

# Structure of the 2Y MA Programme

Master of Science in Applied Sciences and Engineering: Computer Science /  
Master of Science in de Ingenieurswetenschappen: Computerwetenschappen

**120 ECTS (European Credit Transfer System) ~ 2 Academic Years**

Courses	Year	ECTS
6 mandatory courses	1 *	30
research training + thesis	2	30
mandatory courses within profile	1 + 2	30 or more
electives within profile		
electives from other profiles, other electives	1 + 2	rest

\* You can postpone some of these until Year 2

\*\* If you wish to do more than 120ECTS, you have to pay more and you must(!) pass all subjects

Exam Schedules may play a role in your choice: [we.vub.ac.be](http://we.vub.ac.be)

You can graduate in ((January **xor** July) or September)

 You **must** register for January!

# Composing Your MA Programme

## Requirements for obtaining the diploma (verified at the end of 2<sup>nd</sup> year):

You need to **pass 120 ECTS** (i.e. 10/20 for all the courses, no exceptions!)

All **compulsory** courses (= 30 ECTS)

All mandatory courses of your profile

At least **30 ECTS** in your **profile** (including the mandatory ones)

Done a **thesis & research training** (= 6+24 ECTS) in your profile

## Typical 1<sup>st</sup> year:

Take all mandatory courses = 30 ECTS

Choose other courses, within and/or outside your profile = 30 ECTS

Profile choice is only preliminary (actual decision in 2<sup>nd</sup> year)

## Electives (all but 6 ECTS) need to come from the CS curriculum:

Cf. <http://www.vub.ac.be/en/study/applied-sciences-and-engineering-computer-science/programme/r/master-of-science-in-applied-sciences-and-engineering-computer-science> (or Dutch equivalent)

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Some courses have prerequisites **and/or** require prior knowledge

→ read course description;

→ 'special electives with limited access' (see below)

# Example 1: "I know what I want: XX"

## 1st year

All mandatory courses:	30 ECTS
All mandatory courses within the XX profile:	23 ECTS
An elective within the XX profile:	6 ECTS
<b>Total:</b> 59 ECTS in 1st year	

## 2nd year

Research training and thesis with XX professor:	30 ECTS
Electives related to thesis:	31 ECTS
<b>Total:</b> 61 ECTS in 2nd year	

- *Think about the balance between 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> semester*
- *Think about prerequisites and/or prior knowledge*
- *Make sure chosen courses don't overlap in the timetables*
- *Look at the exam schedules (available on [we.vub.ac.be](http://we.vub.ac.be))*
- *Postpone courses to the 2<sup>nd</sup> year if necessary*
- *Don't take too much course work in 4<sup>th</sup> semester*

# Example 2: “Can’t decide just yet...”

## 1st year

All mandatory courses:	30 ECTS
Some mandatory courses within the YY profile:	18 ECTS
Some mandatory courses within the ZZ profile:	12 ECTS
<b>Total:</b> 60 ECTS in 1st year	

## 2nd year

Research training and thesis with ZZ professor:	30 ECTS
Rest of mandatory courses within the ZZ profile:	6 ECTS
Electives based on personal preferences:	24 ECTS
<b>Total:</b> 60 ECTS in 2nd year	

- *Think about the balance between 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> semester*
- *Think about prerequisites and/or prior knowledge*
- *Make sure chosen courses don't overlap in the timetables*
- *Look at the exam schedules (available on [we.vub.ac.be](http://we.vub.ac.be))*
- *Postpone courses to the 2<sup>nd</sup> year if necessary*
- *Don't take too much course work in 4<sup>th</sup> semester*

# Special Electives with Limited Access

Certain **MA electives** were already chosen by many students in their BA. They obviously cannot choose them again ⇒

*"Electives conditional to the agreement of the examination committee"*

**However**, in case you never took the ones **in blue**, you "must" take those in year 1 of your MA programme (depending on your profile):

## **Artificial intelligence**

Machine learning

(Techniques of artificial intelligence)

## **Multimedia**

Multimedia processing tools

## **Software languages and software engineering**

Higher Order Programming (~ Structure & Interpretation of CPs)

(Interpretation of computer programs 2)

## **Web and information systems**

Web Technologies