 *The version you're consulting is not definitive. This programme still may change. The final version will be published on 1th June.*

At Louvain-la-Neuve - 120 credits - 2 years - Day schedule - In French

Dissertation/Graduation Project : **YES** - Internship : **optional**

Activities in English: **YES** - Activities in other languages : **NO**

Activities on other sites : **NO**

Main study domain : **Sciences agronomiques et ingénierie biologique**

Organized by: **Faculty of bioscience engineering (AGRO)**

Programme acronym: **BIRF2M** - Francophone Certification Framework: 7

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BIRF2M - Introduction

Introduction

BIRF2M - Teaching profile

Learning outcomes

Master in Forests and Natural Areas students must endeavour to diagnose and solve complex and original issues in bioengineering through a multidisciplinary approach in order to develop and implement innovative and sustainable solutions.

This Master's programme aims to train experts in the field of management, conservation and the responsible and sustainable use of forests and natural spaces in multiple ecological and socio-economic contexts.

The future bioengineers acquire the knowledge and skills required to become:

- professionals able to tackle and diagnose problems related to the management and use of natural resources and forests and to provide operational solutions: sustainable management of ecosystems, management of natural areas and forests, development of forest-wood resources;
- scientists able to understand complex processes on different spatial and temporal scales, used to multidisciplinary approaches and able to collaborate with other specialists;
- innovators tasked with developing new methods of managing natural environments and forests with a view to ensuring the sustainability of goods, resources and services from ecosystems, in the context of climate change and changing social demands.

Highly versatile and multidisciplinary in character, the course dispensed by the Faculty of Biological, Agricultural and Environmental Engineering focuses on acquiring skills which combine theory and practice to train "bioengineers" mastering a broad base of scientific and technological knowledge and skills allowing them to adopt an integrated approach to biological, agricultural and environmental systems.

On successful completion of this programme, each student is able to :

1. To explore a body of knowledge (knowledge, methods and techniques, models and processes) in natural and human sciences which serves as the foundation from which to operate with expertise in the field of forest sciences.

1.1 To build an advanced knowledge base in the field of forest science and more specifically in the following disciplines[1].

- Soil and water sciences
- Ecology
- Wood sciences
- Dendrology
- Geomatics applied to the environment
- Statistics and data analysis
- Economics of natural and forestry resources
- Sustainable development law

1.2 To build highly specialised (cutting-edge) scientific knowledge in one of the following[2] bioengineering specialisations:

- Ecosystems and biodiversity
- Forest and society
- Tropical forestry and development
- Information analysis and management in biological engineering

1.3 To master procedural skills in conducting experiments[3] in a natural or controlled environment, and in the observation and monitoring of forests and natural systems at different scales as well as the specific techniques related to their choice of specialisation.

1.4 To apply their knowledge critically to tackle a complex problem in the field of forest sciences, by incorporating processes at different scales ranging from the living organism scale, to landscape and biosphere.

1.5 To apply multiple strands of knowledge to resolve a multidisciplinary problem in the forest sciences field in order to develop relevant and innovative solutions.

[1] Refers to the choice of the Master (core subjects and professional focus). The knowledge of some of these disciplines will have been partially acquired in the Bachelor's degree (in the advanced minor).

[2] Refers to the option / module choice in the Master.

[3] Refers to mastering all the laboratory and field techniques used for the characterisation or monitoring of a system.

2. To explore an integrated body of "engineering and management knowledge" which serves as the foundation from which to operate with expertise in the forest science field.

2.1 To build an advanced knowledge base (e.g.: concepts, laws, technologies) and tools (e.g. modelling, programming) in engineering sciences:

- Geomatics applied to the environment
- Hydrology
- Applied soil sciences
- Dendrometry: forest resource inventory
- Topometry
- Ecological and forestry diagnosis
- Statistics and data analysis
- Forest engineering and wood transformation
- Temperate and tropical forestry
- Management of forests and natural areas

- Land management

2.2 To build and master highly specialised knowledge and tools in one of the following bioengineering specialisations:

- Ecosystems and biodiversity
- Forest and society
- Tropical forestry and development
- Information analysis and management in agricultural engineering

2.3 To master the operational use of specialised tools in engineering sciences (e.g.: systems analysis, statistical analysis, programming, modelling, etc.)[1]:

- Measurement techniques
- Statistical data analysis
- Specific tools in relation to the choice of specialisation

2.4 To activate and apply their knowledge of engineering with a critical mind and using a quantitative approach to tackle a complex problem in the field of forest science by incorporating long-term processes at different scales ranging from the tree to landscape and biosphere.

2.5 To locate and understand how companies and organisations operate, including the role of the different players, their financial and social realities and responsibilities and the challenges and constraints which characterise their environment.

[1] The tools are explained on the basis of the radiology of the programme and courses.

3. To design and execute a research project, implementing an analytical scientific and, if applicable, systematic approach, to further understanding of an original research problem in their field of specialisation, incorporating several disciplines.

This skill set will develop throughout the 5 years. Amongst others it requires the use of a set of skills as described below. These skills correspond in fact to the different stages of the scientific approach.

The majority of these skills are developed in the Bachelor and Master programmes, with differentiation predominately on 3 levels:

- *the level of detail and complexity applied to the scientific problem/research studied;*
- *the degree of innovation shown by the student;*
- *the degree of autonomy demonstrated by the student throughout the process.*

3.1 To summarise the state of knowledge on a complex research problem which relates to their choice of specialisation: to research information, to select and validate its reliability based on the nature of the source of the information and comparing several sources.

3.2 To specify and define the research question.

3.3 To examine the research question using conceptual abstraction and formulate hypotheses.

3.4 To develop and implement a rigorous methodology to answer the research question.

3.5 To master and apply statistical data analysis tools in the context of a complex scientific issue.

3.6 To analyse and interpret the results to produce a substantiated critique on a complex scientific question.

3.7 To demonstrate an ability to summarise and formulate conclusions on a complex scientific question.

3.8 In each of the skills mentioned above, to demonstrate rigour, precision and the critical thinking essential for any scientific method.

3.9 To demonstrate innovation in at least one of the skills mentioned above.

4. To formulate and resolve a complex engineering problem in the forest sciences field, related to new situations presenting a degree of uncertainty and by using a systematic approach to develop relevant sustainable and innovative solutions.

4.1 To strategically differentiate the key elements from the less critical elements relating to a complex forest engineering problem, in order to define and determine the field of action for this problem.

4.2 To identify the knowledge acquired and that to be acquired to resolve the complex forest engineering problem.

4.3 To analyse a complex forest engineering problem according to a systematic and multidisciplinary approach in order to carry out diagnostics and formulate the specifications.

4.4 To demonstrate an ability for conceptual abstraction and formalisation in analysing and resolving the complex forest engineering problem.

4.5 To develop scientifically and technologically relevant and innovative solutions, through a multidisciplinary (integration and articulation of knowledge) and quantitative approach, making it possible to develop products, systems, processes or services in the field of agricultural sciences.

4.6 To test solutions and evaluate their impact in relation to an economic, environmental, social and cultural context.

4.7 To formulate concrete and responsible recommendations to encourage sustainable development in relation to the efficient operational and sustainable implementation of the solutions proposed.

5. To design and implement a multidisciplinary project, alone and in a team, with the stakeholders concerned while taking the objectives into account and incorporating the scientific, technical, environmental, economic and human factors.

The graduate must be able to manage a project alone and in a team, not only the scientific and technological dimensions but also the financial and, if applicable social aspects and with a degree of complexity representative of typical professional scenarios.

5.1 To know and understand the principles and factors of group dynamics (including the constructive role of conflict).

5.2 To know and understand the project management process (project cycles): formulation and definition of the project, project management, monitoring and evaluation of the project.

5.3 To situate a multidisciplinary project within its environment and identify the issues, constraints and stakeholders and to clearly define its objectives.

- 5.4 To plan and develop all the stages of a multidisciplinary project, alone and in a team, and to work together after having allocated the tasks.
- 5.5 To involve key players at appropriate stages in the process.
- 5.6 To work within a team and collaborate effectively to achieve common objectives.
- 5.7 To take and assume the decisions required for the effective project management either alone or in a team in order to achieve the intended objectives.
- 5.8 To recognise and take into consideration the diversity of opinions and ways of thinking of team members and to manage conflict constructively to work towards a consensual decision.
- 5.9 To lead a team (demonstrate leadership): to motivate team members, to develop a collaborative climate, to guide them to cooperate in the achievement of a common objective, to manage conflict.
6. To communicate, interact and convince in a professional manner, in French and English at level C1 (Common European Framework of Reference for Languages published by the Council of Europe), both verbally and in writing, adapting to their conversational partners and the context.
- 6.1 To understand and use scientific articles and advanced technical documents in French and English.
- 6.2 To communicate information, ideas, solutions and conclusions as well as the knowledge and underlying principles, in a clearly structured, substantiated, concise and comprehensive way (as appropriate) both verbally and in writing according to the standards of communication specific to the context and by adapting their presentation according to the level of expertise of the audience.
- 6.3 To develop logic diagrams to concisely pose complex global questions.
- 6.4 To communicate the state of knowledge in a specific field concisely and critically.
- 6.5 To communicate results and conclusions, and to support a message, in an appropriate manner using scientific tables, graphs and diagrams.
- 6.6 To communicate effectively and respectfully with various stakeholders, demonstrating listening skills, empathy and assertiveness.
- 6.7 To argue and convince: to understand the points of view of various stakeholders and present their arguments accordingly.
- 6.8 To master the IT and technological tools essential for professional communication.
- 6.9 To learn English to level C1 according to the European Framework.
7. To act critically and responsibly by taking account of sustainable development issues and operating with a humanistic outlook.
- 7.1 To demonstrate intellectual independence of thought, to examine knowledge and professional practices and trends critically.
- 7.2 To make decisions and act in society with respect for ethical values and in compliance with laws and conventions.
- 7.3 To make decisions and act responsibly by factoring in sustainable development values.
- 7.4 To make decisions and act with respect for humanistic values, cultural openness and solidarity, especially in North–South relations.
- 7.5 To assume professional responsibilities and act in a managerial capacity vis-à-vis their colleagues.
8. To demonstrate independence and be proactive in acquiring new knowledge and developing new skills in order to adapt to changing or uncertain situations and to grow, to build a professional project within a continuing development approach.
- The majority of these skills are not developed exclusively through specific activities, but rather as a result of the multiple and diverse situations encountered throughout the course, the educational programmes and the way in which it is run, as well as through the university environment.*
- 8.1 To manage their work independently: to set priorities, anticipate and plan all the activities in time, including in the face of changing, uncertain or urgent situations.
- 8.2 To manage stress and frustrations in urgent, changing, inconsistent or uncertain situations.
- 8.3 To question and know themselves: to undergo self-assessment, by analysing their successes and failures, to identify strengths and weaknesses and their personal performance in relation to the context.
- 8.4 To grow personally and professionally: to build a professional project in line with their own values and aspirations, to manage their motivation and involvement in bringing the project to fruition, to persevere in complex situations.
- 8.5 To independently identify and absorb new knowledge and skills essential for learning to understand new contexts quickly.
- 8.6 To commit to the lifelong learning which will allow them to grow socially and professionally.

Programme structure

This programme comprises a series of activities totalling 120 credits spread over two years worth 60 credits each. It is structured as follows:

The overall structure of the Bachelor in Engineering (Bioengineering) and the Master in Bioengineering clearly reflect the concepts of specialization, gradual choice and individualization of the courses.

1st cycle (Bachelor):

- same programme for SC and AGRO in first year (BIR11BA),
- special programme in second year (BIR12BA) for all the BIR students,
- distinct programme with 30 credits for elective modules in third year (BIRC13BA, BIRA13BA, BIRE13BA): three minors available: chemistry (BIRC), agronomy (BIRA), environment (BIRE).

2nd cycle (Master):

- choice of four Masters in Bioengineering with a professional focus, together with sixteen elective modules which partly overlap, optional courses (either free choice or from the lists) and a final individual dissertation.

This overall structure gives students the opportunity to customize their programme whilst at the same time retaining both the **comprehensive nature** of the training and the foundation elements of university education: **independence, competence, open-mindedness and interest in research**.

The sixteen elective modules, which partly overlap at the level of the four Masters in Bioengineering, correspond to fields of activity identified on the basis of a wide-ranging survey of graduates of the Faculty working professionally and of contacts with potential employers.

Year 1:

- first part of the compulsory common core curriculum (25 credits),
- compulsory professional focus programme (30 credits),
- choice of one elective module (15 credits) from a list of five. At least 5 credits of this module should be taken during the first year. Certain optional courses may be organised in collaboration with the three other Masters in Bioengineering.

NB: Enrolment in the additional interdisciplinary training module in "Business Creation" is not automatic. In order to enrol, students must submit their application to the coordinators of the Business Creation programme and participate in the selection process.

Year 2:

- remainder of the compulsory common core curriculum (50 credits),
- remainder of the elective module (10 credits)

Additional training "Business Creation"

The interdisciplinary training in "Business Creation" is one of the elective modules proposed within the framework of the Master in Forestry and Natural Areas. However, since this module is worth 20 credits (instead of the 15 credits provided for an elective module), some modifications of the common core curriculum are required.

This module **must be taken as of the first year of this Master's programme**

Enrolment is not automatic. In order to enrol, students must apply for admission and participate in a selection process. Only after having received the permission to participate in this programme may students contact the academic secretary to establish their personal course programme and plan the distribution of their courses over the two years of their Master's programme.

This additional programme features in the Master programmes of various faculties (Bioengineering, Law, Business Management, Civil Engineering and Psychology). It is designed to provide students, as potential creators, with the tools for analysis and understanding which will help them appreciate how entrepreneurship works when creating or taking on a business and develop projects of this kind within existing organizations.

In addition, this training enables students to gain familiarity with other disciplines and to learn how to work in multidisciplinary teams.

For further information on this training programme, please refer to: <https://uclouvain.be/fr/etudier/ineo>

BIRF2M Programme



Detailed programme by subject

CORE COURSES [75.0]

- Mandatory
- ✘ Optional
- △ Not offered in 2025-2026
- Not offered in 2025-2026 but offered the following year
- ⊕ Offered in 2025-2026 but not the following year
- △ ⊕ Not offered in 2025-2026 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
● LBIRF2200	Mémoire de fin d'études	FR [q1+q2] [] [27 Credits] ⊕	x

				Year	
				1	2
○ LBIRE2210	Master thesis' accompanying seminar [M]		EN [q1+q2] [10h] [3 Credits]  > French-friendly		X
○ LBIRE2102	Applied geomatics		FR [q1] [30h+22.5h] [4 Credits]  > English-friendly	X	
○ LBIRF2101	Forest mensuration		FR [q2] [30h+22.5h] [4 Credits]  > English-friendly	X	
○ LBIRF2103	Wood anatomy and properties		FR [q1] [30h+30h] [5 Credits]  > English-friendly	X	
○ LBIRF2105	Silviculture and dendrology		FR [q1] [30h+52.5h] [6 Credits]  > English-friendly	X	
○ LBIRF2106	Analyse et gestion des habitats et des espèces		FR [q2] [30h+22.5h] [5 Credits]  > English-friendly	X	
○ LBIRF2201	Forest economics and engineering	Mathieu Jonard Caroline Vincke (coord.)	FR [q2] [37.5h] [3 Credits]  > English-friendly	X	
○ LBIRF2204	Tropical forestry and international forestry challenges		FR [q1] [37.5h] [3 Credits]  	X	X
○ LBIRF2213	Fieldtrip - Forests, natural areas and land use	Quentin Ponette (coord.) Caroline Vincke	FR [q2] [30h] [2 Credits]  > English-friendly		X
○ LBRAT2101B	Aménagement du territoire: Principes		FR [q1] [45h] [3 Credits] 	X	




o 3 crédits à choisir parmi les unités d'enseignement suivantes : (3 credits)

Courses to be chosen for 3 credits minimum

⊗ LBIRA2110B	Statistical analysis of multivariate data - Applied Econometrics		FR [q1] [27.5h+7.5h] [3 Credits]  > English-friendly	X	
⊗ LBRTI2101A	Data Science in bioscience engineering		FR [q1] [22.5h+15h] [3 Credits]  > English-friendly	X	

o Ethics (2 credits)

The students will opt firstly for the course LTECO2300. Two other choices are also available.

⊗ LTECO2100	Sociétés, cultures, religions : Biblical readings	Hans Ausloos	FR [q1] [15h] [2 Credits] 	X	X
⊗ LTECO2200	Societies-cultures-religions : Human Questions		FR [q1] [15h] [2 Credits] 	X	X
⊗ LTECO2300	Societies, cultures, religions : Ethical questions		FR [q1] [15h] [2 Credits] 	X	X

o Courses to be chosen for 5 credits (5 credits)

Sauf pour l'option 13F

PROFESSIONAL FOCUS [30.0]

- Mandatory
- ⊗ Optional
- △ Not offered in 2025-2026
- ⊙ Not offered in 2025-2026 but offered the following year
- ⊕ Offered in 2025-2026 but not the following year
- △ ⊕ Not offered in 2025-2026 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

o Content:

○ LBIRE2104	Applied soil sciences	Yannick Agnan Pierre Delmelle (coord.)	FR [q1] [22.5h+22.5h] [4 Credits] 🌐 > English-friendly		X
○ LBIRF2102	Wood industry and technology		FR [q2] [30h+7.5h] [4 Credits] 🌐	X	
○ LBIRF2104	Forest ecology and health		FR [q2] [45h] [4 Credits] 🌐 > English-friendly	X	

o Projet disciplinaire (10 credits)

○ LBIRE2130	Environmental Impact Assessment : project and introduction to database management	Yannick Agnan Charles Bielders (coord.) Patrick Bogaert Pierre Defourny Guillaume Lobet Quentin Ponette	FR [q2] [47.5h+30h] [7 Credits] 🌐	X	
○ LBIRE2131	Environmental Impact Assessment : diagnosis and indicators	Charles Bielders (coord.) Pierre Defourny	FR [q2] [22.5h] [3 Credits] 🌐	X	

o Projet intégré (8 credits)**⊗ Projet intégré pour les options 5F, 7F, 10F, 13F, 16F et 17F (8 credits)**

○ LBIRF2202	Multifunctional forest management		FR [q1] [15h+15h] [3 Credits] 🌐 > English-friendly		X
○ LBIRF2230	Integrated project in forest and nature management	Quentin Ponette (coord.) Caroline Vincke	FR [q1] [45h] [5 Credits] 🌐 > English-friendly		X

⊗ Projet intégré pour l'option 12F (8 credits)

○ LBIRF2202	Multifunctional forest management		FR [q1] [15h+15h] [3 Credits] 🌐 > English-friendly		X
○ LBIRE2236	Sustainability Engineering project	Francesco Contino Pierre Defourny Mathieu Javaux (coord.) Goedele Van den Broeck	FR [q1] [40h+8h] [5 Credits] 🌐 > French-friendly		X

OPTIONS [15.0]

L'option en Entrepreneuriat (INEO) est une formation interdisciplinaire et interfacultaire (EPL, AGRO, IEPR, PSP, DROIT, IAG-LSM, SC) qui totalise des activités pour 20 crédits, nécessitant un aménagement du programme de cours du tronc commun.

Elle doit être choisie dès la première année et nécessite la participation à une sélection conformément aux règles établies par les responsables du programme INEO. Ce n'est qu'après avoir reçu l'accord de participation à ce programme que les étudiants devront prendre contact avec le vice-doyen pour aménager leur programme de cours personnel et répartir les cours INEO sur les deux années du master.

- > [Option 5F](#) [en-prog-2025-birf2m-lbirf201o]
- > [Option 7F](#) [en-prog-2025-birf2m-lbirf202o]
- > [Option 10F - Data science](#) [en-prog-2025-birf2m-lbirf204o]
- > [Option 12F : Sustainability engineering](#) [en-prog-2025-birf2m-lbirf207o]
- > [Business Creation \(Option 13F\)](#) [en-prog-2025-birf2m-lbirf205o]
- > [Option 16F](#) [en-prog-2025-birf2m-lbirf203o]
- > [Option 17F](#) [en-prog-2025-birf2m-lbirf206o]

OPTION 5F [15.0]

- Mandatory
- ⊗ Optional
- △ Not offered in 2025-2026
- ⊖ Not offered in 2025-2026 but offered the following year
- ⊕ Offered in 2025-2026 but not the following year
- △ ⊕ Not offered in 2025-2026 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

o Content:

○ LBRAT2101C	Aménagement du territoire: Etude de cas		FR [q1] [0h+15h] [2 Credits] 🌐	X	
○ LBRAT2102	Spatial modelling of land dynamics		FR [q2] [15h+15h] [3 Credits] 🌐 > French-friendly		X
○ LICAR2901A	Law on built and unbuilt areas		FR [q1] [25h] [2 Credits] 🌐	X	
○ LSTAT2110A	Analyse des données		FR [q1] [15h+7.5h] [3 Credits] 🌐	X	

o Courses to be chosen for 5 credits minimum (5 credits)

⊗ LBIRE2205A	Decision tools and project management - Decision tools		EN [q1] [22.5h+7.5h] [3 Credits] 🌐 > French-friendly	X	X
⊗ LBRAI2214	Survey and interactions with stakeholders for transition in rural and tropical areas [M]		FR [q1] [15h+15h] [3 Credits] 🌐	X	X
⊗ LBRAT2103	Sociology of the actors and the rural territories		FR [q1] [30h] [3 Credits] 🌐	X	X
⊗ LBRAT2104A	Land monitoring by advanced satellite remote sensing		EN [q2] [22.5h+15h] [3 Credits] 🌐 > French-friendly	X	X
⊗ LBRTI2101A	Data Science in bioscience engineering		FR [q1] [22.5h+15h] [3 Credits] 🌐 > English-friendly	X	X
⊗ LBRTI2101B	Data Science in bioscience engineering		FR [q1] [30h] [2 Credits] 🌐 > English-friendly	X	X
⊗ LENVI2011	Environmental assessment and management methods	Jean-Pierre Tack	FR [q2] [30h] [3 Credits] 🌐	X	X

OPTION 7F [15.0]

- Mandatory
- ⊗ Optional
- △ Not offered in 2025-2026
- ⊖ Not offered in 2025-2026 but offered the following year
- ⊕ Offered in 2025-2026 but not the following year
- △ ⊕ Not offered in 2025-2026 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

o Content:

○ LBIRE2105	Assessment of water - soil - air quality	Yannick Agnan (coord.) Philippe Maetz Xavier Rollin	FR [q1] [30h+0h] [3 Credits] 🌐		X
○ LBRES2204	Integrated water management of water resources		FR [q1] [22.5h+22.5h] [4 Credits] 🌐		X

o Courses to be chosen for 8 credits minimum (8 credits)

⊗ LBIRF2203	Aquaculture	Xavier Rollin	FR [q1] [30h] [3 Credits] 🌐 > English-friendly	X	X
⊗ LBOE2122	Marine biodiversity [M]	Cathy Debier Jean-François Rees	FR [q2] [30h] [2 Credits] 🌐	X	X
⊗ LBRAT2104A	Land monitoring by advanced satellite remote sensing		EN [q2] [22.5h+15h] [3 Credits] 🌐 > French-friendly	X	X
⊗ LBRES2101B	Smart technologies for environmental engineering		EN [q1] [22.5h+15h] [3 Credits] 🌐 > French-friendly	X	X
⊗ LBRES2103	Soil physics applied to Agronomy and Environment		FR [q1] [30h+15h] [4 Credits] 🌐	X	X
⊗ LBRES2105	Soil erosion and conservation		EN [q2] [22.5h+22.5h] [4 Credits] 🌐 > French-friendly	X	X
⊗ LBRTE2101	Applied hydro-biogeochemistry		FR [q1] [30h+15h] [4 Credits] 🌐 > French-friendly	X	X

OPTION 10F - DATA SCIENCE [15.0]

- Mandatory
- ⊗ Optional
- △ Not offered in 2025-2026
- ⊖ Not offered in 2025-2026 but offered the following year
- ⊕ Offered in 2025-2026 but not the following year
- △ ⊕ Not offered in 2025-2026 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

o Content:

● LBRTI2101B	Data Science in bioscience engineering		(FR) [q1] [30h] [2 Credits] 🌐 > English-friendly	X	
● LBRTI2102	Process-based modelling in bioscience engineering		(FR) [q1] [30h+15h] [5 Credits] 🌐 > French-friendly		X

o Courses to be chosen for 8 credits minimum (8 credits)

⊗ LBIRA2110B	Statistical analysis of multivariate data - Applied Econometrics		(FR) [q1] [27.5h+7.5h] [3 Credits] 🌐 > English-friendly	X	X
⊗ LBRAT2102	Spatial modelling of land dynamics		(FR) [q2] [15h+15h] [3 Credits] 🌐 > French-friendly	X	X
⊗ LBRAT2104A	Land monitoring by advanced satellite remote sensing		(FR) [q2] [22.5h+15h] [3 Credits] 🌐 > French-friendly	X	X
⊗ LELEC2870	Machine learning : regression, deep networks and dimensionality reduction	John Lee Michel Verleysen	(FR) [q1] [30h+30h] [5 Credits] 🌐 > French-friendly	X	X
⊗ LINFO2172	Databases		(FR) [q2] [30h+30h] [6 Credits] 🌐 > French-friendly	X	X
⊗ LINFO2275	Data mining & decision making		(FR) [q2] [30h+15h] [5 Credits] 🌐 > French-friendly	X	X
⊗ LSTAT2020	Statistical softwares and basic statistical programming		(FR) [q1] [15h+15h] [4 Credits] 🌐	X	X

OPTION 12F : SUSTAINABILITY ENGINEERING [15.0]

- Mandatory
- ⊗ Optional
- △ Not offered in 2025-2026
- ⊙ Not offered in 2025-2026 but offered the following year
- ⊕ Offered in 2025-2026 but not the following year
- △ ⊕ Not offered in 2025-2026 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

o Content:

○ LBIRE2205A	Decision tools and project management - Decision tools		EN [q1] [22.5h+7.5h] [3 Credits] 🌐 > French-friendly	X	
○ LBIRE2235	Innovative system management for sustainability	Francesco Contino Mathieu Javaux (coord.) Goedele Van den Broeck	EN [q1] [22.5h+7.5h] [3 Credits] 🌐 > French-friendly		X
○ LBRES2101	Smart technologies for environmental engineering	Sébastien Lambot	EN [q1] [32.5h+20h] [4 Credits] 🌐 > French-friendly		X
○ LBRTI2102	Process-based modelling in bioscience engineering		EN [q1] [30h+15h] [5 Credits] 🌐 > French-friendly		X

BUSINESS CREATION (OPTION 13F) [20.0]

- Mandatory
- ⊗ Optional
- △ Not offered in 2025-2026
- ⊙ Not offered in 2025-2026 but offered the following year
- ⊕ Offered in 2025-2026 but not the following year
- △ ⊕ Not offered in 2025-2026 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...)

When chosen, the students are exempted from two courses among the mandatory courses: BIRE2210 and BIRE2106A. Access is limited via a selection process when entering the master (<https://uclouvain.be/fr/etudier/ineo>).

Year

1 2

o Content:

○ LINEO2001	Théorie de l'entrepreneuriat	Frank Janssen	FR [q1] [30h+20h] [5 Credits] 🌐	X	
○ LINEO2002	Aspects juridiques, économiques et managériaux de la création d'entreprise	Yves De Cordt	FR [q1] [30h+15h] [5 Credits] 🌐		X
○ LINEO2003	Plan d'affaires et étapes-clefs de la création d'entreprise	Frank Janssen	FR [q2] [30h+15h] [5 Credits] 🌐		X
○ LINEO2004	Séminaire d'approfondissement en entrepreneuriat	Frank Janssen	FR [q2] [30h+15h] [5 Credits] 🌐		X

OPTION 16F [15.0]

- Mandatory
- ⊗ Optional
- △ Not offered in 2025-2026
- ⊖ Not offered in 2025-2026 but offered the following year
- ⊕ Offered in 2025-2026 but not the following year
- △ ⊕ Not offered in 2025-2026 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

o Content:

● LBIRA2109	Agrarian systems and farm	Guillaume Lobet	FR [q1] [30h+0h] [3 Credits] 🌐 > English-friendly	X	
● LBRAI2106B	Crop science - Tropical crops		FR [q2] [20h] [2 Credits] 🌐 > English-friendly	X	
● LBRAI2106C	Crop science - Fruit crops		FR [q2] [6h+4h] [1 Credits] 🌐 > English-friendly	X	

o Courses to be chosen for 9 credits minimum (9 credits)

⊗ LBIRF2203	Aquaculture	Xavier Rollin	FR [q1] [30h] [3 Credits] 🌐 > English-friendly	X	X
⊗ LBRAI2110	Elements of Agroecology		EN [q1] [30h] [3 Credits] 🌐 > French-friendly	X	X
⊗ LBRAI2212	Economics of Rural Development	Goedele Van den Broeck	EN [q1] [30h] [3 Credits] 🌐 > French-friendly	X	X
⊗ LBRAI2214	Survey and interactions with stakeholders for transition in rural and tropical areas [M]		FR [q1] [15h+15h] [3 Credits] 🌐	X	X
⊗ LBRAI2220	Quantitative genetics, crop improvement and biotechnology	Philippe Baret Xavier Draye (coord.)	FR [q2] [35h+15h] [5 Credits] 🌐 > English-friendly	X	X
⊗ LBRAT2104A	Land monitoring by advanced satellite remote sensing		EN [q2] [22.5h+15h] [3 Credits] 🌐 > French-friendly	X	X
⊗ LBRES2105	Soil erosion and conservation		EN [q2] [22.5h+22.5h] [4 Credits] 🌐 > French-friendly	X	X
⊗ LBRES2203	Soil management in tropical and subtropical regions		FR [q2] [22.5h+7.5h] [3 Credits] 🌐	X	X
⊗ LDVLP2675	Dynamics of development - environment inter-actions	An Ansoms	FR [q2] [30h] [5 Credits] 🌐	X	X

OPTION 17F [15.0]

- Mandatory
- ⊗ Optional
- △ Not offered in 2025-2026
- ⊖ Not offered in 2025-2026 but offered the following year
- ⊕ Offered in 2025-2026 but not the following year
- △ ⊕ Not offered in 2025-2026 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

o Content:

○ LBIR2004	Masters Internship	Damien Debecker (coord.) Xavier Draye Anne-Laure Jacquemart	10 [q2] [20h] [10 Credits] 🌐 > English-friendly	X	X
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o 5 crédits minimum à choisir au sein de l'une des options du master BIRF (5 credits)

Supplementary classes

To access this Master, students must have a good command of certain subjects. If this is not the case, in the first annual block of their Masters programme, students must take supplementary classes chosen by the faculty to satisfy course prerequisites.

- Mandatory
- ⊗ Optional
- △ Not offered in 2025-2026
- ⊖ Not offered in 2025-2026 but offered the following year
- ⊕ Offered in 2025-2026 but not the following year
- △ ⊕ Not offered in 2025-2026 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...)

o Unités d'enseignement passerelle pour le master Bioingénieur en sciences et technologies de l'environnement ET Bioingénieur en gestion des forêts et des espaces naturels (44 credits)

○ LANGL2480	English Communication Skills for Bioengineers	Ahmed Adrioueche Ariane Halleux Lucille Meyers Philippe Neyt Charlotte Peters (coord.) Adrien Pham Anne-Julie Toubeau (coord.)	EN [q2] [30h] [2 Credits] 🌐 > French-friendly
○ LBIR1315	Probability and statistics II	Patrick Bogaert	FR [q1] [22.5h+22.5h] [3 Credits] 🌐
○ LBIR1325A	Transfer of fluids and energy for Bio-engineer		FR [q1] [37.5h+22.5h] [5 Credits] 🌐
○ LBIR1325B	Transfer of fluids and energy for Bio-engineer		FR [q2] [0h+30h] [2 Credits] 🌐
○ LBIR1328	Climatology and hydrology applied to agronomy and the environment		FR [q1] [45h+22.5h] [6 Credits] 🌐 > French-friendly

○ LBIR1334	Introduction to forest science	Quentin Ponette (coord.) Caroline Vincke	EN [q2] [22.5h+15h] [3 Credits]  > English-friendly
○ LBIR1336	Soil science and integrated excursions	Yannick Agnan (coord.) Richard Lambert Caroline Vincke	EN [q2] [30h+37.5h] [5 Credits]  > English-friendly
○ LBIR1349	Analytical Chemistry I	Christine Dupont (coord.) Yann Garcia	FR [q1] [30h+15h] [3 Credits] 
○ LBIR1350	General Microbiology	Annika Gillis	EN [q2] [37.5h+15h] [4 Credits] 
○ LBIR1351	Introduction to systems analysis	Philippe Baret	FR [q1] [10h+20h] [3 Credits] 
○ LBIR1354	Biologie des interactions		FR [q2] [22.5h+15h] [3 Credits] 
○ LBIR1360	Firm management and organisation		EN [q1] [30h+7.5h] [3 Credits]  > French-friendly
○ LBIR1362	Environmental Economics	Frédéric Gaspard	FR [q2] [30h+7.5h] [3 Credits] 

○ Unités d'enseignement spécifiques (4 credits)

○ LBIR1260	Principles of economics	Goedele Van den Broeck	EN [q1] [30h+15h] [4 Credits]  > French-friendly
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Course prerequisites

There are no prerequisites between course units (CUs) for this programme, i.e. the programme activity (course unit, CU) whose learning outcomes are to be certified and the corresponding credits awarded by the jury before registration in another CU.

The programme's courses and learning outcomes

For each UCLouvain training programme, a [reference framework of learning outcomes](#) specifies the the skills expected of every graduate on completion of the programme. Course unit descriptions specify targeted learning outcomes, as well as the unit's contribution to reference framework of learning outcomes.

BIRF2M - Information

Access Requirements

Master course admission requirements are defined by the French Community of Belgium Decree of 7 November 2013 defining the higher education landscape and the academic organisation of courses.

General and specific admission requirements for this programme must be satisfied at the time of enrolling at the university.

Unless explicitly mentioned, the bachelor's, master's and licentiate degrees listed in this table or on this page are to be understood as those issued by an institution of the French, Flemish or German-speaking Community, or by the Royal Military Academy.

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](#)
- > [University Bachelors](#)
- > [Non university Bachelors](#)
- > [Holders of a 2nd cycle University degree](#)
- > [Access based on validation of professional experience](#)
- > [Access based on application](#)
- > [Admission and Enrolment Procedures for general registration](#)

University Bachelors

Diploma	Special Requirements	Access	Remarks
UCLouvain Bachelors			
Bachelor in Bioengineering		Direct access	
Autre Bachelier du domaine des sciences et technologies		Access based on application	Le ou la futur-e étudiant-e rencontrera obligatoirement le Conseiller aux études qui examinera son dossier.
Others Bachelors of the French speaking Community of Belgium			
Tous les bacheliers de la CfB		Direct access	
		Access based on application	
Bachelors of the Dutch speaking Community of Belgium			
		Direct access	
		Access based on application	
Foreign Bachelors			
		Access based on application	

Non university Bachelors

> Find out more about [links](#) to the university

Diploma	Access	Remarks
BA en agronomie, orientation agro-industries et biotechnologies - crédits supplémentaires entre 45 et 60	Les enseignements supplémentaires éventuels peuvent être consultés dans le module complémentaire .	Type court
BA en agronomie, orientation agronomie des régions chaudes - crédits supplémentaires entre 45 et 60		
BA en agronomie, orientation environnement - crédits supplémentaires entre 45 et 60		
BA en agronomie, orientation forêt et nature - crédits supplémentaires entre 45 et 60		
BA en agronomie, orientation systèmes alimentaires durables et locaux - crédits supplémentaires entre 45 et 60		

BA en agronomie, orientation techniques et gestion agricoles - crédits supplémentaires entre 45 et 60
 BA en agronomie, orientation techniques et gestion horticoles - crédits supplémentaires entre 45 et 60
 BA en agronomie, orientation technologie animalière - crédits supplémentaires entre 45 et 60
 BA en chimie, orientation biochimie - crédits supplémentaires entre 45 et 60
 BA en chimie, orientation biotechnologie - crédits supplémentaires entre 45 et 60
 BA en chimie, orientation chimie appliquée - crédits supplémentaires entre 45 et 60
 BA en chimie, orientation environnement - crédits supplémentaires entre 45 et 60

Holders of a 2nd cycle University degree

Diploma	Special Requirements	Access	Remarks
"Licenciés"			
Masters			
Master Bioingénieur : sciences et technologies de l'environnement		Access based on application	
		Access based on application	
		Access based on application	

Access based on validation of professional experience

> It is possible, under certain conditions, to use one's personal and professional experience to enter a university course without having the required qualifications. However, validation of prior experience does not automatically apply to all courses. Find out more about [Validation of priori experience](#).

Access based on application

Access based on application : access may be granted either directly or on the condition of completing additional courses of a maximum of 60 ECTS credits, or refused.

Admission and Enrolment Procedures for general registration

Teaching method

The interdisciplinary nature, integrated approach and the ability to reason on long-term issues are key dimensions in the training of **bioengineers in forests and natural areas**. This is reflected by:

- grouping of training activities: combined exercises, joint projects, case studies, weekly excursions, forestry tour (a one week study trip in Belgium and/or abroad), visits to companies;
- the integration of various approaches and tools (field observations, laboratory analyses, data bases, information systems, permanent experimental plots, ...), on different spatial scales (from a tree to a catchment basin, from a regional level to a sub-continental level) and temporal scales;
- student teamwork, training students to share their skills;
- the transversal educational offer (organized by other faculties).

A full array of pedagogical tools is placed at the students' disposal.

The Louvain-la-Neuve campus includes a 200 ha forest which is owned by UCL: the Bois de Lauzelle. The forest serves as a model for the scientific, pedagogical, economical, ecological and recreational functions of a wood. Several special devices have been put in place in the Bois de Lauzelle that are used both for its daily management as well as for educational purposes. An example is the simulation area for the marking of trees, which, combined with a computer programme, allows to analyse the effects of the choices made during the process; but also a permanent inventory device for ligneous resources. Students learn to recognise ligneous species more easily thanks to the diversity of the species present on the site, both in the Bois de Lauzelle and in town. Students also have access to an arboretum of coniferous species.

The Forestry Department also manages various experimental devices in the Walloon and Brussels regions. These provide students with the opportunity to train themselves in the understanding and management of forest ecosystems.

A decentralised field laboratory, the "Centre de développement Agro-Forestier (CDAF)", conducts applied research on trees and forests. Situated in Chimay, the laboratory gives access to a great diversity of natural environments. It also accommodates students in the framework of internships and dissertations.

Training for research, through research, which is essential for conceptual and innovative awareness and developing intellectual rigour, is reflected by different types of activities:

- producing a final dissertation and taking part in dissertation seminars;
- participation in subject seminars providing direct contact with young researchers working in the field of environment science and land development;
- presentation of seminars by students within the research groups, during their master dissertation.

The application of skills, knowledge and techniques that students have acquired and how they use them together is taken into account in the realisation of an integrated project as well as during the "forestry tour". This one week field trip during the second year, allows students to gain practical experience. These are important learning activities in addition to the realisation of a dissertation which, in the view of the Faculty, remains the most important part of training for research.

Through the close connection between the teaching and research, the development of new tools and new approaches is the subject of advanced training from the beginning of the 2nd cycle and is therefore central to this Master programme. All this enables graduates of this programme to be able to make rapid use of new techniques and approaches in their early professional experience.

Evaluation

The evaluation methods comply with the regulations concerning studies and exams. More detailed explanation of the modalities specific to each learning unit are available on their description sheets under the heading "Learning outcomes evaluation method".

Students are assessed according to the regulations of the programme and can take the form of written and/or oral examinations as well as individual and/or group work.

Further details about how the assessment is done can be found in the course specifications.

Mobility and/or Internationalisation outlook

The Master in Forests and Natural Areas offers a wide range of opportunities to study at other institutions, in Belgium, Europe and elsewhere.

The Faculty would like to highlight the strengths of this programme, particularly the potential for research and the fact that it is very much a part of a comprehensive University. The shape of the elective modules available has also been influenced by the different fields of activity in which bioengineers work.

There are two kinds of international mobility: students who have already gained their Bachelor degree can move abroad to study for their Master at another institution; it is also possible to take some course modules in another institution. The mobility rate for AGRO students on exchange schemes such as Erasmus is around 30-40%, depending on the year.

This mobility should increase given the harmonization of education at the European level and the conclusion of new partnership agreements outside ERASMUS as well as membership of thematic networks. The AGRO Faculty is also a member of the ATHENS network.

The Master in Forests and Natural Areas proposes privileged exchanges with the following institutions:

1. Université de Moncton, Edmunston campus, Faculté de Foresterie (Canada)
2. Universidad politecnica de Madrid (Spain)
3. Institut Polytechnique LaSalle Beauvais (France)
4. Ecole Nationale du Génie Rural, des Eaux et des Forêts (Nancy, France)
5. Ecole Nationale Forestière d'Ingénieurs (Salé, Morocco)

The Réseau des Ingénieurs Forestiers de Louvain (RIFL) creates possibilities for project-based student mobility.

Possible trainings at the end of the programme

The Master in Bioengineering programme follows on the Bachelor in Engineering (Bioengineering) with a minor in Environment. Access to this Master is also possible after a minor in Agronomy, providing a small adaptation of the programme that must be validated by the academic secretary.

Successful completion of this programme enables direct entry to other training programmes in the second and third cycles.

- Advanced Masters: the Advanced Masters in the field authorized by regulations in addition to those established by the University Development Commission (Commission Universitaire au Développement CUD) in the same field.
- Doctoral programmes: PHD in Agronomy and Bioengineering

Contacts

Curriculum Management

Faculty

Structure entity

Denomination

Sector

Acronym

Postal address

SST/AGRO

Faculty of bioscience engineering (AGRO)

Sciences and Technology (SST)

AGRO

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Website

Mandate(s)

- Dean : Christine Dupont
- Administrative director : Carole Dekelver

Commission(s) of programme

- Commission de programme - Master Bioingénieur-Sciences agronomiques (BIRA)
- Commission de programme - Master Bioingénieur-Chimie et biotechnologies (BIRC)
- Commission de programme - Master Bioingénieur-Sciences & technologies de l'environnement (BIRE)
- Commission de programme - Bachelier en sciences de l'ingénieur, orientation bioingénieur (CBIR)
- Commission de programme interfacultaire en Sciences et gestion de l'environnement (ENVI)
- Fermes universitaires de Louvain (FERM)

Academic supervisor: [Caroline Vincke](#)

Jury

- Président: president-jury-agro@uclouvain.be
- Secrétaire de jury 2ième année de master: [Sophie Opfergelt](#)

Useful Contact(s)

- Conseiller aux études: conseiller-agro@uclouvain.be

