

Course Specifications

Valid as from the academic year 2019-2020

Project City, Enterprise and Mobility (C003536)

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 5.0 Study time 150 h Contact hrs 60.0 h

Course offerings and teaching methods in academic year 2020-2021

A (semester 1)	Dutch	Gent	self-reliant study activities	5.0 h
			guided self-study	25.0 h
			seminar	30.0 h

Lecturers in academic year 2020-2021

Derudder, Ben 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)	5	A
Master of Science in Geography	5	A

Teaching languages

Dutch

Keywords

Research design, methodology, approaches to social and economic geography

Position of the course

Applying knowledge about social and economic-geographic questions in a research design

Contents

This course prepares students to successfully design and carry out research towards a Master's thesis

Initial competences

Students should be acquainted with:

- commonly used quantitative and cartographic research methods;
- the written presentation of scientific work;
- the basic concepts and literature used in social and economic geography

Final competences

- 1 Independently develop a feasible and theoretically-informed research design for research of the size and the quality of a Master's thesis in social and economic geography.
- 2 Elaborate this research design orally and in writing.
- 3 Situate research in the main approaches towards social and economic geography from circa 1960 onwards.
- 4 Knowledge of all major social and economic-geographical research methods, including interview techniques.

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, seminar, self-reliant study activities

Extra information on the teaching methods

Seminar in which the active participation of the students is expected, encouraged and assessed. Each student is expected to read the relevant literature prior to the seminar, and to be able to raise questions and ambiguities emerging from reading this literature. Each seminar is accompanied by a specific short instruction or the requirement to post questions and/or theses (which will be used during class) on Ufora. The content of the seminar is driven by guided self-study, as it will be based on the questions raised by the students themselves. The discussion during the seminar is preferably a debate amongst students, but there will be lecturer interventions as needed. In the seminars, the questions raised by the students are framed in a powerpoint detailing the key insights from the literature. To facilitate the discussion, this powerpoint presentation will only be distributed after class.

There is a practical lab session where students collectively work on their hands-on interview skills, and at the end of this course there is an individual assignment in which the student has to develop and present a research design for a Master's thesis: students have to come up with a correct research question, choose a methodology that allows them to correctly answer that question, and outline a feasible methodology to tackle the research within the course of an academic year. A draft of the research design has to be presented during the final seminar, after which - taking into account feedback from fellow students and the lecturer - a written version has to be handed in.

Learning materials and price

Cox, K.R. (2014), *Making Human Geography*. New York: The Guilford Press. Estimated cost: 25 euro

Syllabus with additional readings. Estimated: 15 euro

References

- Blaikie, N. (2009), *Designing Social Research*. Cambridge: Polity Press.
- Clifford, N.J. & Valentine, G. (2003), *Key Methods in Geography*. London: Sage.
- Emans, B. (2002) Interviewen; theorie, techniek, training. Groningen/Houten: Stenfert Kroese. pp. 61-83.
- Flowerdew, R and Martin, D. (1997), *Methods in human geography. A guide for students doing a research project*. Harlow: Prentice Hall.
- Gerring, J. (2011), *Social Science Methodology: A Unified Framework*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.
- Kitchin, R. & Tate, N.J. (2000), *conducting Research into Human Geography: theory methodology & Practice*. Harlow: Prentice Hall.
- Moses, J.W. & Knutsen, T. (2012), *Ways of knowing: competing methodologies in social and political research*. New York: Palgrave. MacMillan
- Peet, R. (1998). *Modern Geographical Thought*. Oxford / Malden: Blackwell Publishers.

Course content-related study coaching

Assistance by AAP and via Ufora

Evaluation methods

continuous assessment

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

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

Examination methods in case of permanent evaluation

Participation, assignment

Possibilities of retake in case of permanent evaluation

examination during the second examination period is possible

Extra information on the examination methods

Non-periodical assessment based on participation during the seminars, and the oral and written presentation of the research design

Calculation of the examination mark

Participation prior to and during the seminars (20%), oral presentation of the research design (20%), paper with written elaboration of the research design (60%)