

Artwork: © Ramona Fontaine

More
information?



Interested in foundations and philosophy of physics?

Join our online open day on March 5!

The master's program in Physics and Astronomy in collaboration with the Radboud Center for Natural Philosophy might be for you!

"Foundations and Philosophy of Physics" (FPP) is an interdisciplinary focus option in the master's Physics and Astronomy. Students study major physical theories and their historical development from a philosophical and conceptual angle and critically reflect on physics' assumptions, methodology, and implications.

Program Overview

The curriculum integrates compulsory courses from both physics and philosophy with a specialized training in philosophy of physics proper. In the first year, students receive a broad physics training. In the second year, the

specialized FPP courses take place, including introductory and advanced courses in philosophy of physics and general philosophy of science. Throughout their studies, students will attend the FPP research seminar, be part of the Radboud Center for Natural Philosophy, and get acquainted with the international philosophy of physics community.

Curriculum

- 30-36 EC physics courses
- 18-24 EC philosophy of physics courses
- 3 EC research seminar
- 60 EC research internship/thesis components

Radboud Universiteit



Radboud Center for
Natural Philosophy

International Online Information Day 5 March 2026 (11-12 and 14-18 CET)

At the top of each hour, we will present an overview of the program. Afterwards, you can ask questions. The link will be published on our website. We're looking forward to meeting you!

The Radboud Center for Natural Philosophy

The RCNP integrates research in mathematical physics, philosophy of physics, and history of physics. It is a collaboration of the Institute for Mathematics, Astrophysics and Particle Physics (IMAPP), the Institute for Science in Society (ISIS), and the Center for the History of Philosophy and Science (CHPS).

Why foundations and philosophy of physics?

Philosophy of Physics is a highly international and flourishing discipline at the intersection of physics, general philosophy of science, epistemology, and metaphysics. The community is especially large and active in the Netherlands. Besides Nijmegen, there are major centers in Amsterdam, Groningen, and Utrecht.

Typical topics studied in foundations and philosophy of physics include the interpretation of quantum mechanics, the philosophy of space and time, conceptual issues in QFT, the nature of entropy, fundamentality and emergence.

The FPP program is designed for physics students who wish to critically reflect on the foundations and philosophical implications of their (sub-)discipline and aim to pursue doctoral research in the scientific disciplines of philosophy of physics, general philosophy of science, or mathematical physics. By amending a rigorous physics training with further analytical skills, the program equips graduating students with the critical thinking and writing skills, and the conceptual clarity needed for starting a career in research. It is also well suited for pivoting to areas such as science communication.

More information?

<https://rcnp.science.ru.nl/education/fpp.html>

kian.salimkhani@ru.nl | karla.weingarten@ru.nl