

Besluit

Besluit strekkende tot het verlenen van accreditatie aan de opleiding wo-master Forensic Psychology van de Universiteit Maastricht en de toekenning van het bijzonder kenmerk 'Kleinschalig en intensief onderwijs'

datum	Gegevens	
30 september 2014	Naam instelling	: Universiteit Maastricht
onderwerp	Naam opleiding	: wo-master
Voornemen tot besluit		Forensic Psychology (120 ECTS)
accreditatie wo-master	Datum aanvraag	: 2 mei 2014
Forensic Psychology van de	Variant opleiding	: voltijd
Universiteit Maastricht	Locatie opleiding	: Maastricht
en toekenning bijzonder	Datum goedkeuren	
kenmerk 'Kleinschalig en	panel	: 4 november 2013
intensief onderwijs'	Datum locatiebezoeken	: 28 en 29 januari 2014
(002959)	Datum visitatierapport	: 28 april 2014
uw kenmerk	Instellingstoets kwaliteitszorg	: ja, positief besluit van 16 mei 2013
2014.10.0698-NG		
ons kenmerk	Beoordelingskaders	
NVAO/20143335/AH	Beoordelingskaders voor de beperkte opleidingsbeoordeling van de NVAO (Stcrt. 2010, nr 21523) en voor het bijzonder kenmerk 'Kleinschalig en intensief onderwijs'.	
bijlagen		
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Bevindingen

De NVAO stelt vast dat in het visitatierapport deugdelijk en kenbaar is gemotiveerd op welke gronden het panel de kwaliteit van de opleiding goed heeft bevonden en heeft geadviseerd tot toekenning van het bijzonder kenmerk 'Kleinschalig en intensief onderwijs'.

Advies van het visitatiepanel over de accreditatie

Samenvatting bevindingen en overwegingen van het panel (hierna ook "the committee").

This report reflects the committee's findings and considerations of the master's programme Forensic Psychology at Maastricht University. The evaluations are based on information provided in the critical reflection, on interviews conducted during the site visit and on a selection of theses, course files and additional material supplied during the site visit. In its assessment, the committee observed positive aspects as well as ones which could be improved.

The committee reviewed the intended learning outcomes, the teaching-learning environment, the assessment and the achieved outcomes of the programme and found them all to be good. It decided that the Forensic Psychology master's programme at

Pagina 2 van 9 Maastricht University fulfils the requirements set by the NVAO for re-accreditation.

Furthermore, as will be explained in the Addendum to this report, the committee considered that the programme continues to fulfil in an exemplary way all standards measuring the programme's features in terms of smallscale and intensive education.

Standard 1: Intended learning outcomes

The master's programme Forensic Psychology started in September 2010 at the Faculty of Psychology and Neuroscience of Maastricht University. It is a full-time two-year programme taught in English. The programme has two key goals that are the focus within the forensic mental health field: 1. the well-being of the patient/offender and 2. the safety of society at large and/or certain individuals in particular. It wants to improve the quality of service, research and policy in the field by educating the next generation forensic psychologists.

The committee studied the domain-specific framework of reference, the profile, the intended learning outcomes and the academic level of the programme. It highly values the mission of the programme to improve the evidence-based practice and standardisation in the work field. It established that the mission is reflected in the intended learning outcomes of the programme and the framework of reference. The intended learning outcomes are appropriate for the working field of Forensic Psychology, are clearly formulated and reflect the level of an academic master's programme. The committee is very impressed by the master's programme and acknowledges that the programme meets an important need for education in the field of forensic psychology, especially in the Netherlands.

Standard 2: Teaching-learning environment

The committee studied the content and structure of the curriculum, didactic principles, internationalisation, study load and admission, staff, student support and the facilities to determine the extent to which the curricula enable students to achieve the intended learning outcomes. The committee is enthusiastic with regard to the curriculum and established that the curriculum contains a strong coherence and, with an addition of more information regarding high frequency crimes and general offenders, offers a complete package and a great variety of subjects. It is impressed by the fact that the specialised master programme is maintaining a balance between different psychological perspectives in a broad field of practice.

The committee supports the focus on the scientist-practitioner model in the programme because it is convinced that clinical- as well as academic skills are an important asset for students. It values the problem-based learning as a didactic principle of the programme and is of the opinion that it makes an important contribution to the scientist-practitioner model. The committee acknowledges the significance of the programme's focus on both diagnostic and treatment skills, and on the delicate interactions between these skills, during courses and internships. As to the courses, the committee recommends the programme to consider a more comprehensive focus, through paying more explicit attention to victim-focused skills. As to the combined internships, e.g. clinical internships that are combined with research activities, the committee suggests the program to keep systematic track of a well balanced focus between clinical and research activity. Additionally, it sees the use of master classes during skills labs taught by field experts as an important tool for students to learn more about the practical field. The committee acknowledges the added value of the international classroom and small scale education in support of problem-based learning. It is of the opinion that, with the addition of a focused course in statistical methods, the curriculum even more fully enables students to achieve every intended learning outcome.

Pagina 3 van 9 When these small adjustments will be implemented, the committee is convinced all graduates will become highly competent practitioners and researchers in the field of Forensic Psychology.

The committee is impressed by the dedication of the students and is of the opinion that the thorough admission procedure and the enthusiastic and closely involved staff members of the programme result in the high commitment and high performance of the master's students. The committee recommends expanding the core staff by attracting more experienced forensic psychologists who are prominent in the field to strengthen the continuity of the programme.

The committee highly values the community cohesion and established that the direct communication between students and staff leads to great responsiveness in the programme. Also, the committee appreciates the fact that student evaluations of the programme are formally registered and used in the improvement of the curriculum. However, it assumes that the students of the master's programme Forensic Psychology should be represented in the Programme Committee. The committee is of the opinion that facilities are overall good.

Standard 3: Assessment and achieved learning outcomes

The committee interviewed the members of the Board of Examiners to evaluate the assessment system and read a selection of theses to assess the achieved academic level. The committee is of the opinion that since the Board of Examiners has delegated a part of its tasks to the Plagiarism Committee and the Test Committee, the regular and open communication between the Board of Examiners and the other committees should be documented.

There was a match between the assessments given by the committee and those originally recorded by the team of supervisors. Overall, the committee was very impressed with the quality of the master's student's work.

Advies van het visitatiepanel over het bijzonder kenmerk 'Kleinschalig en intensief onderwijs'

Following the positive advice of the committee chaired by Professor Sminia, the NVAO awarded the distinctive feature 'small-scale and intensive education' to the master's programme Forensic Psychology at the Maastricht University in July 2013.

In view of the current site visit for the accreditation of the Forensic Psychology programme, it was agreed with NVAO that the present committee, chaired by Professor Winkel, would check marginally whether positive advice on the conditions for small-scale and intensive education is still applicable. This was done under guidance of one of the committee members, Drs. Teune, who also was part of the Sminia committee who awarded the programme with the distinctive feature.

Maastricht University did not include additional information with regard to the distinctive feature in its critical reflection, but has made relevant materials (including the report on the basis of which the distinctive feature was assigned in 2013) available to the committee during the site visit.

Pagina 4 van 9 In line with its tasks, the committee decided that it would evaluate the programme broadly, verifying whether the current situation with respect to small-scale and intensive education had undergone any significant changes since the hearing in April 2013. The committee addressed the issues related to small-scale and intensive education in the various interviews it conducted and prepared this addendum by paying specific attention to each standard of the assessment framework in its internal meeting at the end of the site visit.

First and foremost, the committee wants to emphasise that the definition and features of small-scale and intensive education definitely apply to the master's programme Forensic Psychology at Maastricht University. Secondly, the commission noted that almost all findings and considerations which the Sminia committee established in April 2013 still applied in January 2014.

On the basis of the information it has gathered during the interviews and from the materials made available by the programme, the committee has established:

- that the intended learning outcomes, conform standard A, are relevant for a master's programme that aims not only to bring students to a high level in the relevant academic discipline and/of professional practice, but also have a broader aim: to train socially skilled and initiative-rich scholars and/of professionals with a wide interest in social developments and issues within multidisciplinary and/or interdisciplinary context. The committee noted that the programme management is working on expanding their multidisciplinary focus in the curriculum. Moreover, the committee established that the programme uses a scientific- as well as a practitioner approach and covers a broad scope of different views in psychology and other disciplines;
- that there is, conform standard B, a clear relationship between the goals and the content of the programme. The content of the programme is inseparably connected to relevant extra- curricular activities, which ensures a high level and broadening of interests as set down in the intended learning outcomes. The specialised and yet broad curriculum offers a stimulating environment for students. The committee is enthusiastic that the advice of the previous committee concerning extracurricular activities has been put in motion by organising interactive lectures with a broad orientation;
- that, conform standard C, the structure and didactic concept of the programme meet the requirements of small-scale and intensive education: in the first year students spend an average of 15 hours per week in classes of maximum 24 students. Moreover the students have a study load that entails besides the 15 contact hours, 28 self-study hours and 2 hours for extra-curricular activities. There is a high level of student-teacher interaction and an excellent supervision during the first year. The committee asks the programme to consider making sure these aspects are more evident in the second year of the programme. The social events organised for students and staff members are highly valued by the committee;
- that this academic year (2013-2014) there was, conform standard D, a sound selection procedure aimed at admitting motivated and academically and/or professionally talented students which led to an intake of 19 students, selected out of hundred students. The committee is of the opinion that due to the thorough student selection all students are highly committed and perform very well. The programme management told the committee they were reconsidering to raise the number of students from 24 to 36 in the next years;

- Pagina 5 van 9 – that, conform standard E, the quality of staff is high and the staff members have a good understanding of the needs necessary for 'small-scale and intensive education. The committee noted that the staff members are for the most part of Dutch origin but remarks that the programme partly compensates this by inviting guest-lecturers from abroad. It appreciates the fact that staff members all want to make a contribution to society by educating future forensic psychologists;
- that, conform standard F, the number of staff available is sufficient to implement the programme along the lines of small-scale and intensive education: the student-staff ratio is 17.6:1;
 - that, conform standard G, the available facilities are adequate for the delivery of a small-scale intensive education programme and common extra-curricular activities. The committee was glad to hear that the Forensic Psychology master's programme will get a dedicated room with multifunctional capabilities, which will be ready to use in 2014. The committee saw the plan and heard that the budget was allocated;
 - that, conform standard H, by the end of the curriculum, graduates achieve the intended learning outcomes at master's level demonstrating both interdisciplinary breadth and disciplinary depth. The committee considers that the success rate of the students is high: of the 2011/2012 cohort 53% of the students graduated cum laude. The committee was told by the management as of next year the students are graduated cum laude with a mean grade of 8.5 instead of 8.0. Also the completion rate (traditionally defined as the percentage of students who graduated within the normal timeframe + 1 year) is high. For the 2010-2011 cohort, the completion rate was 100%. From the second cohort that started in 2011 only 1 student has a delay longer than 1 year and from the third cohort all, but one student, completed their first year and are now conducting their second-year internships. The committee is impressed that until now there is only one drop out student of the programme.

The committee concludes that the master's programme Forensic Psychology at Maastricht University continues to fulfill the requirements of a programme with the distinctive feature 'small-scale and intensive education' and advises to prolong this distinctive feature.

Het panel verklaart tevens dat het bij de beoordeling van de opleiding heeft geverifieerd dat de grondslag voor het toekennen van het bijzonder kenmerk 'Kleinschalig en intensief onderwijs', dat aan de opleiding is toegekend op 12 juli 2013, nog steeds aanwezig is.

Aanbevelingen met betrekking tot de accreditatie

De NVAO onderschrijft de aanbevelingen van het panel, in het bijzonder de aanbevelingen ten aanzien van de activiteiten van de examen- en de toetscommissie.

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Ingevolge het bepaalde in artikel 5a.10, derde lid, van de WHW heeft de NVAO het college van bestuur van de Universiteit Maastricht te Maastricht in de gelegenheid gesteld zijn zienswijze op het voornemen tot besluit van 14 juli 2014 naar voren te brengen. Van deze gelegenheid heeft het college van bestuur geen gebruik gemaakt.

De NVAO besluit accreditatie te verlenen aan de wo-master Forensic Psychology (120 ECTS; variant: voltijd; locatie: Maastricht) van de Universiteit Maastricht te Maastricht en het bijzonder kenmerk 'Kleinschalig en intensief onderwijs' toe te kennen aan de opleiding wo-master Forensic Psychology van de Universiteit Maastricht te Maastricht. De NVAO beoordeelt de kwaliteit van de opleiding als goed.

Dit besluit treedt in werking op 30 september 2014 en is van kracht tot en met 29 september 2020.

Den Haag, 30 september 2014

De NVAO
Voor deze:

b/a



Dr. A.H. Flierman
(voorzitter)

Paul Zevenbergen
Bestuurder

Tegen dit besluit kan op grond van het bepaalde in de Algemene wet bestuursrecht door een belanghebbende bezwaar worden gemaakt bij de NVAO. De termijn voor het indienen van bezwaar bedraagt zes weken.

Onderwerp	Standaard	Beoordeling door het panel
1. Beoogde eindkwalificaties	De beoogde eindkwalificaties van de opleiding zijn wat betreft inhoud, niveau en oriëntatie geconcretiseerd en voldoen aan internationale eisen	Goed
2. Onderwijsleeromgeving	Het programma, het personeel en de opleidingsspecifieke voorzieningen maken het voor de instromende studenten mogelijk de beoogde eindkwalificaties te realiseren	Goed
3. Toetsing en gerealiseerde eindkwalificaties	De opleiding beschikt over een adequaat systeem van toetsing en toont aan dat de beoogde eindkwalificaties worden gerealiseerd	Goed
Eindoordeel		Goed

De standaarden krijgen het oordeel onvoldoende, voldoende, goed of excellent.
Het eindoordeel over de opleiding als geheel wordt op dezelfde schaal gegeven.

Tabel 1: Rendement.

Cohort	2010	2011*	2012*
Rendement	100%	--	--

* Voor 2011 en 2012 is het definitief rendement nog niet beschikbaar.

Tabel 2: Docentkwaliteit.

Graad	Ma	PhD	BKO
Percentage	100%	94%	69%

Tabel 3: Student-docentratio.

Ratio	1:17,6
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Tabel 4: Contacturen.

Studiejaar	1	2
Contacturen	15	1*

*Contacturen jaar 2 variëren naar gelang fase en locatie van de stage.

- Prof. dr mr. F.W. Winkel, (voorzitter) emeritus hoogleraar Psychological Victimology, (Intervict), Tilburg University;
- Prof. mr. T.A. de Roos, (lid) emeritus hoogleraar Strafrecht en strafprocesrecht, Tilburg University, daarnaast advocaat en raadsheer-plaatsvervanger in het gerechtshof Den Bosch;
- Drs. W.M.E. Teune-Kasbergen, (lid) oud-bestuurder Fontys Hogeschool, lid raad van toezicht Hogeschool Zeeland; lid van de beoordelingscommissie van de NVAO voor het bijzonder kenmerk 'Kleinschalig en intensief onderwijs' 2012-14;
- Dr. M.H. van Binsbergen, (lid) algemeen directeur Ottho Gerhard Heldringstichting, centrum voor gedragsstoornissen en het Ambulatorium, polikliniek voor gedragsstoornissen. Daarnaast adviseur voor de raad van bestuur en dochterstichtingen van de CONRISQ Groep;
- Prof. dr. G. Vervaeke, (lid) hoogleraar Rechtspsychologie en Persoongerichte Methodieken, KU Leuven;
- C. Umuhoza BSc., (student-lid) student in de masteropleiding Psychologie van de Erasmus Universiteit Rotterdam (since 2010).

Het panel werd ondersteund door T.G. Verseput MSc, secretaris (gecertificeerd).