

STUDENT RETENTION STUDY



UNDERSTANDING MECHANISMS UNDERLYING STUDENT DROPOUT (CONTEMPLATION)

We are recruiting participants for a qualitative study on the processes that lead to dropping out in students from FASoS European Studies and FHML Medicine programs.

Why?

Dropping out of a higher education program is often undertaken after a long process of deliberation. Several experiences in a student's journey through the academic and social realms of university may factor into that process. Among those are experiences of othering, faced by some students, which can cause the feeling of not fitting in and influence the decision to drop out.

Our study about trajectories that lead to dropout at Maastricht University seeks to understand the experience of students and what patterns of 'othering' influence the decision-making process surrounding dropping out.

Who?

We would like to invite of a diverse group of current Medicine (FHML) and European Studies (FASoS) students who are facing challenges in their studies and have (previously) considered dropping out, or who have recently left these programs, to discuss their experiences, and what changes they might like to see at UM.

Students from the following UM programs are invited to contact us for participation:

BSc Medicine (Dutch + International Tracks)

BA European Studies

What?

Your participation will consist of: a semi-structured individual interview (1 hour) to reflect on personal experiences, and (optional) a focus group to discuss recommendations in view of enhancing the retention of a diverse student population.

Participation in this research is voluntary and confidential!

The interview phase will start in September 2022 and may be scheduled within the following 4 months.

**Interested? Questions? Please send an email to Virginie Bakeroot
v.bakeroot@maastrichtuniversity.nl**