



# Evidence-Based Policy Research Methods (EPRM)

## Spring/Autumn Programme

## Programme Description

In the EPRM certificate programme participants translate their own contextual societal issue into a researchable project. By using the evidence base we will identify the core issue to focus on, review the state-of-art research in the field, refresh and upskill research method knowledge and train participants in the best suitable method to analyse the evidence-base.

Throughout the programme our participants will development a research proposal that can be guide the research to answer to their individually identified societal problem in an academically sound way. Participants will receive joint classes and discussion sessions, individual research guidance and full access to a large selection of books, journals and databases available at the Maastricht University Library

## Programme Objectives

EPRM trains participants in:

- Translating policy issues into research questions
- Analysing qualitative and / or quantitative data
- Understanding current academic developments in a particular field
- Designing research proposals for evidence-based research, either in the workplace or in preparation for a PhD application
- Disseminating research outcomes for policy purposes

## The Programme Setting

- Offerings twice each year, in the spring and fall.
- Duration of 14 weeks, split in five (5) modules that are either on-site or online.
- Enrollment in one round, or through a split modular approach [to be completed within 3 years].
- Synchronous classes, learning materials, graded assignments and peer learning exercises.

## Programme Certification

Modules completion is evaluated based on attendance and assessment of assignments. Participants who complete a module successfully will receive an online educational badge for that module.

Upon completing the full programme (within a maximum of 3 years, counting from the starting date), the participants will receive the online badge for the full EPRM certificate programme.

## Participant Profile

- Researchers and policymakers from academic institutions, businesses, NGOs, government ministries, multilateral organizations, and think tanks.
- Professionals involved in research
- Professionals and Master graduates aiming to pursue PhD studies.



*“Knowing what the societal problem is, is a different thing from knowing how to do the research to answer the question. As a public official I am often asked to come up with solutions. In this training I learn how to provide the evidence”*

**Abdelrahman Ahmed Hassan (EPRM 2023)**  
**Head of Somali Region Finance Bureau**

## Programme Structure

Module	Duration	Tuition (euros)	Mode	Workload
M1: Evidence-based Policy Research	1 week	1000	On-site	40 Hours
M2: Using Academic Literature	3 weeks	500	Online	10-15 Hours
M3: Theory, Design and Methodology	3 weeks	500	Online	10-15 Hours
M4: Evidence-based Analysis	6 weeks	1000	Online	10-15 Hours
M5: Proposal Writing, Presentation, and Dissemination	1 week	1000	On-site/ Online	40 Hours
<b>*Sign-up for all modules (M1-5) in one round</b>	<b>14 weeks</b>	<b>3750</b>	<b>Hybrid</b>	<b>110-125 Hours</b>

## Application Requirements

Participants are required to hold a Master's degree in a relevant field of specialisation, including Economics, Public Policy, Political Science, International Relations, Governance, Law, Business Administration and Social Sciences, Engineering, Sociology.

Exceptions can be made for participants with a bachelor degree and 5+ years of relevant work experience. Those applications need to be reviewed before application for eligibility.

Adequate level of spoken and written English (e.g. native English, higher education in English, working in English language institution, living in English language country). In case of doubt, evidence of proficiency may be asked for, such as IELTS >7.0, TOEFL paper based: >600, TOEFL Internet based >100

To guarantee specialised feedback on your topic of interest by our professors and researchers during the proposal writing modules, we require participants to work on research proposals that fall within the research interests of UNU-MERIT.

## EPRM Payment information

Bank account/IBAN: NL05 INGB 0657 618705  
 Swift or BIC code: INGBNL2A  
 Beneficiary: Maastricht University  
 Bank name: ING Business Banking  
 Bank address: P.O. Box 1800 1000BV Amsterdam, The Netherlands  
 Payment Reference: Your Last Name + 45320004033N

## For More Information



Email: [epm@merit.unu.edu](mailto:epm@merit.unu.edu)

**Capacity Development Office**  
 UNU-MERIT / Maastricht University  
 Boschstraat 24, 6211 AX  
 Maastricht, The Netherlands



*“Through rigorous coursework, a supportive academic environment, and a collaborative network of peers, the EPRM programme provided me with invaluable guidance in formulating research questions, conducting literature reviews, and developing robust research proposals that was essential for launching me on my way to a successful PhD journey”*

**Lindsey Moore (EPRM 2020)**  
**CEO at DevelopMetrics**



*“EPRM provided a solid foundation and paved the way for me to pursue a PhD. It was an exciting and rewarding journey in hindsight!”*

**Atsuko Okuda (EPRM 2016)**  
**Regional Director at ITU**