# Global Exchange Programme

## Fact sheet 2020-2021

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>Postal address</strong></th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| **Mail Address**   | University of Amsterdam  
|                    | Student Services  
|                    | International Student Affairs  
|                    | Valckenierstraat 59  
|                    | 1018 XE AMSTERDAM  
|                    | The Netherlands  
| **Visiting Address** | Valckenierstraat 65-67  
|                    | 1018 XE Amsterdam  
|                    | The Netherlands  

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>Information</strong></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Website</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Email</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Telephone</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>Team</strong></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Head</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| **Manager Global Partnerships** | Ms. Willeke Jeeninga  
| | Partnership agreements and exchange balance |
| **Manager Student Experience & Engagement** | Mr. Guido de Wilde  
| | General programme management and student advising |
Outbound Mobility
Ms. Ingeborg de Brieder – Senior Liaison Officer
Ms. Loura Penning – Liaison Officer
Ms. Mascha Kraak – Liaison Officer

Inbound Mobility
Mr. Maarten Terpstra – Liaison Officer
Ms. Lieke Westhoff – Liaison Officer
Ms. Mascha Kraak – Liaison Officer

Transcripts
Ms. Nicky Thelosen – Global Exchange Assistant

About the UvA
World-class education
Founded on a tradition of highly integrated academics, the University of Amsterdam enjoys a global reputation for cutting-edge research, high-quality teaching and a broad range of degree programmes. Our open, tolerant and international academic tradition dates back to 1632, and continues to be strong today, thanks to our thriving community of independent thinkers. Now, with more than 31,000 students, we are considered one of the best research universities in the world. We strive for excellence in teaching and research, and are proud to offer you one of the largest selections of English-taught programmes in continental Europe.

Studying in Amsterdam
Amsterdam provides an ideal environment for academic studies. As the capital city, with a population over 850,000 inhabitants, Amsterdam is the financial, creative and cultural heart of the Netherlands. It is also home to numerous (international) companies, institutions and museums. The city boasts beautiful architecture and more than 150 canals, lending Amsterdam its unique and charming historical ambience. The people of Amsterdam are easy going and welcoming to foreigners and English is the city’s second language. Getting around is easy using the extensive public transport system. Alternatively, you can explore the city by bike, discovering places no cars, buses or trams can take you.

Exchange
The Global Exchange Programme is an extensive network of 90 non-European partner universities facilitating student exchanges. Ambitious students from our partner universities are encouraged to participate in a challenging and inspiring academic exchange programme at the UvA.

Academic tradition
Academic climate

Deadlines
Nomination period and deadline (by host university)
Semester 1: 1 February - 1 April
Semester 2: 15 August - 15 September

Application period and deadline (student)
Semester 1: 15 March - 15 April
Semester 2: 1 September - 1 October
Application and programme information

Application

Nomination procedure

Official nomination from the home university is a strict requirement to be eligible to apply for the Global Exchange Programme. Nomination forms will be emailed to partner universities before the nomination deadline. For more information see Application and admission.

Application procedure

Application instructions will be sent directly to the student’s email address during the application period.

Required documents (Soft copy / digital scans)

- Completed Global Exchange application form
- Certified copies of academic transcripts of all universities attended, including a list of pending courses
- Copy of CV/Resume
- Certified copy of English language test results (for non-native speakers of English)

Entry requirements

Entry Requirements

- Students must have completed at least 120 ECTS (or the equivalent in local credits) at the time of departure for study abroad. Students should have a grade point average of 3.0 (US system) and a relevant academic background in the proposed field of study.

- Requirement for students wishing to take courses on master level: completed Bachelor’s degree in the proposed field of study (except for the Amsterdam Law School, see programme information).

- Each host faculty might have additional requirements. Please review additional requirements per faculty to see if further conditions apply. Requirements are explained in the document for courses and faculty criteria. For more information see: Entry requirements.

Language requirements

Non-native speakers of English should provide proof of proficiency in the English language by means of a TOEFL, an IELTS or a CAE test report. For specific English language scorecard requirements see: Course & Faculty requirements
Programme information

Language of instruction

English

Level

Most courses are on bachelor (undergraduate) level. The availability of master (graduate) courses differs per department. Admission for exchange on master-level is done on case-by-case basis.

An exception is the Amsterdam Law School (ALS). Exchange students can only take master courses at the Amsterdam Law School and do not need a completed bachelor’s degree to attend. However, students do need to have at least two full years of academic background in law.

Departments open to exchange students

- Amsterdam University College - Liberal Arts & Sciences
- Child Development and Education
- Communication Science
- Economics and Business
- Humanities
- Law
- Politics, Psychology, Law and Economics (PPLE College)
- Psychology
- Science
- Interdisciplinary Studies
- Social Science

Course information

Courses

Course placement

All incoming students are advised to be as flexible as possible with their course selection. We aim to register students for preferred courses but we cannot guarantee course placement. Placement is generally not confirmed until right before the start of the semester.

Course selection

Students are advised to select courses from one academic department at the UvA. In some cases it is possible to take one or two courses in another department. This can only be arranged on a case-by-case basis by the international officer of your accepting faculty and is dependent on availability of courses.

Limited enrolment

Due to high demand and space constraints, Amsterdam University College (Liberal Arts & Sciences) and PPLE College has limited access and therefore reserves the right to review applications on motivation, background, study progress and GPA.

Not open

Medicine, Dentistry, Graduate School of Social Science, MSc. Business Studies.
## Credits, grading & transcripts

### Full time course load
A full time workload for UvA students is 30 EC (European Credits). Exchange students generally take between 24 EC and 30 EC. If students wish to take less than 24 EC, permission is needed from the home university and their UvA academic advisor.

### Course requirements
According to Dutch immigration guidelines, students need to be enrolled in at least 18 EC per semester in order to be eligible for a student residence permit.

### Early leave
If students finish a fulltime course load before the end of the semester (e.g. in the first two blocks of the semester), they are allowed to return home earlier. However, the housing contract cannot be shortened and covers (almost) the entire semester.

### Credits per course
Generally 6 or 12 EC per course

### Grading system
Most faculties at UvA use a grading system ranging from 1-10 (5.5 is a pass). Amsterdam University College uses the US letter system. Some courses may also be taken on a pass/non-pass basis.

### Re-sits
All students at the UvA are allowed to re-sit exams if the initial grade is not sufficient to pass the course. Re-sitting an exam to improve a grade that already counts as a pass (>5.5) is not possible. For more information about rules and regulations please consult the host faculty at the UvA.

### Transcripts
Official transcripts are automatically sent to the exchange office of the home university approximately six weeks after the end of the semester.

## Academic Calendar

### Semester system
Two semesters, each comprise three blocks of 8, 8 and 4 weeks.

### Semester 1
End of August 2020 – End of January 2021
Exams: end of each block

### Semester 2
End of January 2021 – End of June 2021
Exams: end of each block

### Collective days off
[Academic calendar](#)
### Extension

#### Extension procedure

To extend your stay at the UvA, there are several steps to undertake and practical matters to take into consideration:

- Approval of the International Office of your home university for extending your stay at the University of Amsterdam.
- UvA’s selection committee will then discuss the possibilities.
- Housing: the possibility of finding accommodation or extending your contract depends on the availability.
- Extending your stay has consequences for the validity of your residence permit/Visa and could mean that you will have to follow extension procedures. Please find more information on extending your residence permit [here](#).

Please note: The Global Exchange Programme has a maximum of one year in total. Extension cannot be guaranteed and is not possible for graduate students and the faculty of Law.

### Accessibility

#### Counselling & examination arrangements

UvA offers support, for example counselling or examination arrangements for those who need it.

By providing this kind of support we strive to offer you a pleasant study program without any study delay. A disability or chronic condition need not prevent you from studying.

#### How can I apply for a provision

To request an examination or another arrangement, you can make an appointment with a student counsellor. This can be done through a referral from the study adviser or directly. The student counsellor will advise the contact person of your programme – based on your medical report or submitted dyslexia report – about your eligibility for the arrangement(s) and the period of validity of this/these arrangement(s).

### Contact

[Student counsellor](#)
Dutch Language

**Dutch Language courses**

Each semester, the Institute for Dutch Language Education (INTT) of the UvA offers extensive Dutch courses (non-credit bearing) for international students at absolute beginners, beginners, intermediate and advanced level.

**Costs & reimbursement**

The costs for the semi-intensive course (recommended) is €320* and needs to be paid in advance. All Global Exchange students may apply for a one time reimbursement of €320* upon successful completion of the course. The Intensive Dutch summer courses are not covered by this scholarship and have to be financed by the student him/herself.

(*Price is based on last year’s costs and is subject to change.)

**Application**

Applications go through the Office of International Student Affairs. The application form can be found on the INTT website.

**Dutch culture and society courses**

The following Dutch Culture and Society courses* are open for students without a humanities background.

1. Dutch Culture and Society in European Context (6 ECTS)
2. The Dutch Golden Age (6 ECTS)
3. From Rembrandt’s Masterpieces to Mass Production: History Painting in Amsterdam c. 1630-1680 (6 ECTS)
4. The History and Future of Reading (6 ECTS)
5. Urban Multilingualism 1 (6 ECTS)
6. Multilingualism in a European Perspective 1 (6 ECTS)
7. The Netherlands in the world (6 ECTS)
8. All-Time Bestsellers from Amsterdam (6 ECTS)
9. Vermeer’s Delft (6 ECTS)
10. Reading the city: Amsterdam literary classics (6 ECTS)**

(* This is a preliminary list, based on the courses offered last year and subject to change.)

(**This course is not to be taken by students who have already taken the course All-Time Bestsellers from Amsterdam)

→ Continue to the next pages for practical matters
### Practical matters

#### Immigration procedures

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assistance</th>
<th>UvA Student Services assists all students with immigration procedures. The online application will start around four months before the beginning of each semester. For more information see Visa.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Visa (travel to Amsterdam)</td>
<td>Based on the country of citizenship, students may need to apply for an entry visa. To find out whether you need a visa to travel to the Netherlands as a student, please use the Visa wizard.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Residence Permit / WHS permit</td>
<td>All non-European/European Economic Area (non-EU/EEA) students will have to apply for a residence permit to legally reside and study in the Netherlands for a semester or full year. Students with the Australian, New Zealand and Canadian nationality may also apply for the Working Holiday Scheme permit (WHS permit) instead of the regular residence permit.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### Chinese nationals

In addition to the Residence Permit, students with a Chinese passport also need to apply for a NUFFIC certificate. For more information see the Nuffic website.

#### Accommodation

| University housing | The UvA guarantees accommodation for Global Exchange students applying before the ‘early bird’ deadline. For more information see Housing. |
| Types of rooms | Each year, we reserve a range of furnished accommodation in Amsterdam and its surrounding areas for our international students. We work with different housing corporations that offer various types of rooms, including shared rooms, private rooms with shared facilities and private rooms with private facilities. |
| We would like to emphasise that there are not enough rooms available to accommodate all students within the city centre. Around 50% of the students are placed outside of the city centre. Allocation to housing is done by the three housing corporations based on your indicated budget. |
| Housing prices in Amsterdam are not based on location. Instead it is based on a so-called point system. It measures the quality of the room, for instance the state of the room, type of sanitary and room surface. |

<p>| Contract periods | Contract periods are fixed for the duration of the signed lease agreement and run for almost the entire semester. Please note that it is not possible to shorten the contract if a student decides to arrive late, or leave before the end of the semester. |</p>
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>Housing application fee</strong></th>
<th>One semester</th>
<th>€209 (early bird) / €242 (regular) with reservation*</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Two semesters</td>
<td>€413 (early bird) / €440 (regular) with reservation*</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Price is based on last year’s costs and is subject to change.

| **Approximate costs** | The rental prices range from approximately €2,000 to €4,500 per semester, depending on room type. An additional administration fee, ranging from €65 to €200 applies for each new contract. |

| **Housing application** | The UvA uses an online application portal to process all applications for student accommodation. Once admitted to the Global Exchange Programme at the UvA, students will receive an email with a link to the online application portal. |

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>Insurance</strong></th>
<th><strong>Health</strong></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>The UvA does not have a mandatory health insurance plan, but it is required by law to have appropriate health insurance for the duration of your stay in the Netherlands. The UvA has special agreements for exchange students with certain insurance companies. For more information see <a href="#">Insurance</a>.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| **Liability** | Having sufficient liability insurance is mandatory in the Netherlands, in case of damage to other people or property. |

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>Arrival and Orientation</strong></th>
<th><strong>Recommended arrival dates</strong></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Semester 1: Mid-August</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Semester 2: Last week of January</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| **Airport pick up** | The University of Amsterdam offers a pick-up service from Schiphol Amsterdam Airport during the recommended arrival dates. For more information see [Airport pick up](#). |

| **Introduction Period** | The Introduction period takes place right after the recommended arrival dates. For more information see [ISN Amsterdam](#). |

| **Faculty Introduction** | Generally takes place one week before the start of the semester. |
**Ambassadors programme**

**Exchange Ambassadors Programme**

As an ambassador, you will contribute according to your talents and interests. Working with other ambassadors in a mixed group of local and international students, you can get involved in advising students, organising events, writing articles or producing a newsletter. In return, you will receive training to help develop or enhance your intercultural networking, project planning and professional skills. In 2015, the Global Exchange Ambassador Programme won the prestigious Orange Carpet Award for the sector Higher Education. For more information see [Ambassadors](#).

---

**Estimated living expenses**

*Provided figures are rough estimates, and based upon previous academic year*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Cost</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Residence permit (including visa)</td>
<td>€ 210</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Housing</td>
<td>€ 2,000 – € 4,500 per semester</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Application fee (early bird)</td>
<td>€ 209 (one semester) € 413 (full year)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Administration fee</td>
<td>€ 100 to € 200 (housing corporation)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Refundable room deposit</td>
<td>Equal to monthly rent (ranges from € 380 to € 800)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Personal expenses (including food)</td>
<td>€ 400 – € 600 per month</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Books</td>
<td>€ 75 per month</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Public Transport / Travel</td>
<td>€ 70-100 per month (if not using a bike and when living in Amsterdam)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bicycle</td>
<td>€ 150 (Second-hand, including lock)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Health insurance</td>
<td>€ 75 per month</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Update december 2019*