

## INCOMING STUDENTS – HOW TO CHOOSE YOUR COURSES

Welcome in Strasbourg ! We are glad to welcome you. You will find below a guide to find your way in our training provision to establish your *Learning Agreement*.

To begin, here are the courses contents for the Licence (B.A) in **Sociology**: <http://sciences-sociales.unistra.fr/formation/licence-sciences-sociales/sociologie/#data-rof-tab-cours>

- For the 3rd year of licence (« L3 ») **we have also other training paths (= specializations)**. You will find them on the same page, in the **left column** (for ex: « Démographie », « Sociologie de l'intervention sociale », « Ethnologie »). You may click on any of these, and then you will need to click on « **Cours** ».

Here are different training paths for the **Master in sociology**: <http://sciences-sociales.unistra.fr/formations-rof/?rof-program=ME68>

the Master of **demography**: <http://sciences-sociales.unistra.fr/formations-rof/?rof-program=ME68>  
and the Master of **ethnology**: <https://ethnologie.unistra.fr/formations/offre-de-formation/>

### I- Years and semesters are named this way :

« **Licence** » = BA. « **L1** » = « 1st year of Bachelor », « **L2** » = « 2<sup>nd</sup> year », « **L3** » = « 3<sup>rd</sup> year ».  
« **Master** » = MA. **M1** = Master 1st year; **M2** = 2<sup>nd</sup> year.

#### a- Course programmes are indicated by « semester » :

for the « licence » (bachelor) :

**S1** = 1st semester L1

**S2** = 2nd semester L1

**S3** = 1<sup>st</sup> semester L2, etc...

**S5** = 1<sup>st</sup> semester L3.

For the master:

**S1** = 1st semester M1

**S2** = 2<sup>nd</sup> semester M1, etc.

**Example:** if you come the 1st semester of the 3rd year, you will first look the courses for **S5** (5th semester).

#### b- Credits :

- They are named « **ECTS** ».

- For each semester, students need to validate **30 credits** (60 credits for 2 semesters). But it can happen that you validate a part of your work in your home university (for example a research essay). **For example:** some students do validate at Strasbourg only 25 credits a semester, because they also achieve a research essay (for 5 credits) in their home university.

**II- How to make your choice and read course tables ? The following is important, we advice you to read it carefully:**

You have **two possibilities**:

- The first one is for you to follow the program of **only one course path**. For example, if you are in B.A 3rd year in Sociology, **we advice you to follow the whole course path « Sociologie »**. **Please, note that** the research essay (« Projet personnel de l'étudiant ») is **optional** for Incoming Students : you may replace it by any courses that you would chose in any other training path or in any other Faculty.
- The second possibility is to choose **only some courses** within the course path, and to complete your learning agreement with courses from **another course path** or form **several other course path**. According to this scenario, you **mix** several course paths.

The easiest way is the **first** solution, but you are **absolutely free** to choose the second possibility.

Now, how do these tables work? Let's go back to the two possibilities.

**1) First scenario: you follow the whole program within the same course path.**

- « **UE** » means « Unité d'enseignement » (unity of teaching). It is a module including **several courses**. Each UE is validated in **ECTS: they are indicated in the table**. If you take one UE, you will **validate the number of credits indicated next to UE**.
- In each UE, there are **two** types of courses. **CM** are « **lecture courses** », e.g. theoretical or thematic teaching. **TD** are « **tutorial classes** » : they are workshops.
- In **some** cases, **a UE includes « optional » courses**. An example with the course path « Sociologie » during **S5** (3rd year's first semester) : UE3 it is indicated: « Approfondissements thématiques en sciences sociales (**3 cours parmi ceux ci-dessous**) ». It means : *"topics in social sciences, 3 courses among the 3 below"* Here, you need to choose **only 3 courses in this list** (not the whole list).

**2) Second scenario: you mix several course paths.**

- you can indeed choose **any CM** in our faculty, knowing that **a CM of 24h = 3 ECTS and a CM of 18h = 3 ECTS**.

In this 2<sup>nd</sup> scenario, as a foreign student, **you don't have to follow all the courses in a UE** : you can choose only **one CM within one UE**. If the course is a 24h CM or a 18h CM, it counts as **3 ECTS**. So, you are **completely free about your choice** of CM.

- **However**, if you choose **the whole courses provided by an UE** to Strasbourg students, you would obtain **the whole credits of the UE** (for ex: **UE2 in "Méthodologie" in S5 "Sociologie"** = 6 ECTS in taking the whole course of the UE).

- You can furthermore choose "travaux dirigés" (TD) but **be careful**: you have to take them **in relation to the corresponding "CM"** (it is impossible to take one TD « alone », **without the related CM**).

III- **Generally:**

- it is very important, for the administration, that you choose **at least 50% of your courses within our faculty** ; you can take other courses in **others** faculties (maximum 50%).

- Our foreign students can choose **the whole lecture courses (CM) of their year**, but they can **also take 1, 2 or 3 courses in another year**. For example: if you are in **B.A. 3rd year**, you can take one or two courses in **L2 or L1** (2<sup>nd</sup> year or 1st year) and/or one or two courses in **M1** (Master 1st year).

IV- **A last requirement:**

When you will send you *learning agreement*, we will ask you simply **to precise in your e-mail:**

- **if you choose scenario 1 of scenario 2;**

- **if you choose scenario 2: please, be kind to precise for each course, what course path and what year you have chosen.**

We wish you the best for your application, and do not hesitate to contact us for further explanations.

Sincerely,

The International Desk, Faculty of Social Sciences, University of Strasbourg, France