



**RESEARCH SCHOOL FOR POLITICAL HISTORY (RSPH)
ONDERZOEKSCHOOL POLITIEKE GESCHIEDENIS (OPG)**

**RMA Training Program
2025-2026**

**PHD Training Program
2025-2026**

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RESEARCH SCHOOL FOR POLITICAL HISTORY (RSPH) | ONDERZOEKSCHOOL POLITIEKE GESCHIEDENIS (OPG)

RMA training program 2025-2026

Introduction

The Research School for Political History (RSPH) aims to offer research master students in the history of politics and the political a high-quality training program supervised by some of the leading scholars in the field, working in the Low Countries.

The RSPH training program is open to all students enrolled in a research master in history at a Dutch university. Our courses are designed to complement and deepen the research master study program, focusing on the historiographical, thematic, conceptual and methodological aspects of political history.

The RSPH program brings you into contact with fellow research master students at other universities, with PhDs, junior and with senior researchers in the field of political history. It offers an excellent preparation if you are interested in writing a PhD dissertation and pursuing a career in political history.

The program of the RSPH for Research Master Students offers training in the following competencies:

- Knowledge of, and reflection on the current state and future of political history.
- 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.
- Methods and techniques of research in political history.
- 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.

This document contains all the necessary information about the courses on offer and how to register.

In addition to our RMA training program, research master students are warmly invited to take part in other activities organized by or in close cooperation with the RSPH, e.g. master classes, seminars and conferences. Stay informed of our activities by visiting our website or subscribing to our newsletter.

Come and join us!

How to register?

The RSPH program is open to all students enrolled in a research master history program at a Dutch university. Students need to register for the RSPH at the beginning of their research master program via the program director of their own Research Master program (who has to submit the names of registered students at the beginning of the academic year).

As registered student at the RSPH, we expect you to follow an individual program of 10 ECTS in total. If for any reason you wish to earn more (or less) credits, a specific arrangement can be made in consultation with the director of studies of the RSPH.

More details about the registration process will be made available later. If you already know which courses you wish to participate in, you can inform us via bureau@onderzoekschoolpolitiekegeschiedenis.nl

Credits and certificates

At the end of each course / summer school, participants will receive a certificate, specifying grades and credits that have been obtained. The courses have a basic study load of 5 ECTS, with a possible extension to 6 ECTS or reduction to 3 ECTS. Please indicate upon registration how much credit points you wish to obtain for each course / summer school. The requirements for the final assignments will be expanded accordingly.

By way of exception, an additional credit point can be earned by actively participating in and writing a report about a platform activity of the RSPH (e.g. the opening, a seminar, master class or conference). Reports can be published in our newsletter. In case you would like to contribute please send us a reasoned proposal via bureau@onderzoekschoolpolitiekegeschiedenis.nl.

Colonialism & Memory Wars ***Opening of the Academic year 2025-2026*** *Plenary meeting with keynote lecture*

Date	19 September 2025
Location	Allard Pierson, Amsterdam
Time	14.30 – 17.00 Plenary meeting

The theme of this year's opening is Colonialism & Memory Wars. Prof. dr. Gert Oostindie will deliver this year's keynote, in which he will explore the recent resurgence of interest in Dutch colonial history within Dutch society and politics.

Since the opening offers a sneak preview of the summer school scheduled at the end of the academic year, all research masters are encouraged to attend.

Program schedule

Courses		Period	ECTS (optional)
c.1	What is Political History Today?	Feb-March 2026	5 (6)
c.2	Back to the source. Archival Research in the Digital Age	Apr-May 2026	5 (3)
c.3	Summer school: Writing (Past) Empires as National Histories	9-11 June 2026	5 (3)

Optional: active participation in a RSPH platform activity such as a workshop Nodegoat, Oral History, and a workshop audiovisual media and digital methods (1 EC; max. of 3 EC, see PhD training program)



Working on poster presentations at the IISH, Summer School 2025

Course descriptions

C.1 What is Political History Today?

Supervisors: dr. David de Boer (Radboud University Nijmegen), Solange Ploeg (MPhil) (Radboud University Nijmegen), dr. Dries Raeymaekers (Radboud University Nijmegen)

Course period: January-March 2026 (6 meetings | Thursday afternoons: 29 January, 5, 12, 19, 26 February, 5 March 2026)

Location: Radboud University

Credits: 5 ECTS (6 is optional)

Registration: before 1 November 2025, via: bureau@onderzoekschoolpolitiekegeschiedenis.nl

Course description and learning goals

What is political history today? Among historians and social scientists, definitions of and approaches to political history have diverged immensely and continue to do so. In this course, students explore recent approaches relevant to the history of politics and discuss the ongoing conceptualization of politics and the political, as well as its consequences for methods and the study of source material. What is the current state of the art in both early modern and modern political history, and what remains to be explored?

Participants in this course will learn at RMA level:

- How to define and analyze recent key concepts and approaches in the history of politics and the political;
- How to evaluate political historical studies from a historiographical, theoretical and methodological perspective;
- How to employ key concepts in the analysis of sources for the study of the political history;
- How to discuss these matters with fellow students;
- How to write a paper in which these topics are further developed

The course will be taught in Dutch or English (depending on the language skills of the participants).

We ask that students prepare questions, discussion points and analytical commentary on the readings and the discussion papers of the week. Participation will not be graded, but if you cannot make it to class, you are asked to notify the teaching staff well in advance.

C.2 Back to the Source: Archival Research in the Digital Age

Supervisors: dr. Marijke van Faassen, dr. Rik Hoekstra and dr. Marijn Koolen (Huygens Institute)

Dates: April-May 2026 (5 meetings | Thursday afternoons 16, 23, 30 April, 7 and 21 May 2026)

Location: Spinhuis Amsterdam

Credits: 5 ECTS (3 is optional)

Registration: Before 15 March 2026, via bureau@onderzoekschoolpolitiekegeschiedenis.nl

Course description and learning goals

Long gone are the days when political history was only described from official state documents. In today's historical practice, a great deal of attention is paid to multi-perspectivity, seeking opportunities to hear different voices. No one doubts the relevance of looking beyond the text and incorporating visual, auditory and material sources. In addition, new approaches and rapidly developing digital techniques shed fresh light on classical sources and open different possibilities for organizing, analysing and presenting sources on a larger scale. What does this mean for writing political history today?

In this course, students develop a broad view of the potential of resources to analyse the history of politics and the political. Students also learn to critically reflect on the limitations of various types of sources, archives, and datasets, and to recognize their 'political' nature. What were the roles of e.g. the state and social movements in collecting and archiving materials? What blank spots does this leave in the archives and analyses? Although Dutch archives are the starting point of this course, the literature and methodological analogue and digital skills are universally applicable.

Participants in this course will:

- Gain insight into a range of sources relevant to study political history;
- Reach a next level in source critique;
- Get acquainted with new technologies to access, comprehend, analyze and manage primary sources relevant to political historians;
- Obtain the skills to use various primary sources – both physical and digital – and apply methods in a sound way.

The course will be taught in Dutch or English (depending on the language skills of the participants).

Requirements

- Specific requirements TBA
(you may expect weekly preparations, active participation, written reflections and a presentation to be part of the assessment)

C.3 Summer School: Writing (Past) Empires as National Histories: Legacies of Colonialism and Violence in the Netherlands and Germany – in an international comparative context

(Followed by the Association of Political History's international conference, "Dynamizing and Decentring Empires: A Recalibration of the History of the Political", Münster (D), 11-13 June 2026)

Supervisors: prof. dr. Jacco Pekelder (University of Münster)

Dates: 9-11 June 2026

Location: Münster

Credits: 5 ECTS (3 is optional)

In the academic year of 2025-2026 the RSPH Summer School will focus on how historians have been studying Dutch and German colonialism. Especially the interaction between historical narratives and societal and political dealings with the legacies of colonialism and, especially, experiences of violence in colonial contexts are discussed. Without claiming to name all aspects here, one question to be considered certainly is how the writing of specific colonial empires relates to the general analysis of submissive systems in international politics, in past and present. Another question regards the positionality of the author: can all historians study colonialism or should of them best avoid the topic? Related to that is the question if and how national histories, especially those told in schools and museums, must incorporate the colonial past. Must the state, i.e. must official history politics play a role, e.g. in efforts to create a new, or: postcolonial, national identity? Or should we rely on those in society who in a sense incorporate the legacies of former colonial bondage? Is it them who are best placed to voice the agency and imagination of the oppressed and their resistance?

To explore these questions in-depth and learn to work with them the 2026 Summer School invites its participants to dive into more recent developments in the Netherlands and Germany: pathbreaking research projects, controversial debates and the professional and/or moral dilemmas behind them – and compare these with international developments in the field.

The Summer School is combined with the Association of Political History's international conference, "Dynamizing and Decentring Empires: A Recalibration of the History of the Political", that will directly follow it, and will also take place in the historic city of Münster, Germany.

Requirements

- Specific requirements: TBA
You may expect assignments, active participation, written reflections and a presentation to be part of the assessment.



RESEARCH SCHOOL FOR POLITICAL HISTORY (RSPH) | ONDERZOEKSCHOOL POLITIEKE GESCHIEDENIS (OPG)

PHD training program 2025-2026

Introduction

The Research School for Political History (RSPH) aims to offer PhD students in the history of politics and the political a high-quality training program supervised by some of the leading scholars in the Low Countries.

The RSPH training program is open to all PhD candidates based in the Netherlands, Flanders or affiliated with the Zentrum für Niederlande-Studien in Münster, conducting research in the broad field of political history, history of international relations, conflict studies, military history, area studies, global history, and other subdisciplines in premodern and modern history with an emphasis on politics.

We offer an comprehensive curriculum of in-depth tutorials and workshops, focusing on the historiographical, thematic, conceptual and methodological aspects of political history in general and your PhD project in particular. In addition to this, considerable attention is paid to professionalization and transferable skills.

The RSPH is dedicated to creating a research environment which brings you into contact with fellow PhD candidates at other universities, postdocs and senior researchers in the field of political history. We provide excellent network and platform facilities for all researchers in political history, whether ambitious to pursue a career inside or outside academia.

The RSPH program for PhD students offers training in the following competencies:

- 1 **Disciplinary and Interdisciplinarity:**
Students have an informed and critical awareness of the historical and conceptual underpinnings and contexts of political history as an intellectual tradition and academic discipline, and of its relationship to other fields of study. They have knowledge and understanding of the foundations and insights of other disciplines relevant to the study of political history.
- 2 **Theories and concepts:**
Students have specialized knowledge and critical understanding of theoretical, conceptual and analytical notions relevant to political history. They can reflect on the principal theoretical approaches to political history, evaluate the state of the art in political history, and recognize and develop innovative research orientation in political history.
- 3 **Methods and techniques:**
Students have focused knowledge and critical understanding of relevant methods and techniques for the study of political history, and the ability to apply proper methods and

techniques to research problems. Students have an advanced and critical understanding of sources and data for political-historical research and their associated conceptual frameworks.

4 Communication:

Students have an informed and critical awareness of the specific methods used to communicate information about one's field in scholarly/academic and public contexts. They can use and apply the proper means of communication, suited to the aims of their scholarly and public interventions.

5 Professional Development:

Students have an informed and critical awareness of the concrete ways that the political-historical perspective can be developed in professional situations and be of benefit to society.

This document contains all the necessary information about the training activities and how to register.

Please note that a more detailed program will be available by the beginning of September. Stay informed of our activities by visiting our website or subscribing to our newsletter.

Come and join us!



Lunch during the Module Advanced Research Design: Presenting and defending your dissertation, March 2025

Colonialism & Memory Wars

RSPH Opening of the Academic year 2025-2026

Meet & greet for new PhD members

Plenary meeting with keynote lecture

Date: **19 September 2025**

Location: **Spinhuis and Allard Pierson, Amsterdam**

Time: 12.30 – 14.00 Meet & Greet for new PhD members (Spinhuis 2.18, Amsterdam)

14.00 – 17.00 Plenary meeting (Allard Pierson, Amsterdam)

The beginning of a new academic year is marked by the annual RSPH opening event. This event is intended to welcome new PhD candidates, to honor the participants that have completed their Training Program, to update one another on current developments in the research field, and of course for networking.

The theme of this year's opening is Colonialism & Memory Wars. Prof. dr. Gert Oostindie will deliver this year's keynote, in which he will explore the recent resurgence of interest in Dutch colonial history within Dutch society and politics.

Meet & Greet for new PhD members

Before the plenary thematic session, there will be a meet & greet for first-year PhD candidates enrolled in the school. For PhD candidates at the start of their trajectory, this is the moment to get acquainted with the program and meet program directors and fellow PhD candidates.

As a bonus, the keynote lecture following the meet & greet offers a sneak preview of the summer school scheduled at the end of the academic year. This summer school is open to both RMA and PhD students.

How to register?

The PhD training program is open to all PhD candidates in the field of political history that are based in the Netherlands, Flanders or affiliated with the Zentrum für Niederlande-Studien in Münster. We explicitly welcome external PhD candidates too.

In most instances, the Graduate School of your home university takes care of your registration as soon as you indicate you want to join the RSPH. If this is not the case, or if you have any further questions regarding your enrolment, please contact us via bureau@onderzoekschoolpolitiekegeschiedenis.nl. After your first registration, we will send you a form in which you can give more details about your PhD trajectory.

Workload, credits and certificates

As a member of the RSPH PhD community, we expect you are willing to take full advantage of our training program. We highly recommend you follow all the tutorials and workshops on offer in year 1 and year 2 of your trajectory, given the structure of the program and the building up of competencies. This recommendation also goes for the modules in year 3 of the training program, devoted to deepening your skills as well as to professional development. Participation in other RSPH events is optional (see schedule below).

As standard, each training activity (tutorial, workshop or seminar) is awarded with 1 ECTS for preparation and active participation with an open discussion based on the input and research interests of the participants. Active participation is considered self-evident. Each activity requires preparation in the form of reading literature, writing a preparatory paper of ca 750 words according to the assignment given. Often you are asked to prepare in advance for commenting on the papers of your peers.

If you wish to earn more (or less) credits, a specific arrangement will be made in consultation with the director of studies of the RSPH. In case you wish to consider this, please send us a reasoned proposal via bureau@onderzoekschoolpolitiekegeschiedenis.nl.

At the end of the program, each participant will receive a certificate, specifying the credits that have been obtained. In general, the school offers two types of certificates:

- Basic (10 ECTS)
- Advanced (5+ ECTS)

A PhD candidate qualifies for the RSPH Advanced Training Program Certificate after successful completion of a self-designed curriculum of at least 5 ECTS in total. Successful completion is understood as having fulfilled all the requirements specified for every activity.

Please note that the elements mentioned above indicate the minimum required level of advanced learning: PhD candidates can participate in activities such as masterclasses or advanced workshops as much as they want. They can also participate in workshops and other activities organized by the international research network of the RSPH, the Association for Political History.

Basic training program – schedule

The program is structured in accordance with the end terms and competencies:

- Modules in **year 1** discuss disciplinary and interdisciplinarity, theories and concepts, and methods and techniques on an advanced level.
- Modules in **year 2** are devoted to the application of methods and techniques, disciplinary and interdisciplinarity, and introduce international outreach and science communication.
- Modules in **years 3/4** are devoted to the individual application and assessment of disciplinary and interdisciplinarity, theories and concepts, methods and techniques as well as science communication and professional development.

BASIC TRAINING PROGRAM:		
<i>Year 1</i>	<i>Year 2</i>	<i>Year 3</i>
Opening of the Academic Year 19 September 2025 APH 2026 Münster Conference 11-13 June 2026		
1. <i>State of the Art in Political History: Positioning your Project</i> 24 October 2025 (1 ECTS)	6. <i>International Networking</i> 2-day workshop Antwerpen 6-7 February 2026 (2 ECTS)	<i>Career Event</i> IISG, Amsterdam 14 November 2025 (1 ECTS)
2. <i>State of the Art in Political History: Interdisciplinarity</i> 21 November 2025 (1 ECTS)	7. <i>Academic Outreach in Political History</i> 8 May 2026 (1 ECTS)	8. <i>Advanced Research Design: Presenting and defending your thesis 2-day workshop</i> 9-10 April 2026 (2 ECTS)
3. <i>Research Design: Methods in Political History</i> 12 December 2025 (1 ECTS)		
4. <i>Research Design: Sources in Political History</i> 16 January 2026 (1 ECTS)		
5. <i>Crucial Themes and Concepts: Power in Political History</i> 17 April 2026 (1 ECTS)		

What, when and where?

You might be interested to know that – unless specified otherwise – all training activities

- require a preparatory assignment, send to you in advance
- take place in Amsterdam
- with a minimum of 5 participants
- are scheduled at regular intervals on Fridays (unless otherwise stated, for example in case of a two-day activity)
- include a drink afterwards



Spinhuis, Amsterdam

Introduction to the Basic Training Program

Year 1

0. Opening of the Academic Year:

Date: 19 September 2025

Time: 12.30 - 14.00: Meet & Greet for new PhD candidates (Spinhuis 2.18, Amsterdam)
14.30 - 17.30: Plenary meeting (Allard Pierson Amsterdam)

The beginning of a new academic year is marked by the annual RSPH opening event. This event is intended to welcome new PhD members, to honor the PhD's that have completed their Training Program, to update each other on current developments in the research field, and of course also to network.

The theme of this year's opening is Colonialism & Memory Wars with a keynote by prof. dr. Gert Oostindie.

Meet & Greet for new PhD members

Before the plenary thematic session, there will be a meet & greet for first-year PhD candidates enrolled in the school. For PhD candidates at the start of their trajectory, this is the moment to get acquainted with the program and meet the program directors and fellow PhD candidates. As a bonus, the keynote lecture following the meet & greet offers a sneak preview of the summer school scheduled at the end of the academic year. This summer school is open to both RMA and PhD students.

1. State of the Art in Political History: Positioning your Project

Supervisors: prof dr. Ido de Haan and prof. dr. Carla Hoetink

Date: 24 October 2025

Time: 10.00 – 17.00 (lunch included)

Location: Spinhuis 3.05, Amsterdam

Credits: 1 ECTS

During this full-day introductory module, you familiarize yourself with the state of the art in Political History and you position your own research project in the field. This module serves as a 'pressure cooker' giving you a brief glimpse of the diverse themes and approaches that have dominated the field of political history in the past decade. You will introduce your own research and get to hear more about the projects of your fellow PhD candidates. Together, you will discuss what connects you as scholars and as historians.

2. State of the Art in Political History: Interdisciplinarity

Supervisors: dr. Iva Pesa (Groningen University) and dr. Lorena de Vita (Utrecht University)

Date: 21 November 2025

Time: TBA

Location: Spinhuis 2.18, Amsterdam

Credits: 1 ECTS

This module looks beyond the limits of the discipline of political history. It prompts you to think about your project as part of a bigger field. How is your project embedded in and how can it be enriched by concepts, methods or findings from other disciplines? This module is particularly inspired by approaches from the

social sciences and social history and looks at relevant examples of interdisciplinarity in political history research.

3. Research Design: Methods in Political History

Supervisor: dr. Joris Gijsenbergh (RSPH fellow) and prof. dr. Dirk Jan Wolffram (Groningen University)
Date: 12 December 2025
Time: TBA
Location: Spinhuis 2.18, Amsterdam
Credits: 1 ECTS

This module is focused on the operationalization of your research project. How are you going to answer the main questions of your project? How do you legitimize your methodological approach?

4. Research Design: Sources in Political History

Supervisors: dr. Marijke van Faassen (KNAW Huygens Institute), dr. Rik Hoekstra (KNAW Huygens Institute) and dr. Marijn Koolen (KNAW Huygens Institute)
Date: 16 January 2026 (exact date TBA)
Time: afternoon (exact times TBA)
Location: Spinhuis 2.18, Amsterdam
Credits: 1 ECTS

This module is focused on the operationalization of your research project. Which sources do you need and how can you make best use of those sources, using analogue and digital tools?

5. Crucial Themes and Concepts in Political History: Power

Supervisors: prof. dr. Susie Protschky (VU Amsterdam)
Date: 17 April 2026
Time: TBA
Location: Spinhuis Amsterdam
Credits: 1 ECTS

This module focusses on a crucial concept in political history: power. Eminent scholars will speak about the way in which they use this concept. Their presentations will be followed by in depth discussion in which PhD candidates reflect on the way they use 'power' in their own research.

Year 2

6. International Networking

Supervisor: prof. dr. Marnix Beyen (Antwerp University)
Date: 6-7 February 2026
NB: this is a 2-day meeting including overnight stay funded by the RSPH
Location: Antwerp
Credits: 2 ECTS

As a professional historian, presenting your research at national and international fora, both in print and at conferences, is an important part of your work. Some of you may already have gained some experience with it. The next level is to organize (international) seminars or edited volumes yourself. This two-day module is meant to upscale your ability to work in an international academic community.

7. Academic outreach in Political History

Supervisors: prof. dr. Beatrice de Graaf (Utrecht University) and prof. dr. Harm Kaal (Radboud University Nijmegen)
Date: 8 May 2026
Time: TBA
Location: Utrecht
Credits: 1 ECTS

Now that you have reached an advanced stage of your PhD trajectory, this module invites you to reflect upon your role as a professional, an academic and a political historian. Why is your project significant? Can you contribute to current debates or is your project relevant for policymakers? How can you make sure your reach the audience your project deserves.

Year 3

The career event and module 8 are intended for PhD candidates in their third year but are open to all participants of the school.

Career Event

In collaboration with the national research schools N.W. Posthumus, Huizinga Institute and Medieval Studies.

Supervisors: prof. dr. Carla Hoetink, in collaboration with the national research schools N.W. Posthumus Institute, Huizinga Institute and Medieval Studies
Date: 14 November 2025
Location: IISG, Amsterdam (Cruquiusweg 31)
Credits: 1 ECTS

8. Advanced Research Design: Presenting and Defending your thesis

Supervisor: prof. dr. Carla Hoetink (University of Groningen) and dr. Karin van Leeuwen (Maastricht University)
Date: 9-10 April 2026
Location: TBA
Credits: 2 ECTS

This module helps you to explore the challenges and limitations of the theoretical and methodological choices you have made for your PhD project. During the module, you discuss your choices with fellow PhD candidates, but you will also present your project to experts in the field

Introduction to the Advanced Training Program

Next to the Basic Training Program the RSPH offers PhD candidates a set of extra courses and activities to further complement their individual training. With effect from September 2023, these activities have been grouped into an Advanced Training Program.



Datum	Activity	ECTS
26 November 2025	Workshop Nodegoat	1
20 March 2026	Workshop Audiovisual media and digital methods	1
20, 27 February & 27 March 2026	Oral History Course	3
9-11 June 2026	Summer School Münster	5
11-13 June 2026	APH 2026 Münster Conference	1-3

Aims and End terms

The Advanced Training is based on an individual curriculum, aimed at assisting PhD candidates to position themselves as an autonomous and known colleague among the national and international community of researchers in the broad field of history of the political.

The Advanced Program builds on the end terms and competencies specified for the Basic Program and enables PhD Candidates to deepen their competencies as a 21st century skilled researcher.

The following four competencies are central to the Advanced Program

- *Advanced research skills*
Participate in workshops devoted to the advanced individual application and assessment of specific methods and techniques, such as oral history, use of data management and -analysis programs, use of AI and e-humanities, et cetera.
- *Advanced international networking skills*
Seize the opportunity to present at an international conference organized by the RSPH itself, by the Association for Political History (APH), or by another relevant academic institute other than your home department.
- *Advanced organization and outreach skills*
Seize the opportunity to organize a masterclass, workshop, seminar, conference panel, or valorization

activity, or a similar relevant activity, together with other participants in the school.

- *Advanced expertise*

Follow a masterclass staged around a state-of-the-art scholar, publication and/or theme to widen your scope of expertise.

Individual designed program

PhD candidates participate in Advanced Training Program on an individual basis and design their own curriculum.

PhD candidates are encouraged to plan their activities for the Advanced Training Program during their second and third year, so that the certificate can be granted well before the end of their project.

Initiate your own workshop or masterclass?

The OPG is always open to new suggestions for supplementing the Advanced Program. Organizing your own Workshop or Masterclass, in collaboration with others, can also be part of your own individual Advanced Training program.

Advanced Training Program: activities 2025-2026

- Advanced research skills | **Workshop Nodegoat**

Supervisors: Geert Kessels and Pim van Bree

Date: 26 November 2025

Time 13.00 - 17.00

Location: Spinhuis, Amsterdam

Credits: 1 ECTS

In this workshop, historians (in training) will learn to work with the research environment Nodegoat in order to store, organize, connect and analyse their own data in a relational database – with a special eye on how to use these skills in a political historical research project. Nodegoat is a web-based research environment especially developed for the humanities and used by an international research community. Nodegoat allows scholars to build their own datasets based on their own data model and offers relational modes of analysis with spatial and chronological forms of contextualization.

- Advanced research skills | **Workshop Audiovisual media and digital methods**

Supervisors: Solange Ploeg M.A. (Radboud University)

Date: 20 March 2025

Time TBA

Location: TBA

Credits: 1 ECTS

In this full-day workshop entitled 'Politics in the living room? Political history, audiovisual media sources and digital methods', RMA and/or PhD candidates will get acquainted with the possibilities of incorporating digitised audiovisual media sources in their research. The workshop will introduce the students to an interdisciplinary approach, through tracing the overlooked use of audiovisual media sources back to certain historiographic trends. Moreover, the workshop will discuss methodological starting points and bottlenecks based on the field of discourse analysis, and discern the current state of the art at the intersection of media and political history. Finally, the workshop will introduce and familiarize PhD candidates with the Clariah Media Suite and will provide them with hands-on techniques and tools for their future research.

- Advanced research skills | **Course Oral History**

Co-organized with Huizinga Institute for Cultural history

Supervisors: dr. Susan Hogervorst (Open University, Erasmus University Rotterdam), dr. Barbara Henkes (Groningen University), dr. Dienke Hondius (VU Amsterdam), dr. Marloes Hülksen (Radboud University), dr. Norah Karrouche (VU Amsterdam)

Dates: 20 and 27 February, 27 March 2026

Location: TBA

Credits: 3 ECTS

This hands-on, interactive course for PhD candidates consists of 3 sessions. Besides practicing with preparing, conducting, and reflecting on an interview, participants discuss key theoretical notions on working with oral sources.

Before 1 December 2025 : please upload your one-page motivation for taking part in this course. Make clear what your expectations are and how you connect the course to your own research.

Friday 20 February 2026, 11.00 – 15.00 (location TBA)

Interviews – oral history as historical source

What kind of knowledge does Oral History provide? And how do individual memories relate to existing memory cultures?

Friday 27 February 2025 13.30-16.30 (location TBA)

The interviewer

What makes a good interview? What impact does the specific interaction between interviewer and interviewee have on the content of an interview? How do you deal with personal boundaries during interviews? What are good interview ethics? How does the interviewee narrate, perform and present her/himself during an interview?

Friday 27 March 2026, 10.00-16.00 (location TBA)

10.00 – 12.30 Interviewing – oral history as a method

What works well while conducting an interview, and what doesn't? What have we learnt from interviewing? In this session we listen to group presentations, share experiences and discuss how to move forward in two smaller group sessions.

13.30 – 16.00 Writing oral history

What have we learnt from interviewing? The first part of this session is dedicated to a 'shut up and write' session, guided by the lecturers.

- Advanced international networking skills | **International Conference Association for Political History (APH)**

Supervisor: prof. dr. Jacco Pekelder (Münster University)

Date: 11-13 June 2026

Location: University of Münster

Credits: 1-3 ECTS (participation and presentation of paper)

International conferences of the APH offer PhD candidates the possibility to present and discuss their research. PhD candidates are cordially encouraged to react to the forthcoming call for papers.

- Advanced expertise | Summer school: **Writing (Past) Empires as National Histories: Legacies of Colonialism and Violence in the Netherlands and Germany – in an international comparative context**

Supervisors: prof. dr. Jacco Pekelder (Münster University)

Dates: 9-11 June 2026

Location: University of Münster

Credits: 5 ECTS (3 is optional)

This year's RSPH Summer School will focus on how historians have been studying Dutch and German colonialism. Especially the interaction between historical narratives and societal and political dealings with the legacies of colonialism and experiences of violence in colonial contexts are discussed.

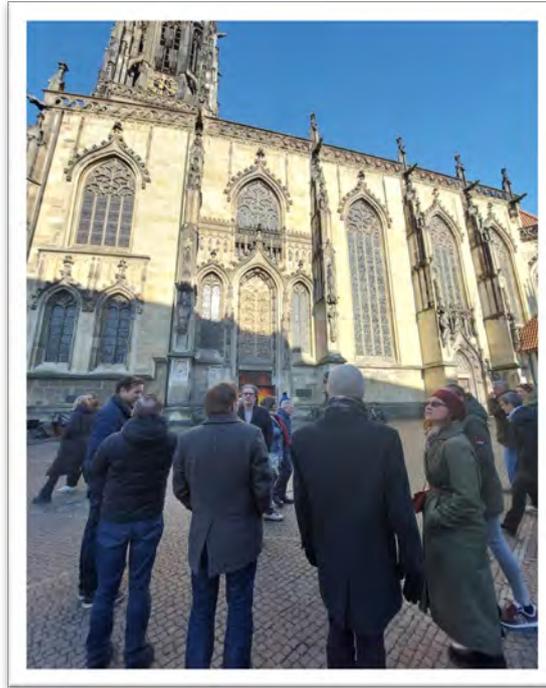
- Advanced expertise | **Masterclasses**

The RSPH aims to organize 2-3 masterclasses each academic year. A masterclass is staged around a well-known (usually foreign) expert who visits Belgium or the Netherlands. A small group, up to 10 PhD candidates and/or Research Master students, will have the opportunity to interact intensively with the "master". The expertise of the master defines the content of a masterclass. The projects of the participants, however, are the point of departure. Participants therefore have to write a paper about their research and the problems they experience. The research of the master can be raised during the class. Note that even though each masterclass can be tailor-made, a keynote lecture or a seminar where visitors only present their papers is not a masterclass.

- Advanced organization and outreach skills | **Organize a workshop or masterclass**

The RSPH welcomes initiatives of PhD candidates to organize a masterclass, workshop, seminar, conference panel, or valorization activity, or a similar relevant activity, together with other participants in the school. For

this, the RSPH offers support and funding. Please submit a proposal (400 – 500 words) to the Board of the Research School Political History via bureau@onderzoekschoolpolitiegegeschiedenis.nl.



RSPH Workshop International Networking, Münster, January 2025

Mission Statement Research School Political History

The objectives of the Research School for Political History are:

**Promoting the quality of research and (inter)national cooperati*

**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 for History is a member of the Association for Political History*

<https://onderzoekschoolpolitiegegeschiedenis.nl/>

<https://www.associationforpoliticalhistory.org/>

bureau@onderzoekschoolpolitiegegeschiedenis.nl



ONDERZOEKSCHOOLO POLITIEKE GESCHIEDENIS

*De werkgemeenschap
voor politiek historici
in Nederland*

RESEARCH SCHOOL POLITICAL HISTORY

*The research network of
political historians in
the Netherlands*

