UCLouvain

DRHB2MC

2026 - 2027

Advanced Master in Human Rights (shift schedule)

At Bruxelles Saint-Louis - 60 credits - 1 year - Shift schedule - In French
Dissertation/Graduation Project : **YES** - Internship : **NO**
Activities in English: **optional** - Activities in other languages : **NO**
Activities on other sites : **YES**
Main study domain : **Sciences juridiques**
Organized by: **Faculty of Law Saint-Louis (Droit-SaintLouis)**
Programme acronym: **DRHB2MC** - Francophone Certification Framework: 7

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DRHB2MC - Introduction

Introduction

Introduction

The law faculties at UCLouvain (Saint-Louis Bruxelles and Louvain-la-Neuve), Université de Namur and Université libre de Bruxelles offer a joint advanced master's degree in human rights.

In addition to its primarily legal scope, this advanced master's degree was also developed in an interdisciplinary perspective. It aims to provide students with specialised knowledge in the field of human rights, at both domestic and international level. In its legal aspects, this advanced master's degree deals with the human rights provisions guaranteed not only by international jurisdictions and institutions but also by state laws.

In its interdisciplinary aspects, this master's degree aims to provide students with knowledge from other fields of the humanities (history, philosophy, sociology) in order to better understand and implement this protection of human rights.

Classes are taught in French, which is also the language of most course materials. A strong command of this language is therefore required. Passive knowledge of English is also necessary in order to be able to read certain related documents.

Programme governance and administration

The advisory council of the advanced master's degree is composed of all those involved in teaching the programme. The board is made up of professors Olivier De Schutter (UCLouvain Louvain-la-Neuve), Cécile de Terwangne (UNamur), Jogchum Vrielink (UCLouvain Saint-Louis Bruxelles), Olivier Corten (ULB) and Julie Ringelheim (UCLouvain Louvain-la-Neuve) (chairwoman of the advanced master's degree), and acts as an admissions committee.

The programme’s administration is handled by Martin Laes (UCLouvain Saint-Louis Bruxelles).

Your profile

The programme is aimed at anyone who wishes to receive specialised instruction in the field of human rights, as well as legal practitioners, lawyers, magistrates, members of non-governmental organisations and national and international civil servants. The link between theory and practice in the defence of human rights – which inspired the programme's implementation and organisation – is evident in the make-up of the target audience.

Your programme

Schedules are designed to allow people with active professional lives to participate. To this end, courses are held several evenings a week (5.30 - 8.30 pm) as well as a few Saturday mornings at the Saint-Louis Bruxelles campus.

For more information

You can also consult the program brochure.

DRHB2MC - Teaching profile

Learning outcomes

Classes are taught in French, which is also the language of most course materials. A strong command of this language is therefore required. Passive knowledge of English is also necessary in order to be able to read certain related documents.

By the end of their advanced master's degree in human rights, students will have acquired:

- Specialised and up-to-date expertise in human rights law at international, regional (European and non-European legal systems) and national level;
- Knowledge of the principles underpinning the humanities as they relate to human rights (history, philosophy and sociology) and the ability to contribute to debate and use the analytical tools needed in the analysis of human rights issues;
- Expertise allowing the specific needs of developing countries to be met;
- Methodological rigour and a concern for a critical and documented approach to human rights issues;
- The ability to communicate orally and in writing, in a well-documented and well-argued manner, on issues relating to human rights.

Programme structure

The programme is spread over one academic year and consists of 60 credits. It is designed to be balanced, with a total of 300 hours of teaching, including 120 hours of legal courses, 90 hours of humanities courses, 60 hours of optional courses and 30 hours of seminars leading to the final paper. In addition, optional tutorials are organised in order to facilitate the assimilation of the material.

DRHB2MC Programme

Detailed programme by subject

CORE COURSES

- Mandatory
- Optional
- Not offered in 2026-2027
- Not offered in 2026-2027 but offered the following year
- Offered in 2026-2027 but not the following year
- Not offered in 2026-2027 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...)

Mandatory courses

BDRHO2110	Rights preserving the Autonomy of the Person	Sylvie Sarolea Geoffrey Willems	FR [q1] [45h] [8 Credits]
BDRHO2111	Systems for the Protection of Human Rights	Jonas Kakule Sindani (compensates Olivier De Schutter) Julie Ringelheim	FR [q1] [45h] [8 Credits]
BDRHO2112	Collective Dimensions of Human Rights		FR [q2] [30h] [4 Credits]
BDRHO2120	Philosophy of Human Rights	Christophe Majastre (compensates Quentin Landenne)	FR [q1] [30h] [4 Credits]

BDRHO2121	Human Rights History and Policy	Pierre-Olivier de Broux	FR [q2] [30h] [4 Credits]
BDRHO2122	Sociology of Human Rights	Frédéric Audren	FR [q1] [30h] [4 Credits]

Optional courses

Choose two optional courses from among the following list

BDRHO2130	Right to a Fair Trial	Frédéric Krenc Suliane Neveu (compensates Marie-Aude Beernaert)	FR [q2] [30h] [4 Credits]
BDRHO2131	Asylum and Refugee Law	Tresor Maheshe Musole Sylvie Sarolea	FR [q2] [30h] [4 Credits]
BDRHO2133	Criminal Humanitarian Law		FR [q2] [30h] [4 Credits]
BDRHO2134	Bioethics and Human Rights	Charlotte Lambert	FR [q1] [30h] [4 Credits]
BDRHO2135	Human Rights and Development		FR [q2] [30h] [4 Credits]
BDRHO2137	Law and gender discrimination	Jogchum Vrielink	EN [q1] [30h] [4 Credits]
BDRHO2132	Human Rights and the Information Society	Valérie Verbruggen	FR [q2] [30h] [4 Credits]

Seminar

Students follow one of the three seminars which include the completion of a final-year assignment

BDRHO2140	Final Dissertation: Interdisciplinary Seminar	Anne-Catherine Rasson	FR [q1+q2] [] [20 Credits]
BDRHO2142	Final dissertation: Social Sciences Seminar	Pauline Warnotte	FR [q1+q2] [] [20 Credits]
BDRHO2141	Final Dissertation: Legal Seminar	Germain Haumont	FR [q1+q2] [] [20 Credits]

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.

DRHB2MC - Information

Access Requirements

In the event of the divergence between the different linguistic versions of the present conditions, the French version shall prevail.
Decree of 7 November 2013 defining the landscape of higher education and the academic organization of studies.
The admission requirements must be met prior to enrolment in the University.

Unless explicitly mentioned, the bachelor's, master's and licentiate degrees listed 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

General access requirements

Translated from https://www.gallilex.cfwb.be/fr/leg_res_01.php?ncda=39681&referant=l02

Art. 112. of the "Décret définissant le paysage de l'enseignement supérieur et l'organisation académique des études" :

§ 1. In accordance with the general requirements established by the academic authorities, students who have:

1. a master's degree;

2. an academic degree similar to the one mentioned in the preceding paragraph awarded by a higher education institution in the Flemish Community or the German-speaking Community, or by the Royal Military Academy, by virtue of a decision of the academic authorities and in accordance with any additional requirements they may establish;

3. a foreign academic degree deemed equivalent to the one mentioned in paragraph 1, in accordance with this Decree, a European directive, an international convention or other legislation, in accordance with the same requirements.

The additional admission requirements referred to in paragraph 2 are intended to ensure that the student has acquired the knowledge and skills required for the studies in question. When the additional admission requirements consist of one or more additional course units, these may not represent more than 60 additional credits for the student, taking into account all the credits that he or she may otherwise use for admission. These course units are part of the student's study programme.

§ 2. In accordance with the general requirements established by the academic authorities, a student who holds a title, diploma, degree or certificate of higher education, in the French Community or outside it, which does not grant him or her eligibility for admission to a specialised master's course by virtue of the preceding paragraph, may nevertheless be admitted by the jury of the course in question, in accordance with the additional requirements that it establishes, if the totality of the higher education that he or she has completed or the expertise that he or she has acquired is valued by the jury to be at least 240 credits.

§ 3. By way of derogation from these general requirements, the academic authorities may also admit to a specialised master's course holders of a title, diploma, degree or certificate awarded outside the French Community which, in that system of origin, grants direct eligibility for postgraduate studies, even if the studies sanctioned by these credentials are not organised into distinct degree courses or within a time period of at least five years.

Teaching method

The effectiveness of the programme is ensured by the complementary nature of several teaching methods: lectures as well as exchanges of views which value professional experience and previous career paths, group work, individual work and mentoring.

The teaching methods are designed to make the most of the limited time available to adult students with professional and/or family lives.

Evaluation

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

Assessments are generally carried out by means of a written or oral exam. Examinations focus not only on knowledge of the subject matter, but also on a student's ability to apply it.

In addition, students must choose from one of three seminars, accompanied by the completion of a final paper. This provides an opportunity for an in-depth study of a subject related to human rights from a critical perspective. Just like the other courses in the programme, it is an educational means, in that it introduces students to independent and personal academic research. It takes the form of a written dissertation in keeping with university standards (search for sources, accuracy of references, bibliography, ethics), in which the student demonstrates his or her :

- ability to target a research question and explore it in depth;
- ability to find and use relevant sources, in particular doctrinal sources ('state of the art');
- ability to analyse, compare and summarise;
- critical thinking;
- rigour and clarity, both in the written presentation and the oral defence;
- compliance with the academic and ethical criteria which characterise university research.
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Contacts

Evening programmes

02 211 78 04 - droit-hd-slb@uclouvain.be

Office: Marais 119 - 2nd floor - 2002

Office hours: Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday, from 4pm to 6pm

Curriculum Management

Faculty

Structure entity	SSH/DRTB
Denomination	Faculty of Law Saint-Louis (DRTB)
Sector	Human Sciences (SSH)
Acronym	DRTB
Postal address	Boulevard du Jardin Botanique 43 - bte 1000 Bruxelles

Mandate(s)

- Dean : Nicolas Bernard

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Jury

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