



English
Language



Full Time
Format



September
Start date



Maastricht
Location

Bachelor Global Studies

Explore how global processes create local outcomes and how local developments change the world. Analyse issues like climate change, migration, exclusion, and justice, and identify how you can be a force for change by developing nuanced responses and solutions.

[Download brochure](#)

Admission requirements

On this page, you will find important details of the application process (such as deadlines, admission requirements, required documents and application assessment) for the bachelor's programme in Global Studies for the *academic year 2026-2027*.

- [Application deadlines](#)
- [General requirements: previous education](#)
- [Additional requirements](#)
- [Documents required for application process](#)
- [Matching survey](#)

✉ Questions about admission? Contact us via study@maastrichtuniversity.nl For more information about the study programme, contact us via globalstudies@maastrichtuniversity.nl

⚠ Please note that Global Studies is a selective programme.

ℹ For this programme we offer a [UM Global Studies Scholarship](#).

Application Deadlines

The bachelor's programme in Global Studies starts in September. The deadlines below are applicable for applicants who want to start their studies in September 2026.

Note: if you are viewing this webpage on your phone, we recommend using landscape mode.

Date	What you need to know about this date
As soon as possible after 1 October 2025	Apply via Studielink* (open for applications for the academic year 2026-2027 from 1 October)
1 April 2026, 23:59 CET	Deadline for completing the entire application process if you have a non-EU/EEA nationality (in most cases, you will need a visa and/or residence permit)
1 May 2026, 23:59 CET	Deadline for completing the entire application process if you have an EU/EEA or Swiss nationality
1 August 2026	Strongly recommended deadline for paying the tuition fee
31 August 2026, 23:59 CET	Deadline for completing all tasks in the MyApplication portal**

If you need a [visa and/or residence permit](#), you must complete most tasks by an earlier date.

**Studielink is the national registration system for higher education,*

***The MyApplication portal is Maastricht University's application and enrolment platform.*

Please note: in Studielink you need to **choose** the starting moment. Please make sure to select **September 2026** in the dropdown-menu, so that you will apply for the start of the next academic year. If you apply through the Entrance exam, Colloquium Doctum, earlier deadlines apply. See more information further down the page.

Visa/residence permit for study

Are you a non-EU/EEA national requiring a visa/residence permit for study? Click here for — more information

Please note that Maastricht University can **only** formally apply for your [visa/residence permit](#) if you have met all admission and enrolment requirements.

This means you have to have completed all admission and enrolment tasks in the MyApplication portal (except the 'visa/residence permit'-task and the 'send certified copy of diploma'-task) before we can send your application to the IND (Dutch Immigration and Naturalization Service).

We have to send the application to the IND before 1 July if you are starting your studies in September. Please note: a few pre-master and master programmes offer a start in February. If your study programme offers a start in February and you want to start your studies in February, we have to send the application to the IND before 1 December. You can find out if your study programme offers a start in February on the admission requirements web page of that programme ([pre-master's](#), [master's](#)).

Therefore, we **strongly recommend** that you reconsider applying for this study programme if you are not sure that you will meet the following requirements before 1 July/1 December (if applicable in your situation):

- ⦿ Having remedied all subject and/or language deficiencies (if applicable)
 - ⦿ Having qualified for admission to your study programme, including being selected ([if applicable to your study programme](#)) AND
 - ⦿ Having paid the tuition fee for your study programme
-

General requirements: previous education

The admission requirements for academic year 2026/27 for the bachelor's programme in Global Studies depend on your previous education. Check below which requirements apply to you.

Applicants with a Dutch diploma —

If you have one of the diplomas stated below then, in principle, you qualify for admission:

- ⦿ Dutch VWO diploma
 - ⦿ HBO or OU propaedeutic diploma
 - ⦿ HBO diploma
-

Applicants with a non-Dutch diploma —

If you have a non-Dutch diploma that is equivalent to the Dutch VWO diploma you, in principle, qualify for admission to this programme. Check if this applies for your diploma.

➤ [List of diplomas equivalent to the Dutch VWO diploma 2026/27](#)

If your diploma is not included in this list, it must be evaluated by UM first.

Applicants who do not meet the requirements

Entrance exam, Colloquium Doctum

If you do not have the required diploma, or do not meet the additional requirements, you can still qualify by passing an entrance exam (the so called Colloquium Doctum).

If you pass the Colloquium Doctum and submit the requested proof of language proficiency, you will qualify for admission to the bachelor's programme.

➤ [Read more about the Colloquium Doctum](#)

Additional requirements

Language requirements for English-language programmes

As English is the language of instruction in this study programme, it is essential that your English language skills are good enough for you to undertake intensive and challenging academic courses that are taught and examined in English.

Answer the questions below to find out if you meet the language requirements.

Do you hold a Dutch pre-university education (VWO) diploma?

Yes

No

Applicants whose diploma is based on a non-EU-EEA curriculum (handling fee)

Applicants for this study programme whose diploma is based on a non-EU/EEA curriculum are required to pay a handling fee. This applies even if the educational institution is located within the EU/EEA, as the fee is based on the curriculum, not the location of the institution. More information on this handling fee and how to arrange this payment can be found on the [handling fee page](#).

Credit transfer

If you have followed education at a research university or a university of applied sciences before, you may want to know if you can use some of the previously earned credits in the FASoS bachelor.

If you passed a course in your previous bachelor that is (almost) identical to the FASoS course, as regards content, level and study load, you might qualify for an exemption from the FASoS course. Please note that exemptions from our courses are rarely given, as the content of the modules of the bachelor programmes is quite specific and the education at our faculty is multi-disciplinary. This means that starting in the second year of our bachelor is not an option; if you decide to register for the programme you will have to start as a first-year student. Once registered, you can apply for an exemption from the course that you consider to be equivalent to subjects you passed in your previous education.

Documents required for application process

During the application process for this study programme, you will need to complete a number of tasks for which you will often have to upload documents. The list below gives you an insight into what documents you will need to prepare.

Required documents for all applicants to this study programme

🕒 A recent portrait picture

This picture must satisfy certain requirements. You can find

these requirements in the task description 'Upload portrait picture' in the MyApplication portal.

⦿ **A copy of your valid passport or your EU/EEA identity card**

Make a copy of the page with your personal details. Save this copy as 'passport copy' and not as 'passport picture.'

⦿ **A copy of your most recent grades transcript AND/OR a copy of your diploma** if you have obtained it.

⦿ **A letter of motivation** in English of up to 600 words, submitted as a PDF or Word document. Applicants should include their name at the top right corner of the document. *This letter is used to get a better insight into your motivations and to help the Board of Admissions determine whether Global Studies is the right kind of career step for you. All applicants should write a letter answering questions such as:*

- *Why would you like to join Global Studies?*
- *How suitable is the semester-theme approach for the way you like to study?*
- *What are your plans after graduation?*

⦿ **An essay** in English of up to 400 words, submitted as a PDF or Word document. Applicants should include their name at the top right corner of the document. *All applicants should write a short essay, describing a complex global problem and how it matters for them, their home community or home country locally. This essay will give the Board of Admissions a first impression of your ability to provide a well-reasoned, written argument. Please ensure that your essay addresses both parts of the question - describing the global problem and showing its local relevance! Using proper spelling and grammar (UK or US English), as well as referencing any quotes will be helpful to your application. You are free to choose what you consider your home community or your home country for the purpose of this essay.*

**Documents that might be required depending _
on your (academic) background**

⦿ **Outcome of your language test with sufficient result** (if applicable)

Answer the questions concerning language requirements under 'Language requirements for English-language programmes' on this webpage to find out if you need to provide additional documentation. The outcome of your answers will indicate which documents you can use to prove your proficiency.

⦿ **Evidence of additional courses or tests in the required subjects** (if applicable)

⦿ **A request for credit transfer** (if applicable)

⦿ **Permission for document verification form**

If your diploma is not verified by DUO (Dienst Uitvoering Onderwijs, the Dutch government agency responsible for education-related matters), you will need to upload the form 'Permission for document verification' in the MyApplication portal. This form allows Maastricht University to verify your diploma, grades transcript or other required documents directly with the issuing institution or relevant qualification registry.

How do we assess your application?

When you want to apply or are applying to this study programme, it is useful to know how we assess your application. You can find more information about this in this section.

Global Studies has a selective admissions process that is designed to assess whether there is a match between your academic interest and what Global Studies has to offer.

The Board of Admissions will review and assess your application. After your full application has been received, the Board of Admissions will inform you on their decision within four weeks.

UM visiting address

Minderbroedersberg 4-6
Global Studies
6211 LK Maastricht
+31 43 388 2222

Why this
programme

UM postal address

Courses &
P.O. Box 616
curriculum
6200 MD Maastricht
Your future

> **Admission**
Bluesky **requirements**
Facebook
Instagram Admission &
LinkedIn enrolment
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Contact

Transparency & Accountability

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