

## Study programme: Advanced Master of Urbanism, Landscape and Planning

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Since 2010, the Faculty of Engineering Science acknowledged the opportunities and benefits of a transnational accreditation and sought contact with CTI. CTI or "Commission des titres d'ingénieur" (CTI) is a French accreditation organisation and is equally composed of representatives of employers and professional engineers and academia. CTI is also a member of ENQA (European Network for Quality Assurance) and EQAR (European Quality Assurance Register). Furthermore, CTI is authorised by ENAEE (European Network for Accreditation of the Engineering Education) to award the EUR-ACE label. Therefore, the Faculty based its Quality Assurance on the accreditation process of the "Commission des titres d'ingénieur" (CTI) and the achievement of the EURACE label.

At institutional level, the KU Leuven uses the [COBRA method](#) to work on the quality of its study programmes. In this report, the programme committee reports every four years on the quality of its programme(s) and describes the identified strength(s) and planned action(s) of its programme(s). **Advanced Master of Urbanism, Landscape and Planning**

### Strengths of the study programme(s)

- Unique position within educational landscape internationally in Belgium and Flanders, since MaULP is the only English-language program in the field of urbanism, landscape and planning in Flanders.
- MaULP provides high-level education for international candidates aspiring to positions in practice, including as urban planners in Flanders (and beyond), regardless of its international orientation; at the same time, it also emphasizes local context of urbanism.
- Strong research-by-design basis, with an emphasis on space as a resource (in urban transformations) and as a medium of integration, hence the role of urbanism, landscape and planning.
- Diversity of incoming students, both in terms of geographic origin, and in terms of professional/ educational backgrounds.
- Strong network of alumni and a sound reputation, which fosters an active system of collaborations supporting the selection of design studio topics, final thesis topics, etc. (examples: T.OP Limburg; Leidal, T.OP Noord Rand, UN-Habitat, etc.).
- Quality and quantity of visiting faculty and international speakers as part of lecture series, studio juries and showcase end-of-semester events such as European Urbanisms, World Urbanisms and Regional Urbanisms.
- Unique selling point is the landscape urbanism perspective (landscape guiding urbanism), the program being one of few masters which focus on landscape-oriented urban design.
- Synergies with multiple programs across various departments and faculties (including Master of Engineering Science – Architecture, Anthropology, Bio-Science Engineering; Geography).

This COBRA report is a result of the past four-year COBRA cycle (2019-2023). Each study programme that participated in the COBRA cycle has drawn up this document, which specifies the strengths and planned actions of the study programme. These strengths and actions result from the dialogue between the programme and its stakeholders (primary actors, alumni, professional field and international experts from the discipline). This report aims to give a comprehensive indication of the study programme's realised quality. The COBRA report will be made available in the programme guide, so it will be accessible to the public.



## Planned actions

- Increasing dissemination of program results through the program website and various social media; more explicitly show the program's unique points, particularly the long-standing diverse and international nature as well as more emphasis on student work.
- Increasing interaction with program alumni and involvement in educational activities (respondents on theses, studio reviewers, etc.).
- Nurturing of existing synergies and strengthen collaborations of international resonance to showcase the program's standing and ambitions.
- Increasing the possibilities to study urbanism, landscape and planning by reconfiguring the EMU (European Master of Urbanism) and developing exchange modules (for the second semester) with other universities in Europe/internationally.
- Learning from Covid19 by incorporating "blended learning" which incorporates more expertise from around the world through online guest lectures; feedback from various stakeholders, practitioners academics and alumni during design studio reviews.
- Develop effective synergies with Faculty of Architecture not only to tackle the issue of understaffing but also to create new ways of knowledge exchange
- Develop feedback structure within the programme regarding learning outcomes, teaching, grading system, exam expectations, thesis guidance
- Creating a structured framework around fieldwork both for theses and studios.

### More information on CTI:

- <https://www.cti-commission.fr/en/>
- Remaud, B, Berbers Y, Jolly, AM, Nolland, J (2017), Accreditation of Flemish Civil Engineers programmes (2016): an experience of cross-border Quality Assurance, Proceedings of the SEFI Annual Conference 2017.
- Sánchez, T. (2015), ESG 2015, part 1: [https://www.cti-commission.fr/wp-content/uploads/2017/04/colloque\\_cti\\_esg201508.pdf](https://www.cti-commission.fr/wp-content/uploads/2017/04/colloque_cti_esg201508.pdf).