

Geographic Field Work (C001551)

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 8.0 **Study time** 240 h **Contact hrs** 90.0 h

Course offerings and teaching methods in academic year 2020-2021

A (year)	Dutch	Gent	lecture	10.0 h
			fieldwork	60.0 h

Lecturers in academic year 2020-2021

Van Eetvelde, Veerle	WE12	lecturer-in-charge
----------------------	------	--------------------

Offered in the following programmes in 2020-2021

	crdts	offering
Master of Science in Teaching in Science and Technology (main subject Geography)	8	A
Master of Science in Geography	8	A

Teaching languages

Dutch

Keywords

A multiple-day foreign study trip, field work, international collaboration

Position of the course

This course emphasizes international fieldwork and research stay in which the various field techniques for data collection, scientific analysis and interpretation as well as reporting are carried out in an international field of study. The destination is determined annually by the study program committee on the proposal of the responsible lecturer concerned and with the participation of the students. Emphasis is on integrated geography including physical, landscape, cartographic, and social and economic aspects. Specific attention to geographic phenomena not common in Belgium, whereby students come into contact with various actors, innovative experiences and become acquainted with contemporary challenges of geography. The organization is done in collaboration with an international university, whereby the students collaborate with other students in an international context.

Contents

1. Introduction of the geographical context of the destination, introduction to international partner university (activities take place during the first semester in Ghent).
2. Selection and elaboration of research themes project work in group: the selection of themes is determined in consultation with the students on the basis of their interests and the possibilities of the destination and the partner university. The research plan of the project works is designed together with the students of the partner university by means of an intermediate presentation (activities take place during the second semester in Ghent prior to departure).
3. Multi-day fieldwork consisting of (1) introduction to specific geographical phenomena of the destination, (2) fieldwork for the execution of the research projects, (3) processing and oral presentation of the results of the research projects (activities take place during the excursion period the second semester).

Initial competences

Final competences Bachelor Geography and Geomatics (main subject: geography), or similar.

Final competences

- 1 Have a thorough knowledge of advanced/specialised geographic methods (including mapping, map analysis, landscape analysis, statistical data analysis, conducting polls and surveys (drawing up, taking and processing), field recordings and measurements, laboratory analyses, graphic representation of results, modelling) and be able to apply these correctly in a research context.
- 2 Have an insight into the possibilities and limitations of the various techniques.
- 3 Be competent in consulting professional geographic literature and be able to judge its relevance, taking a critical scientific attitude.
- 4 Have developed their analytical and synthesising skills and be able to independently formulate new geographic problems in their full complexity and to analyse and solve them by selecting and applying the most suitable scientific method.
- 5 Be capable of analysing the phenomena studied on different spatial scales and combining the insights gained on those different scales.
- 6 Be able to work productively as a team member.
- 7 Be proficient in presenting the results of their own scientific research in writing, presenting a well-founded and scientifically justified account, either in a personal report or in a group report.
- 8 Give a fluent and well-structured oral presentation (English) of the results, using suitable communication techniques.
- 9 Collaborate in an interdisciplinary and international context.

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

Group work, lecture, fieldwork, seminar, research project

Extra information on the teaching methods

During lectures prior to the excursion, the students receive an introduction to the geographical aspects of the destination, after which a choice of research theme is decided that will be worked out (eventually together with the students of the international university). During the integration seminars, these research themes are elaborated, which are developed and presented during the fieldwork and project. Certain educational activities can be organized online, but taken into account the large interaction and intensive group processes, on campus activities are recommended.

Learning materials and price

Syllabus, partly made by the students themselves (preparation and reporting). The students are contributing to the cost of travel and accommodation. Cost: 700 EUR

References

Specialist literature, various handbooks, map material of the relevant region.

Course content-related study coaching

Intensive guidance by teachers before and during fieldwork.

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, portfolio

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

Written examination with open questions, portfolio

Examination methods in case of permanent evaluation

Participation, assignment, peer assessment

Possibilities of retake in case of permanent evaluation

examination during the second examination period is possible

Calculation of the examination mark

In order to pass for this course (at first or second examination chance), one should participate to the study trip.

Non-periodical evaluation (70%) + periodical evaluation (30%).

The non-periodic evaluation comprises the preparatory phase (intermediate presentations), the fieldwork during the study trip and the presentation during the study trip. The periodic evaluation includes the final report.

For the second examination chance, the non-periodical evaluation is offered in an alternative form between first and second examination period.