Anthropology and Ethnography in Africa  (A005313)

Valid as from the academic year 2018-2019

Course Specifications

Lecturers in academic year 2019-2020
- Devos, Emelien
- Luyckfasseel, Margot
- Stroeken, Koenraad

Course offerings and teaching methods in academic year 2019-2020
A (semester 1)  Dutch  lecture  35.0 h  guided self-study  5.0 h  group work  5.0 h

Offered in the following programmes in  2019-2020
Bachelor of Arts in Oriental Languages and Cultures (main subject Arabic and Islamic Studies)  5  A
Bachelor of Arts in Oriental Languages and Cultures (main subject China (China Track))  5  A
Bachelor of Arts in Oriental Languages and Cultures (main subject China (UGent Track))  5  A
Bachelor of Arts in Oriental Languages and Cultures (main subject India)  5  A
Bachelor of Arts in Oriental Languages and Cultures (main subject Japan)  5  A
Bachelor of Arts in African Languages and Cultures  5  A
Bachelor of Arts in Art History, Musicology and Theatre Studies  5  A
Bachelor of Arts in Moral Sciences  5  A
Bachelor of Arts in Philosophy  5  A
Linking Course Master of Arts in African Studies  5  A
Preparatory Course Master of Arts in African Studies  5  A

Teaching languages
Dutch

Keywords
Africa, anthropology, ethnography, cultures

Position of the course
The course helps students acquire a critical perspective on scientific descriptions of cultural phenomena, more specifically on anthropological descriptions of certain aspects, periods and localities in Africa and the African diaspora. The challenge of this third-year course consists first and foremost in connecting the students’ specific expertise in Africa with their general knowledge of cultural diversity. Moreover, the students will expand their understanding of African cultural phenomena as they have been described in anthropological literature.

Contents
The anthropological literature about Africa and the African diaspora is dealt with in ten sessions, which have a descriptive (ethnography of African cultures) and theoretical component (history of Africanist anthropological debates since 19th century). In parallel with the lectures, students are asked to do fieldwork. Feedback will be given on the
Access to this course unit via a credit contract is determined after successful competences assessment. This course unit cannot be taken via an exam contract.

Final competences

1. To demonstrate a basic knowledge about the history of anthropology.
2. To demonstrate familiarity with the major trends in the anthropological study of Africa.
3. To be able to apply most important anthropological theories to societal and cultural phenomena in Africa.
4. To be able to critically assess anthropological analyses of research domains such as diaspora, ethnicity, gender, modernity and globalisation, as well as African studies in Belgium.
5. To analyse, synthesise and report in writing on anthropological descriptions and interpretations of societal and cultural phenomena in Africa.

Conditions for credit contract

This course unit can be taken via a credit contract determined after successful competences assessment.

Conditions for exam contract

This course unit cannot be taken via an exam contract.

Teaching methods

Guided self-study, group work, lecture

Extra information on the teaching methods

- Formal lectures.
- Individual assignments: papers.

Learning materials and price

- Reading list (scientific articles).
- Schemes of each class (on Minerva) as well as notes taken during class.

References

Check Minerva

Course content-related study coaching

- Interactive supervision via Minerva.
- Fixed office hours during which students are free to drop in for help.
- Individual coaching sessions to help students write their papers.

Evaluation methods

- End-of-term evaluation and continuous assessment

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

- Written examination with open questions

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

- Written examination with open questions

Examination methods in case of permanent evaluation

- Assignment

Possibilities of retake in case of permanent evaluation

- Examination during the second examination period is possible

Extra information on the examination methods

- Assessment moment
  - Periodical: written exam (50%).
  - Continuous assessment: papers and participation (50%).

- Assessment form
  - Written exam, open questions

Calculation of the examination mark

- 50% non-periodical evaluation

Facilities for Working Students

- 1. Student attendance during educational activities is required.
- 2. Possible rescheduling of the examination to a different time in the same academic year

(Approved)
3. Feedback can be given by email, telephone or during an appointment during or after office hours
For more information concerning flexible learning: contact the monitoring service of the faculty of Arts and philosophy