

**FAQ's**  
**MA in Filmmaking**  
**Campus Sint-Lukas Brussels**

**FAQ 01**

*What degree requirements do I need to attend the MA program?*

The MA program is open to all holders of a BA diploma in Audiovisual Arts of academic level from Belgium or abroad.

*How much do I pay for entering the program?*

The tuition fee for the 2020-2021 academic year fluctuates between €200 and €400 for all degree students from EEA countries. Additional material cost, health insurance and national insurance payments are not included. For all details on admission requirements, enrolment or registration, please go to the 'Applying as a master degree student' page on the school's website: <https://www.luca-arts.be/en/applying-master-degree-student>

*Where is the campus located?*

The modern and spacious campus building is located in Schaarbeek, one of Brussels' 19 center communes, well connected to tram and metro stations as well as at walking distance from the North train station and the city's main downtown area.

**FAQ 02**

*What does the program offer?*

The program is intended to help you become more aware of where you want to go with your work, to steer your development, to deepen your filmmaking practice. Your work comes first: a continuous and independent art & research practice that, within a master program, seeks for a dialogue with similar practices. Working within the program will teach you to develop your practice through self-evaluation. Thus, in order for the program to work, it is important not to regard it as an aim in itself, but as part of a bigger trajectory, or better, as a tool which will provide insight in the trajectory from one point in your development to another. Through an integrated mix of seminars, masterclasses and workshops, you will master knowledge and skills that will prepare you to plan and execute film projects in a rapidly changing environment. The focus of the program is content development. It is designed to let you explore, expand and communicate the substance of your work. Peer-to-peer sessions, seminars, and filmmakers' visits are held in small groups and provide for conversation, dialogue, discussion, and an exchange of ideas.

The main aim of the program is to confront and fuel you with different ways of working and thinking in order to further develop your ideas and methods within a research environment from which you can learn and further your individual practice. You have access to a in-house service offering a wide and updated selection of filming, lighting and sound equipment, all available for check-out through online booking.

*Can I collaborate with fellow students?*

Collaboration with other students in the program is expected. Interchange of ideas and skills, group meetings and group presentations are an important part of the program in terms of a peer-to-peer approach to learning. You work together in lab and workshop environments where risks are run and failure can freely occur.

*What are the backgrounds of the students?*

The student population consists of holders of a Bachelor's diploma in audiovisual arts of academic level from Belgium or abroad. Since collaboration is an integral part of the program's environment, maintaining geographic, cultural and gender diversity is a very important factor.

*What about my background?*

The program seeks independent students who are interested in cinema, who are eager to learn and who enjoy working hard. It is necessary for you to have a background in filmmaking to attend and to be able to present a portfolio of personal short film works that you directed yourself.

*What does the actual curriculum look like?*

The program is a one-year, full-time course. The academic year runs to a 2-semester system. You have access to the campus throughout the working week of the whole year, apart from the holidays.

Semester 1 is an intense working and learning period made up of a combination of masterclasses, seminars, workshops, visiting artists and your self-initiated projects plus peer-to-peer sessions and tutorials. A typical week in the first semester of the program will include up to 4 days of classes. Semester 2 is more devoted to your self-initiated research project: developing your film and writing your essay. This period is meant for processing the implications of the insights and experiences, which have been gained throughout the first semester. This work culminates in your graduation project which includes your essay, your film and your graduation dossier. What will my research proposal at the beginning of the year look like? Your application form gives a first picture of your film project. It includes a personal statement as well as a very first outline of film research project.

*What will my graduation project at the end of the year look like?*

The program leads to the graduation project that includes both a single-screen film work (between 12 and 20 minutes) and a written essay.

**FAQ 03**

*Who teaches at the program?*

You learn from internationally recognised teachers and visiting artists who are actively shaping the direction of thought and practice in the rapidly evolving cinema field through their own work. The program has a core group of teachers for workshops and seminars that are held throughout the year. Every academic year, this group is augmented by visiting artists and guest teachers.

*Does the program offer any online or distance learning courses?*

The program does not have any online courses and does not have plans for any in the near future. Online courses cannot offer the kind of collaboration, group work, permanent input and constant review that are essential to the philosophy and learning process of the program.

*Does the program offer advice and guidance by teachers?*

Your individual practice is your basic point of reference throughout the program. These self-initiated projects are work that is defined in terms of its scope, realisation and development by you. Progress is discussed in small groups during monthly peer-to-peer sessions. In this process you can also rely on a dialogue about the content as well as its theoretical, practical and technical dimensions of the work with

your tutor. Tutor sessions are held on a regular basis throughout the academic year, and amount up to 30 hours addressing your film and up to 12 hours addressing your essay.

#### *How does the reviewing process work?*

##### Ongoing Assessment

Your progress will be followed and evaluated individually and continuously. Participation in all course activities and other parts of the program; the development of your own practice; the communication of your work and the compiling of your graduation dossier, all shape and define the progress of one's individual path. The data from this progress are noted and discussed by the lecturers and members of staff.

##### Final Assessment

The final assessment is made on the data from the ongoing and intermediate assessment and the final presentation of the graduation project. The final presentation is carried out in front of a jury comprising external assessors, and takes the form of a closed screening of your single-screen graduation work followed by a Q&A.

The prime communication channel for critical and evaluative views and opinions to be voiced is the tutorial. During these regular individual meetings, you have the opportunity to critically review your personal presentation skills, methods of research, ways of producing, and both form and content of their projects. The aim is to examine progress so far and the route still to be taken, with an eye to the final assessment. During these individual meetings, you are expected to elaborate on form and content of your final project and to propose a working plan in which you give a detailed outline of the individual route to your project.

#### **FAQ 04**

##### *How does the program keep in touch with the larger film world?*

The program regularly hosts events that are open to students and the public. Several times a year, visiting artists address the students on various topics related to the art world. Past speakers have included artists from a wide range of backgrounds, including international contemporary filmmakers. The program has strong collaborative partnerships with Brussels cultural spaces.

##### *What will my academic MA diploma offer?*

Our goal is to train professional filmmakers whose understanding of contemporary cinema is informed by a strong sense of aesthetics and ethics. The students we seek are those who want more than a skill: they are excited by the possibilities that cinema offers and want to work at the frontier of a rapidly changing field. At the successful completion of the program, you will receive an internationally recognised master's degree in Audiovisual studies. This will prepare you for Ph.D. studies programs, you can start your own film/art practice or go to work for large and small companies in a wide range of industries including education, film & tv, the art world, e-commerce and the non-profit sector.

#### **FAQ 05**

##### *What is the due date for my application?*

##### *What materials do I have to submit as a part of my application?*

For all details on the 3-step application and enrolment procedure, please go to the

'Applying as a master degree student' page on the school's website: <https://www.luca-arts.be/en/applying-master-degree-student>

*How does my application portfolio look like?*

For all details on the Admissions Certificate and Language Conditions, please go to the 'Applying as a master degree student' page on the school's website: <https://www.luca-arts.be/en/applying-master-degree-student> and click on 'Application Form'.

The portfolio is meant for you to demonstrate your output to the admissions committee. You can submit professional or personal works, anything that exhibits ideas and a sense of creativity. Please, make sure you fill out your creative portfolio description sheet so the Admissions Committee understands how to interpret the work – whether it's professional quality, working material, etc. Our academic master program is aimed at BA-graduates in film directing. Our MA-student's profile requires:

- a substantial portfolio of self-directed short films (of at least 10 minutes length) with a clear personal signature in both terms of form and content
- the ability to conceive and execute personal, long-term film projects from a to z
- a passionate knowledge of cinema culture within the context of contemporary art and media.

*Is there an interview as part of the admissions process?*

Yes. If you are included on the shortlist announced by the Admissions Committee following the evaluation of the application packages, you will be invited for an interview, on which the final selection hinges. We strongly encourage you (if possible) to visit the school, meet current students and staff, see the working spaces and get a better feel for and understanding of the program. We also encourage you to e-mail us with any further questions you may have (especially if you are not able to visit) and/or to make a personal appointment with the core staff.

*When will I be notified of the admissions decisions?*

Soon after the interview, you will be notified of the decision by e-mail. Please note that the Admissions Committee does not give reasons for any rejections. The number of new admissions for the 2020-2021 academic year is limited to 24.

*Is financial aid and/or social support available to students?*

The program does not make any grants available. You are encouraged to apply for grants awarded by local (municipal, regional, national) authorities. For all details on the school's well-developed student support services:

<https://www.luca-arts.be/nl/student-support-services>

*Is housing available to students?*

The school cannot provide accommodation. If you are an international student you will have to apply for a residence permit to be able to study in Belgium and you will have to arrange housing. Since these procedures can be time consuming, it is recommended to apply well in advance. For all details on the school's welldeveloped student support services: <https://www.luca-arts.be/nl/student-support-services>

*Can I work while attending the program?*

It is full-time MA-program, meaning you must attend courses. Many of our students work part-time or as interns while in the program. Many of the labs and seminars require a large number of hours inside the school's working space and require flexibility of time for group collaborative meetings and developing individual projects that are essential to the overall program experience. Any work undertaken must be

compatible with the program and agreed by the course director.