

# Syllabus – Conversation and Composition (Dutch 125)

UC Berkeley, Department of German & Dutch Studies

**Course Title:** Conversation and Composition

**Course Number:** Dutch 125

**Number of Units:** 4 semester units

**Offered in:** Spring 2024

**Course Meeting Times:** M-W-F 4-5pm

**Location:** Online in Zoom and in-person

**Instructor:** Esmée van der Hoeven

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**Office Hours:** TBA

**Personal Zoom Link:** TBA

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## COURSE DESCRIPTION

In this advanced language course, students will further develop their Dutch reading, speaking, and writing skills. Each week, students will get introduced to and practice with a different writing style. A wide range of texts, as well as the students' weekly write ups, will form the basis for in-class conversation practice. Students will expand their knowledge of Dutch vocabulary, expressions, and grammar, and will demonstrate this in class discussions and written work.

## PREREQUISITES

This course is open for students who successfully completed Dutch 110 *Advanced Dutch*, and students who have been tested to prove proficiency at that level.

## STUDENT LEARNING OBJECTIVES

In this advanced Dutch language course, students will learn to recognize different types of texts and distinguish between various text purposes. They will learn different styles and practices in writing and apply these in their own write-ups. Grammar wise, this course focuses on fine-tuning and the intricacies of vocabulary in use. Students will gain a deeper understanding of subtle differences in wording by exposure to different contexts and by applying this in their own spoken and written language production.

## COURSE STRUCTURE & METHODS OF INSTRUCTION

This class will meet three times a week, on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays, at the assigned hours. Since this class is open for both UC Berkeley students and for students from other UCs, instruction will be delivered in a format that allows for participation from both on campus and online students.

On Mondays, classes will be held fully in Zoom for all students. On Wednesdays and Fridays, classes will be held in-person on the UC Berkeley campus in a classroom with the necessary equipment to allow online students to join in via Zoom.

In this foreign language class, students will experience no real difference between in-person instruction and online instruction via Zoom. In both settings, students will meet with their classmates and their instructor during their regular class schedule. Whether in-person or online via Zoom, we will discuss the readings, vocabulary and grammar, we will practice together and engage in group conversation, students will be able to ask questions and

receive feedback from their instructor and classmates, and students will be able to divide in smaller groups (breakout rooms) and report back to the main room. In an in-person setting, the instructor will be in the physical classroom walking around while students divide in smaller groups to work on an assignment, while in Zoom, the instructor will visit the breakout rooms one by one in order to listen in and provide feedback. Outside of the regular class schedule, students will also be able to set up Zoom meetings amongst themselves, or meet in person on campus, to complete group work or pair activities as homework assignments.

Cross-Campus Students, who will be unable to attend in-person classes on the Berkeley campus, will join the in-person classes live via Zoom. The classroom is equipped with a big screen and a webcam with microphone: in-person students and the instructor will be able to see the Zoom-students on the big screen, while the Zoom-students will be able to see their Berkeley campus classmates and instructor on their own screens. Additionally, a separate laptop in the physical classroom will be present for campus-students to meet with Zoom-students when the class divides into breakout rooms. This will ensure the opportunity for campus-students and Zoom-students to interact with each other regardless of their “status” (and avoid a situation where campus-students would only be interacting with campus-students; and Zoom-students only interacting with Zoom-students).

The course program consists of 12 modules which are thematically arranged; each module focuses on a specific text type and/or writing style (see section Course Outline / Tentative Calendar of Topics). Each module consists of readings (homework), discussions (in class), student presentations (in class and/or recorded and published in bCourses), and write-ups (homework). Students will be expected to create their own personalized vocabulary list and expand on this list throughout the semester. This vocabulary list should contain newly learned and relevant words, with an English translation, and an example sentence in Dutch, to illustrate how the word is used in context. Moreover, students will be expected to use their newly learned words in conversations, write-ups, and presentations.

Cross-campus students: Please be advised that this course follows the UC Berkeley (semester) schedule of classes. For Spring 2024, the instruction start date is Wednesday January 17, 2024 and the instruction end date is Friday May 3, 2024.

## **COURSE RESOURCES & MATERIALS**

No books are required. All class materials will be made available in bCourses for students who are enrolled in this class. Class materials consist of selected texts from textbooks, websites, online news sources, and exercises such as practice quizzes in bCourses.

This course is based on the following textbooks:

- Donaldson, Bruce. *Dutch. A Comprehensive Grammar*. Routledge, 2008.
- *Delftse Methode. Tweede ronde. Tekstboek*. Amsterdam: Boom, 2006.
- *Delftse Methode. Derde ronde*. Amsterdam: Boom, 2014.
- Florijn, Arjen. Lalleman, Josien. Maureau, Hans. *De regels van het Nederlands*. Groningen/Houten: Noordhoff Uitgevers BV, 2010.
- Palmer, Emily. *Perfect Nederlands voor anderstaligen*. Bussum: Uitgeverij Coutinho, 2020.
- Pirreault, Martine. *Wat is er? Conversatieoefeningen NT2*. Leuven: Acco, 2012.
- Spaans, Yolande. *A Practical Dutch Grammar*. Leiden: Primavera Pers, 2007.
- Verbaan, Eddie. Sas, Christine. Louwerse, Janneke. *The Routledge Intermediate Dutch Reader*. Routledge, 2013.
- various newspaper / online articles

## REQUIREMENTS

### Exams and Assignments:

- **SCHRIJFOPDRACHTEN:** Students are expected to do a total of ten **write-ups** throughout the semester. Write-ups are 1-2 pages in length (double spaced). Students are expected to apply the grammar and vocabulary as discussed in class.
- **PRESENTATIES:** Students are expected to do a total of three **presentations** throughout the semester: *lekenpraatje*, *voordracht gedicht*, and *sollicitatiegesprek*. Detailed instructions for these oral assignments can be found in bCourses.
- **WOORDENLIJSTEN:** Students are expected to create a personalized **vocabulary list** that includes new and/or relevant words and expressions in Dutch, a translation in English, and an example sentence in Dutch to illustrate the use of the vocabulary in context. Students are expected to add 25 words for each module.
- **FINAL TAKE-HOME EXAM:** Students are expected to complete a final take-home exam at the end of the semester, to be submitted in the finals week. This exam will consist of essay questions related to the topics covered in the course.

### Equipment:

For this class, students must have access to:

- A quiet room or space from where to take the Zoom classes. Create a space for yourself where you will not be disturbed while taking this class, preferably somewhere where you can sit at a desk or table on a proper chair in an upright position. Have your materials ready for class: your notebook as well as files you may want to access during class (e.g. on bCourses).
- A solid internet connection.
- A laptop, tablet, or desktop computer. This type of device is preferred over a small mobile device, especially with regard to screen and content sharing.
- A good headset. Use headphones or earbuds with microphone to help improve the audio quality, not just for your own individual participation, but for all participants in class.

## POLICIES

Please be on time for each class meeting. For class meetings in Zoom, please join with your video on. Being able to see each other when speaking and listening is an essential part of communication, and it is essential in this foreign language class. Please make sure that you join the meeting in conditions (location, appearance, etc.) that are appropriate for class participation. Your instructor will provide more details on any specific Zoom etiquette in your course. While class meetings will not be recorded by default, they may be recorded in order to provide equal access to students enrolled in the course. Assignments will sometimes require you to create audio or video recordings of yourself, or with a group, in Zoom and bCourses.

Please come to each class well-prepared. Preparing for the next lesson means reading the assigned text(s), looking up all words you do not understand, keeping a running glossary and having thought about how to talk about the text and/or answer questions to the text. Students are expected to be very familiar with the text and to be able to work actively with it in class.

Attendance is mandatory in this course that meets three times a week. Classes revolve around active class participation. You can miss three classes without it affecting your final grade. After three absences, your final grade will be lowered by 2% for every further absence. Should you miss a class, inform the instructor to arrange for a recorded session in advance. Exceptions are made for documented illness, in which case you should please inform your instructor in a timely manner.

Please follow the instructions regarding submission and deadlines for homework, quizzes, write-ups, etc. as set by your instructor. Late policy: 2% will be deducted from each late submission.

This course may be repeated for credit up to a total of 8 units. The topics of the ten modules will alternate to ensure that students will be presented with new themes, materials, and assignments when they are repeating this course.

## GRADING

The final grade will be based on the following:

Attendance and Participation:	10%
10 Write-ups	50%
Personalized Vocabulary Lists:	10%
<i>Lekenpraatje</i> :	5%
<i>Voordracht gedicht</i> :	5%
<i>Sollicitatiegesprek</i> :	5%
Final Take-Home Exam:	15%

Students must receive points in all components in order to receive a final grade. This includes students who take this class for P/NP (no letter grade).

## GRADE SCALE

A+	99-100%	C	74-76%
A	94-98%	C-	70-73%
A-	90-93%	D+	67-69%
B+	87-89%	D	64-66%
B	84-86%	D-	60-63%
B-	80-83%	F	<60%
C+	77-79%		

## COURSE OUTLINE / TENTATIVE CALENDAR OF TOPICS

*Subject to change*

**Week 1:** Welkom: Introductie tot de cursus

Jan 17-19 (W-F)

**Week 2:** Module 1 Over lezen en schrijven: Mijn boekenkast

Jan 22-26 (M-W-F)

**Week 3:** Module 2 Een argumentatieve tekst schrijven: Mijn mening

Jan 29-Feb 2 (M-W-F)

<b>Week 4:</b> Feb 5-9 (M-W-F)	<b>Module 3 Een informatieve tekst schrijven: Mijn vakgebied</b>
<b>Week 5:</b> Feb 12-16 (M-W-F)	<b>Module 4 Een lekenpraatje houden</b>
<b>Week 6:</b> Feb 21-23 (W-F) <i>No class on Monday (President's Day)</i>	<b>Module 5 Een amuserende tekst schrijven: Een sprookje</b>
<b>Week 7:</b> Feb 26-Mar 1 (M-W-F)	<b>Module 6 Een informatieve tekst schrijven: Een biografie</b>
<b>Week 8:</b> Mar 4-8 (M-W-F)	<b>Module 7 Een instructieve tekst schrijven: Hoe doe je zoiets?</b>
<b>Week 9:</b> Mar 11-15 (M-W-F)	<b>Module 8 Een opiniërende tekst schrijven: Een discussiestuk</b>
<b>Week 10:</b> Mar 18-22 (M-W-F)	<b>Module 9 Een gedicht schrijven (dichten)</b>
<b>Week 11</b>	<b>SPRING BREAK (Mar 25-29)</b>
<b>Week 12:</b> Apr 1-5 (M-W-F)	<b>Module 10 Gedichten voordragen</b>
<b>Week 13:</b> Apr 8-12 (M-W-F)	<b>Module 11 Een argumentatieve tekst schrijven: Een sollicitatiebrief</b>
<b>Week 14:</b> Apr 15-19 (M-W-F)	<b>Module 12 Sollicitatiegesprekken voeren</b>
<b>Week 15:</b> Apr 22-26 (M-W-F)	<b>Afsluiting</b>
<b>Week 16:</b> Apr 29-May 3-6	<b>RRR Week</b> <i>No class except for review session</i>