

Course Catalogue
Master's programme
Human Geography
2017-2018



Universiteit Utrecht

Faculty of Geosciences

Addresses and post boxes

Addresses

The **visiting address** of the faculty is:

Faculty of Geosciences
Heidelberglaan 2,
3584 CS Utrecht
Tel. 00 31 (0)30 – 253 2044, Internet: www.uu.nl/geo

Note: in November 2017 the faculty will move to another building:

Princetonlaan 8a
3584 CB Utrecht

The **postal address** of the faculty is:

Faculty of Geosciences
POBox 80.115
3508 TC Utrecht
The Netherlands

The desk of **Student Affairs**:

Victor J. Koningsbergergebouw, first floor
info: <https://students.uu.nl/en/contact>
Tel. 00 31 (0)30 – 253 9559
E-mail: studentaffairs.geo@uu.nl

Secretariat Human Geography and Spatial Planning

Room 601, 6de verdieping W.C. van Unnikgebouw
Tel. 00 31 (0)30 – 253 1399
Fax. 00 31 (0)30 – 253 2037

The **V.U.G.S. - student association** of human geographers and planners Utrecht

New address: Buys Ballotgebouw, rooms 266 & 267
Princetonplein 5
3584CC Utrecht
Tel. 00 31 (0)30 – 253 2789
E-mail: Vugs@uu.nl, Internet: <http://vugs.uu.nl>

European Geography Association (EGEA), for students and young geographers

New address: Buys Ballotgebouw
Princetonplein 5
3584CC Utrecht
Tel. 00 31 (0)30 – 253 9708
E-mail: Egea@uu.nl, Internet: <http://www.egea.eu/entity/utrecht>

Pigeon holes

The pigeon holes of the staff and personal of the department Human Geography and Spatial Planning

are on the 6th floor near room 635 of the Willem C. van Unnik building.
The post boxes of V.U.G.S., EGEA are on the 7th floor.

Letters to the Examination Committee: use the mail box near the desk of Student Affairs (Victor J. Koningsbergergebouw, first floor) or mail to: examencommissie.geo@uu.nl

Preface

For most students the Master's is the final stage of a long educational career. It will be also the shortest one, lasting only one or two years. It is the last step on your way to a professional career. This consideration dictates the character of the Master's program. The program starts with a consolidation and update of the students' knowledge already acquired from earlier specializations, but most time is dedicated to the application of academic research in the professional field, sometimes in combination with an internship.

The Master's programs of the Department of Human Geography and Planning are coordinated by the Academic School Human Geography and Planning. An Admissions Committee decides on the admission of students with a Utrecht Human Geography and Planning Bachelor's degree. This committee also decides the admission for students with other educational qualifications, usually after they have completed a pre-Master's program.

The Master's program in Urban and Economic Geography (Research Master) is a two-year program offered by the Graduate School of the faculty and admission is based on selection.

In this guide you will find specific information about your Master's program. Information about services, the faculty, the education and examination regulation and the schedule of all the courses in the different Master's programs can be found in the latter part of the guide.

I hope you will experience an inspiring and successful master year!

Dr. G. Nijenhuis
Chair Academic School Human Geography and Planning

Course registration and rules

The academic year is divided into four periods. During the first two periods students take three courses parallel. Courses vary from 2,5 till 7.5 credits. The courses (having different time slots) are scheduled in such way that students are able to follow them parallel. After you have registered for your Master's programme, you still have to register for each course module you want to attend. You do this in Osiris. Failure to register on time for a course means that you are not entitled to take part. In the course calendar (see appendix), you will find an overview of all courses offered by the SGPL Master's program and accompanying time-slots.

[Time slots](#)

Each course is placed in a time slot. Lectures and seminars are scheduled within that slot. The time slots are:

A: Monday morning, Wednesday morning

B: Tuesday morning, Thursday afternoon

C: Monday afternoon, Thursday morning

D: Wednesday afternoon, Friday whole day

On Tuesday afternoon there are no scheduled lectures, but it can be used for individual discussions (with a teacher). The time slots make it possible to combine courses and to plan your program.

Academic periods

Lectures and tutorials are given in two semesters. Each semester comprises two periods, each of which covers nine or ten weeks. The following is the schedule planned for the academic year 2017-2018

Period	Dates	Remarks
1	4 September 2017 - 3 November 2017	
2	13 November 2017 - 26 January 2018	week 52 & week 1 vacation
3	5 February 2018 - 6 april 2018	
4	23 April 2018 - 29 June 2018	

[Registration for the Master's program courses](#)

1. Students are required to register for every course (not needed for the first period: students are automatically enrolled for the courses in this period).
2. Timely registration will ensure placement compulsory courses.
3. Registration for an elective course does not guarantee placement. In case of over-registration, participants are selected at random or based on suitability. Depending on the nature of the course, either of these methods will be used to determine placement.
4. Students are expected to participate in the courses as laid out in the course requirements. The first session is always mandatory.
5. A student who registers for a course but later decides to drop it is required to unsubscribe. This is allowed up to two weeks after a course commences, but preferably earlier considering other students who want to take in the course. If deregistration is not done timely, the student will be given an fail for that particular course.
6. A one-time registration is required for thesis and/or internship. This may be done throughout the year.
7. Students should register for courses via OSIRIS Student during the stipulated registration period.

Post-registration is only possible for courses where places are still available. This also holds for compulsory courses.

For period	Registration dates	post-registration
1	29 May t/m 25 June 2017	21 and 22 August 2017
2	18 September t/m 1 October 2017	23 and 24 October 2017
3	30 October t/m 26 November 2017	22 and 23 January 2018
4	29 January t/m 25 February 2018	3 and 4 April 2018

8. Lecturers have no say over matters of registration or de-registration.
9. Students can register a maximum of two courses per term (master courses thesis and internship excluded). If you want to participate in a third course you have to ask permission at the Education Director. Ask this permission before the registration period of that course. He considers particular personal circumstances and your results so far.

Didactic aspects and mutual expectations

The following principles are applied:

- activating education
- student's obligation to participate actively
- multiple assessment in almost every course

These points are further elaborated below.

Activating education

This particular approach depends to a large extent on a student's ability to activate his/her learning process by carrying out individual and group assignments and exercises, participation in debates or simulations, and the application of methodology taught. Activating education is also sought through active support from lecturers, instructions, manuals and feedback about students' performance. As far as possible, work is carried out in small groups.

Students' obligation to participate actively

The Department strives to offer an inspiring and highly conducive study environment for the students. The Department, in cooperation with its students, is committed to realize the maximum acquisition of knowledge. All lecturers and support staff share a similar philosophy that if students are fully committed to their studies, individual courses can be successfully completed. The Department applies the following rules to ensure that students observe their obligations:

- the course manual spells out the various activities for which students are obliged to attend.
- students must attend compulsory sessions; attendance is registered.
- Handing in an assignment after the due date can result in a lower grade.
- Absence during assessments is a serious matter. There is no automatic right to do a re-sit or repeat exam. It is up to the lecturer to decide whether circumstances justify a second chance.
- Cheating and plagiarism are not tolerated. These include submitting work that has been done by someone else, copying from sources without due acknowledgement and so on. A lecturer must report instances of cheating and plagiarism to the Examination Committee which can impose severe penalties.

Unsuccessful/successful result and effort

The formal rules for successful completion of courses are found in the Education and Examination Regulations (O.E.R.). An average of less than 4.00 before rounding results in failure to complete the course without possibilities to repair the result. The entire course must be followed again. If the result

is between 4.00 and 5.49 before rounding and the student has made every effort to successfully complete the course, he/she will be given one opportunity to take an additional or substitute test at the end of the next period or in academic holidays (Christmas, Summer). In case of a successful outcome the result of the course will be a 6, regardless of the grade obtained for the substitute test.

'Every effort to successfully complete the course' means no absence of compulsory lectures and activities, assignments must have been handed in in time, participation in all the tests, etc. The additional test is not a right; rather, it should be seen as a favour.

*Due to the summer holidays, these results may not be graded within 10 working days.

For period	Re-examination
1	week 48
2	week 8
3	week 20
4	week 28

Lectures

There are some general rules for the lectures:

- A lecture usually comprises two sessions of 45 minutes with a 15-minute break in between.
- Be in time, and if not, be very silent in entering the room, if possible, through the back door.
- Listen carefully, do not make noise, make notes, it could be part of the examination.
- Switch off your phone.
- Eating is not permitted.
- During a test you must be able to show your student card.
- The first lecture of a course is always compulsory.

[Fraud and plagiarism](#)

Fraud and plagiarism will be strongly punished. Look at the regulations in the Education and Examination Regulations (O.E.R.). Make your own work; do not use the work of other people in an illegal way (without referencing); do not copy from Internet without mentioning the source; do not use long citations, but analyse in your own words, etc.

Management and educational organization

The management of the University is divided in three levels: the University, the faculties and the departments. Each level involves the participation of the scientific, technical and administrative staff as well as the students. [Look at the website for names and addresses.](#)

Your opinion counts

The department is very interested in the opinion of the students on the programs. Participation of students in the board, [the Education Committee](#) and the student organization is important. Each course will be evaluated. This gives you the possibility to give your opinion in order to improve the quality of the program.

[Complaints](#)

If it is impossible to solve your problems with your lecturers or the student representatives, than there are possibilities to express your formal complaints:

- Individual or as group you can submit your complaints to the Board of Examiners or the educational organization of the Department.

- If you do not agree with a decision of the Board of Examiners you can appeal to the Examination Appeals Board. This must be done within four weeks of the decision of the Board of Examiners. More information can be given by the Student Service Centre in het Bestuurgebouw.

Master programme Human Geography

Programme coordinator: dr. Irina van Aalst

Student Website Human Geography <https://students.uu.nl/en/geo/human-geography>

Content

CITIES AND URBAN REGIONS: OPPORTUNITIES AND CONCERNS

Urban regions are bubbling, dynamic places where people get together and generate new ideas. They are breeding grounds for innovation and economic growth. Many people still move to the city, chasing their dreams: for a challenging career, a pleasant living environment, all the amenities within easy reach. And besides the local residents, large numbers of tourists visit the city seeking an entertaining stay.

The continuous urban growth in an increasingly global economy has both winners and losers. On the one hand, there are start-ups that expand to become large companies. While on the other hand, there are traditional companies that succumb to global competition. How can we explain success and failure?

Urban growth also leads to a great diversity of people and lifestyles, which ensure thriving communities. Yet there are also places where spatial and social inequalities reveal themselves between communities. This results in unpleasant living environments and neighbourhoods in decline. How do you breathe new life into those communities?

In the Human Geography Master's programme you learn how urban and economic issues are interwoven. As a student of the Human Geography Master's, you will study the city and its economic developments from various academic perspectives and thematic angles, with an interdisciplinary approach.

Four tracks are offered:

- Urban Geography: Neighbourhoods & Residential Dynamics
- Urban Geography: Daily Life & Public Spaces
- Economic Geography: Business & Location
- Economic Geography: Regional Development & Policy

JOINT PROGRAMME AND ELECTIVES (see detailed degree structure below)

The program starts with a condensed course Urban Futures, focusing on the interconnectedness between urban and economic geography. Urban future scenarios are explored from a scientific and practical perspective. This course includes a two-days fieldwork in the German Ruhr area. Later on, you will build on this course by doing a longer international excursion.

In the first block, you will take the subjects Advanced Urban Geography or Advanced Economic Geography as the academic and more theoretical basis of your Master's programme. In the second block, you will take three courses of 5 ECTS. Two track courses will be offered for each specialisation. In addition, you will select one elective course that is connected to your specialisation or that combines disciplines. You can also take a course from a different track as an elective. Alternatively, you can choose from the range of courses offered by the Master Programmes Spatial Planning or International Development Studies of our department. If you would like to attend a course from a program not listed above, please contact the programme coordinator.

THESIS, INTERNSHIP AND RESEARCH METHODS

Your choice of graduation subject and the accompanying research internship provide the best way for you to present yourself to future employers. The programme has made arrangements with a number of companies, research agencies and government organisations regarding internships and interesting research projects. If possible, you will conduct research in an agency or company (research internship). You will have plenty of time for this in periods 3 and 4. You will start your research in period 2;

progress will be discussed in a series of seminars continuing into period 3. You can also conduct research abroad.

You will learn to master the accompanying research methods and techniques in period 1 and during your research in periods 3 and 4, by means of specialization modules in Methods and Techniques that tie in with your research. In order to prepare properly for the job market, you will take the Professional Competences course in period 4 of your Master's programme, during which you may choose from subjects such as professional writing skills, governance and policy advice in a multi-actor society, and entrepreneurship.

	Period 1		Period 2			Period 3	Period 4	
Track 1: Urban Geography: Neighbourhoods & Residential Dynamics	Urban Futures 2.5 EC	Advanced Urban Geography 7.5 EC	Advanced Methods & Techniques 5 EC	T1 Residential Mobility & Segregation 5 EC	T2 Diverse cities and Urban Inequality 5 EC	International Field Trip 5 EC (3 or 4 destinations)	M&T Specialization 2.5 EC	Thesis & Research Internship 20 EC
Track 2: Urban Geography: Daily Life & Public Spaces	Urban Futures 2.5 EC	Advanced Urban Geography 7.5 EC		T3 Mobilities, Travel & Networks 5 EC	T4 Public Space & Consumption 5 EC		M&T Specialization 2.5 EC	Thesis & Research Internship 20 EC
Track 3: Economic Geography: Business & Location	Urban Futures 2.5 EC	Advanced Economic Geography 7.5 EC		T5 Spatial Entrepreneurial Strategies 5 EC	T6 Geographies of Multinationals and the City 5 EC		M&T Specialization 2.5 EC	Thesis & Research Internship 20 EC
Track 4: Economic Geography: Regional Development & Policy	Urban Futures 2.5 EC	Advanced Economic Geography 7.5 EC		T7 Regions in European Policy 5 EC	T8 Cities as Complex Systems 5 EC		M&T Specialization 2.5 EC	Thesis & Research Internship 20 EC
				Elective (5 EC): * Real Estate or * Healthy Cities or * Migration, Mobilities & Sustainable Futures or * Techniques of Futuring or * Urban Infrastructures or Urban Heritage * other track course				Professional Competences 2.5 EC (several options)

Supervision thesis & research internship Starting in period 2: individual talks with supervisors: research questions, draft research plan

The seven qualifications of the Master's programme

As a result of the EU Bologna agreement an international group of experts has developed qualitative descriptions of Bachelor and Master education. The so called Dublin-descriptors are adopted by the Dutch-Flemish Accreditation Organisation (NVAO) for the evaluation of higher education programmes. The criteria are adopted for this master programme.

The Master's program Human Geography has four central aims:

1. To assist students in developing an advanced academic attitude, knowledge and skills in their chosen specialization by offering an interactive learning environment inspired by the field of specialization and research activities of lecturers. This entails providing students with:
 - a. a critical attitude towards academic research and debate and an awareness of the role and use of (academic) geographical knowledge in society;
 - b. knowledge and understanding of the research frontiers in the academic disciplines as well as their applications in society;
 - c. research skills (advanced methods and techniques) for carrying out geographical research, and design skills for the adequate communication of geographical information.
2. To teach students to individually formulate, develop, organize, and conduct empirical research, with an emphasis on:
 - a. the identification of relevant research questions concerning current complex geographical issues and socio-spatial challenges in society;
 - b. the selection of relevant academic knowledge, theories, and publications;
 - c. the selection, application, and use of appropriate methodology, methods and techniques;
 - d. the presentation, interpretation, and critical evaluation of the outcomes, and the contemplation of the relevance and implications of those outcomes in a broader academic and societal context.
3. To teach students how to communicate the outcomes of (applied) academic geographical research to stakeholders and translate these outcomes into design projects of geographical information, also for different types of audiences (e.g., in education or for communication with the public).
4. To provide students with opportunities to refine their attitudes, knowledge, and skills:
 - a. by applying their learning in 'real-life' settings (fieldtrips, assignments, guest lectures by alumni);
 - b. through experience in relevant 'work environments' (via internships).

The employment market

The two former Master's programmes in Urban Geography and Economic Geography showed that there is a big job market for graduates. Human geographers can be found in numerous public and private organisations in the field of urban and economic development. Positions held include consultants, advisors or researchers, who work on specific social or economic issues.

The programme has an extensive alumni network, which is also involved in teaching. Through guest lectures and practical assignments, you will learn what graduates do and be able to determine where you would be most at home.

For example, in the short course on Professional Competences (with options) you will learn how to make your research results accessible to a wider audience, how to draw up a policy report, or how to deal with opposing political or other interests in practice.

Structure of the Master Human Geography

The schedule of the programme is as follows. The course schedule in the appendix also shows the time slots in which the courses will take place.

Programme

Period	Courses	
1	Urban Futures Advanced Urban Geography or Advanced Economic Geography Advanced Methods & Technics	2.5 ec 7.5 ec 5 ec
2	<u>Track courses Urban Geography</u> (you have to follow two track courses in this period): T1 Residential Mobility & Segregation T2 Diverse cities and Urban Inequality T3 Mobilities, Travel & Networks T4 Public Space & Consumption <u>Track courses Economic Geography:</u> T5 Spatial Entrepreneurial Strategies T6 Geographies of Multinationals and the City T7 Regions in European Policy T8 Cities as Complex Systems <u>Elective courses</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Real Estate • Healthy Cities • Migration, Mobilities & Sustainable Futures • Techniques of Futuring • Urban Infrastructures • Urban Heritage • other track course (in some cases permission is necessary from programme coordinator – more information during the introductory meetings of the Master) 	5 ec 5 ec 5 ec 5 ec 5 ec 5 ec 5 ec 5 ec 5 ec 5 ec 5 ec 5 ec 5 ec 5 ec
3	International Field Trip M&T Specializations Thesis & Research Intership	5 ec 2,5 ec 20 ec
4	Thesis & Research Intership Professional competences	20 ec 2.5 ec

In the Osiris course list you will find:

Course code	Title	Credits
GEO4-3901	Urban Futures	2.5
GEO4-3903	Advanced Urban Geography	7.5
GEO4-3904	Advanced Economic Geography	7.5
GEO4-3902	Advanced Methods & Technics	5

GEO4-3905	Residential Mobility & Segregation	5
GEO4-3906	Diverse cities and Urban Inequality	5
GEO4-3907	Mobilities, Travel & Networks	5
GEO4-3908	Public Space & Consumption	5
GEO4-3909	Spatial Entrepreneurial Strategies	5
GEO4-3910	Geographies of Multinationals and the City	5
GEO4-3911	Regions in European Policy	5
GEO4-3912	Cities as Complex Systems	5
GEO4-3917	Real Estate	5
GEO4-3918	Healthy Cities	5
GEO4-3519	Migration, Mobilities & Sustainable Futures	5
GEO4-5501	Techniques of Futuring	5
GEO4-3121	Urban Infrastructures	5
GEO4-3919	Urban Heritage	5
GEO4-3913	International Field Trip	5
GEO4-3914	M&T Specializations	2.5
GEO4-3916	Thesis & Research Intership	20
GEO4-3915	Professional competences	2.5

Important addresses for students

[Career officer Faculty of Geosciences](#)

[Staff](#)

[Board of examiners](#)

[Education coordinator / secretary board of examiners](#)

[International Office Faculty of Geosciences](#)

[Master \(programme\) coordinator Human Geography](#)

[Secretariat department Human Geography and Spatial Planning](#)

[Student Affairs Faculty of Geosciences](#)

[Study advisor Human Geography and Spatial Planning](#)

Important information for students/Where are ...? Services

[Attendance and effort requirements](#)

[Books, readers and printing](#)

[Buildings](#)

[Career Services UU](#)

[Change in master programme](#)

[Complaints, objections and appeals](#)

[Course schedule](#)

[Department Human Geography and Spatial Planning](#)

[Education committee](#)

[Electronic learning environment \(Blackboard\)](#)

[Faculty of Geosciences](#)

[Fraud and plagiarism](#)

[Graduation](#)

Handing in assignments

Pigeon holes of staff members available in front of the secretariat of SGPL (next to room 635, sixth floor Van Unnik building) – location in the new staff building (from November 2017) now known yet.

[Honours](#)

[Illness and absence](#)

[Internship](#)

[Internship vacancies](#)

[IT-facilities](#)

[KNAG](#)

[Library](#)

[Map collection](#)

[Nethur](#)

[Osiris Student](#)

[Registration for a course](#)

[Re-registration](#)

[Schedules](#)

[Student Service Centre \(UU for U\)](#)

[Study regulations](#)

[Student Statute](#)

[Teaching and examination regulation \(OER\)](#)

[Timetable \(Academic schedule\)](#)

[Time to explore \(career orientation Human Geography and Spatial Planning\)](#)

Student associations

[EGEA](#)

[Helix](#)

[Storm](#)

[U.A.V.](#)

[V.U.G.S.](#)



Labour Market Day SGPL

Career Perspectives Monday 6 November 2017

What career path to choose as a Human Geographer or Spatial Planner after your graduation? Make sure that you prepare yourself well for the job market during your masters. What are you interested in and how to find that perfect internship, in preparation for the job market?

Discover your motivation, talents and interests: it will help you make your first steps in the job market

Programme:

10.00 - 11.00 h.	Aim of the day, trends in the labour market by the Education Director SGPL Career orientation by Franca Geerdes, Career Officer
11.15 -13.15 h.	Workshops around the theme of self-analysis and exploring the labour market: ' Transferable skills', Self-analysis for Career Development , Finding an internship'
13.15 – 14.00 h.	Lunch
14.00 – 16.00 h.	Workshops around the theme ' Presenting yourself on the job market': 'The Art of Applying for a Job' 'Exploring the Job Market & Networking'
16.00 – 17.30 h.	networking drinks networking means creating opportunities by meeting people and making contacts. Get in touch with Alumni of Human Geography and Spatial Planning

Academic Schedule 2017-2018

Periode 1											
	36	37	38	39	40	41	42	43	44	45	
	4-sep	11-sep	18-sep	25-sep	2-okt	9-okt	16-okt	23-okt	30-okt	6-nov	
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10 No classes	
Periode 2											
46	47	48	49	50	51	52	1	2	3	4	5
13-nov	20-nov	27-nov	4-dec	11-dec	18-dec	25-dec	1-jan	8-jan	15-jan	22-jan	29-jan
1	2	3 R 1	4	5	6	vac.	vac.	7	8	9	No classes
Periode 3											
6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	
5-feb	12-feb	19-feb	28-feb	5-mrt	12-mrt	19-mrt	26-mrt	2-apr	9-apr	16-apr	
1	2	3 Resit 2	4	5	6	7	8	9	No classes	No classes	
Periode 4											
17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28
23-apr	30-apr	7-mei	14-mei	21-mei	28-mei	4-jun	11-jun	18-jun	25-jun	2-jul	9-jul
1	2	Resit 3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	Vac.	Resit 4

Holidays

Christmas	25 en 26 December 2017
New Year's Day	01 January 2018
Good Friday	30 March 2018
Easter Monday	2 April 2018
King's Day	27 April 2018
Liberation Day	05 May 2018
Ascension Day	10 May 2018
Whit (Pentecost) Monday	21 May 2018

Activities

Labour Market Day SGPL 'Career Perspectives': Monday 6 November 2017

Career Day V.U.G.S.: Tuesday 28 November 2017

Symposium V.U.G.S.: Tuesday 8 May 2018

Re-examination

For period	Re-examination
1	week 48
2	week 8
3	week 20
4	week 28, Thursday 13 July and Friday 14 July 2017)*

*Due to the summer holidays, these resits may not be graded within 10 working days.

Course registration dates (Osiris Student)

For period	Registration dates	post-registration
1	29 May t/m 25 June 2017	21 and 22 August 2017
2	18 September t/m 2 October 2017	23 and 24 October 2017
3	30 October t/m 26 November 2017	22 and 23 January 2018
4	29 January t/m 25 February 2018	3 and 4 April 2018

Academic periods

Period	Periodedata	Opmerking
1	4 September 2017 - 3 November 2017	
2	13 November 2017 - 26 January 2018	week 52 & week 1 vacation
3	5 February 2018 - 6 april 2018	
4	23 April 2018 - 29 June 2018	