



**University of Amsterdam**  
Faculty of Humanities

**INTERNATIONAL EXCHANGE INFORMATION 2018-2019**

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<b>Websites</b>	<a href="http://www.uva.nl/exchange-humanities">www.uva.nl/exchange-humanities</a> <a href="http://www.uva.nl/en/home">www.uva.nl/en/home</a> <a href="http://coursecatalogue.uva.nl">http://coursecatalogue.uva.nl</a> (Amsterdam Exchange Programme - Humanities)		

**Academic Information**

<b>Semester dates (incl. exam periods)</b>	Winter Semester:	3 September 2018 to 1 February 2019
	Summer Semester:	4 February 2019 to 28 June 2019
<b>Number of study weeks/ academic year</b>	42 weeks (40 weeks courses, 2 weeks holidays). A semester consists of 3 blocks (8-8-4 weeks). Course duration: 1 or 2 blocks. No courses run for the complete year.	
<b>Credit system</b>	The standard workload for full-time students is 60 EC per academic year (1680 hours of study) or 30 EC per semester (840 hours of study).	
<b>Language</b>	Many courses are taught in Dutch however many of the BA-courses and MA-courses are taught in English. Courses in the field of Modern European languages mostly use Dutch as a source language, but are sometimes taught entirely in the target language. The Amsterdam Exchange Programme offers courses in a variety of languages, but mostly English.	
<b>Duration of programmes</b>	A bachelor's programme (Bachelor of Arts) has a duration of three years and consists of 180 EC. A master's programme (Master of Arts) has a duration of one year and 60 EC. The selective Research MA programmes take 2 years and consist of 120 EC. The selective Dual MA programmes take 1,5 year and consist of 90 EC.	
<b>Type of education</b>	There are different types of education. Lectures are frequently used as well as seminars and self-study. In seminars an active participation is expected. Students are expected to attend at least 80% of the classes. The first course in the semester is always obligatory. Blackboard is the online system that is used to post literature, discussions, exams and other information. For language classes the media-lab is used frequently.	

<b>Assessment</b>	Many different forms of assessment are practised: oral exams, written exams, essays, papers, class room presentations and assignments.
<b>Academic climate</b>	The UvA places a strong emphasis on independent and critical thinking. Students are expected to study independently. There is a lot of self-study required. It is not uncommon that students are expected to read 2 or 3 books by themselves in a week for any particular course. Students find the academic climate challenging but rewarding. Exams and assessment are not only scheduled at the end of a course but students can also find themselves doing weekly assignments such as small essays or book reports and most courses have mid-term as well as final exams or papers. Exchange students are expected to fully participate in courses, there are no auditor-only options.
<b>Courses and Learning Agreements</b>	<p>Courses on BA level can be found in the course catalogue: <a href="http://coursecatalogue.uva.nl">coursecatalogue.uva.nl</a> → Programme → Search programme: <i>Amsterdam Exchange programme - Humanities</i></p> <p>There is a limited amount of BA-courses in English with a limited amount of places available for exchange students. Therefore it is very important for students to be flexible about their course choices.</p> <p>It is quite difficult to participate in MA-courses. These courses are often fully booked and have very specific entry requirements. During the second semester hardly any MA-courses are offered. Master students need to contact the UvA academic advisor to discuss their courses.</p>

## Grading System

Comparing international grading systems:

<i>Universiteit van Amsterdam 10 point system</i>	<i>ECTS Quality Assessment</i>	<i>Distribution Percentages</i>	<i>Recommended U.S. grades</i>	<i>Recommended ECTS grades</i>
8 ≤ grade ≤ 10	Excellent	10%	A	A
7.5 ≤ grade < 8	very good	25%	B	B
7 ≤ grade < 7,5	Good	30%	B	C
6 < grade < 7	satisfactory	25%	C	D
5,5 ≤ grade ≤ 6	Sufficient	10%	D	E
< 5.5	Fail	-	F	F

## Application procedure

<b>Nomination deadlines</b>	- for 1 <sup>st</sup> semester and full year students: <b>15 April</b> - for 2 <sup>nd</sup> semester students: <b>1 October</b>
<b>Application deadlines</b>	- for 1 <sup>st</sup> semester and full year students: <b>1 May</b> - for 2 <sup>nd</sup> semester students: <b>15 October</b>
<b>Application procedure</b>	<p>Prospective exchange students fill out the online application form on <a href="http://www.uva.nl/exchange-humanities">www.uva.nl/exchange-humanities</a> → Application and Admission.</p> <p>Required documents:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Official transcript of grades (in English)</li> <li>- Copy of passport (page with personal details)</li> <li>- Photo (passport size)</li> <li>- English language certificate (please see section on language requirements below)</li> </ul>

<b>Language requirements</b>	Students are expected to be fluent in the language they take courses in. Students who will be taking courses in English are required to take an official English test (TOEFL, IELTS, Cambridge, or OLS). Students who will be taking courses in Dutch are required to submit proof of their Dutch language proficiency.
<b>Dutch language</b>	Exchange students can take a Dutch language course at the INTT. The INTT also offers intensive courses in the summer and winter. More information; <a href="http://www.intt.uva.nl">www.intt.uva.nl</a> . Exchange students are entitled to a discount of the fee.

### English language requirements

	<b>BA LEVEL</b>	<b>MA LEVEL</b>
<b>IELTS</b>	Minimal overall grade of 6.5 with a minimum of 6 in each of the components	Minimum overall grade of 6.5 with a minimum of 6.5 in each of the components
<b>Cambridge International Examination</b>	Minimum grade of 'B' for the Certificate in Advanced English (CAE), Minimum grade of 'B' for the Certificate of Proficiency in English (CPE), or C if test was taken after 1 January 2015.	Minimum grade of 'B' for the Certificate in Advanced English (CAE), Minimum grade of 'B' for the Certificate of Proficiency in English (CPE), or C if test was taken after 1 January 2015.
<b>TOEFL Internet based</b>	Minimum overall grade of 92 with a minimum of 20 in each of the components	Minimum overall grade of 92 with a minimum of 22 in each of the components
<b>Erasmus+ Online Linguistic Support (OLS)</b>	Minimum of B2	For students taking courses on MA level an official English test is obligatory. <b>OLS is not sufficient.</b>

### Accommodation

<b>Accommodation</b>	The university co-operates with several housing corporations such as De Key ( <a href="http://www.dekey.nl">www.dekey.nl</a> ) and DUWO ( <a href="http://www.duwo.nl/en">www.duwo.nl/en</a> ). Exchange students can apply for accommodation through UvA's housing office ( <a href="http://www.uva.nl/housing">www.uva.nl/housing</a> ) Double room (sharing a room with another student) is common accommodation in Amsterdam. Normally students share the kitchen, bathroom and living quarters.  The majority of the dorms are <b>outside</b> the city centre. Amsterdam has a housing shortage so it is very difficult for students to find a room on the private market.
<b>Expenses</b>	Accommodation in Amsterdam is expensive. Rents start at about 1900 Euro per semester to a maximum of 3900 Euro per semester. The UvA charges a housing fee for the students who apply for housing through the UvA.

### Additional services

<b>Special needs</b>	The university is open to students with special needs, including students with apparent or non-apparent disabilities or learning disorders. We would like to encourage students and our foreign colleagues to contact us as soon as possible if a special needs student is contemplating a study abroad in Amsterdam.
<b>Students with children</b>	Students travelling with children are asked to contact the Admissions & International Office Humanities as soon as possible. University's housing facilities are not open for students with children.