

Oriental Literature: South Asia (A005203)

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 and teaching methods in academic year 2020-2021

A (semester 2)	Dutch	Gent	lecture	15.0 h
			self-reliant study activities	5.0 h
			project	10.0 h
			seminar	10.0 h

Lecturers in academic year 2020-2021

Gorisse, Marie-Hélène	LW21	lecturer-in-charge
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Offered in the following programmes in 2020-2021	crdts	offering
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
Exchange Programme Oriental Languages and Cultures	5	A

Teaching languages

Dutch

Keywords

Oriental literatures, South Asia

Position of the course

This course introduces the historical framework of the concept of 'literature' in the Southasian textual traditions (premodern to modern) and in different literary languages (classical and modern Indian languages). Within this framework the most significant representatives of the different literary genres and languages are discussed. Students learn to explain South Asian literary traditions within their different religious, political and socio-cultural contexts.

Contents

Using extracts from the compositions of classical poets the concept of 'literature' and the languages of literary production are discussed, especially the evolution from the three classical literary languages (Sanskrit, Prakrit, Apabhramsa) up to the vernacular languages. The students independently read a number of works from the South Asian English literary repertoire.

Initial competences

Having followed the course 'History of South and Central Asia' with success or having acquired the required competences in another manner.

Final competences

1 Being able to clarify the concept of 'literature' in the South Asian context, especially with regard to the chosen language.

- 2 Being able to read and analyse South Asian literature critically within its specific context.
- 3 To be acquainted with the different literary genres and their most significant representatives. Being able to describe their socio-literary background.

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

Lecture, project, seminar, self-reliant study activities

Extra information on the teaching methods

Lectures: the teacher discusses the different phases of "literature" in South Asia chronologically.

Seminar: The student is required to read and reflect in advance on excerpts of the texts discussed in class.

Project: the student presents the canonical authors and their work of one South Asian language of choice, following the example of the classes and under the guidance of the teacher.

Individual work: the student reads a number of books by South Asian writers composed in English.

Learning materials and price

All materials are available on Minerva.

References

Gonda, J. (ed.). 1987-. *A History of Indian Literature*. Wiesbaden: Harrassowitz

Pollock, S. (ed.). 2003. *Literary Cultures in History*, Berkeley: University of California Press

Pollock, S. 2006. *Language of the Gods in the World of Men*. Berkeley: University of California Press

Course content-related study coaching

The staff is at the disposal of the students at fixed hours for additional guidance.

Interactive support via Minerva (forums, email)

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

Oral 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

Oral exam (non periodical): presentation (possibly in group) of the canonical authors and their work of one South Asian language of choice.

Second chance (non periodical): paper on the canonical authors and their work of one South Asian language of choice.

Written exam with open questions:

- Identification of terms and names discussed in class
- identification of literary texts (based on translations) discussed in class

Calculation of the examination mark

Written exam: 75%, Oral exam: 25%

Students who do not take part in the assessment of one or more parts of the course evaluation or obtain a mark of less than 10/20 for one of its parts cannot pass the course evaluation. Should the average mark be higher than 10/20, the final mark will be

reduced to the highest non-pass mark (= 9).

Facilities for Working Students

1. Possible exemption from educational activities requiring student attendance
2. Possible alternative examination on a different time in the same academic year
3. Alternative time for feedback: possible through email, telephone, or upon appointment