Welcome to the Research Master’s programme

30 January 2020
Who are we?

Sandra Zwier
Programme director RM

Julia Brand
Study adviser RM

Neil Fasching
2nd year student RM
Today we talk about

• Your Master’s programme
• Content Analysis
• Academic track: ASCoR Participation & Research Internship
• Professional track: Research Internships
• Other issues

Drinks! @Café de Krater
Your Master’s programme

Flagship programme

• Two years
• Advancing comm. science theory
• More methodological coursework
• Mixing theoretical courses
• Participating in ongoing ASCoR research (Academic track)
• Possibility for professional internship
# 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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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Specialisation seminar 1 (12 EC)</td>
<td>Research Methods Tailored to the Thesis (6 EC)</td>
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<td>Specialisation seminar 2 (12 EC)</td>
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## Semester 2

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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Elective course (6 EC)</td>
<td>Thesis (18ECTS)</td>
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<td>Thesis preparation phase 2</td>
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Mandatory courses

I. Substantive course
   • Advancing and Building Communication Science Theory (ABC) (6EC)

II. Methods courses:
   • Content Analysis (6EC)
   • Experimentation in the Social Sciences (6EC)
   • Survey Design (6EC)
   • Research and Data Ethics (3EC)

III. Participation course
   • Evaluating Academic or Professional Research (6EC)

IV. Thesis course
   • Thesis Communication (3EC)
### Study plan format

#### Individual study plan Research Master’s in Communication Science (Professional Track, version 12 ECTS Prof Research Internship)

**Personal details:**
- First name: 
- Last name: 
- Student number: 
- Email: 

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**ECTS Requirement check:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Block</th>
<th>Content Analysis</th>
<th>Methodological Awareness</th>
<th>Dissertation Methodology</th>
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**Research Master’s in Communication Science (Academic Track)**

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**Research Preparation Phase I**

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**Research Preparation Phase II**

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**Personal studyplan** Follow these steps:
1. Select courses within the block of the online course catalog (also recommend ECTS on the course and check if they fulfill the requirements on the block). Make sure to select the courses that are for the right block(s) if the course is not listed (please refer to the course catalog). Note that some spaces will remain empty, but both in your Professional Research Internship and Thesis preparation Phase I. Send your complete studyplan to your academic advisor at communication@fias.ugent.be.
Content Analysis

• Have knowledge of the theory and logic of systematic quantitative content analysis
• Lectures on specific aspects of content analysis
• Meetings where small teams of students work on their own content analysis project
• Lecturers: dr. Pytrik Schafrad & dr. Knut de Swert
Academic track: ASCoR participation and Research internship

ASCoR participation

• Develop your research skills
• ‘hands on’
• Supervised by senior researcher in an ongoing ASCoR research project
• 6 ECTS

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 ASCoR or a Dutch or foreign university
  - Professional research organizations in the Netherlands or abroad
ASCoR participation example 1 + 2

Prof. dr. Jochen Peter

Prof. dr. Rens Vliegenthart
Professional track: Research internship(s)

Research internship

• Gain experience with the actual conduct of communication science research projects in the field
• Between 18 to 24 ECTS
• Possibility to do 1 long or e.g. 2 smaller internships
• Research internships must take place at:
  - Professional research organizations/departments in the Netherlands or abroad

Please note:

➢ Make sure that your internship supervisor is a (senior) researcher
➢ Research must be your main task (with other tasks taking up no more than 40% of your time)
Professional Research Internship example 1

Hilde Voorveld
Be sure to check the RM page on Canvas!

Finding a Research Internship

We distinguish between those situations where the research internship takes place at:

1. Academic research institutions (universities) in the Netherlands or abroad, or
2. A professional research organization in the Netherlands or abroad.

1. Academic research institutions

ASCoR

If you would like to do a research internship at ASCoR, ways of finding a project that matches your interests and ambitions are very much the same as ways of finding an ASCoR research participation (see: Finding an ASCoR Research Participation).

Other Dutch academic research institutions

There are many other academic research institutions in communication and media besides ASCoR, in the Netherlands and abroad, where you would almost certainly be very much welcome to do a research internship.

For the Netherlands, have a look around the websites of for instance Erasmus Research Center for Media, Communication and Culture (Rotterdam), the Communication Science department at the Free University Amsterdam (Amsterdam), the Communication Science research programme at Radboud University (Nijmegen), or Communication Science at the University of Twente (Enschede), to name but a few, and you'll find the names of many researchers and research programmes in the Netherlands that may attract your interest.

Your options are also not limited to communication science departments/research programmes per se, and there are other research programmes that involve communication and/or the media. In the Netherlands, think for instance of journalistic research programmes (here or here), academic research on augmented and virtual reality (for instance here), or communication and health (such as here).

The programme of the Annual Dutch national conference in Communication Science (Etnaal van de Communicatiwetenschap/24 hours of communication science) renders a great overview of ongoing research projects in the Netherlands and Flanders (Belgium). The 2018 conference programme can be found here.
Be sure to check the Internship Guide (professional track)!

Research Internship Guide

In the professional track of the Research Master's programme a professional research internship is a mandatory part of the curriculum. Students can choose to do a 18 ECTS or 24 ECTS professional Research Internship.

The professional Research internship has several requirements/criteria and objectives students should meet.

In this Research Internship guide a more detailed framework is given of these objectives, criteria, assessment, supervision and practical matters.

Please read the Guide carefully before you start your orientation for an internship.

If there is anything unclear you can contact the study advisers (graduateschoolofcommunication@uva.nl)
Tips & tricks: finding your ASCoR Participation or Internship

• It’s up to you to find your own ASCoR participation spot
• Start looking for an interesting projects well in advance (we suggest 1-2 months for ASCoR participation; 6 months for Internships)
• Four weeks ≠ one month!
• For the ASCoR participation: don’t approach five researchers at once, focus on one at a time
• For an internship: be proactive and make your own proposal, check partnerships we have; check for companies with our Internship coordinator Hilde
Other sources to consult

- RM News Updates (will be sent automatically)
- Your lecturers!
- ASCoR website
- Canvas page vacancies
- Internship Coördinator Hilde Voorveld
Study Advisers

Mr. Boy Hennevelt, MSc
Ms. Lena Kublenz-Gabriel, MSc
Mrs. Julia Brand, MSc MA

When to contact us?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Study planning</th>
<th>Study progress/delay</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Choosing a programme</td>
<td>Special needs/disability</td>
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<tr>
<td>Personal problems</td>
<td>Complaints/exemptions</td>
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<tr>
<td>Trust issues</td>
<td>Career advice</td>
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How to reach us?

- Appointments by phone or in person (call Education Desk 020-525 3003)
- contact: graduateschoolofcommunication@uva.nl
- Walk-in/thesis consultation hours: Tuesdays from 14:00 until 16:00 REC C6.01
And who are you?
Questions?