

Academic Achievements

In 2009, K.U.Leuven was ranked 65th worldwide by London's Times Higher Education. Its associated business school, Vlerick, is now 10th worldwide in the Financial Times ranking. Flanders, the Dutch-speaking part of Belgium, is in the top-5 worldwide for the quality of its secondary education (math, science, reading), so we teach at a brisk pace and a high level.

Chartered in 1425, K.U.Leuven is a founding member of the Coimbra Group, a club of 30-odd ancient universities. (The Coimbra Group initiated the "Bologna" reform, introducing a Bachelor/Master structure throughout Europe.) Leuven hosts the secretariat, and currently also the chair's office, of the League of European Research Universities, a 12-strong club; we are systematically in Europe's top-10 *re* research output. Leuven's spinoffs (over 70 in the last two decades; 47 in 1998-2007) employ about 6,000; this does not include the solid-state and miniaturisation lab, IMEC, which employs another 2,000, mostly engineers and physics PhDs from all over the globe. K.U.Leuven

is the sole non-US university in the world top-10 in terms of royalty income. Two of the four *Rectors* (presidents) since Leuven's 1968 split-up into a Dutch- and a French-language university—we are the Dutch-speaking one, by the way—made fortunes as entrepreneurs while being professors.

Our Business and Economics Faculty has exchanges with many European institutions but also with schools in the US (Chicago, Cornell, Duke, Illinois, Penn State, Rochester, and Wharton), Canada (British Columbia, Toronto, Queens), China (Beida/PKU, City_U HK, Chinese_U HK, Fudan, Tsinghua), India (IIM Bangalore and Calcutta), Singapore (SMU), Australia (Sydney, Queensland Tech) and many others.

The university has about 30,000 students, of which 4,500 in research-master or PhD programs. At the higher levels there is substantial foreign presence (about 30% in our own 150-strong PhD program, for instance).

Programs in Business and Economics

Core programs We offer economics and business programs to 4,000 students from bachelor to PhD.

Right now, about 40% of the annual intake of 600 students into business master's programs go for a 2-year quant/tech stream, business engineering. The rest currently follow a one-year master program, although 15-20% of them then go on for a second (advanced) master's, like Financial Economics, Financial and Actuarial Engineering, Advanced Business, Advanced Economics, or one of the many Dutch-language masters.

Bachelor courses are mostly in Dutch; about 20 courses are in English. At the master level there are

100%-English basic Master programs too (Business Economics; Economics), and also the advanced programs mentioned above are in English.

Summer School: Doing Business with Europeans

A new element of interest is our summer school series, initially two weeks in June, on the dual themes of (i) European institutions and policies, and (ii) intercultural issues in management, leadership, and negotiations, all focused in Europe. The new program is open, rather than set up for one specific university, the formule we've offered for 15 years. The target audience is dual: students from exchange partner schools and (mostly Asian) executives

Leuven town & gown

The borough of Leuven is just perfect: small enough (35,000 residents within the old city walls; then add in 30,000 students), safe, vibrant, an architectural trove, full of student life, art, intellect, delightful gastronomy and ales, close to Brussels (20 minutes by train),

Paris (2 hrs) or London (3 hrs).

Click www.econ.kuleuven/lsbe/leuvenpicturebook to view an informal picture book we once made for a *Doing Business in Europe* student group. It does give the right impression.



Exchange Programs: Key data 2010 - 2011

Contacts

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Website

FACULTY OF BUSINESS AND ECONOMICS, LLP/ ERASMUS - EXCHANGE Program

Academic Coordinators

Prof. Dr. Maarten GOOS - Economics
 Prof. Dr. Chris LEFEBVRE - Business Studies

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Deadline application

First semester
 Second semester

15 May 2010
 15 October 2010

Orientation days

Website

t.b.a. (always in September And February)
www.kuleuven.ac.be/vesta

INTERNATIONAL OFFICE K.U.Leuven

Institutional Coordinator

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Learning expectations

Class formats are varied. At the Bachelor level, lectures dominate, sometimes with (group) homeworks discussed in class. In Master programs, especially advanced ones, discussions and presentations play a larger role. Every master student also writes a project paper.

Class sizes vary between a few hundred (Bachelor) to a few dozen (Advanced Masters).

Average work load is 30 ECTS units, here meaning typically five courses of, typically, 39 contact

hours each. A few of our courses have 3 ECTS, and courses from other faculties may have 4 or 5 ECTS.

Exams take place after a two-week study period at the end of each semester—see calendar, below. The dominant format at the bachelor level is a closed-book/open-question exam; a few are true-false. There are open-book exams too, and projects and homeworks with varying weights, especially in Master programs.

Academic calendar 2010-2011

Monday 16 August 2010

Wednesday 22– Sunday 26 September 2010

Monday 27 September 2010

Tuesday 28 September 2010

Monday-Thursday 20-23 December

Thursday 23 December 2010

Friday 24 December 2010 till Sunday 9 January 2011 Christmas and New Year holidays

Monday 10 January – Thursday 13 January 2011

Friday 14 January – Saturday 05 February 2011

Sunday 06 February – Sunday 13 February 2011

Wednesday 9– Sunday 12 February 2011

Monday 14 February 2011

Saturday 9 April – Monday 25 April 2011

Saturday 28 May 2011

Sunday 29 May – Thursday 9 June 2011

Friday 10 June – Saturday 9 July 2011

Tuesday 16 August 2011

Monday 22 August – Saturday 17 Sept. 2011

Monday 26 September 2011

Start of the registration period for 2010-2011

Orientation Days for International Students

Opening ceremony of the academic year 2010-2011

Start of classes in the first semester of 2010-2011

Exams for intercontinental exchange students

End of classes in the first semester

Exam preparation. No classes

First semester exams

Mid-year break. No classes

Orientation Days for International Students

Start of classes in the second semester

Easter holidays

End of classes in the second semester

Exam preparation. No classes

Second semester exams

Start of the registration period for 2011-2012

Examination retakes for failed students 2010-2011

Start of the academic year 2011-2012

What students should bring

EEA-students (EEA: European Economic Area: 27 countries of EU plus Iceland, Norway and Liechtenstein)

1. your identity card or passport
2. the official forms that prove you are affiliated with a health insurance in your home country and which is valid in Belgium (EHIC: European Health Insurance Card)
3. proof that you are registered as a student at your home university
4. your "letter of admission"

Non-EEA students

1. your passport, with "Authorisation for provisional sojourn" (student visa) if required (for stays longer than 3 months)
2. for those who do not require a student visa: a proof of solvency or proof of scholarship
3. proof that you are registered as a student at your home university
4. your "letter of admission"

EEA- and non-EEA-students: do read the information on insurance & health care in our brochure "**Living in Leuven**", also available on

www.kuleuven.be/admissions/pdf/living.pdf



Introductory Dutch courses

At the request of the International Office, the Institute of Modern Languages organises 'Dutch for Foreign Students' courses—**introductory (and free) Dutch language courses only open to Erasmus students.** on presentation of the Erasmus-student card. The course lasts 3 months and is meant for beginning students in order to activate communication through conversational exercises. It is a practical course based on the principles of Dutch grammar. The aim is to make students acquainted with the vocabulary of every-day life.

Students who already have a basic or advanced level of Dutch can gain entry to one of the higher levels of the regular courses if they pass the placement test. In total, 5 basic levels and 1 perfection level of Dutch are taught. The level-1 to -5 modules can be taken either intensively (12 hours/week) or over a more extended

period (6 hours/week). The perfection level 6 is only offered at a pace of 4 hours/week.

Besides the courses throughout the academic year, the ILT also offers a full-time **intensive summer course** in Dutch language and culture—80 hours between 30 July 2010 till 27 August 2010 (20 hours a week). The course is open to undergraduates and graduates of all areas of study who wish to improve their knowledge of and communicative skills in Dutch. The communicative approach is used in all 5 levels. Besides the theoretical courses, many conversational exercises and complementary activities are planned (lectures, cultural happening, trip etc.). The course is intended for students of different levels, from beginners to intermediate and advanced. The tuition fee is € 310 for all students.

For the latest information, please visit the ILT website: www.kuleuven.be/ilt.

Housing

General information regarding accommodation in Leuven for (exchange) students can be found on www.kuleuven.be/accommodation/index.htm. On this site you will read that it's impossible to arrange permanent housing before arrival in Leuven!

We strongly advise to arrive a few days before the start of the year, in order to arrange their permanent housing. Note that September is the most difficult time to find both temporary and permanent housing!

Exchange students cannot apply for a room in a university residence, and are referred to the private housing market. Because of the wide variety in prices, comfort, surface area etc..., it is really too risky to make a choice from abroad, without having viewed at least a few rental units personally.

Under Belgian law, a contract, once signed, cannot be terminated before it expires. For those reasons we never send contact information or address lists by e-mail to students who are not in Leuven yet.

We strongly recommend students to book temporary guesthousing themselves, quite a few weeks in advance. Guesthousing can be found on www.kuleuven.be/accommodation/guestroom.html.

Upon arrival in Leuven, all students are welcome at the Housing Service, Van Dalecollege, Naamsestraat 80 in Leuven. Open every weekday between 9-12am and 2-5pm, they provide information on and assist in finding permanent accommodation.. Note: closed on Monday 6 September 2010 because of Leuven Fair !

Exchange students staying for a full academic year will be referred to the university database of privately rented student houses.

Exchange students staying for one semester will receive a list of Flemish students who sublet their room to an international student while they are studying abroad themselves, or while they are in training on another location. *The list for the 1st semester is available from the middle of July, that for the 2nd semester from the middle of December. It is not possible to apply for those lists from abroad.*

Unlike students who stay in Leuven during the 1st semester, students who come for the 2nd semester can also negotiate directly with landlords.

Landlords who still have rooms available in January will generally conclude a contract that ends together with the academic year. These addresses can be consulted locally at the Housing Service through their database. It will take from a few days up to one week to find suitable accommodation.

Prices Single room: furnished, kitchen and bathroom to share with other students in the house. Blankets, sheets and pillows are NOT provided! Average price: between €260 and €300 /month.

Prices Studio: private kitchen and bathroom, furnished. Blankets, sheets and pillows are NOT provided! Average price: between €400 and €500 /month.

