



The human sciences as liberal arts

Master of arts (MA)

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 covers a wide range of disciplines, from historical studies to theoretical approaches in the human sciences, languages and literature.

You will have the opportunity not only to acquire specialist knowledge in the human sciences, but also to approach your subjects of study from an interdisciplinary perspective.

Perspectives

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 in fields such as cultural institutions (museums, theatres, festivals, foundations), publishing, education, media and communications, international organisations or event planning.

Our alumni have different positions, such as teacher, journalist, communications officer, researcher, editorial coordinator, cultural mediator, translator, web and new media projects officer, arts festival programme coordinator.

Other positions and alumni testimonials: www.unil.ch/lettres/avenir-professionnel

GENERAL INFORMATION

Organisers

Faculty of Arts:
www.unil.ch/lettres

Degree awarded

Master of Arts (MA)

ECTS credits

90

Duration

3 semesters

Teaching language

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

Contact

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More information

www.unil.ch/lettres/master

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 will choose the discipline in which you wish to write your dissertation, and this will then become your main discipline. You will also decide whether you are aiming for a Master of Arts for 90 ECTS, or a Master of Arts with a specialisation, for 120 ECTS (see the relevant description for this programme).

Assessment

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

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.

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

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

PRACTICAL INFORMATION

Admission requirements

Holders of a Bachelor of Arts degree of the University of Lausanne, or 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's degree on the basis of their personal case files. They may be required to complete a catch-up programme.

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.

General information on studies, guidance:

www.unil.ch/soc

Career prospects

www.unil.ch/perspectives/unil-et-apres

Accommodation and financial assistance

www.unil.ch/sasme

International

www.unil.ch/international

Scheme of the Master of Arts course

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

↑ or ↑



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Faculté des lettres