

Ubbo Emmius Scholarship Programme

Reference Form 2009

Return form via e-mail to: ggss.ue@rug.nl
<http://www.rug.nl/gradschoolscience/>

Name of applicant (first, last)		
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General Information

The above candidate is applying for an Ubbo Emmius PhD Scholarship from the University of Groningen, The Netherlands. The UE Programme is designed to offer top students substantial freedom in designing their own research projects. We would appreciate your personal evaluation of the applicant's scientific aptitude, intellectual ability and personal characteristics which would influence his or her potential success in such a programme.

Please fill in the information requested below. You may attach a letter of reference to this document or use the space on page 3 to provide additional information that you feel would be useful in evaluating this candidate.

After having filled in all requested information, please save the form with the title CANDIDATELASTNAME_REF_UE09. Send the form directly to the Graduate School Office by e-mail (ggss.ue@rug.nl). The application deadline is **May 1, 2009**. Please ensure that you have received a confirmation message by May 5, 2009.

Referee Information

Name (first, last)		
Position/title		
Institution name		
Department		
Telephone number		
Contact e-mail		

Overall Quality

Please rate the candidate's overall potential to complete a doctorate.

<input type="radio"/> <i>Below average</i>	<input type="radio"/> <i>Average</i>	<input type="radio"/> <i>Good</i>	<input type="radio"/> <i>Excellent</i>	<input type="radio"/> <i>Truly outstanding</i>	<input type="radio"/> <i>Insufficient information</i>
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Please rank the applicant against other students in the same cohort and similar study programmes. Give the candidate's rank in his/her class if this information is available.

<input type="radio"/> <i>Bottom 50%</i>	<input type="radio"/> <i>Third 25%</i>	<input type="radio"/> <i>Top 25%</i>	<input type="radio"/> <i>Top 10%</i>	<input type="radio"/> <i>Top 5%</i>	<input type="radio"/> <i>Top 1-2%</i>
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Comparison group		Rank (position/total)	
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Short Questions

How long have you known the applicant?

Have you taught or supervised the applicant yourself? Please explain.

Would the applicant be qualified and eligible for a PhD programme at your university?

Please comment on the applicant's overall personal and professional maturity (e.g., ability to work independently, ability to work with others, ability to handle criticism, overall stamina to work through a problem, initiative, etc.).

What would you judge to be the candidate's particular academic strengths?

Does the candidate have any academic deficiencies that would need to be remedied during the course of their PhD programme?

If you have any reason to believe that the applicant should not be considered, please explain or send a separate letter.

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Language Skills

If the applicant is not a native English speaker, please rate her or his proficiency in reading, writing and speaking English (Appendix 1 on page 4 gives an explanation of the categories below).

Basic user

A1

A2

Independent user

B1

B2

Proficient user

C1

C2

Additional comments

Additional statement

Please use this space to provide a written reference, or attach a separate statement or reference letter written on official letterhead.

In lieu of a handwritten signature, please check the box indicating that you have performed an accurate and confidential assessment of the applicant.

I AGREE

Initials:

Date completed:

Appendix: Levels of language proficiency

Information based on the Reference Levels of the Council of Europe

http://www.coe.int/t/dg4/linguistic/cadre_EN.asp?

Proficient User	C2	Can understand with ease virtually everything heard or read. Can summarise information from different spoken and written sources, reconstructing arguments and accounts in a coherent presentation. Can express him/herself spontaneously, very fluently and precisely, differentiating finer shades of meaning even in more complex situations.
	C1	Can understand a wide range of demanding, longer texts, and recognise implicit meaning. Can express him/herself fluently and spontaneously without much obvious searching for expressions. Can use language flexibly and effectively for social, academic and professional purposes. Can produce clear, well-structured, detailed text on complex subjects, showing controlled use of organisational patterns, connectors and cohesive devices.
Independent User	B2	Can understand the main ideas of complex text on both concrete and abstract topics, including technical discussions in his/her field of specialisation. Can interact with a degree of fluency and spontaneity that makes regular interaction with native speakers quite possible without strain for either party. Can produce clear, detailed text on a wide range of subjects and explain a viewpoint on a topical issue giving the advantages and disadvantages of various options.
	B1	Can understand the main points of clear standard input on familiar matters regularly encountered in work, school, leisure, etc. Can deal with most situations likely to arise whilst travelling in an area where the language is spoken. Can produce simple connected text on topics which are familiar or of personal interest. Can describe experiences and events, dreams, hopes & ambitions and briefly give reasons and explanations for opinions and plans.
Basic User	A2	Can understand sentences and frequently used expressions related to areas of most immediate relevance (e.g. very basic personal and family information, shopping, local geography, employment). Can communicate in simple and routine tasks requiring a simple and direct exchange of information on familiar and routine matters. Can describe in simple terms aspects of his/her background, immediate environment and matters in areas of immediate need.
	A1	Can understand and use familiar everyday expressions and very basic phrases aimed at the satisfaction of needs of a concrete type. Can introduce him/herself and others and can ask and answer questions about personal details such as where he/she lives, people he/she knows and things he/she has. Can interact in a simple way provided the other person talks slowly and clearly and is prepared to help.