

# EUROPEAN MASTER OF SCIENCE IN NUCLEAR FUSION AND ENGINEERING PHYSICS

PROGRAMME JOINTLY OFFERED BY GHENT UNIVERSITY, THE COMPLUTENSE UNIVERSITY OF MADRID, CARLOS III UNIVERSITY OF MADRID, AIX-MARSEILLE UNIVERSITY, UNIVERSITÉ DE LORRAINE, NATIONAL INSTITUTE FOR NUCLEAR SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY, UNIVERSITY OF STUTTGART, CZECH TECHNICAL UNIVERSITY IN PRAGUE

120 ECTS CREDITS - LANGUAGE: ENGLISH

## WHAT

With its broad network of universities and research institutes, the European Master of Science in Nuclear Fusion and Engineering Physics (FUSION-EP), provides high-level, multinational education in fusion-related engineering physics. The curriculum resonates closely with the research activities of the partners and recent developments in the field, offering a culturally diverse and academically engaging study experience.

The Nuclear Fusion and Engineering Physics programme is devoted to the technical applications of physical theory and strongly supported by the research and development activities at the different laboratories and industries within the consortium. By combining the practical concepts of a degree in engineering with the essentials of education as an engineering physicist, the programme delivers engineers capable of performing, advancing and leading technical and scientific research in research institutes as well as (fusion) industry.

The curriculum's engineering component familiarises the engineering physicist with the analysis, design and optimisation of new and existing systems, products, machines, materials and more, for which simplification to manageable system descriptions (from rules of thumb to expert systems) is essential. Although the various methods and applications are treated in the context of the technology of fusion devices, their relevance far exceeds the domain of nuclear fusion. In the physics component, the reductionist approach takes centre stage: by means of experiments and mathematical modelling we seek to break down physical phenomena taking place in the plasma and in its interaction with its surroundings, to their very essence, and to discover the applicable physical laws. A rigorous attitude is essential, as any physics theory should stand a validation by experiment.

While part of the learning contents in the curriculum are intentionally kept relatively broad, students can also choose one of two study tracks: Fusion Science or Fusion Engineering. These tracks allow students to specialize according to their personal interests by means of a broad set of electives.

## STRUCTURE

The two-year FUSION-EP programme comprises four terms. The study programme as a whole has to amount to 120 credits and fulfil certain mobility requirements. These requirements ensure a master's programme with a strong common standard and maximum flexibility, to accommodate students with different interests, language knowledge and background. Having chosen a study track (Fusion Science or Fusion Engineering), each student resides during the first master year at a university where the chosen track is offered. In the second year, the student moves to another university in a different country, still according to the chosen track.

As part of the mobility, all students meet each other on two fixed occasions in the course of their two-year programme, i.e. the annual Summer Event. Students attend this event as first-year students and then again as second-year and graduating students when they defend their master's dissertation. In addition, in the second year all students participate in two intensive lab training sessions, each two weeks long: the Joint Experimentation and Analysis session at the Institute for Plasma Physics in Prague and a Winter Event for all students near the ITER site at Cadarache, France.

Finally, in the second year students carry out an original piece of research for their master dissertation (30 credits). During several months, they collaborate with experts at the forefront of fusion R&D on a topic of their choice. The range of topics is very broad, thanks to our large network of universities, research institutes and industries.

## LABOUR MARKET

Physics engineers are trained, first and foremost, for R&D purposes. Their broad education makes them fit for employment at all companies and research establishments where interdisciplinary R&D requires in-depth knowledge of physics. They will constitute a substantial percentage of the large number of additional researchers required for the establishment of the EU as one of the main centres of excellence in the world. The curriculum's engineering and physics components especially qualify the physics engineer to take up executive positions at a later stage of their careers.

A significant number of our graduates chooses to

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deepen their training in the field of nuclear fusion by pursuing a PhD degree and possibly a career as researcher or engineer in fusion R&D. The EU Fusion programme is at the forefront of international fusion research and engineering. Moreover, fusion research is entering a new, exciting phase with the ongoing construction of ITER, the worldwide preparation for demonstration power plants and the nascent fusion industry. This is accompanied by a gradual shift of the emphasis of fusion activities from plasma physics to engineering and technology. There is also a growing need for competencies on nuclear project-related issues such as project management, nuclear licensing, quality assurance, risk assessment, and management of procurement processes, as well as a tendency towards stronger collaboration with the industry. Finally, private investment in fusion R&D is currently booming, with (start-up) companies all over the world pursuing their own, accelerated tracks towards the development of fusion energy.

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## TOELATINGSVOORWAARDEN VOOR HOUDERS VAN EEN VLAAMS DIPLOMA

### 1 Na onderzoek van de bekwaamheid van de student om de opleiding te volgen:

#### a opleidingen nieuwe structuur:

- Bachelor in de fysica
- Bachelor in de fysica en de sterrenkunde
- Bachelor in de ingenieurswetenschappen, afstudeerrichting: toegepaste natuurkunde
- Bachelor in de ingenieurswetenschappen: toegepaste natuurkunde

#### b opleidingen oude structuur:

- Burgerlijk natuurkundig ingenieur

### 2 Op voorwaarde van toelating door de inrichtende faculteit: na het met succes voltooiën van een voorbereidingsprogramma: aantal studiepunten te bepalen door de faculteit

#### a opleidingen nieuwe structuur:

- Bachelor in de ingenieurswetenschappen (KMS)
- Een diploma van 'Master in Engineering Technology'
- Een diploma van een opleiding 'Bachelor of Science in de ingenieurswetenschappen' (met inbegrip van 'architectuur')
- Een diploma van een opleiding 'Master of Science in de industriële wetenschappen'

#### b opleidingen oude structuur:

- Een diploma van 'Industrieel Ingenieur'

### Additional Information on Admission (Flemish Degree)

Holders of one of the above-mentioned diplomas can apply for the programme via the FUSION-EP website: <https://fusion-ep.eu>. Application is possible within the period indicated on the website (usually between November and February preceding the envisaged year of enrolment).

Study results and motivation are some of the important selection criteria. Specialisation in plasma physics or nuclear engineering is not required, but can be an asset. Three recommendation letters are needed.

The minimum degree required is a bachelor degree in physics or engineering. Candidates can apply for the programme via the FUSION-EP website: <https://fusion-ep.eu>. Application is possible within the period indicated on the website (usually between November and February preceding the envisaged year of enrolment).

Quality of the institute where you studied, study results and motivation are some of the important selection criteria. Specialisation in plasma physics or nuclear engineering is not required, but can be an asset. Three recommendation letters are needed.

## LANGUAGE REQUIREMENTS

Language requirements Dutch: no language requirements

Language requirements for this study programme differ from the required standard level for English taught study programmes as specified in the Ghent University Education and Examination Code:

**English:** TOEFL 94 (internet-based) - IELTS: 7.0 (with a minimum of 6.0 for each part) - Cambridge Certificate of Proficiency in English (CPE), grade C1 (CAE). English tests results provided by universities are not considered a sufficient proof.

Prospective students who can prove that they have followed a comprehensive English-based instruction at an institute for higher education during at least two years (students may be recognized as having completed 120 ECTS) are exempted from this requirement.

## PRACTICAL INFORMATION

### Study programme

[studiekiezer.ugent.be/european-master-of-science-in-nuclear-fusion-and-engineering-physics-EMFUSI-en/programma](https://studiekiezer.ugent.be/european-master-of-science-in-nuclear-fusion-and-engineering-physics-EMFUSI-en/programma)

### Information sessions

#### EVOLV

[evolv.gent/en/students/further-studies](https://evolv.gent/en/students/further-studies)

## ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS FOR INTERNATIONAL DEGREE STUDENTS

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## Open Days

Each spring the graduation fair **EVOLV** organised by the UGent Association, offers the opportunity to discover all possible options to continue studying or to start looking for a job (with more than 200 different companies).

For some programmes, there is a specific **Open Day**. If so, it will be announced here (at the latest Feb 15th).

23 April 2026 15u00 - 17u00 - Campus UFO, Ufo, Sint-Pietersnieuwstraat 33, 9000 Gent

## Enrolling institution

Ghent University, National Institute for Nuclear Science and Technology, Aix-Marseille University, Université de Lorraine, Czech Technical University in Prague, University of Stuttgart, The Complutense University of Madrid, Carlos III University of Madrid  
Information on enrolment at Ghent University.

## Application Deadline (for International degree students)

The Erasmus Mundus Master programmes have a specific application procedure to be started up via the specific website.

## Tuition fee

More information is to be found on: [www.ugent.be/tuitionfee](http://www.ugent.be/tuitionfee)

## Contact

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## Contact (for international degree students)

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<https://fusion-ep.eu>