

International MA in Armenian Studies (IMAS)

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2026-2027

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May be modified between now and the beginning of the school year.

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International Master in Armenian Studies

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inalco
Institut national
des langues
et civilisations orientales

Summary

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General Presentation

Inalco

Inalco is a public higher education and research institution whose origins go back to the Ecole Spéciale des Langues Orientales Vivantes, founded in 1795, where Armenian has been taught since 1798. Today it is a leading institution in Europe and beyond for the study of less commonly taught languages and societies (more than one hundred languages, together with their cultures and contemporary social and political issues). Inalco is a member of the EUniWell European University, the Agence Universitaire de la Francophonie and the Erasmus+ network, and develops numerous scientific partnerships, notably with the CNRS and universities worldwide.

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
<https://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.

The IMAS Master was created to meet a demand for high-level degree programmes in Armenian Studies, available online and without a prerequisite in French. It gives students throughout the world access to the expertise and experience of a recognized teaching team. It provides a unique framework in which proficient Armenian speakers can pursue intellectual and professional activities in Western Armenian (a diaspora language) within an international cohort. It incorporates courses developed since 2017 within the DLC4, Teaching track, created in collaboration with the Calouste Gulbenkian Foundation, and enables students to count them toward a Master's degree (120 ECTS) recognized within the European higher education system.

Teaching Staff

Full-time Inalco teachers

[Anāid 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 - Inalco Armenian Studies Section

[Christian Batikian](#) (Armenian Literature, Creative Writing and Reading)
Patricia Boisson (Doctor of History, Ancient and Medieval History)
Samuel Chakmakjian (PhD student, Armenian linguistics)
Elodie Gavrilof (Doctor of History, 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 (Didactics, Project-based Pedagogy)
[Valentina Calzolari](#), Full Professor, Armenian Studies chair, University of Geneva (Classical Studies, Ancient and Modern Armenian Literature, History of Ideas)
Sarine Koftikian-Olden, Language teaching methodology
[Gérard Malkhassian](#), Philosophe, Writer, Paris
[Gayane Shagoyan and Levon Abrahamian](#), Senior Researchers, Institute of Archeology and Ethnography, National Academy of Sciences, Republic of Armenia
[Vahé Tachjian](#), Doctor of History, Berlin-Beirut, Near-Eastern History specialist, Houshamadyan project director, Professor at Université Saint Joseph, Beirut.
[Hratch Tchilingirian](#), Doctor of Sociology, Innovation executive, Los Angeles - London
[Chahan Vidal-Gorène](#), Doctor of *Ecole des Chartes*, Digital Humanist
[Vera Yakoubian](#), Political Scientist, Lebanon (with [Khatchik DerGhougassian](#))

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 dates and procedures are published each year on Inalco's official "Applications" page: <https://www.inalco.fr/candidatures>

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, on the platform indicated by Inalco for the current application campaign.
- Diplomas, certificates, transcripts and course descriptions of previously completed classes, allowing the nature and level of prior studies to be assessed. Documents in a language other than French or English 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 French or English).

Minimum diploma required:

- Licence, bachelor's degree or a diploma recognized as equivalent (bac+3 level; a French Licence corresponds to 180 ECTS), in a field related 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 applicant's professional project),

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 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 successfully completed the entire M1, admission to M2 is automatic; administrative registration must nevertheless be renewed.

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: enrolment in the degree and payment of registration fees, enabling the student card to be issued. Procedure and annual calendar: <https://www.inalco.fr/inscriptions-administratives>
- 2) An inscription pédagogique (IP), or course registration: choice of elective courses and validation of the learning agreement that authorizes access to courses and examinations. Instructions are sent to admitted students by the IMAS team and the Bureau des masters.

Enrollment is not complete until both registrations have been submitted.

Attention: registration under Formation Continue (when training costs are covered by an employer or another organization) follows a specific procedure and fee schedule. Contact: formation.continue@inalco.fr

Administrative registration is completed online after the favourable decision of the admissions committee, according to Inalco's annual registration calendar.

Payment of the registration fees finalizes administrative registration. As amounts, liability rules and exemption arrangements are set annually, Inalco's official page is authoritative: <https://www.inalco.fr/droits-de-scolarite-tarifs-exoneration-annulation-remboursement>

The main components and rules to check are the following:

- The CVEC is a national contribution separate from tuition/registration fees. Its annual amount and exemption cases must be checked on the official CVEC website before administrative registration.
- Since 2025-2026, non-EU students enrolling in a national Master's degree are subject to differentiated tuition fees unless they fall under a non-liability or exemption category. For 2026-2027, Inalco publishes a Master's fee of €3,950 per year. Distance learning does not, by itself, constitute grounds for exemption. Consult the official Inalco page above for the applicable rules and supporting documents.
- Registration fees give access to university services, including BULAC under its own registration rules. For access to BULAC electronic resources, consult <https://www.bulac.fr>

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

Teaching is spread over 12 weeks per semester. The precise dates of classes, breaks, examinations and resit sessions are fixed by Inalco's academic calendar, which is the authoritative source: <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 (applications usually begin early spring) :

Scholarships from the [Calouste Gulbenkian Foundation](#)

Scholarships from the [AGBU / UGAB](#) (choose International Scholarship)

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)

A more comprehensive list is available in the "additional documentation" section of the booklet's [directory](#).

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: <https://www.inalco.fr/langues/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 degree comprises two years (M1 and M2) and 120 ECTS credits (30 per semester). Semesters S7, S8 and S9 each comprise three course units (unités d'enseignement / UE). Semester S10 is devoted to an internship, an individual or group project, or, for students authorized to follow this track, a research thesis. Semester 10 has no weekly taught courses; it is devoted to the internship, personal/group project or research thesis, according to the approved track.

Important for reading the 2026-2027 table:

The number of mandatory or elective courses is indicated for each UE.

The letter E indicates courses in the "Teaching" specialization; they are intended primarily for teachers or future teachers in diaspora schools.

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		
Master 1 — Semester 1 (S7) — 30 ECTS		Master 1 — Semester 1 (S7) — 30 ECTS	Master 1 — Semester 1 (S7) — 30 ECTS	Master 1 — Semester 1 (S7) — 30 ECTS
UE1 – 4 mandatory courses		16		
ARMA416E	Advanced Armenian 1 (M. Keledjian)	4	1	
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		
ARMA426E	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	
ARMA426F	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	
ARMA426G	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	—	
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	
Master 1 — Semester 2 (S8) — 30 ECTS		30		
UE1 –3 mandatory courses		12	—	
ARMB416E	Advanced Armenian 2 (M. Keledjian)	4	1	
ARMB416F	Language of the Armenian Media (A. Donabedian)	4	2 every two weeks	
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		16	—	
ARMB426C	Literary Translation from/into Armenian (A. Donabédian) <i>Theoretical framework, case studies, multilingual translation workshop (English, French, Greek, Arabic, Russian).</i>	4	1	
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 to choose from 2 offered)		2	—	
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	Profile
Master 2 — Semester 1 (S9) — 30 ECTS		30		
UE1 – Foundations (3 courses to be validated from the 4 listed below)		13,5	—	
ARMA516E	Advanced Armenian 3 (M. Keledjian)	4,5	1	
ARMA516F	Creative Writing (C. Batikian)	4,5	1	
ARMA516C	Armenian literature 2 (C. Batikian) <i>In-depth study of two works of Armenian literature.</i>	4,5	1	
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	—	
ARMA516C	Armenian literature 2 (C. Batikian)	4,5	1	
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 (S. Koftikian-Olden) <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	1,5	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 and S. Olden)		1,5	E

Master 2 — Semester 2 (S10)	ECTS	Hours
Master 2 — Semester 2 (S10)	30	
IMAB5RPS — Internship and internship report IMAB5MEM — Personal project (individual or group) IMAB5MEM — Research thesis	30	
Master 2 — Semester 2 (S10)		