

European Studies on Society, Science and Technology (ESST)

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EUROPEAN MASTER'S PROGRAMME ON
SOCIETY, SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

25 YEARS

TEACHING STS & INNOVATION IN EUROPE



What is ESST about?

- We live in a technological culture
- example

CHARLIE BROOKER'S

BLACK MIRROR

Nosedive



NETFLIX



Maastricht University

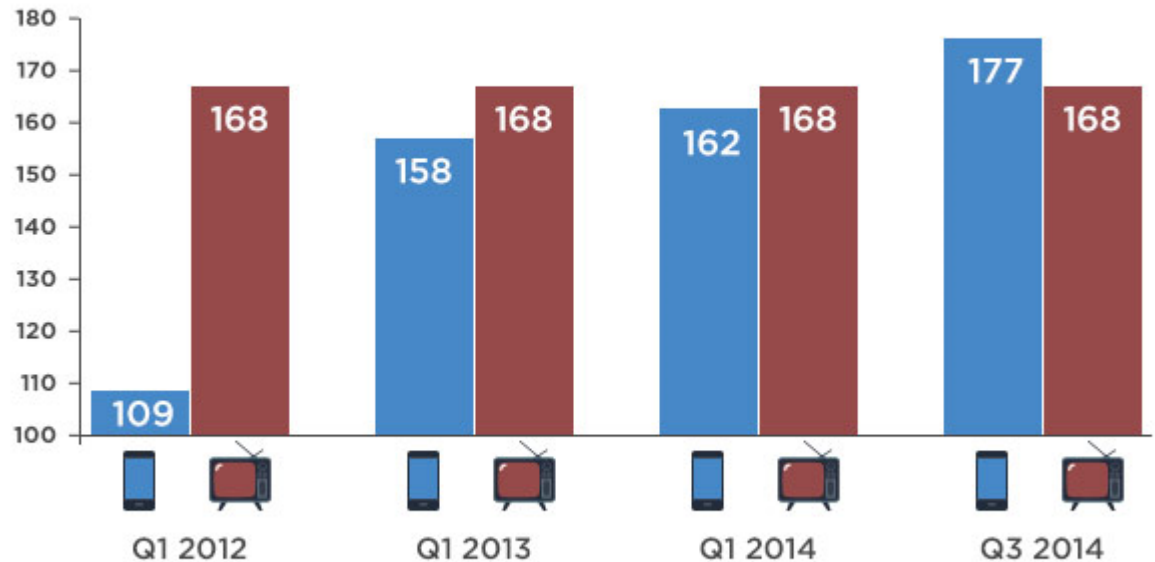




Living in a Technological Culture

Time Spent on Mobile Devices and TV

US Daily Average (Min)



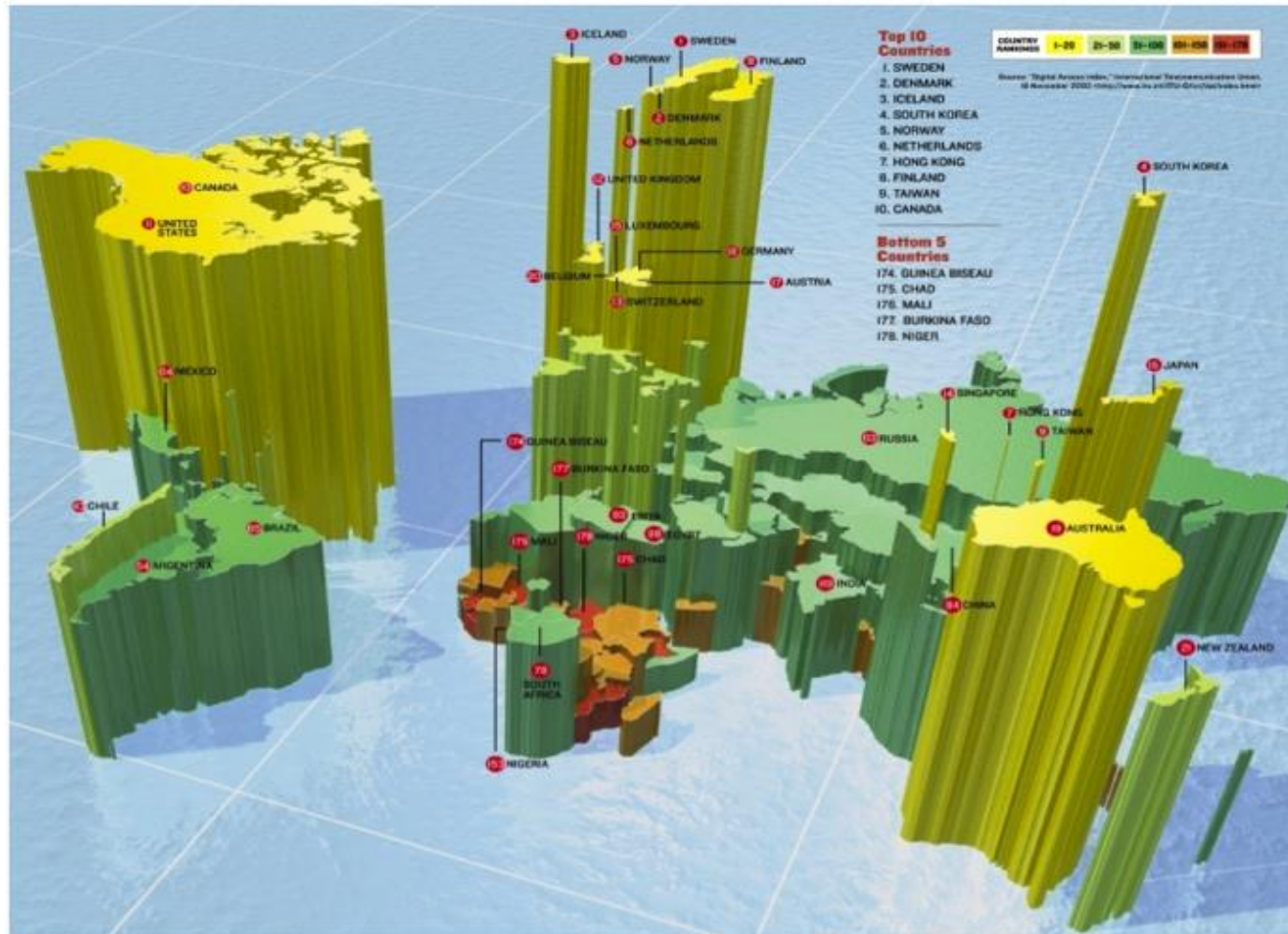
ethics?



cultural norms



economics and geopolitics



alternative uses



micropolitics



Science and Technology ↔ Society

“We can't solve problems by using the same kind of thinking we used when we created them.”

Albert Einstein

Science and Technology Studies:

**Transform your perspective so that you notice that the ‘stuff of the world’ can be understood in new ways,
opening new opportunities for intervention**

This is what ESST offers

ESST in sum

- **2018: Received Top Label from Elsevier Keuzegids (86/100)**
- **One of the oldest MAs (20 years of experience)**
- **One-year Master of max 30 students**
- **Multi-disciplinary and multi-cultural background**
- **International joint Master (student exchange)**
- **Many specializations:** see esst.eu/specialisations
- **You receive two diplomas:** *Maastricht University + European Inter-University Association*



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Maastricht University



UAM Universidad Autònoma de Madrid



NICOLAUS COPERNICUS
UNIVERSITY
IN TORUN



LONDON
SCHOOL OF
ECONOMICS &
MANAGEMENT



UNIVERSITÀ DEGLI STUDI
DI TRENTO



UiO : University of Oslo



ALPEN-ADRIA
UNIVERSITÄT
KLAUFENBURG / WOLFGANG



HELLENIC REPUBLIC
National and Kapodistrian
University of Athens
EST. 1837

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What are the aims of the ESST program?

to train future researchers, innovation consultants, managers and policy-analysts, ..

with a profound and critical understanding of:

- the relation between research, innovation and society
- including governance structures, processes of policy-formation, ethics, etc.
- the specific socio-historical context from which they emerge
- and of today's European and global socio-economical context in which they take place

What kind of graduate does ESST produce?

1. Problem-definers in order to act as problem-solvers
2. Bridge-builders with an advanced level of generic skills
3. Specialised generalists with a cosmopolitan quality

What types of students enroll in ESST?

1. Multi-disciplinary background:

- Science and Engineering – add: *social dimensions* of science and technology
- Social science and Humanities – add: social dimensions *of science and technology*

2. High international diversity:

- ESST students come from all over the world (currently 22 students – 9 nationalities)

How and what does ESST teach you?

- Small groups, interactive sessions
- Intensive four-week courses
- Research project
- Problematising and analysing issues facing policy-makers, industrial organisations, NGOs etc.
- Understanding the perspectives of different stakeholders
- Coping with complexity
- Understanding and unpacking scientific knowledge, and grasping how this is being produced

How and what does ESST teach you?

- Experiment and reflect on relation between theory and empirical material
- Awareness for the *politics* of any method or theory
- Recognising the dynamics of science and technology
- Be proactive and reactive

The academic year in a nutshell

<u>First semester:</u> Becoming a generalists		<u>Second semester:</u> Becoming a specialist
1. Introduction in Science and Technology Studies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • sociology of technology • philosophy of technology • cultural studies 	Introduction in Science and Public Policy / Specialisation at partner university
2. Science and technology in the making	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • science studies • philosophy of science • anthropology of science • innovation studies 	Research project and writing of Master thesis
3. Interpreting the history of science and technology	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • history of science and technology • historiography • source interpretation 	
4. Science and technology dynamics	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • innovation studies, • evolutionary economics • political science 	
5. The Politics of knowledge	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • political science • risk studies 	

2nd semester at ESST

partner universities or in Maastricht

- Athens, Greece
- Aalborg, Denmark
- Maastricht, The Netherlands
- Tallinn, Estonia
- Klagenfurt, Austria
- Moscow, Russia
- Namur, Belgium
- Louvain, Belgium
- Strasbourg, France
- Madrid, Spain
- Lisbon, Portugal
- Trento, Italy
- Toruń, Poland



Examples of specializations:

- Innovation Systems, Social and Ecological Change
- Economics and Management of Innovation
- Ethical and philosophical stakes of sciences in societies
- Situated Analysis of Global Connections
- Science and Public Policy
- Science, Technology and Sustainability: North-South Comparisons
- Water management and water uses
- History, philosophy, ethics and governance of ICT and emerging technologies
- Science and Politics in Controversies on Nature

Internships

Base camp:	In collaboration with:
<i>Maastricht University Science and Technology Studies (MUSTS)</i> at Maastricht University	<i>Rathenau Institute</i> in The Hague <i>Scientific and Public Involvement in Risk Allocations Laboratory (Spiral)</i> at Université de Liège, Belgium
	<i>International Centre for Integrated Assessment and Sustainable Development (ICIS)</i> in Maastricht
	<i>Center for Science and Technology Studies</i> at Leiden University
	<i>Institute of Health Policy & Management</i> at the Erasmus University Rotterdam

Recent theses

- **Knowing Social Fabric: An Ethnographic Account of Big Data Practice in Scientific Research**
- **The fluidity of knowledge. Constructing relevant knowledge in the context of flood management in England and the Netherlands**
- **What indicators do: The mediation of measures in the Walloon Region**
- **Smart Grid, a Smart Solution: The Adoption of the Smart Grid Technology by the Residential Consumers in Germany**
- **The usage of science in settling trade disputes under the judicial component of the WTO Dispute Settlement Body**
- **European Air Traffic Management Network and Innovation. Moving Toward a Stasis? Combining a Large Technical System Approach and Organizational Path Dependency**

Career perspectives

- **Universities/ Research Institutes**

PhDs in Industrial ecology; health economics; governance and ethics of technology; sustainable studies; strategic management; nanotechnology

- **Policy Agencies**

Rathenau Institute, Management Agencies of several Ministries (e.g. Environment; Transport, Public Works and Water), The National Committee for Research Ethics; Advisory Council; European Commission

- **Consultancy:**

Euro Info Centre (DG Enterprise EC), Ecorys; Technopolis Group Brussels; IDEA Consult Brussels

- **Businesses:**

Microsoft, Google, Statoil, DSM, Mercedes Benz, Sotheby's, Alliander

Admission criteria

- University Bachelors degree
- High level of motivation
- English language test (TOEFL/IELTS)
- Essay of 2,000 words
- Curriculum vitae

- Deadline
 - 1 May 2018: Non-EU/EAA students
 - 1 August 2018: EU/EEA students

Why ESST?

- study the science&technology dynamics of modern societies
- intensive training
- diverse & interdisciplinary classroom
- 14 specialisations throughout Europe
- 2 diploma's
- dedicated teachers and supervisors

More information:

www.maastrichtuniversity.nl

www.esst.eu



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