

Subtitling (A704162)

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

Credits 3.0

Study time 90 h

Course offerings in academic year 2025-2026

A (semester 2)

Dutch

Gent

Lecturers in academic year 2025-2026

Van Hee, Cynthia

LW22

lecturer-in-charge

Boone, Griet

LW22

co-lecturer

Denturck, Kathelijne

LW22

co-lecturer

De Schepper, Sylvianne

LW22

co-lecturer

Sanchez, Alexandra

LW22

co-lecturer

Van De Walle, Céline

LW22

co-lecturer

Willems, Annelore

LW22

co-lecturer

Offered in the following programmes in 2025-2026

Bachelor of Arts in Applied Language Studies: a combination of at least two languages(main subject Dutch, English, French)

crdts 3

offering 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

Bachelor of Arts in Applied Language Studies: a combination of at least two languages(main subject Dutch, French, Language Technology)

3

A

Bachelor of Arts in Applied Language Studies: a combination of at least two languages(main subject Dutch, French, Russian)

3

A

Bachelor of Arts in Applied Language Studies: a combination of at least two languages(main subject Dutch, French, Spanish)

3

A

Bachelor of Arts in Applied Language Studies: a combination of at least two languages(main subject Dutch, French, Turkish)

3

A

Bachelor of Arts in Applied Language Studies: a combination of at least two languages(main subject Dutch, German, Italian)

3

A

Bachelor of Arts in Applied Language Studies: a combination of at least two languages(main subject Dutch, German, Language Technology)

3

A

Bachelor of Arts in Applied Language Studies: a combination of at least two languages(main subject Dutch, German, Russian)

3

A

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

French, German, Spanish, English, Dutch

Keywords

Audiovisual translation, interlingual and intralingual subtitling, SubtitleNEXT, subtitling conventions, translation strategies, humor, cultural references, automatische ondertiteling

Position of the course

This course aims to equip students with insights, knowledge and practical skills related to subtitling into Dutch; the predominant form of audiovisual translation in Flanders. Through hands-on practice, students develop practical skills in subtitling while gaining insights into the historical context of audiovisual translation. Additionally, they delve into the research domain and learn the meta-language of audiovisual translation, providing a foundation for potential bachelor's or master's theses in this field.

Students who, when enrolled in the Master in Translation or Multilingual Communication, plan to pursue an internship in subtitling at one of the film festivals the department collaborates with (Film Fest Gent, Film Festival Oostende, CineMÁS) are required to take this course. It equips them with the necessary skills and training for their internship.

Important: This course component uses paid subtitle software. The software is primarily developed for Windows systems but can also be used on MacOS and Linux through a Windows virtual machine (e.g., with Parallels).

There are two options for acquiring the license:

- 1 Students can purchase or rent a license at their own expense (estimated purchase price: 423.50 EUR, estimated monthly rental cost: 84.70 EUR). Students may inquire about any available student discounts or obtain specific quotes via SubtitleNEXT.
- 2 Students can rent a license via our department for the entire semester (+ the resit examination period if necessary) at a total amount of 35 EUR license cost (this is 20% overhead charge by UGent included).

To ensure smooth administration of licensing, we kindly request that you register for this course via Oasis **by January 1st, 2026**. Once we have a complete list of participants, we will initiate the payment process for acquiring the necessary licenses. Upon payment, you will receive your license allocation via email. Please note that the deadline for payment is **February 2nd, 2026**. Students who do not complete payment by this deadline cannot be guaranteed access to the course.

Contents

This course starts with an introduction into audiovisual translation and subtitling conventions. This is followed by intralingual subtitling (Dutch > Dutch). Subsequently, the students follow **at least two sessions** on interlingual subtitling (foreign language > Dutch) **for each one of their two foreign languages***. They will complete several subtitling assignments (e.g. subtitling a fragment from a film or series) throughout the course. In doing so, the students not only learn to deal with the necessary **linguistic** and **cultural** adjustments that scripts undergo in the subtitling process, they also practice the **technical** aspects of subtitling like spotting and condensation, and gain practical experience with specialized **subtitling software**. In a focused workshop, students learn to critically review (their own) subtitles and revise them thoroughly.

Finally, the students will independently complete a number of **learning paths** via Ufora to broaden and deepen their knowledge about audiovisual translation with topics like humour and cultural references in audiovisual translation, and automatic subtitling.

Students will receive **feedback** (on campus or online) for their assignments at regular times, which allows them to refine their subtitling skills.

** Students whose second language is not one of the instructional languages of this course or students who combine one foreign language with language technology, join the English group. Students whose first language is English will therefore incorporate an additional English component for this course -with alternative assignments. Some examples: a student English-French will receive subtitling*

assignments for both English and French. A student with the French-Italian language combination will receive English assignments instead of Italian. A student English-Turkish or English-Language Technology will receive additional assignments in English. Contact the lecturer-in-charge of this course for more information.

Initial competences

The competencies and skills that can be expected after successfully completing Bachelor 1 and Bachelor 2 in Applied Linguistics: the students have a thorough knowledge of Dutch and one or two foreign languages, and they have basic computer skills.

Final competences

- 1 The students have insight into the broader field of **audiovisual translation** and are familiar with the **fundamental principles** underlying the discipline, with a specific focus on subtitling.
- 2 Students are able to **independently** subtitle an audiovisual fragment, by 1) purposefully implementing **linguistic** and **cultural** adaptations, 2) accurately applying **technical** aspects such as spotting and condensation, and 3) producing subtitles that comply with the standard **norms and conventions** of the field.
- 3 Students can apply the required skills for both **interlingual and intralingual** subtitling in practice, respecting the specific norms and conventions of each type. They make the necessary **transformations** and **adaptations** based on the target audience (e.g., the deaf and hard of hearing) and the specific **nuances** of the source language.
- 4 Students can effectively use professional **subtitling software** to create, revise, and export subtitles in the appropriate format.
- 5 Students are familiar with key **translation studies theories and reference frameworks** that support them in the subtitling process, particularly in the adaptation of cultural references and humor.
- 6 Students understand how **automatic subtitling** systems work and are able to revise and enhance machine-generated subtitles through **post-editing**.

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, Practical

Extra information on the teaching methods

For both intralingual and interlingual subtitling and for each of their foreign languages*, students complete a number of subtitling assignments. In addition, they go through a number of learning paths via Ufora where additional learning activities are offered that allow them to further broaden and deepen their knowledge of audiovisual translation.

Study material

Type: Slides

Name: Ondertiteling: geschiedenis, normen en conventies, praktijk

Indicative price: Free or paid by faculty

Optional: no

Language : Dutch

Available on Ufora : Yes

Online Available : Yes

Available in the Library : No

Available through Student Association : No

References

Díaz Cintas, Jorge & Aline Remael (2020). *Introducing Subtitling: concepts and practices*.

Pérez-González, Luis (2018). *The Routledge Handbook of Audiovisual Translation*.

Course content-related study coaching

Throughout the lectures (discussion of and feedback for assignments in class or

(Approved)

online), personal feedback via Ufora, accompanying learning paths via Ufora.

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

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

Non-periodical evaluation:

- Intermediate evaluation of the subtitle assignments and learning paths throughout the courses;
- Final assessment:
 - a written test on the theory and the learning paths;
 - a final practical subtitling assignment.

In order to pass this course, students must pass (i.e. by obtaining 10/20) after calculating the final score as detailed below.

Retake exams:

Students retake the 'final assessment' component as outlined above. However, they may be exempted from the theory test if they passed it during the first examination session.

Calculation of the examination mark

The final score for this course will be calculated by summing the assessments:

- Subtitling assignments and learning paths throughout the course: 40%
- Final test:
 - Written theory test: 30%
 - Final subtitling assignment: 30%

Facilities for Working Students

Class attendance is strongly recommended.

Limited possibility for feedback via email, restricted to answering specific questions.