic year 2026-2027

Goethals, Patrick	LW22	lecturer-in-charge
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Offered in the following programmes in 2026-2027

	crdts	offering
Bachelor of Arts in Applied Language Studies: a combination of at least two languages(main subject Dutch, English, French)	15	A
Bachelor of Arts in Applied Language Studies: a combination of at least two languages(main subject Dutch, English, German)	15	A
Bachelor of Arts in Applied Language Studies: a combination of at least two languages(main subject Dutch, English, Italian)	15	A
Bachelor of Arts in Applied Language Studies: a combination of at least two languages(main subject Dutch, English, Language Technology)	15	A
Bachelor of Arts in Applied Language Studies: a combination of at least two languages(main subject Dutch, English, Russian)	15	A
Bachelor of Arts in Applied Language Studies: a combination of at least two languages(main subject Dutch, English, Spanish)	15	A
Bachelor of Arts in Applied Language Studies: a combination of at least two languages(main subject Dutch, English, Turkish)	15	A
Bachelor of Arts in Applied Language Studies: a combination of at least two languages(main subject Dutch, French, German)	15	A
Bachelor of Arts in Applied Language Studies: a combination of at least two languages(main subject Dutch, French, Italian)	15	A
Bachelor of Arts in Applied Language Studies: a combination of at least two languages(main subject Dutch, French, Language Technology)	15	A
Bachelor of Arts in Applied Language Studies: a combination of at least two languages(main subject Dutch, French, Russian)	15	A
Bachelor of Arts in Applied Language Studies: a combination of at least two languages(main subject Dutch, French, Spanish)	15	A
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Bachelor of Arts in Applied Language Studies: a combination of at least two languages(main subject Dutch, German, Italian)	15	A
Bachelor of Arts in Applied Language Studies: a combination of at least two languages(main subject Dutch, German, Language Technology)	15	A
Bachelor of Arts in Applied Language Studies: a combination of at least two languages(main subject Dutch, German, Russian)	15	A
Bachelor of Arts in Applied Language Studies: a combination of at least two languages(main subject Dutch, German, Spanish)	15	A
Bachelor of Arts in Applied Language Studies: a combination of at least two languages(main subject Dutch, German, Turkish)	15	A

Teaching languages

Dutch

Keywords

Immersion: language and interculturality

Position of the course

The aim of the study unit 'Immersion: language and interculturality' (A3IM) is to hone the students' intercultural competences. The stay abroad is, in this respect, a catalyst for the use of previously acquired knowledge about intercultural communication and cultural history of the language areas, for the application of the research method of observing while participating and for the application of the acquired foreign language knowledge. The foreign programme should, moreover, comply with a number of standards in terms of topics and credits:

- approx 9 credits in the group general and topic-related subjects
- approx 6 credits in the group language of the host country
- approx 12 credits in the group other foreign language

The content the study units within each group can be determined with some room for manoeuvre, thereby taking the strengths of the local institute into consideration, as long as the programme complies with the above-mentioned final objectives (see content).

Contents

The study unit 'Immersion: language and interculturality' (A3IM) allows the students to stay at a partner institute for one semester. Students put together a programme on the basis of specific criteria (see objectives). The content of these study units can vary from one institute to another. In their selection of the general and topic-related subjects, students are required to choose subjects that are related to the above-mentioned objectives. The student can also take into account a possible choice for the educational master's programme.

- social, general subjects and topic-related subjects deepening the students' knowledge of areas that have already been studied (e.g. law, economics, pragmatism, sociolinguistics, translation science, foreign language acquisition, discourse analysis, intercultural communication);
- social, general subjects and topic-related subjects that have not yet been studied but do build on these (e.g. communication science, psycholinguistics, logic)
- general didactics (6 STP) or didactics of one of the two foreign languages (preferably the language of the host country, 3 STP). After the approval by the board of examiners, these subjects can be submitted as a replacement for the subjects *Krachtige Leeromgeving* (6 STP) and *Didactiek Vreemde Taal* (3 STP). By including these subjects, the student will have more options within the educational master's programme.

When selecting foreign language subjects, only those language subjects will be considered which require as a starting competence a minimum of B2 of the European Reference Framework and which ideally focus on training specific language skills in professional contexts. For the host country's language, the student must choose a study unit on literature (or failing this, culture).

Finally, students can participate in a module Intercultural Project of 3 credits in which they receive assignments from the home university (Ghent) that they have to fulfill before, during and after their study abroad stay. The objective of the assignments is to stimulate reflecting upon intercultural and multilingual aspects of studying abroad. These credits can be used in the general module or in the module Language of the host country. In 2018-2019, there are two options: the Spanish module (under the guidance of Ana Moreno Bruna) or the SALSA option (under the guidance of Prof. June Eyckmans).

Initial competences

In order to enjoy the full benefits of studying at a partner institute, students should, at the beginning of their stay abroad, still need to gain a maximum of 72 credits of their bachelor degree.

Final competences

- 1 Applying the knowledge and understanding of the theories related to applied language studies in their own communication in a context of linguistic immersion. [B.1.4.; not assessed]
- 2 Applying the knowledge and understanding of the cultural and institutional context of the language areas concerned and of the intercultural relations and differences, in the production of written and oral text. [B.1.5.; not assessed]
- 3 Having a strong language awareness and developing a sensitivity to the

- similarities, differences and interactions between cultures. [B.3.1.; not assessed]
- 4 Critically reflecting on their own thinking, learning, decisions and actions. [B.3.3.; not assessed]
 - 5 Displaying intellectual curiosity and a lifelong learning attitude. [B.3.4.; not assessed]
 - 6 Based on acquired competences, acting correctly and tactfully in different communicative situations, based on an understanding of similarities, differences and interactions between cultures. [B.5.2.; not assessed]
 - 7 Having knowledge and understanding of the theories related to applied language studies and/or of other studies within the field of humanities. [B.1.4.; assessed]
 - 8 Depending on the courses the following competences are assessed: Having a command of the foreign language, at C1 level or at least B2 level of the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages. [B.1.2.; assessed]
 - 9 Recognising and interpreting language structures and language variation of the studied language. [B.1.3.; assessed]
 - 10 Having knowledge of the main literary schools of the studied language. [B.1.5.; assessed]
 - 11 Adequately interpreting, analysing, assessing and correcting written and oral communication, including messages of a specialised nature. [B.6.1.; assessed]
 - 12 Editing text independently in the studied language and assessing it critically, thereby justifying the text type appropriate to the purpose, target group and media. [B.6.2.; assessed]
 - 13 Expressing oneself in complex, communicative situations in the studied languages appropriate to the purpose, target group and media. [B.6.3.; assessed]
 - 14 Having a command of the foreign language, at C1 level or at least B2 level of the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages. [B.1.2.; assessed]
 - 15 Recognising and interpreting language structures and language variation of the studied language. [B.1.3.; assessed]
 - 16 Adequately interpreting, analysing, assessing and correcting written and oral communication, including messages of a specialised nature. [B.6.1.; assessed]
 - 17 Editing text independently in the studied language and assessing it critically, thereby justifying the text type appropriate to the purpose, target group and media. [B.6.2.; assessed]
 - 18 Expressing oneself in complex, communicative situations in the studied languages appropriate to the purpose, target group and media. [B.6.3.; assessed]

Conditions for credit contract

This course unit cannot be taken via a credit contract

Conditions for exam contract

This course unit cannot be taken via an exam contract

Teaching methods

Lecture, Independent work

Study material

None

References

Course content-related study coaching

Assessment moments

end-of-term and 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

Oral assessment, Skills test, Written assessment, Assignment

Possibilities of retake in case of permanent assessment

examination during the second examination period is possible

Extra information on the examination methods

The students follow the examination procedures of the host institution.

Also in the second examination session the students will follow the examination procedures. (Important: this is a modification with respect to the procedure in 2016-17!)

If the students do not pass the courses after the second session they will have the possibility of choosing a course from the home program. This choice has to be approved by the curriculum commission.

Intercultural Project (Spain or SALSA): the score is given taking into account the active participation and the quality of the assignments in the portfolio.

Calculation of the examination mark

Facilities for Working Students

none