

Dear Master Student,

With this document we would like to inform you more extensively about the upcoming StudyTour of V.C.M.W. Sigma. First of all, let's start off with the exciting news: from the 22nd of April until the 3rd of May 2027 we will be going to Thessaloniki and Istanbul with a maximum of 30 students and 2 teachers. During this trip we will visit universities, scientific institutions and companies as well as the local architecture, history and culture.

In joining the StudyTour you can even earn 3 EC's in free electives (for students of Molecular Sciences this is guaranteed, for students of other studies/faculties you should ask your study advisor whether you can use these credits). To earn these credits you are expected to research and write a report on a certain aspect of our trip beforehand and present this during a symposium. This way everyone will be up to date and in depth about the sites we will be visiting. Then during the trip you will evaluate the aspect you researched and conclude on this aspect after returning. Furthermore, we expect an active participation and a day report about one of the days. Since this trip can earn you 3 EC's we are also bringing along Joost Martens and Jos Oomens, whom both are researcher and teaching staff of the Radboud University, to grade you on the educational tasks.

Sadly, the StudyTour is not free and therefore we have set a maximum budget of €650,- per participant. This means that if you want to join us you will have to transfer V.C.M.W. Sigma €650,- before the 1st of December. We ask you to pay in advance since we do not hold the reserves to pay for everything in advance; any money that is left over (if over €10,-) will be transferred back to you after the StudyTour. Important: the €650,- is meant to cover all expenses for transport, accommodation and mandatory activities. Other costs such as food and drinks will mostly be excluded from this budget. However, this does not mean that the StudyTour will actually cost €650,- as the committee is doing their best to keep the costs to a minimum and the €650,- is mainly to ensure we don't go bankrupt. Finally, in order to reduce costs we are arranging case studies where you can do jobs at research departments of the University in exchange for a reduced payment.

Additional important information is that you are required to sign a contract (for legal reasons) before the 1st of December. Therefore, your admission into the StudyTour will only be final after signing the contract and transferring the money (before the 1st of December). Furthermore, you can enter the StudyTour if you are doing a Master's in Molecular Science or if you have done your Bachelor's in one of the Molecular Sciences, were a member of V.C.M.W. Sigma during your Bachelor and are currently doing a Master's at the Radboud.

We as the committee are very excited to visit the historic and beautiful cities of Thessaloniki and Istanbul and to see how science and education are arranged in Greece and Turkey. We hope that you are also interested in joining us. If you want to join this unique experience (only once in two years the StudyTour is organised) then you must send your motivation letter to sigma-studytour@science.ru.nl before the 5th of October 23:59. For any other questions you can also reach us on that email address.

With lots of excitement,

The StudyTourCee