

Erasmus School of
Social and
Behavioural Sciences

Masters in Psychology

2025-2026

A photograph of two women standing outdoors in front of a modern building and a fountain. The woman on the left is wearing a dark grey blazer over a red top and black pants. The woman on the right is wearing a teal blazer over a light blue top and black pants. They are both smiling and looking towards the camera. The background features a large, multi-story building with many windows and a fountain with several water jets.

Understanding
children and adults

Erasmus University Rotterdam
Making Minds Matter



Why a Master Psychology

eur.nl/en/essb/study-psychology

We offer you one of the best Psychology master programmes in the Netherlands. The MSc in Psychology is a one-year graduate programme designed to provide you with the analytical skills and conceptual knowledge to be able to work independently in the field of your desired specialisation. The programme deals with recent developments in the research field and uses the most advanced research methods. We offer different specialisations. You can sharpen your knowledge in terms of diagnostics and treatment of children, adolescents and adults. Or would you rather work with issues about motivation at the workplace, learning, performance and the brain? Perhaps you prefer to focus on psychological contributions to both forensic and legal contexts? Or you might be eager to research how digital media or innovative technological developments influence human thought and behaviour. Within our tracks you will, together with our experts, take on the challenge of analysing, studying and solving complex psychological issues.

Whatever specialisation you prefer, a Master in Psychology at the Erasmus University Rotterdam will shape you into an all-round professional who is able to put scientific knowledge into practice.

Career opportunities Psychology

A number of possibilities await you as a psychologist. Depending on your specialty you can become a human resources manager, a trainer, a career counsellor, a youth worker, an educational or policy advisor, or a developmental psychologist, to name just a few. You could also work as a researcher at a university, for a government institution, or set up your own private practice.

Furthermore, graduates could work as specialists in mental health care, supporting general practitioners in intakes and referring people to different specialists. In addition, completion of the master programme will prepare you for a successful career in academia (PhD) or research jobs in the domain of your specialisation.



Specialisations Psychology

Brain and Cognition

This master focuses on basic processes in human thought and their relation to the workings of the brain. How do we perceive the world? How do we remember information? How do we understand language? What is the role of emotions in our thinking? How do we form stereotypes? How does the brain support these processes? Students will acquire fundamental knowledge on these topics and will learn about methods used to study cognitive and brain processes.

Clinical Psychology

Do you want to learn how to recognize and treat adult psychopathology? This master specialization focuses on complex conditions often seen in urban settings, such as addiction, personality disorders, and 'confused behavior.' Given the chronic and comorbid nature of these issues, treatment and recovery are approached from a multidisciplinary, evidence-based framework. Situated in the vibrant city of Rotterdam, this program offers numerous opportunities to enhance your research and clinical skills, including cognitive-behavioral therapy (CBT), sexuality, and couples therapy.

Digitalisation in Work and Society

Rapid advancements in technology, such as artificial intelligence, robotics, and algorithms, change the organisation of work. This raises questions on the individual, organisational, and societal level. This multidisciplinary master programme provides you with various perspectives and tools to study digital technologies at work (building on insights from Psychology, Sociology, and Public Administration). The programme offers you both a theoretical and real world understanding of the changing world of work, for example by going on fieldtrips to organisations and formulating policy advice.

Educational Psychology: Learning and Performance

This unique master programme prepares you to deal with contemporary and future challenges in digital and conventional learning and working environments. As a graduate of this master you can use multidisciplinary knowledge and skills creatively to maximise people's performance in education and training. Our graduates can look forward to a wide range of career opportunities, as educational technologist, training specialist, multimedia designer, consultant, teacher/trainer, study/policy advisor, and researcher.



Forensic & Legal Psychology

This programme will give you insight into why people misbehave and commit crimes, what the concept of criminal irresponsibility is, and how forensic patients need to be treated. Besides these typical forensic topics, the programme offers insight into legal psychological topics such as deception detection and legal decision making.



Life in the Netherlands and Rotterdam

You might know the Netherlands for its tulips, cheese and wooden shoes, but there's so much more to tell! The Netherlands has around 18 million inhabitants, but it's a small country. Yet, it has one of the most important and most innovative economies worldwide. Many internationals say the Netherlands is a well-organised country with open-minded people. Most of the country's 35,000 kilometres of bicycle paths are in the province of South Holland, where Rotterdam is located.



Health Psychology

This master programme is aimed at forming science-informed practitioners in health psychology and behaviour change. Students will learn how to use psychological insights and evidence-based methods to create impact-driven, innovative intervention solutions to target societal challenges, promote health and wellbeing, and trigger meaningful behavioural change, by also leveraging the power of technology (e.g. e-health interventions).

Psychology of the Digital Media

This master concentrates on the role of the digital media in human thought and behaviour. Using innovative instructional techniques, this programme will provide you with cutting-edge knowledge about the effects of the digital media on information processing, learning, and work performance. You will learn to analyse these effects using novel techniques such as experience sampling, text mining, and online environments. Among the topics that will be addressed are: distraction at work, conspiracy thinking and fake news, and online learning environments.



Why study in the Netherlands?

Dutch education is known for its high quality and standards, and top-ranking positions. Degrees obtained in the Netherlands are internationally recognised. The Netherlands is also one of the top providers of English-taught courses. Our international classroom - a mix of international and Dutch students - is common across the university. In class, the atmosphere is usually informal, and it is pretty easy to speak to our professors directly. The Netherlands is known as easygoing, liberal and tolerant - ideal for students. Studies in the Netherlands are affordable and accessible, for European and non-European students.

Work and Organisational Psychology

This master track focuses on organisational psychology - the functioning of people (individuals, teams) in work contexts. The programme includes new methods in personnel selection, and teaches you how to select the best people. In addition, you learn how individuals perform in teams, and how you can foster work engagement in employees through positive organisational and individual interventions.

Studying in Rotterdam

Rotterdam, also nicknamed "World Port City" or the "Gateway to Europe", is a cosmopolitan city and hosts many multinational organisations. You might get to know your future employer during your studies, for example by doing an internship.

Rotterdam's slogan is 'Make it happen'. Erasmus University is proud to be part of this city where people develop new and creative ideas every day.



Full-time
masters

Start in
September

Duration:
1 year

Integration of
theory and practice

60 EC
per academic year

Degree: Master of
Science (MSc)



Contact

M: master@essb.eur.nl

W: eur.nl/en/essb/contact

Curious about studying at EUR?

Go to eur.nl/essb and check out our (online) activities, such as the Master Open Day or our Webinars!

Or chat with our students via

eur.nl/en/essb/chat-our-students

Why study a Master in Psychology in Rotterdam

- The structure of the programmes allows students to put theory into practice
- Intensive interaction between lecturers and students, small classes and accessible teachers
- The programmes deal with recent developments in the research field and use the most advanced research methods
- High quality education

