

Belgium, where great minds grow

STUDY
FLANDERS



Belgium, where great minds grow

STUDY IN FLANDERS



FACTS & FIGURES

POPULATION OF BELGIUM
11 431 406

3 OFFICIAL LANGUAGES
DUTCH, FRENCH & GERMAN

POPULATION OF BRUSSELS
CAPITAL REGION
1 208 542

POPULATION OF FLANDERS
6 589 069

FLANDERS
FEDERATED ENTITY OF THE FEDERAL STATE OF BELGIUM

BELGIUM
FOUNDING MEMBER STATE OF THE EU

LANGUAGE IN FLANDERS
DUTCH

COUNTRY DIALING CODE
+32

CURRENCY
EURO

TIME ZONE
GMT +1

6 REASONS TO STUDY IN FLANDERS AND BRUSSELS



© Layla Aerts

EXCELLENT HIGHER EDUCATION

All 5 Flemish universities appear in the Times Higher Education top 400 (2020). The University Colleges, a.k.a. Universities of Applied Sciences (and Arts), offer practice based degrees of high quality, using state-of-the-art teaching methods. So whether you choose a nearly 600-year old university or a much younger institution, you will receive a world class education, where challenging coursework will put you on the path to excellence.



© Visit Brussels - Eric Danhier

OPEN AND MULTILINGUAL SOCIETY

Flanders and Brussels boast a high level of diversity on and off campus. Brussels is the second most diverse city in the world, after Dubai. Belgians in general are known for being open-minded and interested in meeting people of different backgrounds. English is widely spoken, on top of the three official languages: Dutch, French and German. Flemish Higher Education welcomes more and more international students, which results in an increasingly multicultural and international campus environment.



© visit Brussels - Sophie Volturon

AT THE HEART OF EUROPE

Study in Flanders and discover the world. Your adventure doesn't stop here. London, Paris, Amsterdam,... are just around the corner. Most European capitals can be reached within about 2 hours by train or plane. But in Belgium, Europe also comes to you. In Brussels you will find a variety of international conferences and events to attend, giving you the chance to network throughout the continent.



© KU Leuven

EXCELLENT PRICE / QUALITY RATIO

Access to higher education is strongly valued in Flanders. All initial bachelor and master programmes offered at public institutions, are subsidised by the government, making tuition fees affordable. The Flanders region has a world class education system, while fees are relatively low. You will get excellent value for money!



© www.woodmonkey.be

ECONOMICALLY STRONG REGION

Flanders has a strong, export-oriented, innovation-driven, globalized economy. The port of Antwerp is the 2nd in Europe. Beside big companies, Flanders has more than 600.000 small and medium enterprises, including spinoffs, startups and scaleups. Brussels is home to more than 2.000 international businesses and organisations, including NATO and the EU institutions, giving rise to a high number of diplomats and one of the world's largest press communities. What better place is there to find an internship, build a professional network and prepare for a successful career?



© visit Ghent

HIGH QUALITY OF LIFE

The Belgian standard of living is among the highest in the world, thanks to universal health care, social security coverage and an excellent education system. A cosmopolitan lifestyle, great sport facilities, top notch restaurants, atmospheric cafés, a vibrant cultural scene and the best chocolates,... Belgium has it all. As an international student, you might find Belgians reserved at first, but this impression will soon vanish once you visit a Belgian home, where you will be warmly welcomed.

STUDENT LIFE



© visit Mechelen

AUGUST / SEPTEMBER WELCOME TO BELGIUM!

Congratulations, you made it to Belgium, and more specifically to Flanders or Brussels. Excellent choice. We have many student rooms available in the middle of our student cities. Hopefully you will soon feel at home. If you really want to fit in and get around easily, make sure to get a bike!



© visit Kortrijk

SEPTEMBER START OF THE ACADEMIC YEAR

The academic year starts around mid-September. Whether you study in Antwerp, Bruges, Brussels, Geel, Ghent, Hasselt, Kortrijk, Leuven or Mechelen, every study destination offers a student welcome event at the start of the academic year. Lots of new friends to meet out there!



© visit Brussels - Eric Danhier

FEBRUARY INTER-TERM RECESS

After all the long hours of study you put in, you definitely deserve a break! Exploring Europe or showing your friends around our Flemish art cities? This is your week to relax and enjoy!



© Arteveldehogeschool

MARCH A HEALTHY MIND IN A HEALTHY BODY

Hooked on the Belgian eating culture of fries, waffles and chocolate? No worries! All Flemish institutions provide sport classes, sport infrastructure and/or discounts to sports clubs, which will assure you don't feel guilty after eating that delicious Belgian praline!



© Ghent University

OCTOBER HIGH LEVEL EDUCATION

All Flemish Higher Education Institutions offer top quality education. Your coursework is a combination of lectures, group assignments, presentations and individual study work. All practice-based bachelor degrees, offered by University Colleges, a.k.a. Universities of Applied Sciences (and Arts) include compulsory internships, in Belgium or abroad.



© IIs Braes, Hasselt

NOVEMBER AUTUMN COLOUR FESTIVAL

1 and 11 November are national holidays in Belgium. Perfect timing to put on your walking boots, head out to one of Belgium's forests and enjoy the wonderful autumn colours.



© sigridspinnox.com

APRIL OFF TO AMSTERDAM, LONDON OR PARIS

Work hard, play hard! All students have a two-week spring break. Some extra time to revise your coursework, and to enjoy a short getaway. Belgium is very well connected: it has a vast railway network and high-speed train connections to Amsterdam, London, Paris, Berlin,... Very convenient for discovering Europe.



© KU Leuven

MAY WINTER IS OVER, TIME TO ENJOY THE SUN

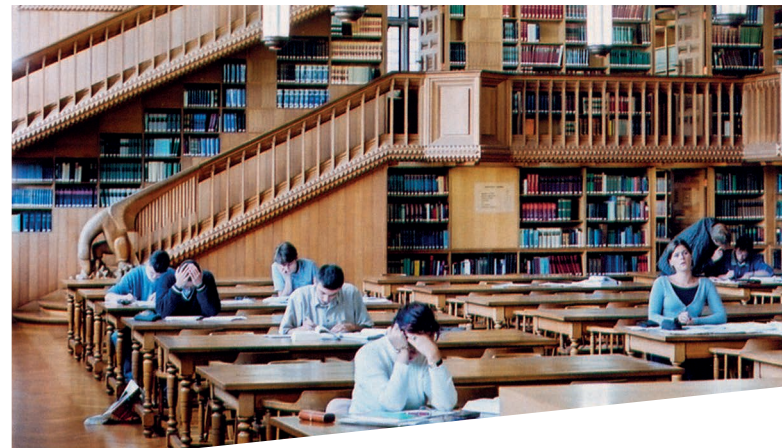
Spring is in the air! Make sure to enjoy it while you can. Gather your friends and explore our historical city centers, go on a boat trip, or have a drink with a view.



© Visit Bruges - Wouter Glas

DECEMBER WINTER MAGIC

Need a break from studying? Put on an extra layer of clothes and explore the winter magic around the city on the days before Christmas: ice rinks, chalets, sound and light shows and Belgian waffles to keep you warm.



© KU Leuven

JANUARY STUDY, STUDY, STUDY, EXAMS, EXAMS, EXAMS

The end of the first term already! Note down your exam dates and and plan your exam prep carefully. A desk in the library or your student room? Find your spot, sit down and study, study, study. Now is the time to secure those credits. Go go go!



© LUCA School of Arts - Brussels

JUNE RAIN OR SHINE, IT'S EXAMINATIONS TIME

End-terms are here. To avoid retakes in August, give them all you've got! One last effort and you can enjoy the summer holidays. If you don't want to miss out on the sun, you can always try to find a quiet spot in the park to study.



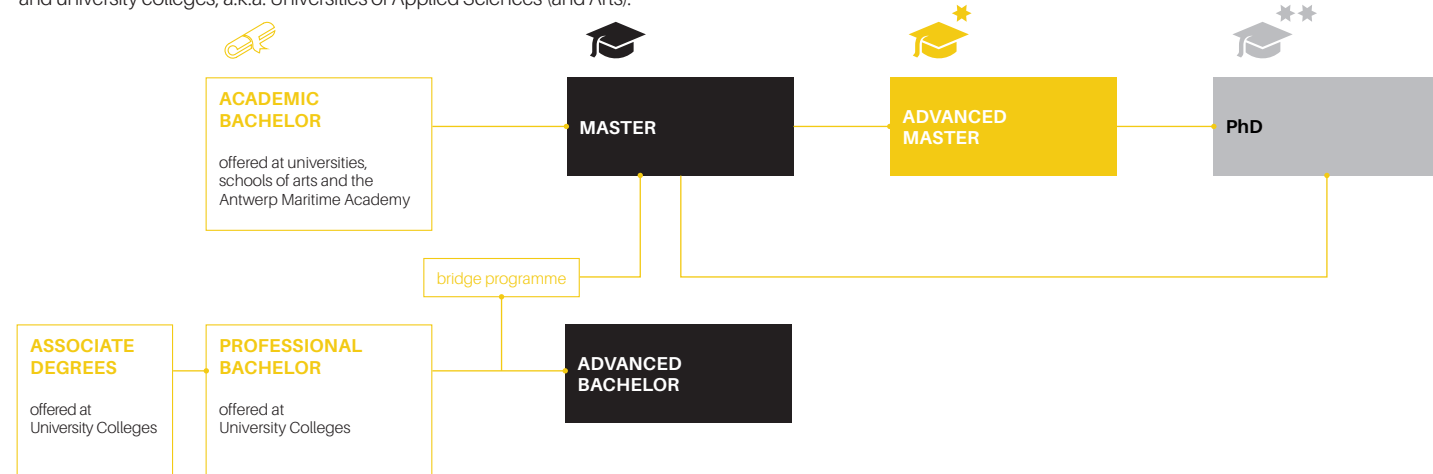
© Tomorrowland

JULY / AUGUST HOLIDAYS, TIME TO CELEBRATE

Belgium offers plenty of fun opportunities during summer time! Do you like live music? Whatever kind of festival vibe you prefer, you will find at least one music festival (but probably two, or three) that corresponds to your taste! Dance till you drop at Tomorrowland, listen to the classics at Rock Werchter, enjoy world music at Couleur Café, or have a nice time at the Gentse Feesten. If you come (back) early you can explore Pukkelpop in August before the start of the academic year.

STRUCTURE OF HIGHER EDUCATION IN FLANDERS

Flanders has a binary higher education system, consisting of universities and university colleges, a.k.a. Universities of Applied Sciences (and Arts).



ACADEMIC CALENDAR



ADMISSIONS

Admission requirements depend on the study programme and the host institution. Each institution has its own deadline for submission of applications, starting from February onwards. Entry examinations are compulsory for Dentistry, Medicine and Fine Arts. Find more information on the website of the Flemish institution of your choice.

TUITION FEES

EU/EEA nationals:
940 euros (2019 - 2020, full time programme)

NON EU/EEA nationals:
average fees 940 - 6.000 euros
with some exceptions.

STUDENT VISA

EU/EEA nationals: no visa needed; only register with the residence authority.

Non EU/EEA nationals need a visa or authorization to enter and stay in Belgium. Apply at the Belgian consulate or embassy in your country of residence. If there is no Belgian consulate or embassy in your country, you can check on the website below which Belgian consulate or embassy is competent for your country.

Needed for a student visa: proof that you can support yourself by own financial means, a scholarship, a guarantor. Minimum financial means (2019-2020): 666 euros per month. Contact your host institution for more info about the blocked account option.

Belgian embassies and consulates general outside Belgium, Foreign embassies in Belgium:
» www.diplomatie.belgium.be

Immigration Service of the Federal Public Service Home Affairs:
» www.dofi.fgov.be

WORK & STUDY

As a student, you can work a few hours a week to top up your budget, but financing your education through a student job is not advisable as it could harm your study progress. Non EU/EEA nationals in Belgium with a student visa: you have to be a full-time student. You are allowed to work up to max. 20 hours a week. Depending on your citizenship, a work permit is needed. For more information, you may contact the job service of your Flemish host institution or the Immigration Service of the Federal Public Service Home Affairs:
» www.dofi.fgov.be

LANGUAGE OF INSTRUCTION

As Flanders is a Dutch speaking region, many programmes are taught in Dutch. However, we also have a lot of English-taught programmes. Proof of language proficiency is required for most degree programmes. If needed, you can do a language year before you enrol for a degree programme.

HOUSING

In Belgium students usually rent a private room in a student house with a shared kitchen and bathroom. Many institutions have rooms for students available on campus or provide lists of private rooms for rent. Contact your host institution for housing information. Average rent per month: 300 - 500 euros for a room / 500+ euros for a studio flat with private kitchen and bathroom.

COST OF LIVING (per month)

Most institutions have restaurants, sports facilities, ... offering student discounts.

Accommodation: 300 - 500 euros

Health Insurance: 50 euros

Other expenses: 450 euros (food, transportation, study materials, personal activities)

Total: 800 - 1.000 euros

FACTS & FIGURES



STRONG RESEARCH ECOSYSTEM

4

Flemish universities are in the top 200 of the Times Higher Education ranking (2020).

Strong culture of **spin-offs**, created with the use of the intellectual property of Flemish universities.

2016

researchers of University Colleges, a.k.a. Universities of Applied Sciences (and Arts) provide solutions for **practice-based research** questions from companies and society at large.

Flemish universities are partners in many **Horizon 2020** research consortia. Three of them are also members of the pioneering **European universities networks**:

UNA Europa (KU Leuven)
YUFE (University of Antwerp)
EUTOPIA (VUB)



© University of Antwerp - Dries Luyten

SCHOLARSHIPS

- Erasmus+
- The Master Mind Scholarship Programme for master studies in Flanders and Brussels, funded by the Flemish Ministry of Education and Training.
» www.studyinlanders.be
- International Course Programmes for students from developing countries.
» [www.https://www.vliuos.be/en/scholarships/6](https://www.vliuos.be/en/scholarships/6)
- Scholarships from the Flemish host institutions

12%
INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS

ENGLISH TAUGHT PROGRAMMES

35	bachelor programmes	30	postgraduate certificates
5	advanced bachelor programmes	100+	PhD trajectories and tailor-made programmes
171	master programmes	30	summer courses
42	advanced master programmes		

Find your study programme at
» www.studyinlanders.be

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5 RESEARCH
UNIVERSITIES



KU LEUVEN



13 UNIVERSITY COLLEGES,
A.K.A UNIVERSITIES OF APPLIED
SCIENCES (& ARTS)



HO
GENT

howest
university of applied sciences



LUCA
SCHOOL
OF
ARTS

Odisee
DE CO-HOGESCHOOL



THOMAS
MORE | University of Applied Sciences



www.studyinlanders.be

info@studyinlanders.be | v.u. Ravensteingalerij 27, 3-6, 1000 Brussel