



Social Psychology (MScRes)

Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam - Faculteit der Psychologie en Pedagogiek - RM Social Psychology - 2013-2014

The Research Master program in Social Psychology is part of the William James Graduate School. It is a two year program of total 120 ECTS, 60 ECTS a year.

Goals of the Program

The teaching program focuses on providing in-depth knowledge of major fields in social psychology by emphasizing general principles underlying social behavior.

The first year consists of 4 theoretical courses (including one free choice course), one expert workshop, 3 academic skills course, and a Research Project.

The second year consists of 3 theoretical courses (again including one free choice course), one expert workshop, and two research projects, leading to your Ma-thesis.

[Course program 2013-2014 Research Master Social Psychology](#)

[Academic calendar 2013-2014](#)

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Research master Social psychology, year 1

Below the first year courses of the Research Master Social Psychology

Opleidingsdelen:

- [Electives 1st year Research master's in Social Psychology](#)

Vakken:

Naam	Periode	Credits	Code
Advanced Data Analysis	Periode 4	6.0	P_MADV DAT
Advanced Research Methods	Periode 1	6.0	P_MADV RES
Applied Social Psychology	Periode 3	6.0	P_MAPPL SP
Basic Principles 1: Evolutionary Processes in Social Behaviour	Periode 2	6.0	P_MBASIC_1
Expert Workshop I	Periode 5+6	6.0	P_MEXPWRK_1
Motivation and Emotion	Periode 5	6.0	P_MMOTEMO
Research Project I	Ac. Jaar (september)	12.0	P_MRES PRJ_1
Writing and Presenting	Periode 1	6.0	P_MWRITPR

Electives 1st year Research master's in Social Psychology

Vakken:

Naam	Periode	Credits	Code
Advanced Research Training	Ac. Jaar (september)	6.0	P_MADV RT
Free Choice Course I	Ac. Jaar (september)	6.0	P_MFREECC_1

Research master Social psychology, year 2

Below the second year courses of the Research Master Social Psychology

Opleidingsdelen:

- [Electives 2nd year Research master's in Social Psychology](#)

Vakken:

Naam	Periode	Credits	Code
Basic Principles 2: Group Processes	Periode 2	6.0	P_MBASICP_2
Bridging Social Psychology	Periode 1	6.0	P_MBRIDGI

Expert Workshop II	Periode 1	6.0	P_MEXPWRK_2
Research Projects II & III (M-thesis)	Ac. Jaar (september)	36.0	P_MRESPRJ_23

Electives 2nd year Research master's in Social Psychology

Vakken:

Naam	Periode	Credits	Code
Advanced Research Training	Ac. Jaar (september)	6.0	P_MADVRT
Free Choice Course II	Ac. Jaar (september)	6.0	P_MFREECC_2

Other information

Opleidingsdelen:

- [Transition rules](#)
- [Subscription terms](#)

Transition rules

Subscription terms

Advanced Data Analysis

Vakcode	P_MADV DAT (815033)
Periode	Periode 4
Credits	6.0
Voertaal	Engels
Faculteit	Faculteit der Psychologie en Pedagogiek
Coördinator	dr. M. Gallucci
Docent(en)	dr. M. Gallucci
Lesmethode(n)	Hoorcollege
Niveau	400

Doel vak

This course provides a theoretical overview and detailed practical knowledge concerning statistical analyses of social psychological data.

Inhoud vak

After an introduction of the general linear model, with emphasis on estimation of effect sizes and hypothesis testing, the course concentrates on applications of the model, such as analysis of variance, regression analysis, path analysis, and logistic regression. Along with

these techniques, issues such as mediation, moderation, and hypothesis testing are considered. The aim of the course is to enable students to plan, execute, and interpret appropriate statistical analyses for applied and experimental research data. Because the application of advanced statistical techniques is central to the course, students will have several assignments to analyze existing data sets, and interpret the results.

Onderwijsvorm

Lectures and tutorials.

Toetsvorm

Exams and assignments.

Literatuur

- Cohen, J., Cohen, P., West, S.G., & Aiken, L.S. (2003), Applied Multiple regression / correlation; analysis for the behavioural sciences (3rd ed.) Hillsdale, NJ: Erlbaum
- Additional material provided during the course.

Advanced Research Methods

Vakcode	P_MADVRES (815179)
Periode	Periode 1
Credits	6.0
Voertaal	Engels
Faculteit	Faculteit der Psychologie en Pedagogiek
Coördinator	dr. J.M. Tybur
Docent(en)	dr. J.M. Tybur
Lesmethode(n)	Hoorcollege
Niveau	400

Doel vak

This course is designed to prepare research master students to critically assess methods used in social psychology research, and to prepare students to design their own studies.

Inhoud vak

The course will cover fundamental issues in social psychology research, including ethics in collecting and reporting data, assumptions underlying the null hypothesis significance testing framework, statistical power, and methods in assessing reliability and validity of instruments and methods. Each student will also research, write a paper on, and give a presentation on a method used in social psychology research.

Onderwijsvorm

Lectures

Toetsvorm

written interim examination
Assignments

Literatuur

Journal articles will be assigned and available on blackboard.

Overige informatie

For Research Master's students a module on programming experiments within Authorware Professional is included in the course.

Note:

This course will not be lectured anymore in 2012/13 in the Master Psychology, route Social Psychology. A transitional regulation is applied to students of the Master Psychology that have attended this course in 2011/12 or earlier, but not succeeded yet.

Students of the Master Psychology who have attended this course in 2011/12 or earlier, but not succeeded yet, are granted the opportunity to successfully complete the course by making an exam and assignments. Basically the exam is provided in the same period as last year. Take a look at VUnet or www.rooster.vu.nl for the exact time schedule. Students have to enroll for the course and the exam in VUnet. Students also have to contact their teacher to be able to make the assignments. The final result for the course will only be given if the exam as well as the assignments are passed.

Advanced Research Training

Vakcode	P_MADVRT ()
Periode	Ac. Jaar (september)
Credits	6.0
Voertaal	Engels
Faculteit	Faculteit der Psychologie en Pedagogiek
Coördinator	dr. J.W. van Prooijen
Niveau	400

Doel vak

To gain additional experience in designing and conducting a research study, analyzing the data, and writing a report.

Inhoud vak

This is a free choice-course that is designed for students who would like to gain more research experience. Students will participate in the research programme by a staff member. In close collaboration with the staff member, the student will design and conduct a research study, and analyze the data. Typically, the supervisor will be a different staff member than the student's supervisor for Research project I, II, or III, unless explicitly approved of by the coordinator of this course. The project will end with a research report written by the student.

Onderwijsvorm

Individual supervision

Toetsvorm

Research report, to be graded according to the faculty's evaluation forms.

Literatuur

Depends on the topic

Overige informatie

The supervisor will be assigned depending on availability and on the specific project that the student will work on.

Students can take this course only once, so either in year 1 or in year 2, not in both years.

Applied Social Psychology

Vakcode	P_MAPPLSP (815128)
Periode	Periode 3
Credits	6.0
Voertaal	Engels
Faculteit	Faculteit der Psychologie en Pedagogiek
Coördinator	prof. M. van Vugt
Docent(en)	prof. M. van Vugt
Lesmethode(n)	Hoorcollege
Niveau	400

Doel vak

To learn how social psychology is used in applied settings to understand and ameliorate social problems.

Inhoud vak

Social psychology generates a wealth of scientific insights that have important implications for everyday life. Indeed social psychology is increasingly applied in a variety of societal arenas, including health, energy conservation, management, coaching, and relationship counseling. In this course, prominent social psychologists will highlight some of the ways in which social- psychological work is put into practice. We also consider underlying principles of applying social psychology and try to generate new applications of social-psychological research.

Onderwijsvorm

Lectures and work groups.

Toetsvorm

Exam and workgroup presentations. Partial grades are only valid during the study year in which the grade has been achieved.

Literatuur

Selected articles, to be announced via Blackboard.

Overige informatie

Students from the master Psychology, route Social Psychology and from the research master Social Psychology will attend the lectures of this course.

Basic Principles 1: Evolutionary Processes in Social Behaviour

Vakcode	P_MBASIC_1 ()
Periode	Periode 2

Credits	6.0
Voertaal	Engels
Faculteit	Faculteit der Psychologie en Pedagogiek
Coördinator	dr. T.V. Pollet
Docent(en)	dr. T.V. Pollet
Lesmethode(n)	Hoorcollege
Niveau	400

Doel vak

To familiarize students with research in social behavior from an evolutionary perspective.

Inhoud vak

This course familiarizes students with research on social behavior from an evolutionary perspective. Examples of topics that are covered in the course: family relationships, friendships, choice of partner, jealousy. During the lectures these themes will be approached from an evolutionary viewpoint. To get a more in depth discussion and knowledge of the themes students will give a presentation, conduct research and write two research essays.

Onderwijsvorm

classical lectures, presentations by peers.

Toetsvorm

(group) presentations and 2 research essays.

Literatuur

Articles (will be distributed via blackboard).

Basic Principles 2: Group Processes

Vakcode	P_MBASICP_2 (815032)
Periode	Periode 2
Credits	6.0
Voertaal	Engels
Faculteit	Faculteit der Psychologie en Pedagogiek
Coördinator	dr. E.A.C. van Leeuwen
Docent(en)	dr. E.A.C. van Leeuwen
Lesmethode(n)	Werkcollege
Niveau	500

Doel vak

The aim of this course is to invite you to think actively, and critically, about the various topics in the domain of intergroup relations.

Inhoud vak

This course familiarizes students with the various approaches to group processes and intergroup relations. We consider the nature of social categorization processes and how stereotypes and prejudice become manifested as discrimination and intergroup conflict, and how groups become mobilized to perform collective action. Attention will also be

paid to applied domains, such as organizational contexts.

Onderwijsvorm

The first part of this course consists of a series of lectures followed by group discussion. During the second part, students will collect and analyse data for their own research project, as well as present these during oral presentations and in writing.

Toetsvorm

Students are expected to write a research proposal (20%), collect data, present their results (30%) write a final research report (40%) and actively participate in group discussions (10%).

Literatuur

Assorted articles (to be announced).

Bridging Social Psychology

Vakcode	P_MBRIDGI (815041)
Periode	Periode 1
Credits	6.0
Voertaal	Engels
Faculteit	Faculteit der Psychologie en Pedagogiek
Coördinator	prof. dr. P.A.M. van Lange
Docent(en)	prof. dr. P.A.M. van Lange
Lesmethode(n)	Hoorcollege
Niveau	500

Doel vak

The central goal of this course is threefold. First, the course provides a comprehensive overview of the various views regarding the benefits of bridging social psychology. Second, the course addresses various theoretical issues and societal problems that call for a transdisciplinary approaches, thereby also illustrating the drawbacks of mono- disciplinary approaches. Third, the course focuses on theoretical, analytical, and methodological skills, using assignments in which students write concise grant proposals on topics that are inherently transdisciplinary.

Inhoud vak

Social psychology may be regarded as the science of social phenomena, and as such is meaningfully linked to several other fields of psychology and disciplines beyond psychology. Given its breadth and location within the scientific landscape, the potential of social psychology to bridge with other fields and disciplines is increasingly recognized. Such bridging may bring about theoretical benefits (e. g., contributing to an overarching theory), including methodological benefits (e. g., contributing to convergent measurement), and societal benefits (e. g., contributing to knowledge that helps us understand and potentially solve a societal problem). The central goal of this course is threefold. First, the course provides a comprehensive overview of the various views regarding the benefits of bridging social psychology. Second, the course addresses various theoretical issues and societal problems that call for a transdisciplinary approaches, thereby also illustrating the drawbacks of mono- disciplinary approaches. Third, the

course focuses on theoretical, analytical, and methodological skills, using assignments in which students write concise grant proposals on topics that are inherently transdisciplinary.

Onderwijsvorm

group assignment
lecture
literature survey
Lectures and tutorials

Toetsvorm

interim examination
Essays and assignments

Literatuur

- Van Lange, P.A.M. (Ed., 2006). Bridging Social Psychology: The benefits of transdisciplinary approaches. Mahwah, New Jersey: Erlbaum.
- Various articles.

Expert Workshop I

Vakcode	P_MEXPWRK_1 (815039)
Periode	Periode 5+6
Credits	6.0
Voertaal	Engels
Faculteit	Faculteit der Psychologie en Pedagogiek
Coördinator	prof. dr. P.A.M. van Lange
Docent(en)	prof. dr. P.A.M. van Lange, prof. dr. D. Tice
Lesmethode(n)	Hoorcollege, Werkcollege
Niveau	400

Doel vak

The primary objective for Model A is threefold: (a) to get an up-to-date overview of interdependence theory; (b) to link interdependence theory to research examples, and (c) to propose innovative research ideas by applying the logic of interdependence theory to issues of great scientific and/or societal interest.

The primary for Module B is to address the nature and structure of the self, as well as human nature and humans as cultural animals, the self and human sexuality, dualism and the mind- body problem, free will, and choice and the self.

Inhoud vak

This workshop consists of two modules. In each module leading international scientists will teach on a topic in their area of expertise. The topics of both modules are specializations in social psychology and their neighboring disciplines.

Module A: Interdependence and Social Interaction. Much of human thought, affect, and behavior is rooted in social interaction experiences. To understand social interaction (i. e., its determinants and consequences), it is essential to analyze the key features of the situation in which an interaction takes place. Interdependence Theory provides the tools for analyzing different situations and how they may influence psychological processes and interaction patterns.

Module B: The Self. This module will cover a range of topics pertaining

to the study of the self in social psychology. Lectures and readings will discuss the nature and structure of the self, self- knowledge, self- regulation theory, self- esteem, self- defeating behavior, self- handicapping, and procrastination. The course will also cover human nature and humans as cultural animals, the self and human sexuality, dualism and the mind- body problem, free will, and choice and the self. Coverage of many topics will include discussion of research methods for studying the self.

Onderwijsvorm

literature survey
practical
working group
Workshop

Toetsvorm

Essays and assignments

Literatuur

- Module A: Kelley, H., Holmes, J., Kerr, N., Reis, H., Rusbult, C., & Van Lange, P. (2003). An atlas of interpersonal situations. New York: Cambridge;
- Module B: Baumeister, R.F., (2005), The cultural animal: Human nature, meaning and social life, Oxford: Oxford University Press;
- Various articles.

Expert Workshop II

Vakcode	P_MEXPWRK_2 (815042)
Periode	Periode 1
Credits	6.0
Voertaal	Engels
Faculteit	Faculteit der Psychologie en Pedagogiek
Coördinator	dr. J.W. van Prooijen
Docent(en)	prof. K.D. Williams
Lesmethode(n)	Hoorcollege
Niveau	500

Inhoud vak

This workshop consists of two modules. In each module leading international scientists will teach on a topic in their area of expertise. The topics of both modules are specializations in social psychology and their neighbouring disciplines. Module A: Social Acceptance vs Ostracism: This workshop will cover a range of topics pertaining to social psychological theory and research on acceptance and ostracism (also known as social exclusion and rejection). Lectures will summarize 15 years of research on the topic, and students are required to give lectures to the class on alternative lines of research or theories. Additionally, students will form small groups and design a testable hypothesis regarding ostracism, and present their designs and expected results to the class. Module B: Neuroscientific Foundations of Social Behavior: Social cognition refers broadly to the set of basic psychological mechanisms involved in social perception and decision-making. This workshop will provide an overview of the social cognition literature, with an emphasis on how these processes interact with

emotion, goals, and motivation in social contexts. Throughout the course, recent advances in cognitive and affective neuroscience will be integrated into discussions to provide additional insight into social cognitive processes.

Onderwijsvorm

lecture
literature survey
practical
Workshop

Toetsvorm

Presentations (50%) and an assignment (50%). If either the presentations or the assignment are insufficient, the student needs to write an additional paper on a topic to be determined by the teacher.

Literatuur

Module A:

- Williams, K.D., Forgas, J.P., & von Hippel, W. (Eds.) (2005). The social outcast: Ostracism, social exclusion, rejection, and bullying. New York: Psychology Press;
- Williams, K.D. (in press). Ostracism: Effects of being excluded and ignored In M. Zanna (Ed.), Advances in Experimental Social Psychology. New York: Academic Press.
- Williams, K.D. (2007). Ostracism. Annual Review of Psychology, 58, 425-452 Several other readings

Module B:

- Several book chapters and empirical articles.

Free Choice Course I

Vakcode	P_MFREECC_1 (815176)
Periode	Ac. Jaar (september)
Credits	6.0
Voertaal	Engels
Faculteit	Faculteit der Psychologie en Pedagogiek
Coördinator	dr. J.W. van Prooijen
Niveau	400

Inhoud vak

In this course students have the opportunity to select a free choice course. In order to fulfill the requirements of Free Choice Course 1, students have to attend a course outside the department of Social Psychology (VU). Students can select a course from another department at the VU or at another university. Free Choice selections should be made in consultation with the coordinator of the Research Master's in Social Psychology and approved by both the Research Master committee of the department of Social psychology and the department offering the course. A list of already approved courses will be available from the secretariat.

Onderwijsvorm

Dependent on selected course.

Toetsvorm

Dependent on selected course.

Free Choice Course II

Vakcode	P_MFREECC_2 (815182)
Periode	Ac. Jaar (september)
Credits	6.0
Voertaal	Engels
Faculteit	Faculteit der Psychologie en Pedagogiek
Coördinator	dr. J.W. van Prooijen
Niveau	400

Doel vak

To increase students' knowledge or skills in an area of their choice.

Inhoud vak

In this course students have the opportunity to select a free choice course. In order to fulfill the requirements of Free Choice Course II, students have attend a course outside the department of Social Psychology (VU). Students can select a course from another department at the VU or at another university. Free Choice selections should be made in consultation with the coordinator of the Research Master's in Social Psychology and approved by both the Research Master's committee of the department of Social psychology and the department offering the course. A list of already approved courses will be available from the secretariat.

Onderwijsvorm

Dependent on selected course.

Toetsvorm

Dependent on selected course.

Literatuur

Depends on the selected course.

Overige informatie

The teaching staff depends on the specific choice course.

Motivation and Emotion

Vakcode	P_MMOTEMO (815177)
Periode	Periode 5
Credits	6.0
Voertaal	Engels
Faculteit	Faculteit der Psychologie en Pedagogiek
Coördinator	dr. C.E. Ashton-James
Docent(en)	dr. F. Righetti
Lesmethode(n)	Hoorcollege
Niveau	400

Doel vak

This course is designed to help students develop an understanding of the concepts, methods and research findings central to the study motivation and emotions.

Inhoud vak

Everyone knows that motivation and emotions are important, but how exactly do they function in human behavior? This course provides a comprehensive overview of both historical and recent developments in (social) psychological research on motivation and emotions. The course is designed to help students develop an understanding of the concepts, methods and research findings central to the study motivation and emotions. The course consists of different forms of tuition (i. e., lectures, class discussions, and peer-based learning) and requires an active participation and preparation of students. Moreover, during the course students will design and propose an empirical study in the area of motivation or emotion.

Onderwijsvorm

Lectures and discussion.

Toetsvorm

Research proposal; class discussion questions; individual research presentations.

Literatuur

Approximately four empirical journal articles per lecture. Additional independent research and reading will be required in preparation for the research proposal.

Research Project I

Vakcode	P_MRESPRJ_1 (815038)
Periode	Ac. Jaar (september)
Credits	12.0
Voertaal	Engels
Faculteit	Faculteit der Psychologie en Pedagogiek
Coördinator	dr. J.W. van Prooijen
Niveau	400

Doel vak

To gain research experience under the supervision of a staff member.

Inhoud vak

Throughout the first year students will conduct a research project. In this course groups of students, under the guidance of a faculty member, will participate in a research project and write a formal report on the research progress. Students will learn how to design and program an experiment or an applied study. This research project is intended to involve students in research and to allow them to apply their acquired theoretical, methodological and statistical knowledge in developing an original research project. In general, it is expected that the research project consists of a series of two empirical studies to be conducted in small student groups. The form and content of first- year projects may

vary widely depending on the student's particular area of interest.

Onderwijsvorm

active participation, practical, tutorials

Toetsvorm

Research presentation, research paper.

Literatuur

Depends on the subject.

Overige informatie

This course will be lectured by staff members of the department Social and Organisational Psychology.

This course is a requirement for the course Research Projects II & III (M-thesis).

Research Projects II & III (M-thesis)

Vakcode	P_MRESPRJ_23 (815044)
Periode	Ac. Jaar (september)
Credits	36.0
Voertaal	Engels
Faculteit	Faculteit der Psychologie en Pedagogiek
Coördinator	dr. J.W. van Prooijen
Niveau	500

Doel vak

To gain research experience under the supervision of a staff member.

Inhoud vak

The second year will be concluded with two extensive research projects.

Students will conduct two original research projects leading to a written report in the style of a journal article. Also, students are expected to present their projects in the style of a conference paper to the staff and fellow students; or at a formal conference. Ideally, one of these research projects will be conducted during a foreign internship under supervision of a leading expert in the field.

Onderwijsvorm

Practical, self-study, tutorials

Toetsvorm

Research paper

Literatuur

Depends on chosen research subject

Vereiste voorkennis

Research Project I

Overige informatie

This course starts in period 3 and ends in period 6.

This course will be coordinated by dr. J.W. van Prooijen.

Writing and Presenting

Vakcode	P_MWRITPR (815034)
Periode	Periode 1
Credits	6.0
Voertaal	Engels
Faculteit	Faculteit der Psychologie en Pedagogiek
Coördinator	dr. D.P. Balliet
Docent(en)	dr. E.A.C. van Leeuwen, dr. D.P. Balliet
Lesmethode(n)	Hoorcollege
Niveau	400

Inhoud vak

In this course students will be trained in two important academic skills: writing, and presenting. Students will be trained in writing an empirical journal article. The focus will be both on key problem areas in written English and on guidelines which are specific to APA- style (e. g., guidelines on writing style, biased language, presentation of statistics). Second, students will be trained in presenting empirical research for international audiences (e. g., oral presentation). The focus will be on how to structure a presentation, responding to questions, and how to use media facilities.

Onderwijsvorm

Lectures and tutorials

Toetsvorm

Midterm and final paper (50%)
Presentation (50%).

Literatuur

M. Platow (2002). Giving Professional Presentations in the Behavioral Sciends and Related Fields. Psychology Press. ISBN 1-84169-060-0.