



| le savoir vivant |

The human sciences as liberal arts

Master of arts (MA) with specialisation

GENERAL OUTLINE

Objectives

The Master of Arts allows students to acquire the knowledge and techniques required for a better grasp of the contemporary world and of cultural production over time.

The Master's course offered by the Faculty of Arts a wide range of disciplines, from historical studies to theoretical approaches in the human sciences, languages and literature.

The specialisation programmes are study plans worth 30 ECTS credits that, when added to the Master of Arts course, allow to obtain a Master of Arts with Specialisation. Through an interdisciplinary approach, they offer the possibility, as the case may be, to deepen your knowledge in a particular field, to get acquainted with academic research or to acquire a professionalising experience.

Perspectives

Thanks to the possibility of completing a work placement, this course offers you the chance to familiarise yourself with various areas of the arts (museums, theatres, festivals and foundations), communications, the media, events, translation, publishing, archives, cultural mediation or international organisations.

By the end of the course, you will have acquired skills that are useful in a range of occupations, from the ability to analyse and summarise, to a critical mindset, a rigorous approach to interpretation, independence, organisation, argumentation, excellent oral and written communication, and the ability to convey complex knowledge.

These assets are greatly appreciated and allow our alumni to have positions such as teacher, journalist, communications officer, editorial coordinator, cultural mediator, translator, web and new media projects officer, arts festival programme coordinator.

Other positions and alumni testimonials:
www.unil.ch/perspectives/lettres

GENERAL INFORMATION

Organisers

Faculty of Arts:
www.unil.ch/lettres

Degree awarded

Master of Arts (MA) with specialisation

ECTS credits

120

Duration

4 semesters

Teaching language

French and/or the language of the discipline studied. Recommended level: C1.

Contact

Study Advisor
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Regulations and additional information concerning the course

www.unil.ch/lettres/master
 Study plan of each specialisation programme:
www.unil.ch/lettres/spec

EDUCATIONAL CONTENT

Description

The Faculty of Arts offers training at Master's level in the following disciplines:

- Cinema
- Classical Studies
- Computer Science for the Humanities
- English
- French as a Foreign Language
- German
- History
- History of Art
- History of Religions
- Italian
- Language and Communication Studies
- Medieval French
- Modern French
- Philosophy
- Slavic Studies
- Spanish
- South Asian Languages and Cultures

At the end of the first year, you decide in which discipline you will complete your dissertation and you will engage in one of two possible paths: a Master of Arts worth 90 ECTS credits (see the relevant description for this programme) or a Master of Arts with specialisation worth 120 ECTS credits.

Specialisation programmes

- African Studies: Textwork and Fieldwork
- Comparative European Languages and Literatures
- Culture, Civilisation and Resurgences of the Middle Ages
- Digital Humanities
- Education and Outreach Practices
- French and French-speaking Studies in the European Context
- History of Culture: texts, images and society
- History of Film Theory/Practices
- History of the Book and Critical Edition
- Literary Translation
- New American Studies
- Philosophy, Science and Society
- Public Discourse and Communication Analysis
- Switzerland and the Arts: Boundaries, Territories, Identities

- Theater Studies
- Working in the Field of Archaeology and Historical Heritage

Assessment

Each teaching unit is assessed, either through an exam during the session or through a validation (written paper, oral presentation, file, exercises, etc).

SYLLABUS

Main discipline

In principle, this is a continuation of one of the disciplines of the Bachelor's degree.

30 ECTS credits

Secondary discipline

In principle, this is a continuation of the second discipline of the Bachelor's degree.

30 ECTS credits

or Consolidation programme

The Consolidation Programme allows you to reinforce your main discipline by broadening its field as well as to acquire complementary knowledge in other fields of your choice.

30 ECTS credits

Specialisation programme

See the presentation of each specialisation.

30 ECTS credits

Master's dissertation

The Master's dissertation is an original, substantial piece of initial research. It is the result of a personal research work, conducted according to scientific principles under a supervisor's direction. It consists of a written dissertation and is the object of an oral defence.

30 ECTS credits

Scheme of the Master of Arts course

4		Specialisation programme 30 credits	
3	Dissertation		
2	Main discipline 30 credits	Secondary discipline 30 credits	Consolidation programme 30 credits
1			

Semesters

↑ or ↑

PRACTICAL INFORMATION

Admission requirements

Holders of a Bachelor of Arts degree of the University of Lausanne, or of a Bachelor of Arts degree of another Swiss or foreign university recognised by UNIL, are admitted without conditions to the Master of Arts degree course in the discipline(s) studied for their Bachelor's degree.

Students who change discipline between the Bachelor's degree and the Master's degree, or are holders of a Swiss or foreign Bachelor's degree recognised by UNIL in another orientation are admitted to the Master of Arts degree course in the discipline(s) studied for their Bachelor's degree.

In order to be admitted to a Master's course at UNIL, holders of a Bachelor's degree awarded by a UAS must prove that they satisfy the conditions for admission to a Master's degree course in their own type of educational institution.

Enrolment and final dates

It is possible to start the programme of the Master of Arts degree in either the Autumn or the Spring semesters:

Applications to be submitted before 30 April (autumn semester) or 30 November (spring semester) to the Admissions Office:
www.unil.ch/immat

Candidates needing a visa to study in Switzerland must apply for enrolment at least two months prior to the deadlines indicated above.

Start of courses

Autumn semester: mid-September

Spring semester: mid-February

Academic calendar:

www.unil.ch/lettres/calendriers

Part-time Master's degree

Under certain conditions, a Master programme can be followed part-time. See www.unil.ch/formations/master-temps-partiel.

Mobility

Subject to the prior agreement of the Faculty, you can study for one or two semesters in another institution while remaining registered at the UNIL.

General information on studies, guidance

www.unil.ch/soc

Career prospects

unil.ch/perspectives/unil-et-apres

Accommodation and financial assistance

www.unil.ch/sasme

International

www.unil.ch/international

Version: March 2023
 Subject to changes
 Only the official texts should be considered binding.

www.unil.ch/masters

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