



Vrije  
Universiteit  
Brussel

# Study in Brussels

## The heart of Europe





## VRIJE UNIVERSITEIT BRUSSEL TOP EDUCATION IN THE HEART OF EUROPE

The Vrije Universiteit Brussel (VUB) is a dynamic and modern university with almost two centuries of history. The university and the university hospital are spread over two green campuses in the Brussels Capital Region. It counts over **13,400** students, 2,900 of whom are international. VUB offers high-quality **English-taught graduate programmes**, supported by outstanding research. The campus has everything a student needs: an extensive **library**, modern **computer labs**, **sport** facilities, **restaurants**, a **job service**, **cultural** activities and **language** courses.

With all fields of study being represented, students can go above and beyond their own discipline: they **exchange experiences, cultures, ideas** and **values**. At the VUB, students have easy access to their lecturers and assistants. Faculty members are available and open to answering students' questions through an **open-door policy**. Small group workshops are also used to ensure close **interaction and hands-on experience**.

The VUB offers students more than just a great educational experience. Brussels, the heart of Europe and the capital of Belgium is an open invitation to exploring a truly international city. With its 1.1 million inhabitants, of whom 31% are of **foreign origin**, Brussels is the **centre of international politics and business**. Major political EU institutions are based in Brussels, offering a wide range of career **opportunities**. The **VUB Career Center** provides guidance and resources to its students and alumni looking for jobs and internships.

This **cosmopolitan city** has something to offer **for every taste and interest**. Visit a museum, enjoy the many events and festivals, get to know the Belgian cuisine with its famous chocolate and world renowned beers, relax in one of the many parks that make Brussels one of the greenest cities in the world, learn a new language, or just make friends from all over the world. In this officially **bilingual city** (Dutch and French) most people also speak **English**.

Thanks to its expertise and strategic location, the **VUB** is your **ideal partner for prestigious research and education** with an outlook on Europe and the world.



## INSTITUTES OF THE VUB

### Institute for European Studies (IES)

The IES is an academic Jean Monnet Centre of Excellence and a policy think tank that focuses on the European Union in an international setting. The Institute advances academic education and research in various disciplines, and provides services to policy-makers, scholars, stakeholders and the general public.



Institute for  
European Studies  
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While promoting European Studies in general, the IES specifically explores EU institutions, policies and law within the context of globalization and global governance, including a focus on the EU in international affairs and institutions. The disciplines applied at the IES include law, social/political sciences, economics and communication sciences, and the Institute's activities focus on the various ways in which institutions, law and politics intersect with each other in the EU, its member states and at the international level.

The IES is responsible for two advanced Master programmes: the renowned LL.M. in International and European Law (also known as the PILC programme), and the Master in European Integration and Development (an evening programme). It also organises a Summer School, E-learning modules and a Postgraduate Certificate Programme on European Policy Making.

[W] [www.ies.be](http://www.ies.be)

### Brussels Institute of Contemporary China Studies (BICCS)

BICCS, an international flagship of the VUB, was founded in 2006 and serves as the capital of Europe's main academic hub between Europe and China. It aims to increase European understanding of contemporary China and its impact on world affairs. The BICCS team is committed to comprehensive academic research in four main areas: China and the European Union, Foreign and Security Policy, China's Domestic Transition, and Chinese Law. Departing from solid academic research, BICCS offers advanced training for graduates. In addition to its research and training activities, BICCS provides cutting-edge education for graduates and professionals. The institute runs four major Postgraduate Certificate Programmes on business, investment, legal, political and intercultural issues, as well as Chinese language courses.

[W] [www.vub.ac.be/en/biccs](http://www.vub.ac.be/en/biccs)



## PARTNER INSTITUTION

### Vesalius College (VeCo)

VeCo was founded in 1987 to offer undergraduate education in English in association with the VUB and Boston University. VeCo offers three bachelor programmes and one master programme based on the American educational philosophy: small classes, low student/teacher ratios, varied and participatory classroom experiences and personal guidance. Its student body is very diverse, with students from over 50 different countries.

[W] [www.vesalius.edu](http://www.vesalius.edu)



Vesalius College  
Brussels

BACHELORS AND MASTER*	ECTS
BA Business Studies	180
BA Communications Studies	180
BA International Affairs	180
Ma in European Union Policy	60

\*Specific admission requirements and tuition fees apply.

## ADMISSION

Admission is based upon review of each application (proof of meeting academic and language requirements, personal motivation, etc.)

### Language requirements for English-taught programmes

Proof of English proficiency is compulsory for all students and can be documented by the following certificates (provided by the institution):

- Students who have passed one of the following English language tests: TOEFL (min. iBT 80, pBT 550), IELTS (Academic) min. 6.5, Cambridge CAE min. B, Cambridge CPE min. C or TOEIC (min. 860).
- Students who have successfully completed at least one year of secondary education with English as the language of tuition.
- Students with a primary education certificate with English as the language of tuition.
- Students who have been awarded at least 15 ECTS credits in higher education with English as the language of tuition.
- Students who have completed secondary education (ASO) in Belgium

For more details on admission requirements and application please consult: [W] [www.vub.ac.be/en/apply](http://www.vub.ac.be/en/apply)

## LANGUAGE COURSES

The University Language Institute (ITO) is a central academic department of the VUB which offers language classes for VUB students. The institute also organises Dutch and English language tests (TOEFL) for students seeking admission to VUB. The Brussels Education Centre (C.V.O.-B.E.C.) organises high-quality language courses for adults on the VUB campus.

## TUITION FEE

Education in Belgium is subsidised by the government, the VUB is, therefore, offering quality education at a reasonable cost.

Programme Tuition fee	(Euro) / year
Masters	610 - 2,950
Advanced Masters	610 - 5,150
Postgraduate certificates	4,800 - 6,800
PhDs	290 (applicable in the first year and the year of defense)

## LIVING EXPENSES

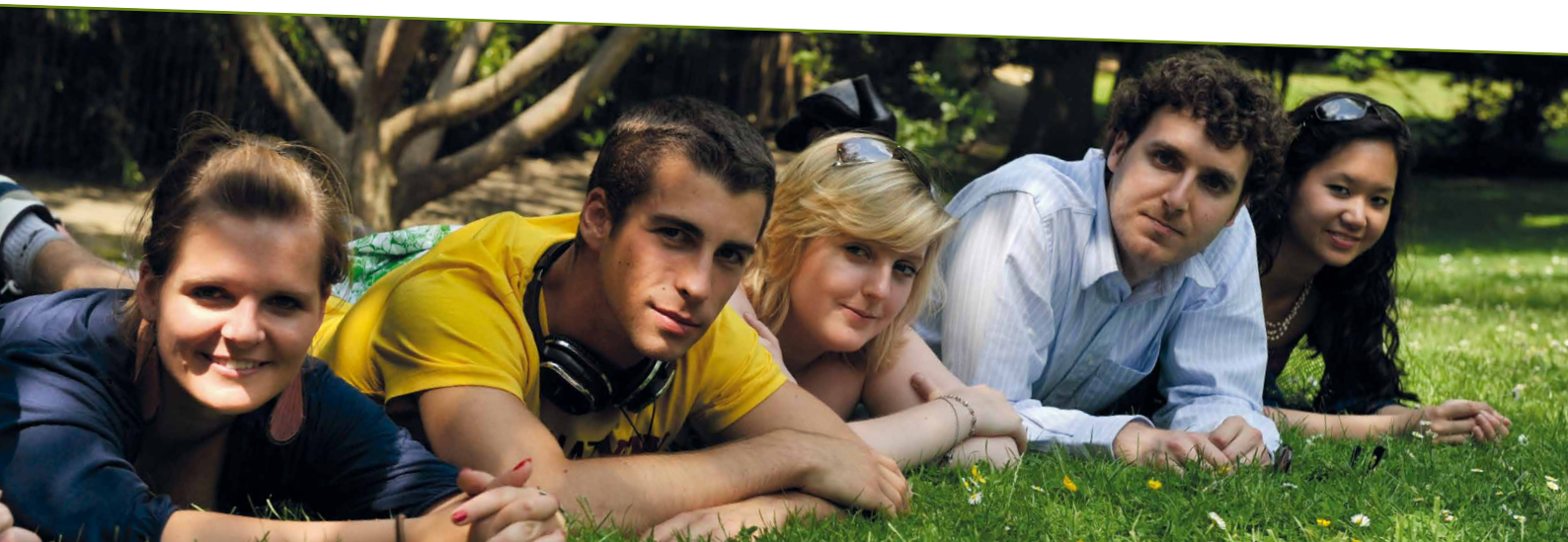
Item	Expenses (Euro) / year
Accommodation	4,000 - 5,000
Food	3,000
Public transportation	120 (under 25 years old) - 500
Health insurance	100 - 300
Mobile phone	300
Other (study materials, trips, etc.)	2,000 - 3,000
Total	9,520 - 12,100

## SCHOLARSHIPS

A number of scholarships and grants are available to prospective students based on criteria such as nationality, academic performance, programme of study, and level of study.

These financing opportunities are made available either by the VUB itself, by funding agencies such as the Belgian Technical Cooperation, the Flemish Interuniversity Council through the University Development Cooperation programme, the China Scholarship Council, the European Commission, or by other cooperation agreements.

For more information [W] [www.vub.ac.be/en/finance](http://www.vub.ac.be/en/finance)





## ENGLISH TAUGHT PROGRAMMES

All degree programmes offered by the VUB are accredited by the Dutch Flemish Accreditation Organisation (NVAO) ensuring that they meet predefined quality standards.

### MASTERS AND ADVANCED MASTERS

Engineering	ECTS
Applied Sciences and Engineering: Applied Computer Science	120
Architectural Engineering	120
Biomedical Engineering (Erasmus Mundus CEMACUBE)	120
Chemical and Materials Engineering	120
Civil Engineering	120
Electromechanical Engineering	120
Electronics and Information Technology Engineering	120
Nuclear Engineering	60*
Photonics Engineering	120
Physical Land Resources	120
Water Resources Engineering	120

### Science and Bio engineering Sciences

Applied Sciences and Engineering: Computer Science	120
Biology (including Erasmus Mundus TROPIMUNDO)	120
Biomolecular Sciences	120
Geography	120
Marine and Lacustrine Science and Management	120
Molecular Biology	120
Urban Studies (Erasmus Mundus 4CITIES)	120

### Economics, Political and Social Sciences

Business and Technology	120
Communication Studies	60
Management	60
Management Science	120
Economics of Globalisation and European Integration (Erasmus Mundus MEGEI)	60*
European Integration and Development	60*

### Law and Criminology

International and European Law	60*
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### Arts and Philosophy

Advanced Studies in Linguistics	60*
American Studies	60*

### Psychology and Educational Sciences

Educational Sciences	120
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### Medicine and Pharmacy

Disaster Medicine	60*
Gerontological Sciences	60*

\* An Advanced Master programme is usually only accessible after completion of a Master programme or 240 ECTS credits.

For more information please visit our website:

[W] [www.vub.ac.be/en/programmes/](http://www.vub.ac.be/en/programmes/)

### POSTGRADUATE CERTIFICATE PROGRAMMES

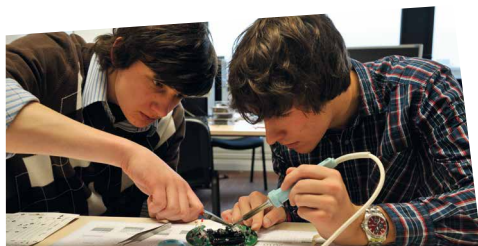
Cardiac Electrophysiology and Pacing	60
China Business Development	60
Chinese Business Law	60
Connaissanceurship	69
Contemporary China Studies	60
European Policy Making	25
International Business Arbitration	60
Investing in the EU – Benelux as a Gateway	60
Multilingual Education, Learning and Teaching	30

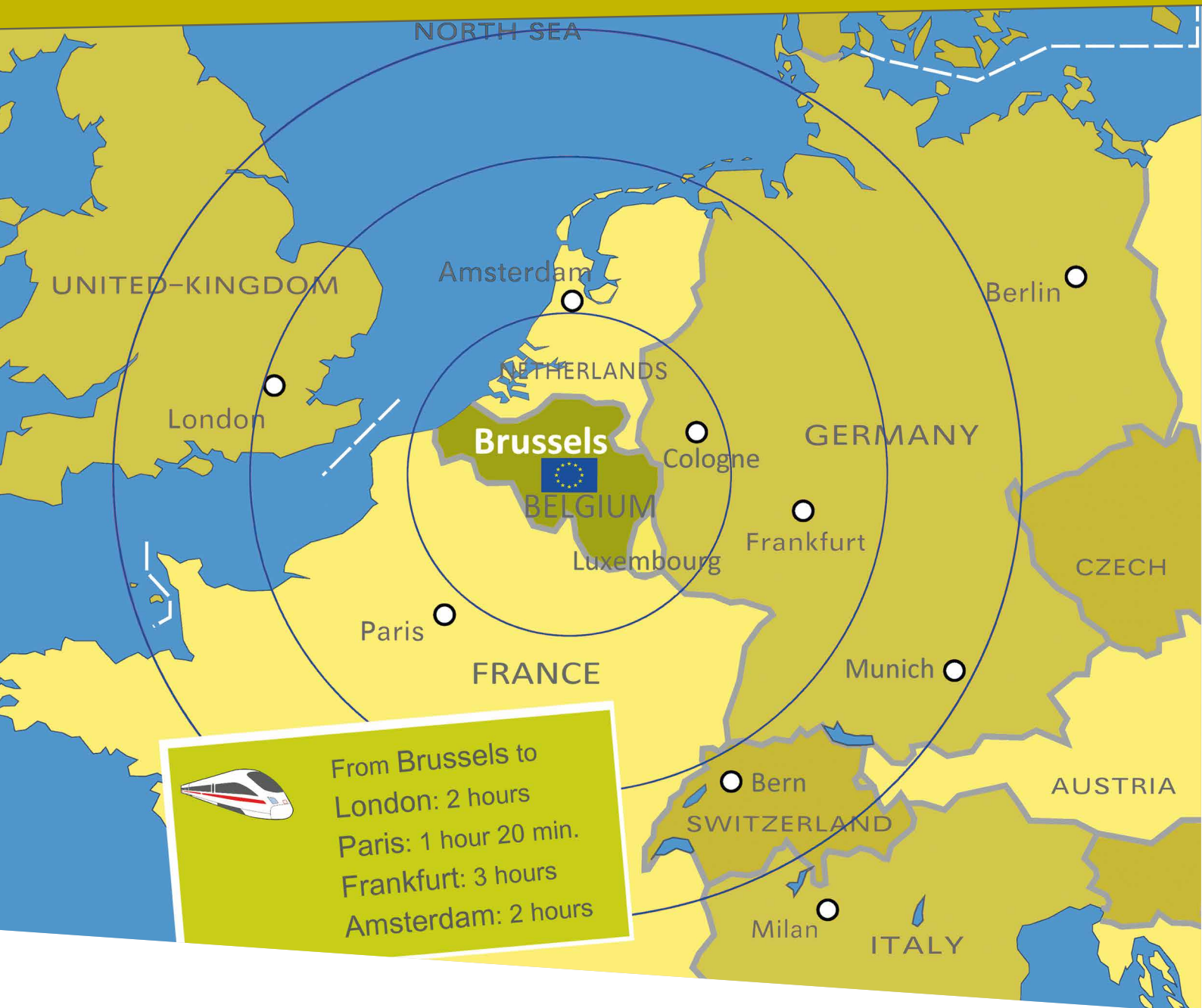
### PhD

More than 30 disciplines

The Central PhD Office is established to help PhD students start, conduct and complete a PhD. This covers diverse aspects such as providing information on the administrative side of a PhD, help shaping VUB policy concerning the PhD process, offering workshops aimed at developing generic or transferable skills and furthering cooperation with other institutions in the domain of PhD studies.

[W] [www.vub.ac.be/en/phd/](http://www.vub.ac.be/en/phd/)





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#### GENERAL INFORMATION

Vrije Universiteit Brussel – Campus Etterbeek  
Pleinlaan 2, B-1050 Brussels, Belgium, Europe

Vrije Universiteit Brussel – Campus Jette  
Laarbeeklaan 103, B-1090 Brussels, Belgium, Europe

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[W] [www.vub.ac.be/en/](http://www.vub.ac.be/en/)

#### INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS AND MOBILITY OFFICE

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Vrije Universiteit Brussel – IRMO  
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