This programme focuses on key issues of Public Administration and Organisation Theory. It offers an in-depth investigation of societal problems and critical challenges faced by organisations in the public domain. You will investigate these challenges, analyse how public organisations deal with each challenge, and begin to form theories about what is required to make policies work.

**Challenges of public governance**
A changing climate, porous borders, the knowledge economy, the internet of things, robotica. The world is changing at an unprecedented pace, throwing up tantalizing opportunities as well as wicked problems for the way in which we govern our societies.

Public administrators respond to these challenges in a variety of ways: they initiate reforms to make public management less bureaucratic and more accountable, they activate and enable citizens, they help businesses become more competitive while enhancing social responsibility, and they support civil society initiatives to provide voluntary community services. You will analyse how such initiatives help governments cope with the challenges of modernity.

These modern challenges are no longer the sole responsibility of government institutions. Private, semi-private, and privatised organisations are increasingly involved in what were previously considered public tasks. Public governance does not only take place in national political arenas, but also at the regional level and in various international arenas, in horizontal networks of social partners, and at the headquarters of large companies and social institutions. Your study of the public domain and the critical issues in that domain will therefore focus on public organisations in the broadest sense of the word.

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**Research in Public Administration and Organisational Science**

*Coordinated by Utrecht University - 2 years master*

**Robin Bouwman**
Alumnus

"The Research Master Public Administration and Organisational Science is a great way to strengthen your knowledge and to explore your research interests. The setup of the research master, in which four universities collaborate, provides a good opportunity to get acquainted with national and international experts from different fields within the discipline.

The students are highly motivated and come from various countries and different disciplines like public administration, economy or sociology. This makes the many group discussions lively and interesting, and contribute to academic and critical thinking.

Writing research papers for the courses enables you to practice using different research methods and approaches, while improving your writing skills. The master program has given me an advantage in pursuing an academic career."

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More information

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Social media

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

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Career prospects
This Master's programme prepares you for a range of careers in which theoretically informed analysis and critical assessment of research findings are essential requirements. You may continue on to PhD studies and academic career. But you are also well-positioned for roles at research institutes, think tanks, government agencies and non-profit organizations. Also, a significant number of our graduates go on to careers in consulting firms.

Admission and application
Candidates for this programme should hold either: a Bachelor's Degree in Public Administration from a Dutch university; a Bachelor's Degree in one of the related disciplines; a Bachelor's Degree of University College Utrecht, or: an international Bachelor's Degree or an (inter)national Master's Degree in one of the related disciplines.

Students with a Bachelor's Degree other than in Public Administration should have completed at least a minor in Public Administration and Organisation Science. Plus: at least a basic introduction to research methods, including quantitative and qualitative methods of Public Administration and Policy and Organisation research, and the ability to set up and carry out empirical research. If you think you meet the requirements although you have not completed the minor's programme, please contact the examination board.

For more information please visit our website.

Selection procedure
An Admissions Committee assesses all candidates based on the basis of a portfolio submitted by the candidates. For more information please visit our website.

Study programme
This two year Master's programme starts each September and comprises three pillars. The first pillar contains the core theoretical themes in the fields of Public Administration and Organisation Science, such as public policy, public management, bureaucracy and public service, and human resource management. It provides a solid foundation in the philosophy of science and a wide variety of research methods.

The second pillar consists of a broad range of Philosophy of Science and Research Methods courses. The third pillar consists of the final research project, resulting in the thesis. A policy-oriented research project typically involves a specific organisation or policy problem. The aim of the project is to offer advice on a current issue, and this requires you to conduct research in a real-life setting.

A theory-oriented research project involves the writing of an academic article or the formulation of a detailed PhD proposal.

Programme offered by six universities
This Master's degree is a joint programme offered by six Dutch universities: Radboud University, Utrecht University, Tilburg University, Erasmus University Rotterdam, University of Twente and the Free University of Amsterdam. The participating institutes belong to the best Public Administration and Organisation Science research groups in Europe. Their multidisciplinary, international faculty offer state-of-the-art insights about public sector governance, management and policy.

All courses are taught in English. Most of them are delivered at the School of Governance (USG), located in the heart of Utrecht.

Research in Public Administration and Organizational Science - Year 1

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<tr>
<th>Semester 1</th>
<th>Semester 2</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Core themes and modern classics 1: Public policy and governance (9 EC)</td>
<td>Tutorial (6 EC)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Core themes and modern classics 2: Public organizations and professionals (9 EC)</td>
<td>Methods workshop 1: High control designs (8 EC)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Philosophy of science (6 EC)</td>
<td>Craft of research workshop 1: Contexts, roles and strategies (5 EC)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Designing research in the social sciences (6 EC)</td>
<td>Applied research track (7 EC)</td>
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Research in Public Administration and Organizational Science - Year 2

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<tr>
<th>Semester 1</th>
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<tr>
<td>Core themes and modern classics 3: Transforming public governance (6 EC)</td>
<td>Research and master thesis track (30 EC)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Methods workshop 2: Low control designs (8 EC)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Craft of research workshop 2: From analysis to persuasion (8 EC)</td>
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<td>Optional courses (12 EC)</td>
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*During the duration of the programme there is room for a total of 12 EC in optional courses.

RESEARCH IN PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION AND ORGANISATIONAL SCIENCE

Duration: 2 years (120 EC)
Language of instruction: English
Deadline for application: 1 May 2016 (non-EEA nationality: 1 April 2016)
Degree: Master of Science (MSc)