

2025

Feeling Orange - Perspectives on Dutch Culture (FC0030)

Practical information

Course ID

FC0030

Credits

5 EC

Instruction language

English

Registration procedure

ESHCC exchange students will be automatically registered for the course.

Secretariat

Education Office ESHCC, M7-31, 010-4082482, educationoffice@eshcc.eur.nl

Course description

Content

Dutch culture is marked by two interdependent themes: the color orange and a history of colonization. While the first, orange, is expressed in the (un)popularity of the Royal Family (with the epitome of the King's Birthday Celebration), soccer, and mythical narrations of how the Netherlands as a small country was a refuge for artists, philosophers, and religious people. The second has much more negative expression that marks contemporary debates. The fierceness of debates on 'Zwarte Piet' (black Pete), the images of slaves on the Royal family's Golden carriage, or museums' attempts at decolonization are just a few examples of how the Dutch struggle with their past.

In this course, students will familiarize themselves with both themes from the three perspectives our faculty offers. Starting with a historical perspective, students will form a firm understanding of the meanings of 'orange' and the colonial history. Both important foundations for current Dutch culture. Building onto this understanding, student will explore how these two themes impacted the current art world. While the Netherlands have brought forth many important (visual) artists, Dutch museums are also struggling with the Dutch colonial past. Last but not least, the last two weeks will be dedicated to exploring popular culture's expressions of these two themes. The TV format trade and Dutch soccer culture will be taken as a case.

Learning goals

Students have knowledge and understanding of:

- Key concepts and perspectives on Dutch Culture from three perspectives: historical, cultural and mediated.
- The interrelations between the historical developments of Dutch society, the way the Dutch deal with their artistic past, and their contemporary mediated/popular culture.
- The image of the Netherlands abroad as, on the one hand, a very tolerant and open country and, on the other hand, a place where racism and ethnocentrism abound.

Students have developed skills to:

- Put current discussions in the Netherlands in their historical and social context.
- Reflect critically on the viewpoints and research materials presented in class.
- Reflect upon developments in the Dutch Culture in the context of global trends.

Study materials

Required material

- Book
Readings via Canvas and online resources.

Entrance requirements

Entrance requirements course enrolment

You must meet the following requirements

- In Block TERM 2 you must be part of one of the following target groups
 - Incoming Exchange

Instructional modes

Instructional modes

- Lecture

Period

Enrolment periods

- Block TERM 2
Period of education
10 november 2025 until 30 januari 2026

Lecturers

Contactperson for the course

- dr. TJ Hoebink

Coordinator

- dr. TJ Hoebink

Lecturer

- dr. HJCJ Hitters
- dr. PJJ van den Heede
- dr. TJ Hoebink
- prof.dr. JC van Sterkenburg

Assessment

Extra information

Disclaimer: this information is subject to alteration. Always check the course manual for the up to date details.

Assessments (result in OSIRIS)

- Paper

Test weight

100