



KATHOLIEKE UNIVERSITEIT
LEUVEN



Master's and Advanced Master's programmes in Business and Economics

Faculty of Business and Economics





Leuven

Leuven is a dynamic, vibrant city in the centre of Belgium, only a fifteen-minute train journey from the airport and a twenty-minute journey to Brussels, the capital of Belgium and seat of the European Union institutions. With Paris, London, Amsterdam and major German cities within easy reach, it is an ideal hub for the internationally-inclined student. Leuven offers a wealth of cultural and recreational opportunities, including a lively gastronomic and social scene, state-of-the-art sports facilities and opportunities to hike and bike in the vast woodlands south of town. The humanities and social sciences campuses are scattered throughout the old town, Oxbridge style.

Connoisseurs will enjoy Leuven's architecture, which spans 10 centuries and includes a truly stunning fifteenth-century Gothic city hall, a UNESCO world-heritage beguinage, and a Renaissance-style castle set in a 3 square kilometre park. The population is highly educated; many alumni choose to stay in an around Leuven after graduation. Graduates work mostly in the service-based or knowledge-based sectors, but there is also a sizable hi-tech industrial presence (with 94 KU Leuven spin-offs employing 3,000 people) and one big traditional employer, Anheuser Bush Inbev, which has a large brewery and its headquarters in Leuven.

Catholic University of Leuven

KU Leuven is a modern university offering an ideal research and learning environment strongly rooted in tradition but with sights set firmly on the future. The aim of the university is not merely to train professional experts, but also to foster critical thinking, intellectual openness, a genuine taste for culture and a sense of civic responsibility. At present, KU Leuven caters to more than 38,000 students, around 14% of whom are international scholars from over 140 countries. KU Leuven is a charter member of the League of European Research Universities, together with Cambridge, Oxford, Leiden, Edinburgh, Geneva, Strasbourg, Heidelberg and others. In terms of scholarly output, KU Leuven is consistently ranked among the top ten European universities in European surveys. Recently, it was ranked 67th worldwide in the 'Times Higher Education Supplement'. QS places KU Leuven at the 68th spot worldwide. The university is ranked fourth worldwide in terms of research valorisation. Imec, the solid-state science lab on the Arenberg campus, employs about 1,700 academic researchers and designers, delivering cutting-edge work. And yes, rumours that the Big Bang theory originated at KU Leuven are correct. Likewise, external quality assessments show that KU Leuven's teaching is on par with internationally respected institutions. This academic reputation attracts students and scholars from across the globe, creating a vibrant, multicultural atmosphere. Leuven has a truly international outlook, and its alumni can be found all over the world.

Faculty of Business and Economics

As one of KU Leuven's 15 faculties, the Faculty of Business and Economics carries out education and research in five departments:

- Economics
- Marketing and Organisation Studies
- Accountancy, Finance and Insurance
- Managerial Economics, Strategy and Innovation
- Decision Sciences and Information Management

One of the faculty's most important assets is its vast national and international network. We maintain strong links with the business and financial community by organising regular workshops with industry leaders and the European Commission, situated only 30 minutes from our campus. Many of our alumni work at European institutions, and many of the department's staff members act as advisers to various European bodies and international companies. The student association, Ekonomika, is equally active via its Business-to-University lecture programme. Our Alumni network offers excellent communication channels and networking opportunities with leading figures in industry and politics.

We have a wide international student exchange network as well. Not only do we participate extensively in the (intra-EU) Erasmus programme (with 65 partners), we also have numerous agreements with leading universities outside the EU, e.g. the Wharton School of Business (University of Pennsylvania), the University of Chicago, Cornell University, the University of Illinois and Rochester University in the United States, the University of British Columbia, Queen's University, the University of Toronto and the Université de Montréal in Canada, the Indian Institutes of Management Calcutta and Bangalore in India, the Chinese University and the City University of Hong Kong, Beida, Tsinghua and Fudan in China, Chulalongkorn University in Thailand, National Taiwan University, Seoul National University in South-Korea, Queensland University of Technology Brisbane and the University of Sydney in Australia, Stellenbosch in South Africa, Insper in Brazil, Esan in Peru, the University of Monterrey in Mexico and the Singapore Management University.





Our view on business and economics education

Our mission in the Master's programmes is to develop participants' critical, conceptual, problem-solving and decision-making skills. A Master's degree from KU Leuven's Faculty of Business and Economics equips students with fundamental and conceptual knowledge and with analytical tools to cope effectively with the problems of the current and constantly changing business and economic environment. Adopting a research-based approach, the school focuses on the disciplines that underlie business operations and economic decisions. This enables its graduates to acquire the necessary skills and tools for coping with current and future challenges.

A variety of teaching methods (lectures, case discussions, exercises, computer-assisted problem-solving and individual research) is used to enhance students' educational experience. Students are expected to participate actively. The faculty evaluates classroom work, written assignments and examinations on a regular basis. The workload is demanding, as to be expected in a high-quality graduate school. Be forewarned: our management courses are known to be more analytical than those at other business schools. Our students receive rigorous training in economics.

The faculty's international credentials and academic reputation guarantee the quality of the programme.

Master's programmes

MSc in Economics

As an economist you will observe the various players (individuals, companies, domestic and foreign governments) and their interactions within the global economy. You will be able to interpret the general economic situation in a wider social and legal context. The programme offers students with a Bachelor's degree a theoretical framework, allowing them to provide well-grounded answers to socio-economic questions. In completing this Master's programme, you will thoroughly master key economic principles. You will learn to interpret individual, interpersonal and social phenomena from a global economic perspective. You should therefore have broad interests in social and scientific matters and demonstrate critical and creative thinking.

More information: www.kuleuven.be/ma/me

MSc in Business Economics

The Master of Science in Business Economics programme emphasises the acquisition of fundamental knowledge and skills in an area of specialisation related to the corporate world. By combining this programme with initial specialisations from the Bachelor's programme, you will develop deeper insight into a broad range of fields and fine-tune your personal graduation profile. Upon completing this programme, you will be able to apply scientific frameworks independently and critically, allowing you to evolve continuously in a dynamic society. You have an entrepreneurial personality with broad socio-economic interests. You are fascinated by the business world and would like to pursue a management career in strategy, international business or finance.

More information: www.kuleuven.be/ma/mbe

MSc in Information Management

This programme offers students with a Bachelor's or Master's degree non-technical training in information management, with an emphasis on the efficient and effective application and management of information technology in various business contexts (e.g. finance, marketing, HR, production and logistics, etc.). Following basic training in technology, the programme explores specific management issues in greater depth, particularly in order to develop the skills required to analyse information needs, to design and manage information systems and to fine-tune an IT strategy as an integral part of an overall business strategy. The key focus is the preliminary design needed to develop and set up an information system. In completing your Master's thesis, you can apply these skills within a specific business context. Finally, a wide range of electives enables you to either explore specific areas in greater depth or to gain a broader understanding through a multidisciplinary approach.

More information: www.kuleuven.be/ma/minfm

Advanced Master's programmes



MSc in Financial Economics

The goal of this advanced Master's programme is to expand students' knowledge of financial-economic problems and to provide students with the analytical tools to assess them. Graduates should be able to analyse and solve complex financial and economic problems independently. Adopting a scientific approach, the programme addresses the macro-economic environment as well as specific financial business situations. In particular, it offers insights into international monetary and macroeconomic problems, and stresses the analysis of business case studies. The programme uses a variety of teaching methods with a clear emphasis on small interactive groups, including class presentations, teamwork exercises, case studies, class discussions and paper writing.

More information: www.kuleuven.be/ma/mfe

MSc in Financial and Actuarial Engineering

Providing up-to-date, sound and advanced financial, actuarial and statistical skills, this intensive advanced one-year programme is tailored to university graduates interested in a career in the insurance sector. The programme provides insights into the actuarial aspects of life insurance, general insurance, risk theory as well as into financial mathematics and the interrelationship and integration of actuarial sciences and finance. The programme is offered jointly by the Faculty of Business and Economics and the Faculty of Science in collaboration with the Université Catholique de Louvain. **More information:** www.kuleuven.be/ma/mfae

Research-intensive Master's programmes & doctoral programmes

MSc in Advanced Studies in Economics

The Master of Science in Advanced Studies in Economics offers students with a Master's degree a broad economic background as well as deeper insights into recent developments in economic theory in a specific field of interest. The programme reflects this development in its quantitative approach, which is used as a means of strengthening economic intuition. The programme provides excellent preparation for undertaking a PhD in Economics, but it is also ideal for students seeking research-oriented positions outside the university.

More information: www.kuleuven.be/ma/mase

PhD in Economics

The doctoral programme in Economics is an advanced three-year programme designed to train future researchers in one of the key fields of economics: econometrics, public economics, economic history, international economics, development economics, monetary and information economics, energy, transportation and environmental economics. The programme aims to develop and nurture young talent, and to prepare PhD graduates for careers in both academia and international business. Currently, about 70 students with diverse backgrounds and nationalities are enrolled in the Economics doctoral programme, creating an energetic and stimulating work environment. PhD students obtain the degree of Doctor of Economics after successfully defending a doctoral dissertation.

More information: www.kuleuven.be/phd

MSc in Advanced Business Studies

The Master of Science in Advanced Business Studies is mainly designed to offer students with a Master's degree an additional and advanced curriculum in business research methodology. The programme allows the participants to deepen their knowledge of a number of substantive areas, both conceptually and methodologically. The programme provides excellent preparation for undertaking a PhD in Business Economics, but it is also ideal for students seeking research-oriented positions outside the university.

More information: www.kuleuven.be/ma/mabs



PhD in Business Economics

The doctoral programme in Business Economics is an advanced four-year programme designed to train future researchers in one of the key fields of management: marketing, organisation studies, operations management, operations research and business statistics, management informatics, finance, accountancy, actuarial science or managerial economics and strategy and innovation. The programme aims to

develop and nurture young talent and to prepare PhD graduates for careers in both academia and international business. Currently, about 130 students with diverse backgrounds and nationalities are enrolled in the Business Economics doctoral programme, creating an energetic and stimulating work environment. PhD students obtain the degree of Doctor of Business Economics after successfully defending a doctoral dissertation.

More information: www.kuleuven.be/ma/mbe

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This brochure provides the most complete and accurate information available concerning one of the Master's programmes offered at KU Leuven. Amendments to the composition of the programmes may, however, be approved at any time. The study load of many Master's programmes may increase from 60 to 120 credits in the future. Consequently, KU Leuven is in no way legally bound by the information provided in this brochure. The most recent information on all our academic programmes can be consulted at www.kuleuven.be/coursecatalogue.

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