

Center for European Studies



Psychology & Neuroscience in Europe

From Freud to Piaget, Europe has a long tradition in the field of Psychology, establishing guiding principles and implementing research in order to understand individuals and groups and benefit the wider society. 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. Innovative approaches within fields such as Positive Psychology, bring further techniques and methods to better comprehend the human mind.

Maastricht, the Netherlands, forms a unique environment for studying psychology and neuroscience. Maastricht University specialises in cognitive and biological psychology and its unique research infrastructure enables groundbreaking study of the brain and behaviour. It is home to a European Centre of Excellence 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. Compare the scientific research methods of the Netherlands to those of your home country. Follow courses and seminars taught by leading experts. Get involved in research opportunities with fellow psychology students from all over the world. The *Psychology & Neuroscience in Europe* programme offers students insight into the latest topics in psychology and research, in a European setting.

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 strong fundamental and 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

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.

Major

- Applied Social Psychology
- Clinical Psychology
- Cognitive Neuroscience
- Cognitive Psychology
- Developmental Psychology
- Forensic Psychology
- Work and Organisational Psychology

All *Psychology & Neuroscience in Europe* 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 *Psychology & Neuroscience in Europe* 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**. Visit a mental health institution designed by one of the precursors of modern psychiatry, take a guided tour of Maastricht University's research labs and visit local institutions to discover how mental health issues are handled in the cross-border region.

"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 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 $\leqslant 304^*$.

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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