



university of
groningen

faculty of behavioural
and social sciences

research master behavioural
and social sciences

07-11-2024 | 1

Research Master Behavioural and Social Sciences

Prof. Rafaele Huntjens

Director Graduate School Behavioural & Social Sciences

Svea Pause

Student Research Master Behavioural & Social Sciences





Next step after graduation:

Alumni of graduation years 2005-2023

All (n= 322)	%
PhD student	63
Researcher	8
Professional career	19
Trainee/student	4
Unknown	6





Examples of non-PhD positions



- > **Researcher at ...**

a university, SCP (Social and cultural planning agency), TNO (research institute), VNN organisation for addiction care, company aimed at research

- > **Professional career as ...**

data scientist, clinical psychologist (GZ-opleiding of basispsycholoog), assistant trader at insurance company, consultant, lecturer at Hogeschool

- > **Trainee position at ...**

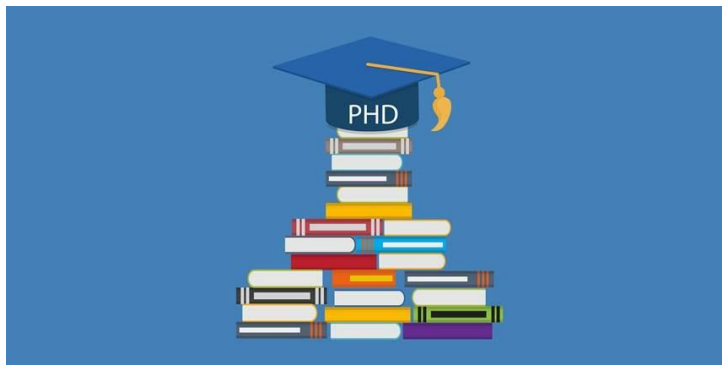
Gasunie, ministry of education



Location/ type of PhD positions

PhD positions (n=203)	N	% (of total alumni)
RuG – BSS	116	57 (36)
RuG – other faculty than BSS	19	9 (6)
Dutch institution – non-RuG	25	13 (8)
International	43	21 (13)

Year	Program
1	Bachelor
2	
3	
4	Research Master
5	
6	PhD
7	
8	
9	





Research Master Behavioural and Social Sciences

Researcher in Behavioural and Social Sciences

Academic research setting

In a national or international university:
assistant / associate / full professor

Applied research setting

- Clinical: science practitioner (e.g., at mental health institution or university)
- Government: policy researcher
- Independent research organisation: e.g., TNO, CITO
- Industry: consultant, test or journal publisher



Mini bio's of Alumni

Namkje Koudenburg



- 2011: Graduated in Research Master BSS, specialised in Social Psychology
- 2014: PhD – on the emergence and regulation of solidarity through social interaction
- 2014 - : Faculty BSS, Social Psychology, now as associate professor
- 2017: VENI innovation grant from NWO
- 2020: Early Career Award from KNAW



Mini bio's of Alumni

Marijn van Aalst

- 2019: Graduated in Research Master BSS, specialized in Sociology
- Sept 2019: Data analyst/ specialist at ABN AMRO





Research Master Behavioural and Social Sciences

Characteristics:

- Two-year, English taught program
- Firm research oriented, methodological and statistical basis
- High degree of specialization possible
- Training in multidisciplinary perspectives

Preparing students to function as specialists in a multidisciplinary context



Research Master Behavioural and Social Sciences

Based on your interests you choose one **multidisciplinary theme** (at entrance), and optionally a ***specialization*** (during the programme)

1. Mental health: Perspectives from Neuro- and Clinical Psychology

What are the mechanisms involved in psychopathological and brain disorders?

2. Individual Development in social context

How do individuals develop across their lifespan?

3. Understanding Societal Change

How do individuals and groups adapt to the changing world?

See videos of each theme on our website!

<http://www.rug.nl/masters/behavioural-and-social-sciences-research/>



Research Master Behavioural and Social Sciences

Based on your interests you choose one **multidisciplinary theme** (at entrance), and optionally one **specialization** (during the programme)

1. Mental health: Perspectives from Neuro- and Clinical Psychology

Specializations: Clinical Neuropsychology | Clinical Psychology | Psychometrics and Statistics

2. Individual Development in social context

Specializations: Developmental Psychology | Pedagogical and Educational Sciences | Orthopedagogy | Psychometrics and Statistics | Sociology

3. Understanding Societal Change

Specializations: Environmental Psychology | Organizational Psychology | Psychometrics and Statistics | Social psychology | Sociology

* Option to qualify for a postdoctoral clinical training program (e.g., 'GZ-opleiding')



Research Master BSS - Modules			EC
How to Theorize			2.5
Reflecting on science and integrity			7.5
Preparing your master's thesis: writing your proposal			5
Multidisciplinary research in action			5
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Advanced statistics			7.5
Applied statistics			10
Methods course (select one, Multilevel analysis, Statistical modelling of single cases, Qualitative Research methods, Structural Equation Modelling, Statistical Analysis of Social Networks)			5
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Seminars			2.5
Theme specific			
Mental health: Perspectives from Neuro- and Clinical Psychology	Individual Development in Social context	Understanding Societal Change	
MH: A multidimensional perspective	Lifespan development	Theorizing change	15
MH: Advanced Research Methods	Modelling persons and variables over time	From problem analysis to intervention design	
Clinical interventions and e-health for adults and youth OR Neuropsychological assessment	Socialization		
Specialisation			
Elective modules			20 (10)
Traineeship (or: Clinical traineeship)			10 (20)
Master's thesis			30



Elective modules, ordered per Specialization – most modules are open to ALL ReMa students

Clinical neuropsychology

- Research in Clinical neuropsychology
- Literature study

Clinical psychology

- Experimental psychopathology
- Evidence-based interventions

Developmental psychology

- Complexity, dynamics and development
- Development, learning and instruction
- Research in Clinical neuropsychology

Environmental Psychology

- Environmental psychology
- Literature Study

Organizational psychology

- Researching power and leadership
- Understanding working life: Major Theories and Research Trends in Organizational Psychology

Orthopedagogy

- Contextualized Assessments & Interventions
- Development Learning & Instruction

Pedagogical and Educational Sciences

- Development, learning and instruction
- Literature study

Psychometrics & statistics

- Multilevel analysis
- Statistical analysis of social networks
- Statistical modelling of single cases
- Structural equation modelling

Social psychology

- Culture and Diversity
- Cooperation and Communication

Sociology

- Economics and society: Critical transitions in Advanced Industrialised Societies
- Solidarity and social contexts

All

- Literature study

Courses not related to a specialization:

- Qualitative Research Methods
- Writing in English



Traineeship

Research (10 ECTS): learn and practise conduct of scientific research

- Internally at BSS
- Externally, at another university or research institute

Or

Clinical (20 ECTS): diagnostic and treatment skills

- in a mental health setting
- only for students specialising in clinical psychology, clinical neuropsychology or orthopedagogy
- you need to apply at a mental health institution – they decide whether to accept you
- requirement to qualify for postdoctoral clinical training program

Please note: clinical traineeship for non-Dutch speaking students are difficult to find/ organize.





Master's thesis

Complete research project

- From selecting your research topic to reporting your results, and all steps in between



Examples of external projects:

- *Austin, U.S.A.*, about wellbeing of lesbian, gay, and bisexual (LGB) individuals
- *Centre of Social and Cultural Psychology in Leuven*, about cultural differences in emotion practices
- *Vodafone Headquarters Düsseldorf, Germany*, involving data analysis of an employee survey about leadership and job satisfaction
- *RIEC Noord-Nederland, The Netherlands*, about subsidy fraud



Teaching staff

All affiliated with the Faculty of BSS, RUG

- Renowned researchers, inspiring teachers

List at:

<https://www.rug.nl/research/gradschool-behavioural-and-social-sciences/research-master/academic-staff->



Mental health: Perspectives from Neuro- and Clinical Psychology

Prof. dr. Marieke Pijnenborg

Discipline: Clinical neuropsychology, psychiatry

Expertise: Psychotic disorders

Education: PhD, GZ-psychologist

Position: Head of research department of psychotic disorders GGZ Drenthe





Individual Development in Social Context

Prof. dr. Anna Lichtwarck-Aschoff



Discipline: Special Needs Education

Expertise: Interdisciplinary approach (complexity, developmental and clinical science);

Projects: Vidi grant (NWO): Tipping Points in Treatment Trajectories. Focus on recognizing and predicting tipping points in clinical change processes.

Investment grant ZonMw to build iamYu app.

Medical inspirator grant for the most inspiring collaboration between clients and scientists.



Understanding Societal Change

Prof. dr. Rafael Wittek



Discipline: Sociology

Expertise: Sociology of organizations, sociology of work,
sociological theory, economic sociology

Project: SCOOP - Sustainable Cooperation:
Roadmaps to a Resilient Society
See www.scoop-program.org



Understanding Societal Change

Prof. dr. Linda Steg

Discipline: Social psychology
Expertise: Environmental psychology,
sustainable energy transition



Known worldwide as one of the most innovative and influential pioneers within the field of environmental psychology.

Large scale projects, aiming to understand how to realise sustainable energy. She made important contributions to the latest IPCC report on climate change.

2020- Stevin premie



Research Master Behavioural and Social Sciences

Facilities for research master students

- High quality training, active participation in research groups
- Individual supervision by internationally renowned researchers
- Mentor





Research Master Behavioural and Social Sciences

Requirements:

1. Qualifications that support the expectation of successful completion of the program (e.g., above average grades).
2. Motivation and interest to pursue a career in research.
3. Application before May 1st, 2024.





Research Master or Master program?

> **Mental health: Perspectives from Neuro- and Clinical Psychology**

Specializations: Clinical Neuropsychology | Clinical Psychology | Psychometrics and Statistics

> **Individual Development in Social context**

Specializations: Developmental Psychology | Orthopedagogy | Pedagogical and Educational Sciences | Psychometrics and Statistics | Sociology

> **Understanding Societal Change**

Specializations: Environmental Psychology | Organizational Psychology | Psychometrics and Statistics | Social psychology | Sociology

- > Clinical Forensic Psychology and Victimology
- > Clinical Neuropsychology/Klinische Neuropsychologie
- > Klinische Psychologie

- > Learning in interaction
- > Onderwijsinnovatie
- > Ethics of Education: philosophy, history and law
- > Youth 0-21, Society and Policy
- > Sociologie

- > Applied Social Psychology
- > Environmental Psychology
- > Sociologie
- > Work, Organizational, and Personnel Psychology
- > Talent Development and Creativity



Research Master or Master program?

- > Two-year program
- > A research perspective on theoretical and practical issues
- > Firm training in advanced methodology, statistics and science theory
- > Multidisciplinary perspectives
- > Specialization
- > One-year program
- > A research perspective on practical issues
- > Some training in methodology and statistics
- > Focus on Specialization



Research Master Behavioural and Social Sciences

Interested?

- **February 2025:** “Get to know the ReMa event” (mini-lecture, meet current ReMa students and drinks → sign-up: rema.bss@rug.nl)
- Check our website:
<http://www.rug.nl/masters/behavioural-and-social-sciences-research/>
including a blog of recent graduates
- For specific questions: contact the Graduate School BSS via rema.bss@rug.nl
- Or ask your questions after the presentation





university of
groningen

22-11-2023

A Student Perspective on the Research Master Behavioural and Social Sciences

Svea Pause

<http://www.rug.nl/masters/behavioural-and-social-sciences-research/>



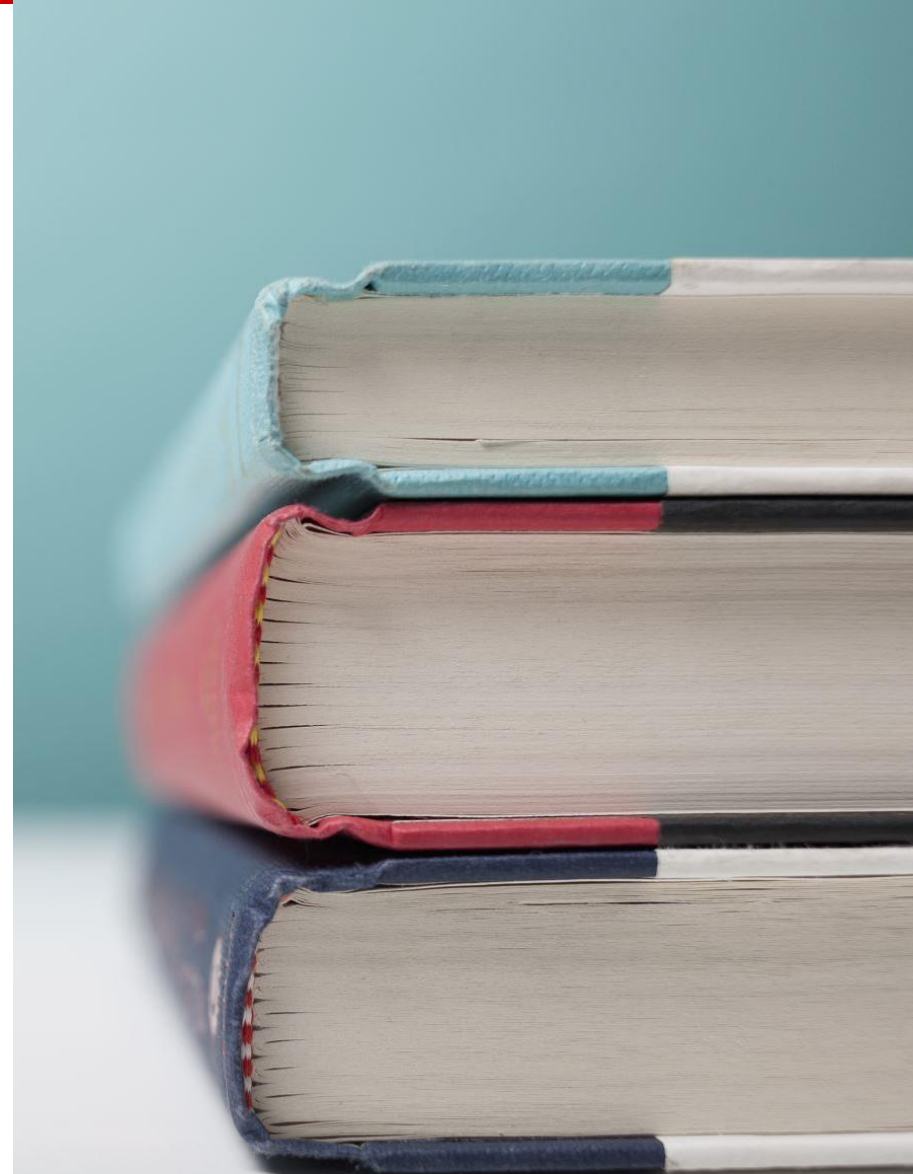
About me:

- Second-year ReMa student
- Theme: Understanding Societal Change



Research/ Professional interests

- Social justice in the light of climate change
- Participatory research
- Utilizing research for specific interventions in the field





How did I get here?

- Bachelor in *Psychology and Neuroscience*
 - Followed 1/2 year of Master's program in "*Gender, Culture, and Social Change*"
 - Needed more Psychology input
- ReMa offered an exciting combination of my different study interests





Why did I choose the ReMa?

- Excitement about **combining** different disciplines in Psychology and Sociology
- One of the few European Universities offering **Environmental Psychology** education
- Unsure about research career → Getting a grasp of **practical** work within **research** & good statistical and methodology training
- Got to appreciate Dutch education system
 - education
 - Working **Small-group** closely with staff and lecturers
 - **Internship** opportunity
 - **Assistantship** offer
- **Broad** career **options**





Experiences until now:

Year 1:

- **Intense, but** very **rewarding** and interesting year
 - **Learned** a lot
 - Possibilities to **explore** different fields
 - **Stats** heavy but new scopes
- Research assistantship
- Research internship
- Exited and **passionate peers**
- **Close contact** with teachers
 - Helpful staff
- **Applied** learning



Year 2:

- Built up **confidence** in my field
- so far: MA thesis



Only for doing a PhD?

- No, as long as you are interested in research or at least research curious and you love to learn new things, it is great.
- Other paths:
 - NGOs
 - Policy advisor
 - Companies
 - Clinical fields
- But if you're pursuing a PhD, this program equips you very well with the necessary skills.





Questions?

Contact me!

s.p.pause@student.rug.nl



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Contact: rema.bss@rug.nl

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