

Required knowledge and skills for Social Challenges, Policies and Interventions

Please find below an overview of the knowledge and skills required to participate in this Master's programme. For every aspect is stated: the general criterion of what is expected from a prospective student, and the norm that is used in the assessment of a candidate's eligibility.

How does the Admissions Committee check if you have a required knowledge/skill?

- 1) The Committee will check if the subject in question was taught in your previous education.
- 2) If the Committee is familiar with your curriculum, they will use your transcript. If the Committee is *not* familiar with your curriculum, the procedure below applies:
 - a. You list the course(s) in your curriculum in which the required knowledge/skill was taught on the Checklist Entry Requirements (you can find this checklist under Required Documents).
 - b. You hand in a syllabus for every course you list on this checklist. This way, the Committee can verify whether the courses you listed sufficiently addressed the required topic.
 - c. For students from a non-Dutch university, an online assessment can be a mandatory part of the evaluation of the methods and statistics criterion. This assessment is meant to give the Committee additional insight in your existing knowledge in methods and statistics. It is one of the factors in the decision of the Admissions Committee, in addition to the information you provide under a) and b). The Committee will decide - based on all this information - whether your existing methods and statistics knowledge is sufficient to participate in this programme. The Committee may also decide you have to acquire some of the knowledge via one of the options under point 4. If applicable, you will receive detailed instruction for this assessment once we have received your complete application file.
- 3) The Committee decides if the knowledge/skill meets the required norm described below based on your transcript/syllabus. This is a yes/no decision for every norm.
- 4) For some no-decisions, you may be able to acquire the knowledge via a pre-Master's programme, summer school, online course, through self-study, or you can compensate with other capabilities you have. This is for the Admissions Committee to decide.
 - o Specifically, if you partly lack knowledge of research methods, statistics, and analytical techniques (criterion 3, below), the Committee may decide that you will have to participate in a Summer School course taught at Utrecht University before you can be admitted to the programme.

Please note that a pre-Master's Programme is only available to students who have a Dutch educational background, do not need housing, and do not have or require a residence permit for study purposes.

1. Social Science theories	
Criterion	<i>Knowledge of and insight into social scientific theories;</i>
Norm	Preferably a bachelor or major in one of the social sciences, or at least proven academic interest in the social sciences (for example by obtaining a minor).

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2. Societal challenges, policies and intervention	
Criterion	<i>Knowledge of and insight into societal challenges, and policies and interventions aimed at addressing these challenges in contemporary society (e.g., challenges related to differences in health and well-being, combining work and care, climate change and sustainable behaviour, and social cohesion and diversity, or other societal challenges that can be studied from an interdisciplinary social science perspective).</i>
Norm	<p>Academic courses worth at least 15 ECTS, covering the following subjects:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Societal challenges in contemporary society (e.g., related to differences in health and well-being, combining work and care, climate change and sustainable behaviour, and social cohesion and diversity, or other societal challenges that can be studied from an interdisciplinary social science perspective) • AND policies and interventions aimed at addressing these challenges.
3. Research methods, statistics and analytical techniques	
Criterion	<i>Quantitative and qualitative research methods and data analysis techniques at the academic bachelor level; The ability to set up, carry out, analyse and prepare written reports on social science research.</i>
Norm	<p>The successful completion of academic courses covering:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • basic knowledge and understanding of <u>quantitative</u> research methods and statistical analysis (e.g. descriptive and inferential statistics, correlation, univariate regression, univariate analysis of variance, surveys, experiments); • and at least one of the subjects below: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ advanced knowledge and understanding of <u>quantitative</u> research methods and statistical analysis, at least at the level of multivariate analysis methods (such as multiple regression, ANOVA/ANCOVA with multiple independent variables, MANOVA) ○ advanced knowledge and understanding of <u>qualitative</u> research methods and data analysis techniques (e.g. theory-driven coding, grounded theory, observation, interviewing); • You have hands on experience with a data processing computer programme (such as SPSS, NVivo, MaxQdata). • You have shown your ability to set up, carry out, analyse and prepare written reports on social science research at the Bachelor's level (for example, in a Bachelor thesis or similar research report).
4. Affinity with interdisciplinary approaches	
Criterion	<i>Affinity with multi-, trans-, or interdisciplinary approaches</i>
Norm	You have taken one or more courses outside the primary discipline of your Bachelor's degree, and/or you have demonstrably conducted multi-/trans-/interdisciplinary projects, and/or can demonstrate affinity with multi-/trans-/interdisciplinary approaches in another manner.