MASTER OF ARTS
IN LINGUISTICS &
LITERARY STUDIES

MULTILINGUAL
MASTER

www.vub.ac.be/en/multilingual-master

60
ECTS
WHY VUB

VUB education delivers strong individuals, critical minds & world citizens
The Vrije Universiteit Brussel (VUB) offers high-quality English-taught programmes, supported by outstanding research. Being a student at VUB means learning in an open atmosphere of tolerance and diversity and growing into an independent and critical-thinking individual.

All fields of study are offered on 4 student-friendly campuses in the cosmopolitan city of Brussels. At VUB, students have easy access to their lecturers and assistants. Faculty members are available and open to answer questions; small group workshops are used to ensure close interaction and hands-on experience.
VUB is a dynamic and modern university with almost two centuries of history. There are 15,000 students, 21% of whom are international students from more than 120 different countries.

The basis of our academic success
The Vrije Universiteit Brussel was founded on the principle of ‘free inquiry’ as formulated by the French mathematician and philosopher of science Henri Poincaré (1854-1912): ‘Thinking must never submit itself, neither to a dogma, nor to a party, nor to a passion, nor to an interest, nor to a preconceived idea, nor to anything whatsoever, except to the facts themselves, because for it to submit to anything else would be the end of its existence.’

Personal growth with a positive and critical attitude, a sense of responsibility and open-mindedness, these are characteristics that you will encounter in everyone at the university, from professors and researchers to students and staff. It lies at the heart of our academic success.
Multilingual master

Studying linguistics, literature, translation or interpreting in the stimulating multilingual and urban environment of Brussels gives you the opportunity to discover the vast array of possibilities the city has to offer. Our international degree in linguistics and literary studies, the first of its kind in Flanders, is designed to prepare you for the globalized labour market, where multilingualism, world citizenship and international expertise are increasingly important.

Our one-year master’s programme offers courses in linguistics, literature, multilingualism, translation and interpreting in eleven different languages. You can choose to specialise in one or two languages as well as in a scientific discipline, such as Linguistics, Literary Studies, Psycholinguistics & Neurolinguistics, Multilingualism & Foreign Language Acquisition, Theatre Studies, Translation Studies and Interpreting Studies. Study in the unique multilingual setting of the capital of Europe and become a multilingual professional!
MASTER OF ARTS IN LINGUISTICS AND LITERARY STUDIES

7 profiles, 11 languages
Our master's programme offers seven profiles – each profile featuring a specific set of courses – that allow you to specialise in different language-related domains.

Dutch, English, French, German, Italian and Spanish are offered in the following profiles:

Linguistics
The Linguistics profile provides an in-depth exploration of language with courses in up to six languages. This profile covers a broad range of linguistic topics, such as theoretical linguistics, (historical) sociolinguistics and psycholinguistics.

Literary Studies
The Literary Studies profile provides an in-depth exploration of literature in the aforementioned six languages. You will explore current literary topics and fields, such as urban literature, postcolonial literature, the intermedial relationship between literature and other art forms, literature and (national) identity, and aspects of literary translation.

Multilingualism and Foreign Language Acquisition
This profile focusses on multilingualism, both from social and cognitive perspectives. It explores the role of instructed versus uninstructed foreign language learning in a multilingual environment. Students who choose this profile are given the opportunity to complete an internship during which they are immersed in multilingual theory and practice.

Psycholinguistics and Neurolinguistics
If you are fascinated by the neurological and psychological aspects of language, this profile is perfect for you. Language impairments caused by brain damage and the cognitive aspects of multilingualism are examples of topics you will examine if you choose this profile.

Theatre Studies
Interested in analysing theatre, dance and performance? The Theatre Studies profile offers an academic approach to theatre and film studies.

Arabic, Chinese, English, French, German, Portuguese, Russian, Spanish and Turkish are offered in the following profiles:

Interpreting
The Interpreting profile offers a well-balanced set of advanced theoretical and practical courses that allow you to build up your academic and professional skills in the field of interpreting.

Translation
If you choose the translation profile, you will learn what it takes to become a professional translator. Theoretical and practical courses will help you develop your academic and professional skills.

3 research centres
Our Master's programme offers the possibility to conduct independent and creative research in a stimulating multilingual and urban environment. Your research activities will be supervised by an internationally renowned expert in his or her field. VUB hosts three research centres that are specialised in studies dealing with language-related research topics. The Brussels Institute for Applied Linguistics (BIAL) conducts applied linguistic research with a focus on transculturalism, from the perspectives of translation and interpreting, foreign language acquisition and multilingualism, special language studies and language practices. The Centre for Literary and Intermedial Crossings (CLIC) offers an interdisciplinary forum for specialists in literary, theatre and performance studies. It stimulates research across traditional boundaries and along three key concepts: media, genres and spaces. The Centre for Linguistics (CLIN) promotes research in theoretical and applied linguistics and the wider application of this research in the society. They address a broad spectrum of issues related to the structure, use, learning and teaching, the historical development, and the social and political contexts of languages.
### MASTER - OPTION 1

**Obligatory courses**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>ECTS</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Master’s thesis</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Research Methodology Linguistics OR</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Research Methodology Literary Studies</td>
<td></td>
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</tbody>
</table>

**Option 1: one language + profile**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>ECTS</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Language-specific elective courses</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Profile-specific elective courses</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

**Option 2: two languages + profile**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>ECTS</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Language-specific elective courses: language 1</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Language-specific elective courses: language 2</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Profile-specific elective courses</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

**The programme is subject to change.**

*Check [www.vub.ac.be/en](http://www.vub.ac.be/en) for the latest information about the programme.*

ECTS (European Credit Transfer System): 1 credit represents 25-30 hours of study activity.

(*) only offered in the translation programme

(**) only offered in the interpreting programme

(***) offered in both programmes

### MASTER - OPTION 2

**Obligatory courses**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>ECTS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Master’s thesis</td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Translation Studies and Research Methodology (*)</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OR</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Interpreting Studies and Research Methodology (**)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Special Language and Terminology (**)</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Intercultural Communication (**)</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Translation Office Simulation (**)</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OR</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Interpreting Studies and Research Methodology (**)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Work placement (**)</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Translation workshop (from English into Arabic, Chinese, French, German, Portuguese, Russian, Spanish or Turkish and vice versa) (*)</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OR</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Interpreting workshop (from English into Arabic, Chinese, French, German, Portuguese, Russian, Spanish or Turkish and vice versa) (**)</td>
<td></td>
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</tbody>
</table>

**Specialisation courses**

(two courses need to be chosen from this list)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>ECTS</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Audiovisual translation (**)</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Language technology (*)</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Software localisation (*)</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Text and discourse analysis (**)</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Theory of literary translation (*)</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

(* only offered in the translation programme

(**) only offered in the interpreting programme

(***) offered in both programmes
START YOUR MULTILINGUAL CAREER IN BRUSSELS

STUDY IN A MULTILINGUAL ENVIRONMENT

Located in Brussels, the Vrije Universiteit Brussel offers students the unique opportunity to study in a multilingual environment. Studying linguistics, literature, interpreting or translation in Brussels allows you to immediately put theory into practice and to personally experience the diverse aspects of multilingualism and multiculturalism. Professionals with an excellent command of various languages and a good understanding of multiple cultures are in high demand in public, educational and research institutions as well as in multinational companies. Home to the European Union, NATO and hundreds of international businesses, Brussels provides the perfect setting to prepare yourself for such a job. Moreover, with its wide range of theatres, museums, literary festivals and cultural institutions (Goethe Institut, Instituto Cervantes, Istituto Italiano di Cultura,...), the city allows students to connect their courses on literature and drama with the recent work of contemporary artists.

FIRST STEPS ON THE JOB MARKET

A master's degree in Linguistics and Literary Studies opens doors in many different branches and sectors. You will be able to work in the private sector, (non-) governmental organisations, or continue your academic career as a PhD researcher. Highly skilled professionals with an excellent command of various languages and a good understanding of multiple cultures are needed in national and international public institutions and in multinational companies. Brussels is the perfect environment to prepare you for such a job. Not sure what your next step will be? The VUB Career Center helps you with your first steps on the job market with workshops, networking events, job fairs, tips 'n tricks for job interviews. Everything a multilingual graduate needs!
“I really enjoyed the courses I took, including the extra activities that were on offer, such as the international guest lectures and the creative writing workshop with the writer in residence. The programme is attended by students from many different universities and countries, and I and my fellow students really appreciated the personal interest professors took in our progress.”

Theresia F. (Germany)
Student Linguistics and Literary Studies
(English-German)
ADMISSION CRITERIA
Admission is based on the review of each application: proof of meeting academic and language requirements, personal motivation, etc.

LANGUAGE REQUIREMENTS
Prospective students can provide proof of sufficient knowledge of English as language of instruction by meeting one of the following criteria:
- having successfully completed one of the following language proficiency tests:
  - TOEFL: minimum level: 213 for the computer-based test (CBT); 72 for the internet-based test (IBT); 550 for paper-based test
  - TOEIC: minimum level: 785
  - IELTS: minimum level academic module 6
  - CAE: minimum grade B
  - CPE: minimum grade C
  - ITACE for Students certificate with ERK/CEFR score B2
  - Cambridge English First (FCE)
  - Cambridge English: Business Vantage (BEC Vantage)
  - Cambridge Michigan ECCE
  - Trinity College London: ISE II, GESE Grade 7-9; or ALTE Q mark
  - The Pearson Test of English General (PTE General): minimum level 3
  - The Pearson Test of English Academic (PTE Academic): minimum level 59
- having successfully completed at least one year of secondary education with English as language of instruction, or having successfully completed secondary school in a Belgian institution;
- having successfully completed programme units in higher education with a minimum of 54 ECTS-credits where English was the language of instruction.

For more details on admission requirements and application: www.vub.ac.be/en/apply

SPECIFIC ADMISSION CRITERIA
With a Bachelor of Arts in Linguistics and Literary Studies from a Flemish university, you have direct access to the programme. Do you have an undergraduate degree in another field of study? You can also enrol as soon as you have completed the one-year preparatory programme for the Master of Arts in Linguistics and Literary Studies. This programme takes into account the credits you have previously earned.

Application deadline
Prospective students are advised to apply as soon as possible, even if they have not yet obtained their degree. Applications can only be submitted through our website www.vub.ac.be/en/apply
- Students who require a visa (non-EU/EEA nationals) need to submit their application before June 1st
- Students who do not require a visa must apply before June 1st
- Note: if the proof of English proficiency or APS certificate is not ready before the deadline, you can always submit it later instead of missing the deadline

Tuition fees
All Flemish universities in Belgium are subsidised by the government, which results in relatively low tuition fees. The general tuition fee for our master programmes is €890/year. Some master programmes have an increased tuition fee for students with a non EU/EEA nationality. A detailed overview of the tuition fees can be found on: www.vub.ac.be/en/tuition-fees

Contact
www.vub.ac.be/en/multilingual-master