

Research Seminar: Living and Surviving--Economics, Ecology and Demography (A004047)

Course size (nominal values; actual values may depend on programme)
Credits 5.0 Study time 150 h Contact hrs 45.0 h

Course offerings in academic year 2017-2018

A (semester 2) Dutch, English

Lecturers in academic year 2017-2018

Lambrecht, Thijs	LW03	lecturer-in-charge
Verboven, Koenraad	LW03	co-lecturer
Zuiderhoek, Andries	LW03	co-lecturer

Offered in the following programmes in 2017-2018

	crdts	offering
Master of Arts in History	5	A
Exchange Programme History	5	A

Teaching languages

Dutch, English

Keywords

rural history, environmental history, ecological history, historical demography, food history

Position of the course

Critical analysis of sources and literature about ecological history and rural history, historical demography and food history

Contents

Module 1. Two chronological options are offered: Antiquity and Europe (Middle Ages to Modern Times). This year the seminar focuses on the structures of the rural society in resp. the Greco-Roman World (option: Antiquity) and in Flanders from the middle ages to the 19th century (option: Europe). The emphasis in both options is on labour structure and organisation, especially slavery (option Antiquity) wage labour (both options) and gender differences (both options). After an introduction the relevant historiography is critically examined and discussed. The key issues will then be tested by primary sources. Participants to the seminar are expected to write a research paper, to be presented and discussed in phases in class. To a certain extent, the individual subject can be chosen depending on the approach in the master's thesis.

OR

Module 2. Parallel-trajectory 'Production and distribution of foodstuffs from Antiquity to the present' (part of the International MA program in Food History). This module on the production and distribution of foodstuffs from Antiquity to the present offers a parallel-trajectory within the research seminar EED. It is part of the curriculum of the International MA program in Food History organized in co-operation with the history departments of the universities of Brussels (VUB), Bologna, Tours and Leiden (see http://research.vub.ac.be/sites/default/files/uploads/FOST/masterkaart_lw_food_history_gvd_versie.pdf). The module is therefore open to students enrolled in the Food History MA, but also to UGent students, who can, if they wish, follow this module instead of the regular EED module to gain their credits for the EED research seminar. The module concentrates on the history of food production and distribution during classical antiquity and the medieval, early modern and modern periods. Lectures by experts on the various periods will be followed by seminar sessions in which students will give oral presentations on subtopics related to the overall theme, based on assigned readings complemented by their own research. There will also be small preparatory assignments

to be completed by each student in preparation for the individual sessions. Students will complete the module by writing an individual research paper on a subtopic related to the overall theme of the module and to their presentations. This is an English language module.

Initial competences

Bachelor in history.

Final competences

- 1 To participate critically and independently in debates on the topics dealt with in the research seminar.
- 2 To demonstrate advanced knowledge of and insight into these research areas.
- 3 To make a critical and historically sound judgement about the problems covered in this seminar, especially in terms of interdisciplinary approaches.
- 4 To be able to trace and process sources and literature on this topic on an individual basis.
- 5 To be able critically evaluate and existing theories and creatively apply them on a subject covered in the research seminar.
- 6 To be able to critically reflect and report on this course in the shape of a paper.

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

Learning materials and price

Copies (reader) will be available at cost price.

References

Course content-related study coaching

There will be guidance during seminars. Additional information can be obtained during office hours and on Minerva.

Evaluation methods

end-of-term evaluation and continuous assessment

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

Oral examination

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

Oral examination

Examination methods in case of permanent evaluation

Participation, assignment

Possibilities of retake in case of permanent evaluation

examination during the second examination period is possible

Calculation of the examination mark

Permanent: 50%, on a monthly basis, based upon an assessment of interactive participation during class and an evaluation with respect to the progress made in writing the paper (cf. above).

Periodical: 50%, paper and oral examination of paper and course content

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 and after office hours

Extra information:

Always contact the lecturer

For more information concerning flexible learning: contact the monitoring service of the faculty of Arts and philosophy