

University of Pretoria Yearbook 2021

MA African-European Cultural Relations (Coursework) (01250015)

Department Modern European Languages

Minimum duration of study 2 years

Total credits 180

NQF level 09

Programme information

Students select one of the following five fields of specialisation:

1. Narratives, visual worlds, symbolic spaces.
2. Socio-historical dynamics.
3. African-European relations underlying our beliefs and values.
4. Political constructions.
5. Languages, cultures, translations.

Admission requirements

1. Relevant honours degree from any field in the humanities, social sciences, public administration, education or law
2. A cumulative weighted average of at least 70% for the honours degree
3. At least one European language other than English passed at first-year level

Other programme-specific information

1. Two of the 20-credit modules may be obtained at a university in Europe (study abroad programme).
2. If a student does not have a European language other than English at second-year level, such a module should be taken; otherwise a project/practical could be done in the selected field of specialisation in consultation with the 'field mentor'.

Curriculum: Year 1

Core modules

Cultural theory 801 (AKV 801)

Module credits	20.00
NQF Level	09
Prerequisites	No prerequisites.
Contact time	1 discussion class per week, 1 lecture per week
Language of tuition	Module is presented in English
Department	Ancient and Modern Languages and Cultures
Period of presentation	Semester 1

Module content

This module focuses on a critical interdisciplinary understanding of key concepts of European thought like the humanities, national identity and homogeneity, subject formation, essentialist versus non-essentialist understanding of “culture”, “identity”, “nation”, “reality”, etc.

History of African-European cultural relations 802 (AKV 802)

Module credits	20.00
NQF Level	09
Prerequisites	No prerequisites.
Contact time	1 discussion class per week, 1 lecture per week
Language of tuition	Module is presented in English
Department	Ancient and Modern Languages and Cultures
Period of presentation	Semester 2

Module content

The interrelatedness of “history”, “agency” and “memory” of the mutual constructive forces will be examined, leading to an understanding that one cannot possess one’s (“own”) history, tradition or culture, but rather that these are areas of cultural practice that are continuously in flux and being negotiated.

EU lekgotla 803 (AKV 803)

Module credits	10.00
NQF Level	09
Prerequisites	No prerequisites.
Contact time	14 contact hours
Language of tuition	Module is presented in English
Department	Ancient and Modern Languages and Cultures



Period of presentation Year

Module content

The EU lekgotla will provide students with a critical forum to present and discuss their research proposals.

Curriculum: Final year

Core modules

Applied additional module 804 (AKV 804)

Module credits	20.00
NQF Level	09
Prerequisites	No prerequisites.
Contact time	depends on the selection of project/language
Language of tuition	Module is presented in English
Department	Ancient and Modern Languages and Cultures
Period of presentation	Semester 1

Module content

The credits for this module can either be obtained by taking a European language -other than English - at second-year level or by completing a project in the selected field of specialisation in consultation with the 'field mentor'.

Interdisciplinary studies in African-European relations 805 (AKV 805)

Module credits	20.00
NQF Level	09
Prerequisites	No prerequisites.
Contact time	determined by Field Mentor
Language of tuition	Module is presented in English
Department	Ancient and Modern Languages and Cultures
Period of presentation	Semester 2

Module content

(NB In consultation with the field mentor in the student's selected field of specialisation)

Field 1: Narratives, visual worlds, symbolic spaces.

This field deals with stories people tell themselves to make sense of their existence, as well as with symbols and imaginary reality constructions. It leads to a critical re-evaluation of truth granting processes.

Mentors: Prof Amanda du Preez (Visual Arts), Prof Fraser McNeill (Anthropology)

Field 2: Socio-historical dynamics

This field deals with the chronology and dynamics of (power) relations, encounters, counter-encounters and its effects. This can include sociological, political, historical or other approaches towards such dynamics.

Mentors: Prof Alois Mlambo (Historical and Heritage Studies), Prof Janis Grobbelaar (Sociology)

Field 3: African-European relations underlining our beliefs and values.

This can include studies of the history of human rights in Africa, of gender, class or race driven norms, of how such norms and traditions change, what we imagine as "our" norms, how norms are codified or what we take for granted.

Mentors: Prof Karin van Marle (Philosophy of Law), Prof Dirk Human (Religion Studies)

Field 4: Political constructions.

This refers to political constructions in public, private and market institutions on communal, national or inter- and transnational levels. It refers to the cultural practices and habits of agency, to how people make things happen, how to negotiate habits and social actions, how power or representation is created, organised, distributed and subverted.

Mentor: Prof Maxi Schoeman (Political Science)

Field 5: Languages, cultures, translations.

This refers to specific language-oriented approaches on the dynamics of African-European relations and refers to "language" as meaning making mechanism beyond mere communicative competences.

Mentors: Prof Russel West-Pavlov (English), Prof Willie Burger (Afrikaans)

Mini-dissertation: African-European cultural relations 895 (AKV 895)

Module credits 90.00

NQF Level 09

Prerequisites No prerequisites.

Language of tuition Module is presented in English

Department Ancient and Modern Languages and Cultures

Period of presentation Year

The information published here is subject to change and may be amended after the publication of this information. The [General Regulations \(G Regulations\)](#) apply to all faculties of the University of Pretoria. It is expected of students to familiarise themselves well with these regulations as well as with the information contained in the [General Rules](#) section.



Ignorance concerning these regulations and rules will not be accepted as an excuse for any transgression.