

Dutch: Society and Culture of the Low Countries (A704160)

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

Credits 3.0 **Study time 90 h**

Course offerings in academic year 2026-2027

A (semester 2) Dutch Gent

Lecturers in academic year 2026-2027

Lambrecht, Bram LW22 lecturer-in-charge

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)	3	A
Bachelor of Arts in Applied Language Studies: a combination of at least two languages(main subject Dutch, English, German)	3	A
Bachelor of Arts in Applied Language Studies: a combination of at least two languages(main subject Dutch, English, Italian)	3	A
Bachelor of Arts in Applied Language Studies: a combination of at least two languages(main subject Dutch, English, Language Technology)	3	A
Bachelor of Arts in Applied Language Studies: a combination of at least two languages(main subject Dutch, English, Russian)	3	A
Bachelor of Arts in Applied Language Studies: a combination of at least two languages(main subject Dutch, English, Spanish)	3	A
Bachelor of Arts in Applied Language Studies: a combination of at least two languages(main subject Dutch, English, Turkish)	3	A
Bachelor of Arts in Applied Language Studies: a combination of at least two languages(main subject Dutch, French, German)	3	A
Bachelor of Arts in Applied Language Studies: a combination of at least two languages(main subject Dutch, French, Italian)	3	A
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Bachelor of Arts in Applied Language Studies: a combination of at least two languages(main subject Dutch, German, Spanish)	3	A
Bachelor of Arts in Applied Language Studies: a combination of at least two languages(main subject Dutch, German, Turkish)	3	A

Teaching languages

Dutch

Keywords

Low Countries, Institutions, cross-cultural

Position of the course

In the study unit 'Society and institutions of the Low Countries' the political, social

and cultural institutions in Flanders and the Netherlands are studied especially from a comparative perspective, with an emphasis on the current situation. The institutions are situated within the scope of the general culture of both countries and within the current reflection about the cultural identity. In addition, their origin is studied from a historical point of view if necessary. The learning content is made concrete by means of current journalistic articles and other texts that are discussed during the lectures. There will also be some visual material.

Contents

In the study unit 'Society and institutions of the Low Countries' the political, social and cultural institutions in Flanders and the Netherlands are studied especially from a comparative perspective. The institutions are situated within the scope of the general culture of both countries and the current reflection about cultural identity. In addition, their origin is studied from a historical point of view if necessary. Attention is also paid to the current situation and recent developments. The learning content is made concrete by means of some visual material (Ppt) and texts.

Initial competences

The student has acquired the final objectives of different Dutch study units of the second bachelor year in Applied Linguistics..

Final competences

- 1 Having a command of Dutch at professional native speaker level in terms of comprehension, oral and writing skills. (B.1.1 assessed)
- 2 Having knowledge and understanding of the theories related to applied language studies, in particular in the field of intercultural communication studies (B.1.4 assessed)
- 3 Having knowledge and understanding of the cultural and institutional context of the Dutch language area and for the intercultural relations and differences between Flanders and the Netherlands (B.1.5 assessed).
- 4 Having a strong language awareness and developing a sensitivity to the similarities, differences and interactions between cultures that are part of the same language area (B.3.1 assessed)
- 5 Critically reflecting on their own thinking, learning, decisions and actions, in particular on cultural axioms, the "mind's own software" (Hofstede), so that the students' ability to think like a critical and independent intellectual, to develop their own viewpoint and vision of current social topics, is further honed (B.3.3 not assessed)
- 6 Displaying intellectual curiosity, in particular concerning historical and recent developments within the society of the Low Countries; and a lifelong learning attitude, (B3.4 non assessed)
- 7 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 non assessed)
- 8 Adequately interpreting and analysing written and oral communication, in particular texts with culture-specific references (press articles and essays). (B. 6.1 assessed)

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

Lecture, Independent work

Extra information on the teaching methods

Syllabus

Study material

Type: Syllabus

Name: Dutch: Society and Culture of the Low Countries
Indicative price: € 10
Optional: no

Language : Dutch
Available on Ufora : No
Online Available : No
Available in the Library : No
Available through Student Association : Yes

Type: Other

Name: two novels
Indicative price: € 40
Optional: no
Language : Dutch

Additional information: The titles of the novels will be announced at the start of the semester.

References

Course content-related study coaching

Consolidation of course content by means of electronic learning platform.
Consultation hour

Assessment moments

end-of-term assessment

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

Oral assessment

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

Oral assessment

Examination methods in case of permanent assessment

Possibilities of retake in case of permanent assessment

not applicable

Extra information on the examination methods

Oral exam (100 %) about the subject material.
During the oral exam, the student is required to Dutch in a proper and correct way.
If the student (being a native Dutch speaker) does not meet this requirement, it can have a negative effect on the final mark (up to -2; with adapted requirements for non-native speakers of Dutch)).

Calculation of the examination mark

100% periodical evaluation

Facilities for Working Students

Possibility to be exempted from attendance.
Possibility to re-schedule examination to another date during the examination period.
Feedback can be given via e-mail or by appointment during office hours.