Master of Science in Public Policy and Human Development

Maastricht Graduate School of Governance (MGSoG)

United Nations University - Maastricht Economic and Social Research Institute on Innovation and Technology (UNU-MERIT)
Why study at Maastricht University?

Established in 1976, Maastricht University (UM) is the most international university in the Netherlands. With over 16,000 students and 4,000 staff, UM is renowned for excellence and innovation in learning. High rankings in Dutch and international publications attest to our focus on quality. UM graduates are highly appreciated on the international labour market and can be found all over the globe.

**International orientation**
A bilingual (Dutch & English) university, UM offers Europe-focused and internationally-oriented master’s and PhD programmes. About half of the students and one-third of the academic staff are non-Dutch, representing over 114 nationalities. This cultural diversity greatly contributes to establishing our ‘international classroom’.

**Innovating in Education**
Problem-Based Learning (PBL) is a hallmark of UM’s innovative character. This student-centred educational model is about analysing real-life problems and exchanging knowledge in a challenging and effective way.

**Multidisciplinary research**
Research at UM is based on socially relevant themes and focuses on multidisciplinary research in: Learning and Innovation, Quality of Life, and Europe in a Globalising World. We have an ingrained culture of collaboration within and between departments, as well as with external institutes, businesses and organisations in the Netherlands and abroad. Research plays an integral role in the majority of our master’s programmes.

**Kennis-As Limburg**
Through the Kennis-As programme, UM, the Maastricht University Medical Centre (MUMC+) and Zuyd University of Applied Sciences aim to play a leading role in the sustainable economic development of Limburg. Focusing on the fields of biomaterials and innovative healthcare, Kennis-As revolves around five campuses: the Maastricht Health Campus, the Maastricht inner city campus, the Chemelot Campus in Geleen, Campus Venlo and the Smart Services Hub in Parkstad. The programme will result in new jobs, a broader range of study programmes, international networks and easier access to academic knowledge for small and medium-sized enterprises.

**UM alumni go places**
Reports of the Maastricht University Research Centre for Education (ROA) show that our alumni are doing well in their careers ([www.roa.nl](http://www.roa.nl)). Many of them stay in contact with their alma mater through alumni circles.

**The city of Maastricht**
Maastricht is one of the oldest and most charming cities in the Netherlands, with a truly international feel. It is centrally located between eight airports and is well served by international trains.
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Maastricht University is a signatory of the “Code of conduct with respect to international students in Dutch higher education”. More information about this code of conduct is available at www.internationalstudy.nl

United Nations University (UNU) is an international community of scholars engaged in research, postgraduate training and the dissemination of knowledge aimed at resolving the pressing global problems of human survival, development and welfare, in line with the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations.

The Master of Science in Public Policy and Human Development programme is accredited by the Accreditation Organisation of the Netherlands and Flanders (NVAO). For more information on NVAO, please visit www.nvao.nl

The Maastricht Graduate School of Governance is a member of APPAM, the Association for Public Policy Analysis and Management. For more information, visit www.appam.org
Introduction

The Master of Science programme in Public Policy and Human Development (MPP) is a unique partnership between Maastricht University (UM) and the United Nations University (UNU).

On the UM side, input to the programme is provided by the Maastricht Graduate School of Governance (MGGsG), which is the university’s graduate school on public policy and governance. Over time, the School has been steadily growing in reputation with its rapidly expanding number of alumni involved in public governance across the globe and the rising number of students who apply for the Master of Science programme in Public Policy and Human Development.

Established in 2005, the School is still a young graduate school but one full of ambition and run by a highly motivated staff. In its first decade the School has established itself as one of the few graduate schools in Europe in public policy providing multidisciplinary top-academic training. It is located in Maastricht, one of the most well-known historical locations in the heart of Europe. Growing rapidly, the School was able to build on existing academic resources at Maastricht University and brought in numerous partners, including international organisations, NGOs, national and sub-national public actors and private businesses.

On the UNU side, the Maastricht-based research institute UNU-MERIT already had a 20-year long research tradition when the School joined it in 2010. The integration of the School into UNU-MERIT was an opportunity to implement UNU’s new plans for becoming active in (post-) graduate education. The School’s integration was a major step in the cooperation between UNU and UM, and it established the School as the United Nations’ first public policy graduate school.

The mission of the Master of Science programme in Public Policy and Human Development is to train specialists who combine a high level of academic scholarship with leadership in order to strengthen governance capacity in domestic and international organisations. It offers specialisation tracks in cooperation with UNU, such as Risk and Vulnerability taught by the UNU Environmental and Human Security institute in Bonn, Regional Integration and Multi-Level Governance taught by the UNU Centre for Integration Studies in Bruges, Innovation, Institutions and Development taught by UNU-MERIT, and specialisation tracks offered by Maastricht University such as Social Protection Policy Design and Financing in cooperation with the ILO, Migration Studies, and Trade and Development.

Through the cooperation with UNU, the master’s programme has transformed into a double degree programme with a truly international (UN) character, preparing professionals for policy analysis, policy design, policy monitoring and policy evaluation across the globe. We look forward to a bright new era for the programme embedded and safeguarded within both Maastricht University and UNU-MERIT.

Professor Dr. Bart Verspagen,
Director of UNU-MERIT and Dean of the Maastricht Graduate School of Governance
The Importance of Governance

The actions of public authorities shape the lives of individuals across the globe. The impact of these actions often reaches much further than originally intended and sometimes far beyond the physical borders of nation states. Today we define 'governance' as a process involving many layers of public authorities ranging from international organisations to local administrations. Moreover, the process of governing is no longer the exclusive responsibility of politicians and civil servants.

Semi-private, private and non-governmental parties are becoming increasingly important actors in all stages of complex policy processes, ranging from conceptualisation and design, to the implementation and evaluation of policy actions.

The concept of ‘good governance’ refers to efficient and effective policies that reduce the chances of corruption and wastage. Experience shows that good governance is not something that can be implemented overnight. The development of a progressive, well-balanced policy requires independent professionals.

UNU-MERIT and its School of Governance train graduates to combine a high level of academic scholarship with leadership in order to strengthen democratic governance in domestic and international organisations. The institute trains these professionals and researchers in policy analysis, risk assessment, policy design, policy monitoring, policy evaluation and methods and techniques of policy research.

All academic activities of the institute share an analytical approach to policy problems and theoretical problems relevant to policy design and implementation. The specialisations offered in our master’s programme focus on the most relevant topics of public policy: social protection policy design and financing; trade and development; migration studies; risk and vulnerability; regional integration and multi-level governance; innovation, institutions and development.
Our students

We welcome highly motivated students from a variety of professional and academic backgrounds. All students have a strong academic record, a demonstrated commitment to public (national and international) affairs and an outstanding potential for career growth and leadership. Our students and researchers form a multicultural mix representing dozens of countries around the world: France, Nigeria, Tanzania, Brazil, Vietnam, Mexico, Turkey, India, Ghana, Thailand, Peru, Australia, China, Indonesia, Uzbekistan, Jordan, Albania, Bhutan, UK, USA and many more. This diversity results in a stimulating blend of country-specific knowledge and individual (work) experience where students not only learn from their teachers but also from each other. This contributes to a lively and open-minded environment in which students soon feel at home.

What to expect?

- An intensive, inspiring one-year programme
- The development of valuable skills and relevant knowledge
- Classes in small groups
- High-level guest lecturers
- Training courses, workshops, seminars, presentations and debates

Learning: A broad range of methods

Maastricht University has long been known for its flexible and innovative use of teaching methods. It was one of the first universities worldwide to adopt the problem-based learning (PBL) system to prepare students for the realities of working life. PBL works by taking students through the discussion, analysis and solution of problems in seven steps. This allows students to play a more active role in their own education, by structuring the debate. The master’s programme additionally benefits from the contribution of many experts and guest lecturers, who apply a broad range of teaching methods: from PBL tutorials, simulation exercises, case studies and integrated assessments, to more traditional methods such as lectures and seminars. For more information about the methodology behind PBL, please visit the website: www.maastrichtuniversity.nl

Online learning facilities

To support the learning process, the School provides a range of online facilities before, during and after your stay.

We assess your level of knowledge once you have registered. Depending on your results, we can help fill your knowledge gaps in economics, political science and statistics via online courses before your arrival in Maastricht. With the exception of our online statistics course, which is based on an individualised curriculum, our courses are based on the Communities of Learning concept. Here, groups of around 10 participants discuss real-life tasks and cases with a view to sharing new insights, knowledge and skills.
To support our face-to-face learning activities, we use the Maastricht University electronic learning platform (EleUM). Accessible 24/7, EleUM offers a range of learning tools, including access to all online materials at the university library. We also have learning and research blogs, presenting the most recent developments and events, and we provide access to a growing library of multimedia resources, notably via our YouTube channel at www.youtube.com/unumastricht

The Maastricht Graduate School of Governance is an affiliate of the Global Development Learning Network (GDLN). The network was set up by the World Bank in 2000 and now includes over 100 learning centres in more than 60 countries. The learning centres use new technologies in distance learning, such as video conferencing facilities, to connect organisations and individuals from around the world.

Teaching staff

The master’s programme aims to prepare students for professional and academic careers, a goal reflected in the selection of our teaching staff. Besides lecturers from Maastricht University and guest lecturers from Oxford, Syracuse, Liège and various United Nations University institutes, we invite experienced practitioners from the ILO, the World Bank, EPRI South Africa and others. With guest lecturers from international universities and organisations, the programme creates an interesting balance between the theoretical and practical approach and ensures that students receive exposure to relevant and current knowledge.

Guidance and support

Student guidance and support start with providing interested students from all over the world with up-to-date information on all aspects of studying at the School through our learning blog and our electronic learning environment. Once admitted, each student can count on support from the Student Affairs Office and the education director, thesis coordinators and their own thesis supervisor who can help in matters of study choices, progress and planning. Maastricht University’s Student Services Centre hosts student deans who provide help with financial and administrative questions, student psychologists who support fellow students in times of crisis and a Career Services unit where students can receive guidance in applying for positions and securing jobs.
More than ever there is a clear need for specialists in policy analysis, given the growing complexity of the issues at hand, the peculiarities of ‘government within a context of governance’ and the interconnections between international and local levels of decision and implementation processes. The domain of public policy is becoming increasingly complex, requiring a combination of theoretical background, technical skills and specific area knowledge.

Today successful public policy demands a high level of knowledge and skills to analyse policy options and their impact, for example, sustainable technology, social safety nets or healthcare organisations.

The one-year master’s programme consists of two semesters of studies and a thesis. The academic programme during the fall semester is identical for all students. This semester focuses on fundamental knowledge in areas of public policy and economics, but also on vital skills in policy analysis and research methods. In the spring semester, students choose one out of six areas of specialisation:

- Social Protection Policy Design and Financing (in cooperation with ILO)
- Migration Studies
- Innovation, Institutions and Development (in cooperation with UNU-MERIT)
- Regional Integration and Multi-Level Governance (in cooperation with UNU-CRIS)
- Risk and Vulnerability (in cooperation with UNU-EHS)
- Trade and Development
Duration

1 September - 31 August
(12-month full-time study)

Double degree

After successful completion of the programme, students will obtain a double Master of Science (MSc) degree in Public Policy and Human Development. Graduates will receive two diplomas, the first delivered by Maastricht University and accredited by the Accreditation Organisation of the Netherlands and Flanders (NVAO), and the second issued by United Nations University.

Programme objectives

The programme trains students to analyse, monitor and evaluate policies in order to enable them to give recommendations for improving or replacing existing policies and for proposing new policies. Students are equipped with a variety of skills, tools and knowledge, to help them work resourcefully as policy designers and policy analysts in public and private institutions.

Career prospects

Since the founding of the School in 2005, some 300 students have successfully graduated. Many of them have gone on to work as public policy actors at local or international level. Our alumni are trained policy designers and analysts, working in the areas of public policy, consultancy, NGOs and academia.

With the skills acquired in the programme, our alumni are able to identify and review the different options and implement the best policy. In their work, they are able to integrate legal, social, cultural, political and financial aspects, while ensuring the economic viability and sustainability of their policies. Policy monitoring, evaluation, innovative thinking, strong quantitative skills and critical analysis are logical elements in our alumni toolbox.

Alumni are able to work throughout the world in public and private institutions of both developed and developing countries, including national, regional and local governments, ministries, pension funds, market authorities, NGOs, international organisations and consultancies.

“My career direction, as it now, is exactly where I hoped it to be when I started with the master’s programme. The School could not have prepared me any better!”

Ms Anne-Marie Tosserams, MPP Graduate 2007
Project Manager, International Cooperation Agency of Netherlands Municipalities,
The Hague, the Netherlands
Given the diverse set of actors working in the field of governance, it is not surprising that many of our alumni now work for private businesses - particularly consultancies such as KPMG and PriceWaterhouseCoopers - and NGOs such as the Global Reporting Initiative, African Parliamentarians’ Network Against Corruption or Civil Servants and Allied Workers Union of Zambia.

Finally, a substantial share of our alumni decided to continue doing academic research and joined universities such as the London School of Economics and Political Science, Sciences-Po in Paris or Erasmus University in Rotterdam, Maastricht University or UNU-MERIT.
Programme description

Fall semester: Introduction and overview

The fall semester consists of five courses and a study month. The objective for this semester is to cover general aspects of governance, drawing on several academic disciplines such as political science, sociology, public finance, microeconomics, international relations, public management and public policy. This semester specifically aims to attain three goals:
1. to bring all students up to speed on the basics in public policy and public economics;
2. to equip all participants with quantitative and qualitative research methods needed for academic research and professional careers; and
3. to practise the core skills of policy analysis.

The fall semester prepares students for the detailed analysis of issues studied in the consecutive specialisation.

Introduction to Public Policy
While experts may estimate the costs and benefits of policy options, the outcomes depend on final political decisions. Understanding these political factors is essential for effective policy-making and a careful examination of the political implications of policy proposals is imperative for the success of policy actions. A skilled analyst is able to identify the key actors, their concerns and goals and the power they hold in their specific cultural background. The successful analyst is also aware of how institutional structures affect choices and outcomes. The course is primarily PBL-based, allowing students to play an active role throughout the four weeks while practising their analytical and team-working skills. Students will have the opportunity to investigate the relationships between different policy objectives, institutions and structures, and to critically review and translate their findings into well-defined proposals.

Additionally the course focuses on how the traditional role of the state has changed as a result of new forms of ‘governance’, which has in turn led to the emergence of new actors and new forms of international cooperation, such as international regimes. Important concepts in the course are states and markets; bureaucracy and implementation; leadership and capacity; and electoral incentives.

Public Economics
Public economic theory is used to analyse the role of markets and market failures, externalities and corrective taxation, public goods and collective
decisions, the pricing and regulation of natural monopolies, commodity and income taxation, capital and corporate taxes. This course is an introduction to theoretical foundations of efficiency and effectiveness criteria; net present value analysis and the mechanics and fundamentals of cost-benefit analysis and their common mistakes. The analysis of these topics and the underlying economic theory form the backbone of the course and the basis for the elaboration of further training in the following course of the semester. Empirical analysis is useful in determining the possible effect and size of the intervention, because when carried out incorrectly it can have a negative effect on the income level and, as such, cause social problems. Therefore appropriate design and relevant techniques for evaluating and assessing the effects of policy intervention are crucial.

Public Policy Analysis
The formulation and implementation of public policies are important responsibilities of modern government. The focus here is the interaction between public authorities and stakeholders. To enhance this interaction, appropriate mechanisms of coordination and hierarchy in policy design and implementation are vital. This course is designed to help students develop the skills required to define and critically analyse policy issues, articulate relevant decision-making criteria for policy analysis, evaluate alternative solutions, and assess the means and costs of implementation. Students focus on actors, institutions and policy instruments to gain a systematic way of thinking about the development, design and assessment of public sector policies. During this course specific attention is also given to policy evaluation and policy simulation through real-life exercises.

Introduction to Statistics
This course serves as an introduction to quantitative and qualitative research methods. The emphasis will be on providing basic skills in quantitative methods, covering the collection of data, their exploration, description and display, and basic inferential statistics. Besides an understanding of statistics, the course will also provide basic skills in dealing with appropriate software packages.

Econometrics
The challenge of econometrics is to find out what everyday reality, properly recorded and interpreted, can tell us about the relevance of economic and social theories. Governance theories concern, more often than not, the effects of economic and social policies. It is the purpose of econometric methods to measure the impact and assess the effectiveness of policy interventions. The problem with econometric methods is that they depend on statistical induction. Apart from being fraught with technicalities, statistical induction is unavoidably subject to statistical error. Whereas a mathematical conclusion is arguably "exact", a statistical conclusion is not - even though deep mathematical arguments may have been invoked in the process. Thus every decent statistical estimate comes with a "standard error" attached to it, revealing the scale of the sampling error it contains. Furthermore, ordinary sampling error is a trifle as compared to some other kinds of statistical errors, called (imaginatively) non-sampling errors. These are much harder to control and require more subtle methods of statistical analysis. Unfortunately, non-sampling errors are conspicuously present in economic and social policy research.

Study month: January
After the intensive first four months of the programme, January allows our students to focus on their own goals and digest what they have learned in the first courses. They then have the opportunity to draft their thesis proposal. The study month gives them the time needed to choose a topic of interest - often in relation to the upcoming specialisation - and to do literature
research. Guest lectures by experienced researchers will provide an overview of a variety of qualitative research methods relevant to students of the social sciences. The study month concludes with rounds of public presentations of thesis proposals to collect feedback and advice from fellow students and faculty members.

**Spring semester: Specialisations**

During the fall semester, students choose an area of specialisation from the six tracks offered in the programme. Each track offers four courses covering one particular theme of public policy. The education director and instructors of the specialisations are available to assist students with the selection of their specialisation.

The specialisations are:

- Social Protection Policy Design and Financing (in cooperation with ILO)
- Migration Studies
- Innovation, Institutions and Development (in cooperation with UNU-MERIT)
- Regional Integration and Multi-Level Governance (in cooperation with UNU-CRIS)
- Risk and Vulnerability (in cooperation with UNU-EHS)
- Trade and Development
Specialisations

Social Protection Policy Design and Financing

A sound social protection policy is designed to reduce the incidence and severity of poverty and vulnerability. This can be done by promoting efficient and equitable labour markets, decreasing people’s exposure to risks, and developing their capacity to manage economic and social risks, such as exclusion, unemployment, illness, disability and old age. This is done alongside efficient design and management within (and coordination between) social protection institutions, so as to ensure an optimal and sustainable allocation of public resources.

The Social Protection Policy Design and Financing specialisation is a compilation of applied courses aimed at giving future policy analysts and practitioners a comprehensive view of social protection policy. Backed by traditional and state-of-the-art theories, the specialisation incorporates social situations in local, regional and international contexts and introduces a range of possible policy interventions and techniques of rational decision-making in public policy.

Through the interlinked and interdisciplinary specialisation modules the students will be exposed to a spectrum of theory and real-life case studies, from micro and macro perspectives. They will learn how to define the problems which face social protection analysts and practitioners; and how to be able to diagnostically identify the range of policy options available to address social challenges.

Additionally, students will learn how to perform budgetary planning and cost-benefit analyses of social protection policy. They will learn how to establish social accounting systems, undertake social budget projections, and use actuarial analysis for policy-making.

Topics covered during the specialisation include: poverty and inequality theories and measurement, risks and vulnerability, the political, economic and social forces that influence and shape how different countries respond to challenges of poverty and inequality, social protection policy instruments, human development issues (including the human rights based approach to development), the nature and economics of the various welfare state models, quantitative techniques in social policy design. Social budgeting and actuarial analysis, and the design and identification of social protection programmes.

For more detailed information about individual course descriptions, please visit our website: www.maastrichtuniversity.nl/governance

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<td>Understanding Social Protection: From Justification to Intervention</td>
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<td>April</td>
<td>Quantitative Techniques for Social Protection Policy Design</td>
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Migration Studies

Migration is a growing phenomenon that has gained importance in the public debate on development, welfare and immigration policy. According to the International Organization for Migration, it is estimated that there are 191 million international migrants worldwide, constituting three per cent of the world population (2005). Remittance transfers (the money that migrants send back to their home countries) currently amount to more than US$300 billion, surpassing foreign direct investment and official development aid in many countries around the world. Migration is a controversial topic in the international and national policy arena and the effects of migration on migrants, their families and communities in the host and origin country need to be studied carefully. While mass media often focus on a few spectacularly problematic integration cases, the courses in this specialisation study the key issues in-depth and with scientific rigour.

This specialisation comprises four courses that introduce students to the essential components of migration studies including trends, theories, causes and effects, and migration policy. Students will have the opportunity to explore the area of migration studies by taking courses with a broad perspective on the prevailing theory and practice. Particular emphasis is put on practical fieldwork. The Migration Studies specialisation trains students for the international labour market as policy advisors, practitioners, researchers, etc., working for governments, international organisations or academic institutions.

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<td>Data Collection and Analysis for Migration Studies</td>
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Innovation, Institutions and Development

This specialisation addresses how institutions can be designed to stimulate innovation and ultimately development. In doing so, the specialisation undertakes three steps. First, a historical perspective that shows the growth of countries. Using macroeconomic theory, a number of simple questions are answered: how have average living standards between countries diverged or converged? What influence did the global economic environment play? How is the production and use of technological knowledge distributed in the world? And how does this relate to the global income distribution between countries? The answer to these questions leads us to a basic theory of economic growth. In the second step, we use a comparative approach to describe and analyse the relative growth performance of countries in four world regions: Latin America, Asia, Africa, and the developed world (Europe, North America, Australia). During this step, we focus on the way in which public actors contribute to development, especially in terms of policies that facilitate technology transfer.

This includes national governments, but also international institutions (e.g., WTO, World Bank), and other factors, such as multinational corporations or intellectual property rights. Finally, we focus on the role of innovation as a key engine of growth. The development and use of knowledge remains very much concentrated in specific regions and sectors despite the fact that long-distance travel has become very easy. “Innovation systems,” such as Silicon Valley, bring a variety of actors together in a relatively small space, creating useful dynamics of knowledge creation and diffusion. Upon completing this specialisation, you will have a deeper understanding of the role of public policy and (semi-) public organisations in fostering innovation in these systems, and thereby contributing to growth and development.

| February       | Innovation and the Global Income Distribution |
| March          | Innovation and Development Patterns Around the Globe |
| April          | Innovation Systems in the Global Economy |
| May            | Science, Technology and Innovation Policy |
Regional Integration and Multi-Level Governance

In today’s world, public policy-making is no longer a prerogative of the state. Competences to introduce, reform and implement public policies become increasingly shared, rather than divided, between various governmental and non-governmental actors at the subnational, national, transnational, international and supranational levels. Countries increasingly look for joint solutions to common policy challenges: regional cooperation is on the rise worldwide. Complex systems of multi-level governance, in which actors at different levels of authority collaborate and compete for control over public policy-making, have developed across the globe.

This specialisation explores how regionalism and multi-level governance transform the ways in which public policy is designed and executed in different world regions: Europe, Asia, Africa, South and North America. The four courses of the specialisation will investigate challenges to governance in complex environments and analytical approaches used to address them. Students will learn how and why micro and macro regions emerge and proliferate and which kinds of regionalism exist in different parts of the world. They will systematically study key theories explaining regionalism and multi-level governance and methodology for analysing cross-regional policies and regional institutions. Governance in multi-level settings will be analysed as regards effectiveness and efficiency of policy coordination as well as its democratic quality. Current practices of regional governance will be investigated both from an academic perspective and first-hand policy-makers’ experience. The specialisation is offered in partnership with the United Nations University Institute on Comparative Regional Integration (UNU-CRIS) based in Bruges, Belgium.

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Risk and Vulnerability

Societies worldwide are unceasingly susceptible to known, emerging and unknown risks and disasters. These can either be natural (geophysical, hydrological, climatological, etc), man-made (cyber/ICT attack, terrorism, biomedical, technological, etc) or a mix of both (nuclear/energy disaster triggered by an earthquake). They can be voluntary or involuntary as well as extreme or diffuse. In response to the increasing disaster frequencies and magnitudes, and to minimise ensuing losses (human, economic, ecological, etc), disaster-risk stakeholders worldwide are keen on finding optimal innovative instruments that can aid vulnerability assessment (and scenario modelling) in efforts to institute effective early warning systems, build resilience and promote adaptive governance temporally and spatially.

This specialisation deals with the key geospatial, technological and governance aspects in disaster risk assessment, resilience building, crisis management and effective risk communication. Students will be exposed to diverse vulnerability and resilience dimensions, components, databases, assessment frameworks and analytical techniques. Students will learn how to independently select relevant indicators and construct composite indices. At the end of the specialisation, students will moreover, discover how to cost-efficiently and effectively deal with, communicate and manage crises situations (e.g. through risk financing). Diverse quantitative and qualitative techniques and instruments will be employed throughout the specialisation including several geo-information platforms for visualising, analysing and interpreting spatial data (ArcGIS, ArcView, ArcCatalog, ArcMap, etc).

The specialisation is taught in partnership with the institute for Environment and Human Security of the United Nations University (UNU-EHS) in Bonn, Germany. In addition, students will benefit from first-hand practical sessions with visiting disaster-risk experts and practitioners working for governments, financial institutions, private companies, civil society and research institutes nationally and internationally.
Trade and Development

International development law has two distinct but interconnected aspects. The first concerns international legal regulatory frameworks and the extent to which they provide incentives for state and non-state actors to set policies which move human development forward. In this respect, the specialisation gives an introduction to rules of international law that aim to promote human development. The second aspect concerns international development and the rule of law, including an examination of the extent to which rule of law is necessary for development and the attempts by the international community to support state growth and stability through rule of law. Projects and programmes aimed at judicial reform and support for the rule of law in developing and transitional countries have increased significantly in recent decades, often with little attention for the context in which these activities are carried out or the assumptions underlying their development and implementation.

This specialisation assesses the goals of economic development and the role of legal rules in facilitating or hindering that process, and studies the international activities directed at judicial reform and other legal assistance in developing and transition countries. We examine the current international legal development regime; study the underlying social and economic factors that contribute to failure of efforts at legal reform; analyse the reform strategies of selected development agencies; and explore alternative modes of analysis that may lead to more effective strategies than many legal assistance programmes have enjoyed to date.

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Thesis

One of the requirements for completing the programme is to write a thesis during the spring semester and summer break. Students have to work on a specific problem, conduct their own analysis and write a thesis reflecting their knowledge and understanding using generally accepted methods of analysis and research. The thesis can be in the form of a survey analysis, empirical investigation, literature review, case study or theoretical investigation. The thesis gives students the chance to formulate an approach and solve a problem independently, whilst demonstrating the skills they acquired during the programme. Each student receives the support of a thesis supervisor chosen from the academic staff of UNU-MERIT, the School and our partner institutes. Students have regular contact with their supervisors and/or other academics to discuss their ideas and monitor their progress.

Internships and capstone projects

Capstone projects combine internships with thesis topics, and are organised by the School and UNU-MERIT in collaboration with external partners. This enables selected students to write theses on topics of relevance to the real world, while earning useful work experience and making contacts for employment after graduation.

UM Honours Programme – PremiUM

PremiUM is Maastricht University’s honours programme for outstanding master’s students. This programme offers participants the opportunity to gain hands-on experience by working on a real-world project for a client for approximately three months. Each project involves a small team of about five students, assisted by a content mentor and competence coach. The PremiUM honours programme is meant as an additional preparation for your career. So far more than a dozen MPP students have completed the programme successfully.

Involving your employer

If you are working for an organisation in the public sector, participating in the master’s programme may be supported by your employer through a sabbatical or financial support. We are happy to assist such arrangements and to ensure that you meet the requirements of your employer. Please contact us to discuss any requirements or arrangements needed.
Application and admissions

Each application is reviewed by the Board of Admission. Admission requirements are the same for all specialisations of the programme.

Admission requirements

• A bachelor’s or master’s degree from a relevant academic field such as economics, international relations, political science, law, social sciences, business administration, health sciences or public health
• Adequate knowledge of pre-calculus mathematics and ideally descriptive statistics
• Basic knowledge of economics, social sciences, political science and/or law
• Proficiency in English; for a TOEFL test, we require a minimum score of 600 (PBT) or 100 (IBT) and 240 (CBT). For an IELTS test, we require a minimum score of 7.0. Results of tests taken more than three years before the date of your application will not be considered.

How to apply?

If you meet the admission requirements, please complete a registration request for the programme via www.studielink.nl. You will receive confirmation of your request and login details for www.maastrichtuniversity.nl > My UM. Please complete the application and upload all documents relating to the programme in the My UM portal. If we need further information to assess or complete your application, additional documents may be requested.

Upon receipt of your application request, your application will be reviewed. Within four to six weeks you will hear whether you are admissible to the programme.

Only complete files will be evaluated and considered for admission. A file is considered complete when the following documents are included:

• A letter of motivation (400-500 words) explaining why you have chosen the programme, your plans for the future, and in which you convince the Board of Admission that you possess the intellectual capacities and personal skills to successfully complete the programme
• An essay of 400 words, related to one of the specialisation topics, that displays a basic knowledge of the subject matter, a sufficient level of English and an appropriate academic writing style. Please use references. Submit the essay in MS Word or searchable PDF
• A certified copy of your bachelor’s and/or master’s degree
• A certified list of grades from your bachelor’s and/or master’s degree
• Two letters of recommendation by current or former professors or employers (original hard copies should be sent directly to the Student Affairs Office)
• Proof of proficiency in English. Native speakers and students who have received their bachelor’s or master’s education in English are exempted
• Curriculum vitae
• Copy of valid passport
• Passport size picture
“I had the opportunity and good fortune to teach a one-week graduate level course on policy implementation. My teaching experience at the Maastricht Graduate School of Governance was very positive and I am impressed by the quality of students, the faculty and staff, the facilities, and the international goal-oriented mission of the programme.”

Prof. Dr. David Van Slyke
Professor of Public Administration in the Department of Public Administration at the Maxwell School of Citizenship and Public Affairs at Syracuse University, USA

Tuition fees

Maastricht University has a lower and a higher tuition fee. The tuition rate depends on several factors, such as nationality, residence and whether this is your first or second study programme. For the most up-to-date information and to find out which rate applies to you, please use our online tuition fees guide: www.maastrichtuniversity.nl/tuitionfeesguide

The tuition rates for the academic year 2014/15 are*:

**Lower tuition fee**
Full-time bachelor’s and master’s students: € 1,906

**Higher tuition fee**
Full-time master’s students: € 13,500

* No rights may be derived from the fees published in this brochure.

Application deadlines

The following deadlines apply:
- students who need a visa: 15 June
- students who do not need a visa: 15 July

Please visit our website: www.maastrichtuniversity.nl/governance for the most up-to-date information.

Scholarships

There are various scholarship opportunities for the master’s programmes, e.g. Maastricht University High Potential Scholarship Programme, Nuffic, World Bank, etc. For more specific information on the application process and eligibility criteria, please visit the scholarship section on our website.

Questions about the application process?

If you have any questions about the application process, please e-mail us at: info-governance@maastrichtuniversity.nl

Programme details and tuition fees may change. Please check our website for the latest information.
“Graduates of the MGSoG have learned to analyse complex governance problems, rationalise difficult policy choices and put a budgetary figure on policy decisions. One could say that their two prime qualities are intellectual rigour and compassion, people with “soft hearts and hard heads”. Coming to Maastricht to teach each year is like returning to school and coming home. The fact that many of our master’s students return for PhD programmes tells us that they feel the same way.”

Prof. Dr. Michael Cichon
President of the International Council on Social Welfare and former Director of the Social Security Department of the International Labour Organization (ILO)

**Student organisations**

There are several students clubs in Maastricht, and many are internationally oriented with a view to helping Dutch and foreign students to mingle.

Our own student organisation, DEMOS, was set up by a group of enthusiastic students with the aim of organising social and academic activities for students and researchers at the School. For more information about DEMOS, please visit: [www.demos-mpp.org](http://www.demos-mpp.org)

The United Nations Student Association (UNSA) is a student organisation run by students from various faculties. For more information about UNSA, please visit: [www.myansa.org](http://www.myansa.org)
Master’s programmes overview 2015/16

**Arts & Culture**
- Master in Arts & Culture, with the following programmes:
  - Arts and Heritage: Policy, Management and Education / Kunst, cultuur en erfgoed (MA)
  - Art, Literature and Society / Kunst, literatuur en samenleving (MA)
  - Politics and Society / Politiek en Samenleving (MA)
- Master in Arts & Culture (research), with the following programme:
  - Research Master in Culture of Arts, Science and Technology (MSc)
- Master in European Studies, with the following programme:
  - European Studies on Society, Science and Technology (MA)
- Master in Media Studies, with the following programme:
  - Media Culture, 1 specialisation (MA)

**Behavioural & Political Sciences**
- European Public Affairs (MA)
- European Studies, 3 specialisations (MA)
- Forensic Psychology (MSc)
- Globalisation and Development Studies (MA)
- Psychology, 6 specialisations (MSc)
- Public Policy and Human Development, 4 specialisations in Behavioural & Political Sciences (MSc)
- Research Master in European Studies (MSc)
- Sustainability Science and Policy (MSc)

**Business & Economics**
(All programmes are Triple Crown accredited: AACSB, EQUIS and AMBA)
- Econometrics and Operations Research, 4 specialisations (MSc)
- Financial Economics, 3 specialisations (MSc)
- Fiscale Economie / Fiscal Economics (MSc)
- Global Supply Chain Management and Change (MSc)
- Human Decision Science (MSc)
- Information and Network Economics (MSc)
- International Business, 11 full-time and 1 part-time specialisations (MSc)
- Economics, 6 specialisations (MSc)
- Management of Learning (MSc)
- Public Policy and Human Development, 3 specialisations in Business & Economics (MSc)
- Research Master in Business Research, 2 specialisations (MSc)
- Research Master in Economic and Financial Research, 2 specialisations (MSc)

**Graduate programmes for professionals**
- Executive Master of Finance and Control (EMFC/MSc/RC)
- International Executive Master of Auditing
- International Executive Master of Finance and Control (part-time EMFC/MSc/RC)
- Maastricht University opleiding tot Register Accountant (MURA)
- MBA (International Executive Modular, Dutch Executive Modular and Euro)

**Education**
- Master of Evidence Based Innovation in Teaching (MSc)

**Health & Life Sciences**
- Arts-Klinisch Onderzoeker / Physician-Clinical Investigator (MSc, MD)
- Epidemiology (MSc)
- European Public Health (MSc)
- Geneeskunde / Medicine (MSc, MD)
- Global Health (MSc)
- Healthcare Policy, Innovation and Management (MSc)
- Health Education and Promotion (MSc)
- Health Food Innovation Management (MSc)
- Human Movement Sciences / Bewegingswetenschappen (MSc)
- Mental Health (MSc)
- Research Master in Cognitive and Clinical Neuroscience, 5 specialisations (MSc)
- Research Master in Health Sciences (MSc)
- Work, Health and Career (MSc)
Graduate programmes for professionals

- Affective Neuroscience (MSc) ¹
- Health Professions Education (MSc) ¹
- International Master of Science in Medicine (MSc) ¹
- Executive Master in MRI Principles and Application (MSc) ¹

Law

- European Law School, 3 specialisations (LLM) ¹
- Fiscaal Recht / Tax Law, 2 specialisations (LLM) ³
- Forensica, Criminologie en Rechtspleging / Forensics, Criminology and Law (LLM) ³
- Globalisation and Law, 4 specialisations (LLM) ¹
- International and European Tax Law (LLM) ¹
- International Laws (LLM) ¹
- Nederlands Recht / Dutch Law, 5 specialisations (LLM) ⁴
- Public Policy and Human Development, 1 specialisation in Law (MSc) ¹⁰
- Recht en Arbeid / Law and Labour, 2 specialisations (LLM) ⁴

Graduate programmes for professionals

- Advanced Master in Intellectual Property Law and Knowledge Management (LLM, MSc) ¹
- European Master in Human Rights and Democratisation ¹

Sciences

(within transnational University Limburg,tUL)

- Artificial Intelligence (MSc) ¹
- Operations Research (MSc) ¹
- Biomedical Sciences, 5 specialisations (MSc) ³

New initiatives at UM

- Master in Biobased Materials (expected start date: 1 September 2015)
- Master in Systems Biology (expected start date: 1 September 2015)

The programmes under ‘New initiatives at UM’ are currently in the process of accreditation.
For more information about these programmes and their expected starting dates, please consult
www.maastrichtuniversity.nl/newinitiatives

* Due to a national restructuring operation in the Humanities field, some changes have occurred in our Arts & Culture sector. If you wish to apply for one of the above master’s programmes, you will have to select its overarching master’s title in Studielink. For more information, please visit
www.maastrichtuniversity.nl/fasos

**This programme is offered as a double degree in collaboration with United Nations University.

Language of instruction:
1 Only in English
2 Part Dutch, part English
3 Available in both English and Dutch
4 Only in Dutch
Based in Europe, focused on the world. Maastricht University is a stimulating environment. Where research and teaching are complementary. Where innovation is our focus. Where talent can flourish. A truly student oriented research university.