International Students

at the

Faculty of Arts and Philosophy

Faculty of Arts and Philosophy
Blandijnberg 2
9000 Ghent
Belgium

an.desmet@ugent.be

www.flw.ugent.be/studyingghent

www.gent.be/international

Photography: Hilde Christiaens, Nic Vermeulen, Luk Monsaert
Welcome to Ghent

Ghent is a vibrant historical city in the heart of Europe with 250,000 inhabitants. Its rich historical heritage, wonderful architecture and attractive waterways combine with a dynamic contemporary culture that embraces music, art and gastronomy. Ghent’s joie de vivre is sure to win you over. The city boasts a diverse range of theatres, concert venues and cinemas. It is also the annual host of numerous important music and film festivals. The city’s highlights include Van Eyck’s “the Mystic Lamb”, the Ghent Festival, the acclaimed lighting design which magically illuminates the buildings after sunset, and a food culture that caters to all tastes – in particular those who like vegetarian cuisine.

Ghent is a great city for students; as the biggest student centre in Flanders it attracts more than 70,000 students. The University campus is spread throughout the city, which adds to its lively atmosphere.

Ghent is very easy to reach by car as well as by train. Brussels, Bruges and Antwerp are only half an hour away and Paris, London, Amsterdam and Cologne can be reached in a couple of hours.

Ghent is an amazing city with amazing people. The halls of residence for Erasmus students are just perfect, the people are kind and everyone speaks English (which can sometimes be useful).

Shanti Lefèvre
Université de Liège
Ghent University, abbreviated as UGent, is one of the major universities in the Dutch-speaking region of Europe with over 41,000 higher education students. It offers high-quality academic teaching, excellent infrastructure and a wide range of student facilities. Its 11 faculties are composed of 117 faculty departments. These departments offer more than 230 high-quality courses in each of their academic disciplines, all of which are inspired by innovative research. UGent prides itself on being a socially responsible and pluralistic university with a broad international outlook. It ranked 70 in the 2014 Shanghai Ranking of World Universities and 90 in the 2014 Times Higher Education Ranking.

The faculty of Arts and Philosophy is a dynamic faculty with 5,000 students, spread across three campuses in close proximity to one another. It offers a range of Bachelor and Master courses within the Humanities, including Philosophy, Art, History, Languages, Literature and Area Studies. Although the official language of the University is Dutch, many courses are offered in English and in other cases, students receive English course material and alternative forms of assessment. Foreign languages, literature and culture are usually taught in their respective languages. Exchange students can combine courses from different fields or specialize in one particular subject, depending on their interests and the curriculum at their home universities.

Wonderful, great reception, beautiful country and city, lots of fun activities, great classes but very high level
Ruth Mauritz
University of Vienna

Ghent is a vibrant historical city in the heart of Europe with 250,000 inhabitants. Its rich historical heritage, wonderful architecture and attractive waterways combine with a dynamic contemporary culture that embraces music, art and gastronomy. Ghent's joie de vivre is sure to win you over. The city boasts a diverse range of theatres, concert venues and cinemas. It is also the annual host of numerous important music and film festivals. The city's highlights include Van Eyck's "the Mystic Lamb", the Ghent Festival, the acclaimed lighting design which magically illuminates the buildings after sunset, and a food culture that caters to all tastes – in particular those who like vegetarian cuisine.

Ghent is a great city for students; as the biggest student centre in Flanders it attracts more than 70,000 students. The University campus is spread throughout the city, which adds to its lively atmosphere.

Ghent is very easy to reach by car as well as by train. Brussels, Bruges and Antwerp are only half an hour away and Paris, London, Amsterdam and Cologne can be reached in a couple of hours.
# Degrees offered at the faculty

**BACHELOR DEGREES**

- Bachelor of Arts in Archaeology
- Bachelor of Arts in Art Science
- Bachelor of Arts in History
- Bachelor of Arts in Moral Sciences
- Bachelor of Arts in Philosophy

Bachelor of Arts in Applied Language studies  
(Dutch, English, French, German, Italian, Russian, Spanish, Turkish)

Bachelor of Arts in Linguistics and Literature  
(Dutch, English, French, German, Greek, Italian, Latin, Spanish, Swedish)

Bachelor of Arts in African Languages and Cultures  
Bachelor of Arts in East European Languages and Cultures  
Bachelor of Arts in Oriental Languages and Cultures  
(Arabic and Islamic Studies, China, India, Japan)

**MASTER DEGREES**

- Master of Arts in Archaeology
- Master of Arts in Art Science
- Master of Arts in History
- Master of Arts in Moral Sciences
- Master of Arts in Philosophy

Master of Arts in Interpreting
Master of Arts in Multilingual Communication
Master of Arts in Translation  
(Dutch, English, French, German, Italian, Russian, Spanish, Turkish)

Master of Arts in Linguistics and Literature  
(Dutch, English, French, German, Greek, Iberian-Romance Languages, Italian, Latin, Scandinavian Studies, Spanish)

Master of Arts in Comparative Modern Literature  
Master of Arts in Historical Linguistics and Literature  
Master of Arts in Advanced Studies in Linguistics:  
Cognitive and Functional Linguistics  
Linguistics in a Comparative Perspective

Master of Arts in African Languages and Cultures  
Master of Arts in East European Languages and Cultures  
Master of Arts in Oriental Languages and Cultures

Master of Arts in American Studies  
Master of Arts in Gender and Diversity
Study Facilities

LEARNING
In general, courses are taught in lecture format or in seminars in which relevant issues can be explored in greater depth. In some courses, especially language courses, students receive intensive skills-based training that allows them to put various aspects of their course material into practice. In addition, students are expected to undertake further reading and research.

EXAMS
All programmes are modular; the assessments take place at the end of each semester (in January and June) and resit exams are held at the end of August and the beginning of September. The type of assessment depends on the class and may include exams, essays, presentations and group work.

LIBRARY
The UGent library network centres around the University Library. This central unit is supplemented by 10 faculty libraries and some 200 departmental and seminar libraries. The UGent digital library provides access to over 35,000 electronic journals, almost 1 million e-books and 110 databases.

The Faculty Library of Arts & Philosophy offers a rich and extensive library collection of over 670,000 volumes. It is housed in a recently renovated historical building in the vicinity of the iconic Book Tower, next to the main faculty building.

STUDY AREAS
In the Faculty library, students have around 600 study areas at their disposal, complete with free wifi and power sockets. Students can reserve specially designated places for group research.

All faculty buildings provide PC labs where students can work either on their own laptops or use the PCs provided by the university.
Services for exchange students

WELCOME DAYS
Shortly before the start of each semester, the university and the faculty organize the Welcome days. During this two-day programme the new international students at Ghent University receive practical information about the university in a wide variety of sessions, have a meet-and-greet brunch at the faculty of Arts and Philosophy and are invited to a city walk of Ghent led by Belgian students.

BUDDY PROGRAMME
The faculty organizes a buddy programme in which local students are twinned with exchange students. The buddies help the international students to find their way around campus as well as their courses, and introduce them to the delights of the city.

LANGUAGE TANDEM
All international students are invited to take part in the ‘language tandem programme’, in which students practice each other’s native language. It is a great way to discover a new culture and to broaden one’s international network!

SPECIAL NEEDS
We welcome applications from students with special needs. These students may wish to contact us to discuss their requirements. The office for assistance for students with special needs acts as an intermediary between students, staff and fellow students concerning study and examination facilities, transport, accommodation, software support, etc. Students can rely on the co-operative efforts of this service, the Students’ Social Service and the Advisory Centre for Students, who work together to offer advice and assistance of a material, technical or social nature.

The experience of living in a multicultural context such as the university residences has been incredible. You are in daily contact with lots of people from all over the world, making friends and acquaintances that wouldn’t have met before.

Anabel González
Universidad de Valencia
Student life

ACCOMMODATION
Students can either rent a room provided by Ghent University or a private room. Prices for a room or a studio range from €270 to €500 per month depending on the area and the type of accommodation.

STUDENT RESTAURANTS
UGent has several student restaurants and cafeterias at different locations, close to the university buildings, that offer high quality food at reasonable prices. Dieticians make sure that the menus are varied, healthy and balanced. Vegetarian dishes are always available.

SPORT GUSB
Ghent University boasts a fully-equipped sports centre, with three large halls for indoor activities, a dojo (a hall specially designed to practice Japanese martial arts), two conference rooms, a 25 meter swimming pool, an instruction pool, two saunas, etc. The university also offers individual supporting services and counselling for students who are actively involved in top-class sports. Special attention is given to sports for disabled students.

INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS ASSOCIATIONS
At the faculty of Arts and Philosophy, each department has its own student association. These groups organize activities ranging from book sales to parties. Representatives of the associations join us at the international welcome days to involve the international students in their activities.

The Erasmus Student Network (ESN) Gent is a dynamic organisation consisting of Belgian students who want to bring the international students together during their stay in Ghent. They offer a range of activities and city trips.

The International Students Association Gent (ISAG) of Ghent University promotes intercultural exchange between the students by organizing social, cultural and sports activities, and arranging trips within Belgium and to neighbouring countries.
GETTING AROUND

The most popular way to move around in Ghent is by bike. Public transport in the city is well-organized and very convenient. Buses and trams run from early in the morning until late at night.

Ghent has two railway stations: Gent Sint-Pieters (main station) and Gent Dampoort – which allow smooth access to the entire Belgian railway network, including direct trains to Brussels, Antwerp, and Bruges.

Ghent is so nice, the right place to spend the semester abroad, small but not too tiny, the perfect mix between fun, culture, and university. The fact that it’s possible to go round the city by bike means you get to enjoy it even more!

Rossana La Conte
Università di Catania

Campus locations

1. Campus Blandijn (Blandijnberg 2 & Rozier 44)
2. Ufo & Technicum (Sint-Pietersnieuwstraat 35 & 41)
3. Campus Mercator (Groot-Brittannielaan 45 & Abdisstraat 1) & Rommelaere (Apotheekstraat 5)