

Dutch

DUTC 1003 (3 credits / 45 hours)

SIT Study Abroad Program:

The Netherlands: International Perspectives on Sexuality and Gender

PLEASE NOTE: This syllabus represents a recent semester. Because courses develop and change over time to take advantage of unique learning opportunities, actual course content varies from semester to semester.

Course Description

Language learning is a key part of a studying abroad. Although Dutch is not essential to survival in Amsterdam (most people are quite fluent in English), it is crucial to cultural immersion. Language is not only a tool for communication; it is also an important element of cultural understanding. Simply greeting a neighbor or storekeeper in Dutch will be greatly appreciated.

Language classes combine standard materials for teaching Dutch with specific materials about sexuality and gender found in the Netherlands. There will be regular homework assigned, and students are requested to speak by “trial and error” as much as possible. As English is frequently spoken in Amsterdam, the focus of the Dutch class is not survival Dutch, but to teach basic language understanding and to learn to read or skim texts in preparation for the ISP. We hope students will take the challenge of learning how to read short newspaper articles and journal abstracts to gain knowledge of their ISP topic in print media.

Learning Outcomes

By the end of the course, students should be able to engage in the following:

- Understand simple written and spoken Dutch;
- Use basic conversational skills;
- Manage basic Dutch vocabulary;
- Apply language skills within the context of the homestay and the Independent Study Project.

Course Readings

van der Toorn-Schutte, J. (2006). *Klare Taal! Uitgebreide basisgrammatica NT2*. Amsterdam: Boom.

Osselton, N. & Hempelman, R. (2003). *The new routledge dutch dictionary: Dutch-English and English- Dutch*. London/New York: Routledge.

Evaluation and Grading Criteria

Description of Assignments

Dutch Journal (30%):

Students will keep a journal of their Dutch study that will include homework, vocabulary lists, “found Dutch,” and class notes. Field notes from Dutch excursions will also be kept in the journal.

Midterm Exam (20%):

In this midterm exam, students are assessed in their ability to speak and write Dutch at a novice level.

Final Exam (40%):

In this final exam, students are assessed in their ability to speak and write Dutch at a novice level. The exam will be preceded by an exam preparation class.

Participation (10%):

The Dutch language and culture lecturer will assess your participation in class.

Participation includes:

- Attendance—promptness to class and positive presence in class
- Active listening—paying attention in class and during field excursions, asking appropriate questions, showing interest and enthusiasm, entertaining contradictory perspectives, taking notes
- Self-directed learning—reading the local paper and other materials to see the Dutch perspective on relevant issues, discussing issues with host families and others
- Involvement in-class discussions—either in small or large groups
- Group accountability during field excursions and classes
- Taking leadership roles—leading and guiding discussions in a productive direction

Assessment:

Dutch Journal	30%
Midterm exam	20%
Final exam	40%
Participation	10%

Grading Scale

94-100%	A
90-93%	A-

87-89%	B+
84-86%	B
80-83%	B-
77-79%	C+
74-76%	C
70-73%	C-
67-69%	D+
64-66%	D
below 64%	F

Expectations and Policies

- Stow your phones. Google translate will not help you learn Dutch.
- Show up prepared. Arrive on time for every class, having completed your readings and prepared questions.
- Do your homework.
- Ask questions in class. Language learning is an active pursuit.
- Comply with academic integrity policies. Do not plagiarize, cheat, or in any other way act unethically.
- Respect your lecturers, classmates, and yourselves.

Please note: The syllabus, course content, and readings may be modified by the Academic Director in order to better suit the needs of the course and its participants. Should any change of class topics or lecturers be necessary, students will be promptly notified.

Academic Policies: SIT prides itself on providing students with an experientially based program; we hold ourselves, and our students, to the highest of academic standards. Students are asked to refer to the **SIT Study Abroad Handbook** for policies on academic integrity, ethics, academic warning and probation, diversity and disability, sexual harassment and the academic appeals process.

Disability Services: Students with disabilities are encouraged to contact Disability Services at disabilityservices@sit.edu for information and support in facilitating an accessible educational experience. Additional information regarding SIT Disability Services, including a link to the online request form, can be found on the Disability Services website at <http://studyabroad.sit.edu/disabilityservices>.