International programmes

KU Leuven. Inspiring the outstanding

Faculty of Engineering Science
KU Leuven - Belgium
Dear prospective student,

The Faculty of Engineering Science started in 1864 as Ecoles Spéciales des Arts et Manufactures du Génie Civil et des Mines. Today it is a multidisciplinary school forming academic engineers with a sound scientific background, an advanced technical knowledge, a stimulated creativity, a concept oriented approach and with an open view on societal issues.

Intensive research is the heart beat for the education programme, as demonstrated by the more than 140 defended PhD theses per year and the large number of research projects.

The faculty is linked to seven research departments. It organises two bachelor programmes and 30 master programmes (24 initial masters and 6 advanced masters). 32% of the master's students come from all over the world.

There is also a lively interaction with national and international universities, research institutes and industrial partners.

My team and I look forward to welcoming you!

prof. dr. ir. Michiel Steyaert
Dean
Faculty of Engineering Science

prof. dr. ir. Jos Vander Sloten
Vice Dean for International Affairs
Faculty of Engineering Science
Good reasons to study at the Faculty of Engineering Science in Leuven

- KU Leuven is a top university, located near Brussels in the heart of Europe.
- In rankings from all over the world, the Faculty of Engineering Science (KU Leuven) features among the best technical universities (N°1 in Belgium, top 5 continental European universities, N°28 worldwide).
- Reuters ranks KU Leuven as Europe’s most innovative university in its ranking of Europe’s top 100 innovative universities.

- In total there are ± 5,150 students at the Faculty of Engineering Science, of which ± 1,000 PhD researchers.
- With over a hundred different nationalities the student population is a very international community: 32% of the students come from all over the world.
- Wide variety in English programmes (12 initial masters of which 1 EMM and 1 KIC master, 6 advanced masters, 2 postgraduate programmes).

- The research at the Research Departments and Research Centres has an outstanding reputation internationally, demonstrated by the large number of projects and publications.
- 142 graduating PhD researchers a year (2016).
- On average every year three new spin-off companies emerge from research conducted at the faculty, settling down in the Leuven area and becoming world players in their respective commercial market.

- Member of the CESAER and CLUSTER network.
- Research and education at the faculty benefits from the close interaction with the numerous spin-offs: amongst many imec, Siemens Industry Software, Materialise, LayerWise, ...
Belgium

Belgium, a small, densely populated country (over 11 million inhabitants with 375 habitants/km²), has three official languages: Dutch, French and German, but English is also widely understood and fluently spoken. Its capital, Brussels, doubles as the capital of the European Union. With a standard of living among the highest in the world, its citizens benefit from universal health care, social security coverage, and an excellent educational system. As an international guest, you will probably find Belgians initially reserved and introverted, an impression usually lasting until your first visit to a Belgian home, where you will be warmly welcomed and treated to large amounts of excellent food and drink. Friendships are enduring: once made, you will find it very difficult to get rid of a Belgian friend.

Leuven

You will thrive in Leuven, a dynamic, vibrant city in the centre of Belgium. Surrounded by inviting countryside, Leuven also teems with the nightlife, leisure and cultural opportunities you would expect from a major city. With more than 95,000 inhabitants, the 43,000 additional students fill the streets with young faces in a city living at a student’s rhythm: hectic weeks at the beginning of the academic year and relatively calm during vacation and examination periods. You’re sure to be impressed by Leuven’s array of historic monuments and buildings, of which the fifteenth-century Gothic City Hall is the centerpiece. The university also features among this patrimony, with its University Hall, dating from the fourteenth century, and its Flemish neo-renaissance Library, dating from the 1920s, on prominent display.

www.eng.kuleuven.be/english/prospectivestudents
Applications at KU Leuven

The application intake for the next academic year starts on November 1st and closes on March 1st for non-EAA students and on June 1st for EAA citizens. Please check the application instructions on:

- www.kuleuven.be/english/application
- www.kuleuven.be/english/admissions

Tuition fees and waivers

Initial Master’s programmes organised by the Faculty of Engineering Science and taught in English
EAA-students pay the regular tuition fee (€ 906,1 in 2017-2018). For non-EAA students the tuition fee is € 6.000.

The programmes will grant a waiver down to the regular tuition fee to the ten best students, based on their TOEFL score, GRE test and motivation letter.

More information on:

Advanced Master's programmes.
Please check:
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Master of Chemical Engineering

Master of Science (120 ECTS)

Looking for a chemical technology programme that is more than just a classical chemical engineering programme? Our MSc in Chemical Engineering is definitely something for you.

With a focus on process, product and planet engineering, the programme does not only guarantee a solid chemical engineering background, it also focuses on process and product intensification, energy efficient processing routes, biochemical processes and product-based thinking rather than on the classical process approach. The programme itself consists of an important core curriculum that covers the foundations of chemical engineering. In this part of the programme, you will concentrate on both the classical and the emerging trends in chemical engineering. In addition, you have the opportunity to choose between three options: product, process and planet engineering, providing you with the opportunity to specialise to a certain extent. Since the emerging areas covered in the programme are considered to be the major challenges within the chemical and related industries, graduating in Leuven as a chemical engineer will give you a serious advantage over your European colleagues since you will be able to integrate new technologies within existing production processes.

www.kuleuven.be/ma/MCHEMT

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Master of Biomedical Engineering

Master of Science (120 ECTS)

As a graduate in Biomedical Engineering, you’ll help shaping tomorrow’s biomedical devices and medical information technology. You’ll complete the programme with knowledge of human anatomy, cell biology, and physiology as well as mastery of biomedical technology in areas such as biomechanics, biomaterials, tissue engineering, bio-instrumentation and medical information systems.

The programme will help to strengthen your creativity, to prepare you for life-long learning, and train you how to formalise your knowledge for efficient re-use. Careers await you in the medical device industry R&D engineering, or as a production or certification specialist.

Perhaps you’ll end up with a hospital career (technical department), or one in government. Or you can continue your education by pursuing a PhD in biomedical engineering; each year, several places are available thanks to the rapid innovation taking place in biomedical engineering and the increasing portfolio of approved research projects in universities worldwide.

www.kuleuven.be/ma/MBIOMENG

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Have a look at: https://eng.kuleuven.be/english/prospectivestudents
Master of Electrical Engineering

Master of Science (120 ECTS)

The MSc in Electrical Engineering programme gives you in-depth training in the software and hardware design of electronic systems, with an emphasis either on circuit design or the design of applications.

In the option ‘Electronics and Integrated Circuits’, you will learn how to design and create electronic and integrated circuits for a wide range of electronic systems in telecommunications, audio and sensor applications, biomedical systems and power electronics. In the option ‘Embedded Systems and Multimedia’, the focus lies on the design of novel applications. This encompasses the processing, transmission and security aspects of digital signals (with emphasis on multimedia) and their implementation in embedded systems. With the demand for qualified electrical engineers as high as it is, as a graduate of the programme, your prospects of employment throughout the world are enviable. The Electrical Engineering Department (ESAT) is the largest department within the university and was the starting point of imec and many spin-off companies. With such an excellent reputation within an innovative industry, the programme exemplifies the link between education, research and valorisation.

www.kuleuven.be/ma/MEE
www.esat.kuleuven.be/english/education/master/ee/sp

Master of Engineering: Computer Science

Master of Science (120 ECTS)

Which technological advances of the last few decades did change the face of society most? The developments related to computers and software: the world has become digital.

This MSc will train you to become an expert in the development and up-front professional use of software systems. Today, these systems are indispensable in nearly all areas of our society: in industry, the public sector, health and many social applications for end users. They are also the most complex systems that humans ever created. In this programme you will learn how to specify, design, implement, test and maintain advanced software systems. You will also learn how to handle complexity and how to deal with diverse requirements, such as functionality, reliability, user friendliness, security, reliability, intelligence, efficiency and cost.

We offer two advanced specialisation areas: software security and artificial intelligence. In both specialisations you will conduct your own research and develop novel technology, guided by top experts in the international research community. As a graduate from this MSc, a very wide range of professional opportunities will open for you, both quantitatively and broadly.

www.cs.kuleuven.be/MCS
Master of Engineering: Energy

Master of Science (120 ECTS)

Fascinated by energy technology and interested in environmental and socioeconomic factors, besides electrical and thermomechanical aspects?

Then consider this MSc in Engineering: Energy. During the first year we combine electrical and mechanical engineering courses with general socioeconomic energy-related subjects and an integrated project.

The second year you continue with a Master’s thesis on electrical or thermomechanical energy, or on one of its technical-economic aspects, and some elective courses (general, broadening & option specific).

www.kuleuven.be/ma/MENERGY

EIT-KIC Master in Energy

Master of Science (90 ECTS)

‘Energy for Smart Cities’ balances exciting technological opportunities in energy with environmental and socioeconomic aspects of smart cities, such as energy efficiency in buildings, electric transportation, energy economics, smart lighting and other city services.

Students receive a broad background in electrical and mechanical energy systems, allowing them to participate fully in the design and operation of advanced energy solutions.

They also learn how to construct and employ contemporary energy conversion technologies and secure energy supply in general, while taking into account overriding technical limitations, environmental consequences and economic considerations.

Learn about energy, industrial collaboration and entrepreneurship in the energy domain in two different universities and obtain a diploma in engineering from both.

www.kuleuven.be/ma/EITKICMENERGY
www.kic-innoenergy.com/smartcities

Have a look at: https://eng.kuleuven.be/english/prospectivestudents
Master of Engineering:
Logistics and Traffic

Master of Science (120 ECTS)

Logistics and traffic keep our modern world moving! Just think of the rise of self-driving cars and trucks. Or e-commerce: a super dynamic logistic machine. You click ‘buy now’, automated warehouses pop into action, within 24 hours your purchase is at your front door. Optimisation is the key word. Airplanes, trucks, cargo-bikes, and soon drones or automatic vans, deliver your packages. Enterprises constantly redesign their supply chain in response to new players, different prices and new technologies like 3D printing. Logistics and optimisation increasingly enter modern traffic systems: from fleet management of shared cars and bikes, to enterprises that provide integrated Mobility-as-a-Service. Governmental planning agencies and public transport operators cooperate with trendy firms (Google, Uber, Tesla,…) to ban unsustainable private cars to the history books.

As a student logistics and traffic you acquire a toolkit of optimisation and modelling techniques, and learn how to address modern logistic and traffic processes from the perspective of the user/company (educational line of logistics, business management, OR) and from the system perspective (educational line of traffic, system design and management, modelling).

Master of Materials Engineering

Master of Science (120 ECTS)

Want to play an active role in designing the materials of the future? Interested in addressing concerns of sustainable development and the intelligent use of resources? If so, consider the two-year MSc in Materials Engineering. The Department of Materials Engineering is involved in several strategic fields of materials research and development, and is also the driving force of the KU Leuven Materials Research Centre. Based on its research experience, the department offers four options – Metals and Ceramics, Polymers and Composites, Nanomaterials, and Biomaterials – which are integrated within a pool of core and general interest courses.

Case studies, mini projects and a master’s thesis will develop your broad analytical skills and problem solving abilities. As a Master in Materials Engineering you’ll have access to the materials production, metallurgical, automotive, aerospace, energy, recycling, microelectronics and chemical industries, as well as the emerging sectors of additive manufacturing, nanotechnology and biomaterials. Master’s graduates with an interest in research can apply for an R&D position or start a PhD. A number of our alumni have started their own companies.

www.kuleuven.be/ma/MME
Master of Mechanical Engineering

Master of Science (120 ECTS)

The two-year MSc in Mechanical Engineering is a perfect link between scientific research and industrial innovation. Over the past 30 years, no less than 14 spin-off companies have been established, some of which have developed to become a world leading reference in their field. In total they account for more than 3,000 jobs. The links of our department with industry remain as tight as ever, not only with local companies but especially through a very active participation in the 7th R&D Framework Programme of the European Commission. The course programme clearly reflects this connection.

The course programme clearly reflects this connection. The programme covers three generic research areas (manufacturing & management, mechatronics & robotics, and thermotechnical sciences) and two application sectors (aerospace engineering and vehicle engineering). Based on his/her own interest or preference and with the help of an advisor, each student composes an individual course programme, that is either entirely within one of these five options or that combines courses from different options. In a recent audit, the auditing committee has expressed special appreciation for the experimental infrastructure which is available to students and which creates unique opportunities for advanced research through their master’s thesis.

www.kuleuven.be/ma/mmeel

Master of Mathematical Engineering

Master of Science (120 ECTS)

Mathematics is the hidden technology behind nearly all aspects of modern life. Without mathematical tools there would be no internet search, digital photography, streaming video, or security in banking. Mathematical models and techniques play an important role in auto pilots, the design of quieter airplanes, finance, the development of drugs, and the design of medical scanners. All these problems handle large quantities of data or require expensive simulations and large computer resources.

This programme provides a broad and profound knowledge of advanced process control, numerical simulation and optimisation, data mining, image processing, and cryptography, among others. You will have the opportunity to develop your skills to design and use novel mathematical engineering techniques and conduct your own research, guided by top experts in their respective domains.

This programme is ideal for engineers with mathematical skills who want to use cutting edge technology in order to address society’s most challenging problems. As a graduate from this MSc, a very wide range of professional opportunities will be open to you in both the private and public sectors.

www.cs.kuleuven.be/MME
Master of Nanoscience, Nanotechnology and Nanoengineering

Master of Science (120 ECTS)

Do you seek the greatest challenge on the smallest scale, crave cutting-edge physics, biology, electronics, and chemistry or desire the multidisciplinarity and technological convergence at the heart of tomorrow’s science – today? If so, kickstart your career with the MSc in Nanoscience, Nanotechnology and Nanoengineering at KU Leuven, Belgium’s proven world leader in this young and vital field.

Guided by our renowned faculty and associated spin-off corporations, you’ll develop your analytical, synthetic and interpretive skills within state-of-the-art facilities, providing the hands-on technology necessary for the theory, design and manufacture of machines and materials at the atomic and molecular level.

Build on your undergraduate training in mathematics, physics, chemistry, cell biology, biochemistry, molecular and atomic architecture, materials science, electronics, and electromechanics – let KU Leuven help you to ensure your future in industry, research, enterprise, or policy. Dreaming big and building small: nanotechnology at KU Leuven.

www.kuleuven.be/ma/MNANO
www.set.kuleuven.be/nanotechnologie/eng/

Erasmus Mundus Master of Science in Nanoscience and Nanotechnology

Master of Science (120 ECTS)

The word nanoscience refers to the study, manipulation and engineering of matter, particles and structures on the nanometer scale (one millionth of a millimeter, the scale of atoms and molecules). Nanotechnology is the application of nanoscience leading to the use of new nanomaterials and nanosize components in useful products. These newborn scientific disciplines are situated at the interface between physics, chemistry, materials science, microelectronics, biochemistry, and biotechnology. Control of these disciplines therefore requires an academic and multidisciplinary scientific education. Nanoscience and nanotechnology are at the forefront of modern research.

A consortium of four leading educational institutions in Europe offer a joint Erasmus Mundus Master of Nanoscience and Nanotechnology (EMM Nano). The programme offered is a truly integrated one, with a strong research backbone and a very important international outreach. As an EMM Nano student you study the first year of the Master at KU Leuven. In the second year you choose one out of 5 specialisation options at one of the 3 partner universities. As a graduate, you’ll receive a joint degree from the universities at which you have been trained. There are scholarships available funded by the EU as well as by the consortium.

www.kuleuven.be/ma/EMMNANO
www.emm-nano.org

* Master’s degree required
Advances Study Programmes

Master of Artificial Intelligence

Master of Science (60 ECTS)

Advanced Master’s*

Could we build an intelligent robot, one that can perceive and communicate through natural language, vision, sensors and movement, in short; one that can perform typically human tasks? Fuelled by this challenge, the advanced MSc in Artificial Intelligence programme trains a broad range of students including engineers, exact scientists, economists, managers, psychologists, and linguists, in the full range of knowledge-based technology and cognitive science.

Through the joint effort of many internationally leading research units from seven different faculties, this one-year programme allows you to focus on engineering and computer science, speech and language technology or big data analytics.

It will prepare you for a career in information technology, data mining, speech and language technology, intelligent systems, diagnosis and quality control, fraud detection, biometrics, banking, etc. Or start a PhD programme. Your options are practically endless.

www.kuleuven.be/ma/MAI
www.mai.kuleuven.be

Master of Conservation of Monuments and Sites

Master of Science (90 ECTS)

Advanced Master’s*

Want a programme with true pedigree? Try the MSc in Conservation of Monuments and Sites, run by the Raymond Lemaire International Centre for Conservation. Prof. Lemaire (one of the authors of the Venice Charter) originally founded the centre at the behest of the International Council of Monuments and the elite College of Europe. Now chaired by Minja Yang, a former director of the UNESCO Office in New Delhi, the Centre continues its high-profile collaborations with the UNESCO World Heritage Centre, Europa Nostra and the European Commission.

This three semester programme is organised jointly by the Department of Architecture and the Department of Civil Engineering, and is divided into two parts: the first year in classes and seminars, and the third semester in personal research anywhere in the world, culminating in a thesis.

With the programme’s background, it’s no wonder our alumni are spread throughout the world as professionals in conservation and restoration of architectural heritage.

www.kuleuven.be/ma/MCMS

BIG DATA ANALYTICS
Master of Human Settlements

Master of Science (60 ECTS)

Advanced Master’s*

Addressing rapid developing-world urbanisation and contemporary urban transformations and aiming at sustainable development, the MSc in Human Settlements consists of a common platform (key courses on human settlements and sustainable development, design studio, and study trips) complemented by a core of courses from the disciplines of ‘urbanism (including urban design) and strategic planning’, ‘urban studies’ and ‘architecture’.

With numerous guest lecturers and seminars, the programme benefits from its organisers’ worldwide contacts. Study trips to France, Switzerland, Germany confront students with current trends in urban transformation. Moreover, non-Western study and field trips have included India, Bolivia, Bangladesh, and Vietnam.

Join our many alumni in leadership and policy positions in regional, national, and international human settlement institutions, or begin a career as an independent professional in urban design, or go for the PhD!

www.kuleuven.be/ma/MAHS

Master of Nuclear Engineering

Master of Science (60 ECTS)

Advanced Master’s*

Power plants, nuclear fuel production, radioelement production, engineering companies, accelerator design and fabrication, waste management, safety management, nuclear medicine, research, and higher education: Belgium’s experience with nuclear engineering is definitive. Combining the expertise of the Belgian nuclear research centre SCK-CEN and six major Belgian universities, including KU Leuven, the Belgian Nuclear Higher Education Network organises the MSc in Nuclear Engineering.

Based on your solid background in engineering, mathematics and physics you’ll master nuclear physical processes, the procedures and techniques necessary to control nuclear processes, nuclear safety, reliability procedures, and nuclear waste treatment. Along with competence in the design and maintenance of structures controlling nuclear processes, you’ll also learn nuclear research and communicative skills. The programme stresses internships and mobility. The lectures are held at SCK-CEN.

www.kuleuven.be/ma/MNUCLEAR
Master of Safety Engineering

Master of Science (60 ECTS)

Advanced Master’s*

You demand safety, but what lies behind it? Quality, reliability, efficiency, and technical and regulatory constraints: the many demands on industrial process operations are making its management increasingly more complex. At the same time, safety concerns stemming from traffic and transport, logistics, the environment, consumer products, etc., are intensifying, as are the growing number of European health and safety rules and regulations. The MSc in Safety Engineering will prepare you to improve and realise safety in many different areas.

The programme trains you in prevention policy and safety management systems, the safety of products, processes, and installations, qualitative risk analysis techniques, and fire and explosion safety. You’ll obtain detailed knowledge of technical and managerial process safety concepts with regard to the whole life cycle of a production plant, and risk evaluations based on qualitative and quantitative methods. And then with your ability in research, analysis, inspection, monitoring and certification, you’re on your way to a career in industry, or private and/or governmental organisations.

www.kuleuven.be/ma/MSAFETYENG

Master of Urbanism and Strategic Planning

Master of Science (120 ECTS)

Advanced Master’s*

Aiming to cultivate innovative urban design, the Department of Architecture offers the MSc in Urbanism and Strategic Planning. European and design-oriented, it prepares students for leadership roles in urban design, urban development and management, and strategic planning. As part of the European Postgraduate Master’s in Urbanism, its students can apply to attend one or two semesters at one of the partner universities – UPC Barcelona, TU Delft, or IUAV Venezia – to obtain the additional European Postgraduate Certificate of Urbanism. Guest lectures, design studios, and a written or design-project thesis give shape to the programme.

Study trips within Belgium and throughout Europe, as well as annual design workshops offered by KU Leuven and its partner universities, also feature prominently. Our graduates have long provided professional architectural and urban-design experience to design offices, consultancy firms, or governments. Contribute to this legacy!

www.kuleuven.be/ma/MAUSP
Postgraduate Programme in Biomedical Engineering (39 ECTS)

This postgraduate programme will provide an advanced-level education in the area of biomedical engineering. Students with the following diplomas are allowed to enter without restriction: Master of Engineering, Master of Bio-engineering, Bachelor of Engineering students (four year curriculum from selected academic institutions).

Other students may be allowed to enter as well, depending upon approval by the Permanent Education Committee of the Master of Biomedical Engineering and the Faculty of Engineering Science at KU Leuven.

The curriculum and the courses are research-based and prepare the student for a career in the medical device industry, in health care institutions and government. The programme can be followed as part of a predoctoral examination.

https://www.mech.kuleuven.be/en/bme/education/PostgraduateProgramme

Postgraduate European Module Spatial Development Planning (30 ECTS)

The EMSDP addresses spatial development dynamics and planning issues – including urban and regional plan-making, programmes, projects and policies – from an interdisciplinary perspective bringing on board inputs from economics, sociology, spatial planning and design, geography, political science, urbanism and ecology. Throughout the programme three types of dialectics are stressed and possibly reconciled: between development and planning, between theory and practice, and between planning and policy approaches.

Students are called to enhance their command of the theoretical debate in various disciplines and to improve their methodological skills, through the constant interaction among themselves and with the staff members. The programme has a clear ethical outlook: the planning philosophy shared by the academic staff is oriented to serve progress in society, based on principles of equity, social innovation and sustainability, and guarantees a wide pluralism in analytical foci and planning methodologies. It is an excellent stepping stone toward the preparation of a PhD research trajectory. At the weekly seminar participants present their research progress to a panel of international experts from all over Europe.

http://esdp-network.net/the-emsdp-overview
International Office/Student services
KU Leuven has a long tradition of welcoming international students, researchers and guest professors from all around the world.
www.kuleuven.be/international
www.kuleuven.be/english/studentservices/

Buddy programme
When arriving in Leuven, it is important to learn how things are going here. Therefore, the university set up a special programme that - if you are interested - will assign you a personal buddy. This buddy usually is a Flemish student, who can show you the most important places in Leuven and answer your practical questions.
www.kuleuven.be/orientationdays/buddy

Housing
Leuven offers a wide range of housing options at reasonable prices. Most students stay in individual rooms with shared facilities in houses on the private real estate market. Assistance with all housing issues is provided by the university housing office. www.kuleuven.be/accomodation

BEST Leuven
Board of European Students of Technology or BEST is an international students association, active in 32 European countries. BEST Leuven has close ties to VTK and organises a variety of activities in order to broaden students’ horizons, e.g. company visits, lectures, a competition, a summer course, ...

Leuven Arenberg Doctoral School
The Arenberg Doctoral School of Science, Engineering & Technology stimulates professional competence development by offering specialised courses in scientific disciplines and training in different skills. Our doctoral researchers have the confidence of professionals who plan their research and establish collaboration both within the university and worldwide.
www.set.kuleuven.be/phd

First-class Research
KU Leuven boasts a rich tradition of education and research that dates back six centuries. The university’s basic research orientation has always been and will remain fundamental research. At the same time, the university remains vigilantly open to contemporary cultural, economic and industrial realities.

VTK
VTK (Vlaamse Technische Kring) is the students’ union of the Faculty of Engineering Science. VTK will make sure you enjoy your stay, by organising various activities (parties, excursions,...). Furthermore, they will provide you with the necessary course material and educational support.
www.vtk.be/en/
## Contacts

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www.eng.kuleuven.be/english

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