

[Dutch language-course in June 2015 at Columbia University for Graduate Students \(tuition-free\)](#)

Discussion published by Wijnie de Groot on Wednesday, November 12, 2014

Call for Applications

Applications are invited for a month-long course in modern Dutch, early modern Dutch/paleography, and archives in The Netherlands, each section of which can be taken separately. The course is free-of-charge. Funding has been provided through the Queen Wilhelmina Professorship at Columbia University and by the University of Amsterdam.

The course has three distinct sections, and students may apply to any or all of the three. A single letter of application will suffice for any section(s) of the course, but applicants should be sure to include the appropriate supporting materials for the particular section(s) of the course to which application is being made.

APPLICATIONS FOR ALL SESSIONS ARE DUE MONDAY, FEBRUARY 16.

- two weeks of Modern Dutch for Reading Knowledge [(Week I & II (5/26 - 5/29 & 6/1 - 6/4)]
- one week of 17th-century Dutch/paleography [(Week III (6/8 - 6/11))]
- one week archival workshop in Amsterdam [(Week IV (6/15 - 6/19))]

Descriptions of the courses and requirements for admission to each section

Week I & II: Modern Dutch for Reading Knowledge

This section will cover reading skills, grammar and vocabulary in modern Dutch.

*Open to all students with the equivalent of 2 semesters or more of Dutch at the university level. Students must submit transcripts showing their successful completion of required coursework or other evidence of competence in the language. **Preference will be given to students enrolled in a PhD program.***

Students who are unsure if their level of Dutch is satisfactory should contact Ms. de Groot to arrange an evaluation (wed23@columbia.edu).

Week III: 17th-century Dutch texts/paleography workshop

The workshop will cover reading strategies of 17th-century printed and handwritten texts.

*Open to all students with the equivalent of 3 semesters or more of Dutch or 2 full years of German at the university level. Students must submit transcripts showing their successful completion of required coursework, or other evidence of competence in the language. In addition, students should submit a letter of application explaining their reason for registration. **Preference will be given to students enrolled in a PhD program.***

Week IV: Archival workshop in Amsterdam

This workshop (in collaboration with the University of Amsterdam) will take place in the Netherlands and will introduce students to archives in Amsterdam and to the kinds of sources available there and in other archives or libraries in The Netherlands and Belgium.

For this section of the course, lodging and some meals will be provided to participants and local travel expenses will be covered. Students who are unable to cover the costs of airfare to and from Amsterdam may apply for support from the program, but will be expected to provide a letter from their Department Chair or Dean verifying that the student has sought university support for the travel and has been denied; the grounds for the denial should be included in the letter. Funds for travel support are limited and will be equally divided among eligible candidates.

PREREQUISITES

Applicants for the Amsterdam portion of the course must

- have completed MA thesis and first-year of graduate work at the Phd level*
- be enrolled in a PhD program*
- must be at or close to the stage of planning the dissertation research and have a good idea of the kinds of sources that will be necessary*
- submit a letter of support from advisor or principal faculty member: the letter should endorse the usefulness of the trip and the archival experience, in the expectation that it will lead to archival work for the thesis.*
- submit a letter of purpose: it should explain how the training will advance their ongoing or planned research for a doctoral thesis.*
- show evidence of competence in reading skills in modern Dutch. To do so, applicants must pass a*

written language test or provide a letter from an instructor of Dutch at the university level attesting to adequate reading skills. Please contact Wijnie de Groot to schedule a language test.

All applications, along with supporting documents, should be emailed to Wijnie de Groot at wed23@columbia.edu. They are due February 15, 2015. Inquiries should also be directed to Ms. de Groot at that email.