SREL2M

2024 - 2025

UCLouvain

Master [120] in Sciences of Religions

At Louvain-la-Neuve - 120 credits - 2 years - Day schedule - In French
Dissertation/Graduation Project : **YES** - Internship : **NO**
Activities in English: **NO** - Activities in other languages : **NO**
Activities on other sites : **NO**
Main study domain : **Philosophie**
Organized by: **Faculty of Theology and Religious Studies (THER)**
Programme acronym: **SREL2M** - Francophone Certification Framework: 7

Table of contents

SREL2M - Teaching profile

Learning outcomes

The graduate in religious sciences prepares for the challenge posed by understanding and analysing complex problems linked to religious phenomena, in accordance with a multidisciplinary approach, in order to devise and contextualize innovative social interactions.

This master programme aims to train specialists in religion, who have threefold, multi-religious, multidisciplinary and multi-contextual, abilities.

The future graduate in religious sciences will acquire the knowledge and skills necessary to become:

- an expert capable of understanding a variety of religious phenomena as carriers of meaning, and to comprehend both the internal and external contemporaneous conditions surrounding a variety of beliefs and their transformations, in an in-depth way and in respect of at least two types of belief;
- a scientist capable of carrying out a reflective analysis having recourse to a documented, multidisciplinary approach, based in science, which is cross-disciplinary and critical, in an in-depth way and in respect of at least two religious science disciplines;
- an innovator asked to call upon his knowledge in an innovative manner in order to make relevant interventions in intercultural and interreligious issues and to propose new methods of interaction which are considerate to the different socio-religious and socio-cultural fields, in an in-depth way and in at least two different contexts.

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

Demonstrate in-depth and critical mastery of foundational knowledge relating to the main contemporary religious phenomena, on the one hand, and to the different disciplinary approaches to religion, on the other.

1. Demonstrate in-depth and critical mastery of foundational knowledge relating to critical interpretation of the main contemporary religious phenomena (Christianity, Judaism, Islam, Hinduism, Buddhism).

- Demonstrate a critical reading and knowledgeable interpretation of the main religious texts.
- Demonstrate critical comprehension of the historical sources.
- Provide evidence of a critical and contextualised comprehension of the main religious traditions.

2. Demonstrate a critical mastery of foundational knowledge (theories, concepts and methods of analysis) relating to different disciplinary approaches to religion from the core curriculum (anthropology, law, history, philosophy, psychology, sociology and theology).

3. Show evidence of a mastery of highly specialised knowledge concerning two religious traditions or in one of the basic disciplines in religious science, on the basis of the chosen stream (a) focus on religions (b) social anthropology in religions (c) psychology of religion (d) law and religions.

Carry out a cross-disciplinary, reflective and critical analysis of a religion/religious theme in all its complexity.

1. Demonstrate a critical understanding of the different methodological, qualitative and quantitative approaches used to analyse religions by means of the main religious science disciplines.

2. Understand the contributions provided by various disciplines and paradigms in the concrete analysis of a religion, the specific features and characteristics of each disciplinary approach and their synergies.

3. Call upon at least one disciplinary approach (specialised methodology) to religious sciences as well as the foundations of other methodologies in humanities in a relevant, in-depth and critical way in order to approach and analyse a religion.

4. Realize a comparative process, aiming to locate a religion/a theme in at least two religious traditions and two disciplines.

5. Integrate the complexity of religious phenomena into a cross-disciplinary analysis.

Create and realize original, personal research implementing a rigorously scientific, methodological and critical process in order to go deeper into a research issue in the field of religious sciences.

1. Set down and define a research issue in religious sciences, in the context of a specific discipline or involving a cross-disciplinary process.

2. Consolidate the documentary sources in religious sciences (identify, collect and select), by making active, critical and relevant use of the information tools and by questioning the validity and relevance of the sources as regards the research problem being studied.

3. Realize a critical summary of the scientific literature (in French and in English) which is relevant to this problem, making sure to contextualize the problem in relation to current knowledge.

4. Define working hypotheses and argue them.

5. Construct and implement a relevant and rigorous methodological analysis process considering the problem being studied, justifying his choices and methodologies.

- Where appropriate, construct a theoretical development, calling upon the theoretical frameworks and relevant methods of analysis, in the context of a specific discipline in the field of religious science or involving a cross-disciplinary process.
- Create and realize, where appropriate, an empirical, quantitative and/or qualitative study, calling upon the appropriate analytical tools.

6. Analyse and interpret results (data) including the criticism being argued.

7. Integrate research results into a conclusive argument in order to present a reflective and prospective process.

The individual programme of each student depends on her former curriculum and her optional choice as regards with religion thematics and/or disciplinary approaches; A large number of varied optional courses is offered to meet the interests of each student. The Master programme requires completing a minimum of 120 credits distributed over two years, corresponding to 60 credits each one.

SREL2M Programme

Detailed programme by subject

CORE COURSES [90.0]

- ○ 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

| | 1 | 2 |

○ Core courses (62 credits)

○ Disciplinary Approach (16 credits)

					Year 1	Year 2
○ LFILO2132	Philosophy of Religion (Special Questions)	Jean Leclercq Marc Maesschalck	[FR] [q1] [30h+0h] [4 Credits] 🌐		x	
○ LSREL2230	Religions, law and societies in Europe	Louis-Léon Christians	[FR] [q2] [30h] [4 Credits] 🌐		x	
○ LPOLS1329	Sociology of Religion	Brigitte Maréchal	[FR] [q1] [30h] [4 Credits] 🌐		x	
○ LPSP1338	Psychology of religion	Vassilis Saroglou	[FR] [q1] [22.5h] [4 Credits] 🌐		x	

○ Interdisciplinary Seminars (12 credits)

					Year 1	Year 2
○ LSREL2911	Seminar : Methodology of the analysis of religious facts	Louis-Léon Christians Jean Leclercq	[FR] [q1] [30h] [6 Credits] ⊘ 🌐		x	x
○ LSREL2912	Integrative Seminar	Jean Leclercq Vassilis Saroglou Léopold Vanbellingen Léopold Vanbellingen (compensates Louis-Léon Christians)	[FR] [q1] [30h] [6 Credits] ⊕ 🌐		x	x

FR [q1] [30h] [4 Credits] 🌐

Year

					1	2
⌗ LRELI1130	Introduction to Christian Faith	Paulo Jorge Dos Santos Rodrigues	FR [q1] [30h] [4 Credits] 🌐		x	

Islam (4 credits)

⭘ LSREL2260	Koran : History and Exegesis	Mehdi Azaiez	FR [q2] [30h] [4 Credits] 🌐		x	

Judaism (4 credits)

⭘ LRELI1310	Judaism	Joachim Yeshaya	FR [q1] [30h] [4 Credits] 🌐		x	

Comparative Approach (18 credits)

⭘ LSREL2920	Seminar : Christianity and other religions	Brigitte Maréchal	FR [q2] [30h] [6 Credits] 🌐		x	
⭘ LTHEO2170	Comparative approach of religions	Philippe Cornu	FR [q2] [30h] [4 Credits] 🌐		x	
⭘ LTHEO2430	Religions and gender	Justine Manuel	FR [q1] [30h] [4 Credits] 🌐		x	

⭘ LRELI1310 [q1] [30h] [4 Credits] 🌐

⭘ LRELI1310

RESEARCH FOCUS [30.0]

Finalité approfondie (30 crédits en 2 ans)

<table>
<tr><td>○</td><td>Mandatory</td></tr>
<tr><td>✖</td><td>Optional</td></tr>
<tr><td>△</td><td>Not offered in 2024-2025</td></tr>
<tr><td>⊘</td><td>Not offered in 2024-2025 but offered the following year</td></tr>
<tr><td>⊕</td><td>Offered in 2024-2025 but not the following year</td></tr>
<tr><td>△ ⊕</td><td>Not offered in 2024-2025 or the following year</td></tr>
<tr><td>🟨</td><td>Activity with requisites</td></tr>
<tr><td>🌐</td><td>Open to incoming exchange students</td></tr>
<tr><td>🌑</td><td>Not open to incoming exchange students</td></tr>
<tr><td>[FR]</td><td>Teaching language (FR, EN, ES, NL, DE, ...)</td></tr>
</table>

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

Year

| 1 | 2 |

o *Content :*

The student must register in order to obtain 30 ECTS :

- LSREL2940 : Professional development seminar (2 ECTS)

- 7 courses (28 ECTS) : The student chooses between two and five courses in Block A, and chooses between two and five courses in Block B. lyisites

Year
1 2

| ⌘ LSREL2012 | History of the Jewish Religion | Joachim Yeshaya | FR [q2] [30h] [4 Credits] ⊕ |

					Year	
					1	2
⚄ LRELI1348	Buddhism	Peter Baekelmans	FR [q2] [30h] [4 Credits] ⊕ 🌐			x
⚄ LRELI1368	Art and Religion	Matthieu Guy Michel Somon (compensates Ralph Dekoninck)	FR [q2] [30h] [4 Credits] ⊕ 🌐			x
⚄ LSOC2084	Participatory methods	Géraldine André Brigitte Maréchal	FR [q2] [22.5h] [4 Credits] ⊕ 🌐			x
⚄ LSREL2240	Comparative religious legislation	Louis-Léon Christians	FR [q2] [30h] [4 Credits] 🌐			x
⚄ LTHEO2272	Canon Law: special questions	Louis-Léon Christians	FR [q1] [30h] [4 Credits] ⊕ 🌐			x
⚄ LTHEO2331	Eastern theologies	Christophe D'Aloisio	FR [q1] [30h] [4 Credits] ⊘ 🌐			x
⚄ LTHEO2332	Reformed theologies	Olivier Riaudel				

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.*

⬤ 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...)

To access this Master, students must have a good command of certain subjects. If this is not the case, they must add supplementary classes at the beginning of their Master's programme in order to obtain the prerequisites for these studies.

✤ LCOPS1125	Psychology and Social Psychology	Coralie Buxant Olivier Corneille Karl-Andrew Woltin	[q2] [30h] [5 Credits] 🌐
✤ LESPO1113			

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.

SREL2M - **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

- > General access requirements
- > Specific access requirements
-

	- introduction to religion
	- historical criticism
Autres bacheliers de la Communauté française s'ils ont suivi une mineure en sciences des religions (30 crédits).	Access based on application

Bachelors of the Dutch speaking Community of Belgium

	Access based on application

Foreign Bachelors

	Access based on application

Non university Bachelors

> Find out more about links to the university

Diploma	Access	Remarks
Tout bachelier délivré dans un cursus de type court - crédits supplémentaires entre 45 et 60	Les enseignements supplémentaires éventuels peuvent être consultés dans le module complémentaire.	Type court

Holders of a 2nd cycle University degree

Diploma	Special Requirements	Access	Remarks
"Licenciés"			
Licenciés en sciences religieuses		Direct access	
		Access based on application	Max. 15 credits in the following subjects (unless they have been studied as part of a previous programme): - philosophy -epistemology - sociology - psychology - introduction to religion - historical criticism
Masters			
Master in Theology [120.0]		Direct access	
		Access based on application	Max. 15 credits in the following subjects (unless they have been studied as part of a previous programme): - philosophy -epistemology - sociology - psychology - introduction to religion - historical criticism

Holders of a non-University 2nd cycle degree

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.

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.

Admission and Enrolment Procedures for general registration

Teaching method

Interdisciplinarity is at the very heart of the programme, where religions are always thought of in direct association with philosophy, socio-anthropology, psychology, law and theology.

The core course activities provide an introduction to methodology in each of the main disciplines covered by the term 'sciences des religions', the chance to learn a pluridisciplinary method of analysis of religious facts in seminars led by a team of teachers, which are themselves pluridisciplinary. By anchoring religious questions in highly contemporary problems, the course allows students to conduct case studies, and approach issues on a problem-by-problem basis, which involves combining varied types of knowledge and skills, etc.

In the part of the programme dedicated to free choice courses, the student can focus on some disciplines and religions, in order to gain strong expertise in the field as well as the standard of knowledge and skills required to consider embarking on doctoral research.

This Master's programme is unique in French-speaking Belgium in its capacity to bring together the various strands of human sciences in its approach to the religious phenomenon, less in its historical dimension (which, of course, is not excluded) than in the crucial questions that it currently puts to western society. The legal part of the programme in particular provides an approach which is as fundamental as it is innovative.

Evaluation

Entity

Structure entity	SSH/TECO/CISR
Denomination	(CISR)
Faculty	Faculty of Theology and Religious Studies (TECO)
Sector	Human Sciences (SSH)
Acronym	CISR
Postal address	Grand Place 45 - bte L3.01.01
	1348 Louvain-la-Neuve

Academic supervisor: Mehdi Azaiez

Jury

- Président: Mehdi Azaiez
- Secrétaire: Thibault Fontanari

Useful Contact(s)

- Secrétariat: Pascale Hoffmann