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Maastricht University
Maastricht Graduate School of Governance



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With a demanding full-time job and a four-year old son, the GPAC² provides me with the needed flexibility to pursue my academic ambitions.



Michal Kazmierczak,
2014 GPAC² Cohort

The Maastricht Graduate School of Governance (MGSoG) founded in 2004, prepares professionals and researchers for policy analysis, risk assessment, policy design, policy monitoring, policy evaluation and methods and techniques of policy research.

The United Nations University - Maastricht Economic and social Research institute on Innovation and Technology (UNU-MERIT) is a joint research and training institute of United Nations University and Maastricht University, based in the south of the Netherlands.

In 2011, the two institutes joined forces, creating a leading research environment covering all aspects of governance in domestic and global organisations, from risk assessment to policy analysis, design and evaluation.



**GPAC² Part-time
PhD Programme**



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GPAC² Part-time PhD Programme

Are you seeking to combine a PhD degree with your full-time job? The GPAC² programme offers courses, seminars and workshops in the stimulating research community of UNU-MERIT and its School of Governance.

The Dual Career Training Programme to obtain a PhD in Governance and Policy Analysis (GPAC²) meets the needs and availability of researchers with full- or part-time jobs, allowing them to combine their careers with a PhD study.

The programme provides advanced training in the theory and skills crucial to policy analysis and design.

Our lecturers are leading scholars in the field of policy analysis, in topics related to governance, social protection, migration, sustainable development and innovation.

Student profile

We seek fellows with advanced degrees, strong academic records, professional and/or volunteer experience, an affinity with academic research, and a special interest in policy analysis.

Participants have external work responsibilities, that leave them less time to conduct PhD research. Ideally, a candidate's employer offers support by allocating time and allowing the candidate to incorporate their studies into their work (by providing data, support, related assignments).

www.merit.unu.edu/gpac

Programme information

The programme covers the following elements:

Year one: a basic training programme, provided in Maastricht, of three visiting periods of two weeks each. Course modules are compulsory for all fellows and will be assessed by the tutors. Basic courses are obligatory for all participants, specialisation courses allow for a personal choice.

All subsequent years: Two workshops of one week per year, jointly with all higher year GPAC² cohorts in Maastricht. The workshop programme includes fellow presentations, with reviewer discussions, progress meetings, skills workshops, seminars and master classes.

Voluntary participation in online course modules, offered with tutor assistance in for instance governance and political science, statistics, mathematics, economics, impact evaluation, social protection, human development, migration, innovation and entrepreneurship.

Personal supervision and monitoring during the entire programme, in year one by staff members of the School and the partner institutes and in subsequent years by an individually selected supervisory team.



Admission requirements

- A Master's degree from a relevant academic field;
- Basic grasp of mathematics and statistics;
- Basic knowledge of economics, social sciences, political science and/or law;
- Proficiency in English: at least 600 PBT, 100 IBT or 240 CBT (TOEFL) or 7.0 (IELTS);
- Approval from employer to join the course.

Application & information

The application form opens 1 June each year. The application deadline is 15 October each year. See the website for more details on scholarship support.

I decided to apply to the GPAC² programme because it combines flexibility with high standards and rigorous academic research.



Fernanda Soares,
2014 GPAC² Cohort