

# Governance of Sustainability

## Master of Science

The Governance of Sustainability programme aims to educate future 'brokers' or 'change makers' to improve the quality of governance solutions to major sustainability challenges.

In this new programme you will obtain in-depth knowledge of both the governance perspective (social science) and the natural sciences. You will learn how to integrate these perspectives in order to develop and improve the quality of governance solutions to major sustainability challenges such as climate change, loss of biodiversity and the transition to a circular economy. In addition, you will learn a variety of skills required to cope with wicked sustainability problems and to develop oneself into a future 'change agent'.

### Why Governance of Sustainability at Leiden University?

- You will design and execute integrative research projects, combining concepts, theories and research methods of both governance and natural sciences.
- You will be confronted with real-life sustainability challenges to make the appropriate connections between the mechanisms and the governance thereof.
- Our teaching is aimed at creating a transdisciplinary environment in which you are constantly challenged to combine perspectives, reflect on those and take ownership of your learning process.
- Be inspired by co-teaching professors from two leading institutes, who are at the forefront of the field of sustainability and public administration.



**Universiteit  
Leiden**  
The Netherlands



### Facts and figures

Language	English
Duration	2 years
Degree	Master of Science
Start	September
Admission	Start September: 1 April non-EU/15 June EU
Tuition fee	€ 2,078 EU/18,300 non-EU

### More information

For more information, please visit our website or contact the programme:

[masters.universiteitleiden.nl/gofs](https://masters.universiteitleiden.nl/gofs)  
[gofs@cml.leidenuniv.nl](mailto:gofs@cml.leidenuniv.nl)

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# Governance of Sustainability: programme overview and courses

To educate you as a sustainability change agent, we have chosen four sustainability themes and connected those to four governance themes:

1. Materials & Circular Economy and Institutions & Policy cycles
2. Biodiversity & Ecosystems and Decision making & Governance networks
3. Climate & Energy and Global governance & Multi-level analysis
4. Water & Toxicity and Policy framing

The four sustainability themes represent the most urgent sustainability challenges in terms of the extent to which planetary boundaries are being surpassed. As for the governance themes, we focus on the governance of the public domain related to the proposed sustainability challenges. Central to the programme is a transdisciplinary process of co-creating governance solutions with multiple key actors such as scientific experts, citizens, non-governmental organizations (NGOs), policy advisors, politicians, and companies.

## Programme overview and courses (120 EC)

### First year (60 EC)

#### Thematic courses (12 EC each)

- Governance of Materials & Circular Economy
- Governance of Biodiversity & Ecosystems
- Governance of Climate Change and Energy Transition
- Governance of Water & Toxicity

#### Transdisciplinary skills (6 EC)

#### Qualitative Research Skills (6 EC)

### Second year (60 EC)

#### Quantitative Research Skills (6 EC)

#### Sustainability Challenge (12 EC)

#### Electives (12 EC)

#### Thesis Preparation Course (6 EC)

#### Thesis Research Project (24 EC)

