



Exchange programme Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam

Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam - Exchange programme Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam - 2024-2025

Exchange

Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam offers many English-taught courses in a variety of subjects, ranging from arts & culture and social sciences, neurosciences and computer science, to economics and business administration.

The International Office is responsible for course approval and course registration for exchange students. For details about course registration, requirements, credits, semesters and so on, please [visit the exchange programmes webpages](#).

Document Design

Course Code	L_AABACIW207
Credits	6
Period	P4
Course Level	200
Language Of Tuition	English
Faculty	Faculty of Humanities
Course Coordinator	dr. W.G. Reijnierse
Examiner	dr. W.G. Reijnierse
Teaching Staff	dr. W.G. Reijnierse, F. van Bruggen
Teaching method(s)	Seminar, Lecture

Course Objective

- To get acquainted with theories on genre, information processing and text comprehension of different text types: informative, persuasive and instructive.
- To learn which linguistic characteristics play a role in the quality of different texts.
- To reflect on different texts in an analytical way and to judge their quality.
- To apply the knowledge and insights by identifying problems within a text, conducting user research and giving advice for rewriting it.
- To present research findings in a creative and scientific way.

Course Content

During this course, we will try to understand how certain choices in the design of a document can help us to inform, convince or instruct its receiver. We will pay attention to various theories on information processing and text comprehension, and we will use these theories to understand how the characteristics of a certain document help to reach its goal. By analyzing examples from informative, persuasive and instructive texts from different domains, students learn to recognize linguistic phenomena that play a role in document design and they will at the end of the course be able to analyze the problems of a text, to improve it/rewrite it and to draw conclusions about its functionality by conducting user research.

Additional Information Teaching Methods

One lecture and one seminar (mandatory attendance) per week will be scheduled.

This course has seminars, but you cannot self-register for a group. If you want to know the times of all the workgroups, go to rooster.vu.nl, click on the options at the right hand side of the course title and select 'Choose groups'. In the first week, your specific work group will be assigned by the course coordinator.

Method of Assessment

One group assignment (50%) and one exam (50%).
Both the assignment and the exam should be graded with minimally 5.5 out of 10 points.
The group assignment may consist of sub assignments.

Literature

Scientific articles and book chapters, to be announced on Canvas.

Additional Information Target Audience

Second year BA students in Communication and Information Studies (specialisation 'Language and Media') and other interested students.

