



Bachelor's courses Faculty of Humanities

VU University Amsterdam - Student- & Onderwijszaken - Exchange programme Vrije Universiteit - 2018-2019

History of Knowledge

Course code	L_AABAALG207 ()
Period	Period 4
Credits	6.0
Language of tuition	English
Faculty	Faculteit der Geesteswetenschappen
Coordinator	prof. dr. J.M. Koppenol
Examinator	prof. dr. J.M. Koppenol
Teaching staff	prof. dr. J.M. Koppenol, prof. dr. F.H. van Lunteren, dr. A.L. Tervoort, dr. C.M. van den Akker, dr. A.C. Flipse, dr. H.M.E.P. Kuijpers, S. Scholz MA, dr. N.F.F. Karrouche
Teaching method(s)	Lecture, Seminar
Level	200

Course objective

After completing this course, students will:

- have an understanding of the main historical developments that formed our idea of what scientific knowledge is;
- understand how a number of institutions helped to form, keep and pass on this knowledge;
- have a broad overview of different styles of practicing science;
- be able to reflect on the position of their own discipline within the greater scheme of all academic knowledge.

Course content

In the course History of Knowledge we will focus on questions about what knowledge is and what was seen as valuable knowledge, from classical antiquity up until today, and the way this knowledge was passed through during time, with special attention for the institutions that played a major role in the process: the library, monasteries, the university, the Republic of Letters, the Museum, the new disciplines of the 19th century, the laboratory and the latest developments in the e-humanities. The students will learn about different styles and methods to develop new knowledge, preserve existing knowledge, and the coherence and differences between the sciences and the humanities.

Form of tuition

The course consists of lectures (2 x 2 hours a week).

Type of assessment

Final written examination. The grade for the examination is the final grade.

Course reading

Ian F. McNeely en Lisa Wolverton, Reinventing Knowledge.
From Alexandria to the Internet (New York & Londen 2008 or later reprint); articles (to be announced in the course schedule).

Entry requirements

None

Target group

This course is part of the 2nd year Bachelor's programs History, Literature & Society: English, Literatuur & Samenleving: Nederlands;

MADA.

Remarks

This course is part of the Academic Core. Attendance at the lectures is compulsory. Students may miss 2 classes (with a valid reason); 3 missed classes mean an extra assignment; students who miss 4 classes fail this course.