

WELCOME TO INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS



INTERNATIONAL
EXCHANGES

IHECS

Journalism & Communication



WELCOME TO BELGIUM ! 5

WELCOME TO BRUSSELS ! 6

WELCOME TO IHECS ! 8

- A word from the head of school 8
- IHECS in numbers 9
- International Exchanges Department Staff 10

PARTNERS 12

- European partners 13
- Belgian partners 15
- Outside Europe partners 15

TIPS FOR LIVING IN BRUSSELS 17

- Cost of living 17
- Bank Account 17
- Transport 17
 - Travelling in Brussels
 - Travelling in and out of Belgium
- Sport 18
- Accommodation 18
- Blog IHECSperience 18

IHECS PROGRAMS 19

- General Programs 19
- English Program 20
- How to apply 20
- Academic Calendar 20

FAQ 21





WELCOME TO BELGIUM !

Studying at IHECS means living for a few months in Belgium. But where is this country ? Belgium is a small European country located between France, Germany, Grand Duchy of Luxembourg and the Netherlands. Belgium is a multicultural country. We have 3 national languages : French, Dutch and German. In Brussels, the predominant language is French.

As soon as you arrive in Belgium, you will notice that it is really easy to travel all over Europe: by train, by plane, by coach... Lots of possibilities !



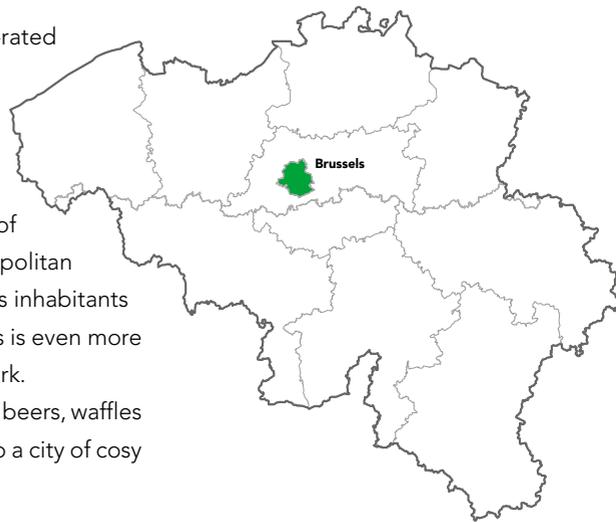
WELCOME TO BRUSSELS!

We welcome you to the capital of Belgium, to the heart of the European Union, and to the crossroads of philosophical and artistic trends! From the Place Royale to the Grand-Place, during your Erasmus stay you will have the opportunity to sample some of the many different ways in which Brussels serves up the art of living.

IHECS is just a stone's throw from the Grand-Place, a UNESCO world heritage site, in the heart of the city's historic centre – which is full of fascinating blind alleys, shopping galleries, fashionable boutiques and friendly cafés terraces. Enjoy a bag of fries, delicious chocolate pralines or a hot waffle. Grab for yourself the latest fashionable garments, or check out the famous shops selling comic books, both traditional and new. Taken together, all these little pleasures are sure to enhance your time in Brussels!

Brussels is very much under-rated as a city. French and Flemish cultures are blended with a startling mix of nationalities from around the world to give the Belgian capital of one million people a cosmopolitan atmosphere. With over half its inhabitants born outside the city, Brussels is even more of a melting pot than New York. Probably most well-known for beers, waffles and chocolate, Brussels is also a city of cosy

cafés, neighborhood markets and historical landmarks such as the Manneken Pis, the Atomium and Waterloo. For students interested in exploring other parts of the continent, Brussels is within just a few hours of most major European cities.



Tip n° 1 Look up!

Raise your eyes and discover the curves of Brussels Art Nouveau. Tour the Museum of Natural Sciences and behold the marvel of 30 dinosaurs on display. Observe the sun glinting off the Atomium's steel balls or the European quarter's glass towers. Brussels is THE capital of things to discover!

Tip n° 2 Breathe deeply!

After Washington, Brussels is the world's ninth greenest city. It is dotted with green spaces, so why not make the most of them? In the city centre alone, you can stroll through the Royal Park, the Parc d'Egmont or the Petit Sablon. And as soon as the sun comes out, all students make their way to the Bois de la Cambre, a park bordering the Forest of Soignes, to try their hands at djembé drums or to kick a football around. So breathe in deeply, Brussels is THE green city!

Tip n° 3 Try for yourself!

Enjoy the taste of Belgian chocolate, hot waffles or the country's 1600 different beers!

Experience the friendliness of Brussels' inhabitants in a typical café or at any of the numerous festivals held in the capital. Savour the extravagance of Belgian designers in the Dansaert neighborhood. Brussels is THE capital of new trends!



WELCOME TO IHECS!

A WORD FROM THE DIRECTOR

IHECS is a university-level college of Communication offering state-recognized Undergraduate and Graduate degrees. We are proud to be the oldest school of this type in Belgium.

Don't join us if you prefer silence. If you only accept ideas that are abstract and not accompanied by images, if you prefer tradition to discovery or if the modern world tends to frighten you more than it excites you – then IHECS is not for you.

But IHECS could be just right for you, if you are fascinated by the unique nature of human relations. The school will suit you if you want to reach others, wherever they may be, not only by handling concepts and words but also people's feelings and movements, sound and shapes, calling on all the tools of radio and TV, and the tools launched almost daily by the new technologies on the communication and information highways.

Frédéric Moens
Head of school

«Success is determined
by those who prove the
impossible is possible»

James W. Pence

IHECS IN NUMBERS

DIPLOMAS AND EDUCATION

- Six official diplomas ;
- Certificates of education called Executive Masters in 'European Communication and Policy' and 'Events Management' ;
- Over 100 lifelong learning modules.

STUDENTS AND STAFF

- around 2300 students ;
- around 200 teachers and staff members, among half of whom are practising professionals.

MOBILITY

- About 60 Erasmus partners in Europe and Flanders and 60 worldwide exchange agreements ;
- Over 250 places for exchange students ;
- Internships in Flanders, Europe and outside Europe (for Master's students and graduated students)

PROTAGORAS - THINK TANK

IHECS has created a laboratory to exchange ideas and points of view in political and public communication. Protagoras aims to create links between academic research and the professional area. They have a wide reflexion about the impact of communication practices and the impact on medias.

More information : protagoras.ihecs.be

INFRASTRUCTURE

- Four buildings located in the heart of Brussels, 350 meters from the Grand Place;
- One complex of high-tech auditoriums, featuring auditoriums with 450, 160 and 130 seats;
- One large auditorium, the *Velge*, shaped like an amphitheatre with 320 seats, plus a dedicated set and control room for TV recordings;
- 3 large open spaces with adjustable spaces for multimedia and graphic work;
- One control room for the student radio "Fluid" : <https://fluid.airtime.pro/>;
- 1 redaction room for the student media "Mammoth" : <https://www.mammoth.media/>
- 5 radio studio's;
- 22 soundproof rooms for video and radio editing;
- 1 TV set with a green screen and all set equipments attached;
- 2 capture studios;
- One equipment-lending centre (HD cameras, digital reflex bodies, a wide range of lenses, professional digital audio recorders, microphones HS, tripodes, boompoles, microphones, etc.);
- WiFi and free access to Internet in all locations.

INTERNATIONAL EXCHANGES DEPARTMENT

The International Exchanges office is there to help you with all administrative and institutional procedures linked to your exchange period. Members are also able to answer your practical questions, to help with your timetable arrangements. Whenever possible, Loïc Hennemont (in charge of incoming students) will try to answer any questions you may have. The International Exchanges office organizes an information meeting on the first day of the new academic year. Throughout your stay, the International Exchanges office will be looking after you.

STAFF

The International Exchanges Department is composed of four people.

Sophie Henrard: Head of Department

Pilar Jimenez Alba: in charge of outgoing students.

Florence Bertulot: in charge of internships abroad, international communication, bilateral agreements

Loïc Hennemont: in charge of incoming students and cooperation projects.

Inès Frère : administrative support in the management of outgoing students

Alisson Pechon : in charge of international cooperation.

CONTACT

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Pilar Jimenez Alba



Loïc Hennemont



Inès Frère



Florence Bertulot



Alisson Pechon

TIPS FOR LIVING IN BRUSSELS

AVERAGE COST OF LIVING *

Accommodation per month : 600 €

Food and leisure per month : 400 €

You also have to think about money you'll spend at parties with friends, shopping, visits, etc.

TRANSPORT *

TRAVELLING IN BRUSSELS

The public transport network is well developed in Brussels, with trams, buses and a metro (underground) system that will take you anywhere you want to go in the city (www.stib.be).

TRANSPORT TICKETS

- Single fare card (JUMP) : 2,10 € at stations, 2.50 € if bought from tram driver ;
- 10-journey card : 15 € + 5 € for the MOBIB card ;
- Abonnement for students : 12 € (up to 24 years old only) +5 € for the MOBIB card.

TRAVELLING IN AND OUT OF BELGIUM

To travel all over Belgium, the train is the most efficient means of transport. When using Thalys or Eurostar international trains, Brussels is just 1h20 away from Paris, 1h40 from London, and 2h40 from Amsterdam.

For students under 26 years old, the Go Pass is an attractive option. Costing just 53€, it allows you to make 10 one-way journeys anywhere within Belgium.

To discover Europe by train, attractive options include *InterRail* and *Eurodomino*. The *InterRail* ticket allows you to travel by train for up to one month in some 28 countries, while the *Eurodomino* pass will give you between three and eight days of train travel in the European country of your choice. For more details on these tickets, check the website www.b-rail.be.

Brussels National Airport is located some 20 minutes away from the city centre (www.brusselsairport.be). From the airport, you can travel by train to the city's three main Brussels stations (Brussels-Midi, Brussels-Central and Brussels-North) between 6am and midnight (one train every 25 minutes). The airport's train station is situated underground (level -1). A single fare costs 5,70 €.

ACCOMMODATION

IHECS does not provide accommodation. But it is often possible to rent the room of an IHECS student (called "kot") who is away on an Erasmus stay. Students' rooms are usually furnished houses or apartments accommodating several students who share a kitchen and bathroom but each student has his own bedroom. Students who are interested in this option should send a request to the International Office, who will circulate any offers received. However, it is easier to find a room during

the Fall Semester. Some useful websites when searching for accommodation :

www.spotahome.com

www.brukot.be/en/

www.kots.be

www.student.be/en/student-rooms

www.infor-jeunes.be/site/kot-a-louer

www.appartager.be/?l=1

! It is important to be careful while renting a student room. Scams are possible. Do not send money without signing a renting contract.

We also provide accommodations at "La Maison Africaine", its very well situated and cheap for all the services provided. If you want to take a room there, just let us know and we'll book it for you. We'll pay the rent and take the money directly from your scholarship each month.

BLOG IHECSPERIENCE

Ihecsperience is a blog where you'll find all the useful information to live your exchange at 100%! Belgian recipes, cultural agenda, advices and other stories are available. If you want to write some articles, feel free to contact us! www.ihecsperience.com

IHECS PROGRAMS

GENERAL PROGRAMS

The IHECS curriculum in Applied Communication includes two cycles: firstly, a Bachelor's degree (undergraduate) lasting three years, then a two-years Master's degree (graduate) for professional specialization. This 3+2 program conforms to the European structure aimed by the Bologna Accord. The course at IHECS, in the classical path, are mainly delivered in French.

The first three years of the Bachelor course covers a broad range of communication areas. All the students share the program for the first two years; the third year offers a transition pre-orientation, depending on the Master's degree being considered. The degree delivered at the end of this first cycle is the Bachelor's degree in Applied Communication.

At Master's level, there are six specialisations available: Journalism, Public Relations, Advertising, Sociocultural Activities and Lifelong Learning, Media Literacy and Events Management. To make this professional vocation a reality and to enable every student to create a strong professional identity for themselves, the school provides various training resources :

- the student's own work is assessed with a view to him/her joining the job market ;
- the significant presence of professionals in the school's teaching

body, on its juries, and their close involvement in developing and constantly updating programs ;

- media work done in close collaboration with the profession and using professional technical resources ;
- contact networks with business, groups, associations, public authorities and the organization of meetings with the profession (seminars, conferences, workshops, workdays, etc.) ;
- IHECS (department IHECS Academy) also organizes Executive Masters as well as training programs which further improve the professional feedback on the initial training.

IHECS focuses on practical experience and vocational development : fieldwork, media productions, project learning, language and expression, and traineeships. The general courses are the foundation of training.

On top of the usual training modules in social communication, IHECS makes significant use of media learning : print media, online press, graphic design and computer graphics, photography, sound/ radio, TV/video, multimedia, and events media. But do bear this in mind: the goal is never to make the technological medium an end in itself. Instead the aim is to be able (MAKING USE OF the media) to express a message, an objective or a given idea. In other words, it's all about communicating. This teaching concept is expressed by the following formula :

COMMUNICATION BY THE MEDIA WORKING FOR COMMUNICATION

ENGLISH PROGRAM

IHECS also offers a complete English program for its exchange students. This program blends courses dedicated to English-speaking exchange students with those courses in English which are for all IHECS students. For the full program, see details on separated brochure.

ACADEMIC CALENDAR

Fall semester

From September to December or January

Spring Semester

From February to May or June

Accurate dates will be sent directly to students.



« When you feel as welcomed as at IHECS, the only thing you can do is smile because you know you've done the best choice...despite the rain! »

> Diana Cánovas Flore - Madrid, Spain

FAQ

CAN I TRAVEL IN OTHER COUNTRIES WITH MY VISA?

You can go to the countries which are in the Schengen area (Germany, Austria, Belgium, Hungary, Portugal, Iceland, Czech Republic, Slovakia, Italy, Denmark, Latvia, Slovenia, Lithuania, Spain, Sweden, Luxembourg, Switzerland, Estonia, Malta, Finland, Norway, France, The Netherlands, Greece, Poland) if you have a Schengen visa! If you have a Belgian one, you'll be forbidden to leave the country during your stay here.

WHAT SHOULD I DO ON MY ARRIVAL?

You must present yourself to the administration of the district (called "commune"). You must tell them where you are staying in order to be registered as a foreign student.

Students coming from outside Europe have a maximum of 8 days to register.

WHAT SHOULD I DO DURING MY STAY IN BELGIUM?

Attend the courses, meet people and enjoy your stay in Belgium!

SHOULD I PASS MY EXAM?

As you don't have the student status anymore, you don't have any obligations to pass the exams. Nevertheless, if you

want to have a certificate saying that you succeeded the classes you attended to, you, then, need to pass the exams (if you are still in Belgium when they take place ofc).

If you don't, your certificate will only certify that you've been there and attended all the lectures.

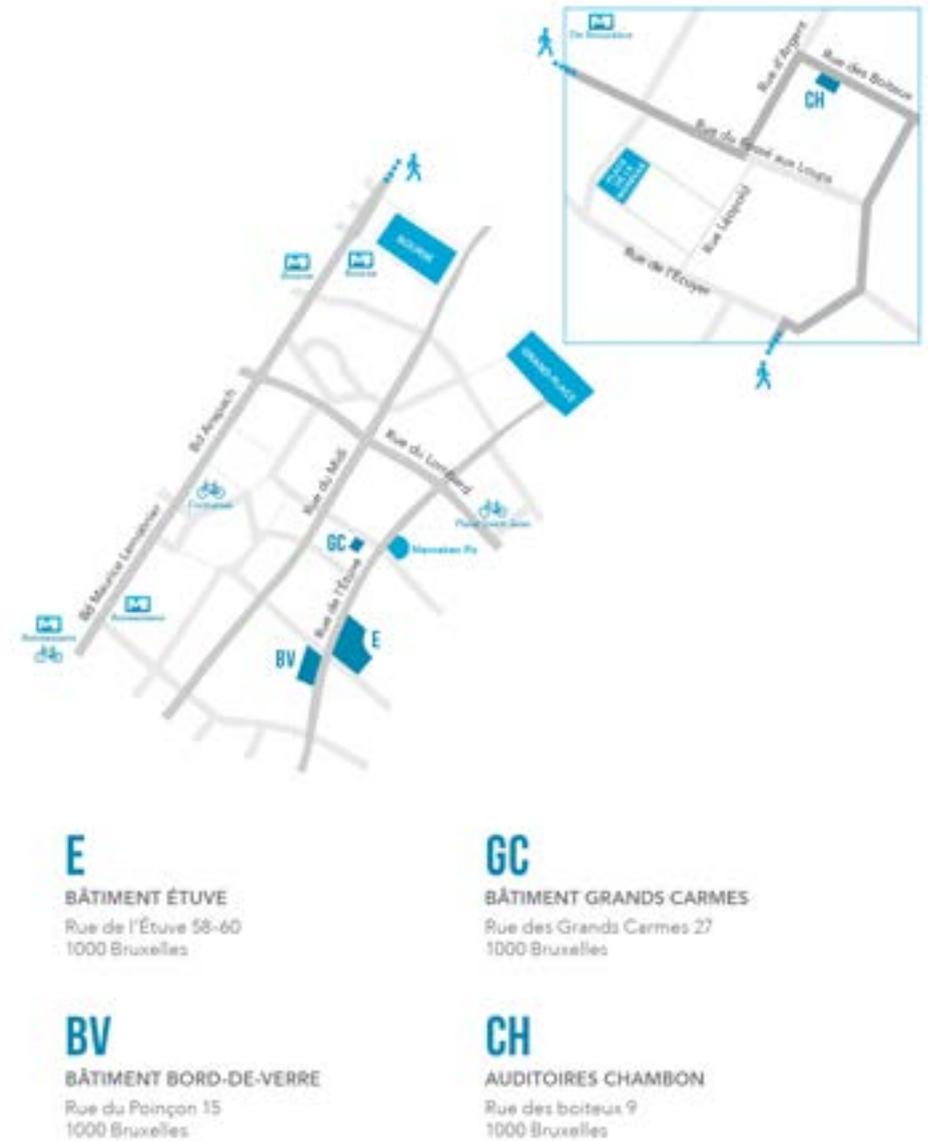
WHICH LANGUAGES DO THE BELGIANS SPEAK?

Belgium is a trilingual country. People speak French, Dutch or German. Most people speak either French or Dutch. Many people, especially in Brussels, speak also English. IHECS is a French-speaking institution, where students attend courses in French. Even if you are attending the International Program, we advise you to attend a French course before your arrival (to gain the basics). During your stay, you can also attend a French course which is part of the International Program.



« Doing an exchange at IHECS is for those who long to travel, to experience an intercultural change and to be constantly on the move with creative people. »

> Cornelia Cotorobai - Chisinau, Republic of Moldova



INTERNATIONAL EXCHANGES

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