

## Lectures

Stay tuned for upcoming lectures. We will recommence this month!

## Films

The film programme will recommence this month, stay tuned!

[Read more>>](#)

## Library News

From the 4th of September the library will be open Mon-Wed from 09:00-18:00 and every Sunday and Thursday from 09:00-18:00

The library will be closed for Eid el Adha September 11-12-13 Sun/Mon/Tue

Visit our library and enjoy our collection in a quiet environment. We have a great collection on Ancient Egypt, Arabic dialects, linguistics and literature. Free Wi-Fi (ask the librarian) and consulting computers are available.

## News September 2016

### A few remarks on the latest news at NVIC from director Dr Rudolf de Jong

Dear friends of the NVIC,

Last academic year 2015-16 at our institute ended with saying farewell to Dr Stijn Aerts, who had been our Assistant-Director for Arabic and Islam Studies for a year. Unforeseen circumstances led to his decision to return to Belgium. We shall miss his valuable contributions, dry sense of humour, and wish him all the best for the future.

In July we had a round of interviews in Brussels (the position is funded by F.W.O., Research Fund Flanders) to select a new Assistant-Director to take Stijn's place. I am very pleased to announce that Dr Ildal Elsaket (PhD, University of Sydney) will be our new Assistant-Director as from 1 October this year. Ildal worked as a guest researcher at our institute before, and we very much look forward to her joining our team.

At the end of August we started our regular MA-semester again for students from our contributing universities of Ghent and Leuven in Flanders (and this year also one student from the University of Amsterdam).

For the full story please visit our website [here](#).

### Survival Course Egyptian Arabic 2016

## SURVIVAL ARABIC GROUP LESSONS



Starting from the 3<sup>rd</sup> of October we will offer a course in Egyptian colloquial Arabic. Are you working or studying in Egypt but finding it difficult to interact with Egyptians? This course provides you with the perfect opportunity to master the basics of Egyptian Arabic. Classes will be taught in the evenings and can be combined with your professional activities. The registration deadline is September 21, 2016. We look forward to welcoming you at the institute!

Have a look at our [website](#) for more information.

### PhD group

NVIC re-launches its PhD group after the summer break.

The group is open to PhD researchers from Middle Eastern Studies, Anthropology, Social Studies, Humanities, Archaeology, Egyptology or Political Science. We meet in order to share and discuss our projects, to organise writing sessions, or to read and discuss texts or theoretical approaches. If you are interested in joining our monthly research circle, please send a short email to [info@nvc.leidenuniv.nl](mailto:info@nvc.leidenuniv.nl) stating your name, your institutional affiliation and your research topic, and we will get back to you with more information.

### Dutch languages courses

The next Dutch language course will be taught between the 3<sup>rd</sup> of October and the 7<sup>th</sup> of December. Three different levels are offered (starting from beginner level) Registration and the entrance exam will take place on the 28<sup>th</sup> of September between 10.00 (a.m.) and 12.00 (noon). The language of instruction will be English, NOT Arabic; a good command of spoken and written English is therefore required.

For more information please consult our website [here](#).



### Safety Survey: NVIC students feel very safe in Cairo

The safety of students is a priority and hence an ever recurring issue at the NVIC. NVIC not only attaches great importance to the safety of its students, but also that its students *feel* safe. To better understand feelings of safety in Cairo, our previous intern Marlijn Beek conducted a survey among former students who spent a semester at our institute in Cairo. Please read the most important results of our survey [here](#).

### Lecture and film programme recommences this month

Our lecture and film programme will commence in September. We will start off with the umbrella topic 'health' – something one seldom thinks about when everything is working and intact, but also a life changing issue if oneself or someone close is affected. Health includes many topics, from medicine to the world wide gender structure in care taking employment, from disease and sickness to different critical approaches to mental health and social challenges, from international institutions like the World Health Organisation to alternative medicine and wisdom and techniques of the forefathers. Our lectures and films will tackle some of the aforementioned topics. Please feel warmly invited to participate and discuss with us! Lecturers include Dina Makram, Mona Amer, Lisa Sabbahy, Ayman Zohry, and Manal El-Sayed.

We also welcome Fred Leemhuis who is visiting NVIC this semester as part of our MA Arabic programme and Ruud Peters who are both always welcome guests to our lecture programme. Please stay tuned via our facebook page, website, and future newsletters in order to be updated with our final programme.

### Cleveringa-lecture: Professor Dr Petra Sijpesteijn

On 27 November our institute, with the generous support of the Netherlands Embassy in Cairo, will organise its yearly Cleveringa-lecture. A seminar/conference during the day is organised in cooperation with professor Dr Petra Sijpesteijn of Leiden University. The topic of the seminar is *"Informal requests for support and mediation (on paper and/or papyrus) in Egypt (from Roman times until the Ottoman era)"*. We have invited a number of excellent scholars from Egypt and abroad to contribute and most have promised to present a paper on this topic. We look forward to an interesting day! The programme of the day will be announced on this website in due course. The Cleveringa-lecture itself will this year be read by professor Sijpesteijn. More information will follow shortly, so please keep an eye on our [website](#).

### A first impression of Cairo by our new intern, Fanny Hovers

Never having been abroad for much longer than three weeks consecutively, coming to Egypt for well over five months is quite the adventure for me. My enthusiasm and excitement was not shared by all those around me back in Holland. "You're going to Cairo, all alone? That seems dangerous, there are as many people living in Cairo as Flanders and the Netherlands combined!"

Nonetheless, I was determined. Yet when my bags were packed, my vaccination bruises had faded, my student room was sublet – when I had no more preparations to fuss over – I couldn't help but feeling nervous. Very nervous. In my mind I was going over all the well-meant pieces of advice. "Don't swim in the Nile," "be careful with what you eat," "peel it, boil it, or forget it," and the list goes on.

Read the full story on our [website](#).



More information and updates related to our films and lectures can be found on our [Facebook page](#) and [our website](#).

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