Course Specifications
Valid as from the academic year 2020-2021

The Diachronic Study of French (A002627)
Due to Covid 19, the education and evaluation methods may vary from the information displayed in the schedules and course details. Any changes will be communicated on Ufora.

Course size (nominal values; actual values may depend on programme)
Credits 5.0 Study time 150 h Contact hrs 40.0 h

Course offerings and teaching methods in academic year 2020-2021
A (semester 1) French Gent seminar: coached exercises 15.0 h
Guided self-study 10.0 h

Lecturers in academic year 2020-2021
Van Acker, Marieke LW06 staff member
Van Peteghem, Marleen LW06 lecturer-in-charge

Offered in the following programmes in 2020-2021 crdts offering
Master of Science in Teaching in Languages (main subject Linguistics and Literature) 5 A
Master of Arts in Linguistics and Literature (main subject Dutch - French) 5 A
Master of Arts in Linguistics and Literature (main subject French) 5 A
Master of Arts in Linguistics and Literature (main subject French - English) 5 A
Master of Arts in Linguistics and Literature (main subject French - German) 5 A
Master of Arts in Linguistics and Literature (main subject French - Greek) 5 A
Master of Arts in Linguistics and Literature (main subject French - Italian) 5 A
Master of Arts in Linguistics and Literature (main subject French - Latin) 5 A
Master of Arts in Linguistics and Literature (main subject French - Scandinavian Studies) 5 A
Master of Arts in Linguistics and Literature (main subject French - Spanish) 5 A
Master of Arts in Historical Linguistics and Literature 5 A
Exchange Programme Linguistics and Literature 5 A

Teaching languages
French

Keywords
Language change, phonetics, morpho-syntactic, grammaticalization, word order, determination, historical socio-linguistics

Position of the course
This course is part of the program of the Master HTL and of the Master Language and Literature, French. It aims to give an insight into the major changes that the French language has undergone since the 9th century, on the phonetic, morpho-syntactic and socio-linguistic level.

Contents
The course consists of two parts:
- a theoretical part, which deals with the main morpho-syntactic evolutions in Old French: the disappearance of the case system, the evolution of word order, the developing of articles and other determiners, the cliticisation of pronouns, grammaticalization and the development of adverbs

(Proposal)
- an applied part, in which these evolutions are observed in text excerpts from the ninth to the seventeenth century and which also focuses on socio-linguistic evolutions. The students realize a research paper, in which they apply the developed knowledge and skills. They can count on guidance for this.

Initial competences
The course links up with "French linguistics III" (Ba2) and "French linguistics IV" (Ba3), Linguistics and Literature: 2 languages. The students are expected to have a language proficiency level B2/C1.

Final competences
1 Have insight into the main morpho-syntactic and socio-linguistics evolutions of French
2 Understand and analyze French texts from different periods
3 Situate texts within the evolution of French and apply theoretical models on texts
4 Present research results, both in oral and written form
5 Build scientific argumentations
6 Master academic writing (expected language level C1)

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
Access to this course unit via an exam contract is unrestricted

Teaching methods
Guided self-study, self-reliant study activities, seminar: coached exercises, online seminar: coached exercises

Extra information on the teaching methods
The theoretical part consists mainly of seminars, which comment on the main linguistic evolutions from Latin to French. These evolutions are illustrated in examples and short text fragments.
The applied part consists of a seminar with guided exercises, in which texts from the 9th to the 17th century are read collectively. Linguistic evolutions are observed in texts and discussed from a socio-linguistic perspective.
The guided tutorial consists of the reading of scientific articles on specific aspects of language evolution. References to these articles are made in class and there is room for questions.
The individual paper consists of an autonomous analysis of a text fragment, which is presented orally and in a written paper.
The classes take place partly on campus, partly online (via Bongo or MS Teams).
Because of COVID19, teaching methods may be modified if this proves necessary.

Learning materials and price
The syllabus, ppt-presentations, videos, scientific articles and a selection of texts are provided on Ufora.

References
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Course content-related study coaching
Interactive support via Ufora (forums, e-mail), personal support by appointment

Evaluation methods
continuous assessment

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

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

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
Extra information on the examination methods
The individual paper consists of (i) a written analysis of a text fragment in Old or Middle French, which deals with both literary-historical aspects and linguistic changes; (ii) an oral defense of the paper, consisting of a short oral presentation by the student, followed by a discussion with the supervisors, in which the student’s knowledge of the course contents are evaluated. Not only the content of the paper and its presentation is evaluated, but also the grammatical correction and the stylistic accuracy, both in writing and orally.
The participation consists of active participation in the on campus or online seminars.
Second examination session: idem

Calculation of the examination mark
Assignment + oral defense 80%
Participation 20%
For working students:
Assignment 100%
Second examination session:
Assignment + oral presentation: 100%

Facilities for Working Students
1. Possible exemption from educational activities requiring student attendance and evaluation on the sole basis of the assignment
2. Feedback can be given by email, MS Teams, during a (digital) appointment during or after office hours
For more information concerning flexible learning: contact the monitoring service of the faculty of Arts and philosophy