BIRA2M - Introduction

Introduction

2. To explore an integrated body of "engineering and management knowledge" which serves as the foundation from which to operate with expertise in the field of agricultural science and technology.

2.1 To build an advanced knowledge base (e.g. concepts, laws, technologies) and tools (e.g. modelling, programming) in engineering sciences:

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6. To communicate, interact and convince in a professional manner, in French and English at level C1 (Common European Framework of Reference for Languages published by the Council of Europe), both verbally and in writing, adapting to their conversational partners and the context.

6.1 To understand and use scientific articles and advanced technical documents in French and English.

6.2 To communicate information, ideas, solutions and conclusions as well as the knowledge and underlying principles, in a clearly structured, substantiated, concise and comprehensive way (as appropriate) both verbally and in writing according to the standards of communication specific to the context and by adapting their presentation according to the level of expertise of the audience.

6.3 To develop logic diagrams to concisely pose complex global questions.

6.4 To communicate the state of knowledge in a specific field concisely and critically.

6.5 To communicate results and conclusions, and to support a message, in an appropriate manner using scientific tables, graphs and diagrams.

6.6 To communicate effectively and respectfully with various stakeholders, demonstrating listening skills, empathy and assertiveness.

6.7 To argue and convince: to understand the points of view of various stakeholders and present their arguments accordingly.

6.8 To master the computerised and technological tools essential for professional communication.

6.9 To learn English to level C1 according to the European references.

7. To act critically and responsibly by taking account of sustainable development issues and operating with a humanistic outlook.

7.1 To demonstrate intellectual independence of thought, to examine knowledge and professional practices and trends critically.

7.2 To make decisions and act in society with respect for ethical values and in compliance with laws and conventions.

7.3 To make decisions and act responsibly by factoring in sustainable development values.

7.4 To make decisions and act with respect for humanistic values, cultural openness and solidarity, especially in North–South relations.

7.5 To assume professional responsibilities and act in a managerial capacity vis-à-vis their colleagues.

The majority of these skills are not developed exclusively through specific activities, but rather as a result of the multiple and diverse situations encountered throughout the course, the educational programmes and the way in which it is run, as well as through the university environment.

8. To demonstrate independence and be proactive in acquiring new knowledge and developing new skills in order to adapt to changing or uncertain situations and to grow, to build a professional project within a continuing development approach.

8.1 To manage their work independently: to set priorities, anticipate and plan all the activities in time, including in the face of changing, uncertain or urgent situations.

8.2 To manage stress and frustrations in urgent, changing, inconsistent or uncertain situations.

8.3 To question and know themself: to undergo self-assessment, by analysing their successes and failures, to identify strengths and weaknesses and their personal performance in relation to the context.

8.4 To grow personally and professionally: to build a professional project in line with their own values and aspirations, to manage their motivation and involvement in bringing the project to fruition, to persevere in complex situations.

8.5 To independently identify and absorb new knowledge and skills essential for learning to understand new contexts quickly.

8.6 To commit to the lifelong learning which will allow them to grow socially and professionally.

Programme structure

This programme comprises a series of activities totalling 120 credits spread over two years worth 60 credits each. It is structured as follows :

Year 1 :

- compulsory professional focus programme for 30 credits.
- compulsory core subjects programme : 5 credits (out of 40) are taken in the first year. All the others (35 credits) from the core subjects programme are taken in the second year.
- choice of one option course of 30 credits from a list of six. The majority of option courses (25 credits) are organized in the first year. Certain courses (5 credits), as already mentioned, are taken in the second year.

  Certain option courses are organized jointly with one or two other programmes from the Master in Bioengineering. This is the reason for the special numbering of these option courses. (For example, option course 1A is also in the programme for the Master in Chemistry and Bioindustry where it is called option course 1C. Option course 10 A is also in the programme for the Master in Bioengineering (Environment Science and Technology) where it is called option course 10E and the Master in Chemistry and Bioindustry where it is called option course 10C.)

Year 2 :

- compulsory core subjects programme : 35 credits (out of 40) are taken in the second year.
- the remainder of the option course (5 credits) chosen in Year 1 of the Master is taken in Year 2.
- choice of a module of 20 credits from nine advanced modules, some of which follow on from the six option courses of Year 1. Students are strongly encouraged to follow the instructions regarding each of these modules.

Optional subjects :

There are some optional courses within the programme. They may either be chosen from a suggested list or may be chosen freely from the all courses available at UCL or even another institution. The same applies to all the optional courses in the programme.

All these choices must be made in the timescale laid down by the Faculty Department and agreed by the Academic Secretary. For courses from another faculty or institution, students must gain prior agreement from the lecturer in charge of the course.

Additional training "Business Creation"

PROFESSIONAL FOCUS [30.0]

- Mandatory
- Optional
- Not offered in 2024-2025
- Not offered in 2024-2025 but offered the following year
- Offered in 2024-2025 but not the following year
- Not offered in 2024-2025 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...)

Content:

				Year 1	Year 2
LBIRA2105	Agricultural and rural policies	Goedele Van den Broeck	EN [q1] [30h] [3 Credits] *> French-friendly*	x	
LBIRA2107	Animal production 1	Eric Froidmont	FR [q2] [37.5h+7.5h] [3 Credits] *> English-friendly*	x	
LBIRA2108A	Crop productions : principles	Yannick Agnan Stephan Declerck Xavier Draye Guillaume Lobet	FR [q1] [22.5h+15h] [3 Credits] *> English-friendly*	x	
LBIRA2109	Agrarian systems and farm	Guillaume Lobet			

OPTIONS

Les étudiants ont le choix entre 7 options en première année de master et 11 modules d'approfondissement en deuxième année de master. La plupart des combinaisons sont possibles. Cependant, les étudiants sont invités à réfléchir dès la première année à l'articulation des options et des modules, certains modules suivant de manière préférentielle certaines options.

Les étudiants qui souhaitent suivre le module interdisciplinaire en entrepreneuriat (INEO) doivent s'y inscrire en même temps qu'à l'option dès la première année de master. En effet, le programme de ce module devra s'articuler avec celui de l'option sur les deux années de master.

Attention: l'inscription à ce module fait l'objet d'une sélection qui a lieu au moment de la rentrée académique. Une fois sélectionnés, les étudiants prendront contact avec le vice-doyen pour aménager leur programme de cours personnel et répartir les cours INEO et les cours d'option sur les deux années du master.

La participation au programme Erasmus Mundus interuniversitaire AFEPA (Agricultural, Food and Environmental Policy Analysis) fait également l'objet d'une sélection dont les modalités sont décrites à la page suivante: www.uclouvain.be/afepa

OPTION 1A - FOOD NUTRITION AND HEALTH [30.0]

- Mandatory
- Optional
- Not offered in 2024-2025
- Not offered in 2024-2025 but offered the following year
- Offered in 2024-2025 but not the following year
- Not offered in 2024-2025 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

OPTION 7A- WATER AND EARTH RESOURCES [30.0]

- Mandatory
- Optional
- Not offered in 2024-2025
- Not offered in 2024-2025 but offered the following year
- Offered in 2024-2025 but not the following year
- Not offered in 2024-2025 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...)

Content:

				Year 1	Year 2
LBIRA2108B	Plant production	Yannick Agnan Stephan Declerck Xavier Draye Guillaume Lobet	FR [q1] [22.5h+0h] [2 Credits] > *English-friendly*	x	
LBRAI2106	Crop science	Nicolas Desoignies (compensates Guillaume Lobet) Guillaume Lobet	FR [q2] [50h+10h] [6 Credits] > *English-friendly*	x	
LBRES2101B	Smart technologies for environmental engineering	Sébastien Lambot	EN [q1] [22.5h+15h] [3 Credits] > *French-friendly*	x	
LBRES2103	Soil physics applied to Agronomy and Environment	Charles Bielders (coord.) Mathieu Javaux Mathieu Javaux (compensates Charles Bielders)	FR [q1] [30h+15h] [4 Credits]	x	
LBRES2203	Soil management in tropical and subtropical regions	Charles Bielders (coord.)			

OPTION 10A - DATA SCIENCE [30.0]

- Mandatory

OPTION 11A - AGRICULTURAL AND RESOURCE ECONOMICS [30.0]

- Mandatory
- Optional
- Not offered in 2024-2025
- Not offered in 2024-2025 but offered the following year
- Offered in 2024-2025 but not the following year
- Not offered in 2024-2025 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...)

Content:

				Year 1	Year 2
LBRAI2208	Firms and Markets : Strategic Analysis	Frédéric Gaspart	EN [q1] [30h] [4 Credits] > *French-friendly*	x	
LBRAI2210	Microeconomics of Development	Frédéric Gaspart	EN [q1] [30h] [3 Credits] > *French-friendly*	x	
LBRAI2212	Economics of Rural Development	Goedele Van den Broeck	EN [q1] [30h] [3 Credits] > *French-friendly*	x	
LBRAI2213	Impact evaluation in agriculture	Goedele Van den Broeck	EN [q2] [30h+8h] [4 Credits] > *French-friendly*	x	
LECON2033	Applied econometrics: Microeconometrics	Bertrand Verheyden (compensates Muriel Dejemeppe)	FR [q1] [30h+12h] [5 Credits]		

				Year 1	2
⊠ LBRES2101	Smart technologies for environmental engineering	Sébastien Lambot	EN [q1] [32.5h+20h] [4 Credits] *> French-friendly*	x	x
⊠ LBRTI2101A	Data Science in bioscience engineering	Patrick Bogaert Emmanuel Hanert	FR [q1] [22.5h+15h] [3 Credits] *> English-friendly*	x	x
⊠ LBRTI2101B	Data Science in bioscience engineering	Patrick Bogaert Emmanuel Hanert	FR [q1] [30h] [2 Credits] *> English-friendly*	x	x
⊠ LBRAT2102	Spatial modelling of land dynamics	Pierre Defourny	EN [q2] [15h+15h] [3 Credits] *> French-friendly*	x	x
⊠ LBRAT2104A	Land monitoring by advanced earth observation				

OPTION 18A - HUMAN HEALTH [30.0]

- Mandatory
- Optional
- Not offered in 2024-2025
- Not offered in 2024-2025 but offered the following year
- Offered in 2024-2025 but not the following year
- Not offered in 2024-2025 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...)

Content:

				Year 1	Year 2
LBIO1237B	Immunology : basis and applications in biology - Lectures	Jean-Paul Dehoux	FR [q1] [25h] [3 Credits]	x	
LBIR1342A	Analyse de composés organiques dans des matrices complexes 1 partim A	Sonia Collin	FR [q2] [30h] [3 Credits]	x	
LBIRC2109A	Process engineering: Unit operations	Damien Debecker	FR [q2] [30h+7.5h] [3 Credits] > *English-friendly*	x	
LBRAL2102	Physiological and nutritional biochemistry	Cathy Debier (coord.) Emeline Dierge	EN [q1] [37.5h+0h] [4 Credits] > *French-friendly*	x	

LBIR1360	Firm management and organisation	Pierre De Muelenaere	EN [q1] [30h+7.5h] [3 Credits] > *French-friendly*
LBIR1362	Environmental Economics	Frédéric Gaspart	FR [q2] [30h+7.5h] [3 Credits]

Specifics courses (10 credits)

LBIR1230	Introduction to biosphere engineering	Philippe Baret Pierre Defourny (coord.) Pierre Delmelle	FR [q2] [60h] [5 Credits]

Unités d'enseignement au choix libre pour 5 crédits (5 credits)

BIRA2M - Information

Access Requirements

Master course admission requirements are defined by the French Community of Belgium Decree of 7 November 2013 defining the higher education landscape and the academic organisation of courses.

General and specific admission requirements for this programme must be satisfied at the time of enrolling at the university.

Unless explicitly mentioned, the bachelor's, master's and licentiate degrees listed in this table or on this page are to be understood as those issued by an institution of the French, Flemish or German-speaking Community, or by the Royal Military Academy.

In the event of the divergence between the different linguistic versions of the present conditions, the French version shall prevail.

SUMMARY

University Bachelors

Diploma	Special Requirements	Access	Remarks
UCLouvain Bachelors			
Bachelor in Bioengineering	Approfondissement en agronomie	Direct access	
Autres bacheliers UCL		Access based on application	L'étudiant·e est invité·e à prendre contact avec le conseiller aux études.
Others Bachelors of the French speaking Community of Belgium			
		Direct access	
		Access based on application	
Bachelors of the Dutch speaking Community of Belgium			
		Direct access	Les conditions d'accès seront définies au cas par cas en fonction des prérequis nécessaires.
		Access based on application	
Foreign Bachelors			
		Access based on application	Les conditions d'accès seront définies au cas par cas en fonction des prérequis nécessaires.
		Access based on application	

Non university Bachelors

> Find out more about links to the university

Diploma	Access	Remarks
BA en agronomie, orientation agro-industries et biotechnologies - crédits supplémentaires entre 45 et 60	Les enseignements supplémentaires éventuels	Type court

BA en agronomie, orientation agronomie des régions chaudes - crédits supplémentaires entre 45 et 60

BA en agronomie, orientation environnement - crédits supplémentaires entre 45 et 60

BA en agronomie, orientation forêt et nature - crédits supplémentaires entre 45 et 60

BA en agronomie, orientation systèmes alimentaires durables et locaux - crédits supplémentaires entre 45 et 60

BA en agronomie, orientation techniques et gestion agricoles - crédits supplémentaires entre 45 et 60

BA en agronomie, orientation techniques et gestion horticoles - crédits supplémentaires entre 45 et 60

BA en agronomie, orientation technologie animalière - crédits supplémentaires entre 45 et 60

BA en chimie, orientation biochimie - crédits supplémentaires entre 45 et 60

BA en chimie, orientation biotechnologie - crédits supplémentaires entre 45 et 60

BA en chimie, orientation chimie appliquée - crédits supplémentaires entre 45 et 60

BA en chimie, orientation environnement - crédits

Teaching method

The overall structure of the programmes for the Bachelor of Science in Engineering (Bioengineering) and the Master in Bioengineering clearly reflect the

concepts of specialization, gradual choice and individualization of the courses.

1st cycle (Bachelor) :

- same programme for SC and AGRO in first year (BIR11BA),
- special programme in second year (BIR12BA) for all the BIR students
- distinct programme with 30 credits for option courses in third year (BIR**C**13BA, BIR**A**13BA, BIR**E**13BA) : three advanced subsidiary subjects available : chemistry (BIRC), agronomy (BIRA), environment (BIRE).

2nd cycle (Master) :

- choice of three Masters in Bioengineering with a professional focus, together with twelve option courses which partly overlap, optional subjects (either free choice or from the lists) and a final individual dissertation.

  This overall structure gives students the opportunity to have a highly individualized programme whilst at the same time retaining both the **comprehensive nature** of the training and the foundation elements of university education : **independence, competence**, **open-mindedness and interest in research**.

The twelve option courses, which partly overlap at the level of the three Masters in Bioengineering, correspond to fields of activity identified on the basis of a wide-ranging survey of graduates of the Faculty working professionally and of contacts with potential employers.

The interdisciplinarity and the integrated approach are key dimensions in the training of bioengineers in agronomic science. This is reflected by :

- availability of courses organized by other faculties ;
- grouping of training activities : combined exercises, joint project, analysis of real situations, simulations ;
- the perception, analysis, diagnosis and content of the course specifications (management, design of new processes etc) combine different kinds of tools (field observation, laboratory analysis, databases, biometrics etc) and various scales in space (from the molecular to plots of land and farms, from an agricultural region to a sub-continent and beyond) and in time ;
- teaching teams with a wide range of expertise ;
- learning how best to work in groups of students to develop a real, independent capacity for intellectual work.

Training for research. through research, which is essential for conceptual and innovative awareness and developing intellectual rigour, is reflected by different types of activities :

- producing a final dissertation and taking part in dissertation seminars ;
- participation in subject seminars providing direct contact with young researchers working in the field of agronomic science (applied biology and agricultural production);
- presentation of seminars by students from an outside research group or groups and the production of a dissertation.

The application of skills, knowledge and techniques that students have acquired and how they use them together is taken into account in an integrated project in agronomic science. This is an important learning activity supplements the dissertation which, in the view of the Faculty, remains the most important part of training for research.

Through the close connection between the teaching and research, the development of new tools and new approaches is the subject

There are two kinds of international mobility : students who have already gained their Bachelor degree can move abroad to study for their Master at another institution ; it is also possible to take some course modules in another institution. The mobility rate for AGRO students on exchange schemes such as Erasmus is around 30-40% and the number of our students who go abroad is similar to the number of foreign students who come to study here.