

Change your world

STUDY AT VU AMSTERDAM

INTERNATIONAL
MASTER'S
PROGRAMMES
2023-2024



 **Top-ranked**
university

 **>5,000**
international students

 **133**
nationalities

VU  **VRIJE
UNIVERSITEIT
AMSTERDAM**



A man with dark hair, wearing a light yellow button-down shirt and blue jeans, is sitting cross-legged on a green lawn. He is smiling at the camera. In the background, there is a large, multi-story university building with many windows and a clock tower. The scene is outdoors on a sunny day with green trees.

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Introduction

Old ideas can go out the window and a fresh wind blows through your brain. Are you curious? Do you think things can be done differently? Then opt for a degree programme at Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam ('VU Amsterdam'). Studying at our university is an opportunity to change and improve the world around you. Because change is the constant in everything we do. Students at VU Amsterdam are not satisfied with the status quo: they research, analyse and ask questions. Every day. How will you change your world?

CHANGE ENERGY STUDY AT VU AMSTERDAM



Dear neighbour, can I charge my car using your solar panels? The way in which we generate and distribute energy is being turned on its head very rapidly. Fossil fuels will soon be a thing of the past, and new sources of energy are already starting to play a leading role. Our planet is crying out for it. How can we push that transition along a little more quickly? That's something that you might typically study at VU Amsterdam. Are you motivated and inspired by this kind of challenging issues? Then VU Amsterdam is the right university for you.

When bots and trolls are filling up the internet with falsehoods, what is truth? And when politicians immediately dismiss any news that they don't like as 'fake news', how should we respond? As a student at VU Amsterdam, you will learn to think about such questions. What can we really share with each other, when everyone lives in their own bubble, with their own version of the truth? Do you believe that things could be different? Then VU Amsterdam is the place for you. Our students learn to ask the right questions, and keep on asking them until they get to the truth.

CHANGE FAKE NEWS STUDY AT VU AMSTERDAM



Facts & Figures

 **31,704**
Students in total



 **20**

International Student
Advisors



 **5,190**

International students

 **133**
Different nationalities



 **132**

International Student
Ambassadors



VU Amsterdam is an internationally renowned research university. With more than 31,000 students, we conduct cutting-edge research into problems of major societal and scientific importance. We live in a world where social issues fully influence each other and where contradictions grow. This requires a distinctive way of applying science. A university with a social focus on the future.

With 25 English-taught Bachelor's programmes and around 150 English-taught Master's programmes, VU Amsterdam offers a wide range of study options. The university campus is situated in the southwestern part of Amsterdam, in one of the most dynamic and fast-growing business districts in the Netherlands. Proximity to International Airport Schiphol and train connections within Europe make VU Amsterdam easily accessible to the world.



Welcome to VU Amsterdam

I am delighted that you are considering studying at Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam (VU Amsterdam). As an international student, you will contribute to what is one of the special characteristics of this university – its diversity. We value diversity in all its aspects, and strongly believe that diversity is one of the drivers of excellence, contributing significantly to enhancing the quality of the academic discourse.

At VU Amsterdam you encounter academic rigour coupled with a keen awareness for placing the knowledge you gain in the context of addressing the complex problems of today's society. We have accordingly bundled relevant research and education programmes into four strategic themes that address important societal challenges: Science for Sustainability, Connected World, Human Health and Life Sciences, and Governance for Society.

We attach great importance to the societal impact of our education and research. Personal development and social involvement are key parts of our vision on education, in which individual differences are seen as a strength. This allows us to develop innovations and insights that contribute to a better world. We hope that you will be inspired by our vision and ambition, and look forward to welcoming you as a member of the VU Amsterdam community.

Mirjam van Praag
President of the Executive Board

International ranking and position

The Netherlands has a binary system of Higher Education with 13 research universities, including VU Amsterdam, and 40 universities of applied sciences. The Dutch research universities are all of high academic quality, and consistently ranked among the first 250 universities in international rankings. Only the US and UK feature more research universities in the top 200. In no other system except for Switzerland, the proportion of all research universities in the top 250 is this high.



	🌐 Worldwide	🇳🇱 The Netherlands
Scientific Impact – Leiden Ranking	79	6
ARWU – Shanghai Ranking	131	7
Times Higher Education (THE)	116	8
Quacquarelli Symonds (QS)	214	10

Leiden Ranking

The Leiden Ranking is based on publications in the Web of Science database produced by Clarivate Analytics. The Leiden Ranking uses the Science Citation Index Expanded, the Social Sciences Citation Index, and the Arts & Humanities Citation Index. Only publications of the Web of Science document types article and review are taken into account. VU Amsterdam holds the 79th position in this ranking.

Shanghai Ranking

In the Academic Ranking of World Universities 2020 (ARWU, Shanghai Ranking), which focuses on research excellence, VU Amsterdam currently holds the 131st position worldwide.

Times Higher Education

We are among the top 150 universities in the World University Ranking of Times Higher Education: this ranking places our university at spot 116. This global performance ranking judges research-intensive universities across their core missions: teaching, research, knowledge transfer and international outlook.

QS Ranking

The QS Ranking (Quacquarelli Symonds) of 2023 places VU Amsterdam 214th in the world. We position ourselves most strongly on the component 'citations per faculty' (position 150 worldwide). Compared to last year, VU Amsterdam also positions itself higher on the component 'education to international students'.

2nd in action against climate change

VU Amsterdam ranks 2nd in the Times Higher Education Impact Ranking 2020 when it comes to taking action against climate change. The ranking evaluates the contribution of 766 universities worldwide to the 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). Based on the total evaluation, we rank 39th.

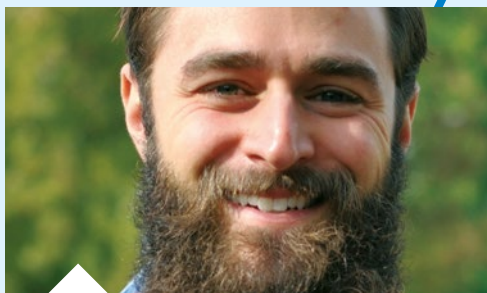
Our students

VU Amsterdam is home to 133 nationalities, making us a truly international and diverse university. Our students come from all around the globe to study at our campus. Curious to find out how they feel about the Netherlands and the city of Amsterdam? On this page you can find several testimonials from students, who all took the leap and chose to follow a Master's programme at VU Amsterdam.



Eileen Wilhelmstrop
Germany

"Coming from a neighbouring country, I thought I had a good idea of what to expect. I got proven wrong: The culture is a whole different story! To me, Amsterdam is a very open, diverse, and vibrant place where everything is possible. And the best thing: you never stop learning from and growing with each other. I was especially surprised by the ease of contact between professors and students that stimulates an interactive learning environment. Dank je wel VU Amsterdam for this growth experience!" **Psychology: Work and Organizational Psychology**



Adam Schulman (Alumnus)
United States of America

"I am originally from New York, and while I was really happy living in Brooklyn, I sought an international experience in conjunction with pursuing a graduate degree. Amsterdam and the VU ended up being the perfect place for me to realise this ambition." **Business Administration: Leadership and Change Management**

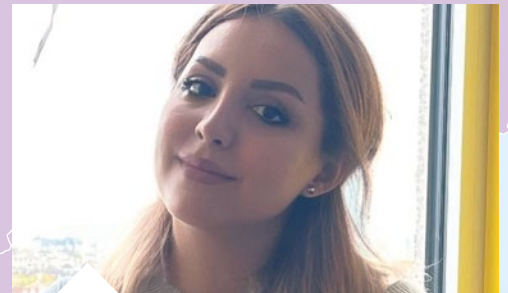


Daria Kolesnik

Russia

"After obtaining a MSc degree in Economics in Italy, I decided to change my focus to a more applied field. I chose the Business Administration programme at VU Amsterdam, and it was a great choice. The international environment in Amsterdam is very friendly for foreigners. There are also multiple student communities and activities I participate in. I enjoy my life in Amsterdam, both at the university and beyond."

Business Administration: International Management



Farnaz Hanifeh

Iran

"My friends who studied at VU Amsterdam before me, sparkle in their career life now. Since starting my programme, VU Amsterdam has given me desirable improvement in my professional skills because of the professional study facilities. Being located in Amsterdam, the diversity of people gives you a remarkable experience in communicating with different cultures. You really feel safe here and attracted to the quality of life."

Computer Science



Joshua Oyeto

Nigeria

"After spending about 5 years working as a data scientist in Nigeria, I decided that I needed an advanced study that could expose me to the why's of machine learning/artificial intelligence. VU Amsterdam has the best programme structure for me, and the city of Amsterdam has a perfect mix of tech companies where I could apply my knowledge and excellent social life to give me a well-rounded living experience."

Artificial Intelligence





Interesting facts about Amsterdam

🚲 881,000

bikes, which is more than the number of residents



☁️ 40

parks to relax or work out in

🏠 165

canals



🛡️ 2nd

safest city in Europe and the 6th safest in the world



🏛️ 100

museums



👤 873,338

inhabitants



😊 11th

in Mercer's Quality of Living ranking



Things to do in the city



Amsterdam from the water

Amsterdam is a city filled with water. You can tell by looking at the name of the city: Amsterdam comes from 'dam in the river Amstel'. The Amstel is the biggest and most famous waterway, but there are also 165 canals running through the city. You can easily rent a boat to cruise around, or perhaps go on a guided tour that shows you all the highlights. From the water, you will have a great view of the canal houses.



Get a bike

The best way to feel truly like an Amsterdam local, is by riding your bike through the narrow streets of the city. In Amsterdam everyone owns a bike, and it is the cheapest and healthiest way to move through town. You can easily rent a bike to get the hang of it, but for that true local feel it's best to buy one. Don't forget to get some insurance with it, and always lock your bike!



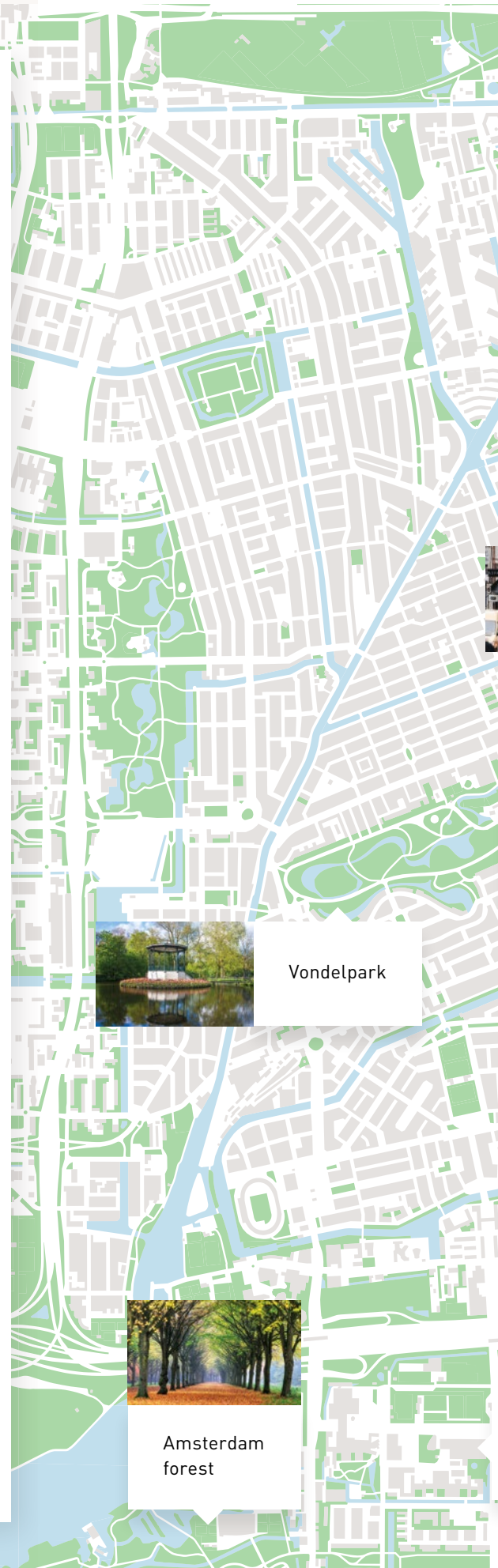
Explore new cultures

Amsterdam is home to many great museums. On the Museum square you can find three of the most popular ones: the national Rijksmuseum, the Stedelijk museum which showcases modern art, and the Van Gogh museum, dedicated to the most famous Dutch painter. The square itself is a great place to hang out as well. You can also visit more specialised museums, such as science museum NEMO or the Dutch costume museum.



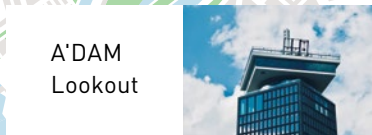
Visit the Amsterdam forest

Amsterdam has quite a large forest: 'het Amsterdamse Bos'. From our campus, it's only a 10-minute bike ride to the entrance. In the Amsterdam forest you can stroll around or have a picnic. But it's also possible to sail on the big lake in the middle, rent a canoe, or pet a goat on the goat farm. During the summer many artists perform in the so called 'Forest theatre'. Bring some snacks, cuddle up under a blanket and listen to your favourite music: what's not to love?





Eye
Filmmuseum



A'DAM
Lookout



Anne Frank
Huis



Westerkerk



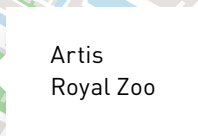
Royal Palace
& Dam Square



Leidseplein



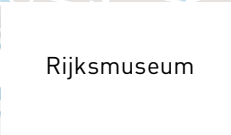
Flower
Market



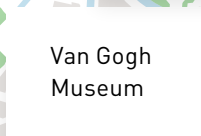
Artis
Royal Zoo



Stedelijk
Museum



Rijksmuseum



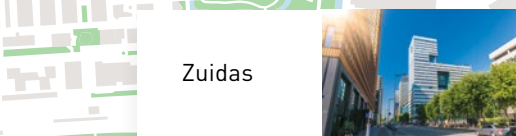
Van Gogh
Museum



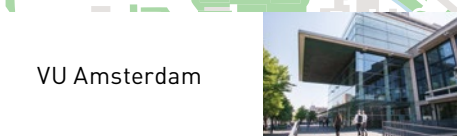
Albert Cuyp Market



AUC



Zuidas



VU Amsterdam



Science

From health to
sustainability: science
changes your world
fundamentally!



8,983*

Students



132

Professors



25%*

International
students



63

English-taught
programmes

The Faculty of Science at VU Amsterdam encourages scientists and students to find sustainable solutions to the complex social issues of this day and age. With great dedication, we practice science covering every manner of subject, from forest fires to big data, from obesity to medication, and from molecules to the moon. The collaboration between scientists working on fundamental and applied research allows communities to be built beyond the borders of the various disciplines, following new and innovative pathways.

Why study at this faculty?

Our dedication is passed on to our students, who are in direct contact with the professors in their field. Our vibrant campus is a place where knowledge and experience are shared among an international community of students, doctoral candidates and scientists.

Your future career

We educate the cyber security specialists and data scientists, the business analytics professionals and business innovators, the climate change scientists and global health experts and the technology game changers of the future.

* Please consult the footnote text on p. 24.

RM This icon stands for a Research Master's programme.

Programmes

Artificial Intelligence

- AI for Health
- Cognitive Science

Bioinformatics and Systems Biology (Joint Degree VU-UvA)

- Bioinformatics
- Systems Biology

Biomedical Sciences

- Immunology
- Infectious Diseases
- International Public Health
- Neurobiology
- Science Communication
- Science in Society

Biomedical Technology and Physics

Biomolecular Sciences

- Biological Chemistry
- Molecular Bioinformatics
- Molecular Cell Biology

Business Analytics

- Computational Intelligence
- Financial Risk Management
- Optimisation of Business Processes
- Research track

Chemistry (Joint Degree VU-UvA)

- Analytical Sciences
- Molecular Sciences
- Science for Energy and Sustainability

Computational Science (Joint Degree VU-UvA)

Computer Science (Joint Degree VU-UvA)

- Big Data Engineering
- Foundations of Computing and Concurrency
- Internet and Web Technology
- Parallel Computing Systems
- Software Engineering and Green IT

Computer Security

Drug Discovery Science

Earth Sciences

- Earth and Climate
- Geology and Geochemistry
- Global Environmental Change and Policy

Ecology and Evolution

- Biodiversity, Ecology and Evolution
(Joint Degree 3 Universities)
- Ecology and Evolution (Joint Programme VU-UvA)

Environment and Resource Management

- Ecosystem Services and Biodiversity
- Energy and Climate
- Global Food Challenges
- Global Sustainable Futures
- Global Water Challenges

RM Global Health

Health Sciences

- Health Policy
- Infectious Diseases and Public Health
- International Public Health
- Nutrition and Health
- Prevention and Public Health

Hydrology

Information Sciences

Management, Policy Analysis and Entrepreneurship in Health & Life Sciences

- Community-based Health Technologies
- Health and Life Sciences-based Communication
- Health and Life Sciences-based Management and Entrepreneurship
- Health and Life Sciences-based Policy
- International Public Health

Mathematics


RM Neurosciences

Physics and Astronomy (Joint Degree VU-UvA)

- Advanced Matter and Energy Physics
- Astronomy and Astrophysics
- Biophysics and Biophotonics
- General Physics and Astronomy
- Gravitation, Astro-, and Particle Physics
- Science for Energy and Sustainability
- Theoretical Physics

Science, Business and Innovation

- Energy and Sustainability
- Life and Health

 **Application deadline:**
1 April (non-EU/EEA), 1 June (EU/EEA)

 masters.fs@vu.nl
 www.vu.nl/science

Website:



"Hi there! My 4 take-home-messages for you are:

- 1) VU Amsterdam is packed with well-known research labs. It's an honour to discuss some of the latest papers during the class and exams.
- 2) Things taught aren't just for grades – they prepare you towards good employability.
- 3) Courses and activities are designed to teach up-to-date skills. Start-up vibe is in the air.
- 4) Every turn on campus and in Amsterdam you'd see some cool science turned into solutions.

VU Amsterdam has eager students from all ages and backgrounds!"



Catherina Chia
Singapore / Malaysia
Bioinformatics and
Systems Biology



Medicine

Become a bridge builder
between clinical and
experimental research



2,446*
Students



187
Professors



11%*
International
students



2
English-taught
programmes

The role of the Faculty of Medicine VU is to train physicians and conduct research. It is ambitious in its teaching and research and encourages the free and open communication of ideas. The Master's programme Oncology and the Master's programme Cardiovascular Research are part of the Faculty of Medicine at VU Amsterdam. Our students are motivated and ambitious and trained to become independent researchers who can work in a multidisciplinary environment.

Why study at this faculty?

Teaching takes place on a small scale and is of the highest quality. You are taught by scientists and clinicians who have made unique contributions to the areas of research featured in the programme. The lecturers and programme management take great care in monitoring and mentoring students. Students are trained to become bridge builders between clinical and experimental research and have great opportunities in and outside research after graduation.

Your future career

The aim of our Master's programmes is to provide you with all the knowledge and skills required to become a highly competitive PhD candidate. Approximately 75% of all our students will start a PhD programme soon after graduation. Of course other employers, such as pharmaceutical companies or biotech companies and policy makers are also interested in versatile students with your background.

* Please consult the footnote text on p. 24.

RM This icon stands for a Research Master's programme.



Specific admission requirements

- Academic Bachelor's degree in Biomedical Sciences, Life Sciences, Medicine or comparable
- Well-developed academic skills including writing and presenting skills, the ability to evaluate and apply knowledge, and the ability to engage in critical thinking
- Research laboratory skills (preferably a Bachelor's internship of > 12 ECTS)
- An admission assessment test is part of the admission procedure. You need to pass the test of the programme

Programmes

RM **Cardiovascular Research
Oncology**

📅 **Application deadline:**
1 April (non-EU/EEA), 1 June (EU/EEA)

✉ masters.vumc@vu.nl
🌐 www.vu.nl/med

Website:




"Joining the Master's in Oncology has been a great decision so far due to multiple factors. The lectures are held by experts in their field, where cutting-edge unpublished research is presented. Due to the small size of the class these lectures are very engaging as it enables students to discuss the topics presented with the professors and other students. This small size further allowed me to quickly get to know other international students as well as Dutch students. Lastly, I really value the freedom to conduct the research for my Master's thesis at institutes abroad and the opportunity to

further challenge yourself by joining the Topmaster programme."



Lennart Fritz
Germany
Oncology



Behavioural and Movement Sciences

A unique profile within the broad domain of behaviour and health



4,121*
Students



48
Professors



16%*
International
students



8
English-taught
programmes

Our scientific knowledge and insights in mental and physical human behaviour in society contribute to lead a healthy, active and meaningful life for everyone at any age. It's our faculty's mission to play a leading role in understanding how behaviour comes about and how it can be influenced. Therefore we use our unique resources and expertise to facilitate high-quality, interdisciplinary research and education in a diverse, open, safe and sustainable environment, to address the major societal needs related to our field.

Why study at this faculty?

We conduct top research that pushes theoretical and methodical boundaries, including advanced techniques for detailed and large-scale data collection (e.g. genotyping, neuro-imaging, musculoskeletal imaging, 3D motion recording, e-mental health applications), data analysis, storage and management. The faculty also has several prominent researchers in its ranks who play a pioneering role in their field.

Your future career


You will have various career opportunities, for instance in applied research at a rehabilitation centre or sports

institution, or in vocational education in sports or healthcare. But you can also end up in the corporate world as a Human Resource Manager. Around 50% of our Research Master's graduates are likely to be employed as researchers in positions at universities and research institutes.

Programmes

- RM Clinical and Developmental Psychopathology
- RM Cognitive Neuropsychology
- RM Genes In Behaviour and Health
- RM Human Movement Sciences
 - Human Movement Sciences
 - Musculoskeletal Physiotherapy Sciences
 - Psychology
 - Work and Organizational Psychology
- RM Social Psychology: Regulation of Social Behaviour

Website:

 **Application deadline:**
1 April (non-EU/EEA), 1 June (EU/EEA)

 masters.fbms@vu.nl
 www.vu.nl/fbms



"VU Amsterdam is known for excellent Psychology education, and it truly lived up to its reputation! The course is well designed, my class is diverse, and I was taught by accomplished practitioners and researchers in the field. My programme had a dual focus on conducting scientific research and doing a practical internship, which was a very attractive factor for me while choosing a university. Apart from the classroom, there were several opportunities to learn and network, such as attending the Amsterdam Leadership Lab talks."

Muskaan Gandhi
India
Psychology: Work and Organizational Psychology



* Please consult the footnote text on p. 24.

RM This icon stands for a Research Master's programme.



School of Business and Economics

For ambitious students who wish to positively impact society



6,379*
Students



96
Professors



27%*
International
students



40
English-taught
programmes

Following our mission “Science with Purpose”, the School of Business and Economics combines high-quality education and excellent research with a focus on contributing to the social, economic and ecological challenges of our time. Our wide range of English-taught programmes reflects this ambition. Our programmes challenge students to develop and widen their perspective. We do this academically, professionally and by shaping their future roles as members of society. Our community represents that society, with a highly diverse population where international students represent a large and thriving student body. Students actively contribute to our community, especially through vibrant student association Aureus. Our international outlook is also expressed in our double Business and Accounting AACSB accreditation.

Why study at this faculty?

Located in the heart of Amsterdam’s main business district (Zuidas), the School offers you a wide variety of English-taught Master’s. From broad-spectrum degrees like Business Administration, to specialised Master’s programmes such as Spatial, Transport and Environmental Economics; the only

Master’s programme in the world that offers an integrated view on urban/regional issues, transport, and the environment from an economic perspective. Our SBE Career Services offers a wide range of services (free of charge) to ensure you are well prepared for an internship or your career after graduation.

Your future career

Our graduates take different career paths: consulting for private corporations, the Big Four and banks, but also working at innovative start-ups, becoming entrepreneurs or making a difference as data analysts for companies big and small. With a degree from the School of Business and Economics, your future is full of opportunities.



Programmes

Accounting and Control

Business Administration

- Human Resource Management
- International Management
- Leadership and Change Management
- Management Consulting
- Strategy and Organization

RM Business Data Science (Joint Degree VU-UvA-EUR)

Digital Business and Innovation

Econometrics and Operations Research

- Econometrics specialisations:
 - Climate Econometrics
 - Econometrics and Data Science
 - Econometric Theory
 - Financial Econometrics
 - Marketing Data Science
 - Quantitative Economics
- Operations Research specialisations:
 - Financial Engineering
 - Operations Research Theory
 - Quantitative Logistics

Economics

- Development Economics
- Economics
- Global Challenges

- International and Macroeconomic Policy
- Labour and Health
- Market Analytics
- Public Policy

Entrepreneurship (Joint Degree VU-UvA)

Finance

- Duisenberg Honours Programme in Corporate Finance
- Duisenberg Honours Programme in Finance and Technology
- Duisenberg Honours Programme in Quantitative Risk Management
- Finance
- Financial Management

Marketing


Spatial, Transport and Environmental Economics

- Environmental Economics
- Real Estate Economics and Finance
- Spatial, Transport and Environmental Economics
- Transport Economics
- Urban and Regional Economics

RM Tinbergen Institute Mphil in Economics (Joint Degree VU-UvA-EUR)

- Econometrics
- Economics
- Finance

Transport and Supply Chain Management

 **Application deadline:**
1 April (non-EU/EEA), 1 June (EU/EEA)

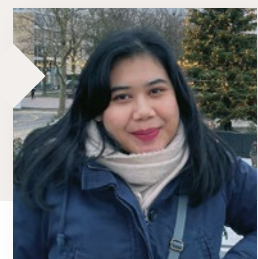
 masters.sbe@vu.nl
 www.vu.nl/sbe

Website:



"Studying abroad has been a dream of mine since I was young. Not only it helps me to be more independent but it also helps me to gain more experiences and creating a more diverse network. The School of Business and Economics is one of the most diverse faculties, and I am glad to be a part of it. My programme itself has offered the experiences I have hoped for. Not only do I gain more knowledge but I also improve my social skills. "

Adila Clevana Annissa
Indonesia
Business
Administration:
Leadership and
Change Management



* Please consult the footnote text on p. 24.

RM This icon stands for a Research Master's programme.

Law

Law in Action



4,102*
Students



65
Professors



14%*
International
students



8
English-taught
programmes

Academic education provided by the faculty is linked to current societal themes, united in the motto: Law in Action! The education we provide is based on the awareness that our society needs academically trained lawyers who feel a deep sense of engagement with society and who combine expert knowledge of the law with an understanding of the societal context in which law operates. This vision is reflected in our degree programmes which have both a research orientation and a practical focus.

Why study at this faculty?

The Faculty of Law offers various international Master's programmes within international business law, international criminal law, international migration law, European and international law, technology law and international security. These programmes attract a very global audience. In addition to the programme courses, there are various law clinics, moot court competitions, a research talent track, internship possibilities and career events to further develop your academic and professional skills.

Your future career

Our graduates take different career paths: government traineeships, working at NGO's like the Red Cross, law firms, international criminal tribunals, the United Nations, or how about consulting private corporations on sustainability, human rights or artificial intelligence? With an LLM or MSc from VU Amsterdam, the world is your oyster.

* Please consult the footnote text on p. 24.




Programmes

International Business Law

- Climate Change and Corporations
- Commercial Transactions
- Markets and Behavior

International Crimes, Conflict and Criminology Law and Politics of International Security Law

- European and International Law
- International Migration and Refugee Law
- International Technology Law

 **Application deadline:**
1 April (non-EU/EEA), 1 June (EU/EEA)

 masters.law@vu.nl
 www.vu.nl/law

Website:



"Coming from Montevideo, Uruguay, I decided to embark myself in a new academic challenge: a Master of Laws specialised in International Migration and Refugee Law at VU Amsterdam. It has been an outstanding experience since I got to know people from all over the globe, sharing, strengthening and challenging our personal values and previous perceptions. The academic level is fantastic, combined with knowledgeable professors, active class discussion and research."

Juan Tuneu
Uruguay

Law: International
Migration and Refugee
Law



Social Sciences

Make a positive impact
on society



2,991*
Students



39
Professors



29%*
International
students



7
English-taught
programmes

Do you want to be challenged to discover new perspectives on society? And find solutions for the societal challenges our world faces today? Come and study one of the Social Sciences programmes at VU Amsterdam. We offer programmes that invite our students to develop ways to think critically about real societal problems, to look at how perspectives from different disciplines can be applied, and to study societal phenomena by applying state of the art research methods. In our faculty thinking is for doing.

Why study at this faculty?

The Faculty of Social Sciences is committed to Social Sciences for Society. In our activities in teaching, research and valorisation we engage, work on and are committed to find solutions for the societal challenges our world faces today. We invest in diversity and in internationalisation of our staff and students. Our faculty is also among the best faculties in social sciences worldwide.

Your future career

Graduates from our programmes have found positions in e.g. consultancy firms, management positions and traineeships in major companies, the public sector, NGOs and international organisations, social work and medical professions, research and education, HRM and recruitment policy or research in academic or non-academic institutes. And the list goes on. With a degree from our Faculty of Social Sciences, your future is full of opportunities!

* Please consult the footnote text on p. 24.

RM This icon stands for a Research Master's programme.



Specific admission requirements

The Research Master's in Societal Resilience is a selective programme. More information can be found on the website.

Programmes

Communication Science

Culture, Organization and Management

Political Science

- Democracy, Power and Inequality
- Global Environmental Governance, Sustainability and Climate Change
- International Relations, Security and Global Order

Social and Cultural Anthropology

RM Societal Resilience

Website:



Application deadline:

1 April (non-EU/EEA), 1 June (EU/EEA)



masters.fss@vu.nl



www.vu.nl/fss



"I am very proud that I chose this study. The best part of the faculty of Social Sciences is that it helps students to reflect in/on practice and challenges you to never take things for granted. Throughout the study, I not only gain a lot of knowledge and develop skills by doing a lot of reading and fieldwork, but I also make great friends from all over the world through hard time. The lecturers are knowledgeable and easy going; they are always there to offer help when needed."



Lufen Ke
China

Culture, Organization
and Management



Humanities

Plural thinking about being human



1,810*
Students



48
Professors



19%*
International students



24
English-taught programmes

What are nations and citizens, who are included or excluded, even becoming refugees? Where does Artificial Intelligence take us? Can we build an argumentation machine? What is a moral market? How do artists work and museums curate art? What are environmental humanities? These and many other questions are addressed. The Faculty of Humanities is a vibrant community with a global outlook. All teaching in the humanities faculty is personal: students work in small groups, allowing a lot of interaction with fellow students and teachers. Academic challenges, active teaching methods and high-quality supervision are important elements of education in the Faculty of Humanities, with current world issues like the UN Sustainable Development Goals and major scientific questions playing an important role.

Why study at this faculty?

Are you looking to contribute to a better world by studying what makes us human? Come to VU Humanities to enjoy excellent and small-scale teaching, which always interacts with current research, interdisciplinary and societal approaches, and a global outlook. Within our (Research) Master's programmes there is plenty of space for combining disciplines, and for applying your knowledge in a societal context. Join us and become a part of our academic community with Amsterdam as our vibrant humanities laboratory close at hand.

Your future career

As a VU Amsterdam Humanities student, you graduate with a broad skills set, profound and interdisciplinary knowledge, and refined historical and cultural perspective. This makes you an ideal candidate for a variety of jobs in education, business, public administration and politics, cultural organisations, media, healthcare, and the heritage sector.



* Please consult the footnote text on p. 24.

RM This icon stands for a Research Master's programme.

Specific admission requirements

The Research Master's Humanities and the Research Master's Classics and Ancient Civilizations have additional admission requirements. Check the website for details.

Programmes

Archaeology

Arts and Culture

- Comparative Arts and Media Studies
- Contemporary Art History
- Design Cultures

Classics and Ancient Civilizations

- Ancient Studies
- Classics

RM Classics and Ancient Civilizations

Communication and Information Studies

- Dialogue, Health and Society
- Multimodal Communication

Heritage Studies

History

- Global History and International Studies
- Medical and Health Humanities
- Religion and Society

RM Humanities

- Critical Studies in Art and Culture
- Environmental Humanities
- Global History
- Linguistics
- Philosophy

Linguistics

- **Language Consultancy and Linguistic Documentation**
- Text Mining

Literary Studies

- English Literature in a Visual Culture

Philosophy

- Philosophy, Bioethics and Health
- Philosophy of Law and Governance
- Philosophy of Neuroscience

📅 Application deadline:

1 April (non-EU/EEA), 1 June (EU/EEA)

✉ masters.hum@vu.nl

🖱 www.vu.nl/hum

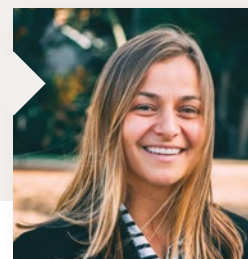


"Being an international student can be overwhelming at first, but after the orientation week and my first week of classes, I felt comfortable. VU Amsterdam has made an effort to give extra support to us students during the pandemic, thus, easing some challenges we faced. My Master's programme and lecturers have enlightened me on new English literature perspectives, which will aid me in my future endeavours. The programme has solidified my passion for English Literature and teaching English as a school subject. Lastly, many students from all over the world and from the Netherlands are in my class, which has allowed me to expand my network."

Lara Barry

South Africa

Literary Studies:
English Literature in
a Visual Culture



Religion and Theology

Religion moves people



445*

Students



33

Professors



8%*

International students



4

English-taught programmes

The Faculty of Religion and Theology at VU Amsterdam is the academic knowledge centre for religion. We are at the service of students, journalists and pastors, government bodies and policymakers, social organisations and religious communities. We are there for those who want to know what motivates people.

Why study at this faculty?

When you choose for the faculty of Theology and Religious Studies, you enter the rich and fascinating world of religion and faith. VU Amsterdam is known as a safe space where different religions coexist, side by side. How can we understand and cooperate with those who believe and practice differently? How does religion help us to think about climate change or societal conflicts? In our Master's programmes, you have the opportunity to combine theological topics with societal themes, and gain a solid foundation in the principles of religions and theology.

Your future career

Our Master's programmes give you a wide-ranging perspective on world events and trains you in critical reflection. With your Theology and Religious Studies degree, you can work in many different organisations as a spiritual peace

RM This icon stands for a Research Master's programme.

* This number is the total of all Bachelor's and (Pre)Master's students at this faculty, including the Dutch-taught programmes. The percentage reflects the international students in the English-taught Master's programmes from this faculty.

builder, researcher, policy officer, teacher or journalist. The world is crying out for people with a deep understanding of religion and theology.

Programmes

Theology and Religious Studies

- Exploring a Discipline
- Interreligious Studies
- Peace, Trauma and Religion



Theology and Religious Studies



Application deadline:

1 April (non-EU/EEA), 1 June (EU/EEA)



masters.ft@vu.nl



www.vu.nl/frt

Website:



"The programme has developed my leadership skills and knowledge, as well as prepared me to become the youngest pastor in the Molukse Evangelische Kerk (Geredja Indjili Maluku) in The Netherlands. During my study, I met with students from more than 15 countries across the world. We exchanged stories and knowledge on cultural diversity in religion theory and practice. The professors are very kind and helpful, they always made time to meet students in-person, and to monitor and evaluate our progress. I consider the Faculty of Religion and Theology as my second home, where I will always feel welcome and accepted."

Michael Willy Patawala (Alumnus)
Indonesia

Theology and
Religious Studies:
Interreligious Studies



The Dutch education system

Education

The quality of Dutch higher education is amongst the best in the world. Education at VU Amsterdam is structured according to the Bachelor's and Master's system. In general, the teaching style can be described as student-centred; we stimulate students to develop their own opinion through independent and creative thinking. This means that teaching is conducted in small seminars where interaction is the norm rather than the exception. At VU Amsterdam students are encouraged to engage with their professors in a discussion.

Academic year

The academic year starts in the first week of September and is divided into two semesters. At VU Amsterdam, each semester consists of three periods of 8+8+4 weeks. Examinations are held at the end of each semester (January and June), or at the end of the eight- or four-week period. You are registered as a student from 1 September until 31 August.

Credits

At VU Amsterdam, credits are listed according to the European Credit Transfer System (ECTS). The ECTS credit system is based on study workload, which includes contact hours, time spent completing papers, assignments and preparing for examinations. In this system, 1 ECTS credit point represents 28 hours of study (including class attendance). A full-time student is expected to earn 60 ECTS credits in one academic year, and 30 ECTS credits in one semester.

Dutch grading system

When you come to the Netherlands to study you will probably expect that many things are different than in your home country. The grading system may also not be the same as what you are used to. In the Netherlands, the traditional grading scale is from 1 through to 10, where 1 is the lowest and 10 the highest grade. A grade of

6.0 or more stands for 'pass', a grade of less than 6.0 for 'fail'. Grades 1 through to 4 are very rarely given, and the same is true for grades 9 and 10.

Grading culture

Grading practice in the Netherlands can differ from how grades are awarded in other countries. When the 1 through to 10 scale was officially introduced back in the late 19th century, it was decided that a 10 should only be awarded in cases of absolute perfection. A 9 was considered to be only a slightly less impossible goal to reach. With the advent of multiple choice testing and yes/no answers to questions, 10's and 9's actually came within reach of ambitious students. To this day, however, these grades are still very rarely awarded in oral examinations or open question testing, such as essays, presentations, project reports or dissertations.



Admission and application

Step by step

1

Register in Studielink

Go to Studielink and create an account. Studielink is the central application platform for all Dutch universities. Here you can select VU Amsterdam and the programme of your choice. Once you have submitted your application you will automatically receive your login details for your dashboard (our student platform) by e-mail.

2

Complete your application in your dashboard

For your application you are asked to complete an application form and upload this in your dashboard. You can find the required template on the webpage of your programme of interest. You do not have to send original hard copy documents when applying!



Admission requirements

In order to be eligible for admission, you need a degree that is at least equal to a Dutch academic Bachelor's degree. Furthermore, you must meet the English requirement. For some programmes there are additional requirements. Always check the programme's webpage for a complete overview.

3

Pay the application fee

We ask you to pay a non-refundable €100 application fee, if you are applying with a diploma obtained outside of the Netherlands. Only after you have paid this fee will we be able to start the assessment of your application file. The International Support Assistant will check your application and inform you if any documents are missing.

4

Wait for the admission decision

Once your application file is complete you will receive a confirmation e-mail. Your application will then be assessed by your International Student Advisor. We aim to inform you about the decision within max. 8 weeks. Note that this may be longer for programmes with an additional selection procedure, or closer to the deadlines.

International Student Services

When you apply:

International Student Advisors (ISAs)

If you have a specific question about applying for one of our international Master's programmes with a non-Dutch diploma you can contact the International Student Advisor of your programme. The ISA will be your main point of contact and can help with questions about the programme, admission requirements or application procedure. Every Master's degree programme has its own International Student Advisor(s).

Accommodation Services for students

Our Student Accommodation Service can help with arranging accommodation for international students enrolling in one of our international Master's programmes.

Student Administration

The Student Administration will help you with any questions about paying your tuition fee and will verify the certified copy of your diploma.

When you are admitted:

Immigration Services for students

When you are a citizen of a non-EU/EEA country, you need to complete the immigration procedure before you can start your studies at VU Amsterdam. Our Student Immigration Service will apply for the required immigration documents on your behalf.

When you arrive:

The VU Introduction Team

The Introduction Team organises a warm welcome for you. We offer a pick-up service from Schiphol airport and an extensive introduction programme in August. During the Arrival days you can arrange all kinds of practical matters, and during the introduction week you can participate in social events and an intercultural programme.

What happens after your application

The Admission Board

Once your application is complete (all required documents are approved) and we have received the application fee, your file will be taken into consideration. The Admission Board will aim to inform you about the decision within a maximum processing time of 8 weeks. Your International Student Advisor at the International Office may contact you for additional information.

Admitted unconditionally

The International Office will inform you about your (un)conditional admission by e-mail as soon as a decision has been taken.

Before you can be admitted unconditionally to our university, we need to receive a certified copy of your diploma or a statement of graduation which must be certified as a genuine copy of the original by the issuing school/university. Additionally, we also need to receive your sufficient English language test score. Please check the minimum required scores on your programme webpage.

Admission, accommodation and visa

After you have been admitted we ask you to confirm your participation in your dashboard within two weeks and select the services you may need. Please note that all students with a non-EU/EEA nationality need to apply for a visa and/or residence permit.

Read the online admission, accommodation and visa (if applicable) pages on our website carefully to see if you need to send us any additional documents. If you need to apply for a visa and/or residence permit, you will have to complete your application before 1 June. After this date, your application for services may be delayed, which means we cannot guarantee your start date at VU Amsterdam.

International Office will help you arrange practical matters

After you arrive at VU Amsterdam, the International Office will help you arrange practical matters in the Netherlands. You will also begin receiving invitations for (career) activities for International Students.

Officially enrolled

After you have paid your tuition fees you will be officially enrolled. You will have to pay the tuition fees before the start of the programme, which is 31 August. There are different payment methods.



Finances

Tuition fees

Students from the European Union (EU) or the European Economic Area (EEA) pay the same tuition fees as Dutch students. The tuition fees for most programmes are determined by the Dutch government on an annual basis. Tuition fees for non-EU/EEA students vary depending on the programme. Please consult the website for the specific tuition fees for academic year 2023-2024: www.vu.nl/tuitionfee

Application fee

If you are applying for an English-taught Master's programme you are asked to pay a non-refundable €100 application fee. Only after you have paid this fee, we will be able to start the assessment of your application file.

Scholarships

With our own scholarship, the VU Fellowship Programme (VUFP), we offer highly motivated students with excellent study results the unique opportunity to pursue a Master's degree with financial support provided by the university. The VUFP scholarship is a tuition fee waiver. The Holland Scholarship Programme (HSP) is meant for students from outside the European Economic Area (EEA) who want to follow a Master's programme in the Netherlands. VU Amsterdam embraces diversity as an enrichment to our teaching, research and our contribution to society. This scholarship is specifically intended for excellent students who contribute to the diversity at our campus.

€ 1,000 to 1,400 Monthly living costs

Some students manage to spend less, but this of course depends on your own lifestyle. By way of indication (not including tuition fees):

Accommodation	€400 - €750	per month
Food etc.	€325 - €400	per month
Public transport	€60	per month
Insurance	€75	per month
Books and printing	€30	per month
Other costs: clothing etc.	€100	per month

As an international student planning to study at VU Amsterdam, you can apply for a variety of grants and bursaries. Detailed information about scholarships and deadlines can be found on www.vu.nl/scholarships

Proof of financial means

When you are from a non-EU/EEA country you must prove that you are able to finance the costs of living in the Netherlands, as part of your immigration procedure. The Dutch Immigration Service determines the amount per month/year. For 2023-2024 you need to be able to prove that you have at least the minimum specified amount per month at your disposal for the total duration of your study programme enrolment. Additionally, you also need to prove that you can pay your tuition fees.



"I applied for and was offered the VUFP for my entire programme of study before I came to the Netherlands. However, I also received the excellent opportunity to be a Fulbright student at VU Amsterdam. After a successful first year of study, I was offered the VUFP for my second year.

As strange as it may sound, I greatly enjoyed applying for both the Fulbright scholarship and the VUFP because it challenged me to contextualise my experiences in a narrative that others could understand. After years of working hard, I needed to step back and think about how that work tied into my goals — and how the VUFP specifically would propel me towards my long-term aspirations.

I am so grateful for the VUFP and the opportunities I've had as a fellowship recipient, especially the connections I've made within the International Office and with other VUFP scholars. This fellowship has made my study in Amsterdam possible as a low-income international student, and I am continually impressed by the knowledge, perspectives, and experiences I encounter at VU Amsterdam and in the city."

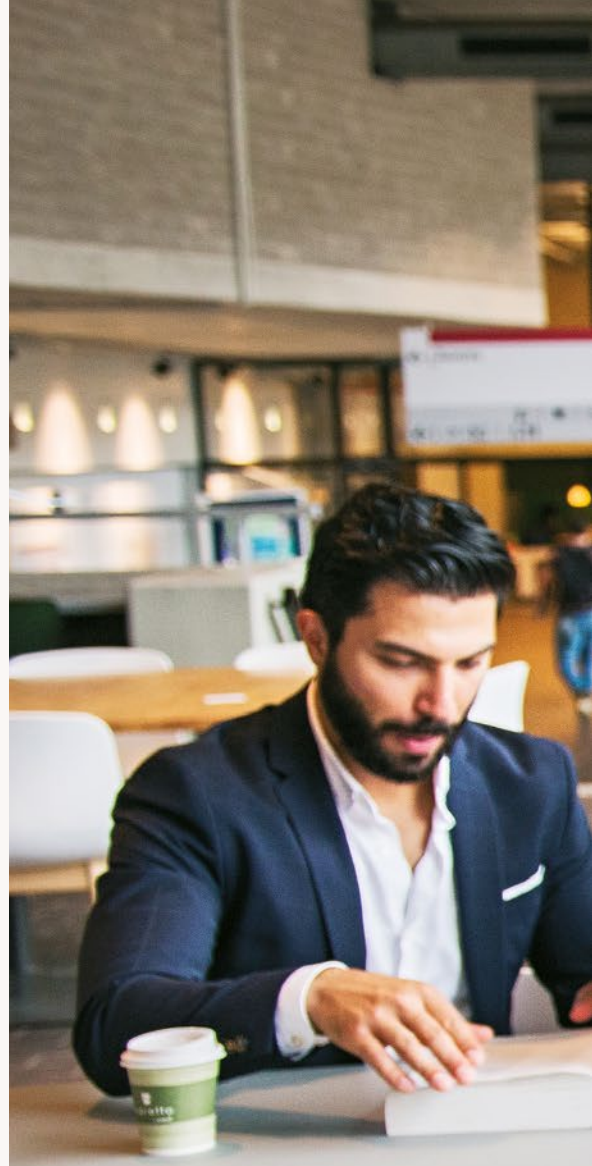
Michael Elizabeth Gasior, United States of America
Clinical and Developmental Psychopathology

Other education at VU Amsterdam




Bachelor's programmes in English

VU Amsterdam also offers more than 25 3-year Bachelor's programmes in English. More information can be found online at www.vu.nl/internationalbachelors



Research Master's

Most students who intend to study a PhD after their Master's opt for a Research Master's. Although all our Master's programmes focus on research and writing skills, this is even more so for Research Master's. Admission is both highly selective and competitive. You receive two years of research training supervised by professors and have the opportunity to produce your own PhD research grant proposal. The Research Master's programmes in this brochure are marked with this icon: 



Bachelor's and Master's programmes in Dutch

We also have many Bachelor's and Master's programmes in Dutch. If you are interested in following one of these programmes as a non-Dutch speaker, you can take advantage of the special language-learning facilities offered by the university. Further information can be found on our website www.vuamsterdam.com



Semester in Amsterdam

The Semester in Amsterdam programme is an all-inclusive non-degree programme for students wishing to study in Amsterdam for one semester or a full academic year. Through the Semester in Amsterdam Programme, applicants gain the freedom to select their own courses or follow a cohesive minor. Applicants choose from 1000+ English-taught courses in seven faculties. Our on-site advisors will guide you through the application, pre-departure, and arrival process. Whether you need help selecting the right courses, adjusting to the Dutch academic system, or integrating into local life, we are here to help!

VU Graduate Winter School

Would you like to learn a new skill, specialise in a specific field and expand your international network? VU Graduate Winter School offers online courses from research analysis and academic skills to trending hot topics. The one-week courses are designed for Master students, PhD candidates and professionals from all over the world.

Are you ready to take the next step?

www.vu.nl/winterschool

VU Amsterdam Summer School

Are you looking for an inspiring way to spend your summer? Join VU Amsterdam Summer School!

Whether you are looking to upskill and develop yourself personally or academically, our summer school is the place to go. Bachelor's, Master's and PhD students as well as professionals are all welcome to apply. We offer two-week courses, international classrooms, exciting social activities and much more! Will you join us?

www.vu.nl/summerschool





An inspirational educational setting

The mixed classroom in practice

VU Amsterdam aims to provide an open environment to students with backgrounds that vary in many different dimensions, such as religion, gender, sexual orientation, ethnicity, nationality, and socioeconomic status. Our mixed classroom is an educational approach that builds upon differences to enrich the learning experience for all students present. The term mixed classroom is not used in a descriptive way (in reference to a classroom with a certain level of 'diversity'), but is the name of our educational model, in which students learn how to open up to differences, to co-create an inclusive environment and to capitalise on different perspectives in order to create value. This does not entail compromising between different perspectives or merging them into one uniform perspective. Instead, it uses the differences and possible tension between perspectives to stimulate critical thinking, develop analytical skills, and generate creative solutions.

A Broader Mind

VU Amsterdam considers it important that academic, personal and social education of students has a place in the curriculum. Together, students and teachers shaped the development of the education programme 'A Broader

Mind', in which Bachelor's students work on social questions and self-development. Students learn how to solve societal problems, combining multiple scientific disciplines. The themes of the programme are based on the SDGs (Sustainable Development Goals). Another part of A Broader Mind is strengthening the educational form of Community Service Learning (CSL) at VU Amsterdam.

With CSL, students apply their academic skills in solving current and social issues. In the future, VU Amsterdam wants all students to have the opportunity to do Community Service Learning. Through structured pilots, scientific research and a learning community, VU Amsterdam further supports the development of CSL.

Entrepreneurship

Teaching students entrepreneurial skills is a distinguishing feature of VU Amsterdam's teaching programmes. At the request of the Executive Board, the newly installed Dean Entrepreneurship has carried out an exploration of entrepreneurship at VU Amsterdam. For example, we have the Centre for Entrepreneurship, that offers completely free assistance and supports students with an interest in entrepreneurship.

Another example is Enactus VU, part of the bigger Enactus network and led by students. By finding opportunities in society and creating value by working together with academics and business people, they start projects that become self-sustaining companies. That is how we contribute to a more sustainable world and develop an entrepreneurial mentality.

The Master's programme Entrepreneurship aims to provide students with cutting-edge knowledge on entrepreneurship, relevant skills, and an entrepreneurial attitude. In addition, the students will be able to bridge theory and practice by applying and creating relevant academic knowledge on entrepreneurship in real life settings to solve challenging problems.

Research with an interdisciplinary approach

For VU Amsterdam it is important to contribute with our research to solving major social issues. Challenges like this ask for an interdisciplinary approach – it forces us to look outside our own field of research and discuss our views with people with another perspective on the topic. Education and research are directly linked to each other. We lead students to research areas where they can excel, and where there is a high demand for well-trained professionals.

Interdisciplinary Research Institutes

VU Amsterdam's research covers many topics that often cross disciplinary boundaries. To promote and accommodate this interdisciplinary research, VU Amsterdam set up Interdisciplinary Research Institutes. In this environment, researchers meet, share their knowledge and join forces to work on today's challenges that require interdisciplinary teams. The Research Institutes have a national and international reputation for the scientific quality and social impact of their research. They are known for their successful PhD and Research Master's programmes, worldwide recruitment of staff and students, active participation within international networks and excellent research facilities.

Amsterdam Sustainability Institute

An example of such an institute is the Amsterdam Sustainability Institute (ASI) of VU Amsterdam: a cooperation platform in the field of sustainability and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). Before its establishment in 2019, research in the field of sustainability was not optimally bundled. The ASI brings researchers into contact with each other and encourages interdisciplinary research by financially supporting activities with an innovative character.

Network Institute

Another example is the Network Institute. They study the interaction between digital technology and society, or what is often called: the Digital Society. With its interdisciplinary focus, its extensive size, and its well-established organisation, the Network Institute is uniquely positioned. Many researchers have benefited from their Network Institute-based collaborations, and the institute has introduced interdisciplinary research work to a generation of young VU Amsterdam scholars.

Award-winning research

VU Amsterdam is home to many award-winning professors. An example is professor Yvette van Kooyk, who heads the Molecular Cell Biology and Immunology department. She was awarded the Spinoza Prize 2019 (the Dutch 'Nobel Prize' for Science) for her research in the field of immunology. Prof. Van Kooyk unravelled the mystery of how cancer, autoimmune diseases and infectious diseases (such as HIV/AIDS) are able to disrupt the immune system. At the University Medical Centre (Amsterdam UMC), she develops nanomedicines that help the immune system fight cancer and other diseases.

Aurora Network and Aurora Alliance

VU Amsterdam is the proud co-founder of the Aurora network, a consortium of research intensive universities deeply committed to the social impact of our activities, and with a history of engagement with our communities. Originated from this network we are now part of the

Aurora Alliance, an Erasmus+ selected European Universities Initiative. Our vision is to use academic excellence in education and research to influence societal change. We do this by learning for societal impact, engaging several communities and striving to be pioneers in sustainability. By using our educational concepts in the Alliance, such as Community Service Learning and Entrepreneurship, we try to work together and strengthen each other's inspirational educational environments.

Our campus

VU Amsterdam wants to offer an attractive study and working environment that responds to the modern demands that students and employees have. Our campus is a dynamic, urban environment in direct connection with business district 'Zuidas Amsterdam'. This brings new opportunities for cooperation with alliances and our surroundings.

2 Sport Centre locations

Transportation

Proximity to Schiphol International Airport and train connections within Europe make VU Amsterdam easily accessible to the world. Amsterdam has a wide variety of buses, trams and subways to get you where you need to be. But if you truly want to experience life as an Amsterdam resident, buy a bike! Amsterdam has more bikes than people, and you will learn that Dutch people cycle everywhere within the city, no matter the distance or weather.



Student housing

Counting 3,400 residents, Campus Uilenstede is the largest student campus of Northern Europe. Uilenstede is home to quite a few of our international students. Of course, aside from living and studying there, there's a lot more to do for the students of the Campus, such as a cosy diner and regular events. Read more about student housing on the next few pages.



Sport facilities

The VU Sports Centre brings people together. With two locations on campus, there is a sport for everyone: from fitness to yoga, and from futsal to boxing. Both students and staff can use the facilities at a competitive rate. Every year an enthusiastic group of students take part in the Race of the Classics, the biggest student sailing race in Europe. Also during the internationally known 'Dam tot Dam' running competition, a big team represents VU Amsterdam.

Culture and entertainment

Griffioen is the cultural centre of VU Amsterdam. In addition to courses, Griffioen organises film screenings, music, theatre and dance performances. The Events Office can host all kinds of cultural activities and various rooms are available for rent. The VU Amsterdam Orchestra is the student orchestra of VU Amsterdam and was founded in 1962. Together, the students mainly perform late-romantic and twentieth-century music in the most beautiful halls at home and abroad.

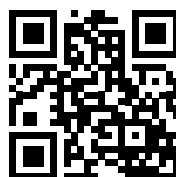


Study associations

Study associations are attached to a particular faculty, programme or course. The emphasis is on social events and relaxation, although most also organise activities which are relevant to the coursework itself. Having joined an association, you may wish to take a hand in running it by sitting on one of its (sub-) committees. You can then help to organise excursions or to produce the association's magazine for example.

Shopping

From the first cup of coffee in the morning to a delicious hot meal at the end of the day: the campus has a wide variety of cafés and restaurants to satisfy any craving. More and more shops are opening up on our Campus square, i.e. VU Amsterdam bookshop, SPAR University supermarket, Doppio Espresso, Science Café (OI2 Lab building), Grand Café The Basket and several food trucks.



Curious to see what our campus looks like? Have a look at our online campus tour!

Housing

Studying at VU Amsterdam and living in Amsterdam is a great experience, but finding a room can be a challenge. The university can help you with this.

The International Office can help

The International Office offers accommodation to participants in English-taught degree programmes. There are furnished and unfurnished rooms with private or shared facilities. The number of rooms available is limited so we cannot guarantee accommodation for every student, but the International Office will do its utmost best to find suitable accommodation for everyone.

Accommodation types and locations

The university's types of accommodation are located in various areas of the Amsterdam metropolitan area, including Uilenstede, StuNest, BOLD, the Student Hotel, and OurCampus Diemen. Generally, VU Amsterdam can be reached easily by bike and public transport from all locations.

Types of contracts

- **Campus contracts**, covering the total duration of your study programme
- **Rental contracts** for a fixed period of 1 year

Costs

Costs

The price of accommodation varies between €400 and €1,000 per month. Utilities (water/electricity/internet) are included in the price. When you choose a room with a low rent, you will have to share your facilities (kitchen and/or bathroom). A flexible attitude is desirable when sharing a bathroom and/or kitchen.

Housing fee

Students who want to apply for accommodation through VU Amsterdam will have to pay a housing fee of €500. This housing fee is charged to cover the costs of the university in providing the housing service to international students.





Get to know fellow international students

Students from all kinds of nationalities live closely together. A great way to make new friends!

How to apply

Step 1

After your admission, you confirm that you will participate in the programme.

Step 2

Apply for accommodation in your personal dashboard on our website.

Step 3

Transfer the housing fee. Accommodation will be assigned based on a first paid, first served system. The date on which VU Amsterdam receives the payment will determine when you get access to the booking system.

Step 4

Wait for further instructions. You will receive additional information from the International Office by e-mail within a few weeks.

More information

We advise you to apply for housing as soon as possible after being admitted. A timely application for one of our programmes is therefore recommended.

More information about the different types of housing, rental periods, taxes and housing allowance can be found on our website: www.vu.nl/accommodation

If you have any questions, please send an e-mail to studentaccommodation@vu.nl

We are here to help



International Student Advisors

“We understand that applying for a degree programme abroad can lead to many questions. Is my diploma valid in the Netherlands? Can I be admitted to the programme of my choosing? And how do I prove my English language proficiency? Registering in another country, complicated procedures, new systems: it is not always easy. That is why you will have an assigned International Student Advisor (ISA) from the very beginning.

For every faculty we have assigned ISAs who know everything about the programmes, requirements, and deadlines. We will guide you throughout the application process and answer any questions you might have. It is our priority to help you every step of the way, making sure you are all set to become a student at VU Amsterdam.”



Stipo Jeleč
Team Leader
Degree Mobility



Curious to see who your International Student Advisors will be? Just follow the QR-code or go to www.vu.nl/isa! On this page you will also see their contact information so you can easily reach out.



Other services for international students

“Moving to Amsterdam is one of the best choices you can make, but of course there are also some arrangements that need to be made. Where will you live, and do you perhaps need a visa or residence permit for your stay here? Our Services Team at VU Amsterdam International Office will help you with all these practicalities. We will make sure you'll have an easy landing.

We offer accommodation to international students in English-taught degree programmes. The number of rooms available is limited so we cannot guarantee accommodation for every student, but we will do our best to find a suitable accommodation for everyone. More information about housing can be found in this brochure or on our website.

Another important thing to take care of, is your potential immigration to the Netherlands. When you are a non-EU/EEA citizen, you need to complete the immigration procedure before you can start your studies at VU Amsterdam. Our

Services team can help you with this, and will apply for the immigration procedure on your behalf.”



Michelle Zumbrink
International Officer
Services team



More information about our services can be found via www.vu.nl/visa or www.vu.nl/accommodation. It is also possible to make an appointment with us via our online tool.

Ambassadors and Alumni

Student Ambassadors

Have a question for a current student? Curious about everyday life in Amsterdam, from our campus to the food, music and events going on in the city? Want to know how much homework you will have each night, or how the Dutch educational system differs from your own?

Ask one of our VU Ambassadors! They would love to answer your questions by sharing their personal experiences of living and studying at VU Amsterdam.

You can find our International Student Ambassadors via www.vu.nl/ambassadors

Alumni Ambassadors

Besides our Student Ambassadors that are currently studying at VU Amsterdam, we of course also have a community of International Alumni Ambassadors! These (former) students graduated from VU Amsterdam and are currently either working in the Netherlands, abroad or doing a PhD or (second) Master's.

Are you interested in what opportunities and/or challenges lie ahead after graduating? The Alumni Ambassadors can share their personal experiences. At what company are they working now? What can you do during your studies to prepare for your career? Was it easy to get into a Master's programme after graduating from a Bachelor's programme at VU Amsterdam? You can easily ask them questions like these via www.vu.nl/ambassadors after you select 'Alumni' under 'Levels'.



 We organise several events for our Ambassadors, from drinks to workshops





Off- and online contact

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VU Master's days



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you can meet us in the
upcoming year.



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