



Online session, May 7 2019, 13.00

# Information session and Q&A: Research Master's tracks

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- Research Master's: two tracks
- Of what elements is the RM programme composed?
- What are the similarities and differences between the two tracks?
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# Research Master's: the two tracks

As of September 2019

## Academic Track

Research Master's Academic  
Communication Research

## Professional Track

Research Master's  
Professional Communication  
Research





# How is the Research Master's built up?

Overview of curricula as of September 2019

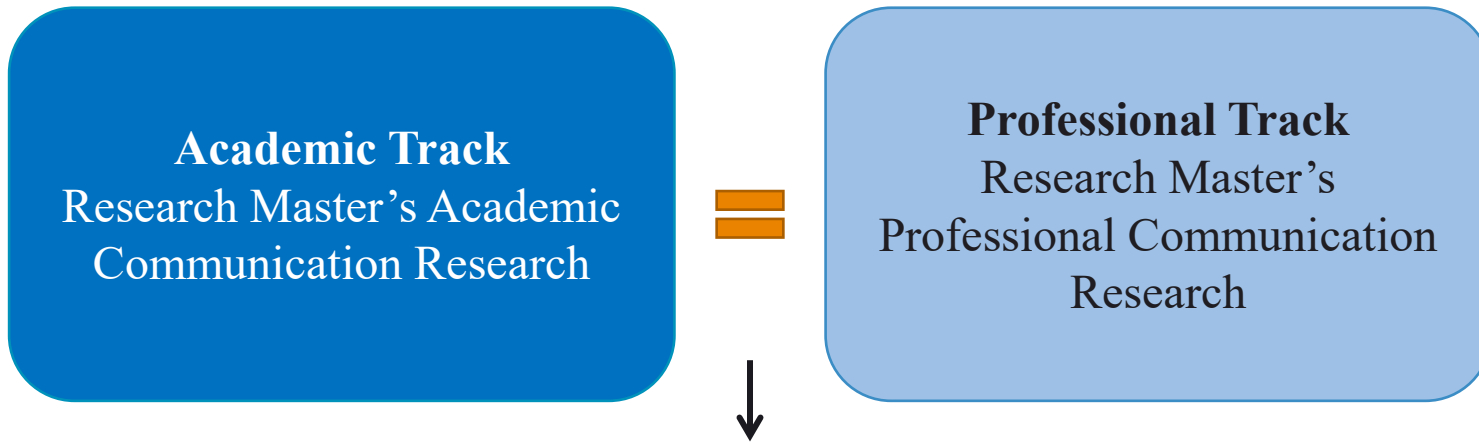
Academic Communication Research	ECTS without internship	ECTS with 12 ECTS internship	Professional Communication Research	ECTS with 12 ECTS internship	ECTS with 18 ECTS internship
<i>Substantive coursework</i>			<i>Substantive coursework</i>		
ABC	6	6	ABC	6	6
Choice	30	30	Choice	30	30
<i>Methodological coursework</i>			<i>Methodological coursework</i>		
Survey Design	6	6	Survey Design	6	6
Experimentation in the Social Sciences	6	6	Experimentation in the Social Sciences	6	6
Content Analysis	6	6	Content Analysis	6	6
Research and Data Ethics	3	3	Research and Data Ethics	3	3
Choice	30	18	Choice	18	12
<i>Research participation</i>			<i>Research participation</i>		
Evaluating Academic Research	6	6	Evaluating Professional Research	6	6
ASCoR Research Participation	6	6	Professional Research Participation	6	6
Academic internship (or Methodological coursework)	0	12	Professional Research Internship	12	18
<i>Dissertation Module</i>			<i>Dissertation Module</i>		
Thesis	18	18	Thesis	(Ctrl) 18	18
Thesis Communication: Item for lay or academic audience	3	3	Thesis Communication: Item for lay or professional audience	3	3
<b>Total</b>	<b>120</b>	<b>120</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>120</b>	<b>120</b>





# What are the *similarities* and *differences* between the tracks?

## Similarities



Both tracks have the same:

*Theoretical coursework Module of 36 EC consisting of:*

- 6 EC mandatory course → Advancing and Building Communication Science Theory
- 30 EC of theoretical choice courses in Communication Science

Both tracks have the same:

*Methodological coursework module of 33 EC consisting of:*

- 21 EC mandatory courses → Content Analyses, Survey Design, Experimentation (each 6 EC), Research & Data Ethics (3 EC)
- Minimum of 12 EC (or 18 EC) methodological choice courses

Both tracks have the same:

**18 EC Thesis**



# What are the *similarities* and *differences* between the tracks?

## Differences

**Academic Track**  
Research Master's  
Academic Communication  
Research

**Professional Track**  
Research Master's  
Professional  
Communication Research



<b>Depending on taking an Academic Research Internship yes or no? The amount of EC in method courses choice section</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Without internship → 30 EC of method courses</li> <li>With 6 EC Internship → 24 EC of method courses</li> <li>With 12 EC internship → 18 EC method courses</li> </ul>
<b>Research Participation Module</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Evaluating Academic Research</li> <li>ASCoR participation</li> <li>With or without Academic Research Internship 6 or 12 EC (choice)</li> </ul>
<b>Thesis Module</b>	Thesis Communication: academic audience (3 EC)

<b>Depending on Professional Research Internship size in ECs? The amount of EC in method courses choice section</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>18 EC Professional Research Internship = 12 EC method courses</li> <li>12 EC Professional Research Internship = 18 EC method courses</li> </ul>
<b>Research Participation Module</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Evaluating Professional Research 6 EC (mandatory)</li> <li>Professional Research Participation 6 EC (mandatory)</li> <li>Professional Research Internship (mandatory) 12 or 18 EC</li> </ul>
<b>Thesis Module</b>	Thesis Communication: professional audience (3 EC)





# Future career perspectives

Researcher in the field of  
Communication Science

Some possible considerations:

- I am sure I want to do a PhD after my Research Master's programme
- I don't know what I want to do after my Research Master's, but I like doing research and methodology
- I like doing research, but I am not sure whether I want to work in Academia
- I am analytical, I like to research things, and especially when I can apply them in society or the business

Both Tracks (Academic and  
Professional) are applicable



# What does a study plan look like?

## Individual study plan Research Master's in Communication Science (Professional Track)

### Personal details:

First name:	
Last name:	
Student number:	
e-mail:	

Professional Research Participation in:	
I want to schedule my mandatory 12 ECTS Professional Research	
I want to schedule my mandatory 18 ECTS Professional Research Internship* in:	

*\*Note! You can only choose either the 12 ECTS or the 18 ECTS Professional Research Internship, but not both. The mandatory amount of ECTS for the PPI is 12 ECTS, 18 ECTS is optional.*

### ECTS Requirement check:

	Selected	Required
<b>(theoretical) coursework</b>	6	36
<b>Methodological coursework</b>	21	33
<b>Research participation</b>	6	30
<b>Dissertation module</b>	21	21

### Course Requirement check:

Content Analysis	▼	Survey Design	▼
Experimentation in the Social Sciences	▼	Evaluating Professional Research	▼
Advancing and Building Communication Science Theory	▼	Research & Data Ethics	▼
Thesis Communication: professional audience	▼		

**Instructions:** Please select courses with the help of the online course catalogue (we recommend 30 ECTS per semester) and check if you fulfil the requirements in the overview on the left. Make sure to select the courses for the right block(s). If the course is not listed, please write your preference in the 'Other/extra' category. Note that some spaces will remain unfilled, but don't forget your Professional Research Participation, Research Internship and Thesis preparation Phase I. Send your complete studyplan to [graduateschoolofcommunication@uva.nl](mailto:graduateschoolofcommunication@uva.nl).

2019-2020, semester 1					
Block 1		Block 2		Block 3	
Communication Science Theory (Block 1)	Theoretical course	6	Experimentation in the Social Sciences (Block 2)	Methodological course	6
				Research & Data Ethics (Block 3)	Methodological course
					3

Other/extra

2019-2020, semester 2					
Block 1		Block 2		Block 3	
Content Analysis (Block 1)	Methodological course	6	Survey Design (Block 2)	Methodological course	6
				Evaluating Professional Research (Block 3)	Research Participation
					6

Other/extra

2020-2021, semester 1					
Block 1		Block 2		Block 3	

Other/extra

**Thesis Preparation Phase I**

2020-2021, semester 2					
Block 1		Block 2		Block 3	
<b>Thesis</b>					
				Thesis Communication: prof. audience (Block 3)	Thesis
					18
					3

Other/extra







# FAQ during Q&A

The following questions are answered during the presentation:

- Will we be supported in finding an internship (professional) ? *(short answer: partially, there will be a database of companies, but you have to contact them yourself, apply and network)*
- Will there be internships fully in English and is it difficult to find it? *(short answer: academic research internships at research institutes are always English, for prof internship we therefore also create this database. But, of course not every (research) company is available in English)*
- How many ECs are recommended to take each semester? *(short answer: 30EC)*
- How many contact hours are there (weekly)? *(short answer: 4 to 8 contact hours (which are workgroups/tutorial groups) per week depending how many courses you have each block. You mostly have two course each block. Of course the remainder of hours are in group work, studying, homework, paper writing/assignments etc)*
- Can we change tracks later on in the programme? *(No, as we have to organize the education logistics, only if you really have a very good reason and under special circumstances)*
- Will we be able to change our study plan after we have handed it in? *(Short answer: we ask you to puzzle it fully for the whole 2 years, because we will base the amount of educational logistics and the amount of teaching hours on the plans, but each semester you have the opportunity to make (small) changes to your plan.*
- Can you do an internship at a professional (/consultancy) company in the academic track? *(short answer: No, you can only do an internship in the academic track at a research institute or a research company)*