

COBRA REPORT

Study programme: Máster en Estudios Ibéricos e Iberoamericanos (Leuven)

Drawn up on: [December 16 2019.]

KU Leuven uses the [COBRA method](#) to improve the quality of its study programmes. In this document, which is published every four years, the programme committee reports on the quality of its programme(s) and describes the identified strength(s) and planned action(s) of its programme(s). **Máster en Estudios Ibéricos e Iberoamericanos (Leuven)**.

Strengths of the study programme(s)

The Máster en Estudios Ibéricos e Iberoamericanos has a strong and clear profile: a research-intensive Master's programme that manages to motivate and activate students early on through group work, assignments and papers, presentations and active involvement in research-in-progress. The Master's thesis also plays a crucial role in enhancing students' scientific skills. Lecturers actively refer to their research-in-progress in class, thus providing inspirational background that helps students find a suitable topic for their thesis. A lot of attention is being paid to individual guidance and coaching. In addition, students are offered special sessions on heuristics, to make sure that the heterogeneous group of students has a common methodological basis.

The focus of this programme is on trans- and interdisciplinary competencies (rather than on knowledge acquisition). The transdisciplinary nature of the study programme is further emphasized by integrating scientific conferences or events for a wider audience into the programme. Moreover, the use of guest lecturers makes the programme highly interregional. This way, the programme instils a cosmopolitan attitude in its students, with a particular sensitivity to interculturalism.

Planned actions

The programme would like to emphasize the international dimension more, e.g. by promoting the opportunity to do an internship abroad more.

The programme would like to further increase its focus on students' methodological background and is therefore re-evaluating the balance between compulsory courses and electives.

Extracurricular events still have to be communicated and promoted better.

The programme's admission policy has been tightened, requiring students to submit a scientific project (thesis or elaborate paper) for evaluation. This way, students who are too weak are excluded from the programme in time.

This COBRA report is the result of a four-year COBRA cycle (2015-2019). 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 overview 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.



More information on COBRA: <https://www.kuleuven.be/english/education/quality/cobra-english/quality-assurance-method>

More information on the quality of education: <https://www.kuleuven.be/english/education/quality>

KU Leuven educational terminology: <https://www.kuleuven.be/english/education/educational-glossary/educational-glossary>