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.

Lecturers in academic year 2020-2021

DeBlock, Hugo  
Luyckfasseel, Margot  
Brinkman, Inge  
Stroeken, Koenraad  
Van Bockhaven, Vicky

Offered in the following programmes in 2020-2021

Bachelor of Arts in African Languages and Cultures 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; Research methods; Ethnographic, literary, historical and sociolinguistic fieldwork.

Position of the course

This course aims at familiarizing students with ethnographic, literary, historical and/or sociolinguistic fieldwork in Africa.

Contents

This course aims at familiarizing the students with fieldwork in Africa. The course relates to a range of disciplines - obviously with a historical focus on ethnography, but including fieldwork methods for anthropology, history, literary studies and sociolinguistics. After a theoretical introduction, the course will be continued in a practical direction. The students will engage in an ethnographic fieldwork exercise and through this obtain (practical) knowledge of:
- Ethnographic fieldwork: critical perspectives on the past
- New ways: multi-sited fieldwork, mobile fieldwork and web-research.
- Ethical aspects, positionality and representation.
- Interview techniques: developing a research question, selection of interlocutors, preparation (questions, background of the interlocutors, etc); the interview as genre.
- (Non-) participant observation: observation as discourse.
- Fieldwork notes, transcription and processing: data processing as hierarchizing process.
- Reporting fieldwork.

Initial competences
No specific requirements

Final competences
1. Having acquired a basic knowledge of the theoretical background of fieldwork in Africa
2. Having acquired a basic knowledge of the history of ethnographic fieldwork in Africa
3. Having acquired insight into the interaction between language, culture and society and having acquired the ability to integrate this insight into own research.
4. Being able to think critically about linguistic and communicative aspects of social and cultural processes.
5. Being able to critically reflect on autonomously conducted fieldwork and analyse the researcher's positionality in this.
6. Having acquired the basic techniques to conduct fieldwork from a sociolinguistic, literary, historical and/or anthropological perspective and being able to apply these independently in a self-chosen research context.
7. Being able to carry out fieldwork research and being able to report on this orally and in writing individually.

Conditions for credit contract
Access to this course unit via a credit contract is determined after successful competences assessment

Conditions for exam contract
This course unit cannot be taken via an exam contract

Teaching methods
Guided self-study, lecture, fieldwork, seminar, self-reliant study activities, lecture: plenary exercises, seminar: coached exercises, lecture: response lecture, online lecture

Extra information on the teaching methods
Please note: As a consequence of COVID19 possibly other didactical methods may be used in case of need.
In case: Each course-meeting will be preceded by half an hour online course (Powerpoint with audio's). This part is non-periodical, but has to be consulted prior to the course meeting.
After a theoretical-methodological introduction, the students will carry out a fieldwork exercise.
The participation of non-Dutch speaking students will be facilitated.

Learning materials and price
Articles and course material.

References

Course content-related study coaching
Interactive teaching - and learning methods;
Feedback during every phase of the learning process (on appointment).

Evaluation methods
end-of-term evaluation and continuous assessment

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

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

Examination methods in case of permanent evaluation
Participation, skills test

Possibilities of retake in case of permanent evaluation
examination during the second examination period is possible

Extra information on the examination methods
NPE: Participation and exercises.

(Approved)
PE: Written report on the fieldwork exercise (including theoretical-conceptual framework (duly annotated), methodological aspects, diary, interview transcripts, and - in case - audiovisual materials) + defence

Calculation of the examination mark
80% fieldwork report and defence
20% interim (oral) presentation and participation.

NB:
The oral defence of the report will take place on campus or online: depending on the situation in connection to COVID19.
Students are required to acquire a pass for both evaluation forms (NPE and PE).

Facilities for Working Students
1. Exemption from educational activities requiring student attendance is only possible under specified conditions.
2. Possible rescheduling of the examination to a different time in the same academic year.
3. Feedback can be given by email, telephone or on appointment during or before office hours
For more information concerning flexible learning: contact the monitoring service of the faculty of Arts and Philosophy and http://www.flw.ugent.be/flexibelstuderen.