

# Course Specifications

Valid as from the academic year 2018-2019

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

Credits	3.0	Study time	90 h	Contact hrs	45.0 h
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Course offerings and teaching methods in academic year 2018-2019

A (year)	Dutch, German	guided self-study	15.0 h
		seminar: coached	30.0 h
		exercises	

Lecturers in academic year 2018-2019

Leuschner, Torsten	LW06	lecturer-in-charge
Van Herreweghe, Liesbet	EB58	co-lecturer

Offered in the following programmes in 2018-2019

	crdts	offering
<a href="#">Bachelor of Science in Economics</a>	3	A
<a href="#">Bachelor of Science in Business Economics</a>	3	A

Teaching languages

Dutch, German

Keywords

German as a 3rd foreign language, language acquisition

Position of the course

In their professional career students in Economics may find themselves in an international environment where the proficiency of foreign languages is of crucial importance. German is the most frequently spoken mother tongue in Europe (together with Russian) and still an important foreign language in the communication with Eastern Europe. Moreover, Germany is the main trading partner of Belgium as well as Flanders. In this course students develop and maintain basic knowledge of, and basic skills in German. A first objective is that they are able to express themselves in writing by means of simple sentences. Furthermore, they must be able to understand German when it is spoken or written at the elementary level.  
ECRF-level: general language A1+ / A2-

Contents

This course focuses on four elements:

1. Word formation and basic grammar (part 1): introduction to the main grammatical structures of the German main clause (basics of the German cases, introduction to the conjugation of the verb (present tense, future tense, imperative), the use and declension of the article, adjectives and nouns, pronouns, adverbs, cardinals), with an emphasis on contrastive aspects Dutch-German.
2. Pronunciation and orthography
3. Basic vocabulary (part 1)
4. Building blocks (*Redemittel*) for elementary communication (in general, and related to the profession): introduction (how to greet someone, how to present oneself or someone else, how to describe in detail another person, how to present a planning or schedule for the day or the week, how to say goodbye, how to thank someone, how to apologize).

Initial competences

No prior knowledge of German is required. This course starts from "zero" so that all students - irrespective of their preparatory secondary education - can choose this course.

Good knowledge of Dutch is necessary because of the contrastive set-up of the course (Dutch-German).

## Final competences

- 1 Integrate basic grammar, vocabulary and *Redemittel*, among others make translations (Dutch-German) and complete sentences in German.
- 2 "**Listening**": recognize familiar words and very basic phrases concerning oneself, one's family and immediate (work-) surroundings.
- 3 "**Reading**": in short written messages or texts understand familiar names, words and very simple sentences
- 4 "**Spoken production**": use simple phrases and sentences to describe where you live and people you know (family - colleagues)
- 5 "**Writing**": write simple and isolated phrases, e.g. to describe in detail oneself, one's family or a colleague.

## 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

Guided self-study, seminar: coached exercises

## Extra information on the teaching methods

- Seminars - coached exercises: combination of theory and exercises in 'small' groups (max. 45 students). Students are expected to participate actively (which requires preparation of exercises in writing at home). This approach contributes to an efficient and practice oriented learning process.
- Guided self-study. Students should individually make additional online exercises (via Minerva: learning paths with Curios-selftests). Curios provides immediate feedback. Students see their results after each series of exercises. Any questions that students may have about these additional exercises can be raised during the seminars.
- Regular and intensive personal study and exercise of course material is essential.

## Learning materials and price

1. Syllabus composed by the lecturer including:
    - Theory and diagrams concerning basic grammar, pronunciation and orthography
    - Exercises on pronunciation and orthography, basic grammar and basic vocabulary
    - Vocabulary lists (German -Dutch)
    - Building blocks (Redemittel) for elementary communication: introduction
  2. self-study package:
    - In the syllabus: additional exercises on basic grammar and vocabulary (including model solutions in het learning paths / Minerva), vocabulary lists, etc.
    - online (Minerva): learning paths with additional exercises and self-tests (in Curios) related to grammar and vocabulary.
- Price syllabus (2 parts): ± € 8

## References

- Tschirner E., Kontext. Woordenschat met oefeningen Duits. Amsterdam/Antwerpen: Intertaal (2017)
- Van Dale, Groot woordenboek NL-DU + DU-NL (the online version can be consulted via [athena.ugent.be](http://athena.ugent.be))

## Course content-related study coaching

- Students are encouraged to ask questions before, during or after the lectures and seminars.
- Progress test (= intermediate examination, after the lectures of the 1st semester). This progress test covers the grammar and vocabulary presented/explained in class until then. This test helps students to assess their progress, strengths and weaknesses. They also get a clear idea about the structure and contents of the final examination, and about the evaluation methods. During the seminars at the beginning of the second semester students can get individual feedback about this progress test, upon request. This feedback should allow students to reconsider (improve) their learning behaviour and/or efforts.
- Individual coaching (if still necessary) : by appointment

## Evaluation methods

end-of-term evaluation and continuous assessment

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

Written examination

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

Written examination

Examination methods in case of permanent evaluation

Written examination

Possibilities of retake in case of permanent evaluation

examination during the second examination period is possible in modified form

Extra information on the examination methods

**First examination period:** continuous assessment on the basis of the progress test + online written final exam (in June). both online in Curios. Both the progress test and the written final examination include sentences where missing words are to be filled in, and translations (Dutch - German), amongst others. Both progress test and final exam are organized in a PC room. Practical arrangements are announced via Minerva.

**Second examination period:** only written exam (online in Curios - organized in a PC room) which is set up in the same way as in the first period.

Calculation of the examination mark

**First examination period:**

Continuous assessment:

- online progress test:  $\pm 25\%$ . Absence without convincing justification or nonparticipation imply a zero for this part of the evaluation.

- correct use of the learning paths: 10% (with reservation)

Written final exam:  $\pm 65$  à  $75\%$ .

**Second examination period:** Written final exam: 100%.

Both for the progress test and the final exam (both for the first and the second examination period) a higher cut-off line (60%) is applied to determine a student's result.