STUDY IN BELGIUM

FRENCH-SPEAKING

MASTERS AND PHD IN THE HEART OF EUROPE

STUDYINBELGIUM.BE
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EMBLEMATIC

Land of tradition
New life experiences

EMBLEMATIC
CHOOSE BELGIUM

FRENCH-SPEAKING
FACTS AND FIGURES

French-Speaking Belgium = The Wallonia-Brussels Federation

French-Speaking Belgium = The Wallonia-Brussels Fédération
The Kingdom of Belgium

**AREA:** 30,528 km²

**POPULATION:** More than 11,000,000 inhabitants including 4,600,000 in the Wallonia-Brussels Federation

**FORM OF STATE:** Federal parliamentary constitutional monarchy

**CAPITAL:** Brussels

**CURRENCY:** Euro (€)

**KING:** Philippe

**OFFICIAL LANGUAGES:** French, Dutch, German
Study, research, innovation

In the student population

- **21%** International students
- **20%** International professors
- **45%** International doctoral students

**+36%** Of students in higher education in the last 20 years

**+50%** Of PhD students in the last 10 years

**±20%** Of students have a scholarship

**16%** Of students are internationally mobile

Study in French-speaking Belgium
± €200,000,000
ALLOCATED EACH YEAR TO
SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH

1,000
PHD GRADUATES
WITH THESIS (DOCTORS)

Percentage of doctoral students by nationality

56%
BELGIAN NATIONALITY

24%
NON-EU NATIONALS

20%
EU NATIONALS

BELGIAN SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH
RECOGNISED WORLDWIDE:

4
NOBEL PRIZES FOR
MEDECINE

3
NOBEL PRIZES FOR
PEACE

1
NOBEL PRIZE FOR
LITERATURE

1
NOBEL PRIZE FOR
CHEMISTRY

1
NOBEL PRIZE FOR
PHYSICS

4
Nobel prizes for
MEDICINE

1
Nobel prize for
CHEMISTRY

3
Nobel prizes for
PEACE

1
Nobel prize for
LITERATURE

1
Nobel prize for
PHYSICS
Did you know?

- Our stars are world-famous!
- Not all artists have covered Jacques Brel songs.
- They’ve taken a vow of silence.
- Chocolate is best when it’s kept out of the sun.
- Our national symbol doesn’t have quite the same cachet as Lady Liberty.
- 9,010 miles of cycle paths in a country that is only 174 miles long.
- We invented the saxophone.
- DJs Lost Frequencies, Dimitri Vegas & Like Mike et Henri PFR, Stromae, Jacques Brel, Angèle, les Schtoumpfs, Tintin, Marsupilami, René Magritte…
- Just Frank Sinatra, David Bowie, Nina Simone, Céline Dion, Nirvana…*
- You’ll never hear our monks say they brew the world’s best beer.*
- No surprise that the best is found in Belgium!* 
- But we left the invention of jazz to others.*
- Not bad at all.*
- That is, if it was in our nature to name-drop.*
- We’d drop names like Van Noten and Demeulemeester.
- But he does fully enjoy his freedom.*
- Study in French-speaking Belgium

*Note: Asterisks indicate additional information or qualifications.
Belgium is at the forefront of the aerospace industry.

Belgians are nanotechnology pioneers, which is hardly surprising.

Belgium was the 2nd country in the world to legalise same-sex marriage.

Belgium is the European Union’s happiest country.

Belgian people are very supportive, open and warm. I have always felt very welcome during my various stays here.

According to Eurostat, more than 80% of Belgians have declared that they feel “happy all the time” or “most of the time”, making Belgium the most appealing country in Europe in terms of quality of life!

*Source: Texts taken from the 2017 promotional campaign “Belgium. Uniquely phenomenal” FPS Chancellery of the Prime Minister
Belgium: an ideal position, right in the heart of Europe

**An open welcome to international students**

Founded on tolerance, Belgium is truly welcoming to the numerous travellers and visitors that settle there constantly. Its central position in Europe, its meeting of Latin and Germanic worlds, its multilingualism and its cutting-edge political, social and religious approach to freedoms have helped form its cosmopolitan character, making it a multicultural society.

**A properly European multicultural country**

Belgium is one of the six founding members of the European Union, whose capital, Brussels, hosts many European and international institutions: the European parliament, the European Commission, the NATO... Due to its international status, Brussels is today Europe’s most multicultural region and 2nd worldwide only to Dubai. In its hundred or so districts, almost 200 different nationalities live side-by-side, speaking more than 180 foreign languages.

**Plenty of employment opportunities once you have completed your studies**

The presence of European and international institutions in Brussels generates more than 100,000 jobs and contributes towards the regional economy’s GDP by around 15%. It is an ecosystem that also draws world innovators and allows start-ups to succeed in various areas, such as fintech, insurtech and even lawtech. Into the mix add the parallel activities brought about by this international ecosystem: lobbyists, journalists and diplomats, as well as regional representatives and international law firms.

**French-speaking Belgium is also the ideal point of departure to visit the rest of Europe!**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Distance</th>
<th>Destination</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2h10</td>
<td>London</td>
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<tr>
<td>1h10</td>
<td>Paris</td>
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<tr>
<td>1h20</td>
<td>Madrid</td>
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<tr>
<td>1h50</td>
<td>Lisbon</td>
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<tr>
<td>2h20</td>
<td>Barcelona</td>
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<tr>
<td>2h40</td>
<td>Rome</td>
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<tr>
<td>2h</td>
<td>Amsterdam</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1h30</td>
<td>Brussels</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
EXCELLENT HIGHER EDUCATION

Come study in the Wallonia-Brussels Federation and make the most of its excellent higher education

In French-speaking Belgium, the education system is varied, diversified and accessible. Universities, university colleges and schools of arts; from bachelor level through to PhD, each and every student is sure to find the right education for their plans.
And by choosing French-speaking Belgium to study, you can count on excellent education hinged on a long tradition of scientific and technological innovation and research.

Belgian scientific research recognised worldwide

The influence of scientific research in the Wallonia-Brussels Federation beyond its borders is confirmed by its many Nobel prize winners:
- 4 Nobel prizes for medicine;
- 3 Nobel prizes for peace;
- 1 Nobel prize for literature;
- 1 Nobel prize for chemistry;
- 1 Nobel prize for physics.

Fun fact!
Have you seen “The Big Bang Theory”? Of course you have, and just like us, we bet you’re a big fan of Sheldon Cooper! But did you know that the actual Big Bang theory was formulated by Belgian scientist, Georges Lemaître, at the start of the last century?

Open-minded and multicultural

There can be no doubt, a standout feature of the Wallonia-Brussels Federation is its diversity and openness to the world. The Federation’s ability to secure international partnerships and export its talent bears witness to this openness. Although English is spoken widely, in addition to the three official languages (French, Dutch and German), a great many of other nationalities are also represented in the higher education institutions of Wallonia-Brussels, institutions that welcome more and more international students with each year that passes.

I LOVED MY TIME STUDYING IN BRUSSELS AND WOULD RECOMMEND IT TO ANYONE. NOT ONLY FOR THE QUALITY OF HIGHER EDUCATION BUT ALSO BECAUSE IT IS A COSMOPOLITAN CITY THAT NEVER SLEEPS!

WIKTORIA
POLAND
EXCELLENT
HIGHER EDUCATION

A BRAINY CHOICE
HIGHER EDUCATION IN BELGIUM

FRENCH-SPEAKING
Belgian qualifications recognised worldwide

In French-speaking Belgium, higher education is based on a system of three cycles of studies: the bachelor’s degree, the master’s degree and the PhD. Each qualification obtained gives you ECTS credits, which are recognised in numerous countries in both the European Union and worldwide. As an adhering member of this system, the Wallonia-Brussels Federation is committed to guaranteeing the quality of higher education, promoting student mobility and strengthening the globalisation of its higher education.

How higher education works

1st cycle
- Transitional Bachelor
  - 180 ECTS credits
- Professional-type Bachelor
  - 180 ECTS credits
  - 240 ECTS credits

2nd cycle
- Master
  - 60 ECTS credits
- Advanced Master
  - 60 ECTS credits
- Advanced Bachelor
  - 60 ECTS credits
- Doctoral Training
  - 60 ECTS credits
- Doctorate
  - 180 ECTS credits

3rd cycle
- Advanced Bachelor
  - 60 ECTS credits

The award of the qualifications (bachelor’s degree, master’s degree and PhD) is linked to the number of years of studies completed since entering higher education. Each year can award up to 60 ECTS credits (European Credits Transfer System), which can be used and transferred from one country to another.

- A 1st cycle qualification (bachelor’s degree) represents 180 or 240 ECTS credits, namely 3 or 4 years of study.
- A 2nd cycle qualification (master’s degree) represents 60, 120 or 180 ECTS credits, namely 1, 2 or 3 years of study.
- A 3rd cycle qualification (PhD) represents a variable number of ECTS credits.

1 credit = 30 hours of learning activities (lectures, practical courses, personal work, work experience...).

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Study in French-speaking Belgium
In French-speaking Belgium, study programmes are delivered in three different types of higher education institutions: universities, university colleges and schools of arts.

**List of higher education institutions**

6 UNIVERSITIES
- Université catholique de Louvain, https://uclouvain.be
- Université libre de Bruxelles, www.ulb.be
- Université de Liège, www.uliege.be
- Université de Mons, https://web.umons.ac.be
- Université de Namur, www.unamur.be
- Université Saint-Louis – Bruxelles, www.usaintlouis.be

19 UNIVERSITY COLLEGES
- Haute Ecole Albert Jacquard, www.heaj.be
- Haute Ecole Bruxelles-Brabant, www.he2b.be
- Haute Ecole Charlemagne, www.hech.be
- Haute Ecole EPHEC, www.ephec.be
- Haute Ecole Francisco Ferrer, www.he-ferrer.eu
- Haute Ecole Galilée, www.galilee.be
- Haute Ecole en Hainaut, www.heh.be
- Haute Ecole libre Mosane, www.helmo.be
- Haute Ecole Louvain en Hainaut, www.helha.be
- Haute Ecole Lucie de Brouckère, www.heldb.be
- Haute Ecole de la Province de Namur, www.hepn.be
- Haute Ecole de la Ville de Liège, www.hel.be

16 SCHOOLS OF ARTS
- Académie royale des Beaux-Arts de la Ville de Bruxelles, www.arba-esa.be
- Arts³, www.artsaucarre.be
- Conservatoire royal de Bruxelles, www.conservatoire.be
- Conservatoire royal de Liège, www.crlg.be
- Ecole nationale supérieure des Arts visuels de La Cambre, www.lacambre.be
- Ecole supérieure des Arts de l’Image « Le 75 », https://leseptantecinc.be
- Ecole supérieure des Arts - Ecole de Recherche graphique, www.erg.be
- Ecole supérieure des Arts de la Ville de Liège, www.esavl.be
- Ecole supérieure des Arts Institut Saint-Luc Tournai, http://stluc-sup-tournai.be
- Ecole supérieure des Arts Saint-Luc de Bruxelles, www.stluc-bruxelles-esas.be
- Institut des Arts de Diffusion, www.iad-arts.be
- Institut national supérieur des Arts du Spectacle et des Techniques de Diffusion, https://insas.be
- Institut supérieur de Musique et de Pédagogie, www.imep.be

Take a look at study programmes using our search engine at www.studyinbelgium.be
The universities

Theoretical and scientific education
Spread throughout the Wallonia-Brussels Federation territory, the French-speaking universities of Belgium offer their students quality education. The options are divided up into four fields of study: science and technology, human sciences, health sciences and art.

Research at the heart of the French-speaking Belgian university course
In addition to in-depth knowledge of the chosen subject, the Wallonian and Brussels-based universities offer a solid general education, encouraging their students to take a scientific approach. This is why the focus is firmly on research, both basic and applied. And it is this philosophy that makes the universities of French-speaking Belgium institutions that are famous for the excellence of their research programmes and have earned them a remarkable reputation both in our country and beyond.

How are university studies organised?
The universities offer long-term education programmes made up of two cycles:
→ a 1st cycle (180 ECTS credits) that takes the students up to “transitional” bachelor’s degree level, i.e. its main aim is to prepare for the master degree that follows;
→ a 2nd cycle, leading to a master degree (60, 120 or 180 ECTS credits).

These two cycles can be followed by a 3rd, a PhD.

PERCENTAGE OF INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS REGISTERED ON A MASTERS PROGRAMME BY FIELD OF STUDY

- 20% Humanities and social sciences
- 35% Health
- 25% Science and technology
- 20% Art

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Study in French-speaking Belgium

© UIS / D. Pintag/www.uis.be

20% Humanities and social sciences
35% Health
25% Science and technology
20% Art
The university colleges

Practical, professional education
All the French-speaking university colleges of Belgium offer a quality education, liaising closely with applied research, universities, and socio-professional environments. Differently to the universities, the teaching employed in the university colleges is hinged on learning and the world of work. The theoretical and conceptual aspects are all part of the programme with a heavy focus on internships, which are mandatory. If you are looking for a course delivered in small halls with regular, practical work, then a university college is what you need!

What university colleges can offer you:
→ Studies organised as a single cycle, leading to a professional-type bachelor’s degree (between 180 and 240 ECTS credits).
→ Studies organised into two cycles, leading to a transitional bachelor’s degree (1st cycle - 180 credits) and master (2nd cycle - 60 to 120 credits).
→ Studies organised into one or two cycles, leading to an advanced bachelor’s degree. This can be obtained after having successfully completed an initial bachelor’s or master’s degree. The specialised bachelor’s degree contains at least 60 credits.
The schools of arts

Internationally recognised education in artistic techniques

Enjoying world renown, the schools of arts of the Wallonia-Brussels Federation educate all Belgian and foreign students looking to pursue performing arts and communication and broadcasting technology; plastic, visual and spatial arts; music; theatre and dramatic arts.

What the schools of arts can offer you

After passing an admission test, schools of arts offer:

→ One cycle leading to a professional bachelor’s degree (180 to 240 ECTS credits).
→ In two or three cycles:
  • a 1st cycle leading to the award of a transitional bachelor’s degree (180 ECTS credits),
  • a 2nd cycle leading to the award of a master’s degree (60 to 120 ECTS credits),
  • in collaboration with universities, a 3rd cycle in art and art sciences lead to the award of a PhD.

PERCENTAGE OF INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS REGISTERED IN SCHOOLS OF ARTS

45% INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS
As a rule, the calendar of an academic year in French-speaking Belgium is divided up into three terms. Learning is split over the first two terms, except for certain assessments or professional integration activities.
ORGANISING YOUR STAY IN FRENCH-SPEAKING BELGIUM
ADMISSION AND ENROLMENT PROCEDURES

The procedures to be followed to enrol with a higher education institution in French-speaking Belgium may vary. Your nationality, country of residence, qualifications, chosen education or level of studies to be achieved are all aspects that are taken into account.

Access to master’s studies for nationals from non-EU countries

You must hold a bachelor’s degree (1st cycle of 180 ECTS) in a field of study similar or identical to the one you wish to undertake.

Enrolment is in 4 steps:

1. Fill out an admission request on-line, on the website of your chosen higher education institution. Even if the calendar is specific to each institution, we recommend you make your application in February/March as the deadline for applications is usually 30 April.

2. Complete your file with all the documents required (photocopy of passport, qualification, letter explaining your reasons, etc.) and post or e-mail it.

3. Your file is analysed (this step can take several weeks).

4. Your file manager will tell you what decision has been made by your chosen higher education institution. If accepted, you will receive authorisation to enrol.

Please note: There are specific admissions criteria for each masters. Generally, these are listed on the presentation form for the masters published on the institution’s website.
Access to PhD studies for non-EU nationals

You will need to meet the following conditions:

You must have obtained sufficiently good result in your prior studies:
- You must have a Master’s degree from university higher education teaching of at least 300 ECTS credits;
- You must have an average mark of 70%

You must have sufficient financial resources to complete your studies and provide a financial plan showing this.

You must have a thesis proposal and the written agreement from a supervisor.

Note: to find a supervisor, you can consult:
- the General PhD Regulation adopted by each higher education institution;
- the websites of the higher education institutions;
- the F.R.S.-FNRS website;
- the research directory on the federal scientific policy website.

Enrolment procedures

If you wish to study for a PhD in the Wallonia-Brussels Federation, you must submit your file to the Admissions and Registration Service of the chosen higher education institution. For it to be considered complete, your file must include:

- your completed admission request (you can find the form on-line, on the website of the chosen higher education institution);
- a certificate of nationality dated from the same calendar year as the year of registration (or a copy of your passport);
- a copy of your secondary school end of studies diploma;
- a copy of your higher education diploma(s) (and certified translation, if required);
- a certified copy of the transcript of your grades for each of your higher education years, even the years you have failed (and certified translation, if required);
- proof of your activities or studies over the last five years, if these are not covered by the last certificate;
- a covering letter;
- a thesis proposal;
- written agreement from a supervisor, agreeing to supervise your research.
VISA AND ADMINISTRATIVE PROCEDURES

How to get a visa to study in French-speaking Belgium?

Whether you are an international student or researcher, the visa you need will depend on both the duration of your stay and your nationality. Although some of the formalities need to be completed in your home country, don’t forget that you will still need to complete some of the administrative processes once you arrive in Belgium.

Applying for a Belgian visa as an international student

To obtain a type D “long-term” visa, Belgian immigration law means that most non-EU national will need to request a residence permit before departure. Also called a “provisional residence permit”, it is mandatory to enter the country and will allow you to stay in Belgium for more than 90 days. You can apply for a long-term visa from your embassy or Belgian consulate for your usual place of residence. Please remember that you cannot enter Belgium with a tourist visa if you plan on staying more than 90 days.

Visit www.studyinbelgium.be to find out:
- the conditions to meet to obtain a Belgian international student visa;
- the documents to provide to obtain a Belgian visa;
- what to do once you are in Belgium.
Applying for a Belgian visa as an international researcher

If you are a researcher who is not an EU national and wish to apply for a type D long-term visa, you need to:
→ be chosen by an authorised research body in Belgium to pursue a research project;
→ have stipulated a Host Agreement with the authorised body;
→ stay in Belgium for more than 3 months.

To obtain a Belgian visa as international researcher, the first thing you need to do is apply for a residence permit from the embassy or consulate competent for your regular place of residence. If you are authorised, this authorisation will come in the form of a D visa. At this point, you will be asked to pay approximately €350 to cover the administrative charges.

Visit www.studyinbelgium.be to find out:
+ the documents to provide to obtain a Belgian visa;
+ the specific case of visiting researchers.
COST OF STUDYING AND LIVING

How much does a study stay cost in the Wallonia-Brussels Federation?

In French-speaking Belgium, access to higher education is a priority. This is why the Wallonia-Brussels Federation public institutions choose to subsidise much of the cost of studying. This means that registration fees are fairly low yet the quality of study is excellent. Although there are general guidelines for registration fees, each higher education institution is free to set its own prices. We therefore recommend that you contact the institution of your choice directly to find out exactly how much you will need to pay in registration fees for your chosen programme.

General guidance to registration fees for a master’s degree

In addition to the choices made by the chosen higher education institution, the amount of registration fees you need to pay may vary according to your home country and status:

| Students who are nationals of the European Union or European Economic Area | €835 |
| Students who are non-European Union nationals | between €835 and €4,175 |

In some cases, non-European students may be exempted from paying full fees. At that point, they will merely need to pay the maximum annual tuition fees of €835, as for European Union students. However, certain conditions must be met. More info: www.studyinbelgium.be

⚠️ Please note: for certain specialised master’s degrees and MBAs (issue of a certificate), the amount of tuition fees may differ. Contact the institution of your choice for more information.

Registration fees for a PhD

For all PhD students wishing to complete their PhD students in French-speaking Belgium, registration fees are €835 the first year and approximately €50/year thereafter.

How much does it cost to live in French-speaking Belgium?

Although the cost of living is relatively low in Belgium, it can vary from one town to another. Don’t forget to consider everything (food, transport, free time, health, etc.) when preparing your budget, to avoid any unpleasant surprises. This means that for a student, the cost of living may vary between €900 and €1,100 per month and includes:

| Accommodation | between €300 and €500/month |
| Food | €300/month |
| Study materials | €50/month |
| Healthcare and insurance | €30/month |
| Public transport | €50/month |
| Other (phone bill, going out, etc.) | €170/month |
GRANTS AND LOANS

Grants, listed at www.studyinbelgium.be, are available depending on your nationality and the level of studies you wish to pursue.

Contact the Social Services Department of the chosen higher education institution to find out about any financial aid available.

WALLONIA–BRUSSELS INTERNATIONAL EXCELLENCE GRANTS PROGRAMME ENABLED ME TO COMPLETE MY MASTER’S DEGREE IN BELGIUM. THE SCHOLARSHIP COVERED MY TWO YEARS OF STUDY. IT IS A FAIRLY LARGE AMOUNT OF MONEY THAT ALLOWED ME TO LIVE DECENTLY AND IT REALLY CHANGED THE COURSE OF MY STUDIES.

WORKING WHILE STUDYING

In Belgium, all foreign students can work while studying. The only conditions are: they must be enrolled with a higher education institution in the Wallonia-Brussels Federation and must have a valid residence permit.

Work time:

→ During school holidays (Christmas, spring, summer – July, August, September): the student can work with no limit to the number of hours.

→ During the school year: the student can work no more than 20 hours per week and the work must be compatible with study.
Finding accommodation

Depending on your status, the length of your study stay and budget, you can choose from two types of accommodation in French-speaking Belgium: university residence or private accommodation.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Living in a university residence</th>
<th>Living in private accommodation</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>By opting for this type of accommod-</td>
<td>In the private sector, different types of accom-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ation, you have your own room but you</td>
<td>modation are available: a room, a studio flat or a flat. You can choose to live alone or in a community.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>will need to share the kitchen, living</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>room, bathroom and toilets with other</td>
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<tr>
<td>students. Also called “kot”, this type of</td>
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<tr>
<td>accommodation allows students from all</td>
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<td>countries and of all levels of study to meet</td>
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<tr>
<td>and share their experiences.</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

**The cost:** On average, the price is €350 per month, including utilities (water, heating, electricity).

**Tips:** As the number of places is limited, we recommend you get organised as quickly as possible and by the specific deadlines. Once you have been authorised to come study in French-speaking Belgium, contact the accommodation service of the higher education institution you have chosen.

**The cost:** The average price ranges between €350 and €500 per month. Utilities are not always included.

**Tips:** There are two ways you can search:
- Personal research: on the internet, referring to the notice boards posted in the higher education institutions and large areas, or simply walking along the roads and looking for the posters — accommodation is easy to find.
- Research via a specialised agency: as a rule, this type of market is mainly for higher-priced accommodation. If you have sufficient funds, this service may be of interest to you.
LEARNING FRENCH

Although many of the master’s degree courses are delivered partially or entirely in English, the higher education institutions of the Wallonia-Brussels Federation are French-speaking! The language used for teaching and the everyday environment is therefore mainly French. By choosing to study in French-speaking Belgium, you can thus enjoy a unique opportunity to improve your French, making progress every day in the cosmopolitan world of Belgium!

If you are enrolled as a student on a French master’s degree course, your French will need to be at B2 (upper intermediate) level, as defined by the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages (CEFR). You will need to pass a standardised test: DALF (B2), DELF (B2), TEF (level 4) or TCF (B2).

Head to www.studyinbelgium.be to find out more!

You can also take a look at the “Learn French in Belgium” brochure, which describes all the French learning courses delivered by the higher education institutions!
WEBSITE

THE REFERENCE
WANT TO FIND OUT MORE ABOUT FRENCH-SPEAKING BELGIUM AND ITS HIGHER EDUCATION IN PARTICULAR?

www.studyinbelgium.be is your go-to website!

It will guide you in the choice of your education, tell you everything you need to know about the practical aspects of your stay and also offers a great many testimonials!

A specific question? The team of the Wallonie-Bruxelles Campus, the agency which promotes the French-speaking Belgian higher education sector internationally, is on hand to help you any way they can: wbcampus@wbi.be

Follow us on the social networks:

- Study in Belgium
- Wallonie-Bruxelles Campus
- WB Campus
LOST IN THE CROWDS AT A COMIC BOOK FESTIVAL OR A THEATRE, BROWSING THE SHELVES OF SPECIALIST BOOKSHOPS OR SPENDING HOURS CONTEMPLATING THE WORKS OF PIETER BRUEGHEL AND FERNAND KHNOPFF AT THE ROYAL MUSEUMS OF FINE ARTS, THE MONTHS WENT BY AT A BREAKNECK SPEED. DESPITE THIS HECTIC PACE, JORDANNE ALSO REMEMBERS THE QUIETER DAYS WHEN SHE TOOK THE TIME TO WALK AROUND HER NEIGHBOURHOOD, WHICH COULD BE TRANSFORMED INTO A HUGE STREET MARKET OR HOST A WORLD POLO–CYCLING COMPETITION.

TWO THINGS CAUGHT MY ATTENTION DURING MY STAY. FIRSTLY, THE STUDENT CULTURE. I WENT CLUBBING FOR THE FIRST TIME IN BRUSSELS, SO I GUESS I'M ONE OF THE COOL KIDS AT HOME NOW! THE SECOND THING, AND ALSO SOMETHING I MISSED THE MOST, IS THE WAY PEOPLE EXPRESS THEMSELVES. PEOPLE DRESS THE WAY THEY WANT TO WITH BRIGHT COLOURS AND CRAZY HAIRCUTS.

LIVING AND STUDYING IN FRENCH-SPEAKING BELGIUM WAS A REMARKABLE OPPORTUNITY TO ENRICH MY CAREER AND MY NETWORK. DURING MY PHD PROJECT, I HAD THE CHANCE TO WORK WITH INTERNATIONALLY RENOWNED RESEARCHERS.

GEORGIA TAIWAN

JORDANNE CANADA

ELLEN BRAZIL

READ MORE TESTIMONIALS