

COBRA REPORT

Study programme: Master of Physics / Master in de Fysica

Drawn up on: 01/12/2019

KU Leuven uses the [COBRA method](#) to work on the quality of its study programmes. In this report the programme committee reports every four years on the quality of its programme(s) and describes the identified strength(s) and planned action(s) of its programme(s). Master of Physics, Master in de Fysica.

Strengths of the study programme(s)

- The master programme has a logical and flexible structure that offers students a good balance between further specialisation and broader knowledge gathering. Next to the master's thesis, the programme contains three clear groups of connected courses. The first group is dedicated to advanced, general physics courses, while the second group contains highly specialised physics courses within the domain of the chosen master's thesis or a chosen research minor. The third group contains courses aimed at a professional career-choice with a focus science education and communication in society or research and development in industry.
- The master programme is strongly research oriented and the specialisation profiles it offers (Condensed Matter Physics, Nuclear Physics and Theoretical Physics) are closely related to and integrated with the research lines within the Department of Physics and Astronomy. Moreover, the educational methods fully embrace the research skills and approaches (presentations, literature study, paper discussions...).
- The thesis consists of original research work done by the student. It proves to be a powerful training in becoming a truly independent researcher.
- All students are given an inside view into other international research labs and large scale research facilities through several lab visits during the master programme.
- Through several info sessions, a clear programme guide, and low-barrier personal advice from study advisors and programme director, students are well supported in planning their studies.

Planned actions

- The programme will continue to improve the coherence and connection between the different courses that complement each other (the learning lines in the programme) by organising 'learning-line' discussions among the didactic teams of these courses.
- The programme aims to further intensify the integration of its own research topics and state-of-the-art experiments within the different master courses, e.g. by including demo's and lab visits.
- In order to stimulate the master students to participate more in internships and in international Erasmus exchange programmes, the programme wishes to optimize the communication on these possibilities and set up pre-defined exchange packages of courses that can be taken up by students during their exchange abroad.

This COBRA report is a result of the past four-year COBRA cycle (2015-2019). Each study programme that participate drawn up this document, which specifies the strengths and planned actions of the study programme. These strengths dialogue between the programme and its stakeholders (primary actors, alumni, professional field and international experience) report aims to give a comprehensive indication of the study programme's realised quality. The COBRA report will programme guide, so it will be accessible to the public.

More information on COBRA: <https://www.kuleuven.be/english/education/quality/cobra-english/quality-assurance-method>
 More information on the quality of education: <https://www.kuleuven.be/english/education/quality>
 KU Leuven educational terminology: <https://www.kuleuven.be/english/education/educational-glossary/educational-glossary>

