From infinity to atoms, from cells to people: creating knowledge, supporting lives.

The Arenberg Doctoral School of Science, Engineering and Technology stimulates new researchers in their endeavour to acquire scientific and technological knowledge. These young researchers drive the discoveries and developments in science, engineering and technology that not only lead to a better understanding of our world but can also ultimately be used to improve the world we live in. The research topics of the Arenberg Doctoral School span all the fields of science, engineering and technology, including the life sciences, computing and information science, environmental sustainability, human settlements, agriculture, food research, genomics and biomaterials, nano science and nanofabrication, advanced materials, energy and optimisation in engineering.

The Arenberg Doctoral School not only provides a stimulating research environment, but also attempts to ensure that researchers can maximally develop the personal skills they will need to further develop their career. We believe that by working with us, researchers who will gain the confidence and pride of a professional who has the ability to conduct cutting-edge research and establish collaborations both within academia as well as with companies and government agencies. You will be able to advance the frontiers of knowledge and combine this scientific endeavour with unique professional experience. The Arenberg Doctoral School offers great opportunities to fulfil the aspirations and pursue the goals of young innovative researchers.

The main objective of the Arenberg Doctoral School administration is to provide you with guidance and assistance in carrying out your scientific mission.

More specifically, the administration aims:

- To inform you about all the possibilities to accomplish a PhD project in Science, Engineering and Technology at KU Leuven by announcing vacancies or guiding you towards funding agencies.
- To provide administrative support and guidance at any stage of your PhD project.
- To provide opportunities to develop your professional competence development by offering specialised courses in scientific disciplines and training in different skills.
Doctoral Training

The Arenberg Doctoral School organises doctoral training for all the PhD researchers in Science, Engineering & Technology. Our aim is to train doctoral researchers both as future scientists and as scientifically trained professionals who are able to use their expertise and competences both in an academic and non-academic context. This requires a versatile programme that addresses both academic expertise and personal skills. The core of the doctoral education is research-based training. The focus on research as an instrument for professional and scientific development sets the doctorate apart from other types of education. In addition to the research-based training, PhD researchers also follow more formal training via seminars, workshops, summer schools and other course components.

The formal doctoral training focuses on thematic training as well as on generic skills. The main emphasis of the thematic training is on the development of academic, intellectual and technical skills related to your scientific field of interest. The transferable and generic skills are applicable in a wider context, e.g. a professional career outside the university. Examples of such skills are: interdisciplinary thinking, networking, goal-directedness, prioritising, creativity and innovation, etc.

The Arenberg Doctoral School considers generic skills to be an increasingly important element in doctoral training, which is in line with the European Commission’s Principles of Innovative Doctoral Training. In order to train PhD researchers to be employable in a broad range of highly qualified positions, generic skills are indeed a necessary part of the doctoral training programme. The Arenberg Doctoral School has built an extensive international network, including several Marie Curie Initial Training Networks and Erasmus Mundus Joint Doctorate Programmes to support this endeavour. In view of the Horizon 2020 and Erasmus+ programmes, new opportunities are already being explored.

The Arenberg Doctoral School confers PhD degrees in the Faculty of Science, the Faculty of Engineering Science, the Faculty of Bioscience Engineering, the Faculty of Engineering Technology and the Faculty of Architecture.

Doctoral research at the Arenberg Doctoral School of Science, Engineering & Technology is supported by 14 departments and 13 research centres.

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