Center for European Studies





Psychology & Neuroscience in Europe

Europe has a long tradition in the field of psychology. Recent revolutions in molecular biology and the advent of advanced measurement techniques such as fMRI, PET and SPECT, have made the inter-relationship between psychological functions and neural activity an important research focus. The Psychology & Neuroscience in Europe programme offers students insight into the latest topics in European psychology and research.

Maastricht, the Netherlands, forms a unique environment for studying psychology and neuroscience. The renowned Faculty of Psychology and Neuroscience (FPN) at Maastricht University specialises in cognitive and biological psychology. Its unique research infrastructure enables groundbreaking study of the brain and behavior. The faculty is home to a European Centre of Excellence in Ultra High-Field human MRI that combines state-of-the art technology (three MRI scanners of 9.4, 7 and 3 Tesla) with clinical know-how, access to patients and expert post-acquisition processing of data. Its strong fundamental and applied research and excellent academics has propelled Maastricht to the forefront of the field.

Compare the scientific research methods of the Netherlands to those of your home country. Visit high-tech lab facilities at the faculty. Follow courses and seminars taught by leading experts. Get involved in research opportunities with fellow psychology students from all over the world!

Latest advances in psychological research

Students in the Psychology & Neuroscience in Europe programme are directly enrolled at Maastricht University and able to take courses from the Faculty of Psychology and Neuroscience (FPN). FPN is widely recognised for its applied research on dyslexia, eating disorders, ageing, AIDS prevention and the value of witness statements in forensic psychology. Courses can also be taken at the Center for European Studies (CES) and the highly selective liberal arts and sciences programme from University College Maastricht.

Courses

All Psychology & Neuroscience in Europe students participate in the **Core Seminar**, a compulsory semester-long course that forms the backbone of the programme and combines strong academics with integrated study trips and unique hands-on experiences. Students can choose from more than 350 bachelor-level courses in English offered at Maastricht University. Please refer to the CES website for a complete course overview. At least half the courses should be selected from the programme-related Majors below. This combination provides a solid understanding of the central subject while giving students the freedom to build their own curriculum.

- Applied Social Psychology
- Cognitive Neuroscience
- Developmental Psychology
- Cognitive Psychology
 - Forensic Psychology

• Clinical (Neuro-) Psychology

• Work and Organisational Psychology

Integrated study trips

The Core Seminar begins with the European Study Trip, which provides a vivid European context for the central programme theme. The seminar runs for the duration of the semester and includes an interactive lecture series and field trips that highlight local achievements.

The Psychology & Neuroscience in Europe programme includes, for example, visits to the European Commission or the international pharmaceutical company Bayer. Take a guided tour of Maastricht University's research labs and discuss cutting-edge research with in-house experts. Visit local institutions and discover how mental health issues are handled in the region. True to Maastricht University's philosophy of active and self-directed learning, students undertake an **independent study project** during the Core Seminar and are encouraged to pursue their own academic interests. The Core Seminar concludes with a Symposium where students present their research papers.

"Maastricht has an incredible Psychology & Neuroscience programme: case studies in class teach about the methods, difficulties, and criticisms of modern work while being taught by experienced leaders in the field who have access to one of the strongest fMRI machines in the world. I wouldn't have gone anywhere else."

Academics

Credits

Maastricht University uses the ECTS (European Credit Transfer System) to measure academic progress. Maastricht University courses typically have between 5-12 ECTS. How ECTS transfer depends on a student's home university or college. Generally a 5-6.5 ECTS course is the equivalent of a full semester course (3 American credit hours). CES advisors help students select classes to meet the requirements of their home university.

Programme Structure

Each CES semester is 18 weeks long and starts with an extensive 2-week introduction, followed by two 'block periods' of classes (block period 1 and 2 in Fall; block period 4 and 5 in Spring). During each 8-week block period, students take two courses of 5-6.5 ECTS or one course of 9-12 ECTS. In addition, they will participate in the mandatory Core Seminar (6 ECTS), which runs alongside the courses (see figure below). Students can earn a minimum of 24 and maximum of 33 ECTS per semester at CES. The number of hours in class varies from 12-15 hours per week; for every hour in class students are expected to spend 2-3 hours on study.

Core Seminar (6 ECTS)		
Intro	Block Period 1	Block Period 2
	Course + Course (5-6.5 ECTS) + (5-6.5 ECTS)	Course (9-12 ECTS)
1 2	3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10	11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18

High academic standard

CES programmes are designed for enthusiastic and intellectually curious students dedicated to expanding their academic horizons while abroad. To ensure that students do well, CES offers extensive academic advising, workshops and regular monitoring. Maastricht University uses Problem-Based Learning (PBL), a student-centered teaching approach. Small groups of students (12-15) work on academic or practical cases prepared by their professors. Faculty act as guides to students who are in charge of their own learning and are expected to be committed, active and self-motivated.

Practical Information

Programme Dates

 Spring 2014
 17 January - 7 June 2014

 Fall 2014
 15 August - 20 December 2014

 Spring 2015
 16 January - 6 June 2015

Introduction

The 2-week introduction offers a variety of academic and social activities, the start of the Core Seminar and the European Study Trip. The introduction includes CES services (such as airport pick up and phone rental), a tour of Maastricht and the surrounding area, Maastricht University orientation, a Problem-Based Learning seminar, Intercultural Communication workshops and integration into Dutch student life.

Tuition

The tuition fee includes registration at Maastricht University, academic advising, all courses (up to 33 ECTS), CES course materials, the Core Seminar, European Study Trip, field trips, extensive introduction and all CES services. For Spring 2014 the tuition fee is € 7600*.

Housing

Most CES students stay in single or double rooms at the International Student Guesthouse of Maastricht University. Rooms in the P-building have a private kitchen and rooms in the C-building have communal cooking facilities; in both buildings the bathroom facilities are shared. Housing costs for Spring 2014 range from € 2266 to € 3491*.

Visa & Residence Permit

Most students require a temporary Dutch residence permit (VVR) for stays longer than 90 days and some students might need a visa (MVV). CES assists students with every part of this process. For Spring 2014 the cost for a temporary residence permit is \leqslant 300*.

Insurance

Students need sufficient health care, liability and travel insurance for the duration of their stay. Most students are covered through their home university, but CES can assist students who need to purchase their own.

Application requirements

CES Open Enrolment programmes are competitive. Early application is recommended. Applicants must be in good academic standing, have a minimum GPA of 3.0 and must be proficient in English. Please refer to the CES website for more information and an online application form. Don't hesitate to contact CES with questions. We are happy to help!

Application Deadlines

 Spring 2014
 15 October 2013

 Fall 2014
 15 April 2014

 Spring 2015
 15 October 2014

Contact us: Maastricht University | Student Services Centre | Center for European Studies
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^{*}For detailed and up-to-date tuition, housing and residence permit fees, please check our website. Although this brochure was made with the utmost care, no rights can be derived from it.