

2025

Dissertation

The version you're consulting is not final. This course description may change. The final version will be published on 1st June.



This learning unit is not open to incoming exchange students!

Language :	French			
Place of the course	Louvain-la-Neuve			
Prerequisites	The prerequisite(s) for this Teaching Unit (Unité d'enseignement – UE) for the programmes/courses that offer this Teaching Unit are specified at the end of this sheet.			
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: The dissertation must demonstrate the author's ability to describe correctly the results of a personal, objective and methodical work. The length of the dissertation is not a criteria in evaluating its quality. Similar to the other forms of learning, the dissertation is an essential component of the programme to which it belongs. It consists of research work which students should consider as a first step in research in their particular field. The dissertation is a research work: • specific, as regards the other teaching activities; • methodical, the underlying methodology has already been acquired in the bachelor and masters programme; • integrated in the programme and limited to the scope of the subject. Guidelines regarding the dissertation can be found on http://www.uclouvain.be/61093.html			

Evaluation methods	Supervision and composition of the dissertation jury			
	The dissertation is supervised by a promoter. Exceptionally, if the subject of the dissertation so requires, a co-supervisor may be called upon by the promoter with the agreement of the chair of the jury.			
	The student must submit his or her subject for approval to the promoter by the date specified in the faculty calendar.			
	The dissertation jury consists of at least the promoter and one other reader appointed by the Master's jury			
	(represented by the jury chair).			
	Assessment criteria for the dissertation The mark takes into consideration :			
	 achievement of the set objectives; the coherence and general quality of the work carried out (relevant and well-documented synthesis of the scientific literature, quality of the methodological approach and appropriateness to the objectives, relevance and soundness of the analysis and interpretation) the ability to critically discuss the methodological choices made and the conclusions drawn from the work; the correctness, quality and relevance of the written word; 			
	In its final mark, the promoter will also take into account the student's involvement and the regularity of the work done throughout the Master's programme as part of the dissertation.			
	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; NOT reproduce a graph, data, illustration, etc. without mentioning the source; 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 supplements 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 academic and scientific integrity practices. As scientific integrity requires that sources be cited, the use of AI must always be reported.			
Teaching methods	The dissertation is carried out through regular interaction with the promoter. In the first year, these interactions will be structured through the dissertation seminar. These interactions take place in the working language of the dissertation.			
Content	The dissertation must be written in one of the two major languages of their programme. It should present the results of a personal and critical study as well as the scientific methodology used to obtain these results. The scientific and bibliographical conventions of a dissertation must be respected.			
Other infos	The student must write his masters dissertation in one of the two languages in his programme and add a summary in French.			
	The dissertation (length at least 20.000 words, without the appendix) is overseen by a supervisor. A cosupervisor may be chosen if the subject of the dissertation necessitates it or at the request of the student or supervisor. The dissertation committee is made up of the supervisor and a reader. The dissertation is not subject to an oral defence and is assessed solely on the basis of the manuscript submitted by the student. Students must send the electronic version of their dissertation in PDF format using the standard procedure,			
	details of which will be sent to them by the MULT secretariat.			
Faculty or entity in charge	ELAL			

Programmes containing this learning unit (UE)						
Program title	Acronym	Credits	Prerequisite	Learning outcomes		
Master [120] in Multilingual Communication	MULT2M	15	LMULT2997	٩		