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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 master's programme in Psychology for *academic year 2022-2023*.

Important note: the Board of Admissions cannot give any advice about your admission chances on the basis of email information. You must apply in Studielink/MyUM if you want to know if you are admissible.



Please note: you can only apply for one specialisation of this programme

International students: also check the [study progress requirements](#)

Important deadlines for application for this study programme

Applicable when starting on 1 September 2022

When you want to apply or are applying for this study programme, it is important that you inform yourself of the deadlines that you need to meet. The important deadlines when applying for this study programme are provided in the table below.

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

Date	What you need to know about this date
1 October 2021	Studielink is open for applications for the academic year 2022-2023
Up to and including 1 February 2022, 23:59 CET	Application deadline for students who want to be considered for the UM High Potential/Holland Scholarship

Date	What you need to know about this date
Up to and including 1 May 2022, 23:59 CET	Deadline for completing the entire application process for non-EU/EEA applicants (these applicants require a visa or residence permit)
Up to and including 1 June 2022, 23:59 CET	Deadline for completing the entire application process for EU/EEA applicants. This includes Maastricht University students.

General requirements: prior qualifications

The admission requirements for academic year 2022-2023 for the master's programme Psychology depend on your qualifications. Please check below which requirements apply to you.

Bachelor's degree		Remarks
Bachelor Psychology from Maastricht University	Admissible	No further requirements needed
Dutch University Bachelor Psychology	Admissible	No further requirements needed
Non-Dutch University Bachelor Psychology	Will be assessed by the Board of Admissions	Check below for additional requirements
All other University Bachelors	Will be assessed by the Board of Admissions	Check below for additional requirements
University of Applied Science (HBO), Bachelor Psychology + pre-master Psychology	Will be assessed by the Board of Admissions	Check below for additional requirements
University of Applied Science (HBO)	Not admissible	The Faculty does not offer any pre-master programmes

Equivalent bachelor's degree

In order to determine if a Bachelor's degree is equivalent to a Dutch University bachelor's degree, the Board of Admissions makes use of NUFFIC diploma recognition. NUFFIC issues recommendations on the value of higher or secondary education diplomas obtained outside the Netherlands. Where possible, the foreign diploma is compared to a Dutch diploma. As well as evaluating the diploma, NUFFIC is also able to determine whether a study programme or an educational institution is officially recognised. Bachelor's degrees that NUFFIC judges as non-equivalent to a Dutch University Bachelor's degree will not be admitted.

If you are uncertain whether your Bachelor's degree is equivalent to a Dutch University Bachelor's degree you are strongly advised to submit a request via the [NUFFIC website](#) to have this checked prior to submitting your application.

The same holds for the combination of Bachelor's degree in Psychology from a University of Applied Science and a pre-master in Psychology. The Bachelor's degree must be equivalent to a Dutch University of Applied Science (HBO) Bachelor's degree according to NUFFIC.

Additional requirements

Academic background

Please fill in the [Academic background form](#). On this form, you have to provide details regarding the relevant courses, and the number of (ECTS) credits that you obtained per course.

- **27 ECTS in statistics and research methods.** This can include courses on statistics, methods, psychometrics, data management, and research ethics, as well as practical experience in carrying out an empirical research project.
- **10 ECTS in academic writing (preferably in English).** This can include academic writing courses, as well as, academic writing assignments (e.g. bachelor theses), and systematic literature searches.
- **15 ECTS in theoretical courses and skills training covering general knowledge of psychology.** This can include courses, such as Introduction to Psychology, Social Psychology, Personality Psychology, Cognitive Neuroscience, Neuropsychology and/or Biopsychology, Clinical and Abnormal Psychology, Developmental Psychology, Communication skills, Intervention and/or rehabilitation, Psychodiagnostics, Decision making, and History of psychology.

If your university uses another system, we ask you to translate the number of obtained credits into the ECTS system (1 ECTS = 28 hours study load).

*Students with a bachelor's degree in psychology from a Dutch university do **not** need to complete and upload the Academic background form.*

Language requirements for English-language master 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 bachelor's or master's degree in which English was the sole language of instruction?

YesNoUndo

Statistics

Statistics is a key issue in the Master in Psychology at Maastricht University and a good knowledge of statistics is essential.

Please fill in the form '[Statistics and Methodology checklist](#)'. On this form, you have to indicate the topics you studied in your statistics and methods courses. Applicants must be familiar with the majority of topics mentioned in the checklist.

*Students with a bachelor's degree in psychology from a Dutch university do **not** need to complete and upload the checklist.*

Relevant bachelor's degree

The bachelor's degree must be substantially relevant to the master's specialisation of your choice. For example, if you have a bachelor's degree in International Business you may - under certain conditions - be admissible to the master's programme specialisation Work and Organisational Psychology but not to the specialisation Cognitive Neuroscience.

Motivation letter

You are requested to write a one-page motivation letter, which specifies why you want to follow the master's programme of Psychology and the specialisation of your choice. In this letter, you must describe your motivation and how you fulfill the admission requirements for this master's programme. *You only have to upload a motivation letter if you follow a bachelor's programme **other than Psychology**.*

The topics below can be found in the following book: Andy Field, Discovering Statistics Using IBM SPSS Statistics (4th edition).

Prospective students who received their prior education in a non-EU/EEA country (handling fee)

Prospective students applying for this study programme who received their prior education in a non-EU/EEA country will have to pay a handling fee. More information on this handling fee and how to arrange this payment can be found on the [handling fee page](#).

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 (and might) need to prepare.

Note: all documents must be uploaded before the application deadline (see 'Important deadlines for application for this study programme' on this page).

Required documents for application to this study programme

- **A recent passport picture***
The passport picture must satisfy certain [requirements](#).
- **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 certified copy of your most recent transcript of records**
- **A certified copy of your bachelor's diploma**
If you have not graduated yet, you can upload the official transcript of records of your bachelor's programme.
- **Curriculum Vitae**
- **[Statistics and Methodology checklist](#)**
Students with a bachelor's degree in psychology from a Dutch university do not need to upload the checklist.
- **[Academic background form](#)**
Students with a bachelor's degree in psychology from a Dutch university do not need upload the Academic background form.
- **A copy of your English language test with sufficient results** (if applicable, please fill in the language requirements above)
- **A motivation letter**
*Only student with a bachelor's degree **other than Psychology** need to upload a motivation letter.*

*Maastricht University **FPN Bachelor's students** only have to upload a photocopy of their passport or identity card. The passport or identity card must be valid on the starting date of the Master's programme.

Please note:

Make sure to upload the documents in the MyUM portal in **PDF** or **Word-format**. Do not upload **Zip files**, we cannot open these files.

Only **complete** applications will be taken into consideration.

All documents must be in **English**.

Avoid last-minute application stress! Last-minute applications may delay the communication of your application outcome.

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 here.

The Board of Admissions decides about your admissibility based on the application requirements and the documents you have submitted. They will carefully review your application and decide if you have sufficient background in psychology and statistics and if your bachelor's degree fits the specialisation you have chosen. Once the Board of Admission has made a decision on your admissibility, you will be informed about this by email within a month after completing your application.

Enrolment before completing prior education (zachte knip regulation)

To help students who have experienced delays in their studies due to COVID-19, we have put the 'zachte knip' regulation in place. This regulation means that you can enrol in your next education programme before you have completed your prior education.

Were you, due to the COVID-19 pandemic, unable to earn enough credits in the academic year 2021-22 to complete your prior education on time? In that case, you will be given the opportunity to conditionally start your next education programme at UM under certain terms in academic year 2022-23 (study start in September or February)

When are you eligible for the 'zachte knip'?

Would you like to go from:

- a bachelor's programme to a UM pre-master's or master's programme,
- a pre-master's or 'schakel' programme to a UM master's programme, or
- an HBO propedeuse (first-year diploma at a university of applied sciences) to a UM bachelor's programme?

[Read here](#) about the conditions for qualifying for the 'zachte knip'.

Are you already an FPN student?

Please check [AskPsy](#) for specific FPN regulations.

How and when do you file an application for the 'zachte knip'?

Beginning of July, we will let you know [here](#) how and when to apply for the 'zachte knip' regulation.