



Open Enrolment Semester Programmes



European History, Culture and Arts

For centuries, Europe has been pivotal as a centre of innovation and creativity with a rich cultural heritage. The rise and fall of civilisations, empires and shifting of borders has resulted in a complex mix of cultures, languages, religions and ethnicities. In 1992 the Maastricht Treaty led to the creation of the European Union with its motto “Unity in Diversity”, but what is European identity? How do the lessons of the past teach us about society today? These questions are at the heart of European culture and society, and hinges on difficult questions about European history and conflict.

Founded by the Romans, controlled by the Spaniards, besieged by the French, and occupied by the Germans, picturesque 2000 year-old Maastricht, the Netherlands, personifies how European history has served as a prologue to the present. Final resting place of D’Artagnan and home to the world famous violinist André Rieu, the city is also host to the internationally acclaimed European Fine Art Fair (TEFAF) and the region has an important presence on the international literary stage. At the crossroads of three borders and cultures, Maastricht is the perfect setting for students interested in gaining a deeper understanding of Western civilisation and European culture.

The *European History, Culture & Arts* programme invites you to investigate Europe’s past, present and future by exploring artistic movements and social history, as well as philosophical and cultural ideas, from a European perspective.

Investigate the roots of European identity and culture

European History, Culture & Arts students are directly enrolled at Maastricht University and able to take classes at the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences – awarded the Jean Monnet Centre of Excellence for outstanding education and research on European integration – as well as the Center for European Studies (CES). Courses can also be taken at the highly selective liberal arts and sciences programme from University College Maastricht.

Courses

Students can choose from more than **350 bachelor-level courses in English** offered at Maastricht University. 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**. Please refer to the CES website for a complete course overview.

Majors

• Art (History)	• Globalisation	• Religious Studies
• Cultural Studies	• History	• Sociology
• Environmental Studies	• Literature	• Urban Studies
• European Studies	• Media Studies	• Women’s Studies
• Film Studies	• Philosophy & Ethics	

All *European History, Culture & Arts* students select a **Core Course**, an interactive course that combines strong academics with integrated field trips and unique hands-on experiences. True to Maastricht University’s philosophy of active and self-directed learning, students can undertake an **independent study project** during the Core Course and are encouraged to pursue their own academic interests.

Integrated Study Trips

The *European History, Culture & Arts* programme begins with the four day **European Study Trip** to Berlin, which provides a vivid European context for the central programme theme. The programme also offers a **‘Get to the know the Netherlands’ cultural weekend**, as well as a two day **Euregional Study Trip**. Immerse yourself in Dutch history and culture at the Rijksmuseum and the Anne Frank House. Visit various WWII sites related to the Battle of the Bulge in the Ardennes, Belgium or take a literary journey into the realms of ‘turn-of-the-century’ decadence in romantic Bruges, the Venice of the North.

“Maastricht was the perfect place to study abroad. The classes I took were completely different than anything I had experienced before. In my world history class, I learned not just from the readings or the professor, but also from the cross-cultural exchange of ideas that was essential to making this course such a success.”

Marta Lucia Kupfer, TUFTS University

Academics

Credits

Maastricht University uses the ECTS (European Credit Transfer System) to measure academic progress. Maastricht University courses are typically worth 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 periods 1 and 2 in Fall; block periods 4 and 5 in Spring). Students take two or three courses per 8-week block period depending on the number of credits required. Students can earn a minimum of 24 and maximum of 32 ECTS per semester. 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.

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 2015	16 January - 6 June 2015
Fall 2015	14 August - 19 December 2015
Spring 2016	15 January - 4 June 2016

Should students have internship plans that require departure before the official end date of the programme, please inform CES. We will endeavor to help you select courses accordingly.

Introduction

The 2-week introduction offers a variety of academic and social activities 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 workshop, an Intercultural Communication seminar and integration into Dutch student life.

Tuition

The tuition fee includes registration at Maastricht University, academic advising, all courses (up to 32 ECTS), CES course materials, European Study Trip, weekend and field trips, extensive introduction and all CES services. For Spring 2015 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 2015 range from € 2319 to € 3554*.

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 2015 the cost for a temporary residence permit is € 304*.

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 2015	15 October 2014
Fall 2015	15 April 2015
Spring 2016	15 October 2015

**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.*

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