

Erasmus School of
Social and
Behavioural Sciences

International Bachelor in Psychology

2026-2027

If you want
to understand
people

Erasmus University Rotterdam
Making Minds Matter



Introducing our study programme

eur.nl/en/bachelor/international-bachelor-psychology

Do you want to understand why humans behave the way they do? Or help organisations solve their problems in a professional way? Are you interested in the ways the brain functions and how education can encourage talent development? If so, this is the programme for you! Through theory and practice, you will learn about a wide range of subjects in psychology, such as perception and cognition, human learning, motivation, performance, addiction and mental health challenges.

By choosing Rotterdam, you choose educational methods that are student-centred, activating and development-oriented. You will be presented with concrete and often complex real-life problems. Various activating and team-based teaching methods will help you analyse those problems and solve psychological issues based on information from scientific textbooks, journal articles, and digital media. Class discussions will strengthen your bond with fellow students and help you succeed in your studies. During practical sessions, you will also develop skills that will be useful for your career.

Our programme truly is an international one. You get to mingle with students from all corners of the world, and encounter opportunities to interact with Dutch students and culture, in and outside of the classroom.

The first year

Throughout your studies, you will focus on theory and practice simultaneously. The different courses and practicals of the first year will help you discover your interests. You will also work on your indispensable academic skills, such as statistics and academic writing.

The second and third year

The second year offers courses in other psychological domains to get acquainted. You will study theory, train psychological skills, and hone research skills, all while gaining insight into psychology as a science. In your third year, you will take a minor and an elective course or go on an exchange abroad (limited spots available). The last course of the second year and the middle part of the third year depend on your interests in a specialisation. You will conclude your bachelor's programme with a thesis.

Career opportunities

After your bachelor's, you can continue with a master's in your specialisation area. Depending on your specialisation, you have a broad range of career opportunities. You can work as a trainer, selection and assessment advisor, HR consultant, coach or occupational health professional, but also as a researcher at companies and organisations, such as educational consultancies, school inspection services or research agencies. Furthermore, a master's degree in Psychology provides you with a solid basis for a PhD.

Curriculum*

The curriculum is organised in themes, and its courses and practicals are connected along four learning pathways: Academic knowledge, academic skills, vocational skills, and personal and professional skills. These pathways provide the necessary learning and growth opportunities to become an academically educated psychologist. To give you an impression, here is an overview of the first year:

Bachelor year 1	
Period 1 Discovering People and Society	
Courses	Social Psychology: People in Groups Personality Psychology: Differences between People
Practicals	Personal and Professional Skills Psychodiagnostics I (Personality)
Period 2 Measurement is Key	
Courses	Methods and Statistics I Biological Psychology: Brain and Body
Practicals	Psychodiagnostics I (Neuropsychology)
Period 3 (un)Healthy Development	
Courses	Child and Adolescent Development Mental Health Challenges Part 1
Practicals	Psychodiagnostics I (Testing Children) Communication Skills I
Period 4 The Psychological Lens	
Courses	History and Methods of Psychology Cross-cultural Psychology
Practicals	Academic Writing Skills I

*The curriculum may be subject to change. No rights may be derived from this information.

‘In psychology, the most worthwhile thing is **to help and care** for others, and our courses are **the perfect foundation** for that.’

Ioanna Antoniou - Psychology student





Educational approach

While our students do have lectures to attend, our educational approach emphasises student-centred education. It means that students play an active role in their own learning processes through discussions during tutorial group meetings. Students are guided by a tutor during these meetings, creating an atmosphere in which students learn to take charge of the discussion and with it, of their own learning. This method of education stems from the constructivist vision on learning, which states that the best way of learning is to actively construct knowledge, rather than passively consuming it. Our method helps students to develop a critical-thinking attitude and a spirit of open-mindedness, which are crucial for an academically educated psychologist.

Studying abroad*

Studying abroad is a unique opportunity to develop yourself and to get to know other cultures. Moreover, you would have the chance to compare different educational and academic cultures. You can take on this opportunity by going on an exchange outside of the Netherlands. In our programme, there is time and space for an exchange at the beginning of the third year of the bachelor. Studying at one of our exchange partner universities is a wonderful experience that does not need to be complicated, nor expensive, nor a delay of your studies.

*Kindly note that participation is subject to a selection process, as the number of available spots is limited. More information will be shared during your studies.

Erasmus Honours Programme

Besides the regular programmes, two exclusive programmes are offered to talented bachelor students each year. First is the Erasmus Honours Programme, which enables ambitious students to encounter fascinating and current themes from other fields of study in the Grand Challenges programme. Renowned scholars from several disciplines challenge honours students to look beyond the boundaries of their field. Second, ESSB also has its own honours class, which enables 75 ambitious students to gain experience conducting research under the supervision of ESSB faculty members.

Minors

Each year, Erasmus University Rotterdam offers almost 50 minors taught in English. This includes nearly 40 broadening minors and several deepening minors. The Erasmus University Rotterdam also offers a range of joint, multidisciplinary minors together with TU Delft and Leiden University, which allows you to experience what it is like to study at other universities in the Netherlands.

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 17 million inhabitants, but it's a small country. Yet, it has one of the most important and 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.



Why study in the Netherlands?

Dutch education is known for its high quality, 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 easy to speak to your 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.

Studying in Rotterdam

Rotterdam, also nicknamed "World Port City" or the "Gateway to Europe", is a cosmopolitan city and hosts many multi-national organisations. You might get to know your future employer during your studies.

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



Deadline for
application:
January

15

International
and diverse
context

Realistic
cases

8

possible English
master's
specialisations
at EUR

Numerus
Fixus

48

nationalities of
students in 2024

Start in
september

Wide range
of psychology
subjects

Chat with us!

Are you a prospective student and would you like to get in touch with us? Have a chat with one of our current students and/or our staff, via eur.nl/en/essb/bachelor/international-bachelor-psychology/chat-our-students-and-staff



Khanh (Kris)

International Bachelor in Psychology BSc

[Chat with Khanh \(Kris\)](#)

I COME FROM

Ho Chi Minh, Vietnam 🇻🇳

PREVIOUS QUALIFICATION

High School Diploma

ABOUT ME

Hi there, welcome to EUR. As an international student, I understand th...

[See more](#)

Contact

E: bachelor@essb.eur.nl

W: eur.nl/en/bachelor/international-bachelor-psychology
and eur.nl/en/essb/contact

Curious about studying at EUR?

Go to eur.nl/en/essb and check out our (online) activities, such as the Bachelor Open Day or Student for a Day!

