Introduction
Political theory (PT) is the soul of political science: it is not about determining what the facts are but about determining what they mean and what should be done with them. We need political theory anywhere where power is used both covertly and openly, where policies are made and where choices are questioned and criticised. This Master’s specialisation offers students an unprecedented opportunity to learn to assess political values, aspirations and dreams in terms of their desirability and reasonability. You will also discover how political theoretical work can be introduced fruitfully in other relevant contexts. This will enable you to help civil initiatives and governmental institutions, not to mention the public at large by imagining and designing policies and ambitions that are both viable and defensible.

Why should you choose PT in Nijmegen?
• Our programme is consistently ranked the best Political Science/PT programme in the Netherlands
• The programme has a unique focus on justification and recognition, globalisation and their relationship with power
• Teaching takes place in a stimulating, collegial setting with small groups
• You are encouraged to critically reflect on the staff’s ongoing research in the Nijmegen Political Philosophical Workshop
• We are the conscience of real-world politics and policies and prepare you to interpret and contribute to real-world politics

The programme
This is a one-year Master’s programme (60 ECs) and it is structured as follows:
• Four specialisation courses (24 ECs)
• Two methodology and ethics of research courses (12 ECs)
• Elective course/internship (6 ECs)
• Master’s thesis (18 ECs)
Admission requirements
You are required to have a Bachelor's degree in Political Science from a Dutch university, or an equivalent degree from a university outside the Netherlands (with a sufficient coverage of research methods). You must also have sufficient proficiency in English. For details, please visit www.ru.nl/masters/politicalscience.

Application deadlines
The programme starts on 1 September. The application deadline is 1 April for students from non-EU/EEA countries and 1 May for students from within the EU/EEA. Successful international applicants who apply before these dates will be guaranteed accommodation and support with the visa and residence permit application. If you apply after these dates, we will still consider your application and provide assistance where possible, but accommodation cannot be guaranteed.

How to apply?
Dutch students can apply via: www.studielink.nl. International students can apply via: www.ru.nl/masters/application.

The best Political Science Master's programme
Radboud University offers the best Political Science/Political Theory Master’s programme in the Netherlands. This is the conclusion of the 2015 edition (and the five previous editions) of the Dutch magazine ‘Elsevier’ and the 2016 edition (and the three previous editions) of the Dutch information guide ‘Keuzegids Universiteiten’.

After reading all the information, are you interested and enthusiastic about the specialisation Political Theory at Radboud University?
Then apply now! We hope to see you in Nijmegen, the Netherlands!

More information
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Phone: +31(0)24 361 21 13
Email: politicalscience@ru.nl

Social media
Facebook.com/RadboudNSM
Twitter.com/RadboudNSM
RadboudNSM
ru.nl/nsm/chat
ru.nl/nsm-magazine

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Programme

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Changing perspective
It is not possible to understand others without taking your own stand on an issue. You will only find out what others truly think when you challenge their arguments by expressing your own. It is therefore crucial for political theorists to be able to express their views and be persuasive while remaining open to the views of others. Your views will change during the many debates you have with your fellow students and lecturers. And you, in turn, will change their views for the better. And the willingness to listen will help you become one of tomorrow’s leaders.

Within the Master’s programme you can further specialise by choosing from a variety of elective courses offered at Radboud University or by doing an internship.

Career prospects
Graduates of political theory are academics, not politicians. We believe that to be a good policy advisor, manager or administrator, you need to have good research skills. Research is what is going to make your advice be both valid and practical: both sides of the coin of policies are equally important to the political theorist. Our graduates find employment in a variety of settings: in consulting, national and international diplomacy, within the EU institutions, as policy advisors, managers and leaders in local, regional and national government, as well as in business, media and think-tanks. A sizeable number go on to pursue a PhD degree.

Our alumni are actively involved in preparing you for the future: you can join a recent graduate at his/her work for the day to obtain a better idea of career prospects.

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