Valid in the academic year 2013-2014

Research Seminar: Global Studies and World History (A000877)

Course Specifications

Lecturers in academic year 2013-2014

Feys, Torsten  
Vanhaute, Eric  

lecturer-in-charge  
co-lecturer  

Offered in the following programmes in  2013-2014  

Master of Arts in History

Teaching languages

Dutch

Keywords

Human history, transitions, development and social changes, civilizations, historical capitalism, globalisation, ideology and world views, social sciences

Level

specialist

Position of the course

An introduction into the broad field of ‘global studies’ and world history, or ‘global history’, with applications starting from a set of historical and current research questions. The aim is to gain a critical insight into the diverse and diverging explanatory models of long-term social change on a global scale. A broad range of topics will be covered including perspectives on modernisation, world-systems studies and globalisation studies. Students should acquire a nuanced view on the advantages and disadvantages of holistic analytical methods and should be apply these critically. They also become acquainted with core concepts of world-systems analysis and world history, its most important critiques, and a range of applications within various social sciences.

Contents

First, a discussion of case studies (universal versus human history, transitions and revolutions, global connections, man and ecology, growth and inequality etc.) allows us to analyse the diverging research angles within the field of ‘global studies’. Next, interactive seminars introduce a few controversies over global social change within the social scientific field. Central is the critical reading and analysis of two recent books (to be confirmed).

Initial competences

Bachelor degree

(Approved)
**Final competences**
- Students are acquainted with the theoretical paradigms from world studies and world history. They have an advanced knowledge of world history.
- Students can critically test research questions from the social sciences against insights from ‘global studies’ and world history.
- Students can relate historical controversies to current global issues.
- Students can process literature in group and report on it.
- They can also evaluate their colleagues’ reports and have a public discussion about these.

**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 determined after successful competences assessment

**Teaching methods**
Group work, lecture, integration seminar, project, seminar

**Learning materials and price**
Textbook or English reader with introductory texts and applications (to be provided during the academic year). Cost: 30 EUR

**References**

**Course content-related study coaching**
Via Minerva, email

**Evaluation methods**
continuous assessment

**Examination methods in case of periodic evaluation during the first examination period**

**Examination methods in case of periodic evaluation during the second examination period**

**Examination methods in case of permanent evaluation**
Oral examination, participation, assignment, report

**Possibilities of retake in case of permanent evaluation**
Examination during the second examination period is possible

**Extra Information on the examination methods**
Participation and reports 40%, final paper 40%, oral exam 20%

**Calculation of the examination mark**
Periodic evaluation: 20% (oral exam)
Non periodic evaluation: 80% (papers, participation etc.)

**Facilities for Working Students**
**Facilities:**
1. Student attendance during educational activities is required
2. Possible rescheduling of the examination to a different time in the same academic year
3. 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

(Approved)