



Course Specifications

Valid as from the academic year 2015-2016

Critical Global Theories (A004064)

Course size *(nominal values; actual values may depend on programme)*

Credits 5.0 **Study time** 150 h **Contact hrs** 45.0 h

Course offerings and teaching methods in academic year 2015-2016

A (semester 1)	lecture	5.0 h
	group work	15.0 h
	integration seminar	5.0 h
	seminar	15.0 h

Lecturers in academic year 2015-2016

Vanhaute, Eric LW03 lecturer-in-charge

Offered in the following programmes in 2015-2016

	crdts	offering
Master of Arts in History	5	A
Exchange Programme for students of the Erasmus Mundus Joint Master in Global Studies: A European Perspective (Co-ordinator Universität Leipzig)	5	A
Exchange Programme History	5	A

Teaching languages

English

Keywords

Human history, transitions, development and social change, civilizations, historical capitalism, globalization, ideology and world views, social sciences.

Position of the course

This course provides a critical introduction into theories and concepts of 'global studies', with applications on the basis of a set of historical or current research problems. The course aims to impart to students a critical insight into various and divergent models of explanation of social change on a global scale and in the long run. The range is broad, from perspectives on modernization, over dependentia and world systems theories, to globalization theories. Students acquire a nuanced insight into the pros and cons of holistic models of analysis and are able to critically apply these. In addition, they are familiarized with the core concepts of global studies and world history, with the main criticisms of these notions and with applications within the different social sciences.

Contents

We start with an introduction on the divergent conceptualizations of global studies and global/world history. Next, some debates on global social change are situated within the field of social-historical studies. This is done by a series of discussion seminars with an active participation of the students.

Initial competences

Bachelor degree

Final competences

- 1 The students critically interrogate research questions from the social and human sciences within the context of global studies
- 2 They know the most important theories and concepts in the research field of global studies, and are able to critically evaluate them
- 3 They have a critical overview of international research and they integrate international literature in their own research

- 4 They analyze and interpret independently social processes in a global context, and discuss critically processes of globalization
- 5 They present research results orally for a professional and a non-professional public
- 6 They work together in a interdisciplinary setting, and evaluate this critically

Conditions for credit contract

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

Conditions for exam contract

Access to this course unit via an exam contract is unrestricted: the student takes into consideration the conditions mentioned in 'Starting Competences'

Teaching methods

Group work, lecture, integration seminar, seminar

Extra information on the teaching methods

A small number of introductory lectures will be followed by various discussion meetings on the basis of literature to be read prior to the meetings. Students participate actively, the language is English.

Learning materials and price

Reader with introductory texts. Cost: 20 EUR

References

Course content-related study coaching

Appointment via email, Minerva. Teaching assistant: Alexander Jocqué, Alexander.Jocque@UGent.be

Evaluation methods

end-of-term evaluation and continuous assessment

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

Oral examination, assignment

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

Oral examination, assignment

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

Course work: collaboration in courses, position papers, group paper

Calculation of the examination mark

70% permanent evaluation (participation in classes, position papers, group paper and presentation).

30% exam (oral examination)

Facilities for Working Students

Facilities:

- 1 Possible exemption from educational activities requiring student attendance
- 2 Possible rescheduling of the examination to a different time in the same academic year
- 3 Feedback can be given by email or during an appointment during office hours

Extra information:

Student attendance is required during the presentations and discussions

For more information concerning flexible learning: contact the monitoring service of the faculty of Arts and philosophy