

Master choice information session

November 9, 2022

Academic Advisers

Why do we plan a meeting now?

This is THE time to start thinking about the choice of a Master

Master Open Day November 12

Application deadlines:

15/1 or 1/4 Forensic Psychology (FPN)

15/1 or 1/4 Research Master (FPN)

1/4 IJMRWOP

1/6 (1/5) Master in Psychology (FPN)



Contents

- Making a choice (for a Master)
- Information about the different Masters at FPN
- Support in choosing a Master



Acceptance

- Making a choice can be stressful
- Can even be frightening (transition/change)
- It's ok/good to make wrong decisions
- There are no guarantees in life
- There are different choosing styles



Aspects of making a choice to continue studying

- Want to continue studying?
- Start now or take a break?

There is no perfect choice!!!

- Make the choice that is best for you now.
- Don't let others influence you too much: it's your life!



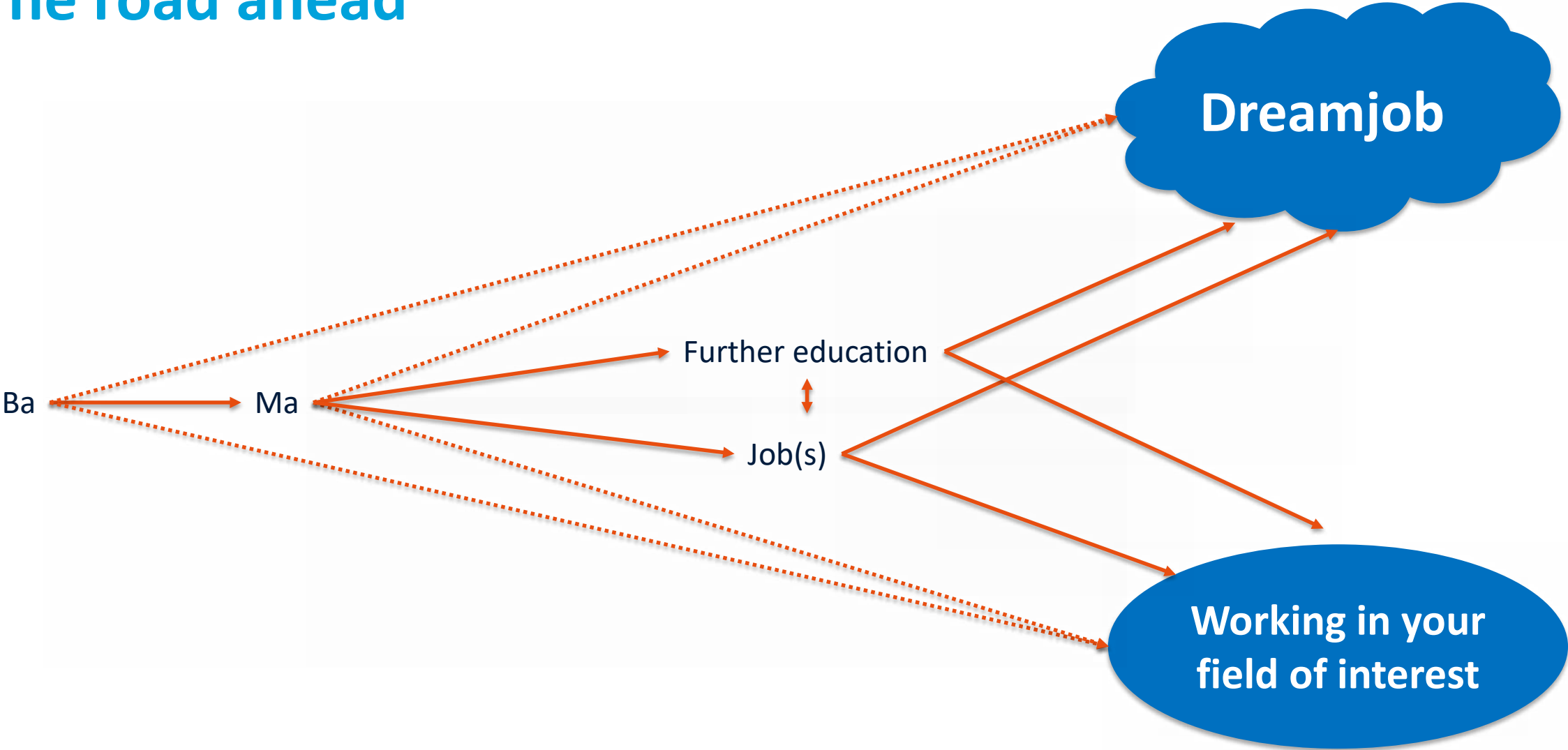
Why a Master?

- Specialisation or broadening your background
- Step closer to a desired job
- Extra titel, (sometimes) higher start salary
- Required (to be able to work in research)

- You show that you have analytical and research skills!

Be aware that you don't continue studying because you're frightened to start working

The road ahead



Different start points in choosing a Master

- Choosing a Master
 - Choosing a work area (topic, setting)
 - Choosing a job
-
- Do it step by step!



If stuck: think of ideal job (does not have to exist) and think backwards (what meets this most)

Different career paths (the extremes)

- Clinical work (*see also presentation on clinical careers January 17*)
- Doing research
- Policy work

- Working at a company
- Working for the government

Keep in mind: with a Master 'in the pocket' you can (still) take many different paths

Steps in the process of choosing (Otto Taborsky)

- Step 1: Reflection and realisation you have to make a choice
- Step 2: Accept insecurity
- Step 3: Investigate in a broad sense
- Step 4: Compare
- Step 5: Decide
- Step 6: Act



(Step 3) Making a choice = knowing yourself

- Think about your:
 - Passions/interests
 - Talents/skills
 - Values
 - Personality
 - Drives to work
 -
- Think about your idea of your future (kind of life and work)
- And f.e.:
 - what you find important in an education (location, way of teaching, other students, ...)
 - what course you liked during Bachelor

Tips

- Write things down, f.e. make a mood board
 - Talk to people who know you (feedback, tips, network)
 - Think about why you chose to study Psychology to start with
 - If you don't know yet: that's ok. Take the time to discover yourself!
 - Follow the [Canvas Module](#) (*Your Employability & Wellbeing*) by UM Career Services
- > Find your own niche! Find your passion!

Geen idee wat je wilt?
Da's mooi. Dan kun je
nog alle kanten op.

Towards options

- What is the red line (in your mood board)?
- Have a look at:
 - <https://www.mastersportal.com/> (international)
 - <https://www.studiekeuze123.nl/> (for Dutch speaking students)

Check your choice

- Check that you meet the entrance requirements
- Check with your list of important elements in an education
- Investigate properly:
 - The title may not reflect the reality
 - Talk to students following the Ma to see if your idea of the Ma is correct
 - Visit Open days (& participate in Experience days)
- Remember: each institution/education has pros and cons: there is no ideal choice

(step 4) Compare

- <https://www.mastersportal.com/> (register, sign in, put Masters on wish list & compare)
- For Dutch speaking students:
<https://www.keuzegids.org/ol/gidsen/ma22/>
<https://www.studiekeuze123.nl/> (vergelijken)



Doing a second Master

- And: doing more Masters does not always have added value
- WHY would you want to do a second Master?
- Can reach the same goal in a more efficient, cheaper, quicker, better way?
- Maybe practical experience or a specific course adds more value



QUESTIONS



Masters at FPN

1. Master in Psychology (*6 specializations - Cognitive/Biological*)
2. International Joint Master of Research in Work and Organisational Psychology (IJMRWOP)
3. Forensic Psychology
4. Research Master (*5 specializations*)
5. Master Mental Health (*2 specializations*)



Master in Psychology (1 year)

Directly admissible after FPN Ba, only 1 degree possible: so apply for only 1!

6 specialization (**Cognitive** and **Biological**):

1. Health & Social Psychology
2. Legal Psychology
3. Work & Organisational Psychology
4. Developmental Psychology
5. Cognitive Neuroscience
6. Neuropsychology -> **Clinical internship possible**



International Joint Master of Research in Work and Organisational Psychology (IJMRWOP)

- 2 year Master:
 - 1 semester at FPN
 - 1 semester in Leuphana (Germany)
 - 1 semester in Valencia (Spain)
 - last semester: internship/thesis
- Period 1 & 2 are the same as the Master in Psychology Work and Organisational Psychology specialisation
- Selective Master (top 30 selected; check [requirements](#))

Forensic Psychology

- 2 year Master:
 - year 1 courses
 - year 2 internships (research and clinical)
- Selective Master (top 24 selected; check [requirements](#))

Operates on the intersection of psychology and the justice system -> a career as scientist-practitioner in the mental health field

Research Master

- 2 year Master (yr1 + p1 yr2: courses, rest yr2: internship)
- Prepares for a research (PhD) position
- 5 specialisations
 - [Cognitive Neuroscience](#)
 - [Fundamental Neuroscience](#)
 - [Neuropsychology](#) (clinical)
 - [Psychopathology](#) (clinical)
 - [Drug Development and Neurohealth](#)
- Selective Master (top 24 selected; check requirements)



Master Mental Health

- 1 year Master
- Two specialisations:
 - Child & Adolescent Psychopathology
 - Adult Psychopathology
- Prepares for post Master education to become independent clinical psychologist
- Only in Dutch
- No direct admission after Ba Psy. You have to finish another (clinical) Ma first



Tips (again)

- Compare! (see earlier sheet)
- Titles often don't say it all: Sometimes different titles but same content (and vice versa)
- Talk to the student ambassadors
- Visit Open days & Experience days (UM Master Open Day November 12)

- Be aware of different starting dates (NL is 'early')
- *Start looking for a room as soon as possible.*

Things to keep in mind

- Spread your chances/have a backup plan: apply for more than 1 Master. Choose before August 31 (if no specific deadline provided)
- Can only switch in week 1 of the academic year if it's not what you want after all
- Rules & Regulations: a lot the same as for Bachelor, but additional requirements



Selection frightening/stressful?

- Each year the chances are different.
- No information on chances/tips to increase chances can be given beforehand.
- If you think it's THE programme for you and you meet requirements: **APPLY!!**



Support in study/career choice

- > UM Career Services a.o.:
 - Quick Career Advice
 - Individual Career Counselling
 - Workshops and trainings
 - Canvas Module (*Your Employability & Wellbeing*; o.a. self understanding)
- > Academic advisers (workbook)
- > UM Alumni perspective meetings



How to contact the academic advisers?

Send us an email (short question):
fpn-academicadv-ba@maastrichtuniversity.nl
or
fpn-academicadv-ma@maastrichtuniversity.nl

Schedule an appointment (more elaborate question): use [appointment system](#))



A long, multi-arched stone bridge spans across a wide river. The bridge is constructed from large, weathered stone blocks. Several street lamps with two globes each are mounted along the top of the bridge. In the background, a town with multi-story buildings is visible under a dramatic, orange-hued sunset sky. The sun is low on the horizon, creating a bright glow and long shadows.

Any remaining questions?

**Good luck and thank you for
your attention!**