

At Louvain-la-Neuve - 60 credits - 1 year - Day schedule - In French

Dissertation/Graduation Project : **YES** - Internship : **NO**

Activities in English: **optional** - Activities in other languages : **NO**

Activities on other sites : **optional**

Main study domain : **Histoire, histoire de l'art et archéologie**

Organized by: **Faculty of Philosophy, Arts and Letters (FIAL)**

Programme acronym: **VISU2MC** - Francophone Certification Framework: 7

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VISU2MC - Introduction

Introduction

VISU2MC - Teaching profile

Learning outcomes

The cross-disciplinary Advanced Master's degree in Visual Cultures primarily aims to enable students to think and act as a cultural critic, i.e. applying a reflective and critical approach to society through its past and present visual output. In this way, by the end of their 60-credit course, students will have an active and integrated expert understanding of a body of disciplinary and multidisciplinary knowledge (awareness, terminology, issues, methods, conceptual frameworks) essential for them to become experts in the different fields of visual communication and the history of images.

Students will be able to study and analyse an image or a corpus of images (regardless of the medium) or a complex issue using the methodologies specific to the disciplines of communication and history of art, while at the same time improving their critical eye.

They will be able to complete an original, individual research assignment dealing with a large and varied quantity of data, using a rigorous and systematic approach. They will demonstrate independence in managing a research project and an individual project, and more generally in keeping their knowledge updated.

This Master's degree therefore seeks to train people who are receptive to the cultural and socio-professional worlds, mainly in terms of their visual dimensions, and who are capable of integrating into them easily and efficiently.

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

1. Think and act as a cultural critic: Apply a reflective and critical approach to society through its past and present visual output.
 - 1.1. Be an active citizen who is aware of current issues related to visual output, by placing them in a complex socio-cultural and historical network;
 - 1.2. Demonstrate intellectual independence in reasoning, apply a critical eye to visual output over a wide variety of media (cinema, television, video, photography, painting, sculpture, engraving, etc.);
 - 1.3. Think and act in a multidisciplinary and interdisciplinary way by being open to other conceptual and methodological frameworks with a view to not only acquiring new knowledge but also being able to form hypotheses themselves.
2. Master knowledge: Attain an active and integrated expert understanding of a body of disciplinary (history of art, visual anthropology, semiology, sociology, narratology, cultural studies, etc.) and multidisciplinary knowledge (awareness, terminology, issues, methods, conceptual frameworks) essential for them to become experts in the fields of visual communication and iconology.
 - 2.1. Attain a knowledge base in the fields of communication and the history of art;
 - 2.2. Attain specialist knowledge in even more specific fields (visual studies, iconology, visual anthropology, semiology, etc.);
 - 2.3. Link and compare knowledge from related disciplines (history, anthropology, sociology, etc.);
 - 2.4. Starting from the basis of the knowledge acquired, contribute to the development of new hypotheses in the field of visual culture studies.
3. Apply disciplinary methodologies: Study and analyse an image or a corpus of images or a complex issue using the methodologies specific to the disciplines of communication and history of art.
 - 3.1. Study an image or a corpus of images, in any medium, using technological, semiological, anthropological, iconological, etc. analysis methods;
 - 3.2. Be capable of re-situating the above in their historical and socio-cultural context and understanding their interactions and challenges;
 - 3.3. Reflect on the contribution of new methods and develop these methods with a view to adapting them to various different situations.
4. Carry out research using a scientific approach: Complete an original, individual research assignment dealing with a large and varied quantity of data, using a rigorous and systematic approach.
 - 4.1. Develop and deal with specific issues surrounding a given subject. Demonstrate clear and structured reasoning by applying and, where necessary, adapting the conceptual frameworks provided;
 - 4.2. Conduct research on a given subject or issue: describe, organise and summarise data in a systematic and rigorous manner. Critique and compare documents;
 - 4.3. Examine the body of data in a relevant way: apply disciplinary methodologies while also providing their own reflective and critical perspective, developing new, individual insight into the issue;
 - 4.4. Communicate the results of their research in a scientific and pedagogical manner, both orally and in writing.
5. Independently manage their work and developmental path: Demonstrate independence in managing a research project and an individual project, and more generally in keeping their knowledge updated.
 - 5.1. Independently manage a research assignment using a scientific approach and applying knowledge and methodologies to new issues and multidisciplinary situations;
 - 5.2. Plan and manage their own learning path, making individual choices relating to their education;
 - 5.3. Develop their intellectual curiosity: be interested in and open to trends in the field of knowledge but also in relation to the methods for communicating that knowledge;
 - 5.4. Be responsible for their own learning: independently manage the acquisition and updating of their knowledge and expertise;
 - 5.5. Manage their time and plan the steps required to carry out a project.

VISU2MC 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...)

○ LVISU2990	Individual final project		FR [q1+q2] [] [15 Credits] 🌐
○ LVISU2100	Seminar on visual culture	Sébastien Fevry Alexander Streitberger	FR [q1+q2] [30h] [10 Credits] 🌐

Optional courses (20 credits)

20 credits to be chosen from the following courses

⊗ LCOMU2200	Genres, cultures and representations	Sarah Sepulchre	FR [q1] [30h] [5 Credits] 🌐
⊗ LCOMU2221	Analysis of film productions	Sébastien Fevry	FR [q1] [22.5h] [5 Credits] 🌐
⊗ LCOMU2605	Analysis of televised series	Sarah Sepulchre	FR [q2] [22.5h] [5 Credits] 🌐
⊗ LCOMU2619	New narratologies and transmedia	Sébastien Fevry	FR [q2] [30h] [5 Credits] 🌐
⊗ MCOMU2703	Etudes culturelles	Sébastien Fevry	FR [q1] [30h] [5 Credits] 🌐
⊗ LFIAL2292	Art and Literature	Ralph Dekoninck Anne Reverseau	FR [q2] [22.5h] [5 Credits] ⊕ 🌐
⊗ LENG2826	Comics, adaptation and decolonization	Véronique Bragard	EN [q2] [30h] [5 Credits] ⊕ 🌐
⊗ LHART2220	The iconology and sociology of art	Ralph Dekoninck	FR [q1] [15h] [5 Credits] ⊕ 🌐
⊗ LHART2240	Visual Culture Studies and Art History	Alexander Streitberger	EN [q1] [30h] [5 Credits] 🌐
⊗ LHART2360	Art and new media	Alexander Streitberger	FR [q1] [30h] [5 Credits] ⊖ 🌐
⊗ LHART2370	The history of engraving and printed images	Ralph Dekoninck Joël Roucloux	FR [q1] [15h] [5 Credits] ⊖ 🌐
⊗ LHART2410	The iconography and anthropology of the image	Ralph Dekoninck	FR [q2] [30h] [5 Credits] ⊖ 🌐
⊗ LHART2420	Art and Photography	Alexander Streitberger	FR [q1] [30h] [5 Credits] ⊕ 🌐
⊗ LMUSI2450	Art and Music	Brigitte Van Wymeersch	FR [q1] [15h] [5 Credits] ⊖ 🌐

OPTIONS

Students must choose:

- either an option (15 credits); or
- optional courses among the four options (15 credits).

- > [Option in Events Communication](#) [en-prog-2026-visu2mc-lvisu801o]
- > [Option muséologie et médiation muséale](#) [en-prog-2026-visu2mc-lvisu802o]
- > [Option Photography and Film](#) [en-prog-2026-visu2mc-lvisu803o]
- > [Digital Culture and Ethics](#) [en-prog-2026-visu2mc-lfial800o]
- > [Optional courses](#) [en-prog-2026-visu2mc-lvisu805o]

OPTION IN EVENTS COMMUNICATION [15.0]

- 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...)

This option is organised at UCLouvain-Mons

○ Content:

○ MCOMU2702	Communication et production événementielle	Chloé Colpé	FR [q1] [22.5h] [5 Credits] 🌐
○ MCOMU2109	Pratiques de communication culturelle	Delphine Jenart	FR [q2] [22.5h] [5 Credits] 🌐
○ MCOMU2114	Communication des organisations culturelles	Charlotte Jacquet	FR [q1] [22.5h] [5 Credits] 🌐

OPTION MUSÉOLOGIE ET MÉDIATION MUSÉALE [15.0]

- 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...)

○ Content:

○ LHAGI2500	Museum studies: Organisational aspects	Joël Roucloux	FR [q2] [15h] [5 Credits] 🌐
○ LHAGI2540	Museum studies: current challenges	Joël Roucloux	FR [q1] [30h] [5 Credits] 🌐
⊗ LHAGI2550	Museum and Heritage Education	François Maheu	FR [q2] [15h] [5 Credits] ◊ 🌐
⊗ LHAGI2560	Seminar on methodology in Museum and Heritage Education	François Maheu	FR [q2] [15h] [5 Credits] ⊕ 🌐

OPTION PHOTOGRAPHY AND FILM [15.0]

- 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...)

This option is organised at KU Leuven

Content:

● EVISU2500	Photography and Visual Culture (KU Leuven)		(FR) [q2] [26h] [5 Credits] 🌐
● EVISU2501	Photo Hybrids (KU Leuven)		(FR) [q2] [26h] [5 Credits] 🌐
● EVISU2502	Film and Literature (KU Leuven)		(FR) [q2] [39h] [5 Credits] 🌐

DIGITAL CULTURE AND ETHICS [15.0]

The digital has transformed our lives and culture to the extent to which everything takes place nowadays in “digital space,” as our own space, time, and existence are all deeply digitalized. In the “culture of connectivity,” the digital is ubiquitous, we are, one way or another, always online, while technology is no longer just ‘at hand’, but already intimately infiltrating and fusing with our thoughts, our sensations, and even our bodies.

The Digital Culture and Ethics Option offers courses focusing on such profound changes brought about by the digital in all walks of life and academic disciplines alike. It invites the students to reflect critically and creatively on the resulting large-scale evolutions and equips them with the right skills and tools for approaching their subject matters from cutting-edge and presently much needed, genuinely effective and encompassing perspectives.

The topics and practical applications taught in this option also open up the scope of our specialized fields to wider cross-disciplinary viewpoints, thus making us ready to be professionally versatile and successful in a deeply transformed digital world.

<https://sites.uclouvain.be/chairealtissia/>

- 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...)

Content:

● LFIAL2010	The Digital Turn in Culture & Ethics	Samuel Dishaw	(FR) [q1] [22.5h] [5 Credits] 🌐
● LFIAL2020	Code et Culture: Python for digital humanities	Isabelle Gribomont	(FR) [q2] [22.5h] [5 Credits] 🌐 > English-friendly

One course from the list below : (5 credits)

⊗ LFIAL2630	Artificial intelligence for text data processing	Cédric Fairon Thomas François	(FR) [q2] [22.5h] [5 Credits] 🌐 > English-friendly
⊗ LFIAL2640	Introduction to Python programming for the humanities	Leonardo Zilio	(FR) [q2] [22.5h+15h] [5 Credits] 🌐
⊗ LFIAL2650	Critical analysis of artificial intelligence	Cédric Fairon	(FR) [q2] [22.5h] [5 Credits] 🌐 > English-friendly
⊗ L HIST2600	Digital Practices in History Professions <i>Ce cours est accessible uniquement à l'étudiant en master en histoire ou ayant suivi la mineure en histoire.</i>	Aurore François	(FR) [q2] [15h] [5 Credits] ○ 🌐

⌘ LEPL2210	Ethics and ICT	Axel Gosseries Olivier Pereira	EN [q2] [30h] [5 Credits] 🌐 > <i>French-friendly</i>
⌘ LANTR2115	How can you be an anthropologist in today's world?		EN [q2] [15h] [5 Credits] 🌐
⌘ LCOMU2640	Media education and media literacy	Jerry Jacques	EN [q1] [30h] [5 Credits] 🌐
⌘ LDEMO2640	"Big data" : capture et analyse de données massives	Christine Schnor	EN [q2] [20h] [5 Credits] 🌐
⌘ LEUSL2113	Digital Europe	Charles-Albert Helleputte Enguerrand Marique Patricia Nouveau	EN [q2] [30h] [5 Credits] 🌐
⌘ LSOC2002	Digital sociology	Eric Mangez	EN [q2] [30h] [5 Credits] 🌐

OPTIONAL COURSES [15.0]

Students must choose optional courses among the options (15 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.

VISU2MC - Information

Access Requirements

In the event of the divergence between the different linguistic versions of the present conditions, the French version shall prevail.

Decree of 7 November 2013 defining the landscape of higher education and the academic organization of studies.

The admission requirements must be met prior to enrolment in the University.

Unless explicitly mentioned, the bachelor's, master's and licentiate degrees listed 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](#)

General access requirements

Translated from https://www.gallilex.cfwb.be/fr/leg_res_01.php?ncda=39681&referant=I02

Art. 112. of the "Décret définissant le paysage de l'enseignement supérieur et l'organisation académique des études" :

§ 1. In accordance with the general requirements established by the academic authorities, students who have:

1. a master's degree;
2. an academic degree similar to the one mentioned in the preceding paragraph awarded by a higher education institution in the Flemish Community or the German-speaking Community, or by the Royal Military Academy, by virtue of a decision of the academic authorities and in accordance with any additional requirements they may establish;
3. a foreign academic degree deemed equivalent to the one mentioned in paragraph 1, in accordance with this Decree, a European directive, an international convention or other legislation, in accordance with the same requirements.

The additional admission requirements referred to in paragraph 2 are intended to ensure that the student has acquired the knowledge and skills required for the studies in question. When the additional admission requirements consist of one or more additional course units, these may not represent more than 60 additional credits for the student, taking into account all the credits that he or she may otherwise use for admission. These course units are part of the student's study programme.

§ 2. In accordance with the general requirements established by the academic authorities, a student who holds a title, diploma, degree or certificate of higher education, in the French Community or outside it, which does not grant him or her eligibility for admission to a specialised master's course by virtue of the preceding paragraph, may nevertheless be admitted by the jury of the course in question, in accordance with the additional requirements that it establishes, if the totality of the higher education that he or she has completed or the expertise that he or she has acquired is valued by the jury to be at least 240 credits.

§ 3. By way of derogation from these general requirements, the academic authorities may also admit to a specialised master's course holders of a title, diploma, degree or certificate awarded outside the French Community which, in that system of origin, grants direct eligibility for postgraduate studies, even if the studies sanctioned by these credentials are not organised into distinct degree courses or within a time period of at least five years.

Specific access requirements

1° The [Advanced Master in Visual Cultures](#) is directly accessible, without further training, to candidates holding :

Either an academic Master's degree, awarded in the French or Flemish Community of Belgium, in one of the following fields:

- Philosophy ;
 - Theology ;
 - Languages, literature and translation;
 - History, art history and archaeology;
 - Information and communication ;
 - Political and social sciences ;
 - Legal sciences ;
 - Criminology;
 - Economics and management ;
 - Psychological and educational sciences;
- or a similar degree awarded by the Royal Military Academy;

Or a second-cycle academic degree (licence, master) corresponding to one of the above-mentioned degrees awarded in the French-speaking Community, in accordance with the provisions prior to the decree of March 31, 2004, or in the Flemish-speaking Community of Belgium;

Or a foreign title or degree recognized by the French Community of Belgium as equivalent to one of those mentioned above.

For holders of any other diploma, Belgian or foreign, admission is based on an application file; provided that candidates can demonstrate personal or professional experience and/or previous academic results deemed sufficient by the admissions committee, by virtue of a decision of the latter and subject to the additional conditions it sets, candidates holding :

An academic master's degree other than those mentioned above, awarded in the French Community or Flemish Community of Belgium;

Or a second-cycle academic degree corresponding to one of the above-mentioned degrees, awarded in the French-speaking Community of Belgium under provisions predating the decree of March 31, 2004;

Or a foreign title or degree deemed comparable to one of those mentioned above and valued for at least 240 credits by the admissions committee.

2° Candidates who do not hold a higher education diploma from the French Community of Belgium (or from a country where French is the only official language) must provide proof of sufficient mastery of the French language at level B2 of the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages.

In the absence of an official certificate issued by an organization recognized as a full member by ALTE (see <https://alte.org/Our-Full-Members>), a certificate issued by the University showing that the candidate has been taught in French may be accepted.

Examples of tests recognized by the jury for French: DELF or TCF.

Access through the valorization of acquired experience

> Consult the Valorisation des acquis de l'expérience website

Candidates who do not meet the above admission requirements, but who have duly attested significant professional or personal experience related to the targeted field of study, may apply for admission to the Master of Specialization in Gender Studies on the basis of an individualized admission procedure under the conditions set out in art. 119 of the decree of November 7, 2013 defining the landscape of higher education and the academic organization of studies.

This personal or professional experience must correspond to at least five years of activity, with years of postgraduate study being taken into account at a rate of only one year per 60 credits acquired, up to a maximum of 2 years. During the assessment procedure (VAE file and interview), the jury verifies that the candidate's skills and knowledge are sufficient to successfully complete the studies.

For more information on the VAE admission procedure for the Faculty of Philosophy, Arts and Letters: <https://uclouvain.be/fr/facultes/fial/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.

Admissibility criteria

A candidate's application will be deemed admissible if it meets all of the following criteria:

- Candidate's diploma issued by an institution recognized by WHED (see <https://www.whed.net/home.php>)
- Previous course of study comprising at least 4 years of higher education (equivalent to 240 ECTS credits), leading to a Master's degree;
- For holders of a **diploma obtained outside Belgium, an overall average of at least 60% (12/20)** for the course of study completed in the home institution and giving access to this program;
- For holders of a **diploma obtained outside the French-speaking Community of Belgium, official attestation of proficiency in the language(s)** at the required level (see specific admission conditions), to be attached to the application file. The official attestation must be issued by an organization recognized as a full member by ALTE (see <https://alte.org/Our-Full-Members>).
- A **detailed resume** outlining your educational background and potential professional experience.
- A personal and **original cover letter**. An original cover letter is expected, explaining your personal training goals.

If a document is missing from the online application, it must be justified (see UCLouvain Enrolment Department's frequently asked questions, in particular "What do I do if my online application asks for a document I don't yet have?")

Applications that are deemed admissible are forwarded to the Faculty by Enrolment Services. Applications that do not meet these criteria are automatically rejected.

Eligibility criteria

Applications for access to the program are submitted to the Faculty by UCLouvain's Registrar's Office, and are examined by the program's jury in accordance with the specific conditions of access detailed above.

The jury decides on the admissibility of candidates on the basis of the information contained in their application file, the quality of the training they have undergone and the results they have obtained.

When examining the application, the jury will pay particular attention to the following points:

- **Consistency** between the candidate's previous academic career and the prerequisites for the targeted program. The candidate's academic background does not need to perfectly match the degrees that give direct access to the specialized master's program, but the skills acquired (see specific admission requirements) must be similar. Example: for an application for admission to a master's program in modern languages and literature, the candidate's previous training includes courses in languages and literature in both modern languages.

- **Arguments** expressed in the cover letter, particularly the consistency between the candidate's personal and professional goals and the program in question. The letter should explain why the candidate wishes to enroll in this program and specify how the master's degree fits into the candidate's personal and professional goals.
- **Grades** obtained in the program's major disciplines (see specific entry requirements);
- **Experience gained.** If the qualifying diploma was obtained more than 5 years prior to the submission of the application for admission, it is imperative that the experience acquired since leaving school is directly related to the field of study of the programme applied for.

Admission and registration procedures

All applications for admission, enrolment or re-registration (from Belgian or international candidates) must be submitted online to the UCLouvain Enrolment Service: <https://uclouvain.be/inscription>.

Application deadlines: <https://uclouvain.be/fr/etudier/inscriptions/calendrier-inscriptions.html>

For further information on admission to this Master's program, please contact info-fial@uclouvain.be.

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".

Contacts

Curriculum Management

Faculty

Structure entity

Denomination

Sector

Acronym

Postal address

SSH/FIAL

Faculty of Philosophy, Arts and Letters ([FIAL](#))

Human Sciences ([SSH](#))

FIAL

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<http://www.uclouvain.be/fial>

Website

Mandate(s)

- Dean : Elisabeth Degand
- Administrative director : Valérie Loutsch

Commission(s) of programme

- Ecole d'histoire, arts et cultures ([EHAC](#))

Academic supervisor: [Sébastien Fevry](#)

Jury

- President: [Alexander Streitberger](#)
- Secretary: [Sébastien Fevry](#)
- 3rd member of the small panel: [François Maheu](#)

Useful Contact(s)

- For further information: info-fial@uclouvain.be

