Course Specifications
Valid as from the academic year 2019-2020

History of Sciences, from the Antiquity until the Renaissance (A005372)

Course

Lecturers in academic year 2020-2021
Vanden Broecke, Steven
LW03 lecturer-in-charge

Course offerings and teaching methods in academic year 2020-2021
A (semester 1) Dutch guided self-study 5.0 h

Offered in the following programmes in 2020-2021
Bachelor of Arts in Archaeology 5 A
Bachelor of Arts in History 5 A
Bachelor of Arts in Philosophy 5 A

Teaching languages
Dutch

Keywords
History of science, antiquity, middle ages, Renaissance.

Position of the course
This basic course offers an introduction to the history of the sciences from Greco-Roman antiquity to the Renaissance (c. 500 BCE -1600 CE).

Contents
On the basis of a study of different scientific disciplines (astronomy, astrology, natural philosophy, medicine, etc.), we investigate the relation between science and its political, social, and cultural context. Longue durée developments are also considered.

Initial competences
No prior knowledge of mathematics and science is required. Nor is any knowledge presupposed of Latin or Greek.

Final competences
1 Having insight in basic philosophical, sociological and historical approaches to science
2 Having knowledge of some of the main scientific achievements from the period 500 BC-1600 AD.
3 Being able to situate the Greco-Roman scientific disciplines and their successors in their specific political, social, or cultural context.
4 Having insight in the main differences, both in terms of content and methodology, between these disciplines and their contemporary equivalents.
5 Being able to read premodern scientific texts in a historical-contextual manner.

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, lecture: response lecture

(Approved)
Learning materials and price
*David Lindberg, Pioniers van de westerse wetenschap. De Europese wetenschappelijke traditie in filosofische, religieuze en institutionele context, 600 v.C.-1450 n.C. (Amsterdam: Boom), c. 15 euro
*Selected primary sources, lecturer’s notes, ppt.

References

Course content-related study coaching
  Questions and help in class and during office hours.

Evaluation methods
  end-of-term evaluation

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

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

Examination methods in case of permanent evaluation

Possibilities of retake in case of permanent evaluation
  not applicable

Extra information on the examination methods
  Oral examination, with written preparation.

Calculation of the examination mark
  End-of-term assessment (100%)

Facilities for Working Students
  1. Possible exemption from educational activities requiring student attendance
  2. The examination can be rescheduled
  3. Alternative time for feedback is possible
  For more information concerning flexible learning: contact the monitoring service of the faculty of Arts and philosophy