

# Dissertation 2024

| 30.00 credits | Q1 and Q2 |
|---------------|-----------|
|               |           |



# This learning unit is not open to incoming exchange students!

| Language :          | French  |  |  |  |
|---------------------|---|--|--|--|
| Place of the course | Louvain-la-Neuve  |  |  |  |
| Main themes         | The masters dissertation, irrespective of the subject, allows a student to:  • carry out a critical analysis and summarise a given scientific topic,  • put a specific issue/statement in context drawing on existing information,  • present the results of the dissertation by justifying the methodological choices, explaining the hypotheses and scientifically stating the results obtained.  |  |  |  |
| Learning outcomes   | At the end of this learning unit, the student is able to: to demonstrate the ability to present correctly the results of personal, objective and methodical work, the quality of which is not necessarily linked to its scope. The dissertation is, like other forms of teaching, an integral part of the programmes in which it is included. It is a piece of research required of students which, at this stage of their training, should be considered as an introduction to research in the discipline concerned. The dissertation consists of research work:  • specific, in relation to other teaching activities; • methodical, the foundations of which are laid by the basic training; |  |  |  |

### **Evaluation methods**

#### Supervision and composition of the dissertation jury

The dissertation is supervised by a LAFR or ROM programme promoter.

The student must submit his/her subject for approval to the promoter by the date specified in the faculty calendar

The dissertation jury is made up of two readers: the promoter and another reader appointed by the Master's jury.

The promoter's and reader's marks take into account:

- · achievement of the objectives set;
- the ability to produce a relevant and well-documented summary;
- · personal commitment and the ability to discuss methodological choices;
- the coherence of the work carried out;
- the correctness, quality and relevance of the written word.

#### Assessment criteria for the dissertation

In its final mark, the promoter also takes into account the student's commitment and the regularity of the work done throughout the Master's programme as part of the dissertation (in particular, submission on time and the quality of the dossier submitted at the end of the first annual block).

The dissertation reader is responsible for drawing up a detailed written report on certain formal aspects of the dissertation (= "language report"):

- spelling
- language (precision and appropriateness of terms, syntactic correctness);
- punctuation:
- presentation of the text itself, bibliography, notes, references, etc.

#### Language report

The language report may lead the jury to reduce the mark awarded to the dissertation, in accordance with the procedures set out in the document 'Evaluation of language proficiency in written work, TFCs, dissertations and TFEs on bachelor's and master's degree programmes in ancient and modern languages and literature', or even to declare that the dissertation has failed.

In the event of failure of the dissertation due to the language report, without prejudice to article 153 of the RGEE, the chair of the jury will notify the student that he/she may not present the oral defence of the dissertation, given that this failure cannot be made good by the defence.

#### Rules on plagiarism and the use of Al

Throughout the dissertation, students must demonstrate their perfect mastery of the rules of bibliographic referencing; at the risk of being suspected of plagiarism, they must

- DO NOT copy a text without inverted commas and/or without mentioning the source;
- DO NOT reproduce a graph, data, illustration, etc. without mentioning the source;
- DO NOT reformulate or summarise an author's original idea without mentioning the source;
- DO NOT translate, in whole or in part, a source without referencing it;
- DO NOT use someone else's work by presenting it as your own (even if the author of the work has given his or her agreement);
- DO NOT buy a work.

#### See https://uclouvain.be/fr/etudier/uss/lutter-contre-le-plagiat.html

This definition completes the definition given in art. 107 §2 of the RGEE and constitutes a special provision within the meaning of §3 of the same article.

Any student who fails to comply with the scientific referencing standards set out above is liable, in the event of irregularity or plagiarism established by the jury, to academic sanctions as detailed in the RGEE (section 7).

If generative artificial intelligence (AI) is used, it must be used responsibly and in accordance with the practices of academic and scientific integrity. As scientific integrity requires that sources be cited, the use of AI must always be reported.

#### Oral presentation

The dissertation is defended orally before a jury comprising the promoter and the reader. The oral examination is an opportunity for the student and the members of the jury to exchange views. The oral examination is taken into account in the final assessment of the dissertation. The practical arrangements for the oral examination are communicated to the student no later than the first day of the session in which the dissertation is registered.

## Content

The Master Dissertation is a personal contribution to scholarly knowledge. It is the crown on the student's education process, in which the student provides evidence of his familiarity with the methodological tenets of the study of language and literature, particularly in the field of Latin and/or French.

The student must display his ability to handle the various stages of scholarly research: from defining a research problem, via collecting primary sources, bibliography and other research data, to evaluating and interpreting the documents concerned, as well as elaborating a synthesis and reporting on the results obtained.

A dissertation must contain at least eighty pages (i.e. 200,000 characters including spaces) of original, personal writing (including bibliography and notes, but excluding appendices). Where a substantial part of the dissertation is devoted to a critical edition and/or an original translation of a text, this standard is

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|                             | reduced to a minimum of 60 pages (i.e. 150,000 characters including spaces) of argued personal writing (to which must be added the pages of the edition and/or translation).  All dissertations must include an introduction, in particular a methodological one, a development showing the analysis and synthesis of the subject, a conclusion and a bibliography. |
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| Inline resources            | https://moodle.uclouvain.be/course/view.php?id=4142   |
| Faculty or entity in charge | ELAL  |

| Programmes containing this learning unit (UE)                      |         |         |              |                   |  |  |  |
|--|---------|---------|--------------|-------------------|--|--|--|
| Program title  | Acronym | Credits | Prerequisite | Learning outcomes |  |  |  |
| Master [120] in Ancient and<br>Modern Languages and<br>Literatures | LAFR2M  | 30      |              | •                 |  |  |  |