Welcome to the Research Master’s programme!

Study adviser Evelien Flink MSc
Today

- Your Master’s programme
- ASCoR Participation
- Research Internship
- ABC I & II
- Questions

- Drinks! @Café de Roeter
## Your Master's programme

### Semester 1

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Block 1 (8 weeks)</th>
<th>Block 2 (8 weeks)</th>
<th>Block 3 (4 weeks)</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Specialisation seminar 1 (12 EC)</td>
<td></td>
<td>Research Methods Tailored to the Thesis (6 EC)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Specialisation seminar 2 (12 EC)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thesis preparation phase 1</td>
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### Semester 2

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Block 1 (8 weeks)</th>
<th>Block 2 (8 weeks)</th>
<th>Block 3 (4 weeks)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Elective course (6 EC)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Elective course (6 EC)</td>
<td>Thesis (18ECTS)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thesis preparation phase 2</td>
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</table>
Your Master’s programme

- Two years
- Advanced CS theories
- More methodological courses
- Not necessarily bound to one theoretical specialisation
- Freedom to plan out your personal study plan
- Possibilities for research internship within the programme
Requirements Research Master’s

- 54 ECTS methods courses
- 42 ECTS theoretical courses (specialisation seminars or electives)
- 6 ECTS participation in one of ASCoR's research programmes (leading to a written report)
- 18 ECTS Master's thesis

Mandatory courses are:
- Advancing and Building Communication Science Theory I & II
- Experimentation in the Social Sciences, Content Analysis, Evaluating Academic Research and Survey Design.
Individual study plan Research Master in Communication Science

Personal details:
First name: Evelien
Last name: Flink
Date of birth: 12541579
Email: graduate.schoo.communication@uva.nl

I want to schedule my ASCOR participation in:
- 2017-2018, semester 2
- 2018-2019, semester 2

ECTS Requirement check:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Methods courses</th>
<th>Selected</th>
<th>Required</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>60</td>
<td>54</td>
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<tr>
<td>Theoretical courses</td>
<td>42</td>
<td>42</td>
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<tr>
<td>ASCOR</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>6</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thesis</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Course Requirement check:

- Content Analysis
- Experimentation in the Social Sciences
- Advancing and Building Communication
- Survey Design
- Evaluating Academic Research*
- Advancing and Building Communication

Instructions:
Please select courses with the help of the course catalogue and check if you fulfill the requirements underneath on the left. Make sure to select the courses for the right block(s). If the course is not listed, please write your preference in the "other" category. Note that some space will remain unfilled, but don't forget ASCOR participation, Research internship and ASCOR. Try to schedule 30 ECTS per semester. Send your completed studyplan to graduateschoolofcommunication@uva.nl.
Study Advisers

Ms. Evelien Flink MSc
Ms. Nhu Ngan Trang MSc
Ms. Sara-Jane van der Vegt MSc

When to contact us?
Study planning Special needs/disability
Choosing a programme Personal problems
Career advice Thesis
Study progress/delay Complaints/exemptions

How to reach us?
- Appointments by phone or in person (call Education Desk 020-525 3003)
- contact: graduateschoolofcommunication@uva.nl
- Walk-in hours: Tuesdays from 14:00 until 16:00 REC C6.01
RM Programme Director

Dr Sandra Zwier
S.M.Zwier@uva.nl

- Approval of ASCoR Participation and Research Internship
- Lecturer of Experimentation in the Social Sciences
ASCoR Participation

- Develop your research skills ‘hands on’
- Supervised by senior researcher in an ongoing ASCoR research project
- 6 ECTS
Some helpful hints

- It’s up to **you** to find your own participation spot. Start looking for an interesting project well in advance (we suggest 1-2 months)
- Four weeks ≠ one month!
- Don’t approach five researchers at once, focus on one project at a time
Be sure to check the RM page on Blackboard

How to find participation/internship

Perhaps ideally, the Graduate School would provide you a list of all ongoing research projects from which you can then pick one of your own choice. But, this is not how it works.

The reason is that whenever you see a list of ongoing research projects at any academic institution, you can be almost certain that it is outdated and/or artificial in some ways at least. This is because (academic) research is nearly always an ongoing process, creative if you like. Some projects may be fully running as planned, others were planned but have changed character during the process, still others are taking place but were not on an initial list, etc. Any list we would provide would hence be outdated before we published it.

So, how to find a participation project?
Here are some suggestions:
1) Almost all of your teachers/course conveners and other staff members you meet are ASCoR researchers as well. You will most likely find that one or several of them are doing the type of research that you are really interested in.

Contact this person and ask him/her if there is any possibility to join him/her in a part of the research that he/she is currently doing. When contacting an ASCoR researcher, explain a) that you are a RM student looking for a research participation, b) mention if you are in your first or second year and any specific research skills you may have (e.g., “I can work with large data-sets”, “have conducted an experiment in the area of ....”, etc.).

2) Every program group/master’s specialization has a faculty member who is especially there to advise RM students on ongoing research activities in the program group.

This staff member knows the program group, its faculty members, and the ongoing research projects very well, and so will almost always be able to give you up-to-date advise and help on interesting ASCoR research projects currently going on in which you could potentially join. They would be very happy to do so!

Currently, the faculty members to advise RM-students on ongoing research activities in a program group are: dr. Piel Verhoeven (Corporate Comm), dr. Margot van der Goot (Persuasive Comm), dr. Damian Trilling (Political Comm) and dr. Sindy Sumter (Youth & Media).

3) The ASCoR website site (http://ascor.uva.nl/about-ascor) is another good source.
More help: your Academic Mentor
Research internship

- Gain experience with the actual conduct of a communication science research project
- Replaces a maximum of 12 ECTS worth of methods courses
- Research internships can take place in two types of organizations:
  - Academic research institutions, located at a Dutch or foreign university
  - Professional research organizations in the Netherlands or abroad
Some more helpful hints

- Make sure that your internship supervisor is a (senior) researcher
- Research **must** be your main task (with data collection taking up no more than 1/3 of your time)
- Email them your own proposal, don’t apply for existing internships
ABC I and II

- Skills to make substantial theoretical contributions (Part I)
- Employ skills by writing a portfolio, consisting of two proposal papers (Part II)
ABC II

- Two semesters
- Per semester: three meetings, one paper
- After that: committee meeting