

## Open Faculty of Economic and Social Politics



OPES2

Licence en politique économique et sociale (Diploma of the Second Cycle (Licence) in Economic and Social Politics )



### Programme management

OPES Faculté ouverte de politique économique et sociale

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### Study objectives

The FOPES programme is aimed at university training in agents of change in economic and social domains. Focus is therefore placed on the scientific quality and the capacity to develop economic politics and social alternatives alike. This orientation towards action leads to a maximum linking of the study programme with professional or social experience. This implies, as far as the pedagogical methods are concerned, according special attention to the central role played by the student as being a responsible agent in his own learning.

### Admission conditions

The FOPES programme addresses adults who have not had the possibility to undertake university studies by the regular path and who are not necessarily holders of a first study cycle diploma ("candidature") or a non-university higher education diploma. It addresses people principally involved in economic problems (regional development, employment policies, etc) or socio-cultural problems (popular education, literacy, education, etc). To qualify for admission, the candidate must possess the necessary capacities, knowledge and social, economic or political experience. Completion of previous studies must already date back several years. A jury examines each application for admission and deliberates each and every single case. It validates professional experiences and personal assets further to the evaluation procedure organised to verify if the student's capabilities and knowledge are sufficient to successfully accomplish the study programme.

### Admission procedure

The admission procedure for the FOPES programme is rather long, but aims to optimise the student's chances of success during the studies by taking into account the special particularities of the target public.

The procedure begins in November. Requests for information must arrive by March, at the latest, for the following academic year starting in September.

The stages of the admission process are as follows :

- a) Anybody requesting information from the FOPES and who gives their name and address is registered on the waiting list.
- b) In November of each year, the people who live in the regions concerned by the openings of the following year (or who belong to a sector of activities or involvement concerned) are invited to information sessions which are held between November and March.
- c) A questionnaire admission application form is made available for those who so wish, during the information sessions. This questionnaire helps both the candidate student and the FOPES to weigh up the experience, centres of interest and the study request.
- d) In March-April, those candidates who have submitted the questionnaire are invited to do a written exam followed by an oral exam and an orientation interview. During the oral exam, the candidate's knowledge is assessed to see whether he can undertake the study cycle ; the orientation interview helps assess the experience and aspirations of the candidate student. The oral exam and the orientation interview generally take place on the same day.
- e) The FOPES will then decide whether or not to invite the candidate student to an launching workshop. An appeal procedure exists for those candidates not invited to interview.
- f) The launching workshop last 30 hours. It helps the students to better define their study project as well as their aspirations and provides them with more detailed information on the possible activities of the FOPES.

The launching workshop, which requires the participation of every student, also helps the group and sub-groups to form. It takes place during the last fortnight of June and sometimes the first 2 weekends of September.

During the course of the workshop, the students work on their study project. This project will set the main direction throughout

the programme and will conclude with the end of course thesis.

At the end of the workshop, the students will confirm their application to the FOPES Council who will take a decision based on every aspect of the application.

Currently, 3 new groups are opened every year.

### General structure of the programme

The "licence" programme in Economic and Social Politics lasts 3 years (for 180 credits).

The compulsory courses are spread over the 1st and 2nd year. The free-choice courses are chosen by the groups during the second and organised in the 3rd year.

The programme also comprises specific and methodological seminars, operationalisation seminars organised in groups for a total of 47 hours per year and in sub-groups for a total of 102 hours (3 hours per week). The groups also consacrates 15 hours a year to the pedagogical coordination of the programme.

Concretely speaking, the students must participate in :

- 32 sessions of 6 hours in a group (generally on Saturdays but certain groups meet up on Tuesdays or Thursdays).

- 2 residential week-ends ;

- 34 sessions of 3 hours in sub-groups, generally in the evening.

The timetable is communicated to the students by the study advisor. The activities take place from the beginning of septembre to the end of June, following the calendar for secondary schools.

### Programme content

#### First year

<u>OPES1310</u>	Mainstreams of economic thought[30h] (5 credits) (in French)	Michel De Vroey, Florence Degavre, Pierre Reman
<u>OPES1320</u>	Macroeconomic[45h] (7 credits) (in French)	Philippe Defeyt, Réginald Savage, Christian Valenduc
<u>OPES1330</u>	Sociology : social structures and social change[30h] (5 credits) (in French)	Jean Nizet, Marie Verhoeven, Bernadette Wynants
<u>OPES1340</u>	Social and political philosophy[30h] (5 credits) (in French)	Geert Demuijnck, Hervé Pourtois, Muriel Ruol
<u>OPES1350</u>	Introduction to methodology in social science[15h] (3 credits) (in French)	Luc Albarello, Jean-Pierre Hiernaux, Marthe Nyssens
<u>OPES1360</u>	Introduction to descriptive statistics[15h] (3 credits) (in French)	Luc Albarello, Jean-Luc Guyot
<u>OPES1381</u>	séminaires d'opérationnalisation en sous-groupe[30h] (9 credits) (in French)	N.
<u>OPES1382</u>	Coordination pédagogique en groupe[30h] (7 credits) (in French)	N.
<u>OPES1383</u>	Séminaires spécifiques et méthodologiques[30h] (9 credits) (in French)	N.
<u>OPES2200</u>	Analysis of scientific texts and preliminary works with the report.[45h] (10 credits) (in French)	Luc Albarello, Michel Barbeaux, Pierre de Saint-Georges, Michel De Vroey, Donatienne Desmette, Ginette Herman, Georges Liénard, Marthe Nyssens, Hervé Pourtois, Jean-Marie Wautelet

#### Second year

<u>OPES2139</u>	Sociology of organization[30h] (5 credits) (in French)	Pierre de Saint-Georges, Bernard Fusulier, Jean Nizet, Jean Nizet
<u>OPES2140</u>	Company : control, diagnosis and strategy[45h] (7 credits) (in French)	Isabelle Callens, Stéphane Nassaut, Alexandre Samii
<u>OPES2155</u>	Design and economic evaluation of policies and projects[30h] (5 credits) (in French)	Bart Cockx, Muriel Dejemeppe, Bruno Van der Linden
<u>OPES2160</u>	Analysis of discriminations[30h] (5 credits) (in French)	David Bourguignon, Donatienne Desmette, Ginette Herman
<u>OPES2200</u>	Analysis of scientific texts and preliminary works with the report.[45h] (10 credits) (in French)	Luc Albarello, Michel Barbeaux, Pierre de Saint-Georges, Michel De Vroey, Donatienne Desmette, Ginette Herman, Georges Liénard, Marthe Nyssens, Hervé Pourtois, Jean-Marie Wautelet

**Third year****Compulsory courses**

<u>OPES2181</u>	Methods and technics of data processing[15h] (2 credits) (in French)	Luc Albarello, Pierre de Saint-Georges, Françoise Digneffe, Ginette Herman, Jean-Pierre Hiernaux, Réginald Savage
<u>OPES2200</u>	Analysis of scientific texts and preliminary works with the report.[45h] (10 credits) (in French)	Luc Albarello, Michel Barbeaux, Pierre de Saint-Georges, Michel De Vroey, Donatienne Desmette, Ginette Herman, Georges Liénard, Marthe Nyssens, Hervé Pourtois, Jean-Marie Wautelet

**Free choice courses**

<u>OPES2210</u>	Politiques économiques des pouvoirs publics[30h] (in French)	N.
<u>OPES2212</u>	Public finances and institutions[30h] (in French)	Michel Barbeaux
<u>OPES2214</u>	Politique industrielle, de l'emploi et des relations collectives[30h] ▲ (in French)	N.
<u>OPES2215</u>	Regional development[30h] (in French)	Marcus Dejardin
<u>OPES2217</u>	Contemporary socio economic models.[30h] (in French)	Jean-Marie Wautelet
<u>OPES2218</u>	La question écologique[30h] (in French)	Philippe Defeyt
<u>OPES2220</u>	Politique et gestion du personnel[30h] (in French)	Anne Rousseau
<u>OPES2224</u>	Acteurs économiques et sociaux en Europe[30h] (in French)	Pierre Jonckheer
<u>OPES2230</u>	Politiques et institutions culturelles[30h] ▲ (in French)	N.
<u>OPES2231</u>	Sociologie des inégalités culturelles[30h] (in French)	Abraham Franssen, Georges Liénard
<u>OPES2232</u>	Politiques et institutions de formation des adultes[30h] ▲ (in French)	N.
<u>OPES2234</u>	Gestion et évaluation de projets culturels et sociaux[30h] ▲ (in French)	Pierre Georis
<u>OPES2235</u>	A préciser (in French)	
<u>OPES2236</u>	Moyens de communication et d'informations[30h] ▲ (in French)	Thierry De Smedt
<u>OPES2237</u>	Mutations culturelles dans la société industrielle[30h] (in French)	Jean De Munck
<u>OPES2238</u>	Marché et culture : analyse socio-économique[30h] ▲ (in French)	Jean-Marie Lacrosse
<u>OPES2242</u>	Stratification sociale et distribution des revenus[30h] ▲ (in French)	Christian Valencu
<u>OPES2243</u>	Economie sociale et mouvements coopératifs[30h] ▲ (in French)	N.
<u>OPES2247</u>	Philosophie de l'action sociale et politique[30h] (in French)	Hervé Pourtois
<u>OPES2248</u>	Social actors : mobilization and demobilization[30h] (in French)	Marie Verhoeven
<u>OPES2258</u>	Questions spéciales de politique économique et sociale en société capitaliste[30h] (in French)	N.
<u>OPES2259</u>	Questions spéciales sur les problèmes de transition socio-économique[30h] (in French)	N.

**Evaluation**

So as to give the student a central role, formative evaluation is by no means negligible in the FOPES programme. The courses also conclude by means of a certificative evaluation, the responsibility of which is left up to the lecturer. The totality of the study year is evaluated by the group council, composed of students, a professor-coordinator, a study advisor and a director or his delegate. The global management of the different aspects of the evaluation is entrusted to the study advisor.

**Positioning of the degree within the University cursus**

The "Licence" diploma in Economic and Social Politics is delivered regularly by the Catholic University of Louvain. It validates a basic second cycle university training programme on the lines of the decree concerning academic certificates of the French-speaking Community in Belgium. It entitles access to the teacher-training certificate for upper secondary school years (Economics, Social and Political Sciences) as well as to second study cycle diplomas (eg.: Anthropology, Management, etc) and to University certificates (Economic and Social Ethics, Philosophy, etc).