# 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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Courses</th>
<th>Year</th>
<th>ECTS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>6 mandatory courses</td>
<td>1 *</td>
<td>30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>research training + thesis</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>mandatory courses within profile</td>
<td>1 + 2</td>
<td>30 or more</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>electives within profile</td>
<td>1 + 2</td>
<td>rest</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>electives from other profiles, other electives</td>
<td>1 + 2</td>
<td>rest</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* 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](https://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 2nd 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 1st 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 2nd year)

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

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
**Total**: 59 ECTS in 1st year

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

- *Think about the balance between 1st and 2nd 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)*
- *Postpone courses to the 2nd year if necessary*
- *Don’t take too much course work in 4th 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
**Total**: 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
**Total**: 60 ECTS in 2nd year

- Think about the balance between 1st and 2nd 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)
- Postpone courses to the 2nd year if necessary
- Don’t take too much course work in 4th semester
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