



university of
 groningen

Master's Degrees in Spatial Sciences

2011-2012

The Netherlands



A word from the Rector Magnificus

'Master your talents'

Thank you for considering us for your postgraduate studies. We offer students from all over the world high quality research and education and provide you with the academic skills and knowledge you need for your future role in society.

The University of Groningen, founded in 1614, is one of the older universities in Europe and has educated more than 200,000 graduates in the last 400 years. We are proud to say that we developed into one of the leading research universities in the world. We are even more proud to say that during all these years our tradition of academic excellence has not changed.

We are an international centre of knowledge that has managed to create an atmosphere that enables researchers to discover things which would otherwise have remained hidden to them. We offer challenging study and research paths that vary in intensity to encourage you to develop your individual talent.

Studying at the University of Groningen will provide you with a truly international experience, which will broaden your horizon. The global outlook we provide you with will give you a competitive advantage in realizing your future career plans. All this takes place in the city of talent, Groningen, a city where distances are small and possibilities endless.

I hope to be welcoming you to the University of Groningen soon.

Prof. dr. Frans Zwarts
 Rector Magnificus



Rankings 2009

#33	Academic Ranking of World Universities EU
#56	ESI Citations Impact most productive universities worldwide
#38	Shanghai Jiao Tong EU
#101	Shanghai Jiao Tong Worldwide
#138	Times Higher Education Worldwide

The University of Groningen: 400 years of passion and performance

- > Leading research university
- > Study in an international environment
- > Dedicated to student involvement

Facts & Figures

- > 26,800 students
- > 3,500 international students
- > 9 faculties
- > Bachelor, Master and PhD programmes
- > 9 Graduate Schools
- > 91 English-taught degree programmes
- > 15 English-taught double degree programmes

Student facilities: the Groningen personal approach

- > Honours College for exceptional talent
- > Student support courses
- > Talent and Career Center
- > Excellent computer and online facilities
- > Wide variety of international student organizations
- > Limitless access to the University Sports Centre



The Groningen canals, ports and warehouses take you back to 14th century Hanseatic times, when Groningen was a member of this alliance of trading guilds.

Groningen city: *City of Talent*

- > 180,000 inhabitants
- > best city of the Netherlands 2010
- > best city centre of the Netherlands 2005
- > best student city of the Netherlands 2006
- > ranked as European city with the highest quality of life by its inhabitants 2006
- > lively with a safe community character
- > cultural and economic capital of the north

Groningen Museum

The Groningen Museum is the most high-profile museum in the Netherlands, not only due to its striking design, but also because of various exhibitions.



Culture & Fun

Cinemas and theatres cater for all cultural tastes. Matching the Groningen way of life these venues, large and small, can be found scattered throughout the city.

- > Arthouse films in cinema 'Images'
- > Concerts in the 'Oosterpoort'
- > Theatre at the historic 'Schouwburg'
- > Live music, late-night jazz, funk and blues-rock cafés
- > Music festivals like Noorderzon, Eurosonic, Noorderslag and Swinging Groningen

www.cityoftalent.nl
www.groningen.nl



Groningen: safe environment, full of life

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Disclaimer

All information published in this brochure is subject to change. No legal rights may be derived from this brochure. While the University of Groningen makes every endeavour to ensure the accuracy of the information presented in this brochure, it cannot be held liable for any errors or inaccuracies you may find.

The University of Groningen is a signatory of the 'Code of Conduct with respect to international students in Dutch higher education'.

The University of Groningen

Founded in 1614 the University of Groningen is one of the oldest universities in the Netherlands and enjoys an international reputation as one of the leading research universities. It is a university with a modern, student-oriented vision on education.



The Academiegebouw, the heart of the University of Groningen

The University of Groningen has always been an outstanding example of an international community. Almost 400 years ago, close to half the students and lecturers came from outside the Netherlands. Today, close to 50% of our 1500 PhD students are international students. Although internationally oriented, the university maintains strong ties with the city of Groningen and its surrounding region.

Leading research university: *passion and performance*

Realizing an ultimate dream is the main motive for many scientists in doing their research. The University of Groningen provides you with a study environment that rewards vision, quality and achievement.

We belong to the top 3 of European Research Universities in the fields of:

- > Nanoscience
- > Ecology/Biology
- > Materials Sciences
- > Chemistry
- > Astronomy

Other strong research groups are *Molecular Biology, Medical Sciences, Neurosciences, Sociology, Philosophy, Theology, Archeology* and *Arts & Humanities*. **All awarded degrees have been accredited by the Dutch Government and are internationally acknowledged.**

International outlook: *involved with the world*

Knowledge has no borders and knows no boundaries – it is universal. By attracting genuine talent, irrespective of the country of origin, we ensure the quality of teaching and research. Going abroad for an international experience is not the only option anymore – home can be an international environment as well. We maintain long-term partnerships with universities around the world with similar high standards, participate in international networks and incorporate international themes in our programmes.

International Student Barometer

Since 2007 the University of Groningen takes part in the International Student Barometer, a global survey of satisfaction and well-being among international students.

Why students choose to study with us:

- > international reputation
- > quality of teaching and research
- > reputation of Groningen as a safe, friendly and relatively cheap city

Rated best in the Netherlands:

- > official Welcoming Ceremony
- > social activities organized for international students
- > sports facilities

Highly valued:

- > internet access
- > International Service Desk and faculty International Offices
- > library and study facilities
- > Dutch/Groningen host culture



Zernike campus

9 Faculties & 9 Graduate Schools

- > Arts > Behavioural and Social Sciences > Economics and Business
- > Law > Mathematics and Natural Sciences > Medical Sciences
- > Philosophy > Spatial Sciences > Theology and Religious Studies

Strategic partners

- > Europe: Uppsala University (Sweden); Ghent University (Belgium); University of Göttingen (Germany)
- > Asia: Gadjah Mada University, University of Indonesia, Bandung Institute of Technology (Indonesia); University of Beijing, Tsinghua University, Fudan University (China); Osaka University (Japan)
- > Latin America: National Autonomous University of Mexico – UNAM (Mexico); University of São Paulo – USP (Brazil)
- > North America: University of California at Los Angeles – UCLA, University of Pennsylvania (USA)

Famous graduates

- > Aletta Jacobs, the first female student in the Netherlands
- > Wim Duisenberg, the first president of the European Central Bank
- > Hans Wijers, CEO of the board of management AkzoNobel
- > Job Cohen, political leader
- > Peter Rehwinkel, mayor of Groningen
- > Several members of the Royal Family

Famous scientists: *past and present*

- > Frits Zernike, Nobel Prize for Physics 1953
- > Heike Kamerlingh-Onnes, Nobel Prize for Physics 1913
- > Albert Szent-Györgyi, Nobel Prize for Medicine 1937
- > Serge Daan, Award for Eminent Scientists of the Japan Society for the Promotion of Science (JSPS)
- > Petra Rudolf, Descartes Award for her work on synthetic molecular motors and artificial nanomachines
- > Ben Feringa, Spinoza Award for his work on nanotechnology

Teaching and Research

The University of Groningen is home to over 26,800 students who are welcomed to an inspiring and stimulating atmosphere. With a degree from the University of Groningen, you can be confident that you have the required skills and theoretical background to pursue your future career.



Master's Degree Programmes: *master your talents*
We train you to be a scholar and a scientist, while instilling the professional skills enabling you to find work outside the research community as well. The programmes last between one and two years.

Graduate School Master's programmes
For those of you with research as a special focal point, we offer two-year 'Research Master' and 'Top Master' programmes. They are designed to attract the most qualified students and are incorporated in Graduate Schools.

Double degree/joint programmes
Studying at the University of Groningen does not mean your experience is limited to the Netherlands alone. The university joins forces with strategic international partner universities or pools resources in a consortium of European universities.

Graduate Schools: *a union of teaching and research*
The Graduate Schools bring together distinguished staff members and talented students who share a common interest. With these schools we aim to ease the transition between the Master's and PhD levels, give graduates strong research skills, and create a supporting environment with expert scholars.

PhD opportunities
Admission to a PhD programme is highly selective and based on academic merit: the best preparation is successful completion of one of our Graduate School Master's programmes. In the four-year PhD programmes, you conduct your own research while the Graduate School provides a balanced mix of expert supervision, tailor-made postgraduate training and the freedom to pursue your own ideas.

Educational System in the Netherlands

Teaching style
Study programmes are carefully defined and highly structured and you are expected to contribute actively and work independently. The teaching staff is there to assemble and structure the truths and facts that make up the body of knowledge. You must make sure that you absorb knowledge, filter it, and make it your own.

Teaching methods
Most of your courses will have a mixture of two or more of the below mentioned teaching methods.

- > **Lecture:** large group of students, listening to a professor, less interaction between teacher and student
- > **Seminar:** small group, a lot of interaction between professor and student, you are expected to participate actively
- > **Work/project group:** a group of 3–5 students conducting their own research, you have to contribute to the project actively, guidance from the professor when needed
- > **Independent study:** you are expected to conduct a research project independently, guidance from the professor when needed

Study support
Studying in a different country can be quite an overwhelming experience at times, everything is different and your friends and family are far away. To guide and help you through your studies as smoothly as possible the University of Groningen offers students several support facilities.

Dutch higher education values

- > independence
- > individual opinions
- > teamwork

Binary System of Higher Education
The Netherlands has two types of universities. Universities of Applied Sciences (Hogeschole) are primarily career-oriented and prepare students for particular professions. The University of Groningen is a Research University (Universiteit), with research as its main focal point.



Universities: Research-oriented

- > PhD: 4 years
- > Master's degree: MA/MSc/LLM: 1–2 years
- > Bachelor's degree: BA/BSc/LLB: 3 years

Universities of Applied Sciences: Career-oriented

- > PhD: not applicable
- > Master's degree: M: 1–2 years
- > Bachelor's degree: B: 4 years

ECTS and grading

ECTS is an EU standardized system for measuring study load as a way to facilitate international mobility.

1 ECTS = 28 hours of study (incl. contact hours, reading, exam preparation, etc.).

60 ECTS = one year

The minimum number of ECTS credits needed to obtain a Master's degree is usually 60 (Humanities, Economics, Social Sciences and Law). 120 ECTS credits are required for some programmes (mainly Natural Sciences), whereas other programmes vary from 180 (Medical Sciences) to 240 ECTS credits.

The Dutch grading scale runs from 1 (lowest grade) to 10 (highest grade). As an indication, 5.5 is a passing grade. Grades 9, 10 and all grades lower than 3 are highly exceptional.

The University of Groningen is the only Dutch higher education institution to have a ECTS Label and a Diploma Supplement Label, awarded and recognized by the European Commission, Council of Europe and UNESCO/CEPES.



Population Studies in Groningen is known for its research

Owing to my background in Population Geography, I was very much interested in Population Studies, particularly in topics like Fertility, Mortality, Family Planning and related Reproductive Health issues. I decided to come to Groningen, because the Master's programme in Population Studies offered in Groningen is of good quality, and is known for its research and practice oriented education. Such education is not available in developing countries like my own.

The topics studied here are very relevant to the real world problems. Although we need to work hard in the one-year Master's programme, I have not faced problems so far. I enjoyed the intensive guidance from the teachers and enjoyed being in the company of my fellow students, both Dutch students and students from other countries all over the world. Because we are a relatively small group, we can have lively discussions and close contacts.

With the knowledge and skills obtained in the Master's programme, I would like to work as a researcher in Population/Reproductive Health issues in Ethiopia, where problems related to population and Reproductive Health are almost innumerable and much of it not well studied. For the moment, I am looking for possibilities to extend my training in Groningen through a PhD position.

Yohannes Dibaba Wado, Ethiopia
 Msc in Population Studies



Faculty of Spatial Sciences

The Faculty of Spatial Sciences aims at high quality academic teaching that offers a challenge to both students and staff. The various educational programmes are based on recent academic knowledge in geography, planning and demography.

The academic staff of the Faculty of Spatial Sciences is organized into four departments:

- > cultural geography
- > economic geography
- > demography
- > planning

These departments are primarily responsible for the disciplinary quality of the content and efficiency of research and teaching of individual members.

Research is organized by the *Urban and Regional Studies Institute* (URSI) which participates in the *Graduate School of Housing and Urban Research* (NETHUR).

Research at URSI focuses on the following four themes:

- > Explaining spatial-economic change
- > Planning for environmental quality
- > Determinants of population dynamics
- > Making Places

Each theme consists of a broad range of research projects. Some focus mainly on empirical research while others are of a more theoretical and methodological nature. Both the scientific relevance and the contribution to the understanding of societal problems are important dimensions of the URSI research projects.



Master's Degrees in Spatial Sciences

2011–2012

The tuition fees for 2011–2012 for the Faculty of Spatial Sciences

- > Appr. EUR 1,680 for EU students
- > Appr. EUR 9,500 for non-EU students

In the top left corner of the pages where the Master's programmes are described you can find a coloured indication of the type of Master's programme. The coloured beams represent the following type of programmes:

- RM = Research Master (part of one of our Graduate Schools)
- TM = Top Master (part of one of our Graduate Schools)
- EM = Erasmus Mundus (the highly esteemed Erasmus Mundus Status)
- DD = Double Degree
- J = Joint programme

KEY FACTS:

- > Start programme: 1 September 2011
- > Duration: 12/24 months (Double Degree: 24 months)
- > Language: English
- > Degree: Master of Science (MSc) in Environmental & Infrastructure Planning
- > Tuition fees (per year): € 1,680 / € 9,500 (EU/non-EU students)

Ever wondered about the relationship between societal and political processes on one side and infrastructure development, realization and management, concerning roads, utilities and water systems on the other side?



General information

Environmental and Infrastructure Planning is an international Master's degree programme focusing on: the planning of environmental issues, infrastructure and water; international spatial development and intervention, and the design of policy strategies by planners, decision-makers and developers.

- > As EIP student you will invent policy solutions for problems in the field of environment (for example, climate change), water (for example, flooding) and infrastructure (for example, mobility growth).
- > You merge societal needs and interventions such as roads, utilities, resources, water systems, wind parks, climate-change adaptation, coastal zone safety, road pricing, new energy sources, and so on.
- > You will use international comparative learning and identify useful strategies from abroad, compare cities, regions and countries worldwide.

- > Cities, regions and issues of infrastructure, environment and water
- > Thinking (policy strategies) and doing (practical work on projects and plans)
- > Optional: international Double Degree Programmes (e.g. Bandung, Indonesia and Oldenburg, Germany)

Programme content

The overall size of an academic year is 60 ECTS divided over two semesters of 30 ECTS:

Semester 1

- > Dilemmas in Infrastructure Planning (5 ECTS)
- > Planning Theory (5 ECTS)
- > EIP Interactive Workshop (3 ECTS)
- > Planning Methods and Evaluation (5 ECTS)
- > Planning Research (2 ECTS)
- > Comparative Planning Design (5 ECTS)
- > Transitions in Environmental Planning (5 ECTS)

Semester 2

- > Optional course (5 ECTS)
- > Water and Coastal Zone Management (5 ECTS)
- > Master's Thesis (20 ECTS)

As an additional possibility we also offer two Double Degree programmes:

- > *Development Planning and Infrastructure Management* – in cooperation with Institute of Technology Bandung (Indonesia)

- > *Water and Coastal Management* – in cooperation with the Carl von Ossietzky Universität (Oldenburg, Germany)

Field of research

- > Innovations for changing cities and regions
- > Ongoing transformations of space and place
- > Enhancing environmental qualities

Career prospects

- > Leading position in the government sector
- > Staff member at advisory and consultancy firms
- > Private developer
- > Researcher at academic and research institutes

Admission requirements

You qualify for admission if you have:

- > A Bachelor's degree in Environmental and Infrastructure Planning, or a Bachelor's degree in Human Geography and Planning, or any other Bachelor's degree in a related field (evaluated by the Admission Board)
- > Sufficient knowledge of English (TOEFL 550/213 or IELTS 6.0)
- > Admission may involve a transfer programme

Please check the website for a detailed list of admission requirements.

Application

You can apply online, please go to: www.rug.nl/howtoapply

Application deadline EU students: 1 August 2011

Application deadline non-EU students: 31 January 2011

If you wish to apply for a scholarship, the deadline for programme applications is two months before the scholarship deadline

Contact details

Environmental and Infrastructure Planning (EIP)

Programme director: Prof. J. Woltjer

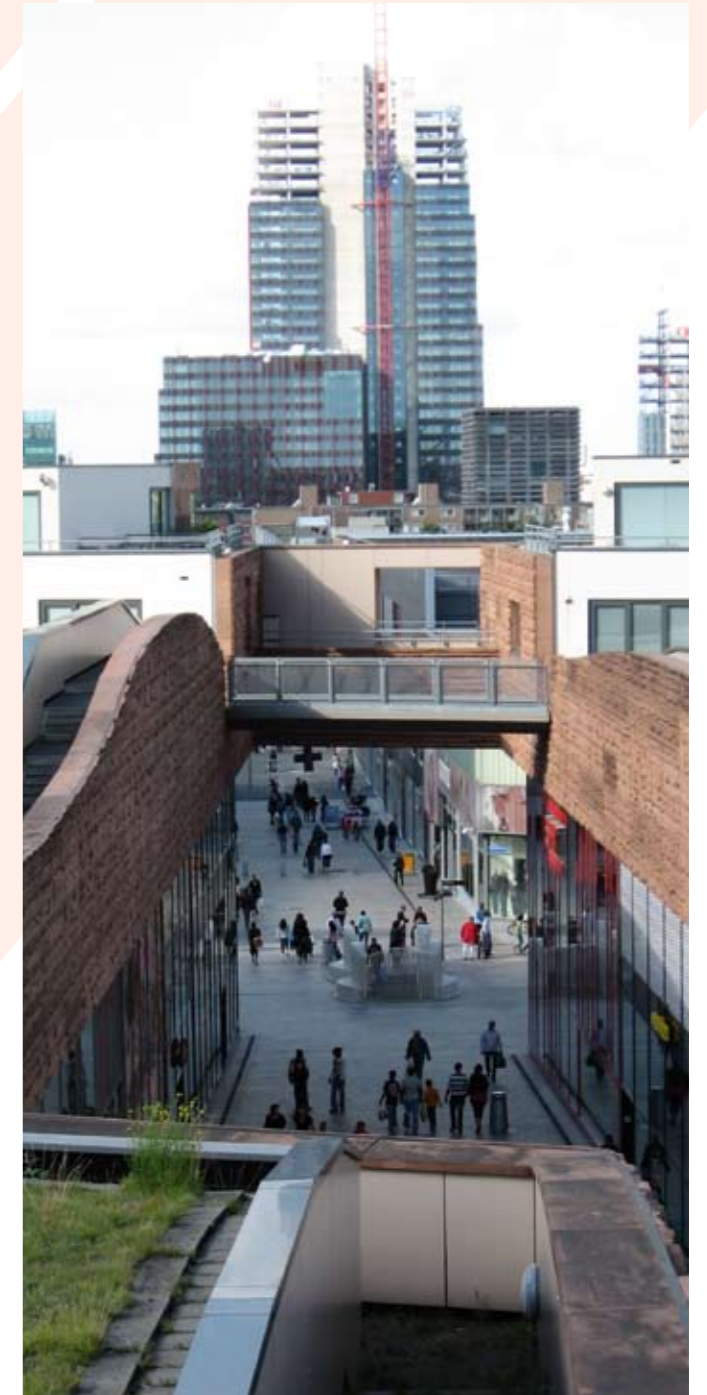
Office manager: Mrs. Stiny Tiggelaar

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www.rug.nl/frw/eip



KEY FACTS:

- > Start programme: 1 September 2011
- > Duration: 12 months
- > Language: English
- > Degree: Master of Science (MSc) in Population Studies
- > Tuition fees (per year): € 1,680 / € 9,500 (EU/non-EU students)

What are the processes underlying population change, ageing, fertility, migration, health, regional differences and inequalities therein?

How does the timing and occurrence of life events, such as child birth, marriage, divorce and death, relate to individual choices made within the historical, cultural and institutional context?

General information

Our objective is to train you in the theories, methods and skills required to comprehend population dynamics. Knowing about demographic behaviour of people is key to understanding population change.

You will learn about:

- > theories on demographic behaviour (fertility, mortality, migration, decision-making)
- > sources of demographic data (also involving questionnaire construction and interviews)
- > methods and techniques to analyze demographic data (life table, population projections, demographic survey analysis, qualitative research methods)
- > population policies and programmes and how they link to research

- > unique combination of analytical and social demography and of quantitative and qualitative research methods
- > international, multidisciplinary and strong scientific orientation
- > interactive ways of teaching: lectures, hands-on assignments, paper writing, presentations

Programme content

The one-year international Master's degree programme consists of core courses (35 ECTS), optional courses (5 ECTS) and a Master's thesis (20 ECTS).

Sept-Nov (1a)	Nov-Jan (1b)	Feb-April (2a)	May-July (2b)
Theories of demographic behaviour 5 ECTS	Demographic measures and methods 3 ECTS	Demographic survey data management 1 ECTS	Master's thesis 5 ECTS
The research process 5 ECTS	The life table and its applications at the macro level 2 ECTS	Demographic survey analysis 5 ECTS	Master's thesis 5 ECTS
Population information: Data collection and data quality 2 ECTS	Population projections 3 ECTS	Population policies and interventions 5 ECTS	Master's thesis 5 ECTS
Introduction Qualitative Research 2 ECTS	Micro life table methods: Introduction to survival analysis 2 ECTS	Master's thesis 5 ECTS	
	Optional course / Advanced Qualitative Methods 5 ECTS		
14 ECTS	15 ECTS	16 ECTS	15 ECTS

Field of research

The Master's thesis topic is integrated in the research theme of the Population Research Centre (PRC): "Population Change, Health, Culture and Space". This comprises topics such as population growth and decline, migration, ageing, mortality, fertility (causes of death, child health, nutrition, reproductive health) and culture (access to health care, family care, healthy ageing, life of migrants, place making of elderly).

Career prospects

Our alumni gain employment at:

- > research institutes and universities
- > (inter)national statistical offices
- > social security institutions
- > UN agencies (e.g. UNFPA)
- > non-governmental agencies (e.g. Medicines sans Frontiers)
- > the private sector (e.g. as data-manager, communication expert)

Admission requirements

You qualify for admission if you have

- > a relevant Bachelor's degree, including at least two courses in statistics. A transitional programme may be part of the admission procedure.
- > sufficient skills in English: TOEFL 580/237/92 or IELTS 6

Please check the website for a detailed list of admission requirements.

If you wish to start the programme later than September, contact the programme coordinator.

Contact details

Population studies
Programme coordinator: Dr. F. Janssen

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www.rug.nl/prc/education/master/



KEY FACTS:

- > Start Programme: 1 September 2011/1 February 2012
- > Duration: 24 months
- > Language: English
- > Degree: Master of Science (MSc) in Regional Studies
- > Type of Master Degree: Research Master
- > Tuition fees (per year): € 1,680 / € 9,500 (EU/non-EU students)

Are you interested in studying the migration flows in Europe and the rest of the world?
Or study the processes of urbanization in the Netherlands and for example Indonesia?
Would you like to learn more about economic geography, spatial planning, demography or development studies?



General information

If you have a strong theoretical or methodological orientation the 2-year Master degree programme in Regional Studies is suited for you. During the first year you will be trained in advanced topics in the fields of cultural geography, demography and population studies, economic geography or spatial planning. The emphasis here is on translating real-world problems into research questions and to determine which research methodologies are best suited to investigate the problems. In the second year the knowledge of theory and methodology is further extended. The most important element here is the Master's thesis, which is supervised by one of our senior researchers.

- > Ideal grounding for a PhD programme
- > Fieldwork and evidence-based research
- > Study or do research abroad
- > Tailor-made individual study and research programme

Programme content

The Master's degree programme in Regional Studies consists of 120 ECTS (60 ECTS per year). The structure of the programme is as follows:

- > The first course, the *Research Process*, concentrates on how to go through this research process, step by step. You learn to write a research proposal, which you defend to your fellow research students. You also learn to develop an academic frame of mind by undertaking assignments, writing a proposal, developing critical thinking skills, and learning to assess both your own research work and the research work of others. The research proposal relates to the research that you will conduct in the IRT course.
- > Three courses are devoted to the in-depth theoretical study of the main research themes of cultural geography, demography and population studies, economic geography, and spatial planning.
- > An important element in the first year is *Individual Research Training (IRT)*, in which, under the supervision of an experienced researcher, you participate in a research project. Ideally this would result in a joint article for publication in a scientific journal.
- > Courses aimed at advanced research methods such as qualitative research methods, life tables, population projections, demographic survey analysis, spatial analysis, fieldwork in other cultures.
- > The course *Research Proposal and Study Design* commences the process of preparing for the Master's thesis.

- > Courses are offered on research management, scientific and personal competences, as well as publishing in English. You also participate in workshops, seminars and conferences, both at national and international level.
- > A study abroad period is obligatory and can be related to the Master's thesis or the IRT module. This international experience is essential in order to help develop a global sense of the research field and debates.
- > The Master's thesis last half a year (30 ECTS). Ideally, the thesis results in an article for publication in a scientific journal. It is possible to use the Master's thesis to anticipate and develop a PhD research proposal.

Field of research

The interdisciplinary approach of the Research Master's degree is a major strength of the programme, allowing you to examine complex social and environmental phenomena. The fields of research are:

- > Cultural Geography
- > Demography and Population Studies
- > Economic Geography
- > Spatial Planning

Career prospects

- > Careers in academic and non-academic research institutes
- > Work in international organizations or NGOs
- > PhD research at a university
- > Consultancy
- > Government analyst

Admission requirements

- > a Bachelor's degree in human geography, spatial planning or demography
- > a Bachelor's degree in one of the other spatial, social or economic sciences that includes a minor of 30 ECTS in human geography, demography or spatial planning
- > any other Bachelor's degree; discussion will take place with the coordinator of the programme about additional requirements to enter the Research Master's programme
- > a Master's degree in human geography or another social sciences discipline
- > a comparable degree from a foreign university
See our website for more information
- > sufficient knowledge of English (TOEFL 550/213/92 or IELTS 6.0)
- > sufficient knowledge of statistical methods and techniques
In all a grade of 7 or higher on a 10-point interval is required

Application

You can apply online. Please go to: www.rug.nl/howtoapply
Application deadline: 1 June 2011

Contact details

Regional Studies
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www.rug.nl/frw/ReMa



Central University Services and Facilities

Studying at the University of Groningen goes beyond lectures and research. We also offer a wide range of services to international students.

International Service Desk: a helping hand

At the University of Groningen you can be sure you will receive personal and professional help and support from both the International Service Desk (ISD) and the International Offices of the faculty you study at. They will inform you about general matters relating to studying at our university or living in the Netherlands (i.e. visa procedures, registration, medical care, housing, travel information, university facilities).

www.rug.nl/isd

Introduction and orientation: the most welcoming university

To help you get used to your new academic surroundings and social life, several introduction programmes and social events are organized right before or during the first week of the new semester.

Welcoming Ceremony and information market

At the Welcoming Ceremony, organized twice a year, new students, researchers and staff members will be introduced officially to the University of Groningen. The programme includes short speeches by representatives of the university and the city, a lunch, an information market, workshops and drinks.

www.rug.nl/welcomingceremony

Introduction Week

ESN-Groningen, the student organization for all international students, organizes an Introduction Week starting immediately after the Welcoming Ceremony. It includes social and cultural events, tours of the city, sports, parties, dinners and workshops on Dutch culture and history.

www.esn-groningen.nl

Faculty programmes

Many faculties and degree programmes organize their own introduction for international students. During these activities you can get to know each other, staff, and receive further information about courses, procedures, schedules and facilities.



A game of rugby in the park after a picnic organized by ESN-Groningen

Language courses: become truly international

Whether you want to improve your English language skills, learn Dutch, or wish to study any other foreign language (French, German, Japanese, Spanish, etc), the Language Centre at the university offers various possibilities at different levels.

www.rug.nl/languagecentre

Computer and online facilities: state-of-the-art

While registered at the university, you have a university computer account and e-mail address, with access to the (wireless) internet, computer rooms, and other online educational services of the university.

www.rug.nl/cit/helpdesk

University Library: academic meeting point

Located in downtown Groningen, across from the Academy building, you will find the University Library (UB). This student meeting point, with over a thousand visitors a day, is a popular place to study and to meet with other students.

www.rug.nl/library

Student advisors: 1001 questions

Student advisors are there for 1001 questions, like study delays, study methods, career prospects, but also about studying with a disability, illness or other personal circumstances. These meetings are strictly confidential: they are there to listen, advice and support. Each degree programme has a student advisor.

Student Support Courses: stuck with you studies?

Every year hundreds of students participate in one of the courses offered by Centre for Study Support and Academic Skills, covering study skills, communication skills, giving a presentation successfully, time management, how to deal with stress, Dutch teaching and examination modes.

www.rug.nl/so

Student Counsellors: bad patches and getting back on track

Although studying abroad is exciting and adventurous, not everyone will have an easy time adjusting to a new environment, strange customs and a different language. This does not necessarily mean that you will need professional help, but if problems begin to affect your studies and your personal life, it is time to get help. It is available to all students and is free of charge.

www.rug.nl/so



Talent and Career Center: after your studies

Once you have started your studies, it is important to assess your employment opportunities, especially when you are about to graduate. The Talent and Career Center will give you advice on how to prepare yourself for your future career. The TCC offers courses, weekly office hours, workshops and an information library. It is important to know, however, that the TCC does not help you to find an actual job, they are only there to advise you and prepare you.

www.talencareercenter.nl

Sports facilities: the best in the Netherlands

Do you want to play a specific sport, join one of the 53 associated sports clubs, or try a range of different sports? The university Sports Centre (ACLO) caters to every need by offering excellent sports facilities and several courses to become acquainted with various sports, from aerobics and fitness to sailing and waterskiing. The ACLO was rated best university sports facility by international students in the International Student Barometer 2007.

www.aclosport.nl

Student associations: not just academics

The University of Groningen has a long tradition of nourishing its student associations as studying is not just attending lectures and passing exams.

International (student) associations

The activities of the international associations range from providing useful information and fun activities for international students to organizing international congresses (i.e. on a unified Europe or the United Nations).

www.rug.nl/studentorganizations

Cultural Student Centre: USVA

The USVA is the university cultural student centre. It has a theatre and a gallery and organizes about 70 different courses on culture, singing, dancing, photography, story writing, painting, communication, drama, film, etc.

www.usva.nl

Groningen Student platform: religion, philosophy, ethics, and culture

The Groningen Student platform (GSp) is a place where the religious and philosophical interests of students are related to contemporary issues in today's society, the world of science, and their personal life. It is a place where you can meet others, have a drink and discuss sense and nonsense, religion and life.

www.gspweb.nl

Preparing for Groningen

Once you are accepted by a programme, the ISD or the faculty contact person will assist you in applying for a visa, dealing with immigration authorities, arranging insurance and registering at the university.

Admission and registration

Our admission requirements vary per programme and each application is assessed on an individual basis. Admission procedures are managed by the faculty, the Graduate School your programme is part of, or in some cases by the Central Office for International Relations.

www.rug.nl/internationalstudents

Visa and residence permit

It depends on your nationality whether you need a residence permit or visa (MVV). You have to apply for an entry visa (MVV) before departure and upon arrival you have to apply for a residence permit. The University will assist you with all these applications. Below it shows if you need a residence permit and/or an entry visa.

Nationality	Residence permit	Entry visa (MVV)
EU/Schengen countries, Bulgaria, Romania	No	No
Australia, Canada, Japan, Monaco, New Zealand, South Korea, United States, Vatican City	Yes	No
All other internationals	Yes	Yes

The University of Groningen is the only Dutch university to cover the MVV application fee and fees for the residence permit in most cases.

MVV applicants must prove to be able to finance the study and cost of living. Dutch Immigration authorities determine the annually needed amount: 2010–2011: appr. EUR 900 per month.

www.rug.nl/prospectivestudents/information/visalmmigration

Health insurance

Medical costs can be very high, especially if they include a stay in a hospital. You must arrange your health insurance yourself, either before coming to the Netherlands or upon arrival.

www.rug.nl/prospectivestudents/information/healthInsurance

Cost of living

- > Housing € 300–500 per month
- > Administration costs housing € 300
- > Security deposit € 325 (refundable)
- > Food € 200 per month
- > Health insurance € 75–100 per month
- > Bicycle € 45–110
- > Language course € 100–450 per course
- > Books € 300 per semester

Estimated costs for one year Appr. €10,000–12,000

Excluding travel costs and tuition fees

Tuition fees EU/EER nationals Appr. € 1,680 per year

Tuition fees non-EU nationals Appr. € 8,700–11,500 per year

Working in the Netherlands

Many students want to have a job while going to university to cover for the expenses. However, this might be very difficult in the Netherlands. International students may only work 10 hours a week maximum, plus most jobs available require that you speak Dutch.

Tuition fees

Higher education in the Netherlands is subsidized to uphold its high academic standards. As a result, tuition fees are kept low for all EU students, while due to taxation reasons non-EU students pay higher fees. If you are an EU student, already in possession of a Dutch Bachelor's or Master's degree, please check the website for more information on tuition fees. Different rules apply starting 1 September 2010. www.rug.nl/insandouts

Scholarships: The University of Groningen Talent Grants

The university is committed to recognizing excellence in academic achievement by offering a number of scholarships, the University of Groningen Talent Grants, for international students and researchers.

www.rug.nl/grantfinder

Accommodation: A home away from home

The Netherlands is one of the smallest countries in Europe and one of the most densely populated countries in the world. Foreign visitors are often surprised to learn how difficult and expensive the housing situation is. The University of Groningen, like many other Dutch universities, does not have a campus, which means that every year, thousands of new first-year students scramble to find small rooms or apartments.



Students preparing their meal

Since you are an international student, the Housing Office, a non-profit organization acting as an intermediary, will help you find temporary furnished housing. Housing is scarce and not cheap. Try not to be disappointed when you see what you are offered (and how much it costs). Bear in mind that local students are also paying high prices for their accommodation.

In most cases you will be housed in one of the International Student Houses that are spread throughout the city of Groningen. You will live with other international students and you will quickly feel at home in the multicultural, relaxed atmosphere of these houses. For some it might be a challenge, but for most it will be the best part of this study abroad experience.

All International Student Houses employ (Dutch) student managers to welcome new students and act as caretakers. Matching Dutch student accommodation, the facilities include:

- > a private study/bedroom
- > shared kitchen and bathroom, shared living rooms
- > fully furnished (bed, desk, lamp, chair, closet/locker)
- > free wireless internet

www.rug.nl/internationalstudents (Useful Addresses)
www.housingoffice.nl

The Netherlands: small in size, internationally oriented

Situated in the north-west of Europe, the Netherlands is the gateway to Europe: one of the founding members of the EU, high standards of education, health care and social equality, and close to most European capitals.

The Dutch landscape

- > 16 million people living in an area of 14,000 km²
- > Extremely flat landscape and unbroken skies
- > Water everywhere: lakes, rivers, ports and canals
- > Half the country lies below sea level
- > Broad sandy beaches and dunes

The Netherlands in a nutshell

- > Official name: Kingdom of the Netherlands, commonly referred to as Holland or the Netherlands
- > Head of state: The hereditary monarch, currently Queen Beatrix of the Netherlands
- > Head of government: The prime minister, currently Mr J.P. Balkenende
- > Capital city: Amsterdam
- > Seat of government: The Hague
- > Currency: 1 euro = approximately 1.39 US Dollar (July 2010)
- > Main airport: Amsterdam Airport Schiphol (the fourth largest airport in Europe)



Famous Dutch

- > Rembrandt
- > Van Gogh
- > DJ Tiësto
- > Johan Cruyff
- > Anne Frank
- > Royal Dutch Shell
- > Heineken International



More Information

In case you have any question or requests for further information:

- > contact the Admissions Officer of the Master's programme of your choice
- > visit our website: www.rug.nl/international_students
- > find us on Facebook: www.facebook.com/prospectivestudents_universityofgroningen
- > email us at isd@rug.nl

Sciences and Technology

Mathematics
Applied Mathematics
Computing Science
Chemistry
Chemical Engineering
Physics
Applied Physics
Nanoscience
Astronomy
Biomedical Engineering
Energy and Environmental Sciences
Industrial Engineering and Management
Artificial Intelligence
Human-Machine Communication

Life Sciences

Biology
Biomedical Sciences
Marine Biology
Ecology and Evolution
Molecular Biology and Biotechnology
Biomedical Engineering
Human Movement Sciences
Medical Pharmaceutical Sciences
Clinical and Psychosocial Epidemiology
Behavioural and Cognitive Neurosciences
Medical and Pharmaceutical Drug Innovation
Energy and Environmental Sciences

Law

Criminal Law and Criminology
European Law
International Law and the Law of International Organizations
International Economic and Business Law
International and Comparative Private Law

Economics and Business

Business Administration
Econometrics, Operations Research and Actuarial Studies
Economics
Economics and Business
Human Resource Management
International Business and Management
International Economics and Business
Technology Management

Humanities

Art History and Archaeology
Classical Medieval and Renaissance Studies
Linguistics
Literary and Cultural Studies
Modern History and International Relations
Clinical Linguistics
Multiele: Master in Learning and Teaching of Spanish in Multilingual and International Contexts
Euroculture
Humanitarian Action (NOHA)
Language and Communication Technologies
American Studies
Arts, Culture and Media
Applied Linguistics, Teaching English as a Foreign Language
Dutch Language and Culture
English Language and Culture
International Relations and International Organization
Journalism
Philosophy
Philosophy (research master)
Biblical Studies and Hermeneutics
Religion in Modern World
Religion and Culture

Behavioural and Social Sciences

Education
Pedagogic
Human Behaviour in Social Contexts
Psychology
Artificial Intelligence
Human-Machine Communication

Spatial Sciences

Environmental and Infrastructure Planning
Population Studies
Regional Studies

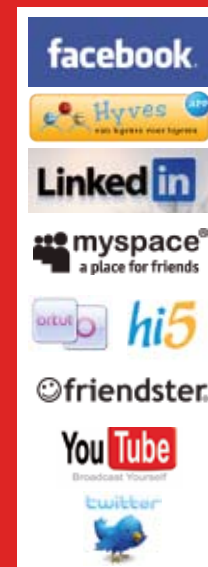


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www.rug.nl/internationalstudents



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