



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 **11,000** students, 2,400 of whom are international. VUB offers high-quality **English-taught graduate programmes** and prestigious research based on more than 150 internationally recognized research teams. The campus has everything a student needs: an extensive **library**, modern **computer labs**, **sport** facilities, two **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 good relationships with 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.



## 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	120
Chemical and Materials Engineering	120
Civil Engineering	120
Electromechanical Engineering	120
Electronics and Information Technology Engineering	120
Nuclear Engineering	60*
Photonics Science and Engineering	120
Physical Land Resources	120
Water Resources Engineering	120

### Science and Bio engineering Sciences

Applied Sciences and Engineering: Computer Science	120
Biology	120
Biomolecular Sciences	120
Geography	120
Marine and Lacustrine Science and Management	120
Molecular Biology	120
Urban Studies	120
European Urban Cultures	60*

### Economics, Political and Social Sciences

Business and Technology	120
Management	60
Management Science	120
Economics of Globalisation and European Integration	60*
European Integration and Development	60*

Law and Criminology	ECTS
International and European Law	60*

### Arts and Philosophy

Communication Studies	60
Advanced Studies in Linguistics	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/education/](http://www.vub.ac.be/en/education/)

### POSTGRADUATE CERTIFICATE PROGRAMMES

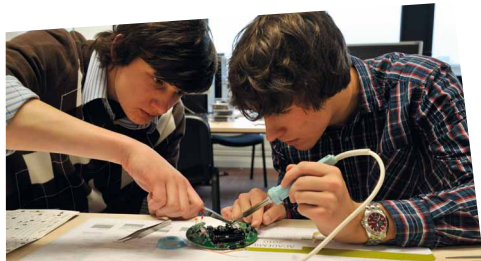
Cardiac Electrophysiology and Pacing	60
China Business Development	60
Chinese Business Law	60
Contemporary China Studies	60
European Policy Making	25
International Business Arbitration	60
Investing in the EU – Benelux as a Gateway	60
Multilingual Education, Learning and Teaching	30

### 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/)



## 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

- Students belonging to the European Economic Area (EEA\*): No proof of English proficiency required. For certain Advanced Master and Postgraduate Certificate Programmes specific language criteria apply (see the respective programme websites).
- For students coming from outside the EEA: proven proficiency in English is required for non-EEA students. Applicants can demonstrate English language proficiency by means of a standardized test (TOEFL min. pBT 550, iBT 80), IELTS (Academic) min. 6.5, Cambridge CAE min. B, Cambridge CPE min. C, or TOEIC min. 860) or by presenting a proof of having studied in English.

\* You are a European Economic Area (EEA) national if you are a citizen or national of one of the following countries: Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Croatia (as of 1 January 2013), Republic of Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden and the United Kingdom. If you have permanent residence in, but not citizenship of, any of these countries, you are not an EEA national

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).

The Brussels Adult Education Centre (Centrum Voor Volwassenenonderwijs, CVO) organises high-quality language courses for adults on the VUB campus.

## TUITION FEE

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

Programme Tuition fee	(Euro) / year
Masters and Advanced Masters	600 – 5,400
Postgraduate certificates	3,800 – 4,800
PhDs	275

## LIVING EXPENSES

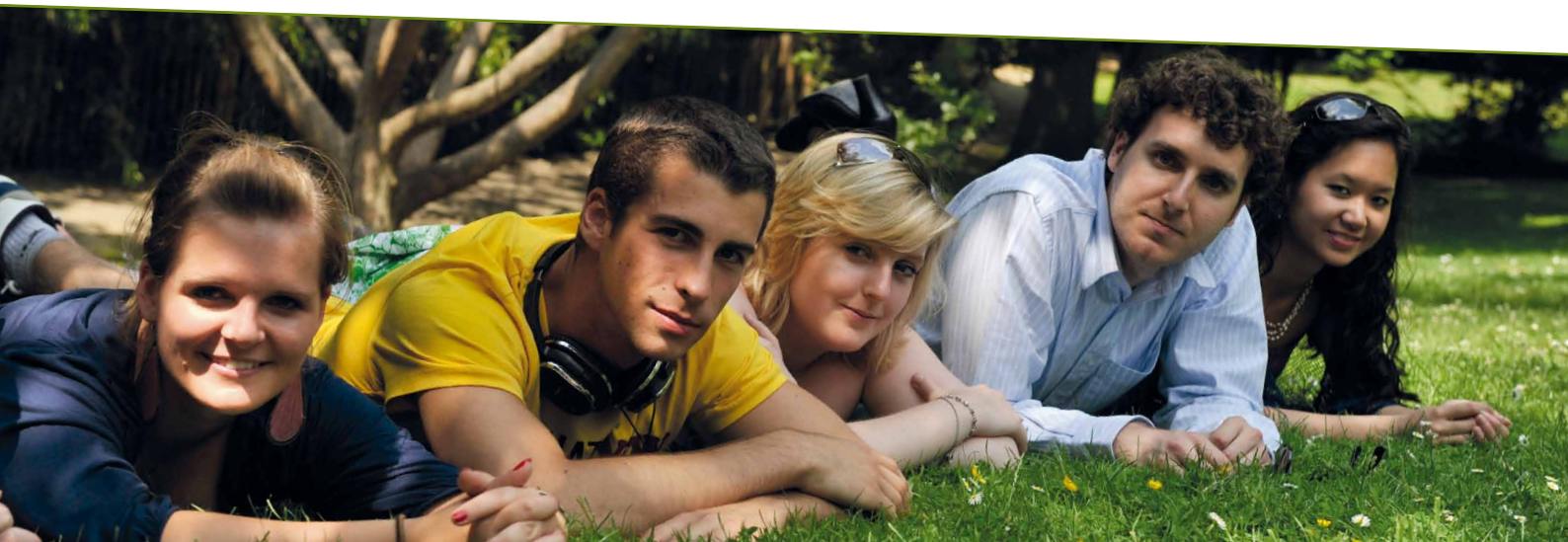
Item	Expenses (Euro) / year
Accommodation	3,500 – 4,500
Food	2,000 – 3,000
Public transportation	204 (under 25 years old) - 487
Health insurance	85
Mobile phone	300
Other	2,000 – 3,000
Total	8,089 – 11,372

## 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)



## 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.

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)



Institute for  
European Studies  
Vrije Universiteit Brussel

### 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)



Brussels Institute of  
Contemporary China Studies

## 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, high teacher/student ratios, varied and participatory classroom experiences and personal guidance. Its student body is very diverse, with students from many different countries.

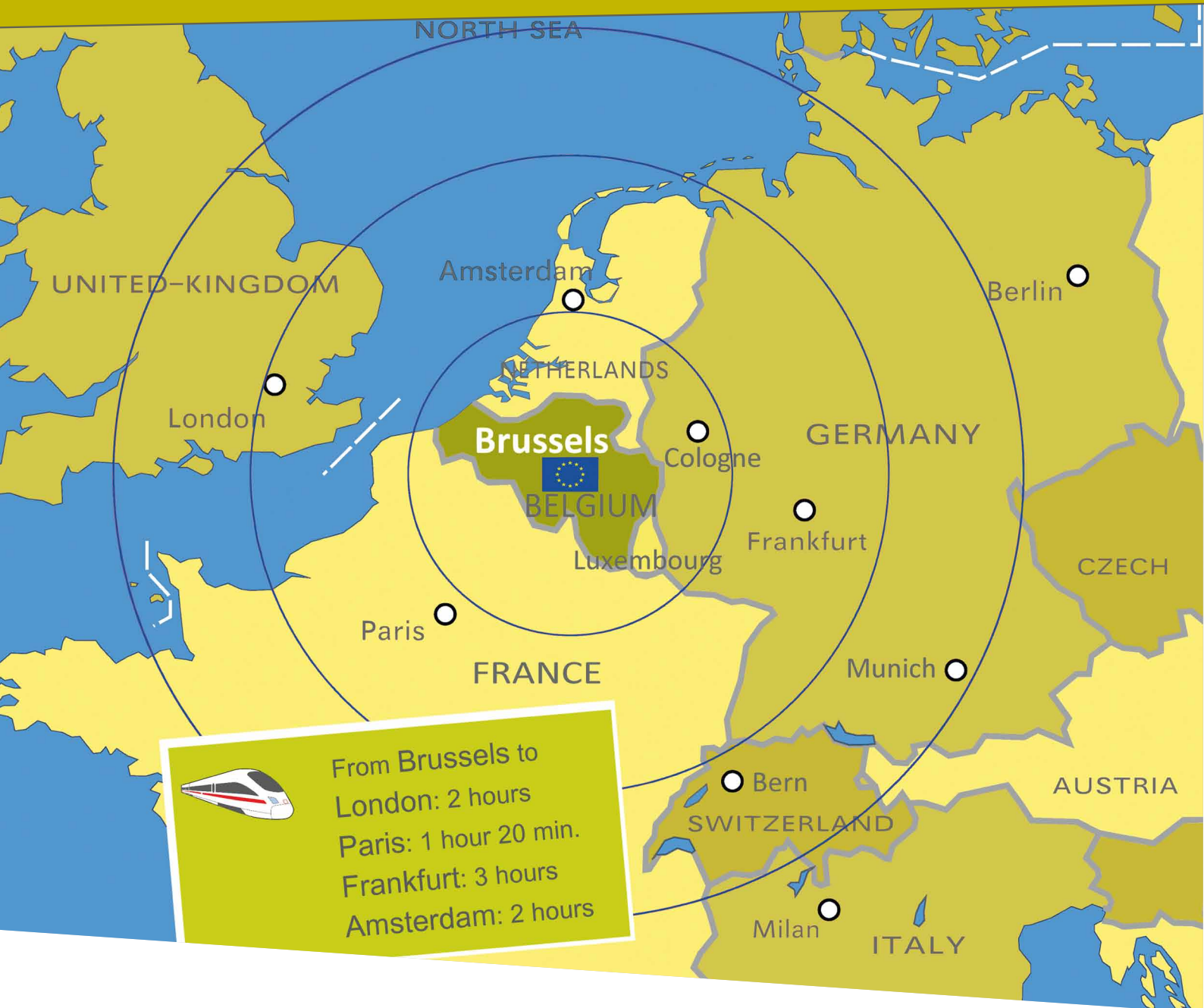
[W] [www.vesalius.edu](http://www.vesalius.edu)



Vesalius College  
Brussels

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

\*Specific admission requirements and tuition fees apply.



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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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