

BIRA2M - Introduction

Introduction

BIRA2M -

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:

- Applied biotechnology
- Biometrics
- Animal and plant production
- Management and analysis of production systems and processing
- Agricultural management and decision-making support
- Process engineering

2.2 To build and master highly specialised knowledge and tools in one of the following bioengineering specialisations:

- Technology and food quality
- Integrated agronomy
- Integrated plant protection
- Water and land resources
- Agricultural economics and natural resources
- Information analysis and management in agricultural engineering
- Agricultural development and production in the tropical zones

2.3 To master the operational use of specialised tools in engineering sciences (e.g. systems analysis, statistical analysis, programming, modelling, etc.):

- Planning experiments
- Carrying out surveys
- Specific tools in relation to the choice of specialisation

2.4 To activate and apply their knowledge of engineering with a critical mind and using a quantitative approach to tackle a complex agricultural problem ranging from the molecular level to an agro-ecosystem.

2.5 To locate and understand how companies and organisations operate, including the role of the different players, their financial and social realities and responsibilities and the challenges and constraints which characterise their environment.

4. To formulate and resolve a complex agricultural engineering problem related to new situations presenting a degree of uncertainty. The student will be able to design appropriate, sustainable and innovative solutions through a systematic approach incorporating scientific, economic and sociological aspects. This problem may be related to agricultural production and the quality of products, agricultural production systems and sectors, and to the transformation of agricultural products.

4.1 To strategically differentiate the key elements from the less critical elements relating to a complex agricultural engineering problem, in order to define and determine the field of action for this problem.

4.2 To identify the knowledge acquired and that to be acquired to resolve the complex agricultural engineering problem.

4.3 To analyse a complex agricultural engineering problem using a systematic and multidisciplinary approach in order to carry out diagnostics and formulate the specifications.

4.4 To demonstrate an ability for conceptual abstraction and formalisation in analysing and resolving the complex agricultural engineering problem.

4.5 To develop scientifically and technologically relevant and innovative solutions, through a multidisciplinary (integration and articulation of knowledge) and quantitative approach, making it possible to develop products, systems, processes or services in the field of agricultural sciences.

4.6 To test solutions and evaluate their impact in relation to an economic, environmental, social and cultural context.

4.7 To formulate concrete and responsible recommendations to encourage sustainable development in relation to the efficient operational and sustainable implementation of the solutions proposed.

5. To design and implement a multidisciplinary project, alone and in a team, with the stakeholders concerned while taking the objectives into account and incorporating the scientific, technical, environmental, economic and human factors.

As the graduate must be able to manage a project alone and in a team, the skills listed below are described in the context of the master, through projects not only considered in their scientific and technological dimensions but also the financial and, if applicable, social aspects and with a degree of complexity representative of typical professional scenarios.

5.1 To know and understand the principles and factors of group dynamics (including the constructive role of conflict).

5.2 To know and understand the project management process (project cycles): formulation and definition of the project, project management, monitoring and evaluation of the project.

5.3 To situate a multidisciplinary project within its environment and identify the issues, constraints and stakeholders and to clearly define its objectives.

5.4 To plan and develop all the stages of a multidisciplinary project, alone and in a team, and to work together after having allocated the tasks.

5.5 To involve key players at appropriate stages in the process.

5.6 To work within a team and collaborate effectively to achieve common objectives.

5.7 To take and assume the decisions required for the effective project management either alone or in a team in order to achieve the intended objectives.

5.8 To recognise and take into consideration the diversity of opinions and ways of thinking of team members and to manage conflict constructively to work towards a consensual decision.

5.9 To lead a team (demonstrate leadership): to motivate team members, to develop a collaborative climate, to guide them to cooperate in the achievement of a common objective, to manage conflict.

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 themselves: 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"

Students enrolled on the Master in Bioengineering programme have the possibility of taking a module of interdisciplinary training entitled "Business Creation"*. This additional programme features in the Master programmes of various faculties (Bioengineering, Law, Business Management, Civil Engineering and Psychology). It is designed to provide students, as potential creators, with the tools for

PROFESSIONAL FOCUS [30.0]

UCL - Université catholique de Louvain

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](#) [en-prog-2024-bira2m-lbira201o]
- > [Option 7A- Water and Earth Resources](#) [en-prog-2024-bira2m-lbira207o]
- > [Option 8A](#) [en-prog-2024-bira2m-lbira208o]
- > [Option 9A - Plant health](#) [en-prog-2024-bira2m-lbira209o]
- > [Option 10A - Data science](#) [en-prog-2024-bira2m-lbira210o]
- > [Option 11A - Agricultural and Resource Economics](#) [en-prog-2024-bira2m-lbira211o]
- > [Option 12A : Sustainability engineering](#) [en-prog-2024-bira2m-lbira012o]
- > [Option 13A - Business Creation](#) [en-prog-2024-bira2m-lbira232o]
- > [Option 18A - Human health](#) [en-prog-2024-bira2m-lbira218o]

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 8A [30.0]

- Mandatory
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OPTION 9A - PLANT 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
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OPTION 10A - DATA SCIENCE [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

1 2

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	EN [q1] [22.5h+15h] [3 Credits]  > English-friendly	X	X
⌘ LBRTI2101B	Data Science in bioscience engineering	Patrick Bogaert Emmanuel Hanert	EN [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	Sophie Bontemps Pierre Defourny	EN [q2] [22.5h+15h] [3 Credits]  > French-friendly	X	X

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...)

Year

1 2

o Content:

● 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
● LBRTE2201	Human and environmental toxicology	Cathy Debier	(EN) [q1] [30h+7.5h] [4 Credits] 🌐 > French-friendly	X
● LCHM2244				

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, ...)
-

○ 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] 

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.

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

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

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 horticolas - 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 supplémentaires entre 45 et 60

peuvent être consultés dans le [module complémentaire](#).

Holders of a 2nd cycle University degree

Diploma	Special Requirements	Access	Remarks
"Licenciés"			
Masters			
			Access based on application
			Access based on application
			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](#).

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

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 (BIRC13BA, BIRA13BA, BIRE13BA) : 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 courses (in part by the open list of subjects outside the programme).

