

Migration and Diversity

(a study track in the MA in Development Studies, at the International Institute of Social Studies)

This Masters study track is available through a cooperation between schools in Leiden, Delft and Erasmus universities, including ISS. Students will take several courses on the Governance of Migration and Diversity, from the five participating schools, plus follow other courses and study activities within the ISS MA in Development Studies. They will acquire an MA in Development Studies with a specialization in migration and diversity. The track's students will have an exceptional study experience through mixing with professors and students from four other Netherlands university programmes, in addition to with their ISS professors and fellow-students.

'Always throughout history, many people have moved their place of residence, responding to changing pressures, opportunities and demands. In modern history, the pressures, opportunities and demands have all increased, as the world has been transformed and interconnected through technology, trade, military power, and new ideas. At the same time though, since the late 19th century, the strengthening of the modern nation-state system has made such movement increasingly regulated and often seen as abnormal. This central role of migration and yet the associated frequent major tensions mean that migration and its implications form one of the most interesting and important areas in social science and public policy. In addition, migration is about flesh-and-blood people, their hopes and fears, triumphs and tragedies, conflict and cooperation; the subject is compelling and fascinating, not only interesting and important. I think you will never regret specializing in this area in your Masters studies. It will be relevant for many types of job and career-path, and for you as a person in the contemporary world.' (Professor Des Gasper, ISS)

Specialization track in Migration and Diversity

The Migration and Diversity track offered within the Development Studies masters at the International Institute of Social Studies allows students to combine in-depth study of development theory, inter-national and intra-national migration and their impacts and implications, and relevant methods of research and analysis.

The specialization integrates knowledge from various disciplines. It brings together history, sociology, politics, international development and urbanism, as a foundation for a better understanding of migration and diversity and options in the governance responses. In addition, students obtain, first, insight into the development processes and global systems that influence migration, and second, concrete analytical and methodological skills that help them to investigate the situations, cases and challenges that they are especially interested in.

About the programme

Migration and social diversity are key factors in the fundamental transformations of national societies and world society today. The transformations involve not just migrants, but each society and the world a whole. Migration and diversity play a key role in almost any domain of today's societies, at many different levels and in various types of organisations. They play a role in education, housing, labour, international relations, they are on the agenda of the United Nations and other intergovernmental organisations and associations, of national governments and regional groupings, and at the local level and even neighbourhood levels of governance. They are addressed not only by governments but also by businesses, international organisations, research institutes and non-governmental organisations.

This track is part of a collaboration between Erasmus University Rotterdam (including the departments of Sociology and Public Administration, and the International Institute of Social Studies), Leiden University and Delft University of Technology. The cooperation between these

universities provides a unique combination of expertise within a single master's programme. Besides a general part with disciplinary courses that all students in this cooperation take, students can apply to one of four tracks: history (Leiden University), Sociology, Public Policy (Erasmus University) and International Development (ISS - EUR).

Curriculum for the ISS specialization study track in Migration and Diversity

(1) Students take 30 credits on migration and its implications, consisting of six compulsory 5 credit courses: one course provided by each partner and one provided jointly as a core course. The six are these:

Core course: Governance of Migration and Diversity

Five partner-provided courses:

- History of Migration and Diversity (History, Leiden University)
- Politics of Migration and Diversity (Public Administration, Erasmus University Rotterdam)
- Sociology of Migration and Diversity (Sociology, Erasmus University Rotterdam)
- Theory of Urbanism (Technical University Delft)
- Migration and Development (ISS, Erasmus University Rotterdam)

ISS students in this track fulfil their Foundation Courses and Major Courses requirements by doing the above courses.

(2) In addition, the ISS students will do

- the General Course in Development Theory (8 credits)
- Research Techniques Courses (8 credits)
- an Option Course (8 credits)
- probably, additional credits within the ISS course on Migration and Development
- one of: (a) an additional Research Techniques Course (4 credits), supplemented by an additional migration-related assignment; (b) an additional 8 credits Option course.
- Research Paper: 27 credits.

Examples of a multidisciplinary perspective on migration and diversity issues

Drivers of international migration

Historically, migration is not randomly distributed over different countries. Some countries send many migrants, while others don't; and some countries receive many migrants while others don't. Furthermore, between specific pairs of countries or even regions we see particularly high numbers of migrants. To gain a comprehensive understanding of drivers of migration, it is not sufficient to choose one theoretical approach. Combining historical insights with theories from sociology and with knowledge of countries' policies and practices in regard to migration is essential to come to an understanding of migration processes.

Accommodating diversity

Diversity resulting from international migration poses all societies major challenges. These include socio-economic and socio-cultural differences and also issues of racism and discrimination. How do host societies deal with ethnic diversity? And why do countries choose different approaches? What results have these policy approaches achieved and how are they evaluated?

Migration and development

Migration has consequences for sending and receiving societies; and these consequences are multi-dimensional and vary case-by-case; for example, think about theories both of 'brain drain' and of 'brain gain'. Also, migration has some very physical consequences in the built environment of cities. For example, remittances enable families remaining in origin regions to attain higher life standards,

including new houses and possessions; also in receiving regions, migration impacts on urban landscapes, including often in terms of segregation and concentration of different ethnic groups.

Why choose this programme?

We offer:

- Knowledge helping you address issues of social and economic change and of governance related to migration and diversity from a multidisciplinary perspective
- Courses offered by leading scholars from three universities and several academic disciplines
- Education that directly relates to current issues and trains students to contribute in the governance of migration and diversity in the context of many sorts of organisation.
- This study programme develops professional skills, in terms of analysing situations, going beyond the over-generalizations and myths that are commonplace in daily discussion and sometimes also in politics and journalism, and for designing governance strategies around concrete cases.

For whom?

Are you interested in migration and social diversity, including the related questions of governance and policy? This specialisation offers essential insights for people interested and/or involved in the analysis or practices of multi –actor governance and policy development processes. It targets people having or aspiring to careers in local or national governments, in development organisations, NGOs, universities and the private sector.

Career opportunities

Graduates of the MA in Development Studies with a specialisation in Migration and Diversity will be suited for positions in organisations in civil society (e.g. unions, political parties, research institutes), governmental organisations (as policy advisors, policy makers, administrators, lobbyists) and business organisations (e.g. Human Resources, consultancy), at local, national or international level.

Didactic approach

The masters track in Migration and Diversity provides state-of-the-art courses and training by dedicated scholars from multiple academic disciplines. Students will take classes in which interaction between the students and between students and professors is central. In these classes there is attention to and discussion of current events related to migration and diversity. The programme offers various extracurricular activities and seminars. These are likely to include visits to: relevant policy organisations (such as the International Organisation for Migration (IOM) in The Hague), a ‘superdiverse’ neighbourhood, and symposia organized with students concerning current developments in relation to migration and diversity.

Staff involved in this master programme include:

- EUR-ISS: Prof.dr. Des Gasper, dr. Helen Hintjens, dr. Roy Huijsmans, dr. Mahmoud Messkoub, dr. Karin Siegmann; and other ISS academic staff, in the courses mentioned in part (2) above.
- EUR-Public Administration : Dr. Peter Scholten
- EUR-Sociology: Dr. Erik Snel; Dr. Arjen Leerkes
- Delft (Urban Design): Dr. Reinout Kleinhans; Prof.Dr. Maarten van Ham
- Leiden-History: Prof.dr. Marlou Schrover