

SINF2M - Introduction

Introduction

Introduction

This Master's degree programme tries to strike a **balance between “soft skills” and scientific and technical knowledge, between excellence in research and the pragmatism of field work.** It offers:

- an approach to computer science based on fundamental **concepts** that keep up with the rapid pace of technological progress;
- a programme taught **entirely in English** in order to improve students' language skills, especially in technical English (both written and spoken);
- **exchange programmes** and dual degrees in Belgium, Europe and across the world.

Your profile

You would like to

- **Imagine, design, and implement** computer science systems that will shape the future;
- continue your education beyond the Bachelor's degree with a major in computer sciences (or the equivalent);
- improve your **theoretical knowledge** and develop your technical expertise in fields like artificial intelligence, computer networks, information security, software engineering and programming systems;
- improve your **interdisciplinary knowledge** in areas such as foreign languages, resource management, teamwork, autonomy and ethics.

Your future job

We train

- **scientists** who know how to investigate a sharp problematic using scientific literature in the field;
- **professionals** who will design computer systems that meet users' needs;
- **innovators** who can master a wide range of constantly evolving technologies;
- **specialists** capable of implementing software solutions with particular attention paid to product quality and its development process.

Your programme

This Master's degree programme consists of

- **required coursework** that seeks to give students the necessary skills to model and design complex applications (which is an indispensable part of the education of all university-trained computer scientists);
- **a major** selected by students that allows them to gain cutting edge knowledge in a field of their interest: software engineering and programming systems, artificial intelligence and big data, networks and security;
- **elective courses** that allow students to explore their interests whether it be computer science or another discipline (management, business creation, languages). As a comprehensive university, UCLouvain has numerous courses of study;
- a **graduation project** that makes up half of the programme during the last year. It offers students the possibility to study a subject in-depth and thanks to its size, introduces students to the professional life of a computer scientist or researcher; the topic of this project is selected in consultation with the programme supervisors and possibly a company.

5. communicate effectively (orally or in writing) with the goal of carrying out assigned projects in the workplace (in English in particular)

- 5.1. Identify the needs of the client or the user: question, listen and understand all aspects of their request and not just the technical aspects.
- 5.2. Present your arguments and adapt to the language of your interlocutors: technicians, colleagues, clients, superiors
- 5.3. Communicate through graphics and diagrams: interpret a diagram, present project results, structure information
- 5.4. Read and analyse different technical documents (rules, plans, specification notes)
- 5.5. Draft documents that take into account contextual requirements and social conventions
- 5.6. Make a convincing oral presentation using modern communication techniques.

6. Demonstrate rigor, openness and critical thinking as well as a sense of ethics in your work

- 6.1. Rigorously apply the standards of your discipline (terminology, measurement units, quality standards and security)
- 6.2. Find solutions that go beyond strictly technical issues by considering sustainable development and the socio-economic ethics of a project
- 6.3. Demonstrate critical awareness of a technical solution in order to verify its robustness and minimize the risks that may occur during implementation.
- 6.4. Evaluate oneself and independently develop necessary skills to remain knowledgeable in the field.

Programme structure

The program consists of four parts:

- a common core (30 credits), including a final thesis (25 credits).
- a specialized focus, compulsory training (30 credits).
- one or more options allowing students to specialize in a field of IT (20-40 credits).
- elective courses (20-40 credits).

The graduation project is normally carried out in the last year. However, students may, depending on their training, conduct other courses in either the first or second year so long as they have completed the prerequisite courses. This is especially the case for students who have completed a portion of their studies abroad. The yearly allocation of course activities found in the detailed programme description is for information purposes only.

In general, this Master's degree will consist of a minimum of 120 credits spread over two years with 60 credits taken per year (regardless of the focus, major or elective courses selected).

SINF2M Programme

Detailed programme by subject

CORE COURSES [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
○ LINFO2992	<p>Graduation project/End of studies project <i>The graduation project can be written and presented in French or English, in consultation with the supervisor. It may be accessible to exchange students by prior agreement between the supervisors and/or the two universities.</i></p>		EN [q1+q2] [] [25 Credits] ⓘ	x	x
○ LEPL2020	<p>Professional integration work <i>The modules of LEPL2020 course are organized over the two annual blocks of the master's degree. It is strongly recommended that students take them from</i></p>				

PROFESSIONAL FOCUS [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
 - △ ⊕
-

OPTIONS EN SCIENCES INFORMATIQUES**MAJOR IN ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE: BIG DATA, OPTIMIZATION AND ALGORITHMS****Students completing the major in Artificial Intelligence: big data, optimization and algorithms will be able to:**

- Identify and implement methods and techniques that allow software to solve complex problems that when solved by humans require "intelligence",
- Understand and put to good use methods and techniques relating to artificial intelligence such as automatic reasoning, research and heuristics, acquisition and representation of knowledge, automatic learning, problems associated with overcoming constraints,
- Identify applications and its methods and tools; understand a particular category of applications and its related techniques, for example robotics, computer vision, planning, data mining, computational linguistics and bioinformatics, big data processing,
- Formalise and structure a body of complex knowledge and use a systematic and rigorous approach to develop quality "intelligence" systems.

- Mandatory
- ⊗ Optional
- △ Not offered in 2024-2025
- ⊙ Not offered in 2024-2025 but offered the following year
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- △ ⊕ Not offered in 2024-2025 or the following year
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From 20 to 30 credit(s)

Year

1 2

o Content:**o Required courses in Artificial Intelligence: big data, optimization and algorithms**

○ LINFO2263 Computational Linguistics

Year

1 2

⌘ LINMA2472	Algorithms in data science	Jean-Charles Delvenne (coord.) Benoit Legat (compensates Vincent Blondel)	EN [q1] [30h+22.5h] [5 Credits]  > French-friendly	X	X
⌘ LINFO2275	Data mining & decision making	Marco Saerens	EN [q2] [30h+15h] [5 Credits]  > French-friendly	X	X
⌘ LINFO2381	Health Informatics	Sébastien Jodogne	EN [q2] [30h+30h] [5 Credits]  > French-friendly	X	X

MAJOR IN SOFTWARE ENGINEERING AND PROGRAMMING SYSTEMS

Students completing the major “Software engineering and programming systems” will be able to:

- Understand and explain problems that come up during large scale software projects as well as the long-term critical impact that their choice of solutions may have (construction dimensions as well as validation, documentation, communication and management of a project involving large teams as well as costs and deadlines),
- Select and apply methods and tools of software engineering to develop complex software systems and meet strict quality standards: reliability, adaptability, scalability, performance, security, usefulness,
- Model the products and processes necessary to obtain such systems and analyse these models,
- Develop and implement analytical programmes focused on conversion and optimisation as well as computer representations,
-

OPTION IN DATA SCIENCE AND APPLIED MATHEMATICS

Students completing the major “Data science and Applied Mathematics” must be able to:

- Understand engineering fields requiring synergy between applied mathematics and computer science such as algorithms, scientific calculations, modelling computer systems, optimisation, machine learning or data mining;
- Understand and put to good use algorithms and techniques used in data science;


Year

1	2
x	x

⌘ LMECA2170

Numerical Geometry

Vincent Legat
Jean-François Remacle

[q1] [30h+30h] [5 Credits] 
> *French-friendly*

OPTION EN CYBERSECURITY

Students who have completed the "Cybersecurity and Information Technology" track should be able to:

- Understand areas of engineering that require synergy between computer security, networks, and systems, such as cryptography, data protection, application security, security architecture, or programming,

OPTION NETWORKS AND SYSTEMS

Students who have completed the "Networks and Systems" track should be able to:

- Understand and explain different devices and protocols used in computer and cellular networks;
- Design, configure and manage computer networks while taking into account application needs;
- Understand the operation of IoT and cellular networks;
- Explain the problems that affect cellular and IoT networks and develop solutions to cope with them;
- Understand how to optimise applications to efficiently use parallel cores;
- Understand, implement and use lock-free data structures;
- Understand the interactions between real-time operating systems and hardware;
- Design and implement applications running on embedded systems

- Mandatory
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- Activity with requisites
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Click on the course title to see detailed informations (objectives, methods, evaluation...)

Students shall select 20 to 30 credits among:

Year

1 2

o Content:

o Required courses in Networks and systems

○ LINFO2142	Computer networks: configuration and management	Olivier Bonaventure	FR [q1] [30h+30h] [5 Credits] 🌐 > French-friendly	X	X
○ LINFO2146	Mobile and Embedded Computing	Ramin Sadre	FR [q2] [30h+15h] [5 Credits] 🌐 > French-friendly	X	X
○ LINFO2315	Design of Embedded and real-time systems	Cristel Pelsser	FR [q2] [30h+30h] [5 Credits] 🌐 > French-friendly	X	X
○ LINFO2355	Multicore programming	Etienne Riviere	FR [q2] [30h+15h] [5 Credits] 🌐 > French-friendly	X	X

o Elective courses in Networks and Systems







⊗ LINFO2347	Computer system security	Ramin Sadre	FR [q2] [30h+15h] [5 Credits] 🌐 > French-friendly	X	X
⊗ LINFO2145	Cloud Computing	Etienne Riviere	FR [q1] [30h+15h] [5 Credits] 🌐 > French-friendly	X	X
⊗ LINFO2144	Secured systems engineering	Axel Legay	FR [q2] [30h+15h] [5 Credits] 🌐 > French-friendly	X	X
⊗ LINFO2143	Concurrent systems : models and analysis	Charles Pecheur	FR [q1] [30h+15h] [5 Credits] 🌐 > French-friendly	X	X
⊗ LINFO2345	Languages and algorithms for distributed Applications	Peter Van Roy	FR [q1] [30h+15h] [5 Credits] 🌐 > French-friendly	X	X
⊗ LINFO2381	Health Informatics	Sébastien Jodogne	FR [q2] [30h+30h] [5 Credits] 🌐 > French-friendly	X	X
⊗ LELEC2760	Secure electronic circuits and systems	François-Xavier Standaert	FR [q2] [30h+30h] [5 Credits] 🌐 > French-friendly	X	X

OPTION EN INFORMATIQUE MÉDICALE

Students completing the major in "Health informatics" will be able to:

- Identify and use methods and techniques that provide software-based solutions to complex problems encountered in hospitals, in bio-pharmaceutical environments, in life sciences, or in digital health.
- Take part in multidisciplinary projects bringing together medical, biological and engineering expertise to the benefit of patient health.
- Understand and put to good use the methods and techniques pertaining to medical informatics and bioinformatics, such as artificial intelligence, health interoperability, clinical knowledge structuring, applied statistics, information security, software quality, as well as the effective management and processing of large volumes of data.
- Understand specific categories of applications where these methods and techniques can be applied, such as diagnostic support, therapeutic assistance, hospital information systems, medical and biomedical imaging, smart devices, clinical trials, health data mining, as well as automated processing of the medical language.
- Formalize and structure a body of complex knowledge by using a systematic and rigorous approach to the development of high-quality medical and biomedical information systems.

Mandatory

				Year	
				1	2
⌘ LINFO2263	Computational Linguistics	Pierre Dupont	EN [q1] [30h+15h] [5 Credits]  > French-friendly	x	x
⌘ LINFO2347	Computer system security	Ramin Sadre	EN [q2] [30h+15h] [5 Credits]  > French-friendly	x	x
⌘ LINFO2364	Mining Patterns in Data	Siegfried Nijssen	EN [q2] [30h+15h] [5 Credits]  > French-friendly	x	x
⌘ LINFO2401	Open Source strategy for software development	Lionel Dricot	EN [q1] [30h+15h] [5 Credits]  > French-friendly	x	x
⌘ LINMA2472	Algorithms in data science	Jean-Charles Delvenne (coord.) Benoit Legat (compensates Vincent Blondel)	EN [q1] [30h+22.5h] [5 Credits]  > French-friendly	x	x
⌘ LMAT2450	Cryptography	Olivier Pereira	EN [q1] [30h+15h] [5 Credits]  > French-friendly	x	x
⌘					

● Mandatory
✘

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

Courses for students coming from bachelor in "informatique de gestion" or "informatique et systèmes". These students will have to take at least 150 credits to obtain the master in computer science.

○ LINFO1114	Discrete Mathematics	Marco Saerens	FR [q1] [30h+15h] [5 Credits] 🌐
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○ Cours alternatifs Probabilités et statistiques

L'étudiant-e choisit un cours parmi:

⊗ LBIR1212	Probabilities and statistics (I)	Patrick Bogaert	FR [q1] [30h+15h] [5 Credits] 🌐
⊗ LSINC1211	Probability and Statistics		FR [q2] [30h+30h] [5 Credits] 🌐

○ Cours alternatifs Intelligence artificielle

L'étudiant-e choisit un cours parmi:

⊗ LINFO1361	Artificial intelligence		
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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 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.

SINF2M - 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

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- > [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

This programme is taught in English with no prerequisite in French. See selection criteria of the Access on the file.

University Bachelors

BA en informatique de gestion - crédits supplémentaires entre 30 et 60

BA en informatique et systèmes, orientation informatique industrielle - crédits supplémentaires entre 30 et 60

BA en informatique et systèmes, orientation réseaux et télécommunications - crédits supplémentaires entre 30 et 60

BA en informatique et systèmes, orientation sécurité des systèmes - crédits supplémentaires entre 30 et 60

BA en informatique et systèmes, orientation technologie de l'informatique - crédits supplémentaires entre 30 et 60

BA en informatique, orientation développement d'applications - crédits supplémentaires entre 30 et 60

BA en informatique, orientation informatique industrielle - crédits supplémentaires entre 30 et 60

BA en informatique, orientation réseaux et télécommunications - crédits supplémentaires entre 30 et 60

BA en informatique, orientation sécurité des systèmes - crédits supplémentaires entre 30 et 60

BA en informatique, orientation technologies de l'informatique - crédits supplémentaires entre 30 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"			
"Licencié en informatique"		-	
Masters			
Master in computer science		-	

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.

The first step of the admission procedure requires to submit an application online : <https://uclouvain.be/en/study/inscriptions/futurs-etudiants.html>.

[Selection criteria are summarized here](#) (contact : epl-admission@uclouvain.be).

Admission and Enrolment Procedures for general registration

The Master's degree in computer science may be followed by a doctoral programme in engineering sciences.

Most of the UCLouvain Master's degree programmes (generally 60) are open to UCLouvain Master's degree diploma holders. For example:

Different Master's degree programmes (60) in management (automatic admission based on written application): see this list

The Master's degree (60) in information and communication at Louvain-la-Neuve or the Master's degree (60) in information and communication at Mons.

Contacts

Curriculum Management

Entity

Structure entity

Denomination

Faculty

Sector

Acronym

Postal address

SST/EPL/INFO

[\(INFO\)](#)

Louvain School of Engineering ([EPL](#))

Sciences and Technology ([SST](#))

INFO

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Academic supervisor: [Pierre Schaus](#)

Jury

- Président du Jury: [Claude Oestges](#)
- Secrétaire du Jury: [Cristel Pelsser](#)

Useful Contact(s)

- Secrétariat: [Vanessa Maons](#)
- faculty secretariat: masters-epl-sinf@uclouvain.be

