

VirtualDutch : Open Educational Resources and Distance Learning in a Lesser Taught Language Community



Ulrich Tiedau
LLAS e-learning symposium 2010



Some facts about Dutch

- A medium-sized European language
- Spoken by >23 million speakers as native language
- The language of two neighbouring countries of the UK
- One of the official languages in Suriname
- The closest related language to English



Dutch Provision in UK Higher Education

- Four universities that teach Dutch to degree level
- one Dutch department, three programmes in departments of Germanic or modern languages,
- before 2005 also U of Hull
- growing interest outside of universities



The
University
Of
Sheffield.



UNIVERSITY OF
CAMBRIDGE



The University of
Nottingham

‘VirtualDutch’ – Aims and Objectives

- Inter-institutional collaborative teaching and learning programme
- Creating shared teaching and learning resources
- Collaboration in teaching and learning
- Facilitated by technology
- Community of Practice
- Started in 2001

VIRTUAL



DUTCH



Rationale



- Declining interest in modern languages in the UK
- Particularly affecting the lesser taught languages
- Diminishing Resources and threats of discontinuation of language programmes
- Both need and opportunity to develop ICT-based teaching and learning resources
- Pooling of resources and expertise
- Sponsors switching to project funding
- And last but certainly not least: Student benefits

Virtual Department of Dutch : Subprojects



- Dutch Multimedia Study Packs
- Inter-institutional Collaborative Teaching Projects using VLEs and videoconferencing
- Online Language Courses Lagelands & Hogelands
- Learner's Grammars for Beginners & Intermediates
- Open Learning Community Portal

Dutch Study Packs

- Some 30 interactive multimedia study packs,
- on aspects of Dutch and Flemish language, literature, history and society,
- for self-study, classroom use and remedial learning,
- catering for various levels of competence.



In English	Beginners	Intermediate	Advanced
Literature	 Concrete Poetry	 Louis Couperus	 Emblems  P. C. Hooft  Multatuli
Language	 Dutch Language Taster  History of the Dutch Language	 Introduction to Dutch Linguistics	
History	 Dutch Revolt I	 Dutch Revolt II  Nova Zembla	 Batavian Myth  Flemish Movement
Language	 Amsterdam Represented	 Buoyant Brussels	 The Multicultural Netherlands



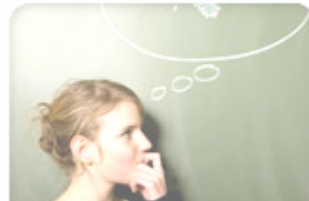
Virtual Dutch Community Portal

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LEARN DUTCH ONLINE

Virtual Dutch is an inter-university teaching and learning initiative in Dutch Studies, involving four British universities: University College London (UCL), the University of Sheffield, the University of Cambridge and the University of Nottingham. Our aim is the advancement of Dutch Studies in the English-speaking world, especially through online learning and collaborative teaching. Most of our online learning materials are freely available. Just click on the links in the menu on the left.



DISTANCE LEARNING:
SHORT LANGUAGE
COURSES

- [Introduction](#)
- [Lagelands](#)
- [Beginners Dutch](#)
- [Hogelands](#)
- [Advanced Dutch](#)



DISTANCE LEARNING:
DEGREE PROGRAMMES

- [Introduction](#)
- [Postgraduate Certificate](#)
- [Dutch Cultural Studies](#)
- [Postgraduate Diploma](#)
- [Dutch Cultural Studies](#)
- [MA Dutch Cultural Studies](#)



DUTCH REFERENCE
GRAMMARS

- [Beginners](#)
- [Advanced](#)



SELF-ACCESS COURSES



SELF STUDY PACKS



CHECKLISTS

Partners



Try Dutch!



Interested in learning Dutch? Not sure whether it is for you? Why not try our [Dutch](#)

Integrated teaching and learning resources

Search

Dutch Multimedia Studypacks: 2 results



Multatuli : Max Havelaar
Literature / Advanced / English

The study pack introduces one of the greatest Dutch writers, Edouard Douwes Dekker (1820-1887), alias **Multatuli**, and his novel Max Havelaar (1860). The novel recounts the experiences of the idealistic colonial civil servant Max Havelaar (alter ego of Douwes Dekker) who rebels against the system of forced cultivation imposed on Indonesia's peasants under Dutch colonial rule. For the Indonesian author Pramudya Ananta Tur, Max Havelaar was the "book that killed colonialism". Others have called it a political and social satire and a literary experiment of the first order. The material is aimed at students with an advanced knowledge of Dutch.



Multatuli : Max Havelaar
Literature / Advanced / Dutch

Dit zelfstudiepakket is voor studenten met een gevorderde kennis van het Nederlands. Het biedt een kennismaking met een van de belangrijkste Nederlandse schrijvers, Eduard Douwes Dekker (1820-1887), alias **Multatuli**. Zijn Max Havelaar, of de koffieveilingen der Nederlandsche Handel-Maatschappij (1860) is de meest bekende Nederlandse roman. Het pakket bevat verschillende fragmenten uit het boek, met uitgebreid kritisch en historisch commentaar.

News Headlines and Podcasts: 1 results

- [Woutertje leeft weer](#)
November 30, 1999, 12:00 am GMT - [Nederlandse tijdschriften](#) - [De Groene Amsterdammer](#)
Multatuli's Woutertje PieterseBewerkt en in beeld gebracht door Jan KruisEerste Deel, De Bezige Bij, 128 blz., € 29,90 DOOR **Mirjam Noorduijn**

English Translations of Dutch literature: 9 results

- [Multatuli \[pseud. of Ed. Douwes Dekker\]](#) (1860), Max Havelaar, or the Coffee Auctions of the Dutch Trading Company, transl. by Edwards, Roy (London House & Maxwell, 1967).
- [Multatuli \[pseud. of Ed. Douwes Dekker\]](#) (1860), Max Havelaar, or the Coffee Auctions of the Dutch Trading Company, transl. by Edwards, Roy (Heinemann, 1967).

Studies in English on Dutch history and literature: 14 results

- [Baker, Gary L.](#) (1990), Max Havelaar : a romantic novel for social f (ed.), The Low Countries : multidisciplinary studies, Lanham, MD.
- [Baker, Gary L.](#) (1996), **Multatuli's** 'Woutertje Pieterse' and 'Vorstens upward mobility, in: Shetter, William Z. & Cruysse, Inge van der (e the culture of the Low Countries, Lanham, MD.
- [Bergh, Hans van den](#) (1996), A champion with a cause? : conflicting
- [Bergh, Hans van den](#) (1992), **Multatuli** as a writer of letters.
- [Brujin, J. de](#) (1999), Abraham Kuyper as a romantic, in: Kooi, Corn Kuyper reconsidered : aspects of his life and work, Amsterdam.
- [Hermans, Theo](#) (1988), On translating proper names, with referenc in: Wintle, Michael (ed.), Modern Dutch studies : essays in honour c
- [Janssen, Theo A. J. M.](#) (1994), Politeness in direct and indirect form sociolinguistic evolution, in: Bakker, Martinus A. & Morrison, Beverl culture and literature, Lanham, MD.
- [King, Peter](#) (1978), Gezelle and **Multatuli** : a question of literature a
- [King, Peter](#) (1972), **Multatuli**, New York, NY.
- [King, Peter](#) (1987), **Multatuli's** Max Havelaar, fact and fiction, Hull.

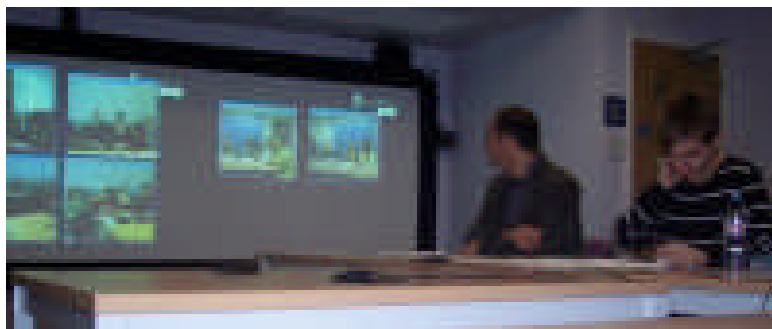
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- [Multatuli \[pseud. of Ed. Douwes Dekker\]](#), The Oyster and the Eagle (University of Massachusetts Press, 1974).
- [Multatuli \[pseud. of Ed. Douwes Dekker\]](#) (1860), Max Havelaar, or t Trading Company, transl. by Edwards, Roy (University of Massachu
- [Multatuli \[pseud. of Ed. Douwes Dekker\]](#) (1860), Max Havelaar, or t Trading Company, transl. by Edwards, Roy (Quartet, 1982).
- [Multatuli \[pseud. of Ed. Douwes Dekker\]](#) (1860), Max Havelaar, or t Trading Company, transl. by Edwards, Roy (Penguin, 1987).
- [Multatuli \[pseud. of Ed. Douwes Dekker\]](#) (1860), Max Havelaar. Pre Siebenhaar, W. (Knopf, 1927).
- [Multatuli \[pseud. of Ed. Douwes Dekker\]](#) (1860), Max Havelaar, tra
- [Multatuli \[pseud. of Ed. Douwes Dekker\]](#), Walter Pieterse, transl. by

Collaborative Teaching : Advanced Translation & Cultural Studies

- Writer in Residence
- Communication via Virtual Learning Environment (Moodle)
- and Video Conferences (AccessGrid)

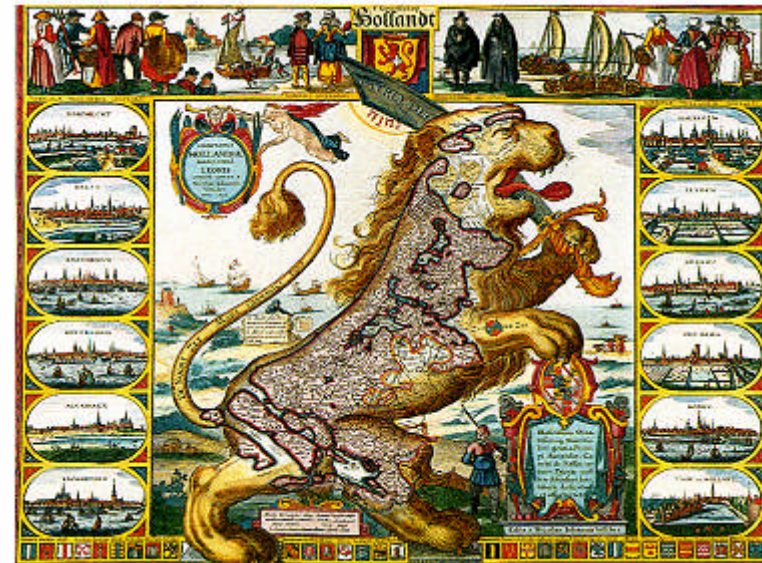


Open Learning Environment in Early Modern Low Countries history (OER Dutch history)

A VirtualDutch Open Educational Resource funded by JISC and the HE Academy

The project will

- turn a comprehensive survey course in early modern Low Countries history into a multimedia and Web 2.0 enriched Open Educational Resource (OER).
- specifically focus on relations between the Low Countries and the Anglophone world.
- will use freely available Web 2.0 tools and services and be based on open and transferable standards (e.g. SCORM) which can be delivered by a variety of platforms and Virtual Learning Environments
- combine a series of multimedia teaching and learning objects like the interactive multimedia timeline in an integrated resource-rich but directed open learning environment.



UKOER pilot programme (2009/10)



support function – covering technical, legal, strategic advice, workshops, support for deposit and aggregation of materials, communities of practice.
Based around existing JISC services & OU “SCORE” project.

OER infokit – a “how to” guide for future work

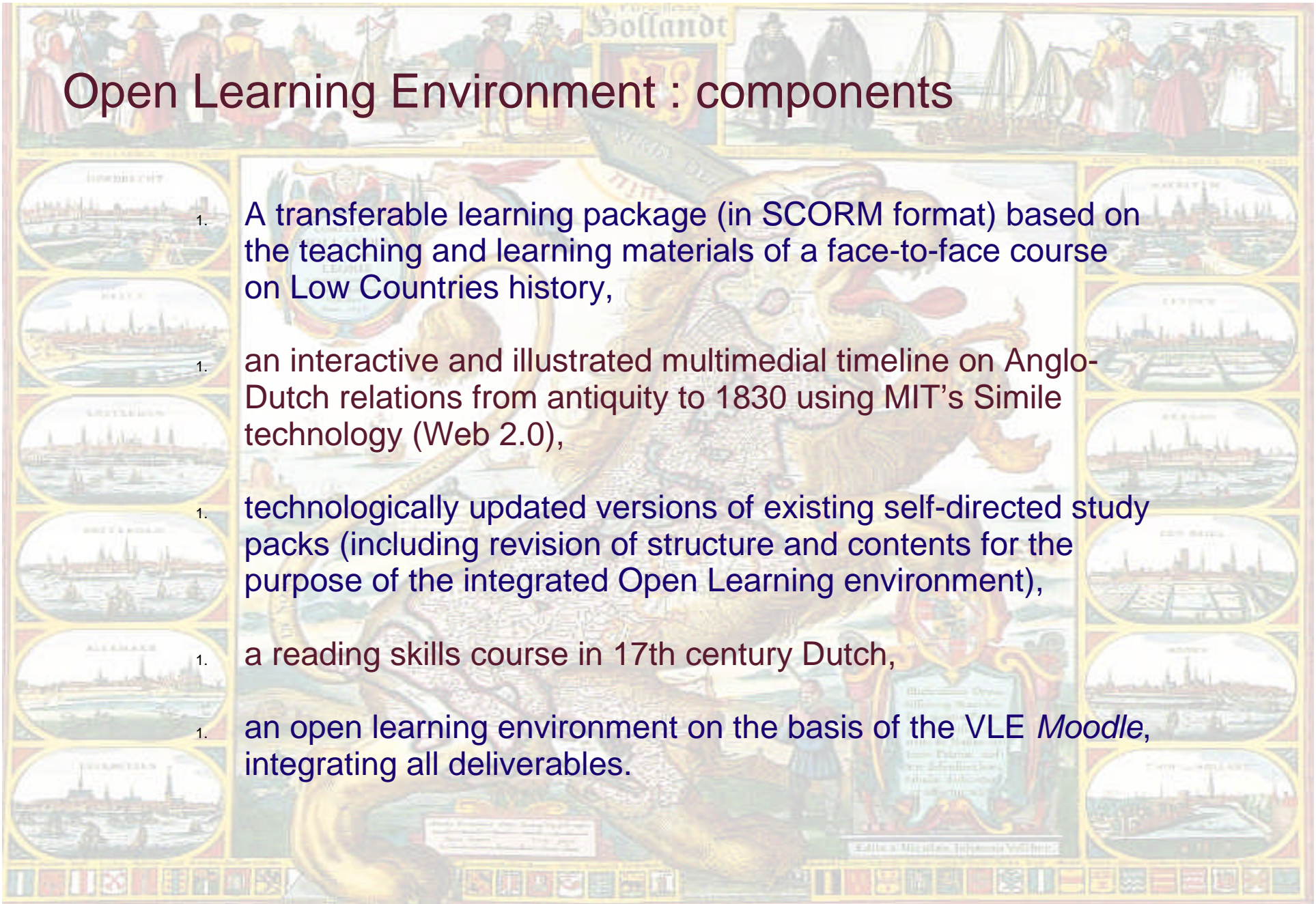
evaluation & synthesis function

JISC Programme Management



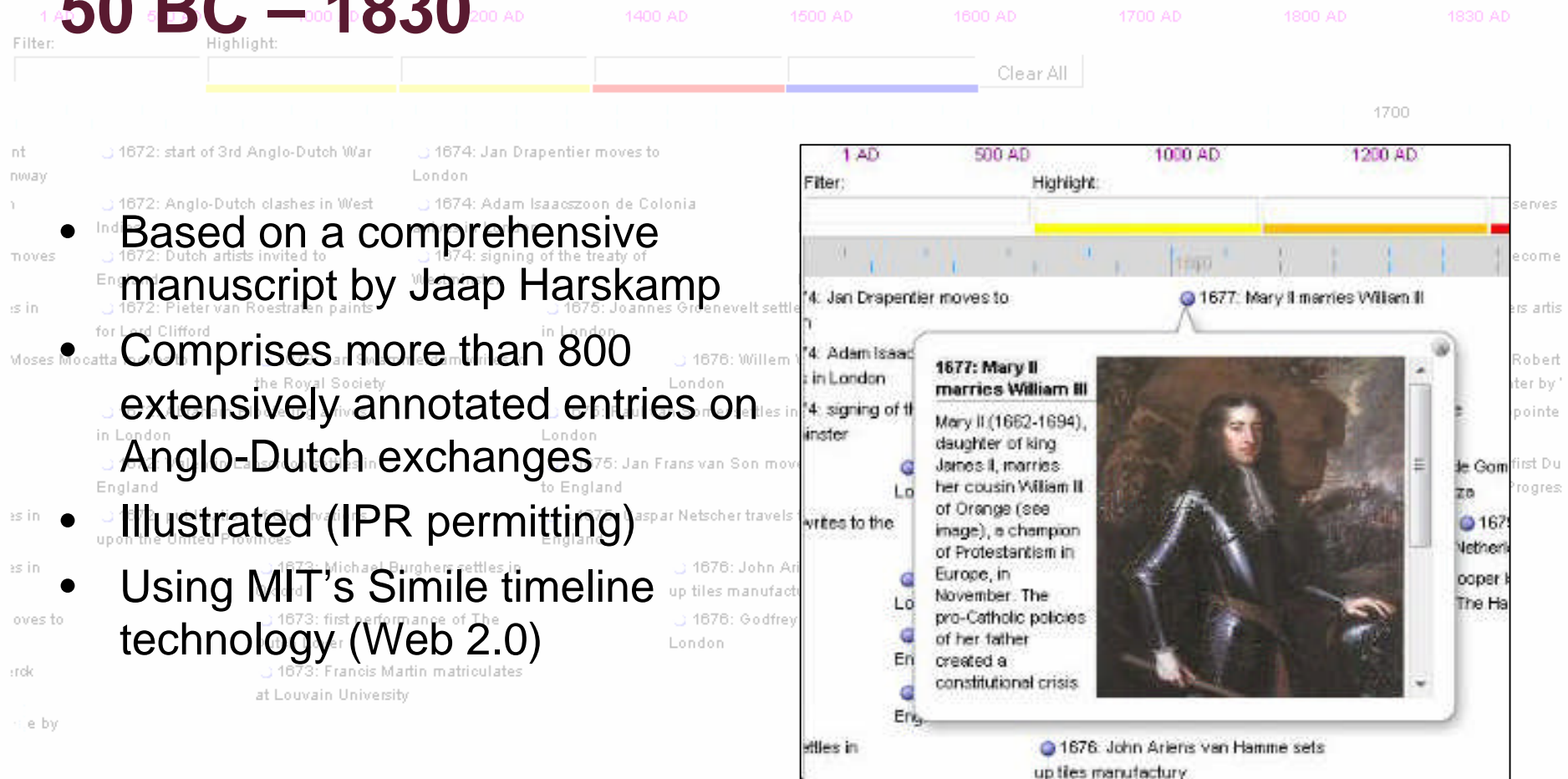
Open Learning Environment : components

1. A transferable learning package (in SCORM format) based on the teaching and learning materials of a face-to-face course on Low Countries history,
1. an interactive and illustrated multimedial timeline on Anglo-Dutch relations from antiquity to 1830 using MIT's Simile technology (Web 2.0),
1. technologically updated versions of existing self-directed study packs (including revision of structure and contents for the purpose of the integrated Open Learning environment),
1. a reading skills course in 17th century Dutch,
1. an open learning environment on the basis of the VLE *Moodle*, integrating all deliverables.



Timeline of Cross-Channel Interactions

50 BC – 1830



- Based on a comprehensive manuscript by Jaap Harskamp
- Comprises more than 800 extensively annotated entries on Anglo-Dutch exchanges
- Illustrated (IPR permitting)
- Using MIT's Simile timeline technology (Web 2.0)



St

1 The Dutch Revolt against Philip II, king of Spain and ruler

Marks: --/1

Answer:

True

False

Submit

Topic outline



Welcome! This interactive pack is designed for use in seminars or classes to help you gain some knowledge and understanding of the Low Countries and who would like to study a particular and hugely important period in history. The pack is designed to help you study the Dutch Revolt better, using a historic document (the Plakkaat van Verlatinge (Act of Abjuration)) and its original edition of the document. You can explore specific concepts, analyse certain themes, and study relevant events. It offers a series of resources and help files on the topic. If you have any questions that are highlighted, further explanations of the terms are available. The study pack aims to be as interactive as possible. You can return to any part after every fragment of the document you read. If you are ready to continue with the next sections.

News forum

1 Section I. Introduction to the Document: Plakkaat van Verlatinge



In this first Section you find an introduction to the document studied here, the Plakkaat van Verlatinge. In this section the background to the text and the document is explained.

Timeline interface showing a period from 1 AD to 1600 AD. A pop-up window is open for the year 1496, titled "1496: the history of John O Groats".

1496: the history of John O Groats

The history of John O'Groats, popularly known as the most northerly point of the British mainland, is clouded in folklore. The name of the supposed ferryman is first mentioned by the Caithness-born Sir John Sinclair in his statistical account of Scotland of 1793. He describes how Dutchman Jan de Groot and his two brothers arrived at this part of Scotland around the reign of James IV (1473-1513). Jan is said to have instituted the ferry making the six mile crossing to South Ronaldsay (a service that remains to this day). Apparently Jan had eight sons. Together they organised an annual feast to celebrate their arrival in Scotland from Holland, gatherings that became increasingly disputatious as a result of conflicting claims to the right to sit at the head of the table. The original John Groat is therefore said to have built a symmetrical



Open Learning Environment for Early Modern Low Countries History

A VirtualDutch Open Educational Resource funded by JISC and the Higher Education Academy

HOME BACKGROUND ABOUT

Log in

Categories: Project News

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Home

This project is part of the individual strand of JISC's and the Higher Education Academy's Open Educational Resources programme. This pilot programme has been designed to

SUBSCRIBE



<http://www.ucl.ac.uk/dutch/OER/>



The next step: distance programme

- UCL programme, with teaching input from Sheffield
 - Envisaged to become a fully inter-institutional degree programme
- Using *VirtualDutch* Open Educational Resources,
- Institutional Virtual Learning Environment,
- Desktop Videoconferencing.
- Fully tutor-supported.

Distance programme (since 2009/10)

- Short courses
 - Beginners Dutch '*Lagelands*' (started Sept 2009)
 - Advanced Dutch '*Hogelands*' (started Sept 2009)
 - Early Modern Dutch (starts Sept 2010)
 - Business Dutch (starts Sept 2010)
- PgCert / PgDipl / MA Dutch Cultural Studies
 - Postgraduate Certificate (started Sept 2009)
 - Postgraduate Diploma (starts Sept 2010)
 - MA Dutch Cultural Studies (starts Sept 2011)

Short Courses: e.g. Beginners Dutch

- *'Lagelands'* : Beginners Dutch
 - provides learners with the skills they need to speak, write and understand simple Dutch in a range of everyday contexts,
 - requires no prior knowledge of the language,
 - outcome of a level comparable to A2 as defined by the Council of Europe,
 - runs twice per year, taught over a 16 weeks period,
 - the language of instruction is English.



PgCert / PgDipl / MA

Dutch Cultural Studies (by distance learning)

- Opportunity to study the modern society of the Netherlands and Flanders,
- teaching staff are drawn from UCL and Sheffield,
- taught in English; available to students without previous knowledge of Dutch as well as to those already proficient in the language,
- learning Dutch, or improving one's command of it, part of the programme.
- Students take a core course on the contemporary society and culture of the Low Countries, and either one or two optional courses,
- all courses are fully tutor-supported,
- some scholarships available,
- leads to a fully recognized qualification from UCL.

Some Screenshots

updated Powerpoint slides

4 Gender and new belongings 1970-present

In the second half of this block we will look at the new ways in which different groups are able to participate in Dutch society.

- While Dutch and Flemish women have more of a say in the family and begin to participate in public life, some aspects of their lives are slow to change.
- There is growing acceptance of homosexual men and women and their lifestyles. Same-sex marriage becomes legal.
- Culture clashes focus on the treatment of women in Islam; the concept of 'new cultural citizens' offers a way forward.

Resources

- Magda Michielsens 'A World of Difference. Women in the Netherlands and Flanders'. Reproduced by kind permission of 'The Low Countries', published by Stichting Ons Erfdeel.
- 'The personal and the political' - Fenoulhet on the second wave of feminism
- Link to Amsterdam 'Homomonument' website
- Poems by Elly de Waard
- 'Submission' - film by Ayaan Hirsi Ali and Theo van Gogh
- Sohelia Najand, 'New cultural citizens'

Online webinar via DimDim, 19/11/09, 11:00 BST

You can join the seminar by clicking on the link in the invitation e-mail or by entering "virtualdutch" into the meeting room field on <http://www.dimdim.com>.

Watch the recording of this session

Some concluding remarks

- In 2009/10 twelve students followed the postgraduate certificate, about 20 the short courses
- Short courses can be accredited towards the degree programme
- Feedback overwhelmingly positive
- Majority of learning resources openly available
- Community aspects: staff/students
- Collaboration way forward for LWT languages?

Thank you very much!

- VirtualDutch
<<http://www.ducth.ac.uk/>>
- Open Learning Environment Early Modern Low Countries history (OER Dutch history)
<<http://www.ucl.ac.uk/dutch/OER/>>
- Contact: Ulrich Tiedau
E-mail: u.tiedau@ucl.ac.uk