

## WHAT EXCHANGE STUDENTS SAY AND WORLD RANKINGS:

OUTSTANDING PERFORMANCE IN INTERNATIONAL RANKINGS:

THE 2019:

**TOP 150**  
UNIVERSITIES IN THE WORLD

ARWU 2019:

**103<sup>RD</sup>**  
POSITION WORLDWIDE



Studying abroad in Amsterdam allowed me to gain a better perspective of the world around me. Not only did I learn more about myself and how to be more independent, I also learned a lot about cultural differences. I think it is important to always take into consideration where people come from because it paints a big part of who they are. I am beyond grateful for my study abroad experience and would never have thought prior that I would be calling Amsterdam my second home.

CATALINA, SWEDEN



MORE BIKES

**±900000**

THAN INHABITANTS

**±850000**



**165 CANALS**

AND THAT THE LENGTH OF THESE CANALS COMBINED IS MORE THAN 100 KM



WIDE VARIETY OF

**ENGLISH TAUGHT**

COURSES



I am really thankful for the last semester abroad in Amsterdam. I believe the VU is a nice university to study as it is really open to welcome international students. Living in Uilenstede has been a pleasure as it is a big campus where I met lots of students and it is close to university. It was easy to organize my academic schedule by using the comprehensible student portal. As I did not have to attend as many lectures in comparison to my home university, it was possible to divide my time between self study and discovering everything the vibrant city of Amsterdam has to offer.

POL, SPAIN



**TOP RATINGS**

FOR BSC AND MSC PROGRAMMES



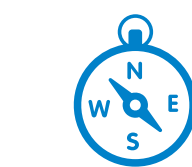
**>300**

FESTIVALS ORGANIZED IN THE CITY ON AN ANNUAL BASIS



**A HIGHER SAFETY RATE**

THAN MOST OTHER EUROPEAN CITIES



**180**

NATIONALITIES

**VIBRANT CITY OF AMSTERDAM**



**EXTENSIVE**

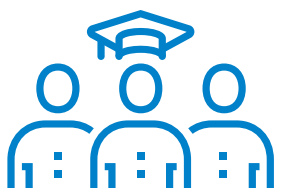
INTRODUCTION PROGRAMME



**AMSTERDAM CAMPUS UNIVERSITY**

**STUDENT HOUSING**

IN ONE OF THE LARGEST CAMPUSES IN EUROPE



ADDRESS

Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam  
De Boelelaan 1105  
1081 HV Amsterdam  
The Netherlands

E [incoming@vu.nl](mailto:incoming@vu.nl)

[WWW.VUAMSTERDAM.COM](http://WWW.VUAMSTERDAM.COM)



VRIJE UNIVERSITEIT AMSTERDAM



VRIJE UNIVERSITEIT AMSTERDAM INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS



#VUAMSTERDAM



AMSTERDAMSTUDENTS.COM

[WWW.VU.NL/EXCHANGE](http://WWW.VU.NL/EXCHANGE)



# INTERNATIONALLY ORIENTED UNIVERSITY WITH STRONG LINKS TO PEOPLE AND SOCIETY

Education and research at Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam covers a wide range of fields that often cut across disciplinary boundaries. Founded in 1880, our university is consistently ranked amongst the world's best 150 research universities. With around 3,000 international students from over 140 different countries, we pride ourselves in being a diverse and internationally-minded institution. This idea is consistent with the fact that Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam participates in various exchange programmes with more than 250 universities around the world. We invite you to experience Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam for yourself for the duration of one or two semesters. Immerse yourself in life on campus, explore the many options the city of Amsterdam has to offer and become part of a committed student community.



## APPLICATION DEADLINES

	FALL SEMESTER OR ACADEMIC YEAR	SPRING SEMESTER
<b>Nominations</b>	1 April	1 October
<b>Applications</b>	15 April	15 October

## ACADEMIC CALENDAR

FALL SEMESTER			SPRING SEMESTER		
Period 1	Period 2	Period 3	Period 4	Period 5	Period 6
September - October	November - December	January	February - March	April - May	June

A normal workload for one semester is 30 ECTS credits. Most courses are 6 ECTS credits. Exchange students are allowed to leave after period 2, completing a 24 to 30 ECTS course load before Christmas.

## HOW TO BECOME AN EXCHANGE STUDENT?

Studying abroad is a personal and academic enrichment. It is a valuable addition to your studies and can give your career prospects a positive boost. You will study alongside students from different parts of the globe, with different views on life and fields of study. This will not only enrich your network, it will also broaden your horizon and give you an international perspective.

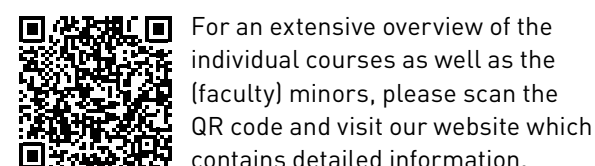
If you wish to take part in our exchange programme, the first step is to visit the international office of your home university, as you will have to be selected to study abroad. Once you have successfully passed the application procedure at your home institution and once you have been nominated by your international coordinator, we will send you detailed information about how to complete the online registration system for exchange students.

## COURSES OFFERED TO EXCHANGE STUDENTS

Whether you want to gain knowledge about an entirely new topic, or deepen the knowledge in your current study area, Vrije Universiteit is a great choice to invest in your future. As an exchange student, you can either choose one of our minor programmes or assemble your own course list from hundreds of English-taught courses.

### COURSES

Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam offers hundreds of English-taught courses at Bachelor's and Master's level, ranging from arts and culture, social sciences, neurosciences and computer sciences, to economics and business administration. You can put together a personalized course selection by choosing from the extensive list of modules that has been made available to incoming exchange students.



### MINOR PROGRAMMES

Exchange students are encouraged to follow one of the minor programmes. These are set selections of 5-6 related courses that span the duration of the entire semester. Most of these programmes are interdisciplinary, meaning that they are available to students with a variety of academic backgrounds. One big advantage of selecting a minor programme is that you will never have overlapping courses in your schedule. In addition, most minors focus on a particular study area, making this a valuable addition to your resumé.

### The 9 faculties at Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam:

- Faculty of Humanities
- School of Business and Economics
- Faculty of Science
- Faculty of Social Sciences
- Faculty of Law
- VUmc School of Medical Sciences
- Faculty of Religion and Theology
- Faculty of Behavioral and Movement Sciences
- Faculty of Dentistry (ACTA) (not available for exchange students)

### Examples of minor programmes:

- Migration Studies
- European History and Culture 1200-1800
- Accounting, Organizations and Society
- Entrepreneurship
- Biomedical and Health Interventions
- Evolutionary Biology and Ecology
- Deep Programming
- Business Analytics and Data Science
- Peace and Conflict Studies
- Development and Global Challenges
- Law and Global Society
- Technology, Law and Ethics
- Cardiovascular Challenges in Organs
- Hot Topics in Neurology and Psychiatry



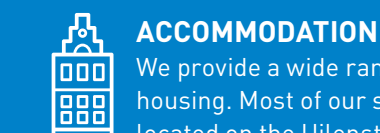
GO DUTCH BY SIGNING UP FOR THE  
**BUDDY PROGRAMME**



GET FIT AT THE  
**VU SPORTS CENTRE**

## SERVICES AND FACILITIES OFFERED TO EXCHANGE STUDENTS

We aim to make the process of applying as an exchange student as easy as possible. Representatives of the international office provide guidance in arranging housing and visa matters. In addition, we organize introduction activities to help you get acquainted with the university and life on campus.



### ACCOMMODATION

We provide a wide range of quality student housing. Most of our student housing is located on the Uilenstede campus, making it a great way to meet people when your first arrive to Amsterdam. Alternatively, you can decide to stay at one of the two student hotels or the Diemen campus located in the eastern part of city.



### BUDDY PROGRAMME

A buddy programme has been set up specifically for incoming exchange students. Buddies are (Dutch) VU students who will help you get settled and who can introduce you to the Dutch way of life. As a participant in the buddy programme, you will be part of a group of about 80 buddies and 250 exchange students. We organize various social activities throughout the semester, such as a karaoke night, pubquiz and picnic.



### VISA

Students from non-EU countries will have to complete the immigration procedure before starting their studies at Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam. No need to worry, as representatives from the international office will apply for a visa on your behalf.



### VU SPORTS CENTRE

The VU Sports Centre is a sports facility offered by the university. It offers a very wide range of opportunities to play sports and to keep fit.



### INTRODUCTION ACTIVITIES

Our introduction activities include an airport pick-up upon arrival, crash courses in Dutch, a student festival and campus tour to make you feel at home right from the start, and to help you meet fellow students before the start of your classes.



### VU GRIFFIOEN CULTURAL CENTRE

Griffioen is Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam's Cultural Centre. The professionally equipped Griffioen stage presents performances and concerts by established names and rising talent, interspersed with its own theatrical and musical productions.