

# Factsheet Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam 2016-2018

## Institutional information

Name of Institution	Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam (VU University Amsterdam)		
Erasmus Code	NL AMSTERD02		
Address	VU International Office De Boelelaan 1105 1081 HV Amsterdam The Netherlands		
Regional coordinators	Oceania	Monique van Reij	+31 20 598 6387
	Indonesia	Monique van Reij	+31 20 598 6387
	Latin America	Monique van Reij	+31 20 598 6387
	Asia (excl. Indonesia)	Marieke Farchi	+31 20 598 9142
	Europe	Marieke Farchi	+31 20 598 9142
	North America	Ramon Ellenbroek	+31 20 598 2919
	Africa	Ramon Ellenbroek	+31 20 598 2919
	Middle East	Ramon Ellenbroek	+31 20 598 2919
Website	<a href="http://www.vuamsterdam.com">www.vuamsterdam.com</a> <a href="http://www.vu.nl/exchange">www.vu.nl/exchange</a>		
E-mail	<a href="mailto:Internationalrelations@vu.nl">Internationalrelations@vu.nl</a>		

## Semester data and application procedure

Academic year	<p>The academic year runs from start September to end of June and is divided into semester 1 (Fall) and semester 2 (Spring).</p> <p>Arrival days, orientation and introduction programme are scheduled during the last 2 weeks of August (semester 1) or the Friday before the start of semester 2. Exchange students are expected to attend the orientation and introduction programme.</p> <p><b>2016-2017</b>  Semester 1: 05/09/2016-03/02/2017  Semester 2: 06/02/2016-30/06/2017</p> <p><b>2017-2018</b>  Semester 1: 04/09/2017-02/02/2018  Semester 2: 05/02/2018-29/06/2018</p>
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Nomination deadline	<p>Nominations can be sent to: <a href="mailto:internationalrelations@vu.nl">internationalrelations@vu.nl</a>. Please mention the student's First name(s), Surname, Gender, E-mail address, Exchange semester ( 1 or 2, or the full academic year), level, and field of study.</p> <p>Deadlines for nominations (<i>please note that we prefer to receive nominations as early as possible!</i>):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 1 April (Semester 1 or full academic year)</li> <li>• 1 October (Semester 2)</li> </ul> <p>A confirmation e-mail will be sent to the nominated student after the nomination deadline to inform the student about eligibility and the (online) application procedure.</p>
Application procedure	<p>Nominated students need to apply through the online application system of Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam. The web link to the online application system will be communicated to nominated students only.</p> <p>Students should finalize the online application procedure before:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 15 April (Semester 1 or full academic year)</li> <li>• 15 October (Semester 2)</li> </ul> <p>Deadlines are strict when students need a visa and/or housing via the university</p> <p><i>Students wishing to participate in courses at Master's degree level need to have finished a Bachelor's degree by the start of their exchange. They need to submit proof when applying by means of a (copy of a) Bachelor's degree, or an official statement that the student will have obtained the degree before the actual exchange</i></p>
Relevant email and website	<p>General: <a href="http://www.vu.nl/exchange">www.vu.nl/exchange</a></p> <p>E-mail: <a href="mailto:incoming@vu.nl">incoming@vu.nl</a></p>

## Recommended language skills

Language of instruction	Dutch and English
Level of English required for students mobility	<p>C1 (TOEFL IBT at least 92, academic IELTS 6.5)</p> <p><b>Students at undergraduate level (Bachelor):</b>  <i>English language proficiency is the responsibility of the visiting student. Students can be rejected for courses if they do not meet the above mentioned level of English proficiency.</i></p> <p><b>Students participating in Master's degree courses:</b>  <i>Proof of English language proficiency by means of a TTOEFL or IELTS test result is mandatory for students participating in courses at Master's level. Exempted are students who have completed at least two years of a fully English-taught programme no longer than two years prior to the exchange.</i></p>
Level of English required for teaching staff	C1 (Toefl IBT at least 110, academic IELTS 7.5)

<b>Level of Dutch required (for courses in Dutch only)</b>	<p>C1 (advanced level, NT2)</p> <p><i>Proof of Dutch language proficiency is mandatory for visiting students who wish to participate in courses taught in Dutch.</i></p> <p><i>Exempted are only students who have completed at least two years of a fully Dutch taught programme no longer than two years prior to the exchange.</i></p>
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The sending institution, following agreement with the receiving institution, is responsible for providing support to its nominated candidates so that they can have the recommended language skills at the start of the study or teaching period

## Course information and grading

Courses	Course information can be found on the central website for Exchange programmes ( <a href="#">link</a> ). Bachelor's exchange students are allowed to participate in all courses available for Bachelor's exchange students provided they meet the entry requirements of the course.																					
Transcript of records	After the exams, teachers have 4 weeks to publish the results. Once the student has obtained the results of all the exams and papers he/she completed during the exchange, the student submits a transcript request form to the VU International Office. The VU International Office checks the courses and grades on the form and prepares the transcript, which will be sent to the home institution.																					
Grading	<p>The Dutch grading scale is from 1 through to 10, where 1 is the lowest and 10 the highest grade. A student passes with a grade 6.0 or higher and fails with a grade 5.0 or lower. On average 75% of the students who pass have a grade between 6.5 and 7.5. Less than 5% of the students get a grade 9. Less than 1% get a 10.</p> <table><tr><th>ECTS %</th><th>ECTS grade</th><th>Cijfers</th></tr><tr><td>10%</td><td>A</td><td>8 - 10</td></tr><tr><td>25%</td><td>B</td><td>7,5</td></tr><tr><td>30%</td><td>C</td><td>7</td></tr><tr><td>25%</td><td>D</td><td>6,5</td></tr><tr><td>10%</td><td>E</td><td>6</td></tr><tr><td></td><td>F</td><td>0 - 5</td></tr></table> <p>More information on Dutch grading and conversion can be found on the website of the Nuffic: <a href="http://www.nuffic.nl">www.nuffic.nl</a></p>	ECTS %	ECTS grade	Cijfers	10%	A	8 - 10	25%	B	7,5	30%	C	7	25%	D	6,5	10%	E	6		F	0 - 5
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Relevant email and website	Courses: <a href="http://www.vu.nl/en/programmes/exchange-programmes/study-guide/index.asp">http://www.vu.nl/en/programmes/exchange-programmes/study-guide/index.asp</a> Credits: <a href="http://www.vu.nl/en/programmes/studying-at-vu/semesters-and-credits/index.asp">http://www.vu.nl/en/programmes/studying-at-vu/semesters-and-credits/index.asp</a> E-mail: <a href="mailto:incoming@vu.nl">incoming@vu.nl</a>																					

## Services

<b>Welcoming programme</b>	Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam offers international students a Welcome and orientation programme before the start of each academic semester. The programme consists of social activities, information about registration at the municipality, sports and cultural facilities for students, ICT, opening a bank account, etc. Students are strongly advised to attend this Welcome programme.
<b>Dutch language courses</b>	Students can take Dutch language courses at the Department of Dutch as a Second Language ( <a href="#">link</a> )
<b>English language courses</b>	No English language courses for exchange students are offered
<b>Studying at VU with a disability</b>	Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam has good facilities for students with a disability. For more information the student can contact the VU International Office at <a href="mailto:incoming@vu.nl">incoming@vu.nl</a>
<b>Student counselling</b>	For issues such as study progress, motivation, family matters, adjusting to life in the Netherlands, discrimination, disputes with lecturers, students can contact one of the student advisors. More information can be found on the website of Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam ( <a href="#">link</a> ).
<b>Accommodation</b>	<p>Exchange students can apply for student housing through the central VU International Office.</p> <p><u>A handling fee</u> is required for this service. Students will be informed about the procedure after uploading their application package. Housing cannot be guaranteed. Students housing can only be rented for the full period (semester or a year)</p> <p>Deadline for confirming accommodation and payment of the handling fee for housing is June 1 (semester 1) and December 1 (semester 2).</p> <p>Staff can apply for housing directly through the housing department of the IO: <a href="mailto:accommodation@vu.nl">accommodation@vu.nl</a></p>
<b>Visa</b>	<p>Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam will apply for a visa and/or a residence permit on behalf of the exchange student or staff member (if necessary). Students will be informed about the procedure after uploading their application package. More information about visa requirements can be found here (<a href="#">link</a>).</p> <p>Staff can contact: <a href="mailto:immigration@vu.nl">immigration@vu.nl</a></p>
<b>Insurance</b>	<p>Health insurance is mandatory for all students and visiting staff.</p> <p>EU citizens can apply for an EU Health Insurance Card (EHIC). Non-EU citizens need to arrange their own private health insurance. VU University recommends students and visiting staff insurance company <a href="#">AON</a> (though students and visiting staff have the possibility to select their own insurance that will cover their stay in the Netherlands).</p>
<b>Relevant website</b>	<p>More information can be found on the website:</p> <p><a href="http://www.vuamsterdam.com">www.vuamsterdam.com</a></p> <p><a href="http://www.vu.nl/exchange">www.vu.nl/exchange</a></p>