

# Bachelor of Social-Economic Sciences

2025-2026

A multidisciplinary  
programme for  
everyone interested  
in social sciences  
and economics

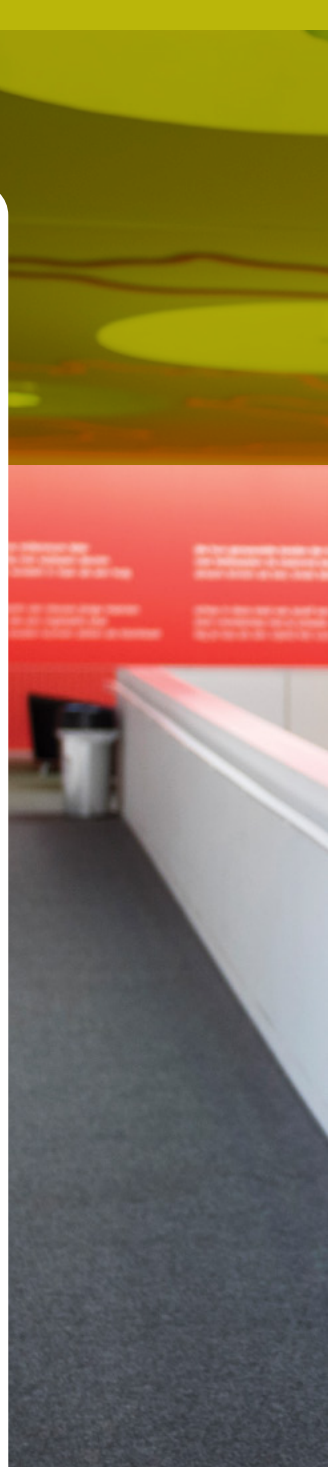


University  
of Antwerp

| Let's shape the future

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**Having the chance to be surrounded by people with such diverse backgrounds and at the same time following such a rich interdisciplinary programme is a unique experience that has helped me grow and better understand the complex world we live in.**

Arturo Luciani

## **In brief**

Are you fascinated by current social and economic challenges? Do you want to broaden your perspective? If so, the Bachelor of Social-Economic Sciences is exactly what you are looking for. This unique, multidisciplinary programme allows you to develop competences related to socio-economic policy, business, economics, sociology, mathematics and statistics, in an international environment.

## In detail

This Bachelor's programme is **one of a kind** in Flanders, focusing on the intersection of sociology and economics.

The Bachelor of Social-Economic Sciences has a strong international focus. The theory discussed in class will be illustrated by means of international cases and examples. This English-taught programme attracts people from all over the world, so you will be able to start building international networks while still in the classroom.

You'll have the opportunity to immerse yourself in social sciences as well as economics, statistics, etc. This provides you with a unique set of soft and hard skills, which is highly appreciated on the job market.

The fact that the programme is offered in the **city centre of Antwerp** means that you are in a sociologically interesting and multicultural environment, where you can immediately test theory in practice. With its port and innovative character, this metropolis is one of the most attractive business cities in Europe. The economic insights are enriched by guest speakers from the corporate world. Guest speakers from civil society give a unique inside view of the pressing social problems of our time.

The programme is the ideal option for students interested in social sciences and economics who aspire an international career.

## Programme structure

In the first year, the programme's broad curriculum introduces you to several fields. This will help you discover where your interests lie and make a choice for a major in Business Economics, Economic Analysis, Social-economic Analysis or Sociological Analysis in the second and third year.

After this Bachelor's programme, there are several Masters to choose from at the University of Antwerp or at universities all over the world.



*It is a pleasure to see how students in Social-Economic Sciences develop their skills in social and economic sciences and become agile leaders who are able to think out-of-the box. We are excited to organise an English version of this unique Bachelor programme and to add an international dimension to our broad and flexible programme.*

**Prof. Koen Decancq, Programme manager**



## Curriculum

### Model Path Part 1

ECTS credits 60

#### Domain 1: Business Economics

9

- └─ Accountancy
- └─ Introduction to Financial Markets

#### Domain 2: Economic Analysis

6

- └─ Introduction to Economics

#### Domain 3: Philosophy and Ethics

3

- └─ Social and Economic Philosophy

#### Domain 4: Public Governance

6

- └─ European Integration

#### Domain 5: Quantitative Reasoning

9

- └─ Descriptive Statistics and Probability Theory
- └─ Mathematical Methods

#### Domain 6: Psychology and Anthropology

6

- └─ Social Psychology

#### Domain 7: Law

3

- └─ Introduction to Law

#### Domain 8: Sociological Analysis

12

- └─ Sociology
- └─ Societies: Facts & Challenges

#### Domain 9: Languages

6

- └─ Academic English

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**Total**

**ECTS credits 60**

## Model Path Part 2

### **Domain 2: Economic Analysis** 12

- ☐ Microeconomics
- ☐ Macroeconomics

### **Domain 4: Public Governance** 6

Choose 1 course of 6 credits to be taken in Part 2 or Part 3 of the model path \*

- ☐ Political Thought
- ☐ Comparative Political Institutions

### **Domain 5: Quantitative Reasoning** 6

- ☐ Multivariate Analysis

### **Domain 7: Law** 3

- ☐ Introduction to Corporate Law

### **Domain 8: Sociological Analysis** 6

- ☐ Sociological Theory

### **Domain 9: Languages** 3

3 ECTS credits to choose from French 1, German 1, Spanish 1. Within the Bachelor's programme, minimum 2 levels of 1 language must be obtained.

### **Domain 10: Major** 12

Choose a major: 24 credits in total to be taken throughout Part 2 and Part 3 of the model path\*

- ☐ Business Economics
- ☐ Economic Analysis
- ☐ Social-Economic Analysis
- ☐ Sociological Analysis

**Domain 11: Electives** 6  
 12 credits in total to be taken throughout Part 2 and Part 3 of the model path \*  
 Choose courses from other domains or from a list

**Domain 12: Integration** 9  
 — Bachelor thesis:  
   Introduction to Social-Economic Research  
 — European Societies

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**Total** **60 ECTS credits\***

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### Model Path Part 3

**Domain 1: Business Economics** 3  
 — I-week on Sustainability

**Domain 2: Economic Analysis** 6  
 6 ECTS-credits to choose from  
 — Economic Policy  
 — International Economics  
 — Issues in Global Economics

**Domain 3: Philosophy and Ethics** 3  
 — Global Justice

**Domain 4: Public Governance** 6  
 Choose 1 course: 6 credits to be taken in Part 2 or Part 3 of the model path \*  
 — Political Thought  
 — Comparative Political Institutions



**Domain 5: Quantitative Reasoning** 6  
 — Introduction to Econometrics

**Domain 8: Sociological Analysis** 6  
 6 ECTS credits to choose from  
 — Social Demography  
 — Sociology of Organisations  
 — Theory Construction

**Domain 9: Languages** 3  
 3 ECTS-credits to choose from French 2, German 2, Spanish 2.  
 Within the Bachelor programme, minimum 2 levels of 1  
 language must be obtained.

**Domain 10: Major** 12  
 Choose a major: 24 credits in total to be taken throughout  
 Part 2 and Part 3 of the model path\*  
 — Business Economics  
 — Economic Analysis  
 — Social-Economic Analysis  
 — Sociological Analysis

**Domain 11: Electives** 6  
 12 credits in total to be taken throughout Part 2 and Part 3  
 of the model path\*  
 Choose courses from other domains or from a list

**Domain 12: Integration** 12  
 — Bachelor Thesis: Design of Social-Economic Research  
 — Social-Economic Analysis

\* You decide which  
 courses (of Domain 4,  
 Domain 10 and the  
 Electives) to take in Part  
 2 of the model path, and  
 which courses in Part 3.  
 It is recommended that  
 you structure your study  
 programme in such a way  
 that it amounts to 60  
 credits per academic year.

**Total**

**60 ECTS credits\***

## Further studies

The majors determine which Master's programmes you can enrol for. The University of Antwerp offers a Master of Political Science, a Master of Applied Economic Sciences: Economic Policy, a Master of Business Economics, and several Master's programmes taught in Dutch. This Bachelor's degree also gives you access to a large number of English-taught Master's programmes at universities all over the world.

### **Master of Political Science**

The Master of Political Science provides you with specialist, in-depth knowledge of decision-making in politics. Besides the acquisition of theoretical and analytical insight, you will also practise the core skills involved in political decision-making, such as argumentation, negotiation, and lobbying.

[www.uantwerpen.be/political-science](http://www.uantwerpen.be/political-science)

### **Master of Applied Economic Sciences: Economic Policy**

This Master's programme has a very international profile, and focuses on policy-related scientific research. You can modify the study programme to suit your own interests. During the programme, you will have plenty of opportunities to integrate practical experience into your education: writing a Master's thesis, following guest lectures, taking part in a Career Development Track, etc.

[www.uantwerpen.be/economic-policy](http://www.uantwerpen.be/economic-policy)

### **Master of Business Economics**

During this Master's programme you will develop a profound knowledge of business economics and focus on your areas of interests at the same time. You will analyse business economic issues in a methodologically rigorous and effective way and use ethics to reflect on the position of the manager in society. There are plenty of opportunities to integrate practical experience into your education.

[www.uantwerpen.be/business-economics](http://www.uantwerpen.be/business-economics)

### **Master sociaal-economische wetenschappen**

(only available in Dutch)

In the (Dutch-taught) master sociaal-economische wetenschappen you will analyse sociology and economics. As a result, you will learn to think and act in a cross-disciplinary way, a welcome attitude in the labour market. In your Master's programme, you again have plenty of room to customise your study programme according to your interests and talents. You will do so by means of two advanced clusters, two research methods, an elective and your Master's thesis. This gives you a unique profile, which will also help you in your search for a job.

[www.uantwerpen.be/  
master-sociaal-economische-wetenschappen](http://www.uantwerpen.be/master-sociaal-economische-wetenschappen)

## Start preparing

The University of Antwerp offers opportunities to test and brush up your prior knowledge and skills in mathematics and English.

### **Online platform 'Get started'**

The online platform 'Get Started' offers free online self-study packs for English and mathematics with self-tests, study materials and exercises to prepare for your Bachelor's programme.

### **Academic English Preparatory Course**

This preparatory summer course helps to improve your Academic English skills. The course is a combination of four modules: Academic Reading, Academic Listening, Academic Vocabulary and Academic Writing.

### **Preparatory Course Mathematics**

During this preparatory course, you will be able to follow lessons and do exercises on the secondary school topics that you need to have mastered by the start of the academic year.

### **Preparatory Course Statistics (only available in Dutch)**

During this course, all mathematical methods that are part of the statistics courses are refreshed and practised. The course also covers a number of mathematical applications used in statistics.

### **Level test (only available in Dutch)**

Every year, the Flemish universities organise level tests (ijkingstoetsen). Thanks to the level test, you gain a better idea of your mathematics and science knowledge and skills and therefore of your academic potential.

## Job opportunities

The English-language Bachelor of Social-Economic Sciences was organised for the first time in the academic year 2021-2022. This means you will be **among the first ones** to graduate this international, multidisciplinary programme.

The Dutch-taught version of this programme has been running since 2004. Alumni from this programme are now consultants, HR officers, advisors, managers, etc. They work for public institutions, banks, consultancy firms, and other organisations.

Almost 95% of our graduates have found a job within 6 months after completing their studies. Several alumni now live and work abroad in Germany, Spain, Canada, Australia, Singapore, etc.



*I chose the programme Social-Economic Sciences because I was particularly interested in politics, sociology and economics. I liked the fact that you could put together your curriculum according to your interests.*

Abdel Bouddount

You can find testimonials of alumni on [www.uantwerpen.be/ses-career-prospects](http://www.uantwerpen.be/ses-career-prospects).

### Orientation year

International students can choose to look for work opportunities in Belgium after completing their studies. You can apply for an orientation year and extend your stay in Belgium by 12 months. Guidance and administrative assistance with this process is available through the university.

**An international perspective and environment**

The Bachelor of Social-Economic Sciences is offered in both Dutch and English. The English-taught programme is largely the same as the programme taught in Dutch, with the important difference that all courses are taught in English. The courses with a Belgian focus in the Dutch-taught programme take on a more international perspective in the English-taught Bachelor's programme. The English-taught programme welcomes all national and international students, and gives them the opportunity to start building an international network from the classroom.



## Why choose UAntwerp

Our university is located in the **city of Antwerp**, in the heart of Belgium and Europe. The port of Antwerp is one of the biggest in the world. Antwerp is not just an ancient medieval and baroque city, full of history. It is also a bustling metropolis with a vibrant social scene, impressive architecture and cultural contrasts. Over 170 nationalities live here, more than in New York! This cosmopolitan vibe is also reflected at the University of Antwerp. English is widely spoken in Antwerp, though if you learn Dutch during your stay here you will become a local in no time.

**First-rate research and education** make the University of Antwerp a wonderful place to study and to work. We foster the nexus between research and education. Internationalisation is key to our mission. It is no coincidence that the University of Antwerp is a partner in a highly promising European university network, the Young Universities for the Future of Europe [www.YUFE.eu](http://www.YUFE.eu).

As home away from home to over **20,000 students**, the University of Antwerp prides itself on operating on a human scale. Our faculty and staff will welcome you into top-notch infrastructure on one of our four campuses. While you're here you are also invited to enjoy our vibrant cultural programme, sports facilities and many student services.

The University of Antwerp **scores extremely well** in Young University Rankings



## Testimonial

Roel Dom is a **young professional and has worked as an economist for the World Bank in Washington-D.C.**, among other things. The World Bank is an international financial institution that seeks to eradicate extreme poverty worldwide and to create shared prosperity in a sustainable manner. “As economist, I was part of a team that aims to find macro-economic policy strategies to achieve those goals, together with our partners.”

### A taste of everything

“They say Social-Economic Sciences students are not always the best at choosing. In my case, that is true. After graduating from high school, I needed a full year to decide what I wanted to study. After doing an AFS exchange to Peru I knew I wanted to work in development cooperation, but I wasn’t sure what basis I needed for that. **Political science, sociology, anthropology, law, maybe economics?** Coincidentally, I encountered the Social-Economic Sciences programme, where it seemed like you got a taste of everything. After that, I quickly made up my mind.”

“The study not only strengthened my **reflex to think in a multidisciplinary way, but it also gave me the empirical basis and analytical skills to do so.** Thanks to my solid foundation in economics, sociology and political science, I am able to work productively with experts from different fields, to translate ideas and to offer different perspectives. These skills are indispensable in a policy-oriented position.”





### **Wine and economics**

“I have many fond memories of my student days, such as the founding of the **student association Socio Economica**, or that one professor and his assistant who had the ability to tell us all about wine as well as about the state of the economy. But my best memory is my participation in an **immersion trip organised by the University Foundation for Development Cooperation (USOS)** to the Democratic Republic of Congo. That trip not only enabled me to immerse myself in a completely different culture, I also got to develop long-lasting friendships.”

### **First interview was a hit**

After his studies in Antwerp, Roel obtained an additional degree at the London School of Economics and Political Science (LSE). “When I graduated, I sent out quite a few applications in London but as soon as I got my first interview, it was an immediate hit. I applied for a position as economist and was asked if my Social-Economic Sciences degree had provided me with enough economic background knowledge. However, **the combination of economics and social sciences intrigued the interview panel** and after a discussion about the redistributive effects of monopolies, I landed my first job. So LSE opened the door but Social-Economic Sciences sealed the deal.”

“When I look back on my trajectory, I am thankful for all the opportunities that allowed me to explore different paths. Now, in my professional life, those opportunities enable me to work in a meaningful and impactful way.”

## Admission criteria

In order to enrol in an academic Bachelor's programme, you need to have (at least) a secondary education degree which entitles you to enrol in a comparable programme in a university of the country in which the degree was conferred. For Belgian students this is a secondary education diploma of the Flemish-speaking, French-speaking or German-speaking communities in Belgium.

If your degree has been recognised by NARIC as being equivalent to a Flemish diploma that gives direct access to the programme then you also meet the diploma requirements.



Since the programme is taught in English, applicants with a prior degree issued outside Belgium, the Netherlands or Luxembourg are required to demonstrate their proficiency in English.



*Do I want an international career later? I don't know yet, but I certainly don't rule out working abroad. With this study programme, I am keeping that option open. And the fact that I have made friends all over Europe in the meantime is a great bonus.*

Tijmen de Brouwer

Applicants can do so by submitting a **language certificate** showing their TOEFL, IELTS, ITACE or Cambridge English results (the level required can be checked on [www.uantwerpen.be/admission](http://www.uantwerpen.be/admission)).

Applicants who have **previously obtained** a diploma in an English-taught programme in Australia, English-speaking Canada, Ireland, New Zealand, the United Kingdom and/or the United States of America are exempt from providing an additional language test certificate.

Applicants with a diploma of a European School or an International Baccalaureate and English as Language 1 or Level A, should contact the Registrar's Office to have their documents checked for an equivalence of the required proficiency in English.

Please note that the Board of Admission may still ask for additional proof of proficiency in English.

## Application procedure

Candidates with a secondary education degree mentioned on [www.uantwerpen.be/admission](http://www.uantwerpen.be/admission) can enrol directly.

For Belgian students this is a secondary education diploma of the Flemish-speaking, French-speaking or German-speaking communities in Belgium.

If the degree of secondary education is not mentioned in the list or if you need to apply for a visa, you will need to follow an additional procedure through the online application tool **Mobility Online** to determine if your degree can be accepted for enrolment and/or to obtain a letter of acceptance required for a visa. Applications for the academic year 2025-2026 can be submitted in Mobility Online from early November 2024 onwards.

### Application deadlines

To submit an application through Mobility Online

For non-EEA \* nationals and for students who need to apply for a visa: **before 1 March 2025**

For EEA nationals: **before 1 June 2025**

### Enrolment deadline

For students with a secondary education diploma of the Flemish-speaking, French-speaking or German-speaking communities in Belgium, for other students who can enrol directly and for students who have received a Letter of Acceptance in Mobility Online: early October 2025

Enrolments start on 1 July 2025.

The academic year 2025-2026 starts on Monday 22 September 2025.

\* EEA = European Economic Area

#### Member states:

Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxemburg, Malta, the Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain and Sweden

## ECTS credits

The University of Antwerp applies the '**European Credit Transfer and Accumulation System**' (ECTS) in all its degree programmes.

A full-time one-year study programme amounts to **60 ECTS credits** (about 30 ECTS credits per semester). One ECTS credit stands for 25 to 30 hours of work including contact hours, preparatory work, study and assessment.



## Quick facts

### Level

Bachelor

### Language

English

### Credits

180 ECTS credits

### Number of years

3

### Tuition fee per year \*

EUR 1157 for EEA nationals

EUR 3100 for non-EEA nationals

### Campus

Stadscampus

### Faculty

Social Sciences, in collaboration  
with Business and Economics

### More information

[www.uantwerpen.be/ses](http://www.uantwerpen.be/ses)



\* subject to yearly revision

## Contact

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This brochure was published in September 2024.  
As all information is subject to change,  
please check our website for the latest updates.