

Bachelor of Science: 3-year programme	Bachelor degree in architecture as a prerequisite to admission to the Master in architecture degree. Title: Bachelor of engineering: architecture. Enrolment: +- 150, success ratio 50%
Master of Science: 2-year programme	All 3 options give access to registration as an architect. Architectural design Urban project Building technological design Title: Master of engineering: architecture Enrolment: 60 – 70, success ratio 90%
Advanced 1- and 2-year Masters programmes.	For those with a Master degree specialized Master programs are offered, please contact school for more details.

Visiting address:	K.U.Leuven Departement ASRO Kasteel van Arenberg B-3001 Leuven Belgium	Admissions contact: Tel. Email: Website:	International office 00 32 16 321361 info@asro.kuleuven.be http://www.asro.kuleuven.be
Head of department: Programme directors: Ba and Ma Architecture: Ma in Conservation MaHS and MaUSP	Prof. Andre Loeckx Prof. Herman Neuckermans Prof. Koen Vanbalen Prof. Hilde Heynen		

Application deadline:	May 1, for foreign students
Tuition and fees:	EU/EFTA nationals: € 524 per year, for BA and MA programmes Other tuition fees apply for the advanced Master programmes, please contact school for further details.
Accommodation:	K.U.Leuven rents rooms, labels private rooms, has special housing facilities for foreign students and researchers
Setting:	The department of Architecture is located in the Arenberg castle (1562) at the outskirts of the mediaeval town of Leuven in the Arenberg park. The city is known for its gothic townhall (1448), its gothic St-Peter church (1425), its Beguinage (12th-18th century), the old market, the age-old university colleges. The city of Leuven is 22 km distant from the centre of Brussels.
Student population:	479 students namely 223 male and 256 female students in the bachelor-masters in architecture (Belgian students), 94 postgraduate (foreign) students, comprising 42 masculine and 52 female students.
Faculty:	9 full-time academic staff, 26 part-time academic staff, 15 part-time practitioners, 25 researchers, visiting professors
Student services/activities:	Student centre, students association, student activities (architecture visits, Existenzmaximum week,..), ombudspersons, student counselling service for first year students.
Facilities:	Library with 30.000 titles, internet access via KOTNET all over the city of Leuven, CAD-classes, studios, modest modelling workshop, all sports facilities, student restaurants.
Admission requirements:	For Bachelor degree's: diploma of higher secondary education. For Master degree's: Bachelor degree. For advanced Masters programmes please contact the school for more information.
Language:	The Bachelor course is completely in Dutch. The Masters courses are Dutch with some English. The PhD programme is completely in English.

Profile of the faculty

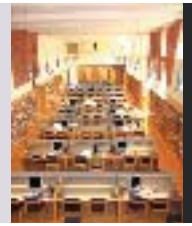
The Faculty of Engineering is one of the 9 faculties within the Catholic University of Leuven (K.U. Leuven), founded in 1425. In 2006 the university as a whole counts 28.000 students, the Engineering faculty 3.605. The department is located in the Castle of Arenberg, build in 1562. K.U.Leuven has a long research tradition, which during the last 40 years also has pervaded the department of architecture resulting in more than 100 PhD in architecture transcending professional training. Being embedded in the university means a research based education. Being part of the engineering faculty means a substantial engineering based approach to architecture, in full breath and depth without reducing architecture to an engineering problem. Staff is composed of full time research members and part-time practitioners.

Structure of the curriculum

The department of Architecture, Urbanism and Physical planning offers one 3 years bachelor course, followed by a 2 years masters subdivided in 3 design oriented options giving access to the profession of an architect: architectural design, urban project, building technology design. These programs are mostly taught in Dutch. Students graduate on a final year project or on a written thesis. Apprenticeship during the curriculum is optional, because in Belgium graduates have to perform 2 years of apprenticeship after graduation in order to have access to the profession of an architect. This is not a requirement for those who work as engineers after graduation. The department also offers 2 English taught Master after Master degrees: a 2 years Master in Conservation of buildings and a 1 year Master of Human Settlements as a part or not of a 2 years Master of Urban and Strategic Planning.

Research programme

The department of ASRO has established 4 permanent research groups: 1) urbanism and architecture researching urban history and urbanism and architectural theoretical subjects, 2) architectural history and conservation researching subjects from renaissance till 20th century architecture, 3) planning and development researching planning in developing countries, strategic planning and structural planning, 4) building and design methodology researching design cognition, CAAD, building economic subjects and building methods.



Bachelor programme

The 3 years bachelor track provides a basic and fundamental education in architecture and leads straight away to the masters programme at K.U.Leuven. The programme consists of 3 almost equivalent components: architectural sciences (architectural theory, history, typology, design methodology, Computer Aided Architectural Design), engineering sciences and its exact sciences foundations (mechanics, physics, chemistry, stress and strain, material science, building construction,...), architectural design (a design project per semester). It stresses the fundamentals of academic learning: knowledge, insight, application capabilities, communication and learning capacities. Training in (re-)presentation skills, manual as well as digital, is integrated in the design curriculum. Design operates as integrator of all course components. The bachelor programme is a common programme for every student. All students have access to TOLEDO, the electronic learning and testing platform of K.U.Leuven based on Blackboard. Bridging programmes are tailored to the needs of students following an atypical trajectory.

Master programme

The department organises one 2 years master programme leading to the degree of "Master in Engineering: architecture" giving access to the profession of self-employed architect. The programme is subdivided in 3 options: architectural design, urban project, building technology design. Each option consists of compulsory courses, electives and an architectural design project per semester. Independent work increases along with the years. Each of the 4 semesters accounts for 30 credits. The 24 credits graduation project in semester 3 and 4 is either a dissertation or a final year design. As a rule this programme is taught in Dutch, with English inputs. Students can spend one semester abroad, as a rule the 5th one, at partner universities and schools. Students who spend 1 year abroad choose the bi-diploma formula. All three options have a 26 credits core on engineering subjects in common. The other 94 credits are option specific, including the graduation thesis or project work.

Architectural Design

The theme for the design project in semester 1 is a complex new building like a museum, a bathhouse, a mausoleum, a crematorium. The second semester is devoted to a complex renewal project like a library, a town hall, a fitness centre. The third project of the first year focuses on building technical aspects of the two previous design programmes.

In the third semester students elaborate an interior design focussing on furniture and lighting design.

Urban Project

The design theme for the first semester is the urban tissue and urban project comprising tissue design and a design on the scale of a building block. The project work in the second semester is about utility building in a peripheral location like a science or an industry park. The third design is the technological elaboration of parts or aspects pertaining the 2 previous design assignments.

Building Technology Design

The first design in this option is a structural design for infrastructure like a pedestrian bridge, a station canopy, a sports tribune. In semester 2 students design a building where structure and equipment are important design determinants. The third design project pertains the building technological design of the structure or an integrated façade in (one of) the two previous designs

PhD programme

Apart from these postgraduate programmes, the department has a long tradition in granting a doctoral degree in architecture. Because of being embedded in the faculty of engineering, this doctorate is named: "Doctor in engineering: architecture". In order to be admitted to the doctoral programme one must have obtained a Master's degree with honours. Subjects eligible for PhD, fit the research topics of the research groups in the department and have to be discussed with a promoter before starting the procedure to be admitted to doctoral research. It takes minimum 2 years, usually 4 to 5 years of research work. The doctoral programme also includes a number of courses and seminars. Foreign students can start a PhD via a pre-doctoral track, or via the first year of one of the postgraduate programmes and switching after one year to the pre-doctoral test. Financing is done by the university on a highly competitive basis or via external funding. The doctoral degree is granted after public defence.