

Programme-specific part of the Education and Examination Regulations 2023-2024

Graduate School of Geosciences: Master's degree programme in Spatial Planning

Art. 2.1 - Admission requirements

1. Admission to the *Spatial Planning* programme is granted to students with a Dutch or a foreign diploma confirming that they have acquired the knowledge, insight and skills at the university Bachelor's level. Furthermore, students need to prove that they have gained the following specific knowledge, insight and skills:
 - a) knowledge in the field of Planning, at the advanced level of the major *Human Geography and Planning* at Utrecht University, or equivalent to this level
 - b) insight into Planning at the advanced level of the major *Human Geography and Planning* at Utrecht University, or equivalent to this level
 - c) academic and research skills at the advanced level of the major *Human Geography and Planning* at Utrecht University, or equivalent to this level
 - d) good command of the language or languages used in the programme
2. Students will be selected based on objective standards regarding:
 - a) their previous academic performance in a relevant subject area
 - b) relevant skills
 - c) their command of the language or languages used in the programme.
 - d) the following additional selection criteria with proven relevance for the opinion on the suitability of the candidate:
 - motivation
 - average grade

This information is used to consider whether the student concerned will be able to complete the Master's Programme successfully within the set time period. The admission requirements have been formulated clearly and transparently so that candidates know in advance which requirements must be met in order to qualify for selection.

Art. 3.1 – Aim of the degree programme

The programme has four central aims. Students are challenged to develop:

1. in-depth theoretical insights into spatial planning;
2. appropriate research skills to investigate spatial issues;
3. a critical attitude to reflect upon spatial developments within their political and societal context;
4. substantive and process-oriented knowledge and skills to handle complex spatial issues and challenges in an appropriate way.

The intended learning outcomes of the programme:

1. Students can analyze spatial problems with scientific methods
2. Students can use existing knowledge and theories to find solutions
3. Students can critically reflect on sustainable spatial development
4. Students understand the governance and management of cities.
5. Students can independently apply their academic knowledge and skills

The intended learning outcomes of the programme are specified in the prospectus.

Art. 3.6 - Components of the Master's programme

1. Appendix 1 describes the required courses of the programme, including the course load.
2. Students may select an elective course of 5 EC from other UU programmes or from other universities, but these need to be approved by the Board of Examiners (see EER Art. 3.7). The elective components within the programme are listed in Appendix 2.
3. The prospectus gives a detailed description of the content and the form of instruction of the components of the programme, including prior knowledge that is required to participate successfully.

Art. 4.2 - Course admission requirements

The Executive Board decides the order in which the required components of a Master's degree programme must be completed. This will be published in the prospectus.

Art. 4.7 - Evaluation of the quality of education

1. The Director of Education monitors the quality of education, and ensures that both the courses and the curriculum are evaluated. The Director takes into consideration the advice and suggestions given by the Education Committee regarding improving and ensuring the quality of the programme.
2. Students who have participated in the course will be informed of the results of the course evaluation.

Appendices

Appendix 1: Structure of the programme

Starting from September 2017		Starting date before September 2017	
Required/theoretical	20 EC	Required/theoretical	22.5 EC
Methods of research	5 EC	Methods of research	7.5 EC
Elective course	5 EC	MSc research/thesis	30 EC
MSc research/thesis	30 EC		

Compulsory components (55 EC)

GEO4-3115	Beyond Planning Theory	7.5 EC
GEO4-3117	Planning for Sustainable Cities	7.5 EC
GEO4-3119	Urban Governance in Spatial Planning	5 EC
GEO4-3120	Advanced Research Methods for Spatial Planning	5 EC
GEO4-3111	Master's Thesis/Internship Spatial Planning	30 EC

Appendix 2: Elective courses (5 EC)

GEO4-3917	Real Estate	5 EC
GEO4-3519	Migration, Mobilities & Sustainable Futures	5 EC
GEO4-5501	Techniques of Futuring	5 EC
GEO4-3121	Urban Infrastructures	5 EC
GEO4-3316	Neighbourhoods and Crime	5 EC
GEO4-3924	Cultures of Sustainability in Global Perspective	5 EC