

The Ubbo Emmius Ph.D. Scholarships of the University of Groningen (The Netherlands)

1. Abstract

The Ubbo Emmius programme is a scholarship programme for international Ph.D. students. Every year some 50 students from all over the world are admitted to this programme. Many of them have already successfully completed their Ph.D. education, thus obtaining their doctor's degree.

This page informs you briefly on the general outline and tells you all you must know if you want to apply for admission to the Ubbo Emmius programme.

Why get your PhD in Groningen?

There are several excellent reasons for you to come to the Netherlands:

- 1) The Ubbo Emmius programme will offer you a high-level education, designed to give you an excellent theoretical background for your research project.
- 2) As an Ubbo Emmius student you will perform research within one of the research institutes of the University of Groningen, under the supervision of one or more experienced scientists. Facilities needed for the successful completion of the project will be supplied by the University.
- 3) During the research project, you will write a thesis based on the results of your project. The public defense of your thesis will earn you a Dutch doctorate. This degree equals a highly ranked Ph.D. degree. Throughout this text the abbreviation Ph.D. is used when referring to the Dutch 'doctorate'.
This degree has a very good international reputation, and scientists with this degree are respected throughout the international scientific community.
- 4) During your four-year stay in the Netherlands, you will be granted an 'Ubbo Emmius scholarship'.

Obtaining your doctorate in the Netherlands; a wise choice, but have you considered this?

1. Your present university degree must meet appropriate standards. The list of diplomas in the appendix may help you on that question. Keep in mind that the University of Groningen will decide whether your degree will allow you to attend the Ubbo Emmius programme.
2. The Ubbo Emmius student has to be able to read and write English at an academic level.
3. Only a limited number of scholarships are available. Therefore, you will have to compete with other students in order to be invited to the programme. Candidates will be selected on the basis of their scientific merits.
4. Although the Netherlands is a country with open borders, some formal requirements will have to be met.

2. The University of Groningen

History:

The University of Groningen (Rijksuniversiteit Groningen) was founded in 1614. The first Rector Magnificus was Ubbo Emmius. Since the early days, the university has formed an

inextricable part of the city and its citizens. The image of the university gradually altered from the former 'fortress of knowledge' to the open-door institution which it is today.

Education:

Nearly all branches of academic education are covered by the academic curriculum.

Faculties and fields of study include:

- Mathematics and Natural Sciences
- Law
- Arts
- Philosophy
- Theology and Religious Studies
- Medicine (including dentistry),
- Economics, Management and Organisation
- Behavioral and Social Sciences,
- Spatial Sciences.

From an international perspective, the University of Groningen has a name that spells quality and thoroughness. Hundreds of foreign students find their way to Groningen each year to follow courses or participate in research projects.

This high standard of education is maintained by using a quality control system which comprises regular inspection of our programmes by national and international experts in the field of academic education. Apart from maintaining the quality of the existing programmes, new innovative curriculae are developed.

Research:

Most of the research effort at the Groningen academy is organized in research institutes. A research institute consists of several research groups centred around a small number of coherent research themes. In the Groningen research institutes a total of over 2000 scientists are devoted to high-quality academic research, and over 4000 scientific publications go into press each year; in addition, over 200 doctorate degrees are awarded per year. The organisation of research within the larger institutes favours a multidisciplinary approach to scientific problems, adding to the social relevance of the scientific output.

Ubbo Emmius students will perform their research within the walls of one of these institutes. The institutes provide all the scientific infrastructure needed for the Ph.D. student to successfully complete his research project. The high quality of the Ubbo Emmius programme will provide students, apart from an appreciation for scientific theory and techniques, with the ability to define and solve complex scientific questions.

3. Welcome to the Ubbo Emmius programme

The Ubbo Emmius programme is intended to strengthen the contacts between the University of Groningen and other universities, centres of research and industries in other countries. International contacts are of the utmost importance for the dissemination of knowledge and skills. The University of Groningen invites young academics from all over the world to come to the Netherlands for a training

period of four years. Scholarships for those candidates who are invited to the Groningen Ph.D. programme will be paid by the university. Principally, an Ubbo Emmius scholarship is granted for the period of one year with a possible extension to a maximum of four years. An Ubbo Emmius scholarship amounts to 1370 Euro gross per month. The income tax to be paid depends on the personal situation of the Ph.D. student. Generally, a Ph.D. student may expect a net amount of 1320 euro per month. This should suffice for the normal costs of living of a single student. No fees will be charged for the use of special courses or special apparatus. The scholarship does not include extra gratifications for holidays and travelling for private purposes. Refunding regulations do not apply to the scholarship.

4. The Ubbo Emmius programme: an overview

A list of the research institutes can be found on <http://www.rug.nl/corporate/onderzoek/overzichtAlleOnderzoekinstituten>

A call for candidates will be published on the webpages of the individual research institutes.

Selection of students for an Ubbo Emmius scholarship will be primarily based on the scientific merits of the candidate. There is one constraint: the candidate should be able to write and speak English at an academic level.

When a Ph.D. student is admitted to the Ubbo Emmius programme, he and his supervisor at the institute will have to devise a Ph.D. programme. This contains at least an explicit description of the educational programme the Ph.D. student is obliged to complete and a description of the research project. Finally the Ph.D. programme must contain a time schedule. This schedule should contain a description of the various stages of the project and the time needed to complete each stage. The time schedule is devised in such a manner that the Ph.D. student will be able to complete the programme within four years. After a scholarship of four years there is no possibility of extension; therefore, both the Ph.D. student and the supervisor benefit from a sound planning of the project. The progress of the research project is recorded in an annual progress report, written by the Ph.D. student. The dates on which all subsequent reports will have to be finished are set down in the research plan. These reports must contain detailed information on the actual progress of the research project. The report should also contain precise information on whether the actual project keeps up with the stages which were set in the time schedule.

Ubbo Emmius scholarships are awarded for one year, with the possibility of a yearly extension up to a maximum of four years. However, if the progress report shows insufficient progress, the supervisor and/or the scientific director of the institute may decide to terminate the scholarship before the intended four-year period has expired.

During the initial stages of the project, the Ph.D. student will receive education at the research institute.

Although only a small part of the Ubbo Emmius programme consists of taught courses, the Ph.D. student will learn the basics of scientific research which are critical for the success of the project. The subsequent practical research under the supervision of an experienced scientist offers the Ph.D. student an ideal opportunity to directly assess the "look and feel" of science. Following the courses mentioned in your Ph.D. programme is free of costs.

The Ubbo Emmius programme consists of a four-year period during which a Ph.D. student will work on a research project at a research institute. During that time the student is supervised on an individual basis by an experienced scientist. All facilities a Ph.D. student needs for the successful completion of the research programme are supplied by the institute. When a facility cannot be offered by the institution, the student may use the help of some highly specialized centres within the University of Groningen or even at other universities. During the research project a thesis is written.

In most disciplines it is required that at least parts of the thesis have been published in international scientific journals. After the thesis is finished, it is refereed by a 'reading committee' and subsequently defended in public against a committee of experts. In the event of a successful defence, the student is awarded a 'doctoraat'. The 'doctoraat' allows you to bear the title 'doctor'. This title has a very good international reputation. Ph.D. students who successfully finish their education in Groningen may expect to find highly qualified jobs and are respected throughout the scientific community.

5. The Ubbo Emmius programme: things to remember

For an international Ph.D. student to be admitted to the Groningen Ph.D. programme a few obstacles will have to be surmounted.

- a) The candidate has to apply.
- b) The level of the candidate's diplomas must equal the Dutch version of the Masters degree (see Appendix I for international equivalents).

- c) Finally, the Ph.D. student will have to secure proper admission and residence permission to the Netherlands.

6. Further Information

Ubbo Emmius contacts in your particular field of research can be reached through our webpage, which can be found at:

<http://www.rug.nl/corporate/onderzoek/overzichtAlleOnderzoekinstututen>

Please note:

International diplomas that give direct access to the Ph.D. programme are listed in the appendix.

Appendix

Country	Diploma
Belgium*	Licentie (also applicable: Ingenieur or Doctor)
China	shuoshih (master)
Curaçao and Aruba*	Doctoraal (minimally four years)
Cyprus	See Greece
Denmark	Candidatus Philosophiae or Civil-ingenior
Egypt	Mâdjisâr (Diblûm is not sufficient)
France	Maitrise
Germany*	Diplom/Magister Artium
Greece	Diplomatouchos
Ireland	Master
Indonesia	Srata 2 (Magister)
Iran	Fogh lisans (minimally two years)
Israel	Musmach (masters)
Italy	Diploma di laurea
Morocco	Diplôme d'etudes Supérieures
New Zealand	Master
Norway	Candidatus (not: C. magisterii)
Poland	Magister (at least 12 semesters)
Portugal	Licenciatura (or Mestrado)
Spain	Titulo de licenciado (or Titulo de Ingeniero)
Surinam*	Doctoraal (or Masters)
Turkey	Yüsek diplomasi
United States	Master (only when preceding bachelor's degree was in the same field of study)
United Kingdom: - England, Wales, Ulster - Scotland	Master (from University or Polytechnic) Master (from University or Central Institution)
Sweden	Licentiat

*Diploma's lawfully considered to be equivalent to the Dutch doctoraal.

Additionally, the diplomas of each Ph.D.-student will be evaluated by the Board of the research institute. No rights can be claimed solely on the basis of this list.