



CIEE in Amsterdam, the Netherlands

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| Course name: | Beginning Dutch |
| Course number: | DUTC 1003 NETH |
| Programs offering course: | Social Sciences + Business and Culture |
| Language of instruction: | English and Dutch |
| U.S. Semester Credits: | 3 |
| Contact Hours: | 45 |
| Term: | Fall 2018 |
| Office address: | CIEE Study Center, Roetersstraat 8-hs, 1018 WC Amsterdam |
| Office hours: | By appointment |

Course Description

The Beginning Dutch course is for students traveling to the Netherlands with little or no prior knowledge of the Dutch language who are interested in learning the Dutch language and more about the Netherlands: the people, environment, and culture.

During the course the aim will be to enable students to express themselves in Dutch and to understand the Dutch language around them, both spoken and written. While the main focus of the course will be on the Dutch language, as language and culture are closely intertwined, students will also learn to understand the Dutch people, environment and culture better.

The course focuses on different subjects, such as introducing oneself, asking for information, describing objects and people, asking questions and providing information about work, study and hobbies, expressing an opinion, giving advice, etc. The Dutch Language course offers a varied combination of day-to-day oral interactions, grammar, vocabulary, speaking, listening, reading, writing and pronunciation.

The class meets twice a week for the duration of +/- 16 weeks (blocks 1 & 2). The course includes a field assignment in pairs (two students) and a presentation of this assignment.

Learning Objectives

The goal of the course is to provide students with a basic level of Dutch with respect to vocabulary, grammar and speaking. Upon completing the course, students can expect:

- To be able to have day-to-day interactions and conversations with Dutch locals
- To understand basic written and spoken Dutch
- To write short texts such as emails or invitations in Dutch
- Dutch language will be embedded in Dutch culture.

The emphasis of the course will be on the use of the Dutch language in day-to-day communicative situations.

Course Prerequisites

No prerequisites

Methods of Instruction



Students will play an active role in the Beginning Dutch course. The course requires students to cooperate in small groups and take part in interactive classroom activities. Class activities include but are not limited to conversation, reading and writing, role-playing, listening to conversations/discussions, watching (excerpts of) Dutch television programs, improving their pronunciation, participating in language games and discussions.

The instruction of the course will focus on grammar, spelling, vocabulary and pronunciation. The course material will serve as a guideline during the course.

The course includes a field assignment: students have to document (by video) a typical, authentic, day-to-day situation in the Netherlands (market place, supermarket, dikes, beach etc.). The results will be presented in class at the end of the course.

Assessment and Final Grade

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| 1. Midterm: | 25% |
| 2. Quiz: | 20% |
| 3. Final exam: | 30% |
| 4. Attendance and class participation: | 10% |
| 5. Field assignments and presentation: | 15% |

Course Requirements

Midterm 25%

Students will complete a midterm examination half-way through the Beginning Dutch course. The midterm exam tests chapters 1 – 5 of the textbook, with grammar components such as: personal pronouns, the present tense, the structure of sentences, possessive pronouns, inversion, plurals, adjectives, the imperative and modal verbs. The exam will also include the testing of students' vocabulary and a short writing assignment.

Quiz 20%

Students will complete one quiz through the course. The first quiz focusses on chapter 1 – 2.

Final exam 30%



Students will complete a final exam at the end of the course. The final exam tests chapters 1-9, with grammar components such as comparatives and superlatives, demonstrative pronouns, object forms of personal pronouns, negation, prepositions and the past tense. The final will mainly include a few short writing assignments.

All tests will only cover the readings used in class (Nederlands in gang (NiG) and Concise Dutch Grammar (CDG)). Extra readings on culture, language, language acquisition etc. will not be tested.

Attendance and class participation 10%

Each student is expected to attend all sessions of the course and to participate actively in class discussion and during field trips. Attendance will be taken every week by the course instructor. Participation will be assessed according to the CIEE Amsterdam attendance policy:

1x absence = ok

2x absence = extra assignment (1 page in consultation with the professor)

3x absence = 1 point off final grade

4x absence = fail the course

If a student comes in 15-30 minutes late to class, this counts as a ½ absence. At all times the student needs to inform the professor before the start of class in case of an absence. Failure to notify the teacher regarding an absence in advance will result in an extra assignment.

Important: please note that in case you cannot attend a graded examination or assignment (e.g. midterm exam, final exam, presentation, graded fieldtrip) because of illness, it is required to hand in a written doctor's note with your teacher.

Students who make active connections to the concepts from the reading materials in class discussions, students who actively ask questions, and students who actively reflect on out-of-class experiences in class will receive extra points for participation. Additional writing assignments can be received on request. Handing in those assignments can be rewarded with extra participation points. Participation points will be deducted when students do not participate in class or who have not read the materials before coming to class.

Field assignments and presentation 15%

There will be two Field assignments during this course. One assignment is a written assignment combined with a museum visit during class. The second assignment is a



presentation about an item, custom or situation that strikes you as being typically Dutch. Both assignments are due at the end of the course.

Students are expected to do their homework and to hand in their assignments before the given deadline (either in print or by email, unless communicated differently). A specific course schedule will be distributed during the first class, outlining a weekly schedule of the lessons, homework and assignments.

All assigned homework is mandatory, including homework that does not have to be handed in. The teacher will check whether students have done their homework on a regular basis.

Plagiarism is strictly forbidden. If a student is found guilty of plagiarism, he or she will fail the course.

Resits are not offered for CIEE courses.

Note about all assignments: Late assignments will be marked down with 1 point off. Assignments more than 3 days (72 hours) late will not be accepted.

Weekly Schedule

Week 1: Introduction and "Welkom" (Welcome)

Week 2: "In de kantine" ("In the cafeteria")

Week 3: "In het café" ("In a café")

Week 4: "Op straat" ("On the street")

Week 5: "Op de markt" ("At the market")

Week 6: "In een restaurant" ("At a restaurant")

Week 7: Reading week (no class)

Week 8: "In een kledingwinkel" ("At a clothing store")

Week 9: Field trip + "Bij de makelaar" ("At the broker")

Week 10: "Bij de huisarts" ("At the doctor")

Week 11: Group presentations + final exam

Week 12: Group presentations + wrap-up meeting

Readings

Boer, Berna de et al. Nederlands in gang. Bussum, Coutinho, 2012 or revised 2017. Print. (NiG)

Or Pdf published on Canvas or distributed by teacher.

Mandatory to buy the license for on-line studying.

Rietveld, Dick/Klep, Hanneke Concise Dutch Grammar, Groningen, Wolters-Noordhoff, 2003. (CDG)