tinbergen institute

Program

Study Guide 2026-27
Tinbergen Institute Research Master's Program

Study Guide 2026-2027

Tinbergen Institute Research
Master's in Economics - May 2026

Erasmus University Rotterdam
Erasmus School of Economics

University of Amsterdam
Amsterdam School of Economics

Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam
School of Business and Economics

Preface

April 15, 2026

It is a pleasure to welcome you to the Tinbergen Institute (TI) Research Master in Economics, run jointly by the schools of economics of the Erasmus University Rotterdam (EUR), University of Amsterdam (UvA) and Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam (VU).

The TI Research Master program is a two-year (120 EC), research master's in economics, econometrics and finance that endows students with the skills needed to write a PhD thesis. The TI program offers research training equivalent to training in the first two years of PhD programs at top US economics faculties. This implies a first year of rigorous and common training in core subjects of economics, econometrics, and/or finance. Students with a strong quantitative background can choose advanced courses in these subjects. In the second year, students specialize in their choice from TI's many fields of research through field course work and supervised research for a final thesis. Most of our instructors are fellows of Tinbergen Institute and can be found on our website.

Throughout both years students receive training in professional skills (how to write and present research, how to manage research data). They also familiarize themselves with ethical issues in education and research.

The three faculties participating in TI have several PhD positions available for students who have completed the TI Research Master. Most students who perform well in the program find a supervisor at one of the three faculties (usually the PhD supervisor will act as Research Master thesis supervisor).

TI offers job market training to PhD students in the last year of their appointment. This training program consists of workshops where students learn how to prepare for the academic job market, followed by mock interviews in which students learn to present themselves and their research in front of a committee.

Amsterdam, April 2026

Francesca Sotgiu
Director of Graduate Studies

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Study Guide 2026-2027

Tinbergen Institute Research Master in Economics

General Information

The Tinbergen Institute (TI) Research Master is a joint program in economics, econometrics, and finance offered by Erasmus University Rotterdam (EUR), University of Amsterdam (UvA) and Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam (VU), with EUR as the host university that charges the tuition fees and registers the grades.

Students are registered at all three universities (EUR, UvA and VU). The degree awarded after the final examination is a joint degree (MSc) awarded by the three partners.

Tinbergen Institute supports both the TI research master program and the Research Master program Business Data Science with an Examination Board and an Educational Board. The Director of Graduate Studies (DGS) oversees the curriculum of the program, and for admissions is assisted by an admissions board specific to the program.

Intended Learning Outcomes

Students who successfully complete the TI program are able to set up and conduct innovative academic research.

1. Knowledge and understanding

Research master graduates have

1.1 an overview of the core of economics/econometrics/finance that allows them to broadly read and understand the current scientific literature and follow scientific debates in their field of specialization.

1.2 in-depth and systematic knowledge of an area within economics/econometrics/finance that allows them to successfully embark on independent study of at least one specialized field of research.

2. Application of knowledge and understanding

Research master graduates are able

2.1 to outline a relevant research question in their field of specialization.
2.2 to operationalize the research question and to select and apply correctly complex and advanced techniques and methodology.

3. Making judgements

Research master graduates are able

3.1 to independently set up and carry out scientific research projects in the chosen field of expertise.
3.2 to critically reflect on and evaluate research outcomes.

4. Communication

Research master graduates are able

4.1 to write research papers that are well structured; texts are written in a fluent and academic style.
4.2 to orally present research findings in a coherent and lively presentation and to give accurate and to the point response to comments and questions before an audience of academic researchers.
4.3 to communicate research to a broader audience.

5. Learning skills

Research master graduates

5.1 have the skills required for further study in a largely self-directed or autonomous manner.
5.2 are creative in their thinking and prepared to work within challenging and diverse environments.
5.3 respect and practise matters of scientific integrity, ethics, responsible data management and privacy.

Practicalities

The following practical points are relevant for all students.

Calendar for 2026-2027

Courses are taught in blocks of eight weeks, with lectures during the first six (core courses) or seven weeks (field courses); the eighth week of each block typically serves as an exam week. To accommodate all field courses and the two lecture series, Block V is extended by approximately two weeks.

Block 0	August 24-August 28	Introduction and refresher courses in Programming and Mathematics
Block I	August 31-October 16	Lectures
	October 19-October 23	Exams
Block II	October 26-December 11	Lectures
	December 14-December 18	Exams
	December 19-January 3	Christmas Holidays
Block III	January 4-February 19	Lectures
	February 22-Februari 26	Exams
Block IV	March 1-April 16	Lectures
	April 20-April 24	Exams
	April 26-April 30	Spring Break
Block V	May 3-July 9[1]	Lectures and Exams

First-year (core) courses have weekly one-hour tutorials, taught by a teaching assistant, in which students work on and discuss homework assignments. For core courses, no graded homework may be assigned in the week prior to the exam. For all courses, no work-related deadline can be set after the end of the block in which the course takes place.

Course attendance is mandatory; this applies to all lectures of core and field courses, to the skills courses and to the Introduction to TI research groups (visits to the research departments of the schools). Attendance is registered.

The course schedule is available on Erasmus University's timetable (login with ERNA account) or via the Erasmus University's course guide (select current academic year).

[1] During Block V there will be a lecture free week, information will follow at the beginning of the academic year.

Osiris and Canvas

Study results are registered in Osiris. Students are encouraged to regularly check if all results in Osiris are up to date and correct. This is important for progressing into the second year and ensuring that all required grades are registered in time for the pre-defense and graduation.

Osiris is also used by students to register for courses, submit individual requests to the Examination Board and apply for their awarded scholarships, among other functions.

Canvas is the digital learning environment for all courses in the curriculum. Teachers use Canvas for announcements, and to publish course material, assignments and grades. Students upload their homework on Canvas. All assignments uploaded by students are automatically checked for plagiarism.

Registration for and withdrawal from courses

Except for Block I year 1 courses, students register for their courses in Osiris at least three weeks before the Block starts. Registration is through Osiris student and is linked to the Canvas page for the course.

In Block III students select their field courses from a designated list for Block V. In Block V, students select a full program of electives for the second year, amounting to 27 EC. If applicable, students must also register for failed year one courses. Withdrawal from courses [2] can only be processed through the Education Office. Approval for the revised study plan needs to be granted by the DGS. Changes to course choices must be registered through the *Change of Course* form on the Student Sharepoint - Academic Matters.

Important note: field courses may be cancelled or turned into a reading group if fewer than seven students register. If a course is cancelled, affected students must select an alternative course.

Assessment, grading, credits and inspection

All courses are graded on a 1.0-10.0 scale, where 1.0 indicates very poor performance, 6.0 is the lowest passing grade, and 10.0 refers to outstanding performance. The final grade for a course block is rounded to the nearest multiple of .0 or .5, with the exception of a grade between 5.0 and 6.0. Any grade between 5.0 and 5.5 (excluded) is rounded to a 5.0; any grade between 5.5 and 6.0 is rounded to a 6.0. The lowest possible grade is 1.0. Grades for homework or midterm examinations are not rounded before computing a student's final grade. The exceptions are the Research Internship and the skills courses which are graded with a pass or fail.

All TI core courses will be concluded by a sit-in examination. Results of homework assignments form part of the assessment and contribute to the final grade for a course, if the unrounded grade of the exam is at least a 5.0. The final grade for a core course is composed of the average grade for the homework assignments (25%) and the grade for the sit-in examination (75%).

Assessment methods for field courses are a combination of class participation, presentations in class, essay assignments, and take-home or sit-in examinations. The main means of assessment of students for these courses cannot be a standard closed-book, sit-in examination. Student assessment should be designed to evaluate the research skills and potential of students.

[2] Including during the course.

The assessment format for each course is specified online and in Canvas.

Tinbergen Institute does not schedule retakes (in individual cases the Examination Board can decide otherwise). Instead, students must retake failed first-year core courses in their second year of the program. Failed first-year field courses must be replaced by a different first-year field course or an Internship. Similar, failed second year field courses need to be replaced by a different second year field course. If a student does not take a required course without prior approval of the examination board, a grade of 1.0 will be recorded for GPA calculations towards scholarship decisions.
Students cannot retake examinations for which they have earned credits. Failed second year field courses must be replaced by different second year field courses.

Right of inspection

As soon as possible, and within 28 days of the announcement of the results of a written examination, the student can, upon request, inspect their assessed work, the questions and assignments set, as well as the standards applied for marking. Inspection of the assessed work can only take place while the student is supervised by the examiner or a staff member of the TI Education Office.
A student may lodge an appeal against the result within six weeks of the announcement of the result; see details in the section 'Lodging an appeal'.

Transition to the second year of the program

To enter the second year and gain access to second-year field courses, students must have passed at least 48 EC from the first-year curriculum with a grade 6.0 or higher and have completed the course 'Introduction to TI research groups'.
Students who have accumulated 40-48 EC of first-year courses with a grade of 6.0 or higher can discuss a personal study plan with the DGS. This plan allows them to take personally designated second-year courses. Additionally, specific entrance requirements may apply to individual field courses.

Compensation Rule

A compensation rule applies to students who have earned at least 48 EC from the first-year courses with a grade of 6.0 or higher and have completed the 'Introduction to TI research Groups' within the first year of enrolment. Eligible students may compensate at most one course grade of 5.0 in the core course sequence A with a grade of 7.5 or higher obtained within the same core course sequence, and up to two course grades of 5.0 in the core course sequence B with grades of 7.5 or higher obtained within the same core course sequence. The compensation rule applies across academic years. Core course sequences are:
Core course sequence A: (Advanced) Mathematics/(Asymptotic) Statistics/ (Advanced) Econometrics I-III;
Core course sequence B: Core Course sequence B: Microeconomics I-IV, Macroeconomics I-III and the two Finance courses; specifically:

- Students taking all four microeconomics courses and all three macroeconomics courses in the core course sequence may compensate at most two grades of 5.0 with two grades of 7.5 or higher within the core course sequences microeconomics/macroeconomics. These two grades of 5.0 can be in the same sequence.
- Students taking one or two finance courses, can compensate at most two grades of 5.0 with a grade of 7.5 or higher in the microeconomics/macroeconomics/finance core course sequence,

provided that they have obtained at least one sufficient grade (6.0 or higher) within each of the course sequences they took an exam in.

Any compensated grade counts as a five (5.0) in the computation of the student's GPA.

Plagiarism and (academic) misconduct

TI has a stringent opinion on misconduct, including, but not limited to plagiarism. Suspicions of plagiarism (including unethical use of AI tools) are investigated by the lecturer and, if found credible, will be reported to both the Examination Board and the DGS. The Examination Board verifies the claim and determines the sanction. Similar action is taken when other misconduct is suspected. Please review the AER for further details.

The use of generative AI tools is guided by the principles of use set out by Erasmus University but must adhere to course-specific instructions published on Canvas. Unauthorized or undisclosed use of AI-generated content in assessed work is treated as academic misconduct equivalent to plagiarism.

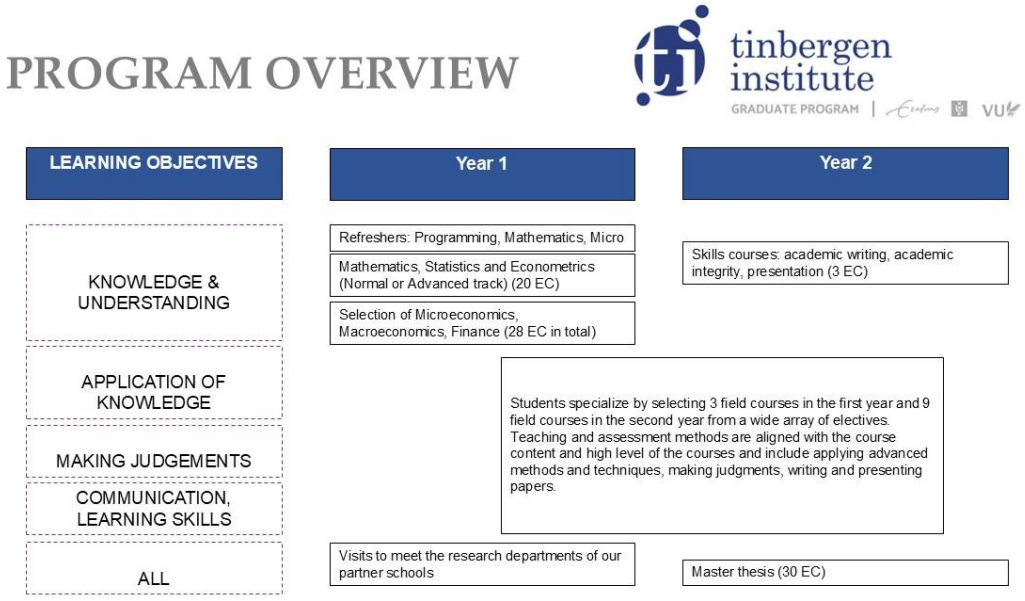
More information can be found in the Academic and Examination Regulations.

Program structure

The first year of the program offers rigorous training in the core subjects and tools of economics, econometrics, and finance. This ensures that students embark on their PhD research and subsequent academic career with a sufficiently broad understanding of economics to follow academic discourse in economics. Knowledge of the core subjects is required as a foundation for specialized research in the domain of economics, econometrics, and finance and to initiate independent research.

In the second year, students develop their research skills and deepen their knowledge in their preferred research areas. Field courses and specializations reflect the researchers and research groups at the faculties participating in TI. This allows students to find a supervisor for their thesis and subsequently a PhD position at one of the faculties. Since TI is a joint program of three faculties, the program is able to offer a wide array of field courses and specializations.

The thesis (30 ECTS) is the final examination of the program and shows that the student is able to carry out independent research and can make a contribution to the scientific debate. TI aims at theses of exceptional quality such that, after further polishing, they can be published in an international, peer-reviewed scientific journal and be part of the student's PhD thesis.

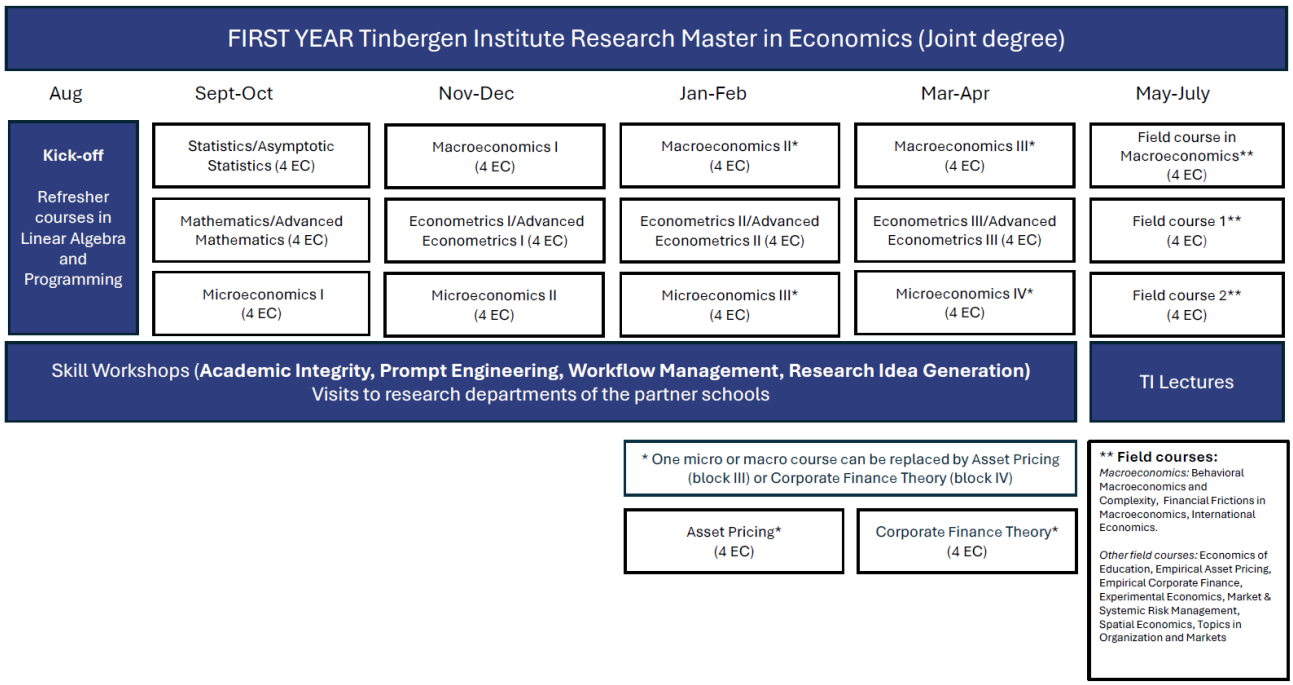


In case of any difference between the first-year requirements in this study guide and the first-year requirements as stipulated in the Academic and Examination Regulations for 2026-2027- (AER), the AER prevails.

FIRST YEAR OF THE PROGRAM

For course descriptions we refer to the EUR course catalogue.

In the first year of the program students must complete 60 ECTS: 12 core courses (48 ECTS), 3 field courses (12 ECTS), and the Introduction to TI research groups. In the week preceding Block I, refresher courses in Microeconomics, Mathematics and Programming in Econometrics are offered.



Core courses in year one are[3]:

- Mathematics – Statistics – Econometrics I-III (either regular or advanced)
- Microeconomics I-IV
- Macroeconomics I-III
- Asset Pricing and Corporate Finance Theory

Depending on their educational background, students decide whether they take the regular or the advanced versions of the courses in mathematics, statistics and econometrics. If a student wishes to take an advanced course, this decision must be explicitly discussed with and approved by the TI DGS.

First-year curriculum in chronological order

Period	Course code	Course name	Credits
0	TIC10001	Introduction Day	0
0	TIC10002 TIC10103 TIC10006	*Two of the following courses:* Fundamental Linear Algebra Refresher Course Principles of Programming in Econometrics Refresher Course Microeconomics	0
2/3/4	TIC10004	Introduction to Research Departments of the Schools	0

[3] Of the six possible Macro, Micro and Finance courses in block III and IV four are mandatory for the curriculum.

1	TIC10011	Scientific Ethics for students	0
1	TIC10050 TIC10051	*One of the following courses:* Fundamental Mathematics Advanced Mathematics	4
1	TIC10052 TIC10053	*One of the following courses:* Statistics Asymptotic Statistics	4
1	TIC10100	Microeconomics I	4
2	TIC10040 TIC10041	*One of the following courses:* Econometrics I Advanced Econometrics I	4
2	TIC10101 TIC10150	*Both of the following courses:* Microeconomics II Macroeconomics I	4 4
3	TIC10042 TIC10043	*One of the following courses:* Econometrics II Advanced Econometrics II	4
3	TIC10301 TIC10103 TIC10151	*Two of the following courses:* Asset Pricing Microeconomics III Macroeconomics II	8
4	TIC10044 TIC10045	*One of the following courses:* Econometrics III Advanced Econometrics III	4
4	TIC10104 TIC10153 TIC10302	*Two of the following courses:* Microeconomics IV Macroeconomics III Corporate Finance Theory	8
5	TIC10015	Workshop Research Idea Generation	0
5	TIF10006 TIF10004 TIF10009 TIF10011 TIF10005 TIF10007 TIF10001 TIF10010 TIF10002 TIF10003	*At least one course in Macro (M) and two other field courses:* Behavioral Macroeconomics and Complexity (M) Economics of Education Empirical Asset Pricing Empirical Corporate Finance Experimental Economics Financial Frictions in Macroeconomics (M) International Economics (M) Market & Systemic Risk Management Spatial Economics Topics in Organization and Markets	12

Additionally, students are encouraged to attend a TI lecture, intensive courses taught by a leading researcher. The credits obtained count towards the second year in the program (max 6 EC).

Options within the Year 1 Curriculum

Students who are interested in finance have the option to replace up to two Microeconomics and/or Macroeconomics courses with finance courses in blocks III and IV (Asset Pricing and Corporate Finance Theory).

Before block V, students must select three field courses out of a designated list of first-year field courses. Please note that at least one of these field courses must be completed within the Macroeconomic field. First-year field courses cannot be replaced by first-year core courses, second-year field courses or a field paper. Students who fail first-year field courses must retake a different first-year field course in the second year of the program or do a research internship.

Introduction to research departments of the schools

In this mandatory course throughout the first year students visit the research departments of the schools supporting the TI research master program. These visits allow students to explore the research conducted in the schools, to meet their researchers, and discover all their fields of specialization. They also provide an opportunity for potential supervisors to scout talented students. The aim of these visits is to facilitate the matching process between students and prospective supervisors, and to introduce students to researchers they may have not (yet) encountered in the classroom, therefore serving as the very first step into the thesis trajectory
In addition, research fellows organize a wide variety of seminar series and conferences. Student participation in seminars is highly recommended and can be beneficial while researching a topic for your thesis. However, no course credits are allocated. Seminar schedules can be found here.

Active participation mandatory?
In the first two weeks of block V two 2-hour workshops take place on the basics of how to generate a good research idea. This workshop is the conclusion of the visits to the research departments.

Checklist year 1

- Year 1 consists of 60 EC
- Course attendance is mandatory
- Registration for courses after block I is at least 3 weeks before the start of the course
- Selection of Block V field courses in Block III
- No retakes are scheduled in the same academic year
  Access to year 2 courses is dependent on acquired EC in year 1

SECOND YEAR OF THE PROGRAM

The second year as described in this Study Guide applies to the students who are in their second year of the program in the academic year 2026-2027.

The second year offers a broad range of field courses with a diversity in teaching and assessment methods. Students take courses for 27 EC from these field courses. Teaching occurs in working groups of usually 7-15 students, which stimulates active student participation. The final thesis (30 EC) is a research project, set up by the student under expert supervision. The matching of students and



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supervisors, while largely the result of individual conversations between the two parties, is actively supported by the DGS.

Field Courses

Selection of year 2 field courses takes place during the first weeks of Block V of year 1. Students submit their study plan for the second year, including external courses (see section 'External Courses'), for approval by the DGS. If courses are cancelled (due to lack of registrations), students must decide on other field courses and revise and resubmit their study plan. If their supervisor, during year 2, suggests different field courses, this is also cause for a resubmission of a study plan.

Period	Course code	Course name	
1	TIF20106	Applied Microeconometrics	3
1	TIF20104	Applied Macroeconometrics	3
1	TIF20101	Dynamic Corporate Finance	3
1	TIF20051	Advanced Mathematics	3
1	TIF10053	Asymptotic Statistics	3
1	TIF20107	Continuous Time Asset Pricing	3
1	TIF20109	Environmental Economics and Climate Change	3
1	TIF20115	Economics of Networks	3
1	TIF20100	Public Finance	3
1	TIF20102	Banking	3

2	TIF20113	Labor Economics	3
2	TIF20114	Industrial Organisation	3
2	TIF20116	Topics in Political Economy	3
2	TIF20117	Bayesian Econometrics	3
2	TIF20120	Advanced Microeconometrics	3
2	TIF20121	Law, Economics and Organizations	3
2	TIF20122	Urban and Regional Economics	3
2	TIF20132	Advanced Topics in Macro I	3
2	TIF20133	Econometrics of Networks	3
2	TIF20041	Advanced Econometrics I	3
2	TIF20200	Machine Learning I	3
2	TIF20201	Advanced Machine Learning	3
2	TIF20137	Quantitative Investing II (VU course, E_FIN_QINV2)	3
3	TIF20126	Advanced Time Series Econometrics	3
3	TIF20127	Development Economics	3
3	TIF20128	Evolutionary Game Theory	3
3	TIF20129	Behavorial Finance	3
3	TIF20130	Advanced Game Theory	3
3	TIF20131	Health Economics	3
3	TIF20134	Advanced Topics in Macro	3
3	TIF20301	Asset Pricing	3
3	TIF20203	Machine Learning II	3
3	TIF20125	Reinforcement Learning	3
3	TIF20124	Sustainable Finance	3
3	TIF20043	Advanced Econometrics II	3
4	TIF20045	Advanced Econometrics III	3
4	TIF20136	History of Economic Thought	3
4	TIF20301	Corporate Finance Theory	3
1-5	TIF20406	Research Internship TI	3
5	TIF20402	TI Field Paper	3
4 or 5	TIF20793	TI Economics Lectures 2027	3
4 or 5	TIF20794	TI Econometrics Lectures 2027	3

A description of the available courses and subsequent teachers can be found in the Erasmus course guide. Note that field courses with fewer than seven registered students may be cancelled or turned into a reading group which requires a more pro-active and independent attitude. Up to 6 EC can be obtained by attending the TI Lecture series. A student can only take either one internship or one field paper for credits.

External courses

Students can take external courses, i.e., courses not included in the TI-curriculum[4], for a maximum of 9 EC. Taking external courses for credits needs to be approved by the examination board (see the

[4] If BDS courses are not listed in the list of field courses, they are also considered to be external.

section ‘Examination Board’). When submitting their study plan in June of year 1, students immediately apply for approval from the Examination Board to take these external courses for credit.

Please note that the university offering the course may charge a tuition fee for the course and additional requirements for participants may apply. Carefully check the university deadlines and inform the DGS if fees are required. Please note that it is the student’s responsibility to register on time for the course at the relevant university. The schedule for external courses (exam weeks, lecture free week, starting date) may not be aligned with the TI schedule, mandatory attendance for TI courses is not waived in these cases.

For results to be registered, the grade form must be sent to courses@tinbergen.nl.

- Courses at Erasmus University Rotterdam: check here.
- Courses at Vrije Universiteit: check here.
- Courses at University of Amsterdam: check here.
- Courses of the national MasterMath program: check here.

Skills Courses

In the second year, practical aspects related to how to handle the review process, and grant applications will be discussed. In the Academic Writing workshops, composition and positioning skills are emphasized (1 EC). The series closes with the Presenting in Academia workshops that address skills for research talks and conference presentations (1 EC). The Skills Workshops also include the Scientific Integrity course (1 EC). Skills training also encompasses data management practices, open science principles, and strategies for cultivating an international research network.

Field Paper or Research Internship

Students are allowed to replace at most one field course with either a field paper or a research internship. The field paper focusses on the literature and contributions towards a particular topic. A supervisor of the paper should be a teacher of a course on that topic. The research internship (3EC year 2) is a contribution of the student to a research project of a TI fellow at one of the departments and consists of approximately 75 hours of work. The internship may only be used for credits if it is unpaid. Neither the internship nor the field paper can be reused for the final thesis.

Approval of the DGS is required beforehand.

Matching to a (PhD) Supervisor

In Year 1 the introduction to TI Research Groups forms the first introduction to the various research departments and researchers at the university. Also TI facilitates a wide variety of seminar series and conferences, hosted by research fellows. Student participation in seminars is highly recommended and can be beneficial while researching a topic and/or supervisor for your thesis, especially if you have trouble finding a suitable match. Seminar schedules can be found here.

Typically, second-year students match up with a thesis supervisor, a TI research fellow, before December in the second year. The matching is largely a result of individual conversations between the student and potential supervisors. The DGS supports the matching process by helping students

identify faculty members who could be a good match for their research interests. To achieve this, the DGS remains in close contact with each student until a match is found. The DGS keeps track of every student's progress on this front.

The three faculties participating in TI have PhD positions available for students who have completed the TI research master program. In many cases, the thesis supervisor will fulfill the role of PhD thesis supervisor. The DGS updates the students towards the end of the first year about the number of expected PhD positions at the three universities. Students are advised to check with their thesis supervisor under what conditions they can transfer to a paid PhD position with that same supervisor. Students are also encouraged to investigate externally funded PhD opportunities available at the schools. To facilitate this, potential supervisors present to TI students their externally funded PhD projects, typically in September.

Note that TI cannot guarantee PhD positions for all students, as PhD positions are given by the faculties and that TI has no influence over the number of positions or the distribution of positions to specific supervisors.

Students are strongly advised to complete all modules of the program before the end of the second academic year (i.e. in 24 months). Any extension beyond August 31 complicates the matching with PhD employment positions and involves the payment of tuition fees for (part of) the third academic year.

Thesis Writing and Graduation

The Research Master thesis (30 ECTS) is an assessment in which students integrate all learning outcomes of the program. The thesis is the final examination of the program and shows that the student is able to carry out independent research and can contribute to the scientific debate.

The thesis manual published in Canvas gives details on requirements and assessment, both the student's and the supervisor's responsibilities, and procedures. The thesis procedure includes a pre-defense around the end of block V, which can only take place once the student has obtained all course credits and with the approval of the thesis supervisor. The committee provides the student with feedback they can incorporate in their final thesis, due August 15. .
TI organizes a graduation ceremony each year, usually in November.

Checklist year 2

- Students complete 60 EC in year 2
- Course attendance is mandatory
- Course program decided at end year 2
- External courses require formal approval of the Examination Board in advance
- No retakes are scheduled within the same academic year
- The thesis is the final examination. All other credits must be obtain

Rules, Regulations and Facilities

Admissions

The TI research master program is a selective program. Admission to the program is the result of a holistic selection process that takes into account the entire application. Admission requirements are listed on the website.

Academic and Examination Regulations

The Academic and Examination Regulations (AER) for the TI research master program are published on the student sharepoint pages.. The AER lists the requirements for the program, rules for cum laude, has an extensive chapter on plagiarism and defines the rights of the students.

Communication with students

On the student sharepoint pages students can find all kinds of information: how to apply for reimbursement of travel costs, annual reports of the Educational and Examination Board, the AER and transition regulations that apply and how to contact study advisers and student counsellors.

Teams will be used by the DGS and the support staff for formal and informal announcements.

The @tinbergen.nl email addresses is used for correspondence in Canvas and Osiris.

Examination Board

The Examination Board serves two research master's programs: the TI program and the Business Data Science program. The Examination Board is responsible for ensuring the quality of examinations and diplomas. It consists of four members, one from each faculty participating in the research master programs, and one external member. The responsibilities and tasks of the Examination Board are explained in the Academic and Examination Regulations in the Rules and Regulations for the Examination Board (both available on Sharepoint). The Annual Report of the Examination Board is available upon request.

Students can contact the Examination Board for the following reasons:

- The Examination Board decides on deviations from the curriculum that may have a bearing on the diploma. Therefore, requests such as taking courses from third parties for credits or exemptions from mandatory courses must be approved by the Examination Board.
- Students who miss an examination due to e.g. illness may ask for a re-sit in the same academic year.
- The Examination Board will rule on requests for adaptations for students with a disability.

Individual requests are submitted via Osiris. Sharepoint provides details on how to start a request and the documentation you need to provide to support your request. Contact address for the examination board is examinationboard@tinbergen.nl.

The Examination Board also acts in cases of fraud, plagiarism or misbehavior.

Lodging an Appeal

An appeal may be lodged against the way in which the result for an examination was reached or against any Examination Board decision. A detailed notice of appeal should be submitted to the Examination Appeals Board (CBE) of the Erasmus University. The procedures of the Appeal Board need to be followed carefully. Please read the instructions and deadlines on Sharepoint. In general, the appeal must be lodged within six weeks after the decision which is appealed has been made.

Educational Board

The Educational Board serves the same two research master programs as the Examination Board.

The Educational Board consists of six members. Three members are from the programs' teaching staff and/or research fellows; three members are research master students in one of the programs. Student members are nominated by the students after elections and are appointed by the Faculty Board of the university of enrolment. Student members are appointed for two years. Members are listed on the website. The rules and regulations as well as the annual report of the Educational Board are available on the Intranet.

The Educational Board issues advice, both solicited and unsolicited, to the DGS on all matters concerning the educational program, with the objective to maintain or improve the quality of the program. The Educational Board's advice may concern all aspects of the program including composition of the curriculum, student facilities and teacher quality.

The student members organize an annual comprehensive program evaluation, the outcome of which is discussed in the Educational Board meeting.

Students are free to contact Educational Board members with any concerns they may have about the program.

Student Council

The Student council is an independent student body that both informs and advises students and organizes regular social events.

Facilities

The institute supports students with various facilities, such as office spaces and reimbursement of travel expenses between Amsterdam and Rotterdam for coursework.

Diversity

The diversity of the TI student body and teaching staff is one of the defining elements of the institute. TI aims to provide a welcoming environment in which all students can develop their full potential, both as individuals and as members of the academic community. All members of TI – students, staff, and faculty – strive for equal treatment of all, irrespective of ethnicity, nationality, gender identity, sexual

orientation, socioeconomic background and disability. TI actively takes steps to ensure that the diversity of the student body is respected by all members of the institute.

Funding

Tinbergen Institute awards scholarships to selected students based on merit. Scholarships and tuition fee waivers are granted by the TI Admission Board and specified within the conditional offer letter received by each student. Students who accept a scholarship are obliged to sign and thereby accept the TI scholarship regulations. Second year scholarships, where awarded, are merit based and only available for students who have earned 48 EC of first year credits, within the first year of admission with a grade of at least 6.0.

For second-year students, additional funding is offered by the institute and the faculties through research and/or teaching assistantships. These jobs offer valuable teaching and research experience. Students are encouraged to check job openings at the three faculties. Open positions are also advertised on Teams.

Maintaining a healthy work-life balance

A research master program is very demanding, especially in combination with a change of country and (study) culture. TI puts in place a series of initiatives to assist students throughout their journey, already beginning pre-program with the Buddy system, where second year students are assigned as mentors to a first year student. Further peer support is provided throughout the year via Student Council initiatives to foster bonding e.g. the welcome weekend and social events.

Introduction Day in Block 0 outlines to students the range of formal and informal support structures available within the program, and maps the series of wellbeing workshops that occur at key stages throughout Year 1 and Year 2. Continuous monitoring and support is provided via individual and plenary meetings with the DGS, as well as our dedicated education specialist. Advice and guidance is provided on the calibration of work load across courses, etc.. In addition, our Sharepoint pages refer to university student counsellors and to workshops that are offered by the three affiliated universities for students looking for personal support.

TI encourages all students to seek support proactively if they experience academic pressure, personal difficulties, or mental health concerns. Reaching out for help is a sign of strength and is treated with complete confidence.

The graduate school and institute for economic research of the Erasmus University Rotterdam, University of Amsterdam and VU University Amsterdam.

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The Tinbergen Institute is named after Professor Jan Tinbergen (1903-1994), the Dutch economist who was awarded the first Nobel prize for Economics in 1969