

At Louvain-la-Neuve - 120 credits - 2 years - Day schedule - In French

Dissertation/Graduation Project : **YES** - Internship : **YES**

Activities in English: **YES**

SPOL2M - Introduction

Introduction

Introduction

The Master offers you

- a theoretical and practical knowledge of political systems and actors in political decision-making;
- two specializations that are unique in Europe: "Belgian and comparative politics" & "Democratic innovations and transformations"
- an integrated approach through case studies and projects;
- training in the methodological tools of political science research;
- the opportunity to test your skills in the field during an internship in an institution, an association or a research team;
- the opportunity to carry out part of your programme abroad.

Your profile

You

- aim at developing a theoretical and practical expertise to analyse and act on contemporary socio-political phenomena;
- have a Bachelor's degree and wish to complete your initial training with a Master's programme to strengthen your analytical skills, critical thinking and creativity;
- hold a Master's degree in political science and intend to specialize, in one year, in Belgian and comparative politics or in democratic innovations and transformations;
- are active in the public services, private companies or civil society and want to give an academic framework to your practices;
- wish to develop the professional skills necessary to act in the socio-political context at the local, regional, national or international level;
- would like to prepare yourself for the national, European and international civil service entrance exams.

Your future job

Our graduates are hired for:

- their expertise in the analysis and diagnosis of concrete and complex problems/situations relating to public action in the broadest sense by critically mobilising specialised methodologies and analytical tools in different fields of application
- advising "political" action in Belgian politics from a comparative perspective or in terms of democratic innovations and transformations.
- drawing up scenarios of responses or actions to concrete questions relating to institutional and organisational design
- positions with organisations or institutions in the public sphere, at local, regional, national, European or international level, but also in the private sphere (companies, non-governmental organisations, associations).

SPOL2M - Teaching profile

Learning outcomes

- dapter sa communication (contenu et forme) au public visé et aux intentions poursuivies selon les standards de communication spécifiques au contexte (vulgariser, etc.).

CG5.2. Communiquer en anglais, à l'oral et à l'écrit de façon claire, cohérente, argumentée et avec aisance sur des sujets d'ordre général ou relatifs aux domaines des sciences politiques (niveau B2 du cadre européen commun de référence).

CG5.3. Dialoguer, interagir et négocier de manière constructive avec des interlocuteurs variés, dont des collaborateurs, des décideurs politiques et des populations cibles.

CG5.4. S'intégrer et collaborer efficacement au sein d'une équipe et avec différents acteurs en réseaux impliqués dans une situation donnée.

CG6. Concevoir et réaliser un travail de recherche personnel (mémoire), mettant en Œuvre une démarche scientifique et méthodologique rigoureuse et critique, pour approfondir une problématique en sciences politiques (dans son domaine d'orientation).

CG6.1. Définir et préciser une problématique de recherche en veillant à sa contextualisation.

CG6.2. Réaliser la synthèse critique de la littérature sur cette problématique en faisant un usage actif, critique et pertinent des outils d'information, des sources primaires et secondaires.

CG6.3. Construire et mettre en Œuvre un dispositif méthodologique rigoureux et pertinent en vue d'y répondre.

CG6.4. Concevoir et réaliser, le cas échéant, une recherche empirique quantitative et/ou qualitative, en mobilisant les outils d'analyse adéquats.

CG6.5. Développer une analyse objective et un esprit de synthèse permettant la mise en perspective des paramètres en jeu et la formulation de conclusions pertinentes.

CG6.6. Faire preuve, de manière générale, d'un recul critique tant sur son propre travail que sur les connaissances qui y sont mobilisées.

CG7. Agir en tant qu'universitaire, en acteur critique et responsable et en ayant intégré une logique de développement continu.

CG7.1. Se projeter dans une pratique socio-professionnelle selon une approche universitaire fondée (d'un point de vue théorique et méthodologique) et caractérisée par une démarche réfléchie et critique.

CG7.2. S'engager, décider et agir de manière autonome et responsable dans le respect du cadre, du contexte de travail et d'autrui.

CG7.3. Adopter une posture d'acteur conscient de sa responsabilité sociétale et citoyenne.

CG7.4. Intégrer une logique de recul critique sur soi-même (ses acquis, ses compétences, ses limites, ses productions et ses actions), une logique d'apprentissage et de développement continu indispensables pour évoluer positivement dans son environnement socio-professionnel.

SPO. Plus spécifiquement, en tant que diplômé du Master [120] en sciences politiques, orientation générale :

Développer une expertise et un niveau élevé de compétences dans le domaine l'action « politique » au sens large du terme et spécifiquement dans l'analyse de politiques publiques et de son contexte sociopolitique ; en vue d'assurer une fonction de conseiller auprès d'organisations ou d'institutions au niveau national, européen ou international.

SPO.1. Maîtriser et mobiliser de manière critique des connaissances approfondies et spécialisées relatives :

- au fonctionnement et à la gestion des organisations publiques,
- au processus d'élaboration et de décision à chaque étape du cycle d'une politique publique,
- au champ politique national ainsi qu'europpéen et international,
- aux relations et organisations internationales et leurs structures de fonctionnement,
- au processus d'intégration européenne.

SPO.2.

Analyser des politiques et situations/problématiques concrètes et complexes relatives à l'action publique au sens large du terme en mobilisant de manière critique différentes méthodologies et outils rigoureux d'analyse et de diagnostic, entre autres:

- Identifier, analyser et tenir compte des multiples enjeux,
- Identifier et analyser les acteurs impliqués, leur positionnement et leurs interactions (en particulier, les partis et groupes de pression dans leurs rouages internes),
- Analyser l'organisation interne des institutions politiques,
- Mobiliser les outils et les différentes étapes de l'analyse des politiques publiques à des fins analytiques et stratégiques et également selon un processus interprétatif de reconstruction des actions de l'Etat,
- Mobiliser une approche comparative rigoureuse dans l'analyse des décisions politiques, des principaux acteurs, des dynamiques institutionnelles, des processus de décisions et des interactions pour élaborer une évaluation critique des effets potentiels de différentes propositions de réformes institutionnelles,
- Analyser un processus de décision politique au travers de la gouvernance multiniveaux, sur le plan théorique (grille d'analyse pertinente) et selon une méthodologie rigoureuse,
- Mobiliser des outils théoriques et conceptuels pertinents pour analyser des problématiques internationales ou liées au processus d'intégration européenne.

SPO3. Percevoir et analyser le changement dans les organisations et politiques publiques.

SPO.4.

Développer des compétences propres à une première expérience professionnelle concrète (stage):

- Positionner et exercer son rôle et son champ d'action au sein d'une organisation, en interface avec les différentes parties prenantes

SPO-FA.2. Analyser, selon une démarche scientifique en mobilisant les théories pertinentes, des situations/problématiques dans des thématiques spécifiques.

SPO-FA.3. Débattre et participer à une discussion réflexive sur des questions pointues en sciences politiques avec des chercheurs/experts/spécialistes.

SPO-FD. S'il a suivi la finalité didactique, Mobiliser les compétences nécessaires pour entamer efficacement le métier d'enseignant du secondaire supérieur, dans le domaine des sciences politiques et sociales, et pouvoir y évoluer positivement.

FD.1. Intervenir en contexte scolaire, en partenariat avec différents acteurs.

FD.2. Enseigner en situations authentiques et variées.

FD.3. Exercer un regard réflexif et se projeter dans une logique de développement continu.

Pour plus de détails, consultez l'[Teacher Training Certificate \(upper secondary education\) - Sociology, Political Sciences, Anthropology](#).

Programme structure

The first year programme of the 120 credit Master in Political Science (general) is made up of wide-ranging core subjects (45 credits), a choice of courses (13 credits) and the writing of a dissertation (2 credits). The different focuses form half (30 credits) of the second year: research focus, teaching focus, professional focus in policy and administration. The production of the dissertation represents 25 credits. Finally, students may choose either regional studies or language courses (7 credits) in addition to those taken in the first year.

The research focus aims to develop research skills in the field of political science using different established forms of research, including comparative politics. Special emphasis is placed on using in-depth methodologies, becoming part of research teams and being able to work independently during the training period.

The teaching focus is intended for teachers and therefore concentrates on improving teaching skills, communicating knowledge and managing groups during lesson time. Against this background, this focus includes vital teaching practice which includes practical experience, observation and teaching strategies.

The research focus in policy and administration prepares the student for a professional career. Through a series of cross-disciplinary courses which bring together comparative politics, the analysis of public policy and related disciplines (law, communication, sociology, ethics), students develop practical skills in the field of public policy, in the widest possible sense. This focus also includes a period of compulsory work placement supervised by a lecturer from the Department.

The Erasmus scheme and, to a lesser extent, the Mercator scheme provide finance for study visits abroad for a semester.

In the context of the "Louvain Academy", UCL and FUCAM (Facultés Universitaires Catholiques de Mons à Mons – Catholic University Faculties of Mons in Mons) offer jointly Masters' programmes (120 credits) in Political Science either as a general subject or with the emphasis on international relations or public administration. Students may choose to study the focus at a partner institution and gain a degree issued jointly by the two institutions. These exchanges are made possible by specially coordinated courses and timetables.

SPOL2M Programme

Detailed programme by subject

CORE COURSES [75.0]

- Mandatory
- ⊗ Optional
- △ Not offered in 2023-2024
- ⊙ Not offered in 2023-2024 but offered the following year
- ⊕ Offered in 2023-2024 but not the following year
- △ ⊕ Not offered in 2023-2024 or the following year
- Activity with requisites
- ⊗ Open to incoming exchange students
- ⊗ Not open to incoming exchange students
- [FR] Teaching language (FR, EN, ES, NL, DE, ...)

Click on the course title to see detailed informations (objectives, methods, evaluation...)

LIST OF FOCUSES

- > [Research Focus](#) [en-prog-2023-spol2m-lspol200a]
- > [Teaching Focus](#) [en-prog-2023-spol2m-lspol200d]

RESEARCH FOCUS [30.0]

The Research Focus aims at developing political science research skills in its different research traditions. Emphasis is placed on in-depth methodologies, integration into research teams, and autonomous learning.

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- ⊕ Offered in 2023-2024 but not the following year
- △ ⊕ Not offered in 2023-2024 or the following year
- Activity with requisites
- 🌐 Open to incoming exchange students
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Year

1 2

Content:

○ LSPOL2401	Interest Representation, Lobbying, and Representative Democracies: Conflicts and Ways forward	Theodoros Koutroubas	EN [q2] [15h] [5 Credits] 🌐 > French-friendly	X	
○ LSPOL2402	Democracy and Citizenship in a Changing World	Virginie Van Ingelgom	EN [q1] [15h] [5 Credits] 🌐 > French-friendly	X	
○ LSPOL2403	State-Citizens Relationships: Policy Feedback W nC] TJ 1 0 0 -1 0 17.68899918 Tm [(DA 1 G [] 0 d 2 w 0PnDim999 cm 0 -1 1 0 0 0 cm 0 0 m 21.4es:				


Year

1 2

● LAGES2820

Stages d'enseignement

Julie Louette (coord.)

PK [q1+q2] [0h+40h] [4 Credits] 

x

Cours au choix [15.0]

COURS AU CHOIX [15.0]

- Mandatory
- ⊗ Optional
- △ Not offered in 2023-2024
- ⊙ Not offered in 2023-2024 but offered the following year
- ⊕ Offered in 2023-2024 but not the following year
- △ ⊕ Not offered in 2023-2024 or the following year
- Activity with requisites
- 🌐 Open to incoming exchange students
- 🚫 Not open to incoming exchange students
- [FR] Teaching language (FR, EN, ES, NL, DE, ...)

Click on the course title to see detailed informations (objectives, methods, evaluation...)

Year

1 2

o Content:

⊗ Democratic Practices

⊗ LPSAD2101	Social Movements: Activism, Organizations and Impact	Benoît Rihoux	EN [q2] [15h] [5 Credits] 🌐	X	
⊗ LESPO2000	Issues and challenges of managing workplace diversity	Scott Brenton Bénédicte Fontaine	FR [q2] [45h] [5 Credits] 🌐	X	X
⊗ LFILO2233	Interdisciplinary Seminar on Transition	Valentin Couvreur Nathalie Frogneux (coord.) Charlotte Luyckx	FR [q2] [30h] [5 Credits] 🌐	X	X

⊗ Aires régionales

⊗ Belgique

⊗ LDESF2202	Développement territorial et régional		FR [q1] [30h] [5 Credits] △ 🌐	X	X
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⊗ Asie

⊗ LSPRI2650	Geostrategy and security in the Indo-Pacific	Elena Atanassova-Cornelis	EN [q1] [15h] [5 Credits] 🌐	X	X
⊗ LSPRI2661	Geopolitics, Grand Strategy and World Order	Tanguy Struye de Swielande	EN [q2] [30h] [5 Credits] 🌐	X	X
⊗ LASI2301	Chair Chiang Ching-Kuo II		FR [q1] [15h] [5 Credits] ⊕ 🌐	X	X
⊗ LASI2302	Analysis of contemporary Chinese society	Frédéric Laugrand	FR [q2] [30h] [5 Credits] ⊙ 🌐	X	X
⊗ LASI2303	Analysis of contemporary Japanese society		EN [q2] [30h] [5 Credits] △ 🌐	X	X
⊗ LANTR1302	Chair Chiang Ching-Kuo I		FR [q1] [15h] [3 Credits] ⊙ 🌐	X	X
⊗ LGLOR2839	Satsuma Chair		FR [q2] [15h] [5 Credits] ⊙ 🌐		

Supplementary classes

To access this Master, students must have a good command of certain subjects. If this is not the case, students must take supplementary classes chosen by the faculty to satisfy course prerequisites.

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○ LCOPS1114	Statistics and Bases of Probability Theory	Marie Delacre Marie Delacre (compensates Rainer von Sachs)	FR [q1] [30h+30h] [5 Credits] 🌐
○ LPOLS1221	Quantitative Data Analysis	Jacques Marquet	

Course prerequisites

There are no prerequisites between course units (CUs) for this programme, i.e. the programme activity (course unit, CU) whose learning outcomes are to be certified and the corresponding credits awarded by the jury before registration in another CU.

The programme's courses and learning outcomes

For each UCLouvain training programme, a [reference framework of learning outcomes](#) specifies the the skills expected of every graduate on completion of the programme. Course unit descriptions specify targeted learning outcomes, as well as the unit's contribution to reference framework of learning outcomes.

BA en commerce et développement - crédits supplémentaires entre 45 et 60
 BA en communication - crédits supplémentaires entre 45 et 60
 BA en coopération internationale - crédits supplémentaires entre 45 et 60
 BA en droit - crédits supplémentaires entre 45 et 60
 BA en écologie sociale - crédits supplémentaires entre 45 et 60
 BA en sciences administratives et gestion publique - crédits supplémentaires entre 45 et 60

Holders of a 2nd cycle University degree

Diploma	Special Requirements	Access	Remarks
"Licenciés"			
		Access based on application	
Masters			
		Access based on application	

Access based on validation of professional experience

> It is possible, under certain conditions, to use one's personal and professional experience to enter a university course without having the required qualifications. However, validation of prior experience does not automatically apply to all courses. Find out more about [Validation of priori experience](#).

Entry to all Masters (with the exception of Advanced Masters) can be gained through the special procedure for accrediting prior learning and experience known as VAE (validation des acquis de l'expérience).

Entry to this Master can be gained through this procedure.

<http://www.uclouvain.be/fr/facultes/espo/psad/adulte-en-reprise-d-etudes-vae.html>

Access based on application

Access based on application : access may be granted either directly or on the condition of completing additional courses of a maximum of 60 ECTS credits, or refused.

Entry to all Masters (with the exception of Advanced Masters) can also be gained on submission of a special personal file.

Admission and Enrolment Procedures for general registration

Please refer to the general conditions for admission.

Requests for admission and for further information should be addressed to the programme director : [Marie Gilot](#).

Request for exemption and equivalences between courses are subject to the agreement of the programme director from whom agreement for each individual programme must be sought.

Specific professional rules

Successful completion of the master's course with **teaching focus** leads to the award of the master's degree with teaching focus and the title of secondary school education specialist.

The [Réforme des Titres et Fonctions](#) ("Titles and Functions Reform"), in force since 1 September 2016, is intended to harmonise the titles, functions and pay scales of basic and secondary education professionals in French Community of Belgium networks.

It also aims to guarantee the priority of preferred titles over minimum titles and to establish a regime for titles in short supply.

AESS holders can learn which functions they can carry out and the pay scales from which they can benefit by [clicking here](#).

The university cannot be held responsible for any problems that students may encounter at a later date with a view to a teaching appointment in the French Community of Belgium.

Teaching method

- methods which reflect the interdisciplinary nature of the programme: interdisciplinarity in both in the core subjects as well as the area studies
- variety of teaching strategies (including e-learning):
 - most of the teaching staff are familiar with new multi-media technology and innovations introduced by the University Teaching Institute (l'Institut de pédagogie universitaire). The overall rhythm and workload of the programme is carefully coordinated each year.
 - the seminars are designed to help students with the methodological structure of their final piece of work (either research focus or professional focus)
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Possible trainings at the end of the programme

Doctoral programme: post-graduate research school in Political Science (FNRS), or other schools approved by the Graduate College in Political and Social Science

Contacts

Curriculum Management

Entity

Structure entity

SSH/ESPO/PSAD

Denomination

(PSAD)

Faculty

Faculty of Economic, Social and Political Sciences and Communication (ESPO)

Sector

Human Sciences (SSH)

Acronym

PSAD

Postal address

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Website

<http://www.uclouvain.be/psad.html>

Academic supervisor: [Claire Dupuy](https://uclouvain.be/repertoires/claire.dupuy) (<https://uclouvain.be/repertoires/claire.dupuy>)

Jury

- Président du Jury: [Hugues Draelants](https://uclouvain.be/repertoires/hugues.draelants) (<https://uclouvain.be/repertoires/hugues.draelants>)
- Secrétaire du Jury: [Benoît Rihoux](https://uclouvain.be/repertoires/benoit.rihoux) (<https://uclouvain.be/repertoires/benoit.rihoux>)

Useful Contact(s)

- Administrative Officer: [Marie Gilot](https://uclouvain.be/repertoires/marie.gilot) (<https://uclouvain.be/repertoires/marie.gilot>)

