



Master's programme in European Public Health (MSc) | 2011

Faculty of Health, Medicine and Life Sciences

Language of
instruction:
English

Maastricht University: Leading in Learning

Historic yet forward-thinking and contemporary, typically Dutch yet multicultural and vibrant, Maastricht is a city of contrasts. Known as the birthplace of the modern European Union, Maastricht also continues to establish itself internationally thanks to Maastricht University's position as a leading academic centre in Europe.

Beyond boundaries

With over half of its master's students and a quarter of its academic staff coming from outside the Netherlands, Maastricht University has a reputation for its international orientation and dynamic, interdisciplinary environment. Almost all of our master's programmes are taught in English and international themes are deeply rooted in the curricula.

New perspectives

As a master's student, you are a contributing member of our academic community. Using the Problem-Based Learning methodology, you work in small groups alongside students from all over the world. In close cooperation with the academic staff, you and your fellow students examine real-life problems from an academic perspective. Exchanging knowledge and experiences, learning to see things from new perspectives, and developing essential skills: at Maastricht University you learn to think both like an academic and a professional.

Research

Research at Maastricht University focuses on gaining insights into current issues in today's society. And we recognise the value of bright, young researchers in contributing to the development of fresh and innovative ideas. That is why research plays an integral role in the majority of our master's programmes and why we offer a number of research master's, which are often a stepping stone to a PhD.

Career

Further specialising in your field by earning a master's degree at Maastricht University will greatly enhance your career prospects. The effectiveness of our approach to education and research is demonstrated by the performance of our graduates. They are self-assured, independent and assertive professionals who are able to make a smooth transition from university to the job market because they focus on more than just theory; they also learn the skills they need to have a successful career.



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Welcome from the dean

What makes studying at Maastricht University's Faculty of Health, Medicine and Life Sciences (FHML) so special? There are many answers to this question, but the strong focus on the health continuum as a basis for our educational and research strategies plays a prominent role. This continuum, spanning from molecule to humans to society, is mirrored in the breadth of our faculty, which covers everything from the prevention, diagnosis and therapy of diseases to rehabilitation, public health and societal aspects. We feel strongly that we must understand what health is before we can develop genuine and far-reaching knowledge of disease.

Having such a broad scope within one faculty is unique in Europe, and stems from the fact that the FHML was founded in 2007 by a combination of two separate faculties. This merger was based on a unique vision: bringing together the health and life sciences with the broad spectrum of experimental and clinical medicine to form a new, powerful alliance. In 2008, FHML began an integration with the Academic Hospital Maastricht to form Netherlands eighth Maastricht University Medical Center (MUMC*).

The Health Sciences master's and research programmes offered at the FHML thus encompass the entire field of health sciences, ranging from the biological to the behavioural and social sciences. The faculty also incorporates a prominent School of Public Health with a much broader scope than more traditional public health schools, which will be expanded even further in the near future. In addition, the focus on interdisciplinarity has resulted in exciting new master's programmes in Molecular Life Sciences, Health Food Innovation Management, European Public Health and Global Health.

The true interdisciplinarity of our faculty and schools will empower all students to integrate questions of fundamental science with applications of clinical medicine. Further, they will be able to understand the complex needs of our society when it comes to the maintenance of health, the prevention of disease, its proper diagnosis and treatment, and of course its social, cultural and political implications. Our programmes thus provide the most comprehensive spectrum of knowledge in the fields of health and life sciences as well as medicine. I have every confidence that our education and research programmes will enhance your knowledge and skills in health sciences, and prepare you for a most successful career.

Professor Martin Paul

Dean, Faculty of Health, Medicine and Life Sciences

The programme in this brochure is accredited by the Accreditation Organisation of the Netherlands and Flanders (NVAO).

For more information on NVAO, please visit www.nvao.nl

Maastricht University is a signatory of the "Code of conduct with respect to international students in Dutch higher education".

More information about this code of conduct is available at www.internationalstudy.nl

Introduction

Faculty of Health, Medicine and Life Sciences

Maastricht University, founded in 1976, is the youngest university in the Netherlands. Ever since its founding, the university has held a unique position among Dutch universities thanks to its Problem-Based Learning (PBL) system. The Faculty of Health, Medicine and Life Sciences (FHML) currently has some 4,000 students enrolled in its various educational programmes. The faculty is located in the university's Randwyck complex. Modern buildings provide students with a pleasant atmosphere in which to study. Students at FHML have regular access to the latest services, including a multimedia laboratory, a library, a computer resource centre and multiple information desks. The learning and resource centre and the library house an extensive collection of books, scientific journals and magazines, computers and audiovisual equipment. Special teaching rooms, equipped with modern video, recording and presentation equipment, are available to students for use during skills training. Students are also free to use the internet café, conveniently located near the University Library.

Problem-Based Learning

Maastricht University has adopted the Problem-Based Learning (PBL) system as the leading educational approach in all curricula. PBL is an educational format focusing on discussion and learning based on real-life problems, which activates the student's prior knowledge and thus enhances a natural interest in the study topics. Students learn to recall information and to become self-directed initiators. Under the guidance of a tutor, students are placed in small groups where they are encouraged to probe and scrutinise issues, concepts and principles related to a specific, real-life problem. PBL motivates students to become more involved in their studies, to be more independent and to deal with various situations by using skills learned in the PBL training. Students tackle problems that provoke scrutiny and are encouraged to retrieve information from diverse learning resources and actively participate in the group discussions.



Master's programme in European Public Health (MSc)

Director of Studies: Peter Schröder-Bäck, PhD
Department of International Health

In brief

Increased and improved knowledge of variations in population health and healthcare contributes to overall health, quality of care, economic growth and competitiveness within Europe. The mission of the master's programme in European Public Health (EPH) is to help students obtain the knowledge and skills to compare health and healthcare in various settings, to search for and identify best practices, to foster the transfer of best practices, and to advise on, innovate and implement best practices in new situations. The aim of the programme is to teach students to prepare, support and monitor high-level decision-making processes in health and healthcare in European and individual member states' institutions, as well as in public and private organisations. Our graduates are equipped with the analytical tools, innovative research methods, and change and management instruments needed to operate effectively in policymaking and development at the organisational, regional, Euregional, national and European levels.

The programme is intended for:

- Students who aspire to careers as policy advisers or academic researchers;
- Prospective healthcare professionals aiming at research-oriented, policy-oriented or management positions.

Profile

The diversity of health and healthcare settings in Europe is striking. One method to improve the health of the European population is for national and regional policymakers to learn from their neighbours. Facilitating best practice exchange is



one of the EU's core competences in the area of health. Thus, to counter increasing health challenges and at the same time take advantage of rising opportunities in Europe and the EU, a clear need has arisen for graduates of public health ready for the European job market. The master's programme in EPH is unique in shaping the development of these experts. Accordingly, the curriculum focuses on measuring, comparing and evaluating health and healthcare, and sharing and implementing innovative health practices across borders. It offers students the extended knowledge and solid, master's level scientific skills needed for this endeavour. It also provides them with the tools to think critically while applying the knowledge and practising the skills obtained throughout the programme. Opportunities to engage with policymakers and policy advisers are on offer, as is the chance to carry out research for the master's thesis in an international or European organisation in the health sector.



Preparing students for a European career

"The future of European public health has a strong focus on best practice exchange. Thus, our master's programme takes up this approach and teaches students the methods of best practice exchange and implementation, while also highlighting the pitfalls of comparison and evaluation of health and healthcare. Students learn to critically assess health policymaking in Europe, and the role European and international institutions play in this process. And they gain not just the necessary theoretical background, but also many practical opportunities to consolidate what they have learned. Expert and enthusiastic teaching staff

from different European countries promote active and self-directed learning that leaves room for students' own initiative. They also get the opportunity to conduct research for their master's thesis during a 10-week placement in a European institution. Altogether, the programme lays solid foundations for careers in health throughout Europe."

Peter Schröder-Bäck, PhD
Director of Studies
Department of International Health

Objectives

The focus of the master's programme in EPH is geared towards:

- the situations, determinants, interventions and practices relevant to the health status of populations, of groups within them, and between member states;
- the diversity of practices and ways of organising healthcare and systems for care provision in Europe (i.e. within and between member states);
- the demand by European institutions for modern, scientifically educated professionals with analytical tools and innovative research instruments to help them operate effectively in national, international and supranational policymaking and organisational development in the field of health.

Student profile

The master's programme in European Public Health (EPH) is intended for graduates of health- and/or Europe-oriented university bachelor's programmes. Bachelor's level knowledge of epidemiology, statistics and health systems is essential. This programme is an ideal choice for students with an interest in comparative health research who are keen to work in an interdisciplinary research and practice environment. The curriculum is designed to train students to become highly qualified professionals with well-defined, European public health outlooks. Graduates are able to conduct independent academic research and 'make a difference' by putting forward the suitable arguments for (and data that supports) change from a comparative and evaluative, and often cross-border, point of view.



Curriculum overview

The master's programme in European Public Health (EPH) is a one-year, full-time programme of 60 ECTS. The programme contains seven modules of four weeks each (6 ECTS); the eighth module (3 ECTS) is scheduled parallel to the writing and presentation of the master's thesis (15 ECTS). The eight modules reflect the focus of the master's programme: learning from one's neighbours in the diverse European Region in the search for best practices, benchmarks and European standards, and implementing them.

Curriculum overview

Successive Modules of the MSc in European Public Health

Weeks	Title	Objectives
4	Diversity Recognised and Explored	To explore and understand the present health status and national healthcare provisions of populations in the European Region.
4	Diversity Compared	To compare health and health-care in the European Region.
4	Diversity Embraces Unity	To evaluate and define best practices in prevention and care in the European Region.
4	Europe as a Zone	To understand the position and role of national, transnational and European regulations and agencies in prevention and care in the European Region.
4	Unity Faces Diversity	To learn scenarios for translation and diffusion.
4	From Diversity to Innovation	To acquire knowledge about the implementation of innovative practices in existing settings.
4	Monitoring Innovation	To work on monitoring, controlling and consolidating innovations.
2	The European Union Revisited	To review the EU's role in the quest for better quality, equity, transferability, innovativeness and competitiveness in health.
10	Master's Thesis	To conduct an independent piece of advanced research.

Dealing with European healthcare challenges

Angelique Grosser MSc

Master's thesis: Reducing drink-driving in the European Union: What can European countries learn from each other?

Supervisors: Kai Michelsen and Genc Burazeri

"After my Bachelor of Science in Health Communication at Bielefeld University in Germany, I wanted to gain a more international perspective on public health. I decided that the Master of Science in European Public Health at Maastricht University would be the right choice for me. Within one year I learned a lot about diversity in Europe, as well as European healthcare challenges and how these can be met. I chose the topic of road safety for my master's thesis. Road traffic accidents cause preventable deaths and injuries, and

since 90% of all crashes are avoidable, I think it is of great importance to do something about it. I focused on drink-driving because alcohol is a major risk factor that increases the likelihood of car accidents and can lead to more severe injuries and death. Furthermore, driving under the influence of alcohol also triggers other risky behaviours, such as speeding or not wearing a seat belt. My research contains a data analysis of accidents involving alcohol in EU member states, and an investigation of existing regulations and effective measures to reduce drink-driving in the European Union. I also examined which member states implemented these measures. In my thesis, I offer an overview of drink-driving in the EU and point out challenges concerning effective measures aimed at reducing drink-driving and the accidents related to it."



Special programme features

The staff of the master's in European Public Health (EPH) maintain well-established relationships with EU organisations, NGOs in Brussels, and other national and supranational health organisations. As the programme prepares students for both research and policy careers, we offer them the possibility to carry out their master's thesis research during a 10-week placement outside Maastricht University (e.g. at a partner institution of the Department for International Health, which is home to most teaching staff). The staff comes from various scientific and European backgrounds (Netherlands, Albania, Belgium, Denmark, Germany, Poland, etc.) and was specially selected to facilitate this programme. They have close relations with the European Public Health Association (EUPHA) and the

Association of Schools of Public Health in the European Region (ASPHER), as well as links to other European research and teaching networks. This European master's programme is unique in the sense that no other master's programme in public health focuses on the topics of diversity in Europe and the possibilities for best practice exchange.

Career prospects

The labour market's increasing demand for graduates with a specialisation in European Public Health at master's level is firstly apparent because learning from our neighbours is becoming more and more important in Europe. The search for best practices, benchmarks, European standards, etc. has become a key issue for all European and international activities in science, economics and occasionally also politics. The second reason for the labour market's increased demand is that not only the national and European perspectives are important to this programme; the regional perspective is vital as well. The best example of this is the Rhine-Meuse region around Maastricht itself. Border regions in particular, where citizens of different countries reside alongside one another, often require joint action to cope with existing problems and the ever-expanding challenges of the health sector. When these regions combine typical regional, social and/or health problems with cross-border issues in health and healthcare, additional endorsement arises of the need to further study the health and healthcare situation in these regions and across borders. This emphasises the quest for best practice exchange at a regional level.





Links with research

All teaching staff and module coordinators conduct research on European projects within the School for Public Health and Primary Care (CAPHRI). Many of their research activities are directly related to the topic of best practice exchange. EPH master's students are actively involved in these ongoing research activities. They can directly link their thesis research to ongoing projects, or take up research placements outside Maastricht University, embedded in the work of collaborating partners. This gives students the chance to combine research with experience in another institution.

Examples of the teaching staff's current research include:

- Health literacy in the European Union;
- Cross-border healthcare and use of HTA in cross-border regions;
- Use of structural funds for public health;
- Capacity building in European public health;
- Lifelong learning;
- Ethics of European and international health policy;
- The EU's role in global health;
- Syndromic surveillance;
- Activities in southeastern European countries;
- Public health genomics with a special European perspective;
- Health in all policies.

Prepared to make a difference

"The master's programme in European Public Health is the right choice if you're looking for a programme that prepares you to make a difference. You gain unique academic and professional experience combined with exceptional networking opportunities, all of which lay solid foundations for your future career. The curriculum is challenging and fascinating; it covers many aspects of research, health reporting, policymaking and development in health and healthcare at regional, Euregional, national and European levels. In this way it familiarises you with the information and developments that are currently shaping the European public health arena. Academic and EU experts

are there to guide you, helping you find out the principles behind best practices and how you can make a difference in the European public health landscape. You will see that making proper use of the three concepts of integration, innovation and change is instrumental in shaping the dynamics of the European public health agenda. You will think 'health' and introduce 'innovation'; you will think 'Europe', and know how to introduce 'change'".

Katarzyna Czabanowska, PhD
Staff member
Department of International Health



Practical matters

Tuition fees and scholarships*

Tuition fees

What tuition rate you pay depends on several factors, such as nationality and residence. But also certain government decisions influence the tuition rate you pay.

EU/EEA students (including students from Switzerland and Suriname) who live within the "residence area" (the Netherlands, Belgium, Luxembourg, North Rhine-Westphalia, Lower Saxony and Bremen) pay € 1.672 during the 2010/11 academic year. The ministry of education allows this rate to increase between 2-3% at the end of each calendar year. (The rate for the 2011/12 academic year had not yet been determined when this brochure was printed).

EU/EEA students currently outside the above "residence area" who, before 30 September 2011, relocate to the residence area and properly inform Maastricht University, pay € 1.672 during the 2011/12 academic year (exclusive the 2-3% annual increase). EU/EEA students living outside the residence area on that date pay € 8.500 for a bachelor's study or € 12.000 for a master's study.

Non-EU/EEA students must pay tuition fees of € 8.500 for a bachelor's study or € 12.000 for a master's study for the 2011/12 academic year.

Maastricht University is considering additional fees for various costs during the 2011/12 academic year.

For the exact conditions, extra rates and other current information, please visit www.maastrichtuniversity.nl

Scholarships

There are a number of scholarship programmes available to prospective master's students, depending on their academic background and nationality. Information on scholarships and funding is available at www.maastrichtuniversity.nl/scholarships

Admission and application

Admission

Successful applicants must have one of the following:

1. a bachelor's degree issued by a Dutch or a non-Dutch university in a relevant domain;
2. a bachelor's degree issued by a non-university institute in the Netherlands (equivalent to 4 years of nominal study time; 240 ECTS) or in Belgium (equivalent to 3 years of nominal study time; 180 ECTS) in a relevant domain;
3. a bachelor's degree issued by a University of Applied Sciences in Germany, Austria or Switzerland (equivalent to 3 years of nominal study time; 180 ECTS) in a relevant domain. This programme should be accredited by one of the following accrediting institutes:
Germany: AHPGS, ACQUIN, AQAS, ZevA
Austria: FHÖ
Switzerland: QAQ

In addition, successful candidates who hold a bachelor's degree from a non-university institute or University of Applied Sciences in a relevant domain must satisfy the following three requirements:

- sufficient scores on the 'Methodology and Statistical' examination;
- sufficient scores on an essay;
- sufficient scores on a Letter of Expectation.





Non-EU students must submit a score on the IELTS or TOEFL test (not older than five years at the start of the programme). Applicants are eligible for exemption provided they submit proof of 'sufficiency' in their English-language training, e.g. if English is their native tongue or if English language skills were tested before.

Please consult www.maastrichtuniversity.nl/fhml/masters for more detailed information on admission.

Application

Applications for admission to a programme at Maastricht University should be submitted via www.maastrichtuniversity.nl/mastersadmissions

On receiving your application, your diploma will be assessed to decide whether you are eligible for the programme you have chosen (diploma evaluation). The application deadlines for starting in September 2011 will be:

- 15 April 2011 for students who require a visa or residence permit;
- 1 July 2011 for EU/EEA students.

* No rights may be derived from the fees published in this brochure.

Useful Links

www.maastrichtuniversity.nl
www.maastrichtuniversity.nl/fhml
www.hsrm.nl
www.maastrichtuniversity.nl/ssc
www.maastrichtuniversity.nl/library
www.maastrichtuniversity.nl/languages
www.maastrichthousing.nl
www.maastrichtuniversity.nl/guesthouse
www.kamerburo.net
www.holland.com
www.maastricht360.nl
www.nuffic.nl
www.grantfinder.nl
www.ind.nl
www.caphri.nl

Maastricht University
Faculty of Health, Medicine and Life Sciences
Health Sciences Research Master
Registration, scholarships, finances, living, sports, etc.
Maastricht University Library
Maastricht University Language Centre
Housing in Maastricht
Housing in Maastricht
Housing in Maastricht
The Netherlands
A virtual tour of Maastricht
Practical information on studying in the Netherlands
Information on scholarships
Immigration procedures for academic visitors
The School for Public Health and Primary Care (CAPHRI)

Master's programmes overview 2011

Arts & Culture

- Arts and Heritage: Policy, Management and Education / Cultuur: Beleid, Behoud en Beheer (MA) ³
- Arts and Sciences / Cultuur- en Wetenschapsstudies (MA) ³
- European Studies on Society, Science and Technology (MA) ¹
- Media Culture (MA) ¹
- Research Master in Cultures of Arts, Science and Technology (MSc) ¹

Behavioural & Political Sciences

- Analysing Europe (MA) ¹
- European Public Affairs (MA) ¹
- European Studies, 3 specialisations (MA) ¹
- Psychology, 6 specialisations (MSc) ¹
- Public Policy and Human Development, 1 specialisation in Behavioural & Political Sciences (MSc) ¹
- Research Master in European Studies (MSc) ¹

Business & Economics

(All programmes Triple Crown accredited: AACSB, EQUIS and AMBA)

- Econometrics and Operations Research, 4 specialisations (MSc) ¹
- Financial Economics, 3 specialisations (MSc) ¹
- Fiscale Economie / Fiscal Economics, 2 specialisations (MSc) ²
- Global Supply Chain Management and Change (MSc) ¹
- Infonomics (MSc) ¹
- International Business, 11 full-time en 7 part-time specialisations (one of which is in Dutch) (MSc) ¹
- International Economic Studies, 5 specialisations (MSc) ¹
- Management of Learning (MSc) ¹
- Public Policy and Human Development, 5 specialisations in Business & Economics (MSc) ¹
- Research Master in Business Research, 4 specialisations (MSc) ¹
- Research Master in Economic and Financial Research, 2 specialisations (MSc) ¹

Graduate programmes for professionals

- Executive Master of Finance and Control (EMFC/MSc/RC) ⁴
- International Executive Master of Finance and Control (part-time EMFC/MSc/RC) ¹
- MBA (International Executive Modular, Dutch Executive Modular and Euro) ³

Health & Life Sciences

- Arts-Klinisch Onderzoeker / Physician-Clinical Investigator (MSc, MD) ⁴
- European Public Health (MSc) ¹
- Forensic Psychology (MSc) ¹
- Geneeskunde / Medicine (MSc, MD) ⁴
- Global Health (MSc) ¹
- Health Food Innovation Management (MSc) ¹
- Mental Health (MSc) ²
- Molecular Life Sciences, 5 specialisations (MSc) ¹ *(within transnational University Limburg, tUL)*
- Physical Activity and Health, 3 specialisations (MSc) ¹
- Public Health, 4 specialisations (MSc) ¹
- Research Master in Cardiovascular Biology and Medicine (MSc) ¹
- Research Master in Cognitive and Clinical Neuroscience, 4 specialisations (MSc) ¹
- Research Master in Health Sciences (MSc) ¹
- Research Master in Nutrition and Metabolism: fundamental and clinical aspects (MSc) ¹

Graduate programmes for professionals

- Affective Neuroscience (MSc) ¹
- Health Professions Education (MSc) ¹
- Public Health for Professionals (MSc) ¹

Law

- European Law School (LLM) ¹
- Fiscaal Recht / Tax Law, 3 specialisations (LLM) ³
- Forensics, Criminology and Law (LLM) ³
- Globalisation and Law (LLM) ¹
- Advanced Master in International and European Economic Law (LLM, MSc) ¹
- Advanced Master in Intellectual Property Law and Knowledge Management (LLM, MSc) ¹
- International Laws (LLM) ¹
- Nederlands Recht / Dutch Law, 6 specialisations (LLM) ⁴
- Recht en Arbeid / Law and Labour, 2 specialisations (LLM) ⁴

Sciences

(within transnational University Limburg, tUL)

- Artificial Intelligence (MSc) ¹
- Operations Research (MSc) ¹

New initiatives at UM

- Globalisation and Development (MA) ¹
- Sustainability Science and Policy (MSc) ¹

Language of instruction:

- ¹ Only in English
- ² Part Dutch, part English
- ³ Available in both English and Dutch
- ⁴ Only in Dutch

The programmes under 'New initiatives at UM' are currently in the process of NVAO accreditation. For more information on the programmes and their expected starting dates, please consult www.maastrichtuniversity.nl/newinitiatives



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www.maastrichtuniversity.nl

Based in Europe, focused on the world. Maastricht University is a stimulating environment. Where research and teaching are complementary. Where innovation is our focus. Where talent can flourish. A truly student oriented research university.

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Master's Open Days

Saturday 9 October 2010
 Saturday 26 February 2011

For more information, please visit:
www.maastrichtuniversity.nl/mastersopenday