



university of  
 groningen

faculty of arts

# Biographical Approach of History (Research Seminar)

## Key Facts

- Start: 1 September
- Duration: 6 months
- Biography Institute, University of Groningen
- Part of the Research Centre for Historical Studies
- Fee contract students: €400

## Admissions

bsz.let@rug.nl

## Study Advisor

Prof. Hans Renders  
j.w.renders@rug.nl

## General information

Biography is increasingly enjoying considerable interest both inside and outside academia. Why is that and what is the role of biographies in academic and public debates? This course provides an introduction to various theoretical approaches that can be distinguished within Biography Studies. Students are expected to study theoretical literature and discuss this literature in presentations, as well as biographies and biographical studies selected in consultation with the lecturer. Although the general approach of the course is interdisciplinary, the emphasis will be on the historical approach. Students are expected to write a paper based on one of the provided subjects.

## Our students

- have a fascination for biographies and biographical research
- are eager to learn about biography in an international comparative perspective
- will execute theoretical research based on biographical praxis
- will be educated in applying a historical perspective with regard to cultural topics
- receive the opportunity to write a theoretically accountable proposal for a biography

## Why choose us?

'Thus far, biography has not been taken seriously in the academic world. Except in Groningen, where has been established the Biography Institute, that is unequalled in the world.' (Biographer Nigel Hamilton, in the Dutch newspaper *de Volkskrant*, 4 May 2016)

## Career prospects

- Press/journalism/media
- Publishing houses
- Scientific evaluations: assessing research and funding proposals
- Research institutes
- Non-fiction writing

## Theoretical Discussions of Biography

APPROACHES FROM HISTORY,  
MICROHISTORY, AND LIFE WRITING



EDITED BY HANS RENDERS & BINNE DE HAAN

BRILL

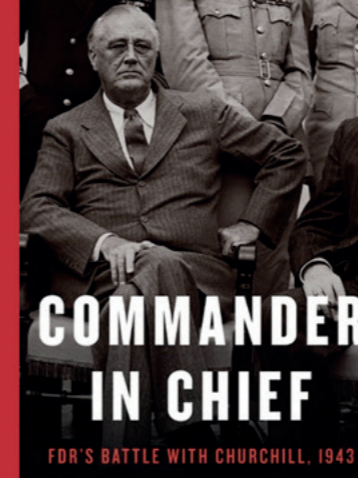
BAS KROMHOUT



**DE VOORMAN**  
HENK FELDMEIJER EN DE NEDERLANDSE SS

CONTACT

NIGEL HAMILTON



**COMMANDER  
IN CHIEF**  
FDR'S BATTLE WITH CHURCHILL, 1943

Ariëtte Dekker

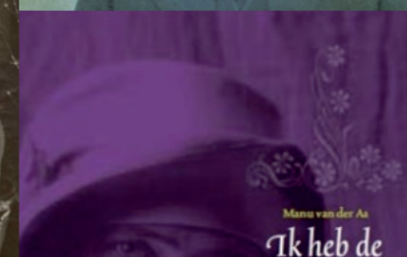


ANTON KRÖLLER 1862-1941  
**LEVEN OP KREDIET**

'A history that is understanding but not apologetic, sympathetic but not justificatory.' - Jacob Diamant

## DF Malan

and the Rise of Afrikaner  
Nationalism  
Lindie Koorts



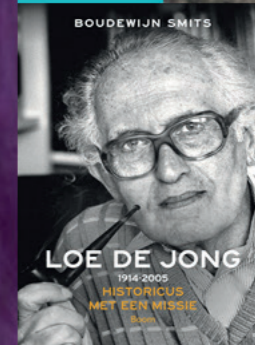
Manus van der Aa  
**Ik heb de  
liefde  
liefgehad**  
Het leven van  
Alice Nahon



1914-2005  
HISTORICUS  
MET EEN MISSIE

EVA ROVERS

HELENE KRÖLLER-MÜLLER 1869-1939  
**DE EEUWIGHEID VERZAMELD**



1914-2005  
HISTORICUS  
MET EEN MISSIE



Jan de Leng  
**DIENAAR**  
VAN KOLONIAAL NEDERLAND



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## How to enroll

You can enroll on ProgRESS, which automatically will enroll you on Nestor.  
Course code: LLS026M10.

Contract students can enroll by filling in the form on this page: [www.rug.nl/let/opencolleges](http://www.rug.nl/let/opencolleges)

This form then should be printed, signed and send by e-mail to [biografie.instituut@rug.nl](mailto:biografie.instituut@rug.nl)  
and by postal mail to:  
RUG - Faculteit der Letteren  
Bureau Studentzaken  
Postbus 716  
9700 AS Groningen

For more information please contact  
Bureau Studentzaken (050 363 6050 / [bsz.let@rug.nl](mailto:bsz.let@rug.nl)) or the  
Biography Institute (050 363 5816 / 050 363 9069 / [biografie.instituut@rug.nl](mailto:biografie.instituut@rug.nl))

## Information Open colleges

[www.rug.nl/let/opencolleges](http://www.rug.nl/let/opencolleges)

## Admission

Admission interview with the study advisor, Prof. Hans Renders

### Student Jaline de Groot

'The course unit provided new and informative ways for conducting research in history, more specifically the biographical approach of history. Also the format in which the paper has to be presented, in the format of an article, was a new way of writing for me, which was very instructive. It was an inspiring and interactive course which challenged the students to enter discussion and pose questions. The professor is very helpful in setting out examples and devoting a lot of time to help out students with questions.'