



Graduate School of Communication

Research Master in Communication Science

Module: Research Internship

Status:

The research internship is an optional module of the Research Master in Communication Science curriculum, and can replace a maximum of 10 EC (until study year 09-10)/12 Ects (from study year 10-11) from the 60 EC of methodological course work in total.

The research internship cannot replace substantive course work, research participation, or the Master thesis project.

Credits:

until study year 2009-2010: 10 Ects (= 7 weeks fulltime)

from study year 2010-2011: 12 Ects (= 8 weeks fulltime)

Aim:

- Gaining experience with the actual conduct of a communication science research project

Contents:

Research internships can take place in either of two types of organizations:

1. Academic research institutions, located at a Dutch or foreign university.
2. Professional research organizations in the Netherlands or abroad.

In either case, the internship must in the main concern participation in the conduct of an empirical research project. Other duties (e.g., organizing meetings, administration, recruiting respondents, teaching) can also be involved, in as far as they directly concern the research, and in as far as they these duties take up a small part of the internship time. If students participate in data collection (e.g., coding, interviewing, overseeing experiments), then this should take up no more than 33% of students' total internship time.

In cases where the internship concerns participation in a university research project:

- The internship must be supervised by a faculty member who has a PhD and a formal appointment with the relevant academic research institute.

- The internship can be conducted at ASCoR, under the condition that the internship is formally separated from the Research Participation-module.

In cases where the internship concerns participation in a communication and/or media research project at a professional research organization:

- The Graduate School director decides on the aptness of the professional research organization for the purpose of an internship for Research Master students.
- The internship must be supervised by a senior member of the research organization.

Registration:

Registration of an internship begins with the draw-up of a research internship plan.

Approximate size: 2 pages A4. The plan contains at least a specification of:

- Name of the Research Master student, name of the academic research institute or professional research organization where the internship will be conducted, and name of the senior person who will supervise the internship.
- In case of an internship at a non-Dutch academic institution: Information regarding the research institute, allowing the Graduate School director to evaluate the institute's suitability for a Research Master internship.
- In case of an internship with a professional research organization: Information regarding the professional research organization, allowing the Graduate School director to judge the organization's suitability for a Research Master internship.
- The starting and end date of the internship.
- How many hours of internship per week on average will be concerned.
- A specification of the different tasks comprising the internship, at a 'reasonable' level of specificity.
- A specification of the expected output (e.g., an internal report, a report commissioned by an external organization, a conference paper)
- Which acknowledgments of the Research Master student's contribution will appear in output following from the project.
- The plan is signed by the Research Master student and a representative of the academic research institute/professional research organization.

The plan is subject to approval by the Graduate School Director or the Research Master coordinator before the start of the internship.

Assessment:

The internship is assessed on the basis of a report (approximate size: 3-4 pages A4), consisting of:

- Name of the Research Master student, name of the academic research institute or professional research organization where the internship was conducted, and name of the senior person who supervises the internship.
- The actual starting and end date of the internship.
- How many hours of internship per week on average have been concerned.

- A specification of the different tasks the Research Master student had during the internship, at a 'reasonable' level of specificity.
- A specification of the output realized (e.g., an internal report, a report commissioned by an external organization, a conference paper)
- Which acknowledgments of the Research Master student's contribution have appeared in output following from the internship.
- Student evaluation: A section in which the Research Master student evaluates the internship: what was learned, which hurdles have been met, and have they been overcome?
- Internship supervisor evaluation: A section in which the Internship Supervisor evaluates the internship: which skills did the student demonstrate and which further learning outcomes apply?
- The internship output (e.g., an internal report, a report commissioned by an external organization, a conference paper) is added as an Appendix to the report
- The report is signed by the Research Master student and Internship Supervisor.

The report is subject to approval by the Graduate School Director or the Research Master coordinator. The EC are allocated after approval.