



Groningen, July 10, 2026

List of PPE Electives 2026-2027

Within the PPE program you can choose from a broad array of electives across different faculties. **However, picking the “right kind” of electives can be a difficult task, especially if students are new to Groningen and the PPE context.** Overall, students must obtain a total of 20 ECTS in the electives track of the program. Apart from the International Relations electives offered by the Faculty of Arts (more details below at the end of the document), all courses have a study load of 5 ECTS. This implies that, following a standard track, students either pick four electives of 5 ECTS, two electives of 5 ECTS and a Research Seminar in International Relations (10 ECTS) or two Research Seminars in International Relations (2x10 ECTS). In principle, the program is also open to picking other courses than those on this list. However, this is only possible on an individual basis and only upon consultation with the program director and program management.

There are at least three different substantive motivations when choosing the electives – in addition to feasibility, workload and time, of course: 1) Students can focus on issues and disciplines they are already familiar with depending on their study background; e.g. students with a background in Philosophy can pick three or even all four of their electives in Philosophy. 2) Students can focus on issue areas and disciplines that are new to them; e.g. students with a background in Economics would like to concentrate on international diplomacy and security. 3) Students could aim at integrating different topics and/or disciplinary perspectives through their choice of electives, amplifying the PPE character of their studies. E.g. students could pick one elective from philosophy, another one from economics and a Research Seminar in International Relations. While we believe that it is exactly this breadth and openness that contributes to the strength of the PPE program in Groningen, we would like to students to “leave their (intellectual) comfort zone”, engage with new disciplinary perspectives and strive to make the most out of the interdisciplinarity built into the program structure.

A final note on the electives offered by the Faculty of Economics and Business: since all electives are master’s courses taking economics classes without any background in economics can be quite challenging. (The same is true as well for taking philosophy classes with no background in philosophy.) Students who would like to deepen their knowledge in economics or in management studies as part of the PPE program are encouraged to look at those electives that are part of the master’s programs International Business and Management or International Economics & Sustainable Development. Our experience has been that courses in those programs are more accessible to non-economics students than courses in other programs such as Econometrics or Finance. **Some of the courses we think are more suitable are highlighted in orange below.**

Semester 1.1 / Block 1 (Lecture Period: Aug 31 – Oct 16, 2026)

Course Name	Faculty	Code
Environmental Psychology	Behavioral and Social Sciences	PSMSB-2
Political Psychology	Behavioral and Social Sciences	PSMSB-16
Theories of Networks and Sustainable Cooperation	Behavioral and Social Sciences	SOMASN02
Business Ethics	Economics and Business	EBMo43A05
Emerging Markets (MSc)	Economics and Business	EBMo85A05
International Banking and Finance	Economics and Business	EBMo96A05
Arguing about Taste	Philosophy	FI254AT
States, Markets and Power	Philosophy	FI234PE
On the Move: People(s), Cultures, and Religions	Religion, Culture, Society	THMOTME5
Religion, Conflict and Globalization	Religion, Culture, Society	THM-RCGI5
City Matters	Spatial Sciences	GEMCITMAT
Economic Geography: Theory and Practice	Spatial Sciences	GEMEGTT
Social Impact Assessment	Spatial Sciences	GEMSOCIMAS

Semester 1.2 / Block 2 (Lecture Period: Nov 2 – Dec 13, 2026)

Course Name	Faculty	Code
Network Methods for Policy Research	Behavioral and Social Sciences	SOMASN07
Power and Leadership	Behavioral and Social Sciences	PSMAB-7
Monetary Policy	Economics and Business	EBM164C05
Trade, Environment and Growth	Economics and Business	EBMo97A05
Philosophy and Science: Social Dimensions of Knowledge	Philosophy	FI2542FR
The Politics of the Body	Philosophy	FI254CK
Religion, Gender, Sexuality: from Politics to Everyday Life	Religion, Culture, Society	THMRGSEP5
Global Transformations, Local Impacts	Spatial Sciences	GEMGTLI

Semester 2.1 / Block 3 (Lecture Period: Feb 1 – Mar 19, 2027)

Course Name	Faculty	Code
Critical Heritage Studies	Campus Fryslân	CFMCG31A05
Advanced Financial Management	Economics and Business	EBM200B05
Comparative Corporate Governance	Economics and Business	EBMo83A05
Country Studies	Economics and Business	EBMo93A05
Energy Transition and Innovation	Economics and Business	EBM167A05
Finance and the Macroeconomy	Economics and Business	EBM107C05
Financial and Economic Organization of Healthcare	Economics and Business	EBM194A05
Geographical and Urban Economics	Economics and Business	EBMo94B05
Inclusive Finance	Economics and Business	EBMo63B05
Marx and Contemporary Political Philosophy	Philosophy	FI194TS
Moral Psychology	Philosophy	FI254DB
Philosophy of Climate Change	Philosophy	FI224CC
Truth	Philosophy	FI264TH
Revitalizing Neighborhoods	Spatial Sciences	GEMRN

Semester 2.2 / Block 4 (Lecture Period: Apr 12 – Jun 4, 2027)

Course Name	Faculty	Code
Advanced Metaethics	Philosophy	FI244DE
Kant's Political Philosophy	Philosophy	FI264KP

Electives in International Relations

Students who wish to deepen their knowledge of International Relations (IR) can select up to two IR Research Seminars (2x10 ECTS). Each seminar stretches over two blocks (Semester 1: Blocks 1+2, Semester 2: Blocks 3+4) and consists of a mix of lectures, seminar discussions and group research projects, depending on the topic and the specific format stated in Ocasys. Although these research seminars are part of the MA IR program in the Faculty of Arts, topics range from International Political Economy (Money and Finance, Global Corporations), to International Organizations and Security (Politics of Violent Conflict, Energy Security and Climate Change) and European Integration and Geopolitics (Europe and China, Populist Politics and Governments in Contemporary Europe). These research seminars are the best option for deepening the “politics” component of PPE with regards to Political Science and International Political Economy.

Semester 1 – Blocks 1+2

Course Name (Research Seminar)	Faculty	Code
Dimensions of Citizenship	Arts	LUX020M10
Energy Security and Climate Change	Arts	LYX083M10
Environment, Geopolitics & Human	Arts	LYX106M10
Europe and China	Arts	LYX060M10
Forced Migration, Security and Human Rights	Arts	LYX145M10
Multinational Corporations	Arts	LYX003M10
Politics of Natural Resources	Arts	LYX030M10
Politics of Violent Conflict	Arts	LYX139M10
Populist Politics and Governments in Contemporary Europe	Arts	LYX033M10
Race, Class, Gender Intersectionality	Arts	LYX125M10
Russia in Global Politics	Arts	LYX151M10

Semester 2 – Blocks 3+4

China and the Global South	Arts	LYX144M10
Conflict Management in European Borderlands	Arts	LYX128M10
Conflict, Security and Development	Arts	LYX094M10
Contemporary China and the World	Arts	LYX158M10
Ethics and Global Political Economy	Arts	LYX089M10
IPE of Global Financial Markets	Arts	LYX084M10
The Science and Politics of Food-Systems in the Anthropocene	Arts	LYX146M10

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