

Master's Programme

# Master European Public Affairs

Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences

## Lobbying in the EU

### Full course description

The third module of the Master in European Public Affairs deals with the phenomenon of lobbying in the system of European governance. In the theoretical part, students explore on a conceptual level the relationship between EU institutions and lobbying organizations, and learn to identify the main venues for lobby influence in the system. The practical part of the module deals with some of the most important skills, tools and methods needed to perform on the Brussels lobbying scene. Students explore policy papers and policy briefs as tools to communicate policy-relevant information and thus to influence decision making; get introduced to the basics of online communications, and particularly social media, in the practice of public affairs in the EU; and, finally, they learn how to develop and implement a comprehensive lobbying strategy in Brussels.

### Course objectives

This module aims to familiarize students with the theoretical and practical ins and outs of lobbying in the EU and trains students in developing their own public affairs pitch.

### Prerequisites

Only accessible for selected EPA students

### Recommended reading

The EPA Master in principle works with selected academic journal articles.

## EPA4001

### Period 2

26 Oct 2020

18 Dec 2020

[Print course description](#)

### ECTS credits:

10.0

### Instruction language:

English

### Coordinator:

[I.W.P. de Bruycker](#)

### Teaching methods:

Assignment(s), Skills, Training(s), Work in subgroups, Lecture(s)

**Assessment methods:**

Presentation, Assignment, Final paper

**Keywords:**

Lobbying, pitch, policy process

**Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences**

# Implementation and Evaluation of EU policy

## Full course description

The central question in this last module is how and to what extent European policies are actually applied in practice; what happens at the “street level” with all policies coming from the EU? The first part of the module concentrates on the implementation phase. All member states have a different administrative organization, which has its impact on how interaction with the European level takes place. European integration only has a real impact on the street level when domestic capacities are in place to deal with the demands that come from ‘Brussels’. Member States need to be flexible in building, adapting or innovating their public sector capacities and systems in order to ‘cope’ with the EU. We will analyze how Member States differently deal with this. The second part of the module looks at European public policy by evaluating existing policies and programs. Professional policy evaluation takes place in the context of highly politicized processes of judgment and reckoning: What is a success and what is a failure? This seemingly simple question often proves difficult to answer, for both policy makers and evaluators. The course examines regulatory impact assessment and better regulation. It considers how we might theorise evaluation, and the ways in which it takes place at various parts of the policy cycle. It questions the extent to which evaluation influences policy redesign. In addition, consideration is given to the culture and politics of evaluation in the EU. The course takes a practical perspective and engages students in real-life cases.

## Course objectives

The last module of the EPA Master aims to analyze the issue of evaluation and implementation of EU policy from both a theoretical and practical perspective, and aims to train students in conducting - and reporting upon - their own policy evaluation.

## Prerequisites

Only accessible for selected EPA students

## Recommended reading

The EPA Master in principle works with selected academic journal articles.

## EPA4003

**Period 4**

1 Feb 2021

2 Apr 2021

[Print course description](#)

**ECTS credits:**

10.0

**Instruction language:**

English

**Coordinator:**

[P.J. Stephenson](#)

**Teaching methods:**

Assignment(s), Skills, Training(s), Work in subgroups, Lecture(s)

**Assessment methods:**

Presentation, Final paper, Assignment

**Keywords:**

implementation, evaluation, policy process, Writing skills

## Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences

# Integrated skills track

### Full course description

The Skills Track spans from September to April, and provides training on various professional and research skills related to academic communication (verbal and written), research design skills (formulation of research questions, basic design of an academic study, choice of methods), as well as working with (academic) sources. The Research Skills component of the Integrated Skills Track is designed to train students in the most important skills required to accomplish research projects in European Public Affairs, as well as to prepare for the drafting of the MA EPA final work – the internship thesis.

### Course objectives

The main goal of the Integrated Skills Track is to equip the students with practical skills indispensable for the contemporary European Studies graduate such as presentation and writing skills, team-work and strategic communication. In addition, the course prepares the students for the drafting of their graduation project - the internship thesis.

### Prerequisites

None

### Recommended reading

Blaikie, Norman. (2007). *Approaches to Social Enquiry: Advancing Knowledge*. 2nd ed., Cambridge: Polity

Grix, Jonathan. (2004). *The Foundations of Research*. Houndmills: Palgrave Macmillan.

Moses, J. and T. Knutsen (2007). *Ways of Knowing: Competing Methodologies in Social and Political Research*. Houndmills: Palgrave Macmillan.

## EPA4500

### Period 1

31 Aug 2020

29 Jan 2021

[Print course description](#)

### ECTS credits:

6.0

### Instruction language:

English

### Coordinator:

[A.B. Spendzharova](#)

### Teaching methods:

Lecture(s), Paper(s), Presentation(s), Research, Skills, Work in subgroups

### Assessment methods:

Assignment, Final paper

### Keywords:

Research and writing skills, team work, personal effectiveness, communication and presentation skills

Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences

## Perspectives on European Governance

## EPA4004

### Period 1

1 Sep 2020

23 Oct 2020

[Print course description](#)

### ECTS credits:

10.0

### Instruction language:

English

### Coordinators:

[C.U. Arnold](#)

[P.Y. Petrov](#)

## Master EPA Internship

Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences

# Internship work

## Full course description

As the EPA master is practice-oriented and aims to prepare students as much as possible for a career in public administration or consultancy, the 12-week internship is a crucial part of the program. The host institution for this internship varies widely. Students are expected to find their own internship, with the help of the faculty's office for internationalisation. The main aim of the internship is to provide students with actual work experience in the field. Examples of internships from previous years are: European Commission, Grayling Consultancy, PA Europe Consultancy, BusinessEurope, European Institute of Public Administration, American Chamber of Commerce to the EU, UN Office for Industrial Development, European Central Bank, Assistant to MEP, European Environment Bureau, Delegation of the European Commission to, amongst others, Thailand / Tanzania Belgian / German, etc.,

## Course objectives

After the internship, MA EPA students 1. are able to relate theoretical knowledge to a real-world setting; 2. are able to apply/use the relevant knowledge and skills acquired during the MA EPA; 3. are able to develop and practice professional skills related to communication, organisation, team work; 4. have gained working experience, explored a potential career option and found out more about their personal skills and interests; 5. are able to establish professional contacts; 6. are able to work within a set organisational structure (hierarchy) with fixed working hours, work patterns, routines, etc.; 7. have enriched their CV to make them more competitive candidates on the job market; 8. have acquired the academic and personal skills to conduct and reflect upon professional skills in an ethical and socially responsible fashion.

## Prerequisites

Only accessible for selected EPA students

## Corequisites

- [Internship thesis](#)

## Recommended reading

Not applicable

### EPA4900

#### Period 5

6 Apr 2021

30 Jun 2021

[Print course description](#)

#### ECTS credits:

10.0

#### Instruction language:

English

#### Coordinator:

[C.U. Arnold](#)

#### Keywords:

Internship, practical experience

## Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences

# Internship report

### Full course description

As the EPA master is practice-oriented and aims to prepare students as much as possible for a career in public administration or consultancy, the 12-week internship is a crucial part of the program. The host institution for this internship varies widely. The main aim of the internship is to provide students with actual work experience in the field. Examples of internships from previous years are: European Commission, Grayling Consultancy, PA Europe Consultancy, BusinessEurope, European Institute of Public Administration, American Chamber of Commerce to the EU, UN Office for Industrial Development, European Central Bank, Assistant to MEP, European Environment Bureau, Delegation of the European Commission to, amongst others, Thailand / Tanzania Belgian / German, etc., Credits for the internship are spread over three deliverables: 1) internship thesis, 2) internship work, and 3) internship report. The internship report refers to a report students draft that describes the work done during the internship, and that reflects upon the internship organization, the work conducted and provides a sample of the work done.

### Course objectives

After the internship, MA EPA students 1. are able to relate theoretical knowledge to a real-world setting; 2. are able to apply/use the relevant knowledge and skills acquired during the MA EPA; 3. are able to develop and practice professional skills related to communication, organisation, team work; 4. have gained working experience, explored a potential career option and found out more about their personal skills and interests; 5. are able to establish professional contacts; 6. are able to work within a set organisational structure (hierarchy) with fixed working hours, work patterns, routines, etc.; 7. have enriched their CV to make them more competitive candidates on the job market; 8. have acquired the academic and personal skills to conduct and reflect upon professional skills in an ethical and socially responsible fashion.

### Prerequisites

Only accessible for selected EPA students

### Corequisites

- [Internship thesis](#)

### Recommended reading

Not applicable

## EPA4990

### Period 5

6 Apr 2021

30 Jun 2021

[Print course description](#)

### ECTS credits:

4.0

### Instruction language:

English

**Coordinator:**

[C.U. Arnold](#)

**Assessment methods:**

Final paper

**Keywords:**

Internship, practical experience

## Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences

# Internship thesis

## Full course description

As the EPA master is practice-oriented and aims to prepare students as much as possible for a career in public administration or consultancy, the 12-week internship is a crucial part of the program. The host institutions for this internship vary widely. The main aim of the internship is to provide students with actual work experience in the field. Examples of internships from previous years are: European Commission, Grayling Consultancy, PA Europe Consultancy, BusinessEurope, European Institute of Public Administration, American Chamber of Commerce to the EU, UN Office for Industrial Development, European Central Bank, Assistant to MEP, European Environment Bureau, Delegation of the European Commission to, amongst others, Thailand / Tanzania Belgian / German, etc., Credits for the internship are spread over three deliverables: 1) internship thesis, 2) internship work, and 3) internship report. The internship thesis refers to a 9.000 word thesis in which students reflect upon the actual work done in the internship via academic research.

## Course objectives

After the internship, MA EPA students

1. are able to relate theoretical knowledge to a real-world setting;
2. are able to apply/use the relevant knowledge and skills acquired during the MA EPA;
3. are able to develop and practice professional skills related to communication, organisation, team work;
4. have gained working experience, explored a potential career option and found out more about their personal skills and interests;
5. are able to establish professional contacts;
6. are able to work within a set organisational structure (hierarchy) with fixed working hours, work patterns, routines, etc.;
7. have enriched their CV to make them more competitive candidates on the job market;
8. have acquired the academic and personal skills to conduct and reflect upon professional skills in an ethical and socially responsible fashion.

## Prerequisites

Only accessible for selected EPA students

## Corequisites

- [Internship report](#)
- [Internship work](#)

## Recommended reading

Not applicable

**EPA4890**

**Period 5**

6 Apr 2021

30 Jun 2021

[Print course description](#)

**ECTS credits:**

10.0

**Instruction language:**

English

**Coordinator:**

[C.U. Arnold](#)

**Assessment methods:**

Final paper

**Keywords:**

Internship, practical experience