Urban and Cultural Geography
A specialisation of the Master’s programme in Human Geography
Nijmegen School of Management

Introduction
In this Master’s specialisation you will study urban life and urban development, as well as the thrill of the ‘urban experience’. We will focus on how the city is represented and how city images and experiences emerge and are contested. We will also study the hybrid nature and the daily struggles in urban life and the political economy of the city. You will become familiar with processes of identification with and social construction of urban culture and urban space. Finally you will elaborate on the role of cultural industries, creative classes, and cultural diversity for city development.

Why should you choose Urban and Cultural Geography in Nijmegen?
• A unique and different view on Urban Development
• Focussed on key and topical urban problems
• A cutting edge scientific perspective
• An inspiring international scope
• Providing a strong feeling for what is currently going on in cities

The programme
This is a one-year Master’s programme (60 ECs) and it is structured as follows:
• Three specialised courses (18 ECs)
• Two elective courses (12 ECs)
• Master’s thesis (24 ECs) and a course in which you prepare your Master’s thesis research (6 EC)
Once you have graduated, you will be awarded a Master of Science degree (MSc) in Human Geography.

Renate van Haaren
Student of the specialisation Urban and Cultural Geography

‘This specialisation encourages me not only to think and debate about different urbanisation processes and their cultural aspects, but it also encourages me to apply these scientific theories in practice as well. An example of this was the fieldtrip to Berlin where I saw a dynamic city with a lot of urban change.’

Prof. Huib Ernste
Chair of the Department of Human Geography and Coordinator of the Human Geography Master’s Programme

‘Curiosity and the ambition to scientifically understand how cities work is in my blood. I believe our scientific knowledge can contribute a lot to solving many urban issues. The greatest satisfaction I experience from my work is if students also get excited about this joint search for understanding and for ways to make a better urban future.’
Admission requirements
The requirements for admission include either a Bachelor's degree in Human Geography, Spatial Planning, Environmental Politics or another relevant Bachelor's degree. For more information please contact the study advisor. You must also have sufficient proficiency in English. For details, please visit www.ru.nl/masters/ucg

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. Dutch students can apply until 1 September.

How to apply?
Your application procedure depends on your previous education. Dutch students can apply via: www.studielink.nl. International students can apply via: www.ru.nl/masters/application.

The best Human Geography Master’s programme
Radboud University offers the best Human Geography Master’s programme in the Netherlands. This is the conclusion of the Dutch magazine ‘Elsevier’ special edition ‘Best Studies’.

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

Career prospects
The Master’s specialisation Urban and Cultural Geography prepares students for a professional career in government, semi-government, and business. It also provides a stepping stone towards a research career in academia or consultancy. You will be able to apply the scientific insights and the practical skills you have acquired to topics including the development and marketing of cities, multiculturalism and integration, innovative and creative urban milieus, urban identities, and cultural industries.

Changing perspective
In contrast to many Urban Geography and Urban Studies programmes, we explicitly focus on the role of urban culture as the motor and driving force for urban development. At the same time, we do not see the City as a coincidental place where social and economic relations and transactions take place. Instead we want to seriously examine the role of the typical urban setting in these relations and transactions, and therefore focus on what makes cities so special. We therefore look at cities from a relational perspective, focussing on the complex relationships, between diverse urban inhabitants, urban actors, their experiences and visions, urban structures, urban policies, physical urban settings, and the dynamics of these complex interrelations. This teaches our students to look at Urban Development from another innovative perspective, with which they can also contribute to urban policy in an original and unique way.

More information
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