Afrikaans

(offered by the Department of Afrikaans and Theory of Literature)

Telephone number 012 429 6308

Introduction

The Department of Afrikaans and Theory of Literature offers modules in Afrikaans literature, linguistics and language proficiency. The aim is to prepare students for a wide range of career opportunities where an advanced knowledge of the Afrikaans language and literature and proficiency in writing Afrikaans would be a prerequisite. Such a career could be that of teacher, translator, copywriter, journalist, publisher, editor, writer, public relations officer, etc. Contact the Chair of the Department for information on the available foundation courses.

The literature courses concentrate on contemporary Afrikaans texts in the present day South African context. It is also possible to study aspects of Dutch literature. As part of the broad literary discourse, students are introduced to and encouraged to partake in the critical reading and analysis of seminal texts.

In Linguistics, the student is introduced to different aspects of the grammar of Afrikaans: phonetics, morphology, lexicology, syntax and semantics. The contextual use of Afrikaans is studied in modules and courses in sociolinguistics and pragmatics. Sections concentrating on the politics of language, introduce a sociopolitical theme to the field.

Modules in language proficiency aim to improve writing skills in Afrikaans. The syllabus focuses on the analysis and evaluation of nonliterary texts, and students are trained to plan, write and edit a variety of text types.

General Information

- Students who wish to major in Afrikaans must consult paragraph 4 below.
- Students not majoring in Afrikaans may also register for any of the floating modules offered by the Department subject to the Prerequisite listed in paragraph 6.
- Credit for a degree is granted for:
  1. either AFK801 or AKA100 or PAF100
  2. either AFK101 and 102 or AKS100 or AFN100
  3. either AFK101 and 105 or AKS100 or AFN100
  4. either AFK820 or AFN200
  5. either AFK821 or AFN300
  6. either AFK822 or TEX821
  7. either AFK822 or TEX822
  8. either AFK101 and 105 or APE100 or ASE100

FOR THE COLLEGE OF HUMAN SCIENCES

- Students who wish to major in Afrikaans are advised to take at least two modules in one or both of the following before or together with Course III:
  1. Theory of Literature and/or Linguistics.
- Students majoring in Communication Science for the BA degree (Communication Science) must include TEX821 and TEX822 in their curriculum.
- Students majoring in Communication Science for the BA degree and the BA (Human and Social Studies) must include TEX821 in their curriculum.
- Students enrolled for Education qualifications must register for the following modules:

  BEd (Early Childhood Development: Foundation Phase)
  First level: AFK101, 105
  Second level: AFK201 (or AFK823), 202, 203

  BEd (Senior Phase and Further Education and Training)
  First level: AFK101, 105
  Second level: AFK201 (or AFK823), 202, 203

  Department of Teacher Education
  Professional Studies: Language requirement
  LPAFRT8/TAR201U

FOR THE COLLEGE OF ECONOMIC AND MANAGEMENT SCIENCES

ANY OTHER LANGUAGE on first-year level may be taken – see the relevant language subject chapter for the admission requirements. AFK102 or AFK105 is recommended for students who want to enrol for Afrikaans.

FOR THE COLLEGE OF LAW

Law students must register for AFK103 (Afrikaans for law students).
3 Admission Requirements

See also A9 in Part 5 of the Calendar.

FIRST-LEVEL MODULES

None

4 Afrikaans as a Major Subject

Compulsory modules for a major subject combination:

First level: AFK101, 102 (or 105)
Second level: AFK201, 202, 203, TEX821
Third level: AFK301, 304, 823, TEX822

5 Transitional Arrangements

Students who have passed AFK302X before 2007 retain credit for AFK823N. Students who before 1996 have passed any other modules in Afrikaans, must contact the Chair of the Department regarding other possible credits.

6 Syllabus

All modules in this subject are offered as YEAR MODULES.

FLOATING MODULES

TEX8216 Writing skills for the communications industry

- Students who major in Afrikaans must enrol for the Afrikaans version of TEX821. All other students may enrol for either the Afrikaans or the English version of TEX821.
- This module may be taken only on second or third level. Students registering for Communication Science as a major subject must register for TEX821.

Prerequisite: (for Afrikaans as major subject): AFK101, 102
(for other students): TWO first-level modules in this subject or any FOUR first-level modules

Purpose: to enhance your knowledge and skills in the design, evaluation and writing of a variety of document types generally used in the communications industry.

TEX8228 Persuasive texts

- Students who major in Afrikaans must enrol for the Afrikaans version of TEX822. All other students may enrol for either the Afrikaans or the English version of TEX822.
- This module may be taken on either second or third level subject to the Prerequisite being met.

Prerequisite: (for Afrikaans as major subject): AFK201, 202, 203, TEX821
(for other students): TWO first level modules in this subject or any FOUR first-level modules.

Purpose: to enhance your knowledge of and skills in the design, writing and evaluation of persuasive texts.

AFK823N Afrikaans beyond boundaries: an interdisciplinary perspective*

- This module consists of two options of which students must select one:
  (a) Afrikaans texts in translation
  (b) Ecocriticism: Man, text and environment
- Students majoring in Afrikaans may only choose option (b). Option (a) is intended for non-native speakers of Afrikaans as this will introduce them to Afrikaans literature by reading texts in translation.
- This module may be taken on either second or third level subject to the Prerequisite being met.

Prerequisite: (for Afrikaans as major subject): AFK201, 202, 203, TEX821
(for other students): TWO first level modules in this subject or any FOUR first-level modules

Purpose: to understand, recognize and apply language structures and conventions in context, in particular with reference to the relationships between Afrikaans and its broad socio-historic context; and to communicate own, but motivated ideas on a variety of literary discourses.

Non-native speakers of Afrikaans are introduced to Afrikaans literature by reading texts in translation.
FIRST-LEVEL MODULES

AFK101Q Afrikaans today (Literature)*
Advice: Students wishing to major in Afrikaans must register for this module. They are strongly advised to also register for the modules THL801 (Introduction to General Literary Theory) or THL802 (Introduction to literary genres) offered by Theory of Literature.

Purpose: to improve students’ understanding of Afrikaans literature by studying a collection of present day texts comprising different genres and oeuvres. Topical questions and the focus of the Afrikaans text on everyday issues form the core of this module. Students are introduced to reading, interpretation and life skills. The module consists of five optional units, of which students may choose any three.
(a) Text and reader: an introduction to the literary communication process
(b) Topical texts 1: Afrikaans in Africa
(c) Topical texts 2: Men come from Mars, women from Venus
(d) Youth literature
(e) Dutch texts for South Africa

Students enrolled for BEd must include option (d) Youth literature (see Section 2).

AFK102R Basic text skills*
Advice: Compulsory for students who wish to major in Afrikaans. This module teaches basic text skills and serves as an introductory module.

Purpose: to improve students’ proficiency in the analysis and writing of Afrikaans non-literary texts through a focus on general text skills: communication aims, reading skills, analysis of text structure, planning text structure, standard text designs, text characteristics, argumentative texts.

AFK103S Afrikaans for law students*
Purpose: to provide students with knowledge of and skills in the specific language requirements of the legal profession with a focus on textual characteristics of law reports, legislation and other legal sources; argumentation in legal texts, linguistic aspects of legal texts, terminology and texts used in legal practice.

AFK105U Contemporary Afrikaans: Language studies and written communication*
Purpose: to improve students’ communicative skills in Afrikaans: listening, speaking, reading, writing, perceptual abilities and reproduction skills through an introduction to Afrikaans grammar (grammatical structures) in conjunction with the development of the six communicative skills: phonetics (pronunciation), spelling, the correct use of punctuation, morphology (formation of words), syntax (sentence structure and word order) and semantics (meaning of words and sentences).

SECOND-LEVEL MODULES

Prerequisite: AFK101, 102 (or 105)
(for BEd): AFK101, 105
Advice: Students must be adequately proficient in reading, writing and understanding Afrikaans. Students wishing to major in Afrikaans, must register for all four modules.

BEd students who are not majoring in Afrikaans, should not register for TEX8216, but for AFK201, AFK202 and AFK203. These students may also exchange AFK201T for AFK823N (Option: Afrikaans texts in translation).

AFK201T Communicative scenario’s*
Purpose: to familiarise students with literary communication in diverse scenario’s and various forms. Students explore the actuality of disparate genres (literary criticism, cabaret, intertextual mixed modes drawing on other media) and their extensive communicative links with literature and other art forms.

The module consists of three optional units, of which students may choose any two:
(a) Text and usage
(b) Cabaret
(c) Critics conversing

AFK202U Genre and theme*
Purpose: to enable students to question the traditional perspectives on genre theory. Students are introduced to contemporary texts which experiment with genre conventions on both a thematical and technical level; texts where the traditional boundaries are transcended; where the conventional reappears in new forms.

The module consists of three optional units, of which students may choose any two:
(a) Prose: Places and puzzles
(b) Current Afrikaans poetry
(c) Children’s and youth literature

BEd-students must select option (c): Children’s and youth literature as one of their two choices

AFK203V Afrikaans grammar*
Purpose: to enhance students’ understanding of basic language concepts as they apply to Afrikaans phonetics, morphology, syntax and semantics.

TEX8216 Writing skills for the communications industry
See floating modules.

THIRD-LEVEL MODULES

Prerequisite: (for Afrikaans as major subject): AFK201, 202, 203, TEX821
(for other students): TWO first-level modules in this subject or any FOUR first-level modules
Advice: Students must be adequately proficient in reading, writing and understanding Afrikaans.
AFK301W  Comparatism: intertextual dialogues*
Purpose: to understand the different genres in Afrikaans literature (the drama, novel, poetry and the short story), and to study these from a comparative point of view. Specific motifs and notions are foregrounded: eg those of women's writing, fairy tales, the Bushman motif, magic-realism and the notions of historicism, transculturalism and multi-culturalism. Texts in English and Afrikaans, also those representing African and European literatures, are viewed comparatively.

AFK3043  Language variation and language politics*
Purpose: to help students to develop and further their understanding of the phenomenon of language variation (dialects, sociolects and idiolects) and the various forms and guises of power and politics (from micro to macro level) that underpin these variants as well as the processes of language planning and the compilation of dictionaries, both locally and internationally.

TEX8228  Persuasive texts
See floating modules.

AFK823N  Afrikaans beyond boundaries: an interdisciplinary perspective*
See floating modules.