The Master of Statistics: Quantitative Analysis in the Social Sciences (QASS) is a one-year track (60 ECTS) within the Social, Behavioural and Educational Statistics option of the 2-year Master of Statistics programme. The QASS programme is organised by the Leuven Statistics Research Centre (LStat) with the support of the Faculty of Science, and in cooperation with the Faculty of Social Sciences of KU Leuven. It aims to improve the methodological knowledge of students who obtained a master's degree in one of the behavioural sciences, such as sociology, psychology, political science, pedagogy, and economics. It also focuses on training students in advanced reasoning in quantitative analyses.

Programme

The programme includes six modules and a master’s thesis. Each of the modules thoroughly examines the relevant analysis techniques, and deals with the practical application of these techniques in real survey results. Hands-on computer lab training is included in all modules, which are structured as followed:

- basic courses, including an introductory module that links traditional correlation methods to social sciences research questions
- two modules explaining the use of sampling techniques and survey methodology (including measurement problems) in the social and behavioural sciences
- advanced modules dealing with data reduction, scale construction and data quality, and modules dealing with causal models. Advanced inferential and descriptive methods are also discussed.

For detailed descriptions of the courses and for the course timetable, please consult www.kuleuven.be/ma/mstatel

QASS Exchange Programme – KU Leuven, BE – SRAM – UNL, USA

The QASS programme currently offers a one-semester exchange opportunity with The Survey Research and Methodology M.S. Programme (SRAM) of the University of Nebraska-Lincoln (USA). http://cba.unl.edu/academic-programs/programs-and-degrees/sram/

Admission requirements

The QASS programme admits holders of the following university degrees:

- a master’s degree in political and social sciences, economics and applied economics, pedagogic and psychological sciences, communication sciences, social geography or commercial engineering;
- a 4-year bachelor’s degree in one of the above disciplines;
- a master’s degree in other disciplines, providing you can demonstrate sufficient knowledge of mathematics, statistics and information technology. These degrees include, but are not limited to, mathematics, physics, history, law, arts, ... .
You must have sufficient knowledge of mathematics, statistics and information technology, meaning you can prove that you followed three substantive courses in statistics and (social science) methodology spread over at least two years.

Good knowledge of the English language is essential. Unless you are of Anglo-Saxon origin, you will be asked to submit proof of your English proficiency. We accept the following certificates:

- **TOEFL:** you need a minimum score of 600 for the paper-based test, 250 for the computer-based test, or 100 for the new online test ([www.toefl.org](http://www.toefl.org));
- **IELTS:** you need a minimum score of band 7.0-7.5 ([www.ielts.org](http://www.ielts.org));
- **Certificate of Proficiency in English (CPE) (University of Cambridge examinations):** Grade B.

**Programme admission:** [www.kuleuven.be/ma/mstatel](http://www.kuleuven.be/ma/mstatel)

**General admission:** [www.kuleuven.be/admissions](http://www.kuleuven.be/admissions)

**Application procedure**

KU Leuven uses an online application system. You can download and submit your application form via [www.kuleuven.be/application](http://www.kuleuven.be/application). In addition, you should include a motivation letter stating that you would like to follow the one-year QASS track. Please indicate as well whether you would like to follow the standard Master of Science in Statistics programme. This is necessary in case you are not accepted for the short QASS track.

Students with a Flemish degree need an admission letter from LStat to register. Please consult [www.kuleuven.be/inschrijven](http://www.kuleuven.be/inschrijven) for more information.

**Career perspectives**

The strong practical and theoretical orientation of the programme allows graduates to pursue a career in multiple fields. Among the career options for the holders of a Master of Statistics: Quantitative Analysis in the Social Sciences degree, you can count doctoral or general research in fields such as Sociology, Psychology, Pedagogy, Criminology, Economics, and Political Sciences in universities and research centres all around the world. Many graduates are working in marketing and opinion research companies where their analytical and data analysis skills are highly valued. Furthermore, many graduates work in policy-oriented institutions. National, European or international companies (e.g. telecom and mass media companies) and institutes with strong statistical orientation are also among the main recruiters of QASS graduates.

As a social statistician, you'll be recruited by the industry, banks, non-profit organisations (such as trade unions, political parties, employer organisations, …), study services or government institutions. You may find yourself setting up and analysing (psychological, sociological, …) experiments, tests and surveys, performing data analyses, (statistically) managing R&D projects and quality controls, and so on. You can also pursue an academic career. The applications of social statistics are as diverse as the professional career paths they offer.

**Contact**


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