



International MA in Armenian Studies (IMAS)

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International Master in Armenian Studies

Summary

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General Presentation

Inalco

Inalco is a public research university, tracing its origins to the *Ecole Spéciale des Langues Orientales Vivantes* (Special School for Living Eastern Languages), founded in 1795, where Armenian has been taught since 1798. Today, Inalco is the go-to institution in Europe for lesser-studied languages and societies (counting more than one hundred languages, as well as their cultures and contemporary societal and political issues). As a member of the *Alliance Sorbonne Paris Cité* and the *Agence Universitaire de la Francophonie*, and with partner institutions such as the *Centre National de la Recherche Scientifique*, Inalco is part of an influential and prestigious network amongst the world's universities.

It is a part of a prestigious network (as a member of the *Alliance Sorbonne Paris Cité*, with partnering organizations such as the *Centre National de la Recherche Scientifique*, numerous universities around the world, as a member of the *Agence Universitaire de la Francophonie*, and the Erasmus+ network).

Inalco is a degree granting university proposing state-recognized diplomas and institute specific programs, both using ECTS credits transferable throughout the entire European Union higher education system.

Institut national des langues et civilisations orientales (INALCO)

Pôle des Langues et Civilisations

65 rue des Grands Moulins, 75013 Paris

Tel. +33 (0)1 81 70 10 00.

Access: metro line 14 or RER C, station "Bibliothèque François Mitterrand" ; buses 89 and 62, stop "Bibliothèque Rue Mann" ; tram 3a, stop "Avenue de France."

Maison de la recherche de l'Inalco

2 rue de Lille, 75007 Paris

Access: metro line 1 or 7, station "Palais-Royal – Musée du Louvre", line 4, station "Saint Germain-des-Prés", line 12, station "Rue du Bac", RER C station « Musée d'Orsay" ; buses 24, 27, 39, 68, 69, 95 - stop Pont du Carrousel

<http://www.inalco.fr>

Armenian Studies at Inalco

The Armenian Studies Section of Inalco offers the most comprehensive program outside of Armenia, covering a wide variety of subjects (language, linguistics, ancient and medieval history, modern and contemporary studies, art history, socio-anthropology, literature, translation) open to both beginners and advanced speakers, with a wide range of research-oriented and professional degrees.

This master's program was created to meet the demand for high-level educational opportunities, accessible online and in Armenian. It seeks to make available the skills and experiences of a large teaching team to a large number of students around the world. The unique framework of the master will permit advanced speakers of Western Armenian (diaspora language) to practice an intellectual and professional activity in this language amongst a cohort of students from all over the world. The program includes courses given since 2017 in the framework of the seminar « [Teaching Western Armenian in the Diaspora](#) » (30 crédits, Diplôme de Langue et Civilisation DLC4, orientation "Enseignement"), created in collaboration with the Foundation Calouste Gulbenkian, and gives the opportunity to complete these classes as part of a Master's Degree (120 crédits) accredited according to European standards.

Teaching Staff

Full-time Inalco teachers

[Anaïd Donabédian-Demopoulos](#), Full Professor, Doctor of Linguistics (Armenian Linguistics) (program director)

[Victoria Khurshudian](#), Associate Professor, Doctor of Linguistics (Eastern Armenian and Linguistics)

[Mélanie Keledjian](#), Certified Teacher (Western Armenian Language)

[Anna Leyloyan-Yekmalyan](#), Associate Professor, Doctor of Art History (Art of Russia and the Caucasus, Eurasia and Russia departments)

[Taline Ter Minassian](#), Full Professor, Doctor of History (Political and Social History or Russia and the Caucasus, Russia department)

Lecturers

[Christian Batikian](#) (Armenian Literature, Creative Writing and Reading)

Anke Al-Bataineh (Doctor of Linguistics, Professor at Western Governors University)

Elodie Gavrilof, (modern History)

[Agnès Ouzounian](#), Doctor of Linguistics, Inalco/*Institut Catholique de Paris* (Classical Armenian)

[Nazli Temir-Beyleryan](#), Doctor of Social Sciences (Sociology)

Associate teachers of the International Master's degree

[Anke Al-Bataineh](#), Doctor of Linguistics, Professor at Western Governors University (Didactics, Project-based Pedagogy)

[Valentina Calzolari](#), Full Professor, Armenian Studies chair, University of Geneva (Classical Studies, Ancient and Modern Armenian Literature, History of Ideas)

[Vera Yakoubian](#), Political Scientist, Lebanon (with [Khatchik DerGhougassian](#))

[Gérard Malkhassian](#), Philosophe, Writer, Paris

[Gayane Shagoyan](#), Senior Researcher, Institute of Archeology and Ethnography, National Academy of Sciences, Republic of Armenia (with [Levon Abrahamian](#), IAE, NASRA)

[Vahé Tachjian](#), Doctor of History, Berlin-Beirut, Near-Eastern History specialist, Houshamadyan project director, Professor at Université Saint Joseph, Beirut.

[Hratch Tchilingirian](#), Associate Professor, Oxford University

[Chahan Vidal-Gorène](#), Doctor of *Ecole des Chartes*, Digital Humanist

The International MA in Armenian Studies (IMAS)

The International MA in Armenian Studies is taught in Armenian, accessible via distance learning or in hybrid distance/in-person format, for the acquisition of the following skills and knowledge:

- a systematization and deepening of knowledge of the language, culture, realities and discourses concerning the Armenian reality (Armenia and the Diaspora) in its historic and present diversity
- from the knowledge acquired, the development of personal thought on current Armenian issues
- the acquisition or consolidation of the capacity to exercise a professional activity (educational, cultural, organizational or institutional, in journalism, editorial, humanitarian, social, entrepreneurial...) in Armenian; some courses are specifically aimed at teachers in diaspora schools who are seeking professional development.
- the ability to inform and orient oneself, to know how to interact with the institutions and structures of the Armenian Diaspora
- long-distance collaboration, to plug in to a transnational network, mastery of digital tools in Armenian
- initiation and management of individual or group projects (cultural, pedagogical, educational, societal, humanitarian, etc.) in Armenian
- the program ends with an internship in a professional environment or the actualization of an independent or group project, leading to an internship report and its defense. Students who have already been trained in research in one discipline may write a research paper, with the agreement of the teaching staff at the time of registration (contact the program head before completing the registration form).

The degree awarded is the Languages, Literatures, Foreign and Regional Civilizations Masters (LLCER) Eurasia/Armenian, "International Master of Arts in Armenian Studies."

Admissions and Registration

The program welcomes a maximum of **15 students per class**, selected by the teaching staff.

Application period opens every year around March . A second round of applications opens around June (check Inalco's website from March).

Application deadline (See E-candidat)

Non-francophone students with difficulties in understanding emails or accessing different resources concerning admission can contact the Student Life tutor of the Armenian section who will help and orient them. To access this service, write an email to master.international@etudes-armeniennes.org with the subject line: TUTEUR. A Zoom informational meeting will be held before the end of the online application period, and tutorials in Armenian will be made available. See web page Armenian at Inalco.

Application packet includes:

- The application form completed in French or English (online, on [E-candidat](#))
- Diplomas, certificates, transcripts and course descriptions of classes previously taken that show the nature and level of studies completed. Documents in any language other than Armenian, French, English or Russian must be accompanied by a sworn translation into French;

- A motivation letter highlighting key aspects of the applicant's previous academic and/or professional experience (and knowledge and skills acquired therefrom), and presenting the applicant's objectives, or the personal motivation behind the application. The motivation letter allows us to get to know the applicant, the applicant's background and motivations, and it allows us to evaluate the applicant's ability to express him or herself clearly and in an effective and concise document (in Armenian, French or English);
- A curriculum vitae or résumé (in Armenian, French or English).

Minimum diploma required:

- *Licence* or bachelor's (BA) degree or a diploma recognized as the equivalent (3 years, 120 credits, in a related field to the humanities and to cultural and social professions (languages, literature, social sciences, journalism, education, publishing, social work, psychology, theology, etc. in relation to the professional plan,

OR

- *Licence* or bachelor's (BA) degree in another field AND proof of at least 5 years of professional activity/experience in a field relevant to the program,

OR

- validation of acquired experience for applicants who do not have the required diplomas and who can demonstrate professional experience related to the program. Contact [Inalco's continuing education department](#) (the procedure has fee and requires at least one year's notice).

Language requirement

- Armenian (Western or Eastern): at the C1 level (*proficient*) according to the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages; all elements that can prove the level or experience in Armenian (schooling, living place, professional activity, etc.) should be included in the file; no other language is required.

After examination of the application, the applicant may be asked to take a test/interview in order to verify his or her language skill level. The students whom this concerns will be notified by email.

In the event of acceptance, the student must confirm his or her application within the time limit indicated, and then complete the administrative and pedagogical registration (see below).

Second year (M2) registration:

For students who have already validated their entire M1, admission to M2 is automatic, but requires to renew registration process (réinscription administrative).

Students coming from another university, returning to school, or having validated credits in a DLC4 of Armenian at Inalco who wish to apply to enter the program directly in the second year, should contact the [program director](#) before submitting their applications.

Administrative and Course Registration

After receiving a favorable decision from the admissions committee, the student must complete two processes in order to enroll in the program:

- 1) An *inscription administrative* (IA), or administrative registration (enrollment in the degree and payment of tuition, allowing the student to receive a student ID card). See <https://www.inalco.fr/inscriptions-administratives>
- 2) An *inscription pédagogique* (IP), or course registration (selection of elective courses, and reception of a learning contract which allows the student to take exams) for which student receive instructions from IMAS program's staff in July.

Enrollment is not complete until both registrations have been submitted.

Attention: "continuous training" registration (expanses carried by the employer) involves specific procedure and fees. Contact: formation.continue@inalco.fr

Administrative registration is carried out online, after the favorable decision of the admissions committee.

Payment of **the registration** fee finalizes the administrative registration.

Full tuition fee is composed by:

- State contribution (mandatory, except for Formation Continue students) **to be paid online on CVEC after notification of admission** and before Inalco registration (currently around 105 €)
- Inalco's tuition fees: Tuition fees are fixed annually by the government for all public universities. See [information on Inalco's website](#)
Fees for UE residents are around 250€. Since 2025, Inalco applies the augmented tuition fees fixed by the government for extra-UE students (3940€ in 2025).
There is no internal scholarship program for IMAS Master but students may apply for partial or total exoneration from the University ([information here](#)).
- Inalco's fees include a contribution for BULAC library. However, BULAC registration and access to online resources requires a physical visit to the library desk once a year.

Extra-UE students in need of grant to pay for augmented fees are strongly encouraged to apply from the first round of applications, and to contact IMAS's staff to have recommendations for existing grants.

As soon as the payment is validated, students receive an email containing their login information to create an online account, which allows them to complete course registration (*inscription pédagogique*), consult their grades, and access the platform Moodle.

Course registration (*Inscription pédagogique/IP*) is required before the beginning of classes in order to access Moodle.

Opportunities after the IMAS master's degree

The IMAS master's degree allows you to bolster your CV/résumé with an eye toward joining a career or progressing professionally, particularly in the following areas:

- Professions in publishing and press
- Professions in communications and new technologies
- Professions in education (pedagogy and administration)
- Professions in mediation and translation
- Professions related to human care (social aid, humanitarian, psychology and ecclesiastic careers)
- Professions in culture and entertainment (project management, association staff)
- Consulting and expertise (for public or private institutions)
- Specialized entrepreneurship

See also the potential professional opportunities after a master's degree at Inalco here: <https://www.inalco.fr/preparer-son-insertion-professionnelle>

Practical information

Bureau des masters manages class registrations, grades, requests for exemption and validation for prior learning (NOT administrative registrations).

Contact: bureau-master@inalco.fr

Tutorial and information meetings are offered for non-francophone students by IMAS staff.

Teaching modalities

The program is carried out in the **Armenian language**, primarily in Western Armenian.

The program is entirely accessible at a distance (synchronous and asynchronous), or in a hybrid distance + in-person mode, depending on classes. Course materials, recordings of the lessons and associated resources are available to students registered for each course on the [Inalco Moodle Platform](#).

For synchronous courses, the timeslots are intended to be compatible with the time zones UTC-7 (California) to UTC+4 (Armenia), therefore to the extent possible, between 3 pm and 8 pm Paris time.

University Calendar

Classes are spread over 12 weeks per semester from mid-September to mid-December for the first semester (with a one-week vacation at the end of October), and from the end of January to April for the second semester (with a one-week break in February and possibly two-weeks break during the spring). <https://www.inalco.fr/calendrier-universitaire>

Evaluation is carried out primarily by continuous assessment, in the event of final exams, a session is scheduled in January (semester 1) and a session at the end of May/beginning of June (semester 2), as well as a make-up session (a second chance/retake) at the end of June. Students have access to their grades and transcripts online after the exam sessions, and their complete results in July. Diplomas are awarded during the following academic year and are presented at a ceremony.

Armenian Studies Scholarships

Students in Armenian studies are eligible for aid specific to their studies:

Scholarships from the [Calouste Gulbenkian Foundation](#)

Scholarships from the [AGBU / UGAB](#)

Scholarships from the [Croix-Bleue des Arméniens de France](#) (ARS France)

Depending on their personal situation, they may also contact:

Assistance from the [Association Arménienne d'aide sociale](#)

Fondation Léa et Napoléon [Bullukian](#) (Lyon)

Housing

From master's level onward, students can apply to live at the [Maison des Etudiants Arméniens](#) (Armenian Student's House) at the *Cité Internationale Universitaire de Paris*

and apply for housing assistance from the *Association des Amis de la Fondation Marie Nubar* (ask at the Maison after admission).

Useful links

- Armenian Studies Section: <http://www.inalco.fr/langue/armenien>
- Timetable: <https://planning.inalco.fr>

A Google Calendar is also shared with students before the beginning of the academic year in order to avoid timezone confusions.

- Digital workspace (ENT): <https://ent.inalco.fr> (ENT allows you to check your grades after each exam session.)
- University library: *Bibliothèque universitaire des langues et civilisations* (BULAC): <https://www.bulac.fr>

Curriculum Structure

The master's is comprised of two years (M1 and M2) and **120 ECTS** credits (30/semester). The semesters S7, S8, S9 are comprised of three course units (*unités d'enseignement* /UE):

Semester 10, without course units, is dedicated to an internship and an internship report.

Important to understand this table:

Courses from UE1 are all mandatory

Courses from UE2 and UE3 are comprised of elective courses. The label E in the last column of the table indicate courses dedicated to teachers in diaspora schools taking the continuing education training. You must not select these courses if you are not a teacher or a future teacher.

Special case: students with previous enrollment in DLC4

If you have already taken a course with the same name, you must not take it a second time. Contact master.international@etudes-armeniennes.org to submit a request for validation of prior learning.

Master 1		ECTS	Hours per week	
		60/an		
Semestre 7		30		
UE1 – 4 mandatory courses		16		
ARMA416e	Advanced Armenian 1 (M. Keledjian)	4	2	
ARMA416f	Sociolinguistics and transmission of Western Armenian (A. Donabedian) <i>Functions, representations and ideologies, linguistic vitality: lessons for the transmission of Western Armenian (in and outside of the classroom).</i>	4	1,5	
ARMA426c	Armenian Literature 1 (C. Batikian) <i>Armenian Literature of the Diaspora: Issues, Influences and Posterity</i>	4	1,5	
ARMA426b	Armenian Arts (A. Leyloyan) <i>Armenian Art History: general framework and case studies (different program each year)</i>	4	1,5	
UE2 - 3 elective courses		12		
ARMA420i	Armenian Christianity: church, society and politics (M. Tchilingirian) <i>Religious and political issues in the history of the Armenian Churches from the 5th century to the present. The religious institutions and their impact on Armenia and the Armenian communities of the diaspora today.</i>	4	1,5	
ARMA420j	Post-Ottoman Armenians: Exile, Cultural Legacy, and Reconstruction (V. Tachjian) <i>From the Ottoman Empire to current nation-states, people, institutions, representations, ideologies. Understand the historical origins and contemporary issues of these communities.</i>	4	1,5	
ARMA420h	Didactics of Western Armenian (A. Al-Bataineh) <i>Awareness of the issues and methods of active learner-centered pedagogy. Context, experiences, critical analysis and lessons.</i>	4	1,5	E
ARMA426h	Personal Project (society-oriented): translation, publication, web design, creation or adaptation of resources OR	4		
ARMA416d	Classical Armenian (advanced level – ONLY IN PRESENCE)	4	2	
UE3 – Tools and methodology (2 mandatory)		2	1,5 h	
ARMA436a	Internship Search and methodology 1 (A. Donabédian) <i>General methodology and preparation for internship, personal project, and thesis writing.</i>		1,5 every two weeks	
ARMA436b	Digital tools for Armenian studies (C. Vidal-Gorène) <i>A grasp of basic computer tools for the Armenian language, and coding. Identify and utilize basic resources for Armenian (spellchecker, dictionaries, libraries, etc.) and understand their challenges, avoid pitfalls...</i>		1,5	

Master 1		ECTS	Hours per week	
Semestre 8		30		
UE1 –3 mandatory courses		8	3,5	
ARMB416e	Advanced Armenian 2 (M. Keledjian)	4	2	
ARMB416f	Language of the Armenian Media (A. Donabedian)	4	1 + TPE	
ARMB416g	Linguistics Grammar of Modern Armenian (A. Donabédian) <i>Typology. Specific grammatical categories and structures in the Western Armenian Language system: functions and effects (literary analysis, language education).</i>	4	1,5	
UE2 - 4 elective courses		20	7h30	
ARMB426c	Literary Translation from/into Armenian (A. Donabédian) <i>Theoretical framework, case studies, multilingual translation workshop (English, French, Greek, Arabic, Russian).</i>	4	1,5 (1 + TPE)	
ARMB426b	Armenians in Turkey: Sociology and Anthropology (N. Temir Beylerian)	4	1,5	
ARMB426d	Armenia-Diaspora, Geopolitical Issues (V. Yakoubian, with participation of Khatchik Derghougassian) <i>History and political issues of Armenia and Armenia-Diaspora relations, contemporary insights and lessons.</i>	4	1,5	
ARMB426e	History of Armenian Writing and Books (manuscripts and print) (V. Calzolari) <i>History of Armenian ideas of elites throughout the history of the written word (creation of the alphabet, scribes and monasteries in the 5th-15th centuries, printing and the merchant bourgeoisie in the 16th century, the press, political and literary movements in the modern period).</i>	4	1,5	
ARMB426f	Active pedagogy in the Western Armenian classroom (A. Al-Bataineh) <i>Introduction to Project-Based Learning: assessing context, constructing a project and involving learners, identifying modes and assigning objectives in terms of skill and knowledge, conducting the project in the classroom.</i>	4	1,5	E
UE3 – Tools and methodology - 1 elective course		2	1,5 h	
ARMB436a	Internship Search and methodology 2 (A. Donabédian) <i>Preparation of the M2 internship and thesis. Presentations from figures of the Armenian Diaspora (international foundations, NGOs with cultural, political and philanthropic vocations, institutions dedicated to Armenia-Diaspora relations, etc.)</i>		1,5 every two weeks	
ARMB436b	Reflective Learning of an Unknown Language (A. Al-Bataineh) <i>Keeping a learning log of the learner's experience and interpretation of the teacher's choices.</i>		1,5	E

Master 2		ECTS	Hours per week	E E/G
Semester 9		30		
UE1 – 3 mandatory courses		13,5	3,5	
ARMA516e	Advanced Armenian 3 (M. Keledjian)	4,5	2	
ARMA516f	Creative Writing (C. Batikian)	4,5	1h + PW	
ARMA526c	Armenian literature 2 (C. Batikian) <i>In-depth study of two works of Armenian literature.</i>	4,5	1h + personal work	
ARMA516g	Corpus Linguistics: approaches and applications (V. Khurshudian) <i>Building databases for a lesser-represented language: applications of linguistic engineering, education, artificial intelligence. Techniques and methods for designing a project.</i>	4,5	1,5	
UE2 - 3 elective courses		13,5	7h30	
ARMA526c	Armenian literature 2 (C. Batikian)	4,5	1h + PW	
ARMA516g	Corpus Linguistics: approaches and applications (V. Khurshudian)	4,5	1,5	
ARMA526a	Armenian Diaspora : institutions, identity and culture (H. Tchilingirian) <i>The Armenian Diaspora, historical and contemporary issues (political, social, cultural), of communities in their contexts.</i>	4,5	1,5	
ARMA526b	Armenians facing Modernity: Philosophers and Thinkers (Gérard Malkhassian) <i>From the "Trap of Pride" to contemporary thinkers, entry of Armenian Thought into its environment and time.</i>	4,5	1,5	
ARMA526c	Didactics of Armenian: Practical implementation (A. Al-Bataineh) <i>Teacher's workshop : designing a project for classroom or or extracurricular language program (preparation of S10 Project).</i>	4,5	1,5	E
ARMA526e	Supervised observation (<i>teachers : summer camp coached by A. Garmiryan</i>)	4,5		E
ARMA526f	Current issues in armenology (G. Shagoyan and L. Abrahamyan) <i>Cultural Anthropological Approaches for the Armenian Collective Memory Studies / Abrahamian : Modern discourse on Armenian identity</i>	4,5	1,5	
UE3 – Tools 1 elective course		3	1,5 h	
ARMA536a	Digital Humanities for Armenian Studies (C. V-Gorène) <i>Going further in-depth on the themes of course 1, introduction to the challenges of artificial intelligence, in tandem with the Corpus Linguistics course.</i>		1,5	
ARMA536b	Digital Tools for Language Teaching (A. Al-Bataineh)		1,5	E

Master 2	ECTS	Hours per week
Semester 10	30	
UE1 – Internship / Project and internship report (thesis)	30	
<p>Internships will take place at institutions, organizations, foundations, establishments or enterprises chosen by the student in coordination with the teaching staff. A specific course for Internship Research (in S8. A. Donabédian) helps orient the students' search and prepare for their internships of the following year.</p> <p>The duration of the internship (minimum 3 months / 200 hours) will depend on the content and the organization chosen, it will confer with the mentor and the internship organization's structure, and the teaching staff.</p> <p>At the end of the semester, students will write an internship report (in Armenian) which they will defend (remotely) in front of a jury composed of three members of the teaching staff + at least one person from outside (the internship mentor, if applicable). The (remote) presentations may be organized in a thematic series in order to mobilize relevant external guests to contribute to the creation of a network of professionals around the class of students.</p> <p>A mandatory monthly seminar (A. Donabedian) on the follow-up of the internship will maintain the link between students in their second semester, and to guide them in the process of writing their internship reports.</p> <p>Students have the option to propose, in place of an internship, a collective project with classmates or with alumni of the program, or outside professionals. This project duly argued (objective, feasibility, methodology, skills implemented, distribution of tasks) will be validated by the educational team with the support of a mentor, a professional experienced in the relevant domain, and selected by our network.</p> <p>Students must submit a validation of their intended internship / personal project intentions no later than December. Internship may begin since January, and must be achieved late August.</p> <p>Defenses take place between June and November, depending on the calendar of the internship.</p>		