International Relations

A specialisation of the Master’s programme in Political Science
Nijmegen School of Management

Introduction
What is the nature of war in the 21st Century? Will the competition for natural resources intensify domestic and international conflict? What explains the steady growth and the heightened importance of international organisations and NGOs? Will the growing influence of the BRIC countries change international diplomacy? What are the political roots of global trade and finance? Is humanitarian intervention possible and desirable? In the 21st Century tackling global issues requires a deeper understanding of global politics and the players involved. Our renowned Master’s specialisation in International Relations (IR) challenges you to master different perspectives in order to understand the complexity of global issues and the dilemmas behind political choices.

Why should you choose International Relations in Nijmegen?
• Consistently ranked as the best Political Science/International Relations programme in the Netherlands
• We teach in a stimulating, collegial and interactive setting of small groups
• Analytical and practice-oriented
• International staff who offer a wide range of expertise, are approachable and involve students in their research projects
• Close links with public and private organisations offering internships
• Writing a Master’s thesis on a theme of your choice fitting your curiosity and ambitions

The programme
This is a one-year Master’s programme (60 ECs), structured as follows:
• Four specialisation courses (24 ECs)
• Methodology and ethics of research courses (12 ECs)
• Elective course/internship (6 ECs)
• Master’s thesis (18 ECs)
Once you have graduated, you will be awarded a Master of Science degree (MSc) in Political Science.

Daniel DeRock, MSc
PhD Candidate

‘The main thing I picked up in one of the first courses that really stuck with me was the really simple fact that the study of international relations is an ongoing debate with a lot of different perspectives. Different perspectives can really influence the outcome of research and it’s important to acknowledge this in every step along the way’

Programme

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change perspective

Radboud University
Changing perspective

International Relations at Radboud University teaches you to go beyond the surface of daily news items and to disentangle deeper global structures of power that underlie the causes and outcomes of global conflicts. We challenge you to not only understand and explain ‘the world’, but to view and assess it from the perspective of different stakeholders, while understanding the social structures and institutions enabling or hindering them in pursuing their interests.

Within the programme you can further specialise by choosing from the many elective courses offered by Radboud University or by doing an internship. Moreover, Radboud’s International Relations programme offers two elective courses: *Changes in World Politics: The Rise of the BRIC Countries* and *Gender, Conflict and International Institutions*.

Career prospects

Our alumni have positions as policy makers in international organisations, political parties, national ministries, market authorities, the European Union. Our alumni also work as consultants for profit and non-profit organisations and as researchers for think tanks or universities. They are also employed by banks and other financial institutions and by the media. This is because our graduates have the skills that employers want, namely sound research and analytical skills, excellent writing and oral communication skills, and experience to work both in teams and independently. Our programme links research skills to practical abilities, which emphasises the value of a good, research-based methodological and theoretical training for the job market.

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

**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 sufficient coverage of quantitative and qualitative research methods). You must also have sufficient proficiency in English. For details, please visit www.ru.nl/masters/ir.

In case your educational background does not grant you direct admission to the Master’s programme, then you can enrol in a one-year pre-Master’s programme. For more information, please visit: www.ru.nl/pre-masters/polsci.

**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. We will consider EU/EEA applications until *1 July* and provide assistance where possible, but accommodation cannot be guaranteed.

**How to apply?**

You can start your application by creating a request for enrolment in Studielink via: www.studielink.nl. The remaining steps depend on your previous education. For more information on the application procedure, be sure to visit: www.ru.nl/masters/ir.

**The best Political Science Master’s programme**

Radboud University offers the best Political Science/Comparative Politics Master’s programme in the Netherlands and is officially rated as a Top Programme. This is the conclusion of the 2018 edition of the Dutch information guide ‘Keuzegids Masters’ and the 2017 edition of the Dutch magazine ‘Elsevier’.

After reading all the information, we hope you are interested and enthusiastic about International Relations at Radboud University and that we may welcome you soon!

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