Extrait du Université de Limoges

http://www.unilim.fr/How-the-LMD-system-works

How the "LMD" system works

- ANGLAIS - TRAINING -

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Université de Limoges

The countries of the European Area have decided to harmonise their training courses for higher education and to adopt a system of common diplomas based on the "LMD" (Licence - Master - Doctorat, i.e. Degree - Master's - Doctorate) method. The University of Limoges joined this new European Higher Education Area in September 2004. The various existing disciplines are retained, but a new way of organising training courses is implemented.

Download the University's special Training Courses brochure

Aims

- to allow diplomas to be compared and become equivalent at European level
- to develop the professionalisation of higher education whilst preserving the general interest nature of the teaching
- to strengthen the learning of transverse skills such as fluency in foreign modern languages and computer skills

Points of interest

- encouraging the student's mobility
- encouraging the student's access to the world of work in Europe
- allowing the student to build up a personalised education plan gradually

What changes

1. An architecture of diplomas based on the three reference levels "Degree, Master's and Doctorate".

The 3 reference levels are as follows

- the degree at baccalaureate +3 (L)
- the master's at baccalaureate +5 (M)
- the doctorate at baccalaureate +8 (D)

Even so, intermediate diplomas (DEUG, DEUST, DUT, Maîtrise , STD, MSG, MIAGE, etc.) continue to be awarded.

Students who hold a DUT, a BTS or who have taken preparatory classes at the Grandes Écoles may still join a degree course provided that their previous studies are totally or partially validated by the University.

2. A presentation of training courses in fields

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The diplomas are listed by field (e.g. Sciences - Technology - Health). Students choose a specialist subject from within this field (e.g. environmental chemistry) which may itself be broken down into specialities (e.g. natural substances and environment). The diploma obtained shows the name of the specialist subject and, where applicable, the speciality.

Typical courses of study are offered and it is possible to change courses. The student may also ask for a personalised course of study, validated by the teaching team.

3. Training courses organised into semesters

The diploma is broken up into semesters (30 credits/semester). It is a semester which is validated and not a year as previously. Students can change courses at the end of a semester. Any student who has not validated a semester is allowed, under certain conditions, to register for the following semester.

4. An organisation into Unités d'Enseignement (Teaching Units) which can be capitalised and transferred

The system is made up of compulsory and optional Unités d'Enseignement (UEs). Each UE has a defined value in European credits in proportion to the work (classes, Supervised Work, Practical Work, work experience, project, coursework, etc.) which the student must provide in order to obtain his or her UE.

The system of European credits applies to all French diplomas and it helps to make courses of study more flexible.

The UEs can be :

- transferred from one course of study to another (subject to acceptance by the teaching team) and, for instance, this allows students to validate any periods of study abroad ;
- capitalised upon as any validated UE remains valid (for at least 5 years) regardless of the duration of a course of study.

5. Supplement to the diploma

A descriptive appendix called the "supplement to the diploma" is issued in order to provide details of the knowledge and skills acquired during the course.

6. Student support teams

There is an induction, information and support system set up by the teaching and training teams. This makes it easier to guide the student, to ensure the educational consistency of his or her course and to ensure that his training plan is successful.

Degree and vocational degree

A diploma obtained after 6 semesters (3 years). It requires 180 credits.

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The training includes :

- theoretical classes
- methodological classes
- vocational classes
- transverse classes (computing, modern languages, culture, etc.)
- work experience

It also includes an induction and support system (tutorial system) designed to help the student to get his or her bearings and study successfully.

Research Master's and vocational Master's

A diploma obtained after 4 semesters (10 semesters in total, including the degree course). This provides 120 credits (300 in total, including the degree course). The intermediate maîtrise will be awarded at the end of the 1 st year of the master's (M1). The master's (which covers M1 and M2) is awarded for typical courses of study including :

- a vocational course leading to a vocational Master's
- a research course leading to a research Master's

Bridges are organised between the research master's and the vocational master's.

The master's comprises :

- Theoretical classes
- Methodological classes
- Vocational classes
- Work experience courses
- An introduction to research
- The writing of a dissertation or other coursework

The student must speak at least one modern language fluently in order to be awarded the master's diploma.

Doctorate

The highest diploma under the LMD system (bac+8 level), after the research master's, it is awarded after a viva examination. At the Doctoral schools there are additional training courses in preparation for occupational integration.

The Fields offered at the University of Limoges as part of the LMD system :

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Degree :
- Sciences - Technologies - Health
- Arts and languages
- Humanities
- Economic and social sciences
- Law

Master's :
- Sciences - Technologies - Health
- Arts and languages
- Humanities
- Law - Economics - Management

Doctorate :
Doctorates are not grouped into fields. Instead they have specific names. Courses training students to become pharmacists or doctors and those on offer at the engineering schools are not covered by the European reform for the moment. They are offered based upon the existing model.

You can download our introductory brochure in PDF format. It includes all of the explanatory text above.
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