

FILO2M1 - Introduction

Introduction

Introduction

The objective of the master is to provide advanced training in the different fields of philosophy. Its aim is that students will acquire a cultivated critical mind-set, and the ability to carry out objective analyses and synopses which put the factors which must be considered when approaching a question into perspective.

At the end of the master, the students:

- will have acquired advanced philosophical knowledge;
- will be able to carry out a critical review of the literature relating to a particular question;
- will be able to compare and defend philosophical theories.

Your profile

Students:

- hold a bachelor's degree;
- have cultivated certain skills in their earlier education (relating to logic, moral philosophy, epistemology, anthropology, metaphysics, social philosophy and aesthetics);
- have expert knowledge of the history of philosophy.

Your future job

Our students are employed in a variety of sectors: in politics and diplomacy, in the culture and voluntary sectors, in management, business, industry, journalism and communication.

Your programme

The master 60 in philosophy essentially aims to deepen students' understanding of the areas studied in the bachelors in philosophy (metaphysics and the history of philosophy, philosophical anthropology, practical philosophy, the philosophy of science and epistemology) while allowing them to direct their attention towards their chosen specialisation by means of a range of electives (practical philosophy, arts and aesthetics, anthropology (cultures and societies), anthropology (identity and intersubjectivity), metaphysics, the philosophy of science).

FILO2M1 - Teaching profile

Learning outcomes

The UCLouvain School of Philosophy is mindful of providing its students with a compact programme which will enable them, when it is finished, to take up the challenge of being a responsible citizen and actor in their own right within today's society.

In order to achieve that aim, students will have the following main virtues:

- the ability to examine transforming movements in modern society by applying critical thought to the phenomena embodying them;
- the ability to employ the history of thought in the area to better integrate the pioneers of contemporary society into the continuity of human experience;
- the ability to assist social actors by calling for responsibility as regards the long term issues arising from these movements;
- demonstration of the ability to adapt as well as a plan for continuing development through their capacity to cast a critical and constructive eye over their own actions.

Generally, at the end of the master, students will have acquired a cultivated critical mind-set, and the ability to perform objective analyses and synopses which put the factors which must be considered when approaching a question into perspective. These qualities will be cultivated through exercises in critical thinking and the reading of philosophical texts, and the disciplinary diversity of the subjects taught will engender the "analytical distance" which is typical of philosophy students and very much valued in the job market by different professions (diplomacy, journalism, human resource management, education, etc.).

Holders of a [Master \[60\] in Philosophy](#) will be able to function as responsible, professional actors within society who are both collaborative and creative thanks to a spirit of tolerance, dialogue and the capacity to see the big picture, open-mindedness and sensitivity to various disciplines which characterise their training.

On successful completion of this programme, each student is able to :

1. Demonstrate critical expertise of a high level in various areas, periods and branches of philosophy, interfacing with other disciplines (science, history of art, sociology, ...), ensuring the "adoption of an intention to appropriate knowledge".
 - 1.1. Appropriate the technicalities of a range of philosophical methods and knowledge.
 - 1.2. Interpret and develop the links between different philosophical approaches and with other disciplines (science, history of art, sociology, ...).
 - 1.3. Make methodological choices taking the chosen philosophical approach into question.
 - 1.4. Form a specialisation within one of the domains of philosophy.
2. Understand and deal with philosophical questions.
 - 2.1. Analyse and determine the aspects of and issues present in the questions being dealt with.
 - 2.2. Formulate a question in such a way that it can be answered rationally.
 - 2.3. Identify and assess the available responses.
 - 2.4. Take an educated and critical position in relation to the question.
3. Create and realize individual research (individual final project) implementing a rigorously scientific, methodological and critical approach in order to go deeper into a philosophical research question.
 - 3.1. Formulate the question which will be the topic of the dissertation.
 - 3.2. Carry out a critical review of the literature on this question, making effective, critical and appropriate use of IT and primary and secondary philosophical sources.
 - 3.3. Implement rigorous methodological analysis approach relevant to the question.
 - 3.4. Challenge and defend the philosophical theories which arise from that question.
 - 3.5. Demonstrate an objective analysis and ability to summarize which allow the factors at play to be put into perspective and appropriate conclusions to be drawn.
4. Understand, analyse and discuss questions allow theDe from that ques8ze which allow64i 456h3i8 4919 of philosophy sofes whichhenable t

6. Act as academics and critical and responsible actors demonstrating “analytical distance” based upon a philosophical approach, with a plan for their continuing education.

6.1. Progress in a professional project in accordance with a grounded academic approach (from a theoretical and methodological point of view) and characterised by “analytical distance” based upon a philosophical approach.

6.2. Independently and responsibly, within a framework, engage in and make decisions upon the context of the work and others.

6.3. Cast a critical eye over their own knowledge and competencies and independently put in place methods and opportunities to improve them as part of system of continuing development which is indispensable in order to progress in a positive way in their social and professional environment.

Programme structure

The programme is made up of core courses (60 credits), comprising:

- an individual final project (15 credits);
- the Chaire Mercier (5 credits);
- the students' conference (5 credits);
- shared subjects (25 credits);
- and free credits (10 credits).

FILO2M1 Programme

Detailed programme by subject

CORE COURSES [60.0]

- 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...)

| | | | |
|-------------|--|-------------------|---------------------------------|
| ● LFILO2006 | Individual final project | | FR [q1+q2] [] [15 Credits] 🌐 |
| ● LFILO2801 | Mercier Chair Course | Nathalie Frogneux | FR [q2] [15h] [5 Credits] 🌐 |
| ● LFILO2802 | Students' conference | Jacob Schmutz | FR [q1+q2] [7.5h] [5 Credits] 🌐 |

⌘ **Philosophical Anthropology**

⌘ LFILO2182

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.

| | | | |
|---|--|---|--|
| Access with tion | | | application sufficiently complete, it will submit the application to the faculty for a decision. |
| Any other bachelor | | Access with additional training | Maximum 60 credits of supplementary classes integrated into the master's programme |
| Others Bachelors of the French speaking Community of Belgium | | | |
| Bachelor of philosophy | | Direct access | |
| Other bachelor | If students have chosen the Certificat universitaire en philosophie (fondements) | Access with additional training | Maximum 15 credits of supplementary classes integrated into the master's programme (consult Admission and Enrolment Procedures for general registration) |
| Any other Bachelor | | Access with additional training | Maximum 60 credits of supplementary classes integrated into the master's programme (consult Admission and Enrolment Procedures for general registration) |
| Bachelors of the Dutch speaking Community of Belgium | | | |
| Bachelor of Philosophy | Proficiency in French at level B1 (CEFR) | Direct access | |
| Foreign Bachelors | | | |
| Bachelor in philosophy or equivalent training | | Access based on application | In case of admission, additional training to be determined depending on the student's educational background (consult Access on the file). All applicants must check that they meet the specific access requirements. |

Non university Bachelors

> Find out more about [links](#) to the university

Only applicable to graduates of higher education institutions of the French Community of Belgium

Holders of a 2nd cycle University degree

| Diploma | Special Requirements | Access | Remarks |
|--|----------------------|---|---|
| "Licenciés" | | | |
| Masters | | | |
| Master [120] in Ethics | | Access based on application | Programme to be determined depending on the student's educational background (consult Admission and Enrolment Procedures for general registration) |
| Other Belgian master | | Access with additional training | |

Changes to the conditions of access to the Faculty of Philosophy, Arts and Letters for 2025-2026 will be available in this [document](#) .

Admission and Enrolment Procedures for general registration

Teaching method

The master 60 en philosophie aims mainly to build on the philosophical training provided in the first level whilst helping the student, thanks to the selection of courses offered, to form a specialisation.

There is a rich selection of courses on offer, given that UCLouvain is a complete university.

In general terms, the training the student will have received at the end of his master will equip him with a highly developed **critical mind**, skills in **objective analysis** and an **ability to summarise** and pick out the parameters to take into account when addressing an issue. These qualities provided by calling things into question, reading philosophical texts and the diversity of the subjects taught help the student "step back" from the subject in a manner which is characteristic of graduates in philosophy and valued by the jobs market (diplomacy, journalism, managing human resources). In his working life, the philosopher will tend spontaneously to work with his colleagues in a spirit of tolerance and openness to dialogue.

Incidentally, the training provided by the master 60 provides the student with all resources and methods which will allow him, subject to completing extra training, to conduct himself, albeit as part of a research team, a specialisation in a sector of philosophical research.

More specifically, the teaching methodology favoured by the master is characterised by

- the **availability** of the professors : whether at the end of the class or by appointment in his office, the professor will always be present to answer a question, go over an issue again or give information on reading matter.
- the **close link to research** : the content of the courses and seminars is very closely linked to the research conducted by the professors. This makes their classes all the more lively and students can share in their research.
- **interaction**: at the level of the master, courses are often less 'lecture-like' than in the first level. Since the auditorium is smaller, there is a lot more room for dialogue between the teacher and the students and for the prepared interventions of both parties.
- the **diversity** of the learning situations and teaching strategies: courses are sometimes devoted to the reading of a major traditional text, sometimes to in-depth topical issues; the seminars promote active research and dialogue and the oral presentation by the students of the results of their research.
- **interdisciplinarity**: the student may choose 15 course credits from another discipline. This possibility is all the more valuable when one considers that UCLouvain is a complete university. This choice must be made in discussion with the dissertation supervisor and be linked to the topic of the dissertation. In this framework, it is possible for the student to explore other disciplines. The fact that the course content is very closely linked to the research conducted by the professors and students are often asked to undertake individual reading and individual work as part of the course gives them ample opportunity to become part of a lively approach to philosophical thought and reflection.

From this point, the master 60 could be of particular interest to students who already hold a master in another discipline, who could thus link their initial training to advanced training in philosophy leading on to a dissertation on philosophy which could include aspects relating to other disciplines.

Evaluation

The evaluation methods comply with the [regulations concerning studies and exams](#). More detailed explanation of the modalities specific to each learning unit are available on their description sheets under the heading "Learning outcomes evaluation method".

In the second level philosophy courses, students are often evaluated through individual work. The relatively small group sizes means professors can provide follow-up supervision of this work and formative evaluation.

To obtain a student's average, the grades awarded for each course unit are weighted by their respective credits

Mobility and/or Internationalisation outlook

Since the programme's courses are shared with the master 120, students can benefit from the international aspects of the latter:

- teacher exchanges,
- annual attribution of part of a course to a foreign professor as part of the [Mercier Chair](#),
- development of courses given jointly by UCLouvain and KU Leuven professors.

What's more, students can replace one course from their programme with a [HIW](#) or KU Leuven course.

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Upon completion of [Master \[60\] in Philosophy](#), students directly access the [Master \[120\] in Philosophy](#) and [Master \[120\] in Ethics](#). Their

