



## FILO1BA - Introduction

### Introduction

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#### Introduction

By the end of the first cycle, you will have

- mastered the main philosophical concepts and theories;
- received multidisciplinary training which fosters adaptability and flexibility;
- developed your skills in research, argumentation and writing; as well as your critical faculties
- the ability not only to defend your own ideas, but also to understand and evaluate those of others;
- a good knowledge of a modern language.

#### Your future job

In contrast to other studies, those in philosophy do not lead directly to a specific profession, but they develop skills which, through their openness, enable graduates to set their sights on a range of different jobs.

Apart from teaching, there are many other openings for philosophers: jobs in which training in critical skills, the ability to analyse and summarise, breadth of vision and a feeling for argumentation make philosophers highly valued.

Philosophers can be found in politics and diplomacy, the cultural world and the voluntary sector, in the government, trade, industry, journalism and communication.

#### Your programme

The programme is designed to enable you to develop the necessary tools to practice philosophy with both a significant historical dimension (reading and commentary of ancient and modern authors) and a practical dimension (analysis of text, comparison of theories, extent of implications), etc.

In the philosophy exercise sessions, you will put the theory you have learnt into practice, you will learn to read and analyse philosophical texts, to present and discuss them as well as writing assignments on them.

Having completed the Bachelor's degree, you may take the Master's degree in Philosophy or the Master's degree in Ethics. Depending on the minor you've chosen in the second block and/or the course you've completed, other courses are available to you.



## Programme structure

The bachelor programme of Philosophy : General totals **180 credits over 3 blocks** (3 x 60 credits). It consists of a basic major syllabus of 150 credits and a minor syllabus of 30 credits (2 x 15 credits, over blocks 2 and 3).

There are three main strands in the Bachelor's degree programme:

- (1) general training in different humanities subjects (historical criticism, arts and civilisations, comparative approach to European literature, methodology and academic discourse, modern and ancient languages, religious studies;
- (2) an introduction to the different periods in the history of philosophy (from Antiquity to the present time) and to the different areas of philosophy (logic, metaphysics, moral philosophy, etc.);
- (3) methodological and subject training in philosophy (basic concepts in philosophy, comprehension of philosophical texts, Bachelor's paper).

The first block of the Bachelor's degree opens with a term which mainly consists of general training courses common to all the Bachelors' programmes in the Faculty. This common introduction to the fields of history, history of art, literature and academic discourse provides a basic grounding and enables students to change direction if they wish at the end of the first semester.

From the first semester of the first block there are also specific subject courses. These form the main part of the training in the second semester of this first block.

From Block 2, students continue their studies in their major subject and are also invited to choose a 30-credit minor with a view to broadening their intellectual and professional horizons. This minor can be selected from another faculty discipline or from another UCL faculty, subject to certain admission requirements set by the programme managers.

## FILO1BA Programme

## Detailed programme by subject

- 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 3

### o Major (150 credits)

#### o General training (20 credits)

● LFIAL1130	European Literatures: Historical and Comparative Approach	
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Year

1 2 3

⌘ LTECO1210	Societies, cultures, religions : lectures bibliques Biblical Readings	Jean-Pierre Sterck-Degueudre (compensates Geert Van Oyen)	
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## List of available minors

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When accessing the **bachelor's cycle** (annual block 2), students are invited to broaden their educational horizons by choosing a minor (see list at the bottom of the page).

### What is a minor?

It is a kind of 30-credit option that allows students to:

- discover another discipline
- reflect on their personal learning

## Course prerequisites

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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 registeringL1



**o Major**

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**o General training**

o LFIAL1130	European Literatures: Historical and Comparative Approach	Amaury Dehoux (compensates Hubert Roland) Charles Doyen Hubert Roland Marta Sábado Novau (coord.)	PK [q1] [30h] [5 Credits] 
o LFIAL1140	History of Art and Music	Joël Roucloux Brigitte Van Wymeersch	PK [q1] [30h] [5 Credits] 
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## FILO1BA - 2ND ANNUAL UNIT

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- 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
  - 🌐
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o **Minor**

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*Students choose a minor from the list of available minors and take into account any access requirements laid down*

## FILO1BA - 3RD ANNUAL UNIT

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- 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, ...)

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

### o Major

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#### o General training

● LFIAL1540	Rhetoric and argumentation	
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## FILO1BA - Information

### Access Requirements

Decree of 7 November 2013 defining the landscape of higher education and the academic organization of studies.

The admission requirements must be met prior to enrolment in the University.

**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](#)
- [Access based on validation of professional experience](#)
- [Special requirements to access some programmes](#)

### General access requirements

Except as otherwise provided by other specific legal provisions, admission to undergraduate courses leading to the award of a Bachelor's degree will be granted to students with one of the following qualifications :

1. A Certificate of Upper Secondary Education issued during or after the 1993-1994 academic year by an establishment offering full-time secondary education or an adult education centre in the French Community of Belgium and, as the case may be, approved if it was issued by an educational institution before 1 January 2008 or affixed with the seal of the French Community if it was issued after this date, or an equivalent certificate awarded by the Examination Board of the French Community during or after 1994;
2. A Certificate of Upper Secondary Education issued no later than the end of the 1992-1993 academic year, along with official documentation attesting to the student's ability to pursue higher education for students applying for a full-length undergraduate degree programme;
3. A diploma awarded by a higher education institution within the French Community that confers an academic degree issued under the above-mentioned Decree, or a diploma awarded by a university or institution dispensing full-time higher education in accordance with earlier legislation;
4. A higher education certificate or diploma awarded by an adult education centre;
5. A pass certificate for one of the [entrance examinations](#) organized by higher education institutions or by an examination board of the French Community; this document gives admission to studies in the sectors, fields or programmes indicated therein;
6. A diploma, certificate of studies or other qualification similar to those mentioned above, issued by the Flemish Community of Belgium, the German Community of Belgium or the Royal Military Academy;
7. A diploma, certificate of studies or other qualification obtained abroad and deemed equivalent to the first four mentioned above by virtue of a law, decree, European directive or international convention;

#### Note:

Requests for equivalence must be submitted to the Equivalence department ([Service des équivalences](#)) of the Ministry of Higher Education and Scientific Research of the French Community of Belgium in compliance with the official deadline.

The following two qualifications are automatically deemed equivalent to the Certificate of Upper Secondary Education (Certificat d'enseignement secondaire supérieur – CESS):

- European Baccalaureate issued by the Board of Governors of a European School,
- International Baccalaureate issued by the International Baccalaureate Office in Geneva.

8. Official documentation attesting to a student's ability to pursue higher education (diplôme d'aptitude à accéder à l'enseignement supérieur - DAES), issued by the Examination Board of the French Community.

### Specific access requirements

- Access to bachelor programmes for candidates of nationality outside the European Union who are not assimilated to Belgian nationals is subject to the following criteria:
  - not have obtained a secondary education diploma for more than 3 years maximum. Example: for an admission application for the academic year 2024-2025, you must have obtained your diploma during the academic years 2021-2022, 2022-2023 ou 2023-2024. In the French Community of Belgium, the academic year runs from September 14 to September 13
  - not already hold an undergraduate degree
- Candidates, whatever their nationality, with a secondary school diploma **from a country outside the European Union**, must have obtained an average of 13/20 minimum or, failing that, have obtained this average, have passed one year of study in Belgium (for example special Maths / sciences). A non-successful year will not be taken into consideration.



## Teaching method

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The School of Philosophy (EFIL) focuses especially on pedagogy during the Bachelors.

The first year of the undergraduate programme in philosophy consists of common courses given within the faculty and courses specific to the students' degree programme.

The former is made up of general courses (history, literature, arts and civilisations, etc.) taught by course teams and include practicals and a tutorial session that enable students to learn in a cross-disciplinary environment. The common courses in the first term also provide students with the opportunity to change to another Bachelor's programme in the Faculty of Philosophy, Arts and Letters at the end of the January exam session if the advisory board agrees.

From the second term of the first year on, the focus is on courses specific to the degree programme. A tutoring system ensures that new students receive support from more experienced students.

The teaching of philosophy requires close proximity between students and the course team. The teachers are therefore particularly **available** to answer questions, clarify a paper or guide students with their individual assignments, whether after classes or on a one-to-one basis during drop-in sessions or by appointment.

The teaching of philosophy also involves a personal commitment on the part of the students, who must put a lot of effort into reading major philosophical texts from the very first year. This is why special attention is paid to supervision of the students. Practical and supervised reading are tasks assigned to research and teaching assistants, who, throughout the year, work with the students to gradually train them in the art of reading - they need to learn how to attentively **read** a philosophical text - and in the principles of **writing** philosophical commentaries and essays.

Finally, oral presentations are an opportunity for students to learn public speaking and to prepare for oral exams which may be rather new for them in first block.

Students will in 3rd block demonstrate their ability to carry out significant research for the first time in philosophy by writing a **bachelor's paper**. They will show their ability to master a philosophical subject and discuss it in an informed and coherent manner.

They must also correctly use research tools consistent with existing scientific conventions, argue and discuss in a correct, clear and structured manner, present the results of their research and defend their findings before a committee composed of their supervisor and reader.

Thus, the study programme offered aims to foster:

1. A progressive orientation: the bachelor's programme in Philosophy



2. a **study visit** for one term (30 credits) in one of the [many universities](#) with which the Faculty of Philosophy, Arts and Letters has concluded partnership agreements, in Europe under the Erasmus+ programme, in Switzerland under the SEMP programme, or elsewhere in the world under the FAME/Mercator programme, or
- a **study visit** for one term (30 credits) in one of the partner universities in Flanders, under the Erasmus Belgica programme.

The first term in the third year of the Bachelor's programme at UCLouvain can thus be substituted with similar courses offered in one of our partner universities.

Students can apply for UCLouvain-funded exchanges during both their Bachelor's and their Master's degree. This is a wonderful opportunity and all students are encouraged to seize it!

A period of study abroad is a personal and intellectual experience like no other. The Erasmus exchange is a unique opportunity to discover a different culture and its philosophy.

Our students should note the importance of considering two factors in choosing their destination: (1) the benefit of studying in a language other than their own mother tongue and (2) matching the particular strengths of the host university with their own preferred philosophy.

Furthermore, under the agreement between UCLouvain and KU Leuven, courses may be taken from the KU Leuven programme.

To find out more:

- [Contacts](#)
- [Practical information](#) (in French)

## Possible trainings at the end of the programme

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This bachelor's programme provides direct access to the:

- [Master \[120\] in Philosophy](#)
- [Master \[60\] in Philosophy](#)
- [Master \[120\] in Ethics](#)

Depending on the minor chosen, the [Bachelor in Philosophy](#) may also provide access, directly or through supplementary classes, to other master's programmes organised by the Faculty of Philosophy, Arts and Letters or other faculties at UCLouvain. For more information, please read the masters' admission requirements.

## Contacts

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### Curriculum Management

Faculty	
Structure entity	SSH/FIAL
Denomination	Faculty of Philosophy, Arts and Letters ( <a href="#">FIAL</a> )
Sector	Human Sciences ( <a href="#">SSH</a> )
Acronym	FIAL
Postal address	Place Cardinal Mercier 31 - bte L3.03.11 1348 Louvain-la-Neuve Tel: <a href="tel:+32210474850">+32 (0) 10 47 48 50</a>
Website	<a href="http://www.uclouvain.be/fial">http://www.uclouvain.be/fial</a>

