

MA European Public Affairs

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November 17, 2018



Core ambition of the MA EPA

MA EPA graduates are academic professionals who:

- can **understand** and **critically evaluate** the complex system of European governance;
- are capable of understanding and **analyzing contemporary** EU policy problems;
- are capable of **researching** and reporting / **communicating** solutions for such policy problems, and;
- have well developed know-how in order that they can **strategically influence** the EU policy process to address such policy problems.



Key distinctive features of the MA EPA

1. Practice-oriented approach:

- 12-week internship
- Cooperation with EIPA
- Many specific hands-on assignments

2. Interdisciplinary academic perspective

3. International environment

In sum, EPA acts as a springboard to the professional world!



MA EPA Faculty

	Number of staff involved	Examples
Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences	11	Christine Arnold, Paul Stephenson, Andreea Nastase, Petar Petrov
EIPA	8	Sabina Lange, Edward Best, Wolfgang Koeth, Martin Unfried
External guests	13 +	Justin Greenwood, Alan Hardacre, Phedon Nicolaides, Jon Worth

Sept/Oct	Module 1 – Perspectives on Europe (11 ECTS) <i>Which domestic backgrounds and theoretical concepts matter for European integration?</i>	Integrated Skills Track (4 ECTS) <i>Communication cluster</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Presenting • Debating • Negotiating <i>Teamwork and personal effectiveness</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Group dynamics • Project management <i>Research cluster</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Working with EU documents • Working with statistics • Policy analysis <i>Text skills cluster</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CV writing • Writing for policy
Nov/Dec	Module 2 – Governance in the EU (11 ECTS) <i>How does 'Brussels' work?</i>	
Jan	Module 3 – Lobbying in the EU (5 ECTS) <i>How can one influence the EU policy process?</i>	
Feb/Mar	Module 4 – Implementation and Evaluation of EU Policy (11 ECTS) <i>How do EU policies fare in action at the member state level?</i>	
April, May, June	Internship & Internship Thesis (together 18 ECTS) <i>How can one apply the acquired knowledge and skills in practice?</i>	

Teaching methods

- **Expert seminars**
 - E.g. on lobbying by Justin Greenwood
 - E.g. on economic policies by Phedon Nicolaides
- **Workshops**
 - E.g. simulating negotiations in the Council (EIPA)
 - E.g. pitching for a client
 - E.g. advising the Commission
 - E.g. writing a policy brief and policy fact sheet
- **Debate**
- **Quiz**



Life after EPA?

European institutions or bodies

–European Parliament, European Commission, European Central Bank, several Permanent Representations, several EC Delegations to third countries

National or international institutions

–Council of Europe, UN Office for Industrial Development, International Organization for Migration, several national ministries

Consultancy

–Grayling, Kellen Europe, Boer & Croon

Business or interest representation

–BusinessEurope, Philips, European Small Business Alliance, ETUC, Assembly of European Regions, Unilever

Think tanks, research institutes, journalism

–European Policy Center, International Centre for Black Sea Studies, European Journalism Centre, EIPA



What makes a good EPA student?

- Strong focus on active participation
- Many presentations and debates
- Group work, group work, and more group work
- Working under pressure (tight deadlines)
- Professional attitude



Admission

- Deadlines
 - EU/EEA students: 1 June 2019
 - Non-EU/EEA students who need a visa or residence permit: 1 May 2019
- masteroffice-fasos@maastrichtuniversity.nl
- The applicants will be selected by the Board of Admission on the grounds of their academic merit and additional qualifications.



QUESTIONS?

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