language centre > for language and culture

Anje Dijk, Director
“In 2016 the Language Centre experienced healthy growth and collaborated intensively with many different businesses. The Language Centre serves governments, businesses and individuals, both in the Netherlands and abroad. Our customers appreciate our innovative and practical approach because it enables them to apply what they have learned directly, to their own particular situation. A challenge which we have welcomed for over 30 years.”

The Language Centre in a nutshell
- Highly qualified international team
- 9,000 students per year, 125,000 online students
- Individual or group training
- High pace, quick results
- Leader in the fields of educational innovation and e-learning
- Language proficiency and intercultural skills
- 30 years of experience

E-learning
The Language Centre aims for innovation in language teaching. We make optimum use of IT and activating modes of instruction while retaining the crucial interaction between learner and teacher. Many of our clients follow our language courses from abroad. In 2016, 376 learners enrolled in an Online Dutch course at the Language Centre, and our free 'Introduction to Dutch' MOOC has already attracted 125,000 learners from all over the world.

NT2 teacher-training programme
Demand is growing for qualified Dutch teachers to help people going through the civic integration process as well as other second-language learners. We are the only institution in the northern Netherlands to offer an officially recognized teacher-training programme for Dutch as a second language (NT2), which we developed ourselves. This programme has proved successful: in 2016 we trained 30 teachers, most of whom have already found jobs.

What can we do for you?
- Curious about what a course in Business Spanish could do for you?
- In need of intercultural team-building?
- Need a high-quality medical translation? Interested? Feel free to contact us!

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These are our clients:
Gasunie, Reining, Yacht, Friesland Foods, Western Europe, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Municipality of Groningen, Province of Groningen, Acheson Colloids BV, Wagenborg Shipping, DSM, Cordis Europe NV, Unicharm Molinylyc BC, Uitgeverij Coutinho (Coutinho Publishers), Nijestee Social Housing Association, Royal Dutch Dental Association (KNMT), Province of Drenthe, Euregio, RBO, ESKA

Partners:
International Welcome Centre North (IWCN), Humanitas, Groningen Confucius Institute, DUO, UAF, Osaka University

“I followed an intensive, 5-day German training course at the Language Centre. My employer and I chose this particular course because it enables you to increase your proficiency in a short time. My experience with the Language Centre was very good! We drew up the lesson plan together with the lecturer, so the programme was tailored to my needs. It was a very educational week, with plenty of variety: independent study, assignments, grammar and conversation. It was great to be able to ask questions as we went along and get answers right away. That really sped up my progress. The teacher made sure the lessons contained a good mix of material, and on the Friday we even had time to parse a Rammstein text! I benefit every day from what I have learned, and am more confident in meetings with German customers.”
Sanne Staas, ESKA

Intensive 5-day tailor-made German training course

“The course is very intensive and it makes you feel like you’re running a marathon, but at the end you are still standing and can keep pace with the Dutch. It’s a great way to learn Dutch – an approach that trains you for whatever your goal is!”
Greek orthodontist,
2-week intensive individual Dutch course

Ready to take on the intercultural challenge
Thanks to our intercultural training courses, over 2000 participants were able to pursue their international studies or careers with more self-confidence and cultural sensitivity in 2016. Let the Language Centre help you tackle the intercultural challenge! Our tailor-made courses are relevant and practical, whether you are an (HR-) manager of an international team or responsible for expanding your business abroad. Curious? IC@rug.nl

The Language Centre’s team comprises over 100 staff members from 18 different countries. We offer open courses in 14 languages, and other languages on request.