UCLouvain

SPOL2M1

2026 - 2027

Master [60] in Political Sciences: General

At Louvain-la-Neuve - 60 credits - 1 year - Day schedule - In French
Dissertation/Graduation Project : **YES** - Internship : **NO**
Activities in English: **YES** - Activities in other languages : **NO**
Activities on other sites : **optional**
Main study domain : **Sciences politiques et sociales**
Organized by: **Faculty of Economic, Social and Political Sciences and Communication (ESPO)**
Programme acronym: **SPOL2M1** - Francophone Certification Framework: 7

Table of contents

Introduction 2
Teaching profile 3
- Learning outcomes 3
- Programme structure 4
- Programme 4
  - Detailed programme by subject 4
  - Alternatives 7
  - Supplementary classes 7
  - The programme's courses and learning outcomes 9

Information 10
- Access Requirements 10
- Teaching method 12
- Evaluation 12
- Mobility and/or Internationalisation outlook 12
- Possible trainings at the end of the programme 12
- Contacts 12

SPOL2M1 - Introduction

Introduction

SPOL2M1 - Teaching profile

Learning outcomes

This Master is designed to build on the initial foundations of a political science training by consolidating knowledge of the three main fields of the subject : political science/comparative politics, international relations and public policy. With this in mind, the programme :

- offers a series of courses as well as a seminar which build on what has already been covered at undergraduate level in the main areas of political science ;

- allows students to choose both courses with different perspectives (e.g. political science/comparative politics, international relations and public administration) and a first introduction to 'area studies' ;

- allows students to produce a final piece of work supported by innovative teaching methods .

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

Comme tout diplômé d'un Master [60] en sciences politiques, orientation générale :

CG1. Développer un sens et une action politique : développer un sens et une éthique du et dans le service à la collectivité.

CG1.1. Identifier, comprendre et analyser les enjeux politiques d'une situation donnée.

CG1.2. Se positionner dans les débats et les négociations pour défendre les intérêts des institutions et des organismes qu'il représente.

CG1.3. Intégrer la dimension éthique et la dimension « service à la collectivité et du bien commun » dans les débats et actions politiques.

CG2. Inscrire son analyse et/ou action dans une perspective multiniveaux.

CG2.1. Identifier les différents niveaux institutionnels.

CG2.2. Démontrer une maîtrise de différents systèmes politiques et institutionnels et des enjeux politiques aux niveaux internationale, européenne et belge.

CG2.3. Comparer les différents systèmes politiques et institutionnels, nationaux et internationaux.

CG2.4. Identifier les différents acteurs gouvernementaux et non-gouvernementaux (mouvements sociaux, groupes d'intérêt, citoyens) et démontrer une connaissance de leurs positionnements.

CG2.5. Analyser les interactions entre les différents acteurs allant des relations entre partis politiques, entre états au rôle des organisations non-gouvernementales.

CG3. Analyser selon une démarche rigoureuse des situations politiques, économiques et sociales dans toute leur complexité.

CG3.1. Démontrer une maîtrise d'un socle de savoirs approfondis (théories, fondements, phénomènes) dans les différents domaines des sciences politiques (politique comparée, relations internationales, études européennes, politiques et administration publiques).

CG3.2. Démontrer une maîtrise des connaissances fondamentales les plus significatives des disciplines des sciences humaines et sociales liées aux sciences politiques (connaissances juridiques, géopolitiques, économiques, sociologiques et historiques).

CG3.3. Mobiliser de manière pertinente et rigoureuse certains outils d'analyse de données (qualitative et quantitative) et de diagnostic en sciences sociales et politiques afin de mieux décoder la complexité de la « vie politique ».

CG3.4. Mobiliser et articuler ces savoirs et outils pour analyser des problématiques/questions particulières en sciences politiques.

CG4. Mobiliser ses connaissances politico-institutionnelles pour conseiller l'action politique, en regard d'une situation spécifique donnée, dans un secteur particulier ou une aire particulière.

CG4.1. Appréhender et définir les enjeux propres à une situation spécifique donnée.

CG4.2. Préciser et analyser des contextes et situations spécifiques :

- Analyser les différentes aires géographiques régionales,
- Évaluer l'action politique par secteur ou par aire,
- Mobiliser les outils rigoureux d'analyse et de diagnostics,
- Mobiliser une démarche comparative rigoureuse.

CG4.3. Contribuer à l'analyse et/ou la conception de stratégie de gestion de situations politiques concrètes.

CG5. Diffuser des informations politiques, économiques et sociales pertinentes adaptées au public visé et interagir de manière constructive avec les différents acteurs impliqués dans une situation donnée.

CG5.1. Communiquer, à l'oral et à l'écrit, de manière pertinente sur des situations / sujets complexes en sciences politiques :

- Choisir des informations pertinentes permettant l'analyse et la comparaison de situations politiques.
- Présenter l'information de façon correcte, structurée, claire, précise et argumentée (dont une capacité de rapportage pour des rapports, bilan, note, compte-rendu…).
- Adapter sa communication (contenu et forme) au public visé et aux intentions poursuivies selon les standards de communication spécifiques au contexte (vulgariser, etc.).

CG5.2. Dialoguer et interagir de manière constructive avec des interlocuteurs variés.

Plus spécifiquement, en tant que diplômé du Master en sciences politique, orientation générale SPOL2M1 :

C-SPOL2M1. Consolider ses acquis et développer ses compétences dans trois principaux champs de la discipline : politique comparée, relations internationales, action publique et administration publique ; en vue de se positionner et d'agir de manière pertinente dans un contexte socio-politique donné (au niveau local, national ou international).

C-SPOL2M1.1. Maîtriser et mobiliser de manière critique des connaissances approfondies relatives :

- au processus d'élaboration et de décision à chaque étape du cycle d'une politique publique,

· au champ politique national ainsi qu'européen et international,
· à la mondialisation économique et financière et à la globalisation des enjeux politiques internationaux,
· au processus d'intégration européenne.

Programme structure

Students must follow all the core subjects totalling 45 credits (15 of which are for the dissertation) and make up the rest of their programme with optional courses focused on regional subjects (e.g. Belgium, Europe or Asia) and language classes to reach the required 60 credits.

The core subjects concentrate on the different fields in political science (comparative politics, international relations, European studies, public policy and administration).

SPOL2M1 Programme

Detailed programme by subject

CORE COURSES [45.0]

- 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...)

LPOLS2900	Mémoire		FR [] [] [15 Credits]

Sciences politiques (30 credits)

LADPU2000	Policy Advice : Advanced Policy Analysis	Jérôme Defosse (compensates David Aubin)	FR [q1] [30h] [5 Credits]
LSPRI2020	Relations internationales contemporaines	Simon Desplanque (compensates Michel Liegeois)	FR [q1] [30h] [5 Credits]
LSPRI2090	International, Administrative and Political Issues Seminar	Benoît Rihoux	FR [q1] [15h+15h] [5 Credits]
LADPU2085	Gouvernance multi-niveaux	Min Reuchamps	FR [q2] [30h] [5 Credits]
LEUSL2010	Political Theories of European integration	Tom Delreux	EN [q1] [30h] [5 Credits]
LSPOL2404	Political Representation, Political Parties and Voters	Stefano Camatarri (compensates Pierre Baudewyns)	EN [q1] [15h] [5 Credits] *> French-friendly*

Cours au choix [15.0]

COURS AU CHOIX [15.0]

- Mandatory
- Optional
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Content:

Domaine des sciences politiques

Entre 5 et 10 crédits parmi :

LSPOL2401	Interest Representation, Lobbying, and Representative Democracies: Conflicts and Ways forward	Theodoros Koutroubas	EN [q2] [15h] [5 Credits] > *French-friendly*
LSPOL2402	Democracy and Citizenship in a Changing World	Damien Pennetreau (compensates Virginie Van Ingelgom)	EN [q1] [15h] [5 Credits] > *French-friendly*
LSPOL2403	State-Citizens Relationships: Policy Feedbacks and Administrative Burdens	Ann-Mireille Sautter (compensates Claire Dupuy)	EN [q2] [15h] [5 Credits] > *French-friendly*
LSPRI2080	Foreign Policy Analysis	Tanguy Struye de Swielande	EN [q2] [30h] [5 Credits]
LSPRI2045	International Organizations	Emmanuel Klimis (compensates Amine Ait-Chaalal)	FR [q2] [30h] [5 Credits]
LADPU2040	Public Management : Strategies and Organisational Leadership	Mohamad Amin Alomar	FR [q1] [30h] [5 Credits]
LPSAD2101	Social Movements: Activism, Organizations and Impact	Benoît Rihoux	EN [q2] [15h] [5 Credits]

Etudes régionales

Entre 5 et 10 crédits parmi :

Belgique

LADPU2630	Comparative federal and decentralised Administration(s)		EN [q1] [30h] [5 Credits]
LDESF2202	Développement territorial et régional		FR [q1] [30h] [5 Credits]

Asie du Nord (Chine, Japon, Corée)

LSPRI2650	Geostrategy and security in the Indo-Pacific		EN [q1] [15h] [5 Credits]
LSPRI2661	Geopolitics, Grand Strategy and World Order	Tanguy Struye de Swielande	EN [q2] [30h] [5 Credits]
LANTR1301	Asian and Austronesian worlds (1)	Lionel Simon (compensates Frédéric Laugrand)	FR [q1] [30h] [3 Credits]
LASI2302	Analysis of contemporary Chinese society	Frédéric Laugrand	FR [q2] [30h] [5 Credits]
LASI2303	Analysis of contemporary Japanese society		EN [q2] [30h] [5 Credits]
LANTR1302	Asian and Austronesian worlds (2)		FR [q1] [15h] [3 Credits]
LGLOR2849	Satsuma Chair C	Christophe Vielle (coord.)	FR [q2] [15h] [5 Credits] > *English-friendly*
LGLOR2848	Chaire Satsuma D	Christophe Vielle (coord.)	FR [q2] [15h] [5 Credits]

Afrique

LDVLP2626	Socio-political analysis of Africa	Anne-Sophie Gijs	FR [q2] [30h] [5 Credits]
LDVLP2625	Socio-economic analysis of Africa	Benjamin Chemouni	FR [q1] [30h] [5 Credits]

⊠ Amérique Latine

⊠ LDVLP2630	Socio-economic analysis of Latin America	Emmanuelle Piccoli	FR [q1] [30h] [5 Credits]
⊠ LDVLP2631	Socio-political analysis of Latin America	Geoffrey Pleyers	FR [q2] [30h] [5 Credits]

⊠ Monde arabo-musulman

⊠ LDVLP2640	In-depth analysis seminar on the Arab world	Vincent Legrand	FR [q2] [15h] [5 Credits]
⊠ LDVLP2641	Socio-political analysis of the Arab World	Vincent Legrand	FR [q1] [30h] [5 Credits]
⊠ LGLOR2534	History of Rational Thought in the Arab-Muslim World	Jean-Charles Ducène (compensates Godefroid De Callatay)	FR [q2] [30h] [5 Credits]

⊠ Grande Europe

⊠ Droit européen

⊠ LEUSL2020	Institutional Law of the European Union	Antoine Bailleux	FR [q1] [45h] [6 Credits]
⊠ LEUSL2021	EU internal market law	Elliot Cobbaut (compensates Edoardo Traversa) Cédric Henet	FR [q2] [37.5h] [6 Credits]

⊠ Europe centrale et orientale

⊠ LSPRI2700	Central and Eastern European Contries Political Analysis	Serge Model	FR [q2] [15h] [5 Credits]

⊠ Relations extérieures de l'Union européenne

⊠ LEUSL2030	Contemporary EU economic policy	Jean-Christophe Defraigne	EN [q2] [30h] [5 Credits]
⊠ LEUSL2310	European Union, international Cooperation and Development	Anne-Sophie Gijs Emmanuel Klimis	FR [q1] [30h] [5 Credits]
⊠ LEUSL2011	Actors of the European political system	Denis Duez	FR [q2] [30h] [5 Credits]
⊠ LEUSL2012	External Action of the European Union	Tom Delreux	EN [q2] [30h] [5 Credits]

⊠ Sciences religieuses

L'étudiant qui n'a pas suivi de cours de sciences religieuses est tenu d'en choisir un parmi :

⊠ LTECO2201	Societies, cultures, religions : Biblical readings	Simon Naveau	FR [q2] [15h] [2 Credits]
⊠ LTECO2202	Societies-cultures-religions : Human Questions	Benoît Bourgine	FR [q1] [15h] [2 Credits]
⊠ LTECO2203	Societies, cultures, religions : Ethical questions	Stipe Odak	FR [q2] [15h] [2 Credits]

Alternatives

> Master [60] in Political Sciences: General [Modalité en ligne et à distance] *[https://uclouvain.be/en-prog-2026-spol2m1-programme]*

MASTER [60] IN POLITICAL SCIENCES: GENERAL [MODALITÉ EN LIGNE ET À DISTANCE]

- Mandatory
- Optional
- Not offered in 2026-2027
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Click on the course title to see detailed informations (objectives, methods, evaluation...)

Tronc commun

LPOLS2900	Mémoire		FR [] [] [25 Credits]
LSPOE2200	Pratique de la négociation internationale		FR [q1] [] [5 Credits]

Relations internationales et analyse des conflits (20 credits)

LSPOE2000	Theories of international Relations		EN [q1] [] [5 Credits]
LSPOE2001	Introduction à la géopolitique - (en ligne) - Enseignant: Tanguy de Wilde		FR [q1] [] [5 Credits]
LSPOE2002	Stratégie et sécurité internationale - (en ligne) - Enseignant: Michel Liégeois		FR [q2] [] [5 Credits]
LSPOE2003	International Negotiation		EN [q2] [] [5 Credits]

Analyse géopolitique des puissances (20 credits)

LSPOE2004	Action extérieure des Etats-Unis - (en ligne) - Enseignant: Tanguy de Wilde		FR [q1] [] [5 Credits]
LSPOE2005	La Chine et le monde - (en ligne) - Enseignant: Tanguy Struye		FR [q2] [] [5 Credits]
LSPOE2006	Russie : politique extérieure et évolutions de la puissance - (en ligne) - Enseignante: Letitia Spetschinski		FR [q2] [] [5 Credits]
LSPOE2007	Géopolitique des puissances - (en ligne) - Enseignant: Tanguy Struye		FR [q1] [] [5 Credits]

Stage optionnel

Si l'étudiant désire effectuer un stage, c'est en surplus des 70 crédits de son programme de master. Le stage étant valorisé pour 5 crédits.

LSPRI9000	Stage I		FR [q1 or q2] [] [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.

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- [FR] Teaching language (FR, EN, ES, NL, DE, ...)

Click on the course title to see detailed informations (objectives, methods, evaluation...)

LPOLS1212	Contemporary political regimes		EN [q2] [30h] [5 Credits]
LESPO1114	Political Science	David Talukder (compensates Min Reuchamps)	EN [q1] [30h] [6 Credits]
LESPO1130	Mathematics and statistics for the social sciences	Nathan Uyttendaele (compensates Bruno Masquelier)	FR [q2] [30h+15h] [6 Credits]
LESPO1214	Méthodes qualitatives et quantitatives pour les sciences sociales	Nathalie Burnay Stefano Camatarri (compensates Pierre Baudewyns)	FR [q1+q2] [30h+15h] [9 Credits]
LSPOL1124	The Political and Administrative System in Belgium	Jehan Bottin (compensates Min Reuchamps) Benoît Rihoux	FR [q2] [30h+5h] [3 Credits]
LSPOL1121	Citizens and politics	Benoît Rihoux Benoît Rihoux (compensates Claire Dupuy)	FR [q2] [30h+5h] [6 Credits]
LSPOL1223	Public Action	David Aubin	EN [q1] [30h+5h] [6 Credits]
LPOLS1323	European Institutions and Policies	Tanguy de Wilde d'Estmael	EN [q1] [40h] [5 Credits]
LESPO1001	MOOC Penser critique	Olivier Servais	FR [q1+q2] [7.5h] [3 Credits]
LESPO1002	MOOC Pratiquer la méthode de recherche en sciences humaines et sociales	Jehan Bottin (compensates Pierre Baudewyns)	FR [q1+q2] [7.5h] [3 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.

SPOL2M1 - 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
- > Holders of a non-University 2nd cycle 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			
Titre inconnu:lspol1ba		Direct access	
Titre inconnu:lhuso1ba Titre inconnu:lsoca1ba	Si ils ont suivi la mineure en sciences politiques	Access based on application	In some cases, the UCLouvain Enrolment Office, after reviewing your online enrolment or re-enrolment application, will ask you to provide an enrolment authorisation from your faculty/ school.
		Access based on application	
		Access based on application	
Others Bachelors of the French speaking Community of Belgium			
Bachelier en sciences politiques, orientation générale		Direct access	
		Access based on application	
Bachelors of the Dutch speaking Community of Belgium			
		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 - assistant(e) social(e) - crédits supplémentaires entre 45 et 60 BA - conseiller(ère) en développement durable - crédits supplémentaires entre 45 et 60	Les enseignements supplémentaires éventuels peuvent être consultés dans le module complémentaire .	Type court

BA - conseiller(ère) social(e) - crédits supplémentaires entre 45 et 60
BA : conseiller(ère) en gestion de crise - crédits supplémentaires entre 45 et 60
BA en commerce et développement - crédits supplémentaires entre 45 et 60
BA en communication - crédits supplémentaires entre 45 et 60
BA en coopération internationale - crédits supplémentaires entre 45 et 60
BA en droit - crédits supplémentaires entre 45 et 60
BA en écologie sociale - crédits supplémentaires entre 45 et 60
BA en sciences administratives et gestion publique - crédits supplémentaires entre 45 et 60

Holders of a 2nd cycle University degree

Diploma	Special Requirements	Access	Remarks
"Licenciés"			
Licence en sciences politiques		Direct access	
		Access based on application	
Masters			
		Access based on application	

Holders of a non-University 2nd cycle degree

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 .

Entry to all masters (with the exception of Advanced Masters) can be gained through the special procedure for accrediting prior learning and experience known as VAE (Valorisation des acquis de l'expérience)

Entry to this Master can be gained through this procedure. https://uclouvain.be/fr/facultes/espo/psad/adulte-en-reprise-d-etudes-vae.html

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.

Entry to all Masters (with the exception of Advanced Masters) can also be gained on submission of a special personal file.

Admission and Enrolment Procedures for general registration

Requests for admission and further information should be addressed to the programme director : Marie Gilot .

Requests for exemption and equivalence between courses and admission on submission of a special personal file should be addressed to the academic coordinator from whom agreement for each individual programme must also be sought.

Teaching method

o Methods which reflect the interdisciplinary nature of the course :

there is interdisciplinarity in both the courses on the different fields of political science as well as the area studies

o Variety of teaching strategies (including e-learning) :

- Most of the teaching staff are familiar with new multi-media technology and innovations introduced by the University Teaching Institute (l'Institut de pédagogie universitaire) . The overall rhythm and workload of the programme is carefully coordinated each year.
- The seminars are primarily designed to help students with the methodological structure of their final piece of work.

o Different learning situations :

- the seminars bring together cross-disciplinary elements. The tutoring system helps students to combine the different subjects in order to produce their dissertation.

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".

It is up to each member of the teaching staff to decide on the most appropriate method(s) of assessment according to the objectives of the course : oral or written examinations, work to be done throughout the year (e.g. reviews of literature, case studies or essays) or exercises.

Mobility and/or Internationalisation outlook

Students are able to take advantage of various international elements of the course :

- Each year, UCL students can attend lecturers given by the Chair of Political, Administrative and International Reform. Given by internationally renowned researchers, these lectures are given in French or English ;
- area studies courses.

Possible trainings at the end of the programme

120 credit Masters:

- 120 credit Master 120 in Political Science (general)
- 120 credit Master 120 in Political Science (international relations)
- 120 credit Master 120 in Public Administration

Students who successfully complete the programme will be able to enter the world of work. During the first semester, they may also decide to take advantage of the opportunity open to them to go on to the 120 credit Master in Political Science (either general or international relations) or the 120 credit Master in Public Administration.

Contacts

Curriculum Management

Entity

Structure entity	SSH/ESPO/PSAD
Denomination	(PSAD)
Faculty	Faculty of Economic, Social and Political Sciences and Communication (ESPO)
Sector	Human Sciences (SSH)
Acronym	PSAD
Postal address	Place Montesquieu 1 - bte L2.08.05 1348 Louvain-la-Neuve Tel: +32 (0) 10 47 41 09 - Fax: +32 (0) 10 47 27 36
Website	http://www.uclouvain.be/psad.html

Academic supervisor: min.reuchamps@uclouvain.be

Jury

- Président: hugues.draelants@uclouvain.be
- Secrétaire: benoit.rihoux@uclouvain.be

Useful Contact(s)

- Administrative Officer: marie.gilot@uclouvain.be