

German Linguistics: Historical Evolution of the German Language (A003087)

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	<i>(nominal values; actual values may depend on programme)</i>		
Credits 5.0	Study time 150 h	Contact hrs	40.0 h

Course offerings in academic year 2020-2021

A (semester 1)	German	Gent
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Lecturers in academic year 2020-2021

Breitbarth, Anne	LW06	lecturer-in-charge
Battefeld, Malte	LW06	co-lecturer

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 - German)	5	A
Master of Arts in Linguistics and Literature (main subject English - German)	5	A
Master of Arts in Linguistics and Literature (main subject French - German)	5	A
Master of Arts in Linguistics and Literature (main subject German)	5	A
Master of Arts in Linguistics and Literature (main subject German - Greek)	5	A
Master of Arts in Linguistics and Literature (main subject German - Italian)	5	A
Master of Arts in Linguistics and Literature (main subject German - Scandinavian Studies)	5	A
Master of Arts in Linguistics and Literature (main subject German - Spanish)	5	A
Master of Arts in Historical Linguistics and Literature	5	A
Exchange Programme Linguistics and Literature	5	A

Teaching languages

German

Keywords

German, Old High German, Middle High German, Old Saxon, Middle Low German, Early New High German, historical development

Position of the course

The development of the German language since the beginning of textual transmission, also considering the historical development of Low German (Old Saxon, Middle Low German)

Contents

After a brief introduction to the historical background, the grammar (phonology, morphology and syntax) of each historical stage of High and Low German is discussed, as well as the diachronic processes connecting them.

The theoretical and encyclopedic knowledge will be applied and deepened in a small individual research task.

Students reading for an educational MA degree can work on the topic "Sprachgeschichte und Schule", for which findings from German language history are used to develop educational material to help understand better e.g. difficult grammatical topics like adjective agreement.

COVID-19:

As a consequence of the Corona crisis the following temporary adaptations will be implemented for the academic year 20-21:

- *The number of contact hours is lower this year, the reason being that part of the*

content will be taught via video tutorials.

- *The classes in the last two weeks of term will be replaced by those video tutorials. This is intended to afford the students more time to finish their essays.*

Initial competences

Competencies from the Bachelor degree:

- 1 Good written and spoken command of German
- 2 Familiarity with linguistic terminology

Final competences

- 1 Be able to recognise the structure and features of older stages of High and Low German
- 2 Describe the language history of High and Low German (language proficiency: orally and written)
- 3 Place the processes of language change in High and Low German in their Germanic context
- 4 Be able to read, understand, and translate also texts that were not previously discussed in class
- 5 Place also texts that were not previously discussed in class in their (language-) historical and transmissional context
- 6 Carry out a small individual corpus research and write about its results according to the scientific standards in the target language (language proficiency aspect: research skills, academic writing skills)

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

Self-reliant study activities, lecture: plenary exercises, online lecture

Extra information on the teaching methods

COVID-19:

As a consequence of the Corona crisis the following temporary adaptations will be implemented for the academic year 20-21:

- *The content of the last two weeks of the semester will be taught online, by means of video tutorials. This measure is intended to create more time to finish the essay.*

Learning materials and price

Slides, reader with selected texts from all historical stages, grammar overview, short videos

References

Where applicable, articles and book chapters will be provided through Ufora

Course content-related study coaching

collective and individual supervision

Evaluation methods

end-of-term evaluation

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

Participation, assignment

Possibilities of retake in case of permanent evaluation

not applicable

Extra information on the examination methods

Post-sessional evaluation: written exam (50%)

In-sessional evaluation: independent exercises & short paper (c. 2000 words) (50%)

Calculation of the examination mark

50% post-sessional evaluation

50% in-sessional evaluation

Important:

If the student does not pass the in-sessional assessment, a second opportunity is offered through a compensatory activity between the first and second exam periods. If the student does not participate in the in-sessional OR postsessional evaluation, or has less than 10/20 for one of the evaluations, they can no longer pass the course as a whole. In case the average of the final score is equal to or higher than 10/20, the average is reduced to the highest non-passing grade (=9).

Facilities for Working Students

1. Possible exemption from certain educational activities requiring student attendance
2. Possible rescheduling of the examination to a different time in the same academic year
3. Feedback can be given by email, telephone or by appointment

For more information concerning flexible learning: contact the monitoring service of the faculty of Arts and philosophy (<https://www.ugent.be/student/nl/administratie/flexibel-studeren>)