

YEI-60312

Research Master Cluster: Academic Research Proposal Training



- Are you dreaming of an academic research career?
- Would you like to write your own PhD research proposal?
- Do you want to understand why proposals are selected for funding?

Then read this brochure!



Target Group

The research master cluster aims at students who really want to become a scientist. We expect high motivation and persistence. Because the course is quite intensive and we work with small groups we have to select the students. You need to be acquainted with research before you can write a research proposal. Before starting the RMC you should have successfully completed the major MSc-thesis. Therefore, the RMC is for second year MSc students.

Activities

- Writing a grant proposal. This is the 'backbone' of the course and takes up about 2/3 of the time available to you. All other activities are to support your grant proposal design. The writing will be supervised by a personal coach.
- Training specific skills: scientific writing, argumentation and oral presentation. Including some preparation at home these lectures take about 1/6 of the available time.
- Lectures on giving and receiving feedback, methodological approaches, funding bodies for research, professional ethics, reviewing scientific papers, aimed at improving the proposal and broadening your scientific perspective and approach.
- You will prepare oral presentations of intermediate products such as the summary or the concept proposal
- Feedback sessions in which you are challenged to actively reflect on your personal way of working and that of other students, your strengths and weaknesses, and your scope for improvement.
- At the end the oral defence of your proposal in front of a scientific committee with experts and non-experts.
- The previous five bullets take place in a group of 12-15 students. The students come from different MSc programmes, which are relatively close to each other. We aim to form international and multidisciplinary groups.



Multidisciplinary themes

From the study year 2014-2015 students can participate in the RMC. The groups are chaired by a senior scientist, listed below. The topics need to be interpreted in a broad sense. The topic of your interest will be specified by you and your coach (a Wageningen University staff member).

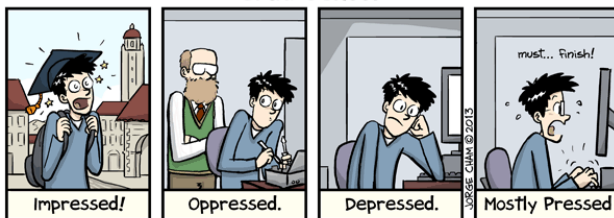
- Period 3/4 Environmental Sciences
Prof Dr Bert Holtslag
- Period 3/4 Biomolecular Sciences
Prof Dr Jasper van der Gucht
- Period 5 Biomolecular Sciences
Prof Dr John van der Oost
- Period 6 Biomolecular Sciences
Prof Dr Karin Schroën
- Period 6 Consumption, sustainability and healthy life style
Prof Dr Gert Spaargaren

Selection Criteria

Before starting the RMC you should have successfully completed your major MSc-thesis. Further requirements are:

- you should choose a coach to supervise your PhD proposal writing. This may, but does not need to be the person who supervises your MSc thesis research.
- a confirmation letter from your chosen coach
- approval of your study advisor
- a motivation letter

Grad School:



Application procedure.

The documents should be submitted to rmc.msc@wur.nl about three months before the RMC starts.

- Period 3/4 before September 29th
- Period 5 before November 24th
- Period 6 before February 16th
- Period 2 2015 before August 23rd 2015

For the academic year 2014/2015 the maximum amount of students is limited to 15 students per topic per period. One week after the deadline you will receive an e-mail if you are admitted to the course.

More information

For more information send us an e-mail: rmc.msc@wur.nl

