

Interested in the Double Degree PhD opportunities between USP and the University of Groningen?

On **Tuesday, January 23, 2024**, Universidade de São Paulo (USP) will host information sessions about the highly successful Double Degree (DD) PhD program in collaboration with the University of Groningen (UG) in the Netherlands (www.rug.nl). With over fifty enrolled students already, this program has seen significant interest.

If you're intrigued by this opportunity, we invite you to attend one of the thematic information sessions. It's a chance to meet with UG delegates and learn more about this exciting academic venture!

- 23 January 2024: afternoon, *exact time & location will be announced*.
- Online attendance is possible
- Register [here](#) by 12 January 2024

Sessions:

1. Social Sciences
 2. Humanities
 3. Life Sciences & Health
 4. Economics & Business
 5. Human Geography & Planning
 6. Engineering & Materials Science
- Session topics are based on the delegate profiles and their role. In case your academic field is not represented and you have identified complementarity at UG, you may attend the session closest to your interest and/or contact latinamerica@rug.nl for more information.
 - Depending on student interest, sessions may be merged.

Read on for an overview of the broader domains represented by the UG delegates present at the sessions.

Academic domains & UG hosts

The following broader academic domains are covered by the different UG delegates:

1. **Social Sciences** (UG host: dr. Mónica López López):
 - [Psychology](#)
 - [Sociology](#)
 - [Pedagogical & Educational Sciences](#)
2. **Humanities** (UG hosts: prof. Lautaro Roig Lanzillotta & dr. Konstantin Mierau), representing research at the following [Graduate Schools](#):
 - Humanities
 - Law
 - Philosophy
 - Religion, Culture & Society
 - Campus Fryslân
3. **Life Sciences & Health** (UG host: prof. Han Moshage & dr. Nils Bömer):
 - [Brain & Cognition \(BRAIN\)](#)
 - [Chronic Diseases and Drug Exploration \(GUIDE\)](#)
 - [Cancer Research Center Groningen \(CRCG\)](#)
 - [Health Care Research \(SHARE\)](#)
 - [Biomedical Engineering & Biomaterials \(W.J. Kolff\)](#)
 - [Groningen Research Institute of Pharmacy \(GRIP\)](#)
 - [Groningen Biomolecular Sciences & Biotechnology Institute \(GBB\)](#)
 - Aletta Jacobs School of [Public Health](#)
4. **Economics & Business** (UG hosts: prof. Robert Lensink & prof. Elmer Sterken), representing the following [research programs](#):
 - Accounting
 - Economics, Econometrics & Finance
 - Global Economics & Management
 - Innovation & Organization
 - Marketing
 - Operations Management & Operations Research
 - Organizational Behavior
5. **Human geography & Planning** (UG host: dr. Philippe Hanna de Almeida Oliveira)
 - [Towards Wellbeing, Innovation and Spatial Transformation:](#)
 - [Urban and Regional Studies Institute \(URSI\)](#)
 - [Public Participation Center](#)
6. **Science & Engineering** (UG host: Rector Jacqueline Scherpen). Find our more about Engineering research here:
 - [Engineering and Technology Institute Groningen \(ENTEG\)](#)
 - [Biomedical Engineering](#)

In a broader sense, Rector Scherpen will represent the Faculty of Science & Engineering in its entirety. Consult www.rug.nl/fse/research for more information.

Delegate profiles

Session Social Sciences

Mónica López López obtained her PhD in Psychology at the University of Oviedo, Spain. She is an Associate Professor at the Faculty of Behavioural and Social Sciences of the University of Groningen, the Netherlands. Her research provides guidance to address decision making disparities and to reduce inequalities in child protection systems. In her research, Mónica focuses on the voice of the service users, children and families, as a powerful instrument to improve welfare services. Her recent projects include Hestia, a European funded project comparing policies and practices of child protection in England, Germany and the Netherlands; Audre and Firmus on the experiences of LGBTQIA+ young people in out-of-home care in the Netherlands and Spain respectively; and Brighter Future, a European project addressing the social inclusion of children in care through training for education professionals.

Mónica's main research lines are:

1. Child and Family Welfare Systems
2. Decision making in child protection
3. Children's participation
4. LGBTQIA youth

Mónica represents the following research lines available at the University of Groningen:

- Psychology
- Sociology
- Pedagogical & Educational Sciences

Session Humanities

Lautaro Roig Lanzillotta is Full Professor of New Testament and Early Christian Studies at the Faculty of Theology and Religious Studies of the University of Groningen. He studied Classics at the Universidad Complutense of Madrid (Spain); Byzantine and Modern Greek Literature at the Aristoteles University of Thessaloniki (Greece), and Theology at the University of Groningen (Netherlands). He holds a PhD in Classics (1997, Univ. Complutense) and a PhD in Theology (2004, Univ. Groningen). His main areas of interest are Early Christian Literature, especially early Christian Apocrypha and the Nag Hammadi Library, and Ancient Greek Philosophy

Lautaro's main research lines are:

1. Early Christianity; apocryphal literature; Nag Hammadi
2. Later Greek Philosophy: Middle Platonism and Plutarch
3. Apocalyptic and Politics

Konstantin Mierau is an Associate Professor for European Culture and Literature (Spanish) at the department of European Languages and Cultures of the University of Groningen. In addition, Mierau is the program director of the Graduate School for the Humanities, director of the Federation of Graduate Schools in the Social Sciences and the Humanities and University of Groningen Academic Ambassador for Oceania. His academic research focuses on the cultural representation of marginality using an interdisciplinary approach. His publications cover Early Modern Spain (a.o. the monograph *Capturing the Pícaro in Words. Institutional and Literary Representations of Marginal Communities in Early Modern Madrid* (Routledge, 2019) as well contemporary Latin America (a.o. the co-edited volume *Horizontes Convergentes I & II: Aportes transdisciplinarios al estudio del ecosistema de la marginación cultural*. Consejo Latinoamericano de Ciencias Sociales, 2021/2022).

Konstantin's main research lines are:

1. Reading in prisons
2. Cultural representations of marginality
3. Inter- and transdisciplinary approaches to cultural representation

Session Life Sciences & Health

Han Moshage studied chemistry at the Radboud University of Nijmegen and graduated in 1983 with specialization Biochemistry. After receiving his PhD degree at the Radboud University of Nijmegen in 1987, he was post-doctoral fellow at the Alcohol Research and Treatment Center of the VA Medical Center/Mount Sinai Medical Center in New York, USA. From 1990-1993 he was staff-scientist at the Dept. of Hepatology, University Hospital Leuven in Belgium. Since 1993 he has been at the Dept. of Gastroenterology and Hepatology of the University of Groningen. In 2005, he was appointed full professor of Experimental Hepatology and Gastroenterology. His main research line is metabolic liver diseases.

Nils Bömer received a Bachelor of Science in Biomedical Engineering (2007), followed by Master of Science in Molecular, Cellular and Tissue Engineering (2010) from University of Twente, focusing on Developmental Biology and Epigenetics. In 2017, Nils received his PhD from the Leiden University in the Netherlands. During his PhD at the Department of Molecular Epidemiology (LUMC), he used functional genomics (functional follow-up of genetic associations) as a tool to elucidate the molecular mechanisms that underlie the development and progression of osteoarthritis (OA).

Nils' main research lines are:

- Translational Cardiology
- Nutrition and dietary intervention
- Molecular Biology
- Mitochondria

Session: Economics & Business

Robert Lensink is a development economist, with specific research interests covering Finance and Development, Gender Studies, Impact Analyses, Microfinance, and Rural Development. He is Professor of Finance and Financial Markets and the current vice-dean of Research at the Faculty of Economics and Business at the University of Groningen.

Elmer Sterken is a professor of monetary economics and a special advisor to the University Board of the University of Groningen (UG), The Netherlands. Previously he has served as a dean of the Faculty of Economics and Business and as the Rector Magnificus of the UG. He currently teaches monetary economics and policy and sport economics and his research interest centers around monetary policy, firm- bank relations and information economics.

Session Human Geography & Planning

Philippe Hanna holds a Bachelor in Social Sciences and a Master in Social Anthropology from the Federal University of Santa Catarina (Brazil). He earned his PhD in Cultural Geography from the University of Groningen (the Netherlands), where he currently teaches and researches as an Assistant Professor in Impact Assessment and Spatial Planning. Philippe specializes in interethnic relations and social movements, bringing extensive professional experience from international financial institutions, NGOs, and the private sector. He also acts as an independent consultant in social impact assessment, stakeholder engagement, and project adequacy with diverse cultural contexts.

Philippe's main research lines are:

1. Environmental and Social Impact Assessment
2. Indigenous Peoples and Traditional Livelihoods (e.g. fishers)
3. Social Movements

Session Engineering & Materials Science

Jacquelin Scherpen received her M.Sc. and Ph.D. degree in Applied Mathematics from the University of Twente, The Netherlands, in 1990 and 1994, respectively in the field of Systems and Control. Her thesis was entitled: "Balancing for nonlinear systems". Her research interests include model reduction methods for networks of systems, nonlinear model reduction methods, realization theory, nonlinear control methods, with in particular modeling and control of physical systems with applications to electrical circuits, electro-mechanical systems, mechanical systems and smart energy systems. Recently, her research interest focusses as well on distributed (optimal) control methods for smart grid applications. Industrial and space applications are also included in her interests.

Since September 2006 she holds a professor position at the University of Groningen in the Engineering and Technology institute Groningen (ENTEG) at the faculty of Science and Engineering. From 2013-2019, she was research director of ENTEG. From 2016 to 2023 she was also director of the Groningen Engineering Center, the Center that unites all engineering related research and teaching at the University of Groningen. Per 1 September 2023, she is rector of the University of Groningen.