Course Specifications
Valid as from the academic year 2020-2021

Advanced Course in Dutch Language Mastery (K001312)

Course
Specifications

Lecturers in academic year 2020-2021
De Caluwe, Johan LW06 lecturer-in-charge

Course offerings and teaching methods in academic year 2020-2021
A (semester 1) Dutch lecture: plenary exercises seminar

Offered in the following programmes in 2020-2021

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Teaching languages
Dutch

Keywords
mastery of a language, Dutch

Position of the course
The goal of this course is to impart to the students in Master of Arts in the Communication Sciences a better than average command of the Dutch language, in accordance with expectations in the field of action where the students will end up working.

Contents
Structured overview of the most common issues in the mastery of a language: how do you write something (spelling/punctuation)? What is the correct pronunciation? What is the correct word? How do you improve syntax and style? Students independently assimilate the ‘material’, using a textbook and suitable websites. During the seminar additional explanation is provided where needed, while the main emphasis especially lies on doing plenty of exercises.

Initial competences
Solid basic knowledge of Dutch

Final competences
1 The student is aware of the ‘sensitive’ spots in the average Flemish person’s command of the Dutch language.
2 The student can handle the sources that inform him/her on what is correct/wrong, appropriate/less suitable in Dutch.
3 The student is able to recognize and correct errors in Dutch in texts.
4 The student is conscious of the fact that what is considered to be correct or wrong changes in time.
5 The student is aware of the fact that he/she will have to continue to gather information on evolutions in the use of a language and the attitudes toward this.
6 The student is able to choose in front of different target audiences the words and expressions from the correct register.

Conditions for credit contract

(Proposal)
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
Seminar, lecture: plenary exercises

Extra information on the teaching methods
In the plenary sessions and exercises students learn to differentiate between Standard (Belgian/Dutch) Dutch. This will contribute to the professional character of their own texts (spoken/written), and enables them to evaluate and edit texts from others. By focussing on the pluricentric character of Dutch and on the stylistic variation in Dutch, students learn that norms in language matters are relative in space and time, that they are context sensitive, and that the difference between good/bad language is to a certain degree a construction of the mind.

Learning materials and price

Syllabus and exercises distributed via Ufora.
Cost: 25 EUR

References
Alphabetical surveys of language issues on websites, e.g., of the Nederlandse Taalunie (Dutch Linguistic Union) and VRT (Flemish Radio and Television).

Course content-related study coaching
Interactive support through Ufora.
By appointment

Evaluation methods
end-of-term evaluation and continuous assessment

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

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

Examination methods in case of permanent evaluation
Written examination

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

Extra information on the examination methods
During the final exam students are tested on the degree in which they can show a sufficient mastery of the Dutch language. They have to "correct" a text, i.e. indicate and replace what is wrong according to the norms of standard Belgian/Dutch Dutch, and thereby differentiating between what is really wrong and what is mere stylistic idiomaticity of the author.

Calculation of the examination mark
Continuous/Periodic assessment (50%/50%)

(Proposal)