MASTER OF SCIENCE IN PHYSICAL LAND RESOURCES (LAND RESOURCES ENGINEERING)
PROGRAMME JOINTLY OFFERED BY VRIJE UNIVERSITEIT BRUSSEL
120 ECTS CREDITS - LANGUAGE: ENGLISH

WHAT
A country’s physical land resources are a fundamental pillar of support for human life and welfare. Worldwide, population pressures and severe degradation, pollution and desertification problems are threatening this – for several countries relatively scarce – natural resource, and cause competition between agricultural or industrial purposes, urban planning and nature conservation. To guarantee a proper use and management of this basic commodity for a nation, well trained specialists with a thorough knowledge of the properties and characteristics of this natural resource, and a solid insight in factors and measures that may alter its actual state and value are warranted and call for a high standard scientific and practical education.

STRUCTURE
The main subject Land and Groundwater Management aims at training researchers, academics, government staff and expert consultants in the inventory and detailed characterisation of land capacity, and of groundwater in particular. Graduates should be able to understand the development and evolution of groundwater under natural conditions or following human interference using field, map, laboratory and remote sensing data. They should have the scientific knowledge to use and manage land and water in a sustainable way, and to optimize land and groundwater use under different natural and environmental conditions.

The main subject Urban Land Management aims at training researchers, academics, government staff and expert consultants in the inventory and detailed characterization of land capacity, and of urban land in particular. Graduates should be able to understand urban hydrology and hydraulics, and the problem of sustainable mobility and logistics, using field, map, laboratory and remote sensing data. They should have the scientific knowledge to use and manage urban land and water in a sustainable way, and to optimize urban land use under different natural and environmental conditions.

The course curriculum of the first year, and of the main subject in Land and Groundwater Management of the second year is organised at Ghent University, whereas all courses of the main subject in Urban Land Management of the second year are lectured at “Vrije Universiteit Brussel”. There is one common course in the second year: “Integrated Project”, assuring coherence between both majors.

An important part of the programme is allocated to the master dissertation. This is part of the second year programme. Students have to integrate the acquired knowledge with (guided) self-study, which involves experimental work, data analysis and interpretation, writing and communication. The master dissertation is an important measure of the final competences obtained by the student.

LABOUR MARKET
There is a great demand for experts in physical land resources to address the many challenges ahead of us, particularly resulting from the lack of similar programmes worldwide. Implementation of various environmental and climate change related directives and addressing the sustainable development goals, demands well-trained personnel in physical land resources, both in the Global North and South. The great majority of alumni are very satisfied with the programme and with the opportunities it created for their current jobs. Most alumni are employed in theory-oriented and applied research at universities or research institutes; policy making at (inter)governmental and non-governmental organizations; education, training, extension or rural innovation; design, management and interventions at small to medium-sized enterprises or corporate businesses; or take up a consultancy or advisory position.
ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS FOR INTERNATIONAL DEGREE STUDENTS

Information on admission requirements and the administrative procedure for admission on the basis of a diploma obtained abroad, can be found on the following page: www.ugent.be/admission

Additional information:
Each application file is evaluated by an admission board and has to be approved by the Faculty Council and by the Rector's office, irrespective of the diploma obtained.

- Applicants must have a Bachelor's degree of minimum 3 years from a university or recognized equivalent. Good overall scores (at least a second class or equivalent, preferably higher) are recommended.

- Applicants are expected to have a basic science training in (1) mathematics or statistics and (2) chemistry or biochemistry, and an overall academic education background in a relevant discipline like (either) agriculture, biology, forestry, environment, land and water management, physical geography, geology or civil engineering verifiable through their transcripts.

The language requirements for this study programme can be found on: www.ugent.be/languagerequirements

PRACTICAL INFORMATION

Study programme
studiekiezer.ugent.be/master-of-science-in-physical-land-resources-land-resources-engineering-CMPLRSLR-en/programma

Information sessions
Graduation Fair
afstudeerbeurs.gent/en/students/further-studies

Open Days

Enrolling institution
Vrije Universiteit Brussel

Application deadline
More information on deadlines.

Tuition fee
More information is to be found on: www.ugent.be/tuitionfee

Contact
Ghent University
Faculty of Sciences
Department of Geology
Campus Sterre, Krijgslaan 281 - S8
9000 Gent
Prof. Dr. Kristien Walraevens
kristien.walraevens@ugent.be

Learning path counsellor
Beata De Vliegher
beata.devliegher@ugent.be