



FILO1BA - Introduction

Introduction

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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

| | | | | Year | | |
|------------|--|--|-----------------------------|------|---|---|
| | | | | 1 | 2 | 3 |
| ⌘ LPPE1306 | Epistemology, causation and modelisation <i>Cette UE est accessible uniquement sur dossier à un nombre restreint d'étudiants.</i> | Alexandre Guay Sébastien Van Bellegem | EN [q1] [30h] [5 Credits] 🌐 | | | x |

o Modern language (15 credits)

The same language must be chosen for the three years. Students must choose one course from :

The same language must be chosen for the three years.

| | | | | | | |
|-------------|---|--|------------------------------------|---|---|---|
| ⌘ LDEU1116 | German language as a social and cultural practice | Ann Rinder Ferran Suner Munoz | DE [q1+q2] [45h+75h] [5 Credits] 🌐 | x | | |
| ⌘ LALLE1212 | German - Intermediate level 🟡 | Ann Rinder (coord.) | DE [q1+q2] [60h] [5 Credits] 🌐 | | x | |
| ⌘ LALLE1315 | German communication skills for students in Archaeology, Philosophy, Oriental and Classics Studies and History of Art and History | | DE [q1+q2] [30h] [5 Credits] ⚠️ 🌐 | | | x |
| ⌘ LANGL1111 | English: Language & Culture | Estelle Dagneaux (coord.) Claudine Grommersch Sandrine Mulkers | EN [q1+q2] [45h] [5 Credits] 🌐 | x | | |
| ⌘ LANGL1212 | English for Arts Students. An intermediate course 🟡 | Catherine Avery Jean-Luc Delghust (coord.) | EN [q1+q2] [60h] [5 Credits] 🌐 | | x | |
| ⌘ LANGL1315 | Interactive communication seminar | | EN [q1+q2] [30h] [5 Credits] ⚠️ 🌐 | | | x |
| ⌘ LNEER1111 | Dutch language and culture | Marie-Laurence Lambrecht (coord.) | NL [q1+q2] [60h] [5 Credits] 🌐 | x | | |
| ⌘ | | | | | | |

List of available minors

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 project
- define the emphasis and meaning they wish to give to their training path
- access a Master's degree more easily (see the admission requirements for the Master's degree in question).

Please note that it is not possible to register for a minor outside the bachelor's degree!

List of minors available to this Bachelor's programme

- > [Minor in Law \(access\)](#) [en-prog-2024-minadroi]
- > [Minor in Antiquity: Egypt, Eastern World, Greece, Rome](#) [en-prog-2024-minanti]
- > [Minor in History of Art and Archeology](#) [en-prog-2024-minarke]
- > [Minor in Information and Communication](#) [en-prog-2024-mincomu]
- > [Minor in Culture and Creation](#) [en-prog-2024-mincucrea]
- > [Minor in Scientific Culture](#) [en-prog-2024-mincults]
- > [Minor : Issues of Transition and Sustainable Development \(*\)](#) [en-prog-2024-mindd]
- > [Minor "Decentering History: Subalternities and postcolonial Studies"](#) [en-prog-2024-minthis]
- > [Minor in Gender Studies](#) [en-prog-2024-mingenre]
- > [Minor in Arabic language and Islamic civilization](#) [en-prog-2024-minislam]
- > [Minor in Medieval Studies](#) [en-prog-2024-minmedi]
- > [Minor in Musicology](#) [en-prog-2024-minmusi]
- > [Minor in Sociology and Anthropology](#) [en-prog-2024-minsoca]
- > [Minor in Christian Theology](#) [en-prog-2024-mintheo]
- > [Minor in Linguistics](#) [en-prog-2024-minlingui]

(*) *This programme is the subject of access criteria*

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 purposes 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 will be able to register for the programme's CUs.


In addition, when the jury validates a student's individual programme at the beginning of the year, it ensures its coherence, meaning that it may:

-

o **Major**

o **General training**

o LFIAL1130



o **Minor**

Students choose a minor from the list of available minors and take into account any access requirements laid down by the management bodies. They will distribute the 30 credits of the minor between the annual block 2 and the annual block 3 of their bachelor's degree, so that their course programme (major + minor) comprises 60 credits each academic year.

Maximum 1 element(s)

| | | | |
|-------------|--|--|-----------------------------------|
| ⊗ LDROI1503 | Law, Nature and Society | Olivier De Schutter (compensates Christophe Lazaro) Christophe Lazaro | EN [q1] [30h] [5 Credits] 🌐 |
| ⊗ LESPO1321 | Economic, Political and Social Ethics | Pierre André | EN [q2] [30h] [5 Credits] 🌐 |
| ⊗ LPPE1101 | Political Thought <i>Cette UE est accessible uniquement sur dossier à un nombre restreint d'étudiants.</i> | Nicolas Arens Jacob Schmutz | EN [q1] [30h] [5 Credits] 🌐 |
| ⊗ LPPE1306 | Epistemology, causation and modelisation <i>Cette UE est accessible uniquement sur dossier à un nombre restreint d'étudiants.</i> | Alexandre Guay Sébastien Van Bellegem | EN [q1] [30h] [5 Credits] 🌐 |

o Modern language

The same language must be chosen for the three years. Students must choose one course from :

The same language must be chosen for the three years.

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.

- For any secondary school diploma **from a European Union country**, the admission request must contain the equivalence of your diploma or, at the very least, proof of the filing of the equivalence request with the Wallonia-Brussels Federation (French Community of Belgium). For any information relating to obtaining an equivalence, please refer to [the following site](#).
- For any secondary school diploma **from a country outside the European Union**, the admission application must contain the [equivalence of your diploma](#) issued by the Wallonia-Brussels Federation (French Community of Belgium). If you have a restrictive equivalence for the programme of your choice, in addition of it, you **must** have either the [DAES](#) or a certificate of successful completion of the [examination giving access to 1st cycle studies](#) when you submit your application

Access based on validation of professional experience

Admission to undergraduate studies on the basis of accreditation of knowledge and skills obtained through professional or personal experience (Accreditation of Prior Experience)

Subject to the general requirements laid down by the authorities of the higher education institution, with the aim of admission to the undergraduate programme, the examination boards accredit the knowledge and skills that students have obtained through their professional or personal experience.

This experience must correspond to at least five years of documented activity, with years spent in higher education being partially taken into account: 60 credits are deemed equivalent to one year of experience, with a maximum of two years being counted. At the end of an assessment procedure organized by the authorities of the higher education institution, the Examination Board will decide whether a student has sufficient skills and knowledge to successfully pursue undergraduate studies.

After this assessment, the Examination Board will determine the additional courses and possible exemptions constituting the supplementary requirements for the student's admission.

Special requirements to access some programmes

- Admission to **undergraduate studies in engineering: civil engineering and architect**

Pass certificate for the [special entrance examination for undergraduate studies in engineering: civil engineering and architect](#).

Admission to these courses is always subject to students passing the special entrance examination. Contact the faculty office for the programme content and the examination arrangements.

- Admission to **undergraduate studies in veterinary medicine**

[Admission to undergraduate studies in veterinary medicine is governed by the Decree of 16 June 2006 regulating the number of students in certain higher education undergraduate courses \(non-residents\)](#).

- Admission to **undergraduate studies in physiotherapy and rehabilitation**

[Admission to undergraduate studies in physiotherapy and rehabilitation is governed by the Decree of 16 June 2006 regulating the number of students in certain higher education undergraduate courses \(non-residents\)](#).

- Admission to **undergraduate studies in psychology and education: speech and language therapy**

[Admission to undergraduate studies in psychology and education: speech and language therapy is governed by the Decree of 16 June 2006 regulating the number of students in certain higher education undergraduate courses \(non-residents\)](#).

- Admission to **undergraduate studies in medicine and dental science**

[Admission to undergraduate studies in medicine and dental science is governed by the Decree of 16 June 2006 regulating the number of students in certain higher education undergraduate courses \(non-residents\)](#).

Note: students wishing to enrol for a **Bachelor's degree in Medicine** or a **Bachelor's degree in dental science** must first sit an [aptitude test \(fr\)](#).

- Access to **Bachelor of Science in Business Engineering**

The Bachelor of Science in Business Engineering is a joint program organised by KU Leuven and UCLouvain Saint-Louis Bruxelles. In order to register, all candidate must first submit an application via the [KU Leuven admission platform](#). The [conditions of access](#) to this programme are specific.

Teaching method

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.

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

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

Curriculum Management

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

