

IHS
Making cities work



Institute for Housing and
Urban Development Studies of
Erasmus University Rotterdam

Urban Socio-Spatial Transformations Specialisation

MSc programme in Global Urban Change

**Erasmus
University
Rotterdam**



Urban Socio-Spatial Transformations

Inclusive, innovative, and socially just cities are essential for addressing the complex challenges of contemporary urban life. This specialisation evaluates various policies, approaches, and instruments to promote equitable development, effective governance, and resilient urban environments worldwide.

What will I learn?

The programme offers students the opportunity to examine the driving forces behind urban change, from economic transformations and technological innovation to social inequality and governance challenges. Students explore key topics such as urban planning and governance, land and housing policies, and the digitalisation of cities. Through a combination of theoretical frameworks, case studies, and practical applications, participants gain insights into how cities evolve and how policies and interventions can shape more equitable urban futures.

Throughout the specialisation, participants look at the impact that urban innovation, land justice and urban governance have on building smart and inclusive cities. These perspectives are complemented by a focus on gender and social justice.

Besides developing management and governance expertise, students explore a combination of core modules and focal points during the specialisation period.

Focal points

Housing & Land
Urban Inequalities
Digital Transformations
Urban Innovation
Financialisation & Speculation

"My perspective on urban management has evolved and expanded into a much more **global vision**. The programme's **practical approach** has not only deepened my understanding but also enhanced my ability to apply theoretical knowledge to **real-world scenarios**."

Andrea Torres
Mexico



Why should I choose this programme?

- Analyse social, economic, and technological factors shaping contemporary cities
- Evaluate the impact of digitalisation and smart technologies on urban life
- Critically examine policies and governance approaches to housing, land, and urban development
- Apply tools and frameworks to design inclusive, innovative, and sustainable urban interventions
- Earn your MSc degree from a top university in Europe
- Become part of an international and diverse classroom
- Study in Rotterdam - a hub for urban sustainability
- Benefit from dynamic and broad career opportunities

Learn more at ihs.nl/transformations

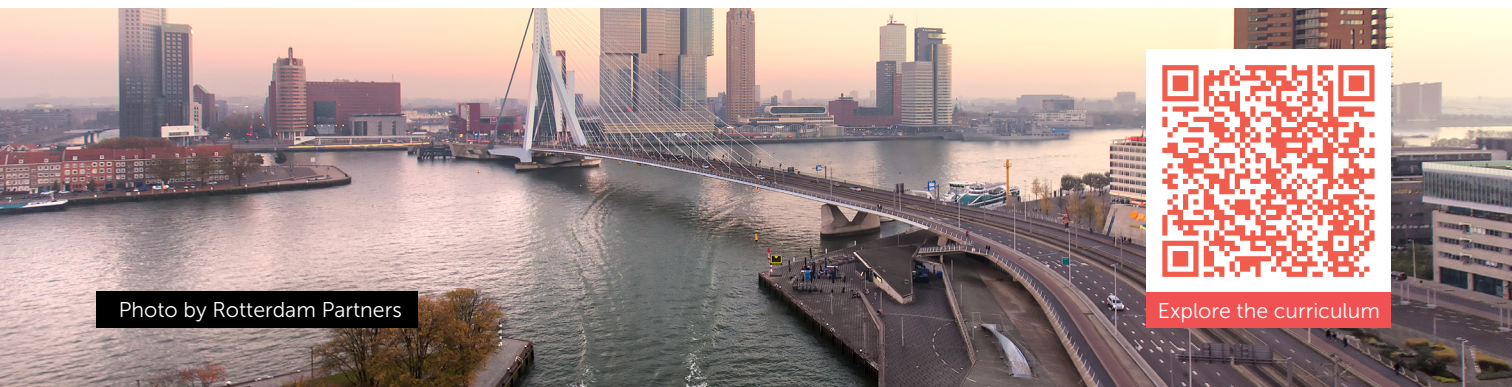
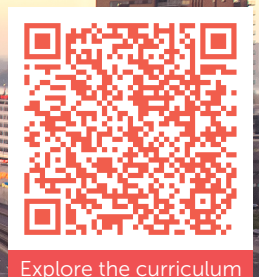


Photo by Rotterdam Partners



Explore the curriculum