LING2M

2024 - 2025

Master [120] in Linguistics

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

LING2M - **Introduction**

Introduction

Introduction

This Master's degree provides advanced training in general and applied linguistics, with two possible specializations: Natural Language Processing (French) and "Linguistics and its applications to a multilingual society" (English, French and/or multilingual). The degree may lead to a position in research or in the broad sector of written and spoken communication (terminology, dictionaries, text readability, text data analysis, etc.), including the 'language industries' or digital humanities sectors.

As this Master's programme attracts a number of international students, you will be immersed in a natural multilingual environment.

Your profile

You

- have discovered, during your first training in language and literature or taking the linguistics minor, a marked interest in linguistic issues;
- are convinced that language plays a major role in any society;
- wish to understand how language functions in context and are curious about the mechanisms of language processing;
- wish to include a professional experience (internship) in your training;
- would like to deepen your linguistic knowledge in French, in English, and possibly in other foreign languages (Dutch, German or Spanish).

Your programme

This Master's degree offers you

- training which combines linguistic theory and applied linguistics;
- wide interdisciplinary range (IT, sociology, psycholinguistics, etc.);
- a solid and varied methodological background (corpus analysis, experimental linguistics, statistics, contrastive and variationist analysis, sociolinguistic surveys, etc.);
- a programme personalised through the choice of a focus, an option and optional courses;
- the possibility of a study visit abroad or work experience in the field (see the possibilities);
- the opportunity to put your skills to the test in a professional environment, during a work placement in a research centre or in a company, depending on your specialisation.

<div style="border:1px solid">

LING2M - Teaching profile

</div>

Learning outcomes

Students on the Master [120] in Linguistics prepare themselves for the challenge of becoming a true scientist of language, with a rigorous and functionalist approach, who contribute to the significant issues and challenges relating to the application of linguistic analysis to other fields (lexicography, translation, learning and teaching languages, etc.).

The aim of the Master in Linguistics is to provide in-depth training in general and applied linguistics, in French and/or English, opening the way for students to go into research or to work in an allied field of written or oral communication in a broad sense, including the 'language industries' or digital humanities sectors.

In order to achieve that, students will master a large and well-accepted base of knowledge, know-how and skills in linguistics which they are able to employ in order to approach, analyse and respond to situations/problems touching upon all the complex and transversal aspects of linguistics. Therefore, at the end of their training, students will have:

- a broad and solid mastery of the principles and mechanisms involved in how language and languages operate;
- the ability to analyse and interpret all aspects of language phenomena (oral and written language; first, second or foreign languages; language varieties; etc.) on the basis of their mastery of a range of linguistic models and theories and their components;
- an excellent mastery of languages and scientific reasoning allowing them to provide data for a linguistic problem and explain challenges in different professional contexts (language industry, writing dictionaries, translation, language-learning materials...);
- a real expertise in oral and written communication founded upon expert language skills and their ability to overcome linguistic challenges and adapt to the target audience;
- excellent methodological skills, including digital and project management skills;
- an initial professional experience acquired during an internship in a research centre or business.

The students will give priority, by deciding what they will focus upon, to either training oriented towards professions in the language industry ("Natural Language Processing" focus) or, to professions requiring excellent abilities in one or more languages, combining a solid training in linguistic theory and methodology ("Linguistics and its Applications for a Multilingual Society" focus).

In addition, students will, in particular thanks to a professional internship, have developed a significant capacity for adaptation and the ability to question and engage in professional practice. Students will integrate a continuous developmental logic which allows them to perform as professionals demonstrating high-level expertise and flexibility, and be able to adapt and develop positively within the context of their work.

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

1. Demonstrate an in-depth and specialised mastery of linguistic models and theories and their components.

1.1. Identify and master linguistic units, their interrelations and the processes influencing them.
1.2. Distinguish the different levels of linguistic analysis, phonology, lexicology, syntax, semantics, pragmatics.
1.3. Identify different types and sources of linguistic and non-linguistic meaning.
1.4. Demonstrate an in-depth and advanced mastery of the nature of and grounds for linguistic theories, principles, hypotheses and explanations.
1.5. Describe and explain the component principles of theoretical models linked to a given field of analysis.

2. Demonstrate a specialised mastery of the methodological linguistic tools, oral and written data collection and analysis methods and an ability to employ them in a relevant and critical way in order to understand the complexities of a linguistic phenomenon.

2.1. Select appropriate methodological tools for different types of linguistic research.
2.2. Include the relationship between theoretical approaches and methodological practice in their analysis.
2.3. Employ the relevant methods to collect oral and written data, construct linguistic corpuses and manage and maintain them and extract information from them.
2.4. Master and employ basic oral and written linguistic data analysis methods and techniques in a relevant way.

3. Develop a linguistic argument which applies to linguistic problems.

3.1. Recognise and define linguistic problems in the fields of corpus linguistics, discourse analysis and contrastive linguistics.
3.2. Develop critical reflections on received ideas relating to language.
3.3. Examine and question the relationship between language and context (social) which includes opening the way to connected disciplines.
3.4. Integrate the notion of linguistic variation at all levels of linguistic analysis.
3.5. Interpret variation in linguistic form and reflect upon the tension between linguistic standards in the language in question.
3.6. Construct a linguistic argument employing relevant linguistic data.

4. Create and realize an individual research assignment, implementing a rigorously scientific and methodological approach in order to go deeper into a scientific linguistic question.

4.1. Define and formulate a scientific linguistic question.
4.2. Produce a critical summary of the scientific literature relating to that question, employing the relevant theoretical frameworks and making sure to contextualize the problem in relation to current knowledge.
4.3. Define their working hypotheses and argue them.
4.4. Construct and implement rigorous methodological measures relevant for looking more deeply into the question, justifying their choices and methodologies.
4.5. Create and realize, where appropriate, an empirical, quantitative and/or qualitative study, calling upon the appropriate analytical tools.
4.6. Analyse and interpret results (complex linguistic data) including the criticism being argued, by employing the relevant theoretical frameworks appropriately.
4.7. Develop an ability to summarize and formulate scientific conclusions.

4.8. Demonstrate the critical rigour, precision and distance (both in their own work as well as the knowledge and methodologies used in it) which are essential to all work at university level.

4.9. Demonstrate the relevance and quality, specific to the demands of a profession in linguistics, both in terms of composition and presentation.

5. Professionally communicate, by employing their expert language skills and incorporating linguistic issues, adapting to the context and target audience and constructively interacting and collaborating with the different actors involved in a given situation.

5.1. Have skills in written and oral comprehension in English which fulfil the requirements of level C1 of the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages.

5.2. Have skills in written and oral comprehension as well as written and oral expression which fulfil the requirements of level C1 of the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages in French and/or English, according to the electives chosen.

5.3. Explain the details of a linguistic problem and the linguistic challenges in various professional contexts, formulated in a way that it can be understood by actors in the field, in their fields of specialisation (depending upon their choices of elective).

LING2M Programme

Detailed programme by subject

CORE COURSES [50.0]

○ 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

Year

			1	2
⌘ LGERM2823	English Linguistics: Lexicology	Gaëtanelle Gilquin (compensates Sylvie De Cock)		

LIST OF FOCUSES

Students choose one of the following focuses:

> Professional Focus : Natural Language Processing   *[en-prog-2024-ling2m-lling202s]*
> Professional Focus : Linguistics and its Applications for a Multilingual Society   *[en-prog-2024-ling2m-lling203s]*

PROFESSIONAL FOCUS : NATURAL LANGUAGE PROCESSING [30.0]

This professional focus trains students in language industry tools (spell-checking, speech recognition, machine translation, document management, etc.). With its strong business focus, this specialization welcomes guest researchers (from academia and business).

For further information: https://uclouvain.be/fr/instituts-recherche/ilc/cental

○ 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 1	Year 2

○ Content:

○ Computer studies (10 credits)

				Year 1	Year 2
○ LINFO1101	Introduction to programming	Kim Mens Siegfried Nijssen Charles Pecheur	[FR] [q1] [30h+30h] [5 Credits] 🌐	x	
○ LINFO1103	Introduction to algorithms	Pierre Dupont	[FR] [q2] [30h+30h] [5 Credits] 🌐	x	

○ Automatic Language Processing (20 credits)

				Year 1	Year 2
○ LFIAL2620	Natural language processing	Cédrick Fairon	[FR] [q1] [22.5h] [5 Credits] 🌐 *> English-friendly*	x	
○ LFIAL2630	Automatic language processing methods	Cédrick Fairon	[FR] [q2] [22.5h] [5 Credits] 🌐 *> English-friendly*	x	x
○ LCLIG2220	Overview of applications in NLP	Cédrick Fairon	[FR] [q1+q2] [15h] [5 Credits] 🌐 *> English-friendly*		x
○ LCLIG2260	Introduction to speech processing	Thierry Dutoit	[FR] [q1] [15h] [5 Credits] 🌐		

Sociolinguistics

One of the following courses:

LGERM2723	PhiTm [(Sylvie De Cock)] TJ ET Q q 355.329987 54.655998 m 48Sylvie De Cock55998 I 480.889008.63 [655DP90 355.329987 68.655998 I 355.329			x x	
LCLIG2160	Sociolinguistics		FR [q1] [15h] [5 Credits] ⊕ *> English-friendly*	x x	

Language Varieties

One of the following coures:

OPTIONS [40.0]

Regardless of the chosen focus, **the programme contains**

- **40 credits of option and optional courses** distributed as follows: one option of minimum 15 credits completed with maximum 25 credits of optiona courses (which can be chosen from the options below except INEO)
  OR
- **two options** of minimum 15 credits each.

A maximum of 30 credits can be chosen within one option.

A **B2 level**

OPTION IN COMPUTATIONAL LINGUISTICS AND COMPUTER SCIENCE

Computer science prerequisites recommended in addition to the professional focus in Natural Language Processing, for those who do not have an equivalent background. Students wishing to follow these courses should contact the teachers concerned at the beginning of the academic year. Several courses are organised at the KU Leuven.

O 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
1 2

OPTION IN NEDERLANDSE TAALKUNDE

O Mandatory
⊗ Optional
△

INTERDISCIPLINARY PROGRAM IN ENTREPRENEURSHIP - INEO [30.0]

INEO is an option offered in 30 Master programmes, in 9 faculties of UCLouvain. It involves the completion of an interfaculty dissertation (in teams) on a business creation project. Access to this option (as well as to each of the courses) is limited to students selected by application. All information on https://uclouvain.be/en/study/ineo.

O 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]

OPTION IN DIGITAL CULTURE AND ETHICS [15.0]

The digital has transformed our lives and culture to the extent to which everything takes place nowadays in "digital space," as our own

OPTIONAL COURSES

Supplementary classes

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

What is a preparatory module?

It is a set of supplementary classes (courses, practical works, seminars, etc.) from the first cycle (see the non-exhaustive list below). The complementary module (maximum 60 credits) is tailor-made by the jury according to the student's educational background and added to the Master's programme in order to acquire fundamental knowledge to then pursue the 120 credits of the Master's programme.

Who is it for?

- Students from a non-university higher education institution
- Candidates admitted with additional training
- Candidates admitted on the file with additional training

All the explanations are in this document (in French).

- O 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, ...)

✕ General Training

✕ LFIAL1131	Understanding language: an introduction to linguistics	Elisabeth Degand Philippe Hambye	FR [q1] [30h] [5 Credits] 🌐
✕ LFIAL1131M	Understanding language: an introduction to linguistics - MOOC *for non-French-speaking students*	Elisabeth Degand Philippe Hambye	EN [q1 or q2] [30h] [5 Credits] 🌐
✕ LFIAL1560	General linguistics : semantics and pragmatics	Elisabeth Degand	FR [q1] [30h] [5 Credits] 🌐 > *English-friendly*

✕ French linguistics

✕ LROM1221	

Course prerequisites

The **table** below lists the activities (course units, or CUs) for which there are one or more prerequisites within the programme, i.e. the programme CU for which the learning outcomes must be certified and the corresponding credits awarded by the jury before registering for that CU.

These activities are also identified **in the detailed programme**: their title is followed by a yellow square.

Prerequisites and student's annual programme

As the prerequisite is for CU registration pupposes only, there are no prerequisites within a programme year. Prerequisites are defined between CUs of different years and therefore influence the order in which the student will0169ra8e29 2eb3u5ebythin the progudeweeat CU.

<div style="border:1px solid #999; text-align:center;">

LING2M - Information

</div>

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

- > General access requirements
- > Specific access requirements
- > University Bachelors
- > Non university Bachelors
- > Holders of a 2nd cycle University degree
- > Holders of a non-University 2nd cycle degree
- > Access based on validation of professional experience
- > Access based on application
- > Admission and Enrolment Procedures for general registration

Specific access requirements

1° Student must hold a first level university degree.

2° Candidates who do not have a higher education diploma from the French Community of Belgium (or from a country where French is the only official language) must provide proof of sufficient proficiency in French and/or English (*) at level **C1** of the Common European Framework of Reference.

The Automatic Language Processing (ALP) specialization is **not** offered in English.

The official attestation must be issued by an organization recognized as a full member by ALTE (see https://alte.org/Our-Full-Members).

Examples of tests recognized by the jury for French: DALF or TCF

Examples of tests recognized by the jury for English: IELTS, TOEFL ibt, TOEIC, Cambridge English (how to find a test center near you)

All skills must have been assessed and passed (written and oral comprehension, written and oral production).

(*) according to the program language(s) chosen

The admissions panel reserves the right to request further information and to check the applicant's French and/or English language skills by means of an admission test and/or interview.

3° Student must have followed at least 30 credits of courses in linguistics and/or language sciences, including the following 2 courses (or their equivalent): LFIAL1530 *Introduction to Language Science* and LFIAL1560 *General Linguistics: semantics and pragmatics* . Through this training, student must have developed an understanding of how language works both internally (basic units and structures, contemporary theoretical trends) and externally (relations with other disciplines such as cognition, communication, sociology).

The 30 credits of Minor in Linguistics satisfy these requirements.

In the absence of sufficient training in one or more of these subjects, supplementary classes will be integrated into the master's programme (from 15 credits to a maximum of 60 credits). This preparatory module is established by the jury (small panel) on the basis of the student's educational background.

University Bachelors

Diploma	Special Requirements	Access	Remarks
UCLouvain Bachelors			
Bachelor in Modern Languages and Literatures: German, Dutch and English (Louvain-la-Neuve) Bachelor in Modern Languages and Letters: German, Dutch and English (St-Louis Bruxelles)		Direct access	
Bachelor in Modern Languages and Literatures : General (Louvain-la-Neuve)		Direct access	

Bachelor in Modern Languages and Literatures : General (St-Louis Bruxelles)			
Bachelor in French and Romance Languages and Literatures : General (Louvain-la-Neuve)		Direct access	
Bachelor in French and Romance Languages and Letters (St-Louis Bruxelles)			
Bachelor in Ancient and Modern Languages and Literatures (Louvain-la-Neuve)		Direct access	
Bachelor in Translation and Interpreting (St-Louis Bruxelles)		Access with additional training	
Bachelor in Translation and Interpreting [Filière en communication interculturelle] (St-Louis Bruxelles)			
All Bachelor	With the Minor in Linguistics	Direct access	If the UCLouvain Admissions Office considers the enrolment application sufficiently complete, it will submit the application to the faculty for a decision.
Other Bachelor		Access based on application	Maximum 60 credits of supplementary classes integrated into the Master's programme
Others Bachelors of the French speaking Community of Belgium			
Bachelor in Modern Languages and Literatures		Direct access	
Bachelor in French and Romance Languages and Literatures: General			
Bachelor in Ancient and Modern Languages and Literatures			
Bachelor in translation and interpreting		Access with additional training	Maximum 30 credits of supplementary classes integrated into the Master's programme
Other Bachelor		Access based on application	Maximum 60 credits of supplementary classes integrated into the Master's programme
Bachelors of the Dutch speaking Community of Belgium			
Bachelor in de taal- en letterkunde		Direct access	
Bachelor in de toegepaste taalkunde		Access with additional training	

BA - assistant(e) en psychologie - crédits supplémentaires entre 45 et 60

BA en logopédie - crédits supplémentaires entre 45 et 60

Holders of a 2nd cycle University degree

Diploma	Special Requirements	Access	Remarks
"Licenciés"			
Masters			
Master [120] in Linguistics, second focus		Direct access	At the end of Master 120, each focus of the Master [120] in Linguistics can be obtained in a new programme of 30 credits.
			For the focus in Natural Language Processing, supplementary classes can be added to the student's program

Teaching method

The core study of the programme en the LAMUSO focus are bilingual. Students are offered an alternative in French or English for each course. The options and optional courses are multilingual (courses are offered in French, English, Dutch, German and Spanish).

In general, the offer of courses and seminars is both varied and specific.

Specialised focuses favour teaching with a more immediate professional anchorage through courses, seminars and internships. A close relationship between the dissertation, the internship and the seminars is favoured.

Evaluation

- President: Marie-Catherine de Marneffe
- Secretary: Ferran Suner Munoz
- 3rd member of the small panel: Liesbeth Degand

Useful Contact(s)

- For further information: info-fial@uclouvain.be