Dutch as a foreign language courses

Timing and timetable

Dutch as a foreign language 1 (Y04167) is an intensive ‘Dutch crash course’ taught in September before the start of the academic year. It starts on the first Monday of September and ends with an examination on the Wednesday before the start of the first term. Courses run from 10.00 to 12.30 and from 13.30 to 16.00 every day.

⇒ 2017-2018: Monday September 4 – Wednesday September 20

Dutch as a foreign language 2 (Y04168) is the follow-up course of Dutch as a foreign language 1, which takes place weekly on a fixed evening (to be decided upon by students and lecturer) during the first term. There are about 12 classes of 3 hours each. The follow-up course can only be followed by students who also took Dutch as a foreign language 1. If a student already has a basic knowledge of Dutch, he/she can contact int.arts.antwerp@kuleuven.be to see if he/she can take the follow-up course only. However, in this case the course material of Dutch as a foreign language 1 will be self-study and the student will have to take part in the corresponding exam in September first.

Level

The courses are intended for students who have no knowledge of Dutch and who want to gain some basic knowledge of the language. After completing Dutch as a foreign language 2, students should have acquired an A1 level according to the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages. However, there is no formal certificate to prove this level.

For students who already study Dutch in their home university, it might be good to know that all the other Dutch courses at Sint-Andries Campus require a C1 level for Dutch. Some students who have studied Dutch in their home university but who have a B2 rather than a C1 level are able to attend some of our Dutch-taught courses as well. If it becomes clear that their level is not high enough to successfully complete the ‘native’ Dutch courses at Sint-Andries Campus, students can look for opportunities elsewhere in Antwerp (see below: ‘Studying Dutch during the second semester or studying Dutch elsewhere in Antwerp’).

Cost

On the first day of class, students pay € 73 for the course book and text book (together). They should bring the exact amount. There are no additional tuition fees for exchange students.

Examination

The examination of Dutch as a foreign language 1 takes place on the Wednesday before the start of the first term (for 2017-2018: Wednesday September 20); the examination of Dutch as a foreign language 2 takes place during the last class at the end of December. Both examinations are written, but also include an oral part. There are open questions that evaluate the subject matter treated during the classes.

Credits

Both Dutch as a foreign language 1 and Dutch as a foreign language 2 are official KU Leuven courses that count for 3 credits each. It is the responsibility of the sending institution to decide whether their students can valorise the credits at home if they do not study Dutch in their home university. For the Postgraduate Programme in Specialised Translation students, this course is voluntary and does not count for any credits. If you want to receive a certificate of attendance, please contact int.arts.antwerp@kuleuven.be.
Registration
Exchange students from KU Leuven, Faculty of Arts, Sint-Andries Campus Antwerp are asked to register through the online application form for Sint-Andries Campus: https://kulantwerp.moveon4.com/form/58f626cb3e5d66c314219b30/eng.

Students from KU Leuven, Faculty of Economics and Business in Antwerp (Campus Carolus) and students in the Postgraduate Programme in Specialised Translation are asked to send an e-mail to int.arts.antwerp@kuleuven.be before August 15 to register for the course.

The course can only host about 20-25 students. Places are awarded on a ‘first come, first served’ basis.

Location
Both the courses and examinations take place at Sint-Andries Campus, Sint-Andriesstraat 2, 2000 Antwerp.

Study visit to another Belgian (Dutch speaking) city
Depending on the budget, the crash course participants will pay a visit to another Dutch speaking city in Belgium during the first or second week of the September crash course. Costs for public transport and a guided tour will be covered by KU Leuven, but meals are at the expense of the students.

Studying Dutch during the second semester or studying Dutch elsewhere in Antwerp
Unfortunately, the Dutch as a foreign language courses are not repeated or continued in the second semester, as Sint-Andries Campus welcomes most of its exchange students in the first term. However, there are other opportunities to study Dutch in Antwerp. You will need to pay course fees for these, however. First of all, there are the so-called CVOs (Dutch abbreviation for ‘centrum voor volwassenenonderwijs’ = ‘centre for adult education’), where they teach ‘NT2’ (Nederlands als tweede taal = Dutch as a second/foreign language). Below are the CVOs in Antwerp that offer NT2 (for contact details, see http://www.nt2antwerpen.be/centrum_voor_volwassenenonderwijs):
- Encora
- CVO LBC
- CVO Antwerpen
- CVO Sopro.

In Antwerp you also have Linguapolis, a language institute from the University of Antwerp. The courses start from ‘level 1’ onwards, but the level is supposed to be higher (the courses are more intensive than in CVOs). For those of you who have already studied Dutch, it might be advisable to take an entrance test so that you know whether you can already start in ‘level 2’. See https://www.uantwerpen.be/en/centres/linguapolis/language-courses/programme/dutch/ for more details about registration deadlines etc.

In Leuven, KU Leuven also organises Dutch courses in the second term (using the same handbook as we use here in the first term), in the so-called ‘ILT’ (Instituut voor Levende Talen = Institute for Living Languages). Officially, the courses are only meant for Erasmus students studying in Leuven, but you could try to register anyway; if you do not need to fill in that you are from another campus, it should not be a problem. However, level 1 for Erasmus students (the only free course in this list) starts from the basics again. It is not sure whether the level of those students having completed our crash course and continuation course will be high enough to start in level 2. Moreover, you would also need to travel to Leuven. More information: http://ilt.kuleuven.be/english/cursus/andere_ned_vr_erasmus.php.
Apart from this, there are also some online courses, e.g.
- https://www.futurelearn.com/courses/dutch
- https://www.nedbox.be/
- http://www.margoo.be/margoo/index/

Of course, if you have indicated in the online application that you would like to have a Belgian buddy, you can also practice Dutch with your Belgian buddy.

You can also start your search by making an appointment at 'Huis van het Nederlands' (House of Dutch) in Antwerp: http://www.nt2antwerpen.be/nederlands_leren/english. If you have not studied Dutch before, you are obliged to go there first before you go to any 'CVO'. 'Huis van het Nederlands' also assists you if you have some prior knowledge and want to study Dutch on your own, but you still need to go for the interview and test first.

Summer course in the city of Leuven
At KU Leuven in Leuven, you can also enrol for an intensive summer course Dutch in August. There, you can choose between several levels (unlike in our September course, where there is only 1 level). More information can be found on the following webpage: https://ilt.kuleuven.be/english/cursus/andere_zomercursus.php. Deadline for registration is June 22, 2017 or until classes are full.