The Faculty of Science is one of KU Leuven’s oldest faculties. Its origins can be traced back to the Artes Faculty of the Old University of Leuven, founded in 1425. It has existed as an independent faculty since the early nineteenth century. The Faculty consists of five departments: Biology, Chemistry, Earth and Environmental Sciences, Mathematics, and Physics and Astronomy.

Research in the Faculty of Science addresses fundamental questions. Its curiosity-driven and often multidisciplinary approach is recognised around the world. Among its staff are some of Europe’s top scientists, including ERC grant holders in all five of its departments. The Faculty is also very active in international research infrastructures for basic science, such as CERN, ESA, ESRF, and ESO. With over 100 doctoral theses defended each year, the Faculty has the highest PhD vs Masters ratio of the university.

The study programmes offered at the Faculty of Science take an interdisciplinary approach and are strongly embedded in the research carried out in the five departments.

Each of these departments conduct top research in the pure natural and mathematical sciences. The basic fields of mathematics, physics, computer science, chemistry, biochemistry, biology, geology and geography interact with new domains of study situated at the crossroads between these fields, such as astronomy, biophysics, nanoscience, statistics, sustainable development, etc.

Although the Faculty of Science takes the lead in basic, knowledge-driven research at the university, its researchers and students are always on the lookout for opportunities to innovate, develop and valorise their research. This enterprising attitude is omnipresent in both the lab and the classroom. The Faculty also strives to implement innovative teaching strategies. Students are continuously made aware of the relevance of fundamental scientific research and of novel education strategies as necessary and essential ingredients for innovation. The Faculty nurtures its links with society and with the corporate world.

Study Programmes

Bachelor’s programmes (in Dutch)
- Bachelor of Biochemistry and Biotechnology
- Bachelor of Biology
- Bachelor of Chemistry
- Bachelor of Informatics
- Bachelor of Geography
- Bachelor of Geology
- Bachelor of Mathematics
- Bachelor of Physics
Master’s programmes
- Master of Applied Computer Sciences*
- Master of Astronomy and Astrophysics
- Master of Biology
- Master of Biophysics, Biochemistry and Biotechnology
- Master of Chemistry
- Master of Geography (with VUB, Brussels)
- Master of Geology (with UGent, Ghent)
- Master of Mathematics
- Master of Physics
- Master of Bioinformatics
- Master of Erasmus Mundus Joint Master in Sustainable Territorial Development
- Erasmus Mundus Master of Science in Sustainable Development
- Erasmus Mundus Master of Theoretical Chemistry and Computational Modelling
- Master of Nanoscience, Nanotechnology and Nanoengineering
- Master of Statistics
- Master of Tourism* (with other universities and graduate schools)

Advanced master’s programmes
- Master of Artificial Intelligence
- Master of Digital Humanities
- Master of Financial and Actuarial Engineering
- Master of Medical Radiation Physics*
- Master of Space Studies

Postgraduate Programmes
- Master of Medical Radiation Physics*
- Master of Science Education and Communication*

* Only in Dutch

Location
The study programmes offered by the Faculty of Science are hosted at KU Leuven’s main campus in Leuven. Most of the bachelor programmes are also offered at Kulak, KU Leuven’s undergraduate campus in Kortrijk. A number of the master’s programmes (Geography, Geology, Space Studies, and Tourism) are organised in collaboration with other universities, and some classes may meet at these collaborating universities.

International Orientation
For decades – even centuries – KU Leuven has welcomed international students seeking a high-quality, research-embedded education. Each year, the Faculty of Science welcomes students from all over the globe, be it for a summer school, an exchange semester or for graduate or PhD studies. The Faculty also has a strong tradition in collaborating with universities abroad and has a commendable track record in stimulating research-based education in developing countries.

Science@Leuven Fund
Motivated and talented international students interested in participating in an international master’s programme offered at the Faculty of Science are invited to apply for a scholarship: sc.kuleuven.be/scienceatleuvenscholarship

Figures
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Programme</th>
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<td>Bachelor’s students:</td>
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(figures October 2017)