

**Training program Onderzoekschool Politieke Geschiedenis (OPG) /  
Research School Political History (RSPH) 2019-2020  
Research Master Students and PhD Candidates (11 October 2019)**



**Training Program Research Masters**

To Research Master Students, admitted to one of the research master programs in History of the associated universities, the RSPH offers training in the following competencies:

- Knowledge and reflection

Knowledge of current debates, theories, historiography and methodologies in political history and adjacent fields of research.

Reflection on the position and characteristics of political history in interdisciplinary research cooperation.

- Skills

Oral and written reporting and participation in academic, political and public debates.

Skills in the use of heuristic tools and techniques as well as digital humanities.

The RSPH offers the following training activities to Research Master Students:

**A. Opening Academic Year:**

**Seminar on democracy and autocracy with prof. Annelien de Dijn, dr. Joris Gijzenbergh, prof. Lars Rensman and prof. Dirk Jan Wolffram**

**Supervisor:** prof. dr. Ido de Haan

Utrecht, Sweelinkzaal, Drift 21 Utrecht, 1 October 2019, 16.00 – 17.30 hrs.

**Registration:** before 23 September 2019 ([bureau@onderzoekschoolpolitiekegeschiedenis.nl](mailto:bureau@onderzoekschoolpolitiekegeschiedenis.nl))

The theme of our round table is inspired by current societal and political developments, especially the rise of populism and the emergence of elected autocratic leaders in many countries over the world. History shows that democracy and autocracy are all but mutually exclusive. What can be the lessons learned if we reconsider the historical relation between democracy and autocracy? Lessons for studying political history and for analyzing present-day politics.

Program:

- |            |   |
|------------|---|
| 16.00 hrs. | Opening and presentation training program RSPH                    |
| 16.15 hrs. | Round table democracy and autocracy, chaired by Dirk Jan Wolffram |
| 17.15 hrs. | Certificate award ceremony and drinks                             |

## **B. Program with prof. Pierre Rosanvallon** (for Research Master Students and PhD candidates)

- Seminar Introduction to the work of Pierre Rosanvallon
- Masterclass with Pierre Rosanvallon: How to write a history of democracy?
- Public Debate with Pierre Rosanvallon

**Supervisor:** prof. dr. Ido de Haan

Utrecht, Janskerkhof 15 A, room 106, 8 October 2019, 15.15 -18.15 hrs.: Seminar introduction to the work of Pierre Rosanvallon

Amsterdam, VOC-zaal Bushuis, Kloveniersburgwal 48, 16 October 2019, 13.00 - 16.00 hrs.: Masterclass with Pierre Rosanvallon: How to write a history of democracy?

Amsterdam, Spui 25, 16 October 2019, 17-19 hrs.: Discussion with Pierre Rosanvallon on populist politics and public debate.

**Credits:** 1 ECTS for participation in the seminar and masterclass

**Registration:** Before 30 September 2019 ([bureau@onderzoekschoolpolitiekegeschiedenis.nl](mailto:bureau@onderzoekschoolpolitiekegeschiedenis.nl))

In his work on democracy, the French historian, theorist and activist Pierre Rosanvallon, member of the Collège de France and professor at the École des hautes études en sciences sociales, emphasizes the deeply historical character of democracy. While in many historical accounts, democracy is conceived as a timeless entity that only has to come to full fruition or can decay in the course of time, Rosanvallon argues that democracy itself is a historically variable phenomenon, characterized by shifting shapes and internal tensions. This raises the question how to write a history of democracy. Is it a history of concepts, values, institutions, practices, or still other forms? What are the various shapes and tensions democracy has acquired since its establishment as a legitimate form of rule? What explains the transformations of democracy? Are there significant differences between national trajectories, resulting in different histories of democracies in the plural?

At the occasion of the publication of Pierre Rosanvallon, *De democratie denken. Werk in uitvoering* (Nijmegen: Vantilt, 2019), these questions will be discussed (in English) with junior and senior researchers of democracy. After a short introduction by Rosanvallon, participants have the opportunity to contribute to the debate. A limited number of researchers will have to opportunity to give a short presentation (5 minutes) as an introduction to the discussion.

## **C. Course Oral History** (for Research Master Students and PhD candidates)

**Supervisor:** prof. dr. Selma Leydesdorff

Amsterdam, 4, 11, 18, 25 February 2020 and 3 March 2020

**Credits** 2 ECTS, with paper 5-6 ECTS

**Registration:** Before 1 November 2019 ([bureau@onderzoekschoolpolitiekegeschiedenis.nl](mailto:bureau@onderzoekschoolpolitiekegeschiedenis.nl)). Students willing to participate have to write a motivation letter.

Historians and others who interview about the past often talk about memory and how they are informed by memory, while they know memory is a difficult and problematic source for historical knowledge. During this course we shall concentrate on the use of memory in historical research and look at the kind of knowledge we get when we interview. We will investigate various efforts to create a more systematic and theoretically grounded approach than 'just talking about days long gone' or 'having a chat about the past'.

How can we create a research pattern that overcomes the incidental and replaces it with an integration of the changing character of spoken narratives about the past? When can we trust a story, why? And if we cannot, why can it still be important to listen. And how do we listen?

We shall also compare spoken memories with other ego-documents, bearing in mind the many other existing and valid ways of interviewing about personal experience and analyse when and how we produce alternative and unfamiliar viewpoints. Because historical interviews ask a lot of research time, participants in this course will involve in questions like: Do I really need interviews, what do I want to know, are there other ways to get this kind of knowledge? Several researchers will share thoughts how to overcome obstacles.

Presence during class is obligatory including collaboration on preparing the discussions

#### **D. Course: What is Political History?**

**Supervisors:** dr. Peter van Dam en dr. Jeroen van Zanten (University of Amsterdam)

**Amsterdam, Spring 2020**

**Credits:** 5 – 6 ECTS [including paper]

**Registration:** before 1 December 2019 ([bureau@onderzoekschoolpolitiekegeschiedenis.nl](mailto:bureau@onderzoekschoolpolitiekegeschiedenis.nl))

In this course, students explore theories and concepts relevant to the history of politics, based on an analysis of a number of major texts. Attention will be paid to key concepts, e.g. politics and the political, power, institutions, political action, political culture, political organization, state and the regime. Furthermore, the national, inter- and transnational nature of political history will be studied. The use of concepts and theories will be investigated by applying them to specific episodes in history.

#### **E. Summer School New approaches to the history of nationalism**

**Supervisors:** prof. dr. Eric Storm and dr. Diederik Smit (Institute for History, Leiden University)

**Leiden, June 22-26, 2020**

**Credits:** 3 ECTS – 6 ECTS (with paper)

**Registration:** before 1 February 2020 ([bureau@onderzoekschoolpolitiekegeschiedenis.nl](mailto:bureau@onderzoekschoolpolitiekegeschiedenis.nl)).

Nations are 'imagined communities' that are constructed through 'invented traditions'. Based on the classical studies by Benedict Anderson, Eric Hobsbawm and Ernest Gellner, this still is the dominant modernist interpretation of nations and nationalism. Recently, however, various innovative studies have provided fresh interpretations of the rise and evolution of nationalism over the last few centuries. During the summer school, we will discuss a number of these perspectives and explore how these can be applied in practice. Well-known experts will present, for instance, new views on the early modern origins of nationalism, the pitfalls of methodological nationalism, the influence of transnational networks, the role of banal nationalism, the rise of right-wing populism and the impact of nationalism on international relations. The keynote speaker will be Siniša Malešević (Professor of Sociology, University College Dublin), one of the most prolific voices in the field of nationalism studies today. Although the geographical focus of the course will be on Europe, it will be possible to write a paper dealing with other parts of the world.

## Training Program for PhD Candidates

To PhD-candidates supervised by professors of History in the Netherlands and Flanders, the RSPH offers training in the following competencies:

- Knowledge and reflection
  - Knowledge of current debates, theories, methodologies and (digital) tools in political history and adjacent fields of research.
  - Reflection on political history in interdisciplinary academic cooperation as well as its societal impact.
- Skills
  - Oral and written reporting and participation in (inter)national academic, political and public debates.
  - Participation in, and the organization of academic workshops and conferences.
  - Development of (inter)national network of political historians.

### What do we expect from PhD candidates?

All PhD candidates, registered with the RSPH, are expected to participate in the two day seminar Work in Progress as well as in at least one seminar or masterclass. PhD candidate in their first year have to participate in the tutorials especially designed for them.

### Activities for all PhD candidates

Please note that that this is a preliminary program (July 2019) which will be updated regularly and that the content may be subject to change.

#### A. Opening Academic Year and

#### Round table on democracy and autocracy with prof. Annelien de Dijn, dr. Joris Gijsenbergh, prof. Lars Rensman and prof. Dirk Jan Wolffram

**Supervisor:** prof. dr. Ido de Haan

Utrecht, Sweelinkzaal, Drift 21 Utrecht, 1 October 2019, 16.00 – 17.30 hrs.

**Registration:** before 23 September 2019 ([bureau@onderzoekschoolpolitiekegeschiedenis.nl](mailto:bureau@onderzoekschoolpolitiekegeschiedenis.nl))

The theme of our round table is inspired by current societal and political developments, especially the rise of populism and the emergence of elected autocratic leaders in many countries over the world. History shows that democracy and autocracy are all but mutually exclusive. What can be the lessons learned if we reconsider the historical relation between democracy and autocracy? Lessons for studying political history and for analyzing present-day politics.

Program:

- 16.00 hrs. Opening and presentation training program RSPH
- 16.15 hrs. Round table on democracy and autocracy, chaired by Dirk Jan Wolffram
- 17.15 hrs. Certificate award ceremony and drinks

**B. Program with prof. Pierre Rosanvallon** (for Research Master Students and PhD candidates)

- Seminar Introduction to the work of Pierre Rosanvallon
- Masterclass with Pierre Rosanvallon: How to write a history of democracy?
- Public Debate with Pierre Rosanvallon

**Supervisor:** prof. dr. Ido de Haan

Utrecht, Janskerkhof 15 A, room 106, 8 October 2019, 14.00 -17.00 hrs.: Seminar introduction to the work of Pierre Rosanvallon

Amsterdam, VOC-zaal Bushuis, Kloveniersburgwal 48, 16 October 2019, 13.00 - 16.00 hrs.: Masterclass with Pierre Rosanvallon: How to write a history of democracy?

Amsterdam, Spui 25, 16 October 2019, 17-19 hrs.: Discussion with Pierre Rosanvallon on populist politics and public debate.

**Credits:** 1 ECTS for participation in the seminar and masterclass

**Registration:** Before 30 September 2019 ([bureau@onderzoekschoolpolitiegeschiedenis.nl](mailto:bureau@onderzoekschoolpolitiegeschiedenis.nl))

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**C. Two day seminar: Work in progress. Political History PhD candidates present their work.**

**Supervisor:** Dirk Jan Wolfram in cooperation with PhD candidates

**Location** Utrecht University, 23-24 April 2020

**Credits:** 1-3

**Registration:** t.b.a.

This two-day conference aims to give political history PhD candidates a platform to present their research to fellow PhD candidates and senior researchers from other Dutch universities. In their presentations, PhD candidates not only give an outline of their research project, but they can also outline a more specific topic, concept, question or source type they are working on. Workshops and masterclasses dealing with skills on how to present your research are included. Finally, the conference is aimed at fostering informal contacts between starting and advanced PhD candidates.

#### **D. Research seminars (1) Military History and (2) Charles Tilly and the history of popular politics.**

In the seminars, PhD candidates present their work and key note speakers will present a state of the art.

- Research seminar Military History  
Supervisors: prof. dr. Wim Klinkert and dr. Samuel Kruizinga  
Location: Antwerpen  
Spring 2020  
Credits 1-2  
Registration: t.b.a.
- Research seminar Charles Tilly and the history of popular politics.  
Supervisors: senior researchers in cooperation with Martin Schoups and Jasper Bongers  
Gent, 29 May 2020  
Credits: 1-2  
Registration: t.b.a.

#### **E. Course Oral History (for Research Master Students and PhD candidates)**

**Supervisor:** prof. dr. Selma Leydesdorff

Amsterdam, 4, 11, 18, 25 February 2020 and 3 March 2020

**Credits** 2 ECTS, with paper 5-6 ECTS

**Registration:** Before 1 November 2019 ([bureau@onderzoekschoolpolitiekegeschiedenis.nl](mailto:bureau@onderzoekschoolpolitiekegeschiedenis.nl)). Students willing to participate have to write a motivation letter.

Historians and others who interview about the past often talk about memory and how they are informed by memory, while they know memory is a difficult and problematic source for historical knowledge. During this course we shall concentrate on the use of memory in historical research and look at the kind of knowledge we get when we interview. We will investigate various efforts to create a more systematic and theoretically grounded approach than 'just talking about days long gone' or 'having a chat about the past'. How can we create a research pattern that overcomes the incidental and replaces it with an integration of the changing character of spoken narratives about the past? When can we trust a story, why? And if we cannot, why can it still be important to listen. And how do we listen?

We shall also compare spoken memories with other ego-documents, bearing in mind the many other existing and valid ways of interviewing about personal experience and analyse when and how we produce alternative and unfamiliar viewpoints. Because historical interviews ask a lot of research time, participants in this course will involve in questions like: Do I really need interviews, what do I want to know, are there other ways to get this kind of knowledge? Several researchers will share thoughts how to overcome obstacles.

Presence during class is obligatory including collaboration on preparing the discussions

#### **F. International activities, in cooperation with the Association for Political History**

- International workshop for and by PhD candidates  
Workshop Identities and politics throughout history.  
Florence, 24-26 October 2019  
Supervisors: Political History PhD network

Credits: 2

Registration: [http://www.associationforpoliticalhistory.org/?page\\_id=204](http://www.associationforpoliticalhistory.org/?page_id=204)

- International conference political history  
Theme: Layers and Connections of the Political  
Rome, 11-13 June 2020  
Supervisors: prof. dr Giovanni Orsina  
Credits: 2  
Registration: t.b.a.

### **G. Other activities, including masterclasses: to be announced**

### **H. Training program for PhD Candidates in their first year**

Five tutorials which are an advanced introduction to political history. New PhD candidates discuss research strategies, sources and methods and the international dimension of their research.

- Introduction: 'What is political history?' (1 October 2019, 12.00 – 15.45, Utrecht, Drift 6 room 0.07, supervisor prof. dr. Ido de Haan)
- Methods and research strategies (21 November 2018, Amsterdam Huygens ING, Oudezijds Achterburgwal 185, room 1.05, 13.15-18.00 hrs., prof. dr. Dirk Jan Wolffram)
- Sources and digital humanities ( 21 January 2020, Amsterdam Huygens ING, Oudezijds Achterburgwal 185, room 1.05, 13.00 – 18.00 hrs. , prof. dr. Ida Nijenhuis and dr. Marijke van Faassen)
- Capita selecta (17 February 2020, Drift 21 Sweelinckzaal Utrecht, 13.00 – 16.00 hrs, prof. dr. Beatrice de Graaf, Utrecht)
- Presenting your research in an international academic community (23 March 2020, Leiden, supervisor prof. dr. Henk te Velde)

**Registration:** PhD candidates receive invitations with details about registration.

**Credits:** 5 ECTS

PhD candidates who have participated in the tutorials, receive a certificate.

### Calendar training program PhD candidates

Time	Activity	Category	ECTS	Location / supervisor
2019				
1 October 12.30 – 15.45	Tutorial 1 What is Political History	First year PhD	1	Utrecht. Supervisor: Ido de Haan
1 October 16.00 – 17.30	Opening academic year Seminar democracy and autocracy Presentation Training Program Certificate Award Program	PhD / ReMa / others	1	Utrecht. Supervisor: Ido de Haan
8 October 15.15.- 18.15	Seminar Introduction to the work of Pierre Rosanvallon	PhD/ Rema	0,5	Utrecht Supervisor: Ido de Haan
16 October 13.00 -16.00 17.00 -19.00	Masterclass with Pierre Rosanvallon Public debate with Pierre Rosanvallon	PhD and Rema	0,5	Amsterdam. Supervisor Ido de Haan.
24-26 October	International PhD workshop. Identities and politics throughout history.	All PhD	2	Florence Political History PhD network
21 November	Tutorial 2 Research Strategies	PhD in their first year.	1	Amsterdam. Supervisor: Dirk Jan Wolffram
2020				
Spring 2020	Masterclasses, skills labs and other activities: to be announced.	All Ph D		
21 January	Tutorial 3 Sources and digital humanities	First year PhD	1	Amsterdam. Super- visors: Ida Nijenhuis and Marijke van Faassen.
Spring	Research seminar military history	All PhD	1-2	Antwerp. Supervisor Wim Klinkert, Samuel Kruizinga, Marnix Beyen
4, 11, 18, 25 February, 3 March 2020	Course Oral History	PhD and ReMa	2-6	Amsterdam. Supervisor Selma Leydesdorff
17 February 2020	Tutorial 4 Capita Selecta	First year PhD	1	Capita Selecta
23 March	Tutorial 5: Working in an international academic community.	First year PhD	1	Leiden. Supervisor: Henk te Velde
23-24 April	Research seminar : Political History PhD candidates present their research (two days)	All PhD	1-3	Supervisor: Dirk Jan Wolffram
29 May	Research seminar Rethinking repertoires: Charles Tilly and the history of popular politics	All PhD	1-2	Gent
11-13 June	International conference Association for Political History . Layers and Connections of the Political	All PhD	2	Rome / Giovanni Orsina

***Mission Statement Research School Political History.***

*The objectives of the Research School Political History are:*

- \*Promoting the quality of research and (inter)national cooperation*
  - \*Providing high quality training for PhD candidates and Research Master (RMA) students, the next generation in political history*
  - \*Providing a platform for and representation of political historians in the Netherlands and Flanders*
- The Research School Political History is member of the Association for Political History*

[www.onderzoekschoolpolitiekegeschiedenis.nl](http://www.onderzoekschoolpolitiekegeschiedenis.nl)

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