

A PhD at Radboud University

Nijmegen – the Netherlands

We invite you to
change perspective

Radboud University



Research at Radboud University

At Radboud University, we do research and teach programmes covering the full width of the academic spectrum. We do this on a green, modern campus with state-of-the-art facilities. The atmosphere on campus is open and personal, which stimulates colleagues to share their knowledge beyond the boundaries of their own discipline. It encourages all to look further, to see more. Thus, Radboud University contributes to the development of new perspectives. Within science and within society. This makes Radboud University successful and of international importance.

We stimulate our PhD candidates to look beyond their own discipline for we truly believe that a broad scope will lead to new and exciting insights. Radboud University is a close-knit community where academics from different faculties – thanks to being at walking-distance from each other – often work

together in cross-disciplinary teams. Therefore, as a PhD candidate at Radboud University, you will be able to converse with people from other programmes, teachers, professors, and top-notch scientists. These meetings will stimulate you to take a fresh look at things and change your perspective.



Ricarda Braukmann

From: Germany

Master's degree: Cognitive Neuroscience

PhD research field: Developmental Cognitive Neuroscience

Affiliated research institute: Donders Institute and Radboudumc

"The unique research facilities and the research environment at Radboud University made me stay on for a PhD after my Master's degree in Cognitive Neuroscience here. And the fact that PhD candidates are employees rather than students makes the Netherlands unique; it gives people like myself a lot more opportunities than other countries. I get to work as a researcher, but this university also gives me the chance to do courses in teaching, the art of presenting science, research management, writing skills etc. I am part of a graduate school where I learn to develop myself as a researcher, and were I get to meet lots of other international researchers.

The atmosphere is good here, Radboud University has an open environment. I am not just left to my own devices, but work with an integrated group of researchers and have three personal supervisors from different fields to help and guide me.

The international environment and being able to work with people from around the world is great. Everybody speaks good English in the Netherlands, knowing some Dutch is helpful by no means necessary to live and work here. "



A PhD at Radboud University

A PhD candidate in the Netherlands has the status of a professional researcher rather than a student. The majority of PhD candidates are employed by our university, which strengthens their status as a professional researcher. A PhD programme takes at least four years of doing research and writing a dissertation. Candidates sometimes have to follow compulsory courses.

Radboud University welcomes PhD candidates from all over the world. Our research and education benefit from an international interdisciplinary approach; PhD candidates play an important role in this process. All PhD candidates are assigned a supervisor who oversees the academic quality of the research dissertation, as well as the planning and human resources aspects. The University offers a number of university-based programmes to prepare PhD candidates for their future career.

At Radboud University, there are two options for PhD candidates:

1. Working as an internal PhD candidate

As an internal PhD candidate you would be employed by the University. You would first of all need a Master's degree or equivalent, and after that you need to apply for an official vacancy. Most vacancies can be found on Radboud University's website and the Radboudumc website. Other vacancies can be found on the faculty websites or on *Academic Transfer*, a joint career website for all Dutch universities, academic hospitals, and research institutes.

> www.ru.nl/vacancies

> www.academictransfer.com

2. Working as an external PhD candidate

Some PhD candidates at Radboud University bring their own funding, for instance in the form of a fellowship or grant, or are funded by their own external employer. A number of PhD candidates at Radboud University carry out their research and write their thesis in their own time and without an employment contract at the University. These external PhD candidates are supervised by a Radboud University professor.

> www.ru.nl/externalphd

Scholarships for the Netherlands

There are several scholarships available for studying or doing a PhD at Radboud University. For more information, please visit:

> www.ru.nl/phd



Roque Ruiz Carmona

From: Spain

Master's degree in: Astrophysics and Astronomy
PhD research field: Binary Stars and Accretion Disks
Affiliated research institute: Radboud Institute for Mathematics, Astrophysics and Particle Physics (IMAPP)

Radboud University was a pleasant surprise

"When I was in my Master's programme my supervisor in Madrid showed me this PhD position. I applied, did an interview via Skype and chose to go to Nijmegen as I liked the project and the facilities connected to it. At the time I knew very little about Nijmegen or Radboud University, but the vibe during the interview was good, I knew I'd feel at home here. Also, the programme included some teaching, which is something I was looking for.

Excellent support

When I arrived here the faculty had arranged accommodation for me at the Radboud Guesthouse. It has been great working here; the department offers everything we need and want and I am very happy with the facilities and with the worldwide connections the department has to offer. If I have to go and meet someone somewhere else in the world because I need their expertise for my research for example, I have a budget and can go and visit them.

International environment

The supervision from Prof. Paul Groot, my supervisor is very good, and the contact with my other colleagues is excellent, there's a real team spirit. We have over twenty nationalities in our department, and I still think it is unique to share my expertise with people from around the world. My home university only had Spaniards!

Sense of responsibility

There is no gap between the professors, PhD-students and post-docs here. People are open and feel responsible for the work done at the department as a whole.

Nijmegen has lots to offer

Nijmegen has been a pleasant surprise, I'm really glad we came here as Nijmegen offers all kinds of cultural events, restaurants and bars. We're surrounded by beautiful countryside, which is something I really appreciate."





The city of Nijmegen

In Nijmegen you will be based in a true university city: of its 172,000 inhabitants, some 30,000 are students. Students appreciate the city's attractive, green surroundings and its many venues for relaxation and entertainment. The cultural centre LUX is the largest art house cinema in the Netherlands and also offers theatre, music, debate, and multimedia. Nijmegen, the oldest city in the Netherlands, dates from Roman times when its name was Noviomagus (New Market). Situated close to the German border, Nijmegen lies on the banks of the river Waal, a branch of the Rhine. It's a friendly and safe place to live and study and work.



www.ru.nl/phd

Reasons for working at Radboud University

Excellent reputation

For the fourth consecutive year, the Dutch University Information Guide *Keuzegids Universiteiten* recently awarded Radboud University the number 1 spot in the list of traditional universities in the Netherlands. The 2010 Nobel Prize in Physics was awarded to a professor connected to Radboud University for his discovery of graphene. You will be joining a truly excellent institution.

Excellent research facilities

One of the main strengths of research at our University is the way we forge cooperative links across national and disciplinary boundaries. Our top people derive their strength from a continuous exchange of ideas and results with others working in related areas. We have several major research institutes, each offering outstanding potential to students and researchers alike.

Excellent services

Radboud University strives for the highest quality, also with its services. This has even been acknowledged by the European Commission who recently stated that Radboud University has "an impressive range of activities and a high sense of concern for quality." During your stay in Nijmegen you can take part in a variety of activities specifically organised by the University for international students and PhD candidates.

Build a valuable network

By working at Radboud University, you can build a powerful, professional network of valuable contacts. Naturally, you will become part of our alumni network to stay closely connected to your fellow colleagues and professors.

Historically and culturally rich city

Working in Nijmegen means living in the oldest city of the Netherlands, where you can find Roman ruins and modern architecture side by side. But apart from its rich history, Nijmegen offers a lively social culture!

Greenest campus in the Netherlands

The Radboud campus in Nijmegen is considered to be the greenest and most beautiful campus in the Netherlands.

Prime location

You can take advantage of the favourable location of Nijmegen. Major European cities like Amsterdam, Brussels, and Paris are just a train ride away and via the many nearby airports you're well connected to the rest of Europe.