

# Master of Linguistics and Literary Studies

2025-2026

Combine an in-depth study of the **English language** and **Anglophone literature** in a one-year Master's programme located in the heart of Europe



University  
of Antwerp

| Let's shape the future

# Table of contents

<b>In brief</b>	04
<b>In detail</b>	05
<b>Programme structure</b>	07
<b>Job opportunities</b>	12
<b>Why choose UAntwerp</b>	14
<b>Testimonial</b>	15
<b>Admission criteria</b>	16
<b>Application procedure</b>	18
<b>ECTS credits</b>	19





The University of Antwerp offers courses taught by leading scholars, who are both passionate and helpful. The lively group discussions enabled me to study the works of Samuel Beckett and James Joyce in depth.



## In brief

Taught in English by **specialists in the field**, the programme combines the study of linguistics with that of literature in English. We offer a range of courses to choose from in the fields of both linguistics and literary studies. Literature topics include British women writers, the American historical novel after 1950, representations of New York in 20th century literature, the construction of age, and the work of James Joyce and Samuel Beckett. Linguistics courses focus on the use of English in different contexts, how it varies across time and space, and the changes this tends to trigger.

## In detail

The foundational principle of the Master of Linguistics and Literary Studies is that you don't have to make an agonising choice between what could be your two passions: language and literature. You can combine both of these fascinating fields of study in a **one-year Master's programme of 60 ECTS credits**. On the other hand, if you do have an outspoken preference, you can follow your heart in your choice of courses, provided you make sure that you have at least one linguistics or literature course in your portfolio.

If your interest lies within the field of **literary studies**, you will be able to choose from a wide range of 20th and 21st century texts by authors from many corners of the English-speaking world. Apart from established writers of Anglophone Modernism, our programme includes representatives of the alternative canon. For instance, the course on British women writers presents the evolution of feminism and gender studies in the 20th and 21st centuries and introduces the most important contemporary British women writers. In the course on constructing age in modern literature, students familiarise themselves with latest developments in age studies and learn how those theories can be deployed to analyse age construction in a number of literary texts.

If you are fascinated by American literature, you can discover the representations of New York in 20th century literature or take a journey through contemporary American historical novels written by established and less established authors of diverse backgrounds. By contrast, our single author seminars (on James Joyce, Samuel Beckett and Wallace Stevens) offer you an opportunity to delve into the works of one particular (modernist) author.

If **linguistics** is your topic of interest, our programme offers a wide variety of courses that reflect the state of the art in linguistics today. The selection of courses on offer provide an in-depth perspective on contemporary and older varieties of English, mainly from a combined social and cognitive point of view.

Students are also given the valuable opportunity to do field work and thus develop their research and analytical skills: an indispensable part of any Master's programme. For those interested in pursuing an educational career, the course on curriculum and syllabus design will be particularly useful. Whether in linguistics or literature, the **research** aspect of our programme will enable you to discover your inner scholar. Apart from writing research papers, you will be able to indulge in scholarly work in preparation of your **Master's thesis**, which allows you to investigate a particular subject of your own interest more thoroughly and systematically. If you want to experience the world of scientific research more directly, you can apply for an **internship** with one of our research groups. And if you stay over the summer, our two **summer schools** – Digital Humanities and Children's Literature – are an excellent way to earn ECTS credits and learn valuable skills from international experts in the field.



*On a more practical level, I acquired skills to study, interpret, and digitise the manuscripts of my favourite authors.*

In the age of alternative facts and fake news, critical analysis and out-of-the-box thinking are crucial skills to have, irrespective of what you want to do after your studies. The Master of Linguistics and Literary Studies offers you much more than expert knowledge and understanding of theories and texts. You become a critical and informed citizen of our globalised world, with an extensive cultural background and a strong grasp of the language that is spoken wherever you go across the globe.



## Programme structure

### Profile

Most of the regular courses in our Master's programme are conceived as interactive seminars with a high degree of student participation. Students are encouraged to improve their oral proficiency and public speaking skills by giving presentations (in group and individually) and engaging in group discussions. Likewise, students get plenty of opportunity to work on their writing skills by producing individual research papers. Students are closely monitored during one or several writing trajectories, which helps them grow as persuasive and engaging writers of academic texts in English.



Besides regular courses, we offer a range of internships (both professional and scientific), and two internationally acclaimed summer schools: Children's Literature and Digital Humanities. Taking part in one of the summer schools will not only earn you 6 ECTS credits (upon successful completion) and enable you to learn from the best in their field; it will also give you an opportunity to build or extend your own international network and enjoy a different way of learning during a highly intensive one-week course interspersed with social and cultural activities.



### Assessment Methods

For most courses, a form of continuous assessment is used such as class participation, oral presentations and research papers.

### Extracurricular Activities

During the Easter break, we organise a field trip to the UK or Ireland, which offers a good mix of leisure and culture and also presents a perfect opportunity to bond with your peers and teachers. The trip flies by as you go from one cultural encounter to another, making the obligatory stops at restaurants and pubs in between. Our local contacts make sure you have an unforgettable time during your stay.

### Learning Outcomes

In the literature courses, you will acquire close reading skills that will allow you to deal with some of the most challenging authors of the 20th and 21st centuries.

In the linguistics courses, you will gain insight into the social and cognitive dimensions of variation in English, learn to carry out your own corpus research and to report on the results.

In both fields, reading academic literature will familiarise you with leading literary and linguistic theories and teach you to use them in your primary text or data analysis. The courses will also teach you to put your reading and research into a broader contemporary sociocultural context.

More generally, the programme will enable you to develop your general academic skills (critical reading, scientific reporting), as well as your oral and written English proficiency and presentation skills in English. You will also refine your argumentative thinking by participating in seminar discussions and writing research papers.



*As students we are very much involved in the courses and our input is appreciated and often crucial to the development of each class, always supported by the guidance of the educator.*



## Curriculum

**Important:** Students following the Master of Linguistics and Literary Studies cannot choose courses for languages they did not study in the Bachelor's programme.

Students must choose **36 ECTS credits** from the list of courses below, of which at least one course on literature and at least one course on linguistics must be included.

(The list of courses is subject to change – please consult the programme website for updates).

---

### English: literature

Beckett Seminar	6
Topic about contemporary North American literature to be determined	6
New York City 1880–2020: Cultural History and Literary Representations	6
Women Writers in Modern British Literature	6
Constructing Age in Modern Literature	6
Joyce Seminar or Stevens Seminar	6
Children's Literature Summer School	6
Digital Humanities Summer School	6

---

### English: language/linguistics

Curriculum and Syllabus Design	6
Pragmatics	6
Language Variation and Change in Adults	6
English Sociolinguistics	6
Fieldwork in Linguistics	6
Text Editing: Making Texts Communicate Effectively	6
Language and the City	6

**Optional courses****ECTS credits 6**

Students choose 6 ECTS credits from the courses belonging to the Master of Linguistics and Literary Studies on the condition that these courses are related to their Bachelor's language combinations.

Courses that belong to a different Master of Linguistics and Literary Studies, including Master's programmes organised by another faculty, will first have to be approved by the Education Board.

Students can also choose to do a professional or research internship\*.

(\*Please note that internships mostly require proficiency in Dutch and cannot be guaranteed to non-native speakers of Dutch).

---

**Master's project****ECTS credits 18**

---

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

## Job opportunities

Because of the **wide range of skills** you acquire in our Master's programme, job opportunities after graduation are ample. The list below is far from exhaustive, but it gives you a sense of how your degree can help shape your future career.

— **Education:** Many of our graduates fulfil their vocation to become high school teachers of English language and literature.

— **Media:** Highly skilled professionals are in great demand in the vibrant and dynamic media sector. As our graduate, you will have the right toolkit to pursue a career both in audiovisual or print media outlets such as television, radio, newspapers or magazines.

— **Book publishing:** Your broad and extensive knowledge of the literary field will help you feel at home in editing and publishing, both print and digital.

— **Communication:** Your excellent communication skills and near-native proficiency in the most widely spoken language in the world are an ideal starting point for building an international career in business communication and public relations as a spokesperson, PR manager, (international) customer relations officer, interpreter, etc.

— **Creative writing:** Having garnered considerable writing skills in English, you will be able to put them into practice as a copywriter in marketing and advertising, or as a ghost-writer.

**Translation services:** Your near-native English proficiency and profound knowledge of Anglophone literature and cultural context make you an ideal translator of English texts into your native language.

**Cultural sector:** Your degree will enable you to make a contribution to supporting and promoting cultural institutions and activities, with potential career opportunities in libraries, museums, theatres, festivals, bookselling, etc. Working for think-thanks advising on culture and education at both local and national levels is another exciting career path that our Master's programme prepares you for.

**Private sector:** Your degree also gives you an edge in any professional environment where English is required, from marketing to logistics.

**Academic research:** Last but not least, Master of Linguistics and Literary Studies can be a stepping stone to PhD research, either in Antwerp or anywhere else in the world.

### Orientation year

After completing your studies you can choose to look for work opportunities in Belgium. 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.



*The Master of Linguistics and Literary Studies at the University of Antwerp is a wonderful mixture of theory and practice. Whether you want to pursue an academic career or not, you acquire the skills you need for the future.*

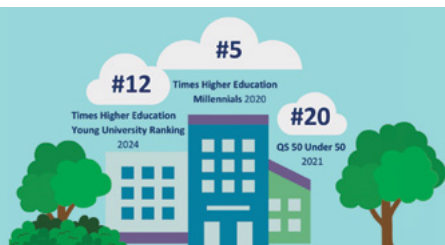
## Why choose UAntwerp

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

The Master of Linguistics and Literary Studies was a challenging but enormously rich experience. I valued the diverse list of electives, ranging from linguistics to literary studies, which enabled me to put emphasis on certain aspects of the programme and optimise it according to my personal interests. Moreover, I enjoyed the courses dedicated to one single author, the Joyce and Beckett seminars in particular. These seminars were an opportunity to use the general knowledge on literature acquired in the Bachelor's programme in a creative and interactive way, which eventually resulted in interesting discussions among students and lecturers on our individual interpretations and those of literary scholars. These courses bear the largest imprint on my current daily life, as they provided me with important analytical skills and helped me develop a sense for close reading, which are skills I will carry with me for the rest of my life.

I think the Master of Linguistics and Literary Studies at the University of Antwerp provided me with a balanced set of courses that helped me to decide on the career path I aspire to pursue. The internship proved to be extremely useful in that sense. As an archivist in a local literary archive, I could put my literary knowledge into practice and experience how my education could be meaningful on the job market.

Throughout my entire experience, I felt continuously supported, not only to obtain my degree successfully, but also to find out what my talents are and which directions I can take after the programme.

**Eline Hadermann**



## Admission criteria

### Degree requirements

- You have an academic Bachelor's degree in **Linguistics and Literary Studies**. If you hold another Bachelor's degree, the faculty will propose a preparatory programme (content and duration depend on your previous education).

### Language requirements

- If **English** is not your first or native language, you must provide evidence of advanced written and spoken English skills.
- All students starting in the Master of Linguistics and Literary Studies have to demonstrate **level C1** (Effective Operational Proficiency) of the Common European Framework of Reference.
- **Accepted minimal qualifications:** Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL) level 110-120 IBT, International English Language Testing System (IELTS) overall score of at least 7.0 in each testing area and Interuniversity Test of Academic English (ITACE) level C1.

The selection process may include a writing sample and an interview. You will be informed of this during the screening procedure.



*Our field trips to Ireland and the UK are an ideal way to familiarise students with the environments and cultures about which authors such as James Joyce and Virginia Woolf wrote some of their most important works. In addition to visiting archives, museums, libraries and theatres, we organise guided walking tours of iconic places in the city and beyond to create an unforgettable experience that brings to life the key components of our literature curriculum.*

**Pim Verhulst**

## Application procedure

Candidates with a Bachelor's or Master's degree from a higher education institution in Belgium, the Netherlands or Luxembourg can enrol directly into the programme. Candidates who do not fulfil this condition or who need a student visa must submit an online application through the **Mobility Online** tool. Applications for the academic year 2025-2026 can be started 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 a visa: **before 1 March 2025**

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

### Enrolment deadline

Early October

Enrolments start on 1 July 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

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

## 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** (30 ECTS credits per semester), which implies a student workload of about 1500 to 1800 hours. One ECTS credit stands for 25 to 30 hours of work including contact hours, preparatory work, study and assessment.





## Quick facts

### Level

Master

### Language

English

### Credits

60 ECTS credits

### Number of years

1

### Tuition fee per year \*

EUR 1157 for EEA nationals

EUR 5800 for non-EEA nationals

### Campus

Stadscampus

### Faculty

Arts

### More information

[www.uantwerpen.be/  
english-linguistics](http://www.uantwerpen.be/english-linguistics)



\* subject to yearly revision

## Contact

### Master of Linguistics and Literary Studies

Olga Beloborodova, Spokesperson  
[olga.beloborodova@uantwerpen.be](mailto:olga.beloborodova@uantwerpen.be)

### International Students Office

[internationalstudents@uantwerp.be](mailto:internationalstudents@uantwerp.be)

T.: +32 3 265 31 89

[www.uantwerp.be](http://www.uantwerp.be)

## Follow us!



Facebook



Instagram



LinkedIn



YouTube

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