

**Practical Guide
Exchange students
History and Arts & Culture Studies**



**Erasmus School of History, Culture and Communication
Erasmus University Rotterdam
The Netherlands**

Version March 2017

Practical Guide 2017-2018

Welcome to the History and Culture Studies department of the Erasmus School of History, Culture and Communication.

This guide is intended to inform incoming exchange students with the most important practical information about housing, visa/residence permit, registering at the city hall and opening a bank account etc.

The guide contains many references to the **website**, where the most up-to-date information can be found.

As some details in this guide are subject to change, we recommend that you check

<http://www.eur.nl/welcome/> on a regular basis.

You can contact the International Office of History and Culture Studies throughout the year with questions.

With kind regards,

Sabaï Doodkorte

International Office of History and Culture Studies

International Office History and Culture Studies

(miss) Sabaï Doodkorte

e-mail: exchange.hc@eshcc.eur.nl

telephone: +31 10 408 2874

information desk: room M7-43

opening hours: Monday till Thursday from 09.00 -12.00 and 13.00 -17.00 hours

website: www.eshcc.eur.nl/english/incomingexchangehistoryculture/

Facebook group: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/845546518919519/>

Facebook chat: <https://www.facebook.com/sabai.doodkorteeshcc>

1. Financial matters

1.1 Cost of living in the Netherlands

Experience has shown that students living and studying in Rotterdam spend approximately €1,000 a month. This amount is needed to cover daily expenses, meals, accommodation costs, insurance, study books etc. How much money you will actually need depends on your life style. The costs for housing, for example, may differ considerably. Also, if you plan to travel during your stay, you will obviously need more money. For an overview of average living expenses per month, see the website:

http://www.eur.nl/english/essc/internationaloffice/welcome/before_arrival/financing_your_stay/costs_of_living_in_the_netherlands/

1.2 ATP-Foundation Scholarship

Students who are registered as exchange students at the Erasmus School of History, Culture and Communication are eligible to apply for a scholarship of the ATP-Foundation (<http://www.atpfonds.nl/en>). This foundation has been founded in 2008 after our Exchange Coordinator, Annegien Tegelaar-Prins, passed away. With this scholarship the ATP-foundation would like to encourage incoming and outgoing exchange. In the information below you will read more about the criteria and application procedure:

If you meet the following criteria you may qualify for a scholarship of the ATP-foundation:

Study

You must be enrolled as an incoming student at the Erasmus School of History, Culture and Communication (ESHCC), which is part of the Erasmus University Rotterdam, the Netherlands.

Period of stay

You will study abroad for a minimum of 3 months and maximum of 12 months.

Character and motivation

Positive, assertive, inquisitive, entrepreneurial and creative.

Application

If you meet the [criteria](#) you may apply for a scholarship from the ATP-foundation. You can send your application by e-mail to info@atpfonds.nl.

Applications for the first semester, academic year 2017-2018 must be received before **May 1, 2017** at the Board of the Foundation.

Please send the following documents with your application:

- motivation letter, why have you chosen to study at the Erasmus School of History, Culture and Communication (ESHCC), which subjects do you wish to follow, what do you want to achieve during your stay, and why do you apply for a scholarship of the ATP-foundation;
- curriculum vitae;
- overview of studies so far and grades achieved;
- budget, which explains what expenses you expect to make before and during your stay and how you want to fund those;
- an overview of any other scholarships that you have applied for or are planning to apply for

Procedure

After receiving the documents, the board will evaluate whether the application meets the stated criteria. Based on the documents received, the board will make a ranking of the applications received. If necessary, additional information will be requested by e-mail. The students that are ranked highest will be invited for an interview after arrival in Rotterdam, The Netherlands. If the board decides positively on the application, it will award the scholarship.

The ATP-foundation attaches great importance to the student's experiences. The scholarship is therefore awarded in two parts: the first part is awarded at the start of the study period. The second part can be awarded after the student has returned home and has met the requirements of the ATP-foundation. More information about the ATP-foundation can be found on this website: <http://www.atpfonds.nl/>

1.3 Other scholarships

Please check: <http://www.studyinholland.nl/scholarships/grantfinder>

2. Immigration

2.1 Visa / Residence Permit

International Students coming from outside the EU/EEA who are going to study at Erasmus University Rotterdam (EUR) for more than 90 days will need to apply for an entry visa and/or a Dutch residence permit. Check the Study in Holland 'Student Visa Wizard' to find out which option applies to you:

<https://www.studyinholland.nl/practical-matters/get-prepared>

In April, the International Office of History and Culture Studies will send students information about the application procedure.

The students will have to fill in a couple of forms and send in the forms with the following documents:

- Copy passport
- Proof of financial means – 875 euros per month (by bank statement, financial support from a sponsor or scholarship)

From 1 May until 1 July you will be able to hand in your visa documents.

The fee for the visa and residence permit procedure is currently 317 euros.

2.2 Working Holiday Programme for exchange students from Australia, Canada and New-Zealand

Students from Australia, Canada, and New-Zealand have the possibility to apply for the WHP (Canada) or WHS (Australia, New-Zealand) instead of a residence permit for study purposes. These cultural programmes offer students the opportunity of a 'working holiday' (with the possibility of paid work without a work permit). The Dutch Immigration Services (IND) opened the WHP/WHS to (exchange) students as well, on the condition that they meet all the criteria.

The fee for the WHP/WHS permit is currently 53 euros.

Please note, the International Office will provide the students with more information.

For more information, see: http://www.eur.nl/english/essc/welcome/before_arrival/immigration/whs/

2.3 Registering at City Hall/Municipality (all international students)

International students who will be living in the Netherlands for more than 4 months you are obliged to register at the City Hall in the town in which you are living (also European students need to register).

After registration, you will receive your citizen service number (BSN-number).

Please note: in August and September we will invite the Municipality to come to the EUR campus. Then you will be able to register. You will receive an invitation in June.

If you prefer to register at the City at another date, please make an appointment through the Erasmus University Rotterdam.

Students will then have to bring the following documents:

- Registration form (see website)
- Valid Passport or valid identity card
- A rental contract and a tenancy agreement
- Dutch residence permit (non- EU/EEA students only)
- **Birth certificate (original document)**

For an more information about the registration for an appointment and the required documents (downloads), please see: http://www.eur.nl/english/essc/welcome/upon_arrival/cityhall/

3 HOUSING

For our housing options, please check: http://www.eur.nl/english/campus_facilities/facilities/housing/

Generally, international students find rental prices in the Netherlands and Rotterdam pretty high. However, this year's International Student Barometer survey showed that the quality of Rotterdam student digs is higher than that of rooms in any other Dutch university cities.

Since we are unable to offer rooms (Short stay furnished accommodation owned by SSH) to all international students, a number of you will have to look for a room on the private market or seek other alternatives. These are the options:

3.1 Short stay furnished accommodation – international students

The short stay accommodation of the Erasmus University Rotterdam is run by the housing office called SSH. They have 4 dorms with furnished rooms you can choose from. You can rent one of these rooms for a maximum of one year. Prices for short stay accommodation range between € 510 and € 590 including services (water, electricity, internet, taxes etc).

Information about the dorms?:

Two dorms are off-campus, only 10 minutes walking from the university,

For Full year students only:

- [Erasmus International House](#): Private bedroom, shared bathroom/kitchen (2 persons)

Two dorms are on-campus, for both Full year and semester students:

- [Hatta Building](#): Private bedroom, shared bathroom/kitchen (3 persons)

- [F-Building](#): Private bedroom and kitchen, shared bathroom (6 persons)

How to register?:

From **April (final date will be announced later, you will receive an email)** it will be possible to register for a room. You can make a reservation at: <http://sshxl.nl/en>

To see the rooms which are available, click on 'I am looking for'. You will need to select 'Reserved Accommodations' (purple box) to find the rooms that are reserved for the Erasmus University Rotterdam. **Do not** select 'Regular Accommodations' (green box).

Next you will find a list of the available rooms. You can click on the room for more information like price, floor plans, facilities, map, street view etc

When you have found the room of your choice, you can click on 'Log in'. If you haven't registered yet, please click on 'Registration form' at 'I do not yet have a SSH account'. When you register, please make sure to select the following:

- Select 'ESHCC/Exchange students in History and Culture Studies'
- Exchange students don't need to fill in the student number.
- Fill in a correct email address, since the communication with SSH will only go through email
- Select the correct rental period

Please note, these dates are fixed. If you are coming for a Full year, you might want to search for other options (see the other housing providers listed in this document) which will allow you to rent a room until the end of June.

3.2 What you need to know when you search a room in the private market

1. Read through the [Housing website of the EUR](#), so you know the ins and outs of finding accommodation:
2. A good help in looking for accommodation, are the sources found on [Accommodation Providers](#) (also see the list of providers in this Guide)
3. Use social media. Try linking to people that have connections in Rotterdam.
4. If you end up renting a room on the private market, carefully read the section on [Legal Aspects](#) (and see the information below) to avoid any unpleasant surprises.
5. Make sure you understand your tenancy agreement and the terms of notice. Make any necessary payments in advance, but be aware of landlords who ask you to wire money to a “Money Transfer Agent” (such as Western Union or GWK), because they could be frauds. Money should always be transferred to a Dutch bank account. But rest assured: problems of this kind are rare.
6. Let the landlord know exactly when you will be arriving in Rotterdam and arrange a time for picking up the key.
7. Find out beforehand how to get to your new digs from the airport or train station ([public transport planner](#)) – you won’t be the first one to get lost on their first day in Rotterdam.

Legal aspects (also see: https://www.eur.nl/english/essc/internationaloffice/housing/legal_aspects/)

Getting into the legal aspects of renting accommodation is not likely to be anyone’s favourite pastime. We do, however, recommend you acquaint yourself with this topic beforehand. That way, you will know what to expect and will be able to avoid unnecessary bills or disagreements when you leave.

Tenancy agreements are normally in Dutch. Be sure to have someone check the contract before you sign it. Some important issues you need to look out for in the contract:

- Can you use the address of the accommodation rented and the rental agreement to register at the municipality of [Rotterdam](#)? In case of a subtenancy (whether it concerns an apartment, room or house) you will only be able to register on that address at the municipality under certain conditions. This is why we would in general advice against subtenancy.
- Does the property come furnished or not?
- Are utilities and services included in the rent? If not, find out what they will come to on a monthly basis.
- Please bear in mind that if gas, heating and water are included in the rent, this means you will be paying an advance. If you then take long showers or heat your room day and night even in summer, it will very likely exceed the advance and lead to an unpleasant bill upon departure. You might like to put on an extra sweater instead of turning up the heat and pay extra!
- Are there any extra fees, such as commission or a reservation fee?
- How much is the deposit and what are the deposit return conditions?
- What is the duration of the tenancy agreement? Could you stay longer if you wished? Check the terms of notice, too.
- What are the rental requirements? (What documents do you need? This also refers to matters such as passport copies, proof of enrollment at your university, a work contract and/or payslip).

On this page you will find the Glossary Housing Terms:

https://www.eur.nl/english/essc/internationaloffice/housing/glossary_housing_terms/

3.3 Areas in Rotterdam

The student association Erasmus Student Network-Rotterdam has made several films in Rotterdam to show you the different neighborhoods and their characteristics.

Rotterdam North: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fwN5qhVyBbM>

City Center: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZNQ0ZZg-8Pc>

Oostplein: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GhhOoSqTTY0>

Rotterdam West: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QXqIni05xeg>

Rotterdam Kralingen: http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=To2qmVeM_0k

Rotterdam Blaak: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=elt8owgqowTA>

You will also find more information about the areas on our website:

https://www.eur.nl/english/essc/internationaloffice/housing/rotterdam_neighbourhoods/

Recommendation: The best areas to rent a room are 'Rotterdam North', 'City Center', 'Oostplein' and 'Rotterdam Kralingen' and 'Rotterdam Blaak'.

We would not recommend 'Rotterdam South' and 'Rotterdam West'. These areas can be a bit unsafe.

3.4 The Student Hotel – all students

The Student Hotel is an all-inclusive accommodation for students based in Kralingen. The Student Hotel offers fully furnished rooms with shared kitchens, private en-suite bathrooms, study spaces, gym and lively social areas. The distance from the Student Hotel and the Erasmus University Rotterdam is 5 minutes by tram/10 minutes by bike. For more information, see: <http://www.thestudenthotel.com/>
The Student Hotel is open for both Dutch and international students.

3.5 HousingAnywhere.com – international students

HousingAnywhere.com is a housing platform listing the accommodation supply of Dutch students going on an international exchange program. Their offer consists of temporary furnished accommodation for international (exchange) students. HousingAnywhere.com does not act as an intermediary, they merely list available accommodation.

For more information, see: <http://www.housinganywhere.com/>

3.6 Nestpick.com – Dutch and international students

Nestpick.com is a housing website platform listing an accommodation supply of landlords who rent furnished rooms and apartments to (international) students. It's possible to rent these rooms for more than one year, depending on the landlord. Nestpick.com does not act as an intermediary, they merely list available accommodation. However, they do check if the landlords are reliable and if the contracts are legit. Nestpick.com charges costs for these services (1x 25% of one month's rent)

For more information, see: <http://www.nestpick.com/>

3.7 International Student Housing Rotterdam (ISHR) – international students

ISHR owns several student houses in the district near the university, Kralingen. They are a reliable agency and several of our students have already rented a room with them.

These rooms are all furnished and you will share utilities with other students.

On their website you will find photos of the rooms, maps and prizes (they range from 475 – 625 euros per month). You can contact them at: contact@ishr.nl

For more information, see: - www.ishr.nl

3.8 Niya – international students

Niya is a housing agency and they offer several rooms (furnished and unfurnished). If you want, you can have a viewing before you rent at room with them. They charge 90,- euros administration costs to make use of their services. The rooms on their website range from 450 to 570 euros per month. Most rooms are located in Kralingen (near the university) or in the city center (10 minutes from the university).

For more information, see: - <http://niya.nl/>

3.9 Roomplaza

Roomplaza is another accommodation supply of landlords who rent furnished rooms and apartments to (international) students. The difference with Nestpick.com is that they also offer apartments for more than 2 students. But please note, international student will need to be register their address at the municipality. It's not possible to register more than 3 people at one address. The rooms are located all around Rotterdam (feel free to ask me for advice about locations). The prizes range from 400 to 580 euros per month. Roomplaza charges a service fee of 150 euros.

For more information, see: <http://www.roomplaza.com/>

3.10 Private Market – all students

On the private market, you will find an endless range of rooms and apartments owned by an infinite number of private individuals. This page lists websites giving access to the private market. Certain sites function as an intermediary; others are housing agencies that can make any necessary arrangements for you.

For an overview of housing agencies and housing platforms, see:

https://www.eur.nl/english/essc/internationaloffice/housing/accommodationproviders/private_market/

3.11 Other useful Housing websites

You can also check the following websites for rooms and apartments (to share with other students):

Housing agencies:	Housing platforms (furnished and unfurnished):
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• www.perfectrent.nl• www.rotsvast.nl• www.conformmakelaars.nl• www.amstelhousing.nl• www.kamen-home-rentals.nl	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• www.opkamers.nl (only in Dutch)• www.kamernet.nl• www.huurkamers.nl• www.kamerverhuur.nl• www.erasmate.com• www.kamerhuren.nl• www.studentenkamers.nl (only in Dutch)• www.huurwoningen.nl (only in Dutch, mostly apartments rather than rooms)• www.kamers.nl (only in Dutch)• www.pararius.com• www.wimdu.com <p>Please note: some of these will charge a fee!</p>

For the complete list of housing agencies and housing platforms, see:

https://www.eur.nl/english/essc/internationaloffice/housing/accommodationproviders/private_market/

3.12 Facebook

On the Facebook page of the Erasmus Student Network, you will find several ads for furnished rooms:

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/267418519950215/>

Or try the Student Housing Rotterdam page: <https://www.facebook.com/StudentHousingRotterdam/>

3.13 Hostels – all students

When you cannot move into your accommodation upon your arrival in Rotterdam, you could stay in the StayOkay-hostel in the city centre of Rotterdam. Stayokay offers a special rate to EUR students.

You will find more information on this: <https://www.stayokay.com/en/long-stay-rotterdam>

Other hostels in Rotterdam:

ROOM Rotterdam: <http://www.roomrotterdam.nl/index.php?lang=en>

King Kong: <http://www.kingkonghostel.com/>

Mafkees: <http://hosteldemafkees.nl/>

3.14 Need help?

If you need help finding a room, please contact the International Officer, Sabaï Doodkorte (exchange.hc@eshcc.eur.nl).

Please note, the International Office does not have a list of houses you can choose from. But Sabaï can give you suggestions and check your rental contract if you are in doubt.

3.15 Kitting out your room

Once you have a room, you may want to decorate it/furnish it. You will find information about where to find cheap furniture and second-hand furniture on this website:

https://www.eur.nl/english/essc/internationaloffice/housing/kitting_out_your_room/

4. Getting to Rotterdam

4.1 Pick-up Service

Erasmus University Rotterdam organizes a free-of-charge pick-up service from Schiphol Airport Amsterdam at the beginning of every semester. EUR has its own meeting point, where our Erasmus Student Network (ESN) buddies await the newly arrived students. Buses drop students off at the Woudestein campus or, if so arranged, at the Student Hotel, the StayOkay hostel or at their accommodation rented through SSH.

Dates: several dates in August 2017 (will be announced in May)

You will be able to register online:

https://www.eur.nl/english/essc/internationaloffice/welcome/upon_arrival/orientation/pick_up_service/
(Registration form and deadline will be published in June)

4.2 Travelling by plane

When arriving at Schiphol Airport (Amsterdam): take the train to Rotterdam CS (CS = Central Station). This trip from Amsterdam to Rotterdam takes about 50 minutes. A train ticket, as well as a tram/bus/metro card, can be purchased at the Schiphol train station. At Rotterdam CS you walk to the main entrance of the station and take the relevant tram, bus or metro to:

4.3.1 From Rotterdam Central Station

- Take tram 7 in direction of De Esch. Get off at stop Burg. Oudlaan
- Take tram 21 or tram 24 in direction of De Esch. Get off at stop Woudestein/Erasmus Universiteit Rotterdam.
- Take the metro in direction of Spijkenisse/Slinge. Change at station Beurs on metro in direction of Capelle a/d IJssel, Ommoord or Nesselande. Get off at stop Kralingse Zoom.

You can request a Buddy for the pick-up from Rotterdam Central Station. To sign up for the Buddy program:

https://www.eur.nl/english/essc/internationaloffice/welcome/upon_arrival/orientation/eur_buddy_programme/

5. HEALTH ISSUES

5.1 Health insurance

You are by law obliged to be properly insured during your time in the Netherlands. Above all things, you should make sure that you are sufficiently insured for medical expenses. In addition, third-party liability insurance is absolutely essential, and if you will be living in student accommodation it is also a good idea to have fire and furnishings insurance.

Erasmus University Rotterdam strongly recommends an IPS or AON Insurance. Both companies have a long and outstanding history in the field of medical insurances for foreign students.

For more general information about health insurance, see:

http://www.eur.nl/english/essc/internationaloffice/welcome/before_arrival/insurance/

5.2 General practitioners (doctors), dentists and psychological help

During your time as a student, you might feel the need to talk to someone other than friends in your immediate surroundings or you might have medical problems. In Rotterdam there are many places you can turn to for help and assistance.

For a list of doctors, dentist and psychologists, see:

<http://www.eur.nl/english/essc/internationaloffice/studentlife/advice/>

6. Opening a bank account

International students who wish to open a Dutch bank account can do so at several banks.

- ABN AMRO
- ING
- Rabobank

For more information about the application procedures, see:

http://www.eur.nl/english/essc/internationaloffice/welcome/upon_arrival/bank_account/

7. Temporary Jobs

Foreign students can take part-time jobs during their studies. However, the possible lack of knowledge of the Dutch language might make it difficult for them to find a job. Students can search for part-time jobs through temporary job agencies, advertisements in newspapers, or the internet.

Non-EU/EEA students

Non-EU/EEA students need a work permit for part-time jobs. The employer or the employment agency needs to apply for a work permit for you.

In addition, non-EU/EEA students are only allowed to work under certain conditions. They can work either for a maximum of 10 hours per week throughout the year, or they can do full time seasonal work in June, July, and August.

Non-EU/EEA students who will not need a work permit:

- Student from Australia, Canada and New Zealand who have a WHP/WHS won't need a work permit.
- Students from Japan

EU students

Students from EU countries are allowed to work in the Netherlands without restrictions. Your employer does not need to apply for a work permit and you may work as many hours as you wish. However, you must pay income tax, so you will need a Citizen Service Number (Dutch: Burger Service Nummer, BSN).

Insurance

You must be aware of the fact that once you take on a job alongside your studies, you will need to have the basic Dutch public [health care insurance](#) and pay income tax. (This can be about 100 euros per month, you should consider if it's worth it to have a part-time job)

For more information, check:

EUR website: <http://www.eur.nl/english/essc/internationaloffice/studentlife/job/>

NUFFIC website: <http://www.studyinholland.nl/practical-matters/working-while-studying>

Where to find jobs

Facebook

ESN Job Market Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/1486459544966671/?ref=ts>

Recruitment Agencies

Undutchables: <http://www.undutchables.nl>

Unique Multilingual Services: <http://www.unique.nl/en/>

On campus

- Erasmus Paviljoen: <http://www.erasmuspaviljoen.nl/site/en/category/about-us>

- Erasmus Sports Building: <http://erasmussport.nl/about-us/>

- Erasmus Sports Café:

https://www.eur.nl/english/campus_facilities/food_drink/locations/erasmus_sport_cafe/

- Has Döner Kebab: https://www.eur.nl/english/campus_facilities/food_drink/locations/has_doener_kebab/

- New Fork: https://www.eur.nl/english/campus_facilities/food_drink/locations/new_fork/

- Satebar: https://www.eur.nl/english/campus_facilities/food_drink/locations/satebar/

- Sohmi: https://www.eur.nl/english/campus_facilities/food_drink/locations/sohmi_asian_streetfood/

- Spar Mini Super Market:

http://www.eur.nl/english/campus_facilities/campus/shops_erasmus_woudestein/spar/

- Starbucks: https://www.eur.nl/english/campus_facilities/food_drink/locations/starbucks/

- Tostiworld: https://www.eur.nl/english/campus_facilities/food_drink/locations/tosti_world/

8. Facilities on campus

8.1 Kitchen in student dorms

The Erasmus University Rotterdam does not have a meal plan. We don't offer a meal plan because each unit (or set of units) in the student dorms have a kitchen. And Dutch students are used to cook themselves.

8.2 Restaurants

However, there are several restaurants on campus where you can have breakfast, lunch, hot meals, snacks or coffee/tea. You will find a map on this page: http://www.eur.nl/english/efb/food_drink/locations/

Erasmus Food Plaza

In the Sander Building we have a **food court**. Here you will find the following venues:

- [Has Döner Kebab](#) (Arabic kebabs and snacks)
- [New Fork](#) (breakfast/lunch, fruit juices and salads)
- [Sohmi](#) (Vietnamese noodles and summer rolls)
- [Satebar](#) (Indonesian food)
- [Starbucks](#) (the first one in Rotterdam)
- [Tosti world](#) (all kinds of croque monsieur)

Food Plaza's

We have two self-service restaurants: [De Etude](#) (Ground floor Tinbergen Building) and [The Company](#) (4th floor Mandeville Building). Here you can get breakfast, lunch, hot meals and snacks.

Sport café

At the entrance of the Sports building, you will find the Sports café. Here it's possible to get a, drink, hot meal or a snack. At the Sport café it's also possible to play pool/darts or watch a sports event on the big screen tv.

Menu: http://erasmusport.nl/weekmenu_en/

Café In de Smitse

The campus bar, run by students. Here you can drink cheap beers, enjoy snacks and listen to (live) music. They just opened their new bar at the 1st floor of the Hatta Building.

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/cafeindesmitse/>

8.2 Spar mini supermarket

In the Sanders Building (L-Building) you will find Spar mini supermarket.

Here you will find all kinds of (hot) sandwiches and your daily groceries. There are several sections with ingredients for Chinese, Indonesian, Thai, Mexican, North-American, Italian dishes (just to name a few). They also have lots fresh vegetables and fruits. At the entrance you will find a cooker for hot water and a microwave. See: http://www.eur.nl/english/campus_facilities/campus/shops_erasmus_woudestein/spar/

8.3 Erasmus Paviljoen

In the middle of the campus, you will find the Erasmus Pavilion. At the Grand Café you can have a drink/snack and enjoy a fresh meal. They serve lunch platters, hamburgers, several Italian dishes and a nice selection of cakes. Several times per month there's a performance (music, stand-up comedy or theater) at the Grand Café stage. In the middle of the Erasmus Paviljoen you will find the theater where you can watch movies, go to concerts and attend interesting lectures.

For the menu and event calendar, check: <http://www.erasmuspaviljoen.nl/site/en/>

8.4 Sports building

The Sports building does not only offers food and television, of course. It has several halls where you can play basketball, soccer, tennis, volleyball and other ball sports. You can also sign up for lessons in boxing, Jiu Jitsu, Judo, Dance, Pilates, Aerobics and Zumba. And numerous other sports and classes.

To make use of the Sports building, you will have to buy a sports card.

For more information about the sports card, sport associations, and sports/fitness schedule, check:

http://www.erasmusport.nl/en_GB

Please note: ESN-Rotterdam will have a discount for exchange students: <http://www.esn-rotterdam.nl/erasmus-sport-deal-0>

9. International Faculty Association ACE>

The Erasmus School of History, Culture and Communication has a study association, called: ACE>. The goal of the study association is to maintain the study interests and to broaden the perspectives of the students. Specifically, the association organizes study trips, lectures, excursions, workshops and much more! ACE> aims to create a connection between the students and their study.

Students are able to participate in several committees, in which they can develop their social and organizational skills and will become an active part within the organization.

At the beginning of each semester you will be able to buy your text books through ACE>. Members of the study association receive a discount.

You will find more information about this study association on this page: www.ifaace.nl

The ACE> office can be found in the Sanders building, room M7-45

10. ESN- Rotterdam

Erasmus Student Network Rotterdam (ESN-Rotterdam) cooperates closely with the International Offices of all faculties, the Director of Student Facilities, Study- and Student Associations, and other relevant bodies within the Erasmus University Rotterdam to enhance the academic and social experience of international students in Rotterdam.

In this framework and with this purpose, ESN-Rotterdam strives to foster friendships that will transcend boundaries and will enlarge their professional and social network.

ESN organizes an introduction weekend, cultural trips to cities in the Netherlands and Europe, food evenings, sports events, Music Mondays, Game Nights, Movie Nights and social drinks/parties. Plus they can provide you with a Sports card (discount for exchange students), chip card for public transportation, SIMcard and advices about student life in Rotterdam.

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/38050296087/?fref=ts> / Website: <http://www.esn-rotterdam.nl/>

The ESN office can be found in the N-building, room N1-13

11. SG Erasmus

SG Erasmus is an organization which is part of the Erasmus University Rotterdam and organizes scientific, social and cultural programs throughout the year. The program exists of lectures and debates, a monthly talk show, cultural and scientific events and a wide range of cultural courses and performances.

For more information about the upcoming events, courses and ticket sale:

<https://www.eur.nl/english/sgerasmus/>

12. Student organisations at Erasmus University Rotterdam

Below you will find links to numerous of other organisations/associations you can join:

- [Study associations](#)
- [Student fraternities](#)
- [Sport organisations](#)
- [International organisations](#)
- [Political organisations](#)
- [Cultural organisations](#)
- [Other organisations](#)
- [Regulations governing recognition and governing facilities for student organisations](#)

For a complete list of all facilities and organisations on campus:

<http://www.eur.nl/english/essc/internationaloffice/studentlife/facilities/>

13. Introduction days

In August, the Erasmus University Rotterdam will organize several introduction days for new (international) students. Please note, we will add new information and dates until June. Also see: https://www.eur.nl/english/essc/internationaloffice/welcome/upon_arrival/orientation/:

Optional

Beginning August - [Dutch Course](#)

The main part of the program is the Dutch crash-course, which is for beginners only, with a basic knowledge of the English language. The target level of this course is A1.

Mid August - [ESN introduction days](#)

The ESN days are organised for international students (both full degree and exchange). During these days you will get to know the international (exchange) students of all programs at the EUR and student life in Rotterdam.

Several days in August – [One Stop Shop](#)

Would you like to take care of practical matters before classes start? Such as registering at the city hall, opening a bank account (through ABN AMRO) and arranging your healthcare insurance (through AON)? Then you are in luck! Every year, the International Office EUR organises a One Stop Shop, where you will be able to take care of all of these matters.

4 September – [Heart Beat Festival](#)

To celebrate the start of the Academic Year, the Erasmus University Rotterdam organises a free-of-charge outdoor music festival: Heart Beat Festival. On our Plaza you will be able to enjoy several bands and acts, food/drinks and participate in sports activities. More information coming soon (see [Facebook](#)).

Beginning September (date to be announced) - [Official Welcome](#)

Every semester new international students are cordially invited to attend the Official Welcome Ceremony. The Official Welcome Ceremony consists of two parts: the formal part where the Rector Magnificus and a keynote speaker from one of the faculties welcome all new international students to Erasmus University Rotterdam; and the informal part where you'll have the chance to meet your fellow international students and experience true Dutch cuisine. The Official Welcome Ceremony concludes all the orientation programs.

Mandatory

4 September – Introduction meeting for exchange students History and Arts and Culture Studies

In May you will receive an invitation for the introduction meeting with the program.

Date to be announced – Social event for exchange students History and Arts and Culture Studies

You will find the introduction activities on our website:

<http://www.eshcc.eur.nl/english/incomingexchangehistoryculture/intro/>

In May you will receive a complete overview of the introduction activities by email.

14. Academic Calendar

On this page you will find the Academic Calendar 2017-2018:

<http://www.eshcc.eur.nl/english/incomingexchangehistoryculture/calendar/>

As you can see, our semesters are divided into two terms.

15. Courses

Where will I find the courses I'm allowed to follow?

On this page you will find the course list of 2016-2017:

<http://www.eshcc.eur.nl/english/incomingexchangehistoryculture/courses/>

The course list of 2017-2018 will be published at the end of May. Course descriptions and timetables will be published in July.

History and Arts & Culture Studies exchange students should follow **at least 50% of their total number of courses within the History and/or Arts & Culture Studies.**

Courses outside the History and Arts & Culture Studies program that are open to exchange students:

- International Bachelor in Communication and Media – maximum 2 courses per term
- Faculty of Social Sciences – maximum 2 courses per semester
 - o Management of International Social Challenges
 - o Psychology
- Philosophy (Faculty of Philosophy) – maximum 2 courses per semester
- International Business Administration (Rotterdam School of Management) – maximum 2 courses per semester
- Law (Erasmus School of Law) – maximum 1 course per semester

Differences in Calendar:

Unfortunately, each School/faculty of the Erasmus University Rotterdam has its own Academic Calendar. (I know it's confusing...) Because this is confusing, I've made an overview of the calendars, see:

<http://www.eshcc.eur.nl/english/incomingexchangehistoryculture/courses/calendar/>

Please take this calendar in account when you pick your courses. The timetables will be published in the second week of July (around 16 July). You will find them in the course descriptions. I will send you an email about this in the beginning of July.

How many courses are you allowed to take?:

Exchange students are allowed to take a minimum workload of 15 ECTS and a maximum workload of 40 ECTS per semester, depending on their home university's requirements.

You can also find this information on our website:

<http://www.eshcc.eur.nl/english/incomingexchangehistoryculture/study/workload/>

11. Language courses

Unfortunately the Erasmus University Rotterdam does not have a Language School. Therefore we don't offer language courses for free. And you won't get study credits for a language course. It's up to your home university to give credits for language courses.

The university has Language and Training Center. You can find more information about their language courses on this page: <http://www.eur.nl/english/ltc/students/courses/>

It's also possible to participate in the Erasmus Language Sharing program:

http://www.eur.nl/english/ltc/erasmus_language_sharingels/

More information about Dutch for beginners can be found on this page:

https://www.eur.nl/english/ltc/dutch/dutch_a1/

If you would already like to practice some Dutch, download the 'Hoi Holland! App', see:

<https://www.studyinholland.nl/practical-matters/learn-dutch/hoi-holland>

12. Buddy program

The buddy program aims to help new students establish a social and academic network from day one. It is organised by Erasmus University Rotterdam and the Erasmus Student Network Rotterdam (ESN Rotterdam) and they hope to contribute to making the start of your stay in the Netherlands an enjoyable and exciting experience.

Your buddy's job is to:

1. Introduce you to the university and the ways of student life.
2. Encourage students to get to know each other.
3. Take the buddy groups on a guided tour around campus and participate in different activities together with them during the first few weeks of the semester.
4. Help you with all the issues you might encounter during the beginning of your stay in Rotterdam.

You can register for the buddy program on the ESN website:

<http://www.esn-rotterdam.nl/eur-buddy-programme>

13. Facebook

We have a Facebook group for incoming and outgoing exchange students, see:

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/677329218957101/>

On this page we will post useful information like events, housing tips and where to buy a bicycle. Our Dutch outgoing students are also member of this group. Feel free to contact them through Facebook and ask advice about the university and student life in Rotterdam.

If you would like to rent out your room to one of the Dutch students who will come to your university, feel free post a message on the wall of the group for incoming and outgoing exchange students.

You will find your fellow exchange students in the group for Incoming exchange students, class 2017-2018:

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/845546518919519/>

On this page the international office will announce upcoming events and tips and tricks.

Please join both groups so you can meet your fellow students.

If you wish to ask questions through 'Chat' on Facebook, feel free to connect with me on:

<https://www.facebook.com/sabai.doodkorteeshcc>

I'm looking forward to meeting you in August/September!

With kind regards,

Sabai Doodkorte
Exchange Coordinator History and Culture Studies
Erasmus School of History, Culture and Communication
Erasmus University Rotterdam

14. Campus map



Directions to Erasmus University: http://www.eur.nl/english/guide/how_to_get_there/

Visiting address:
Erasmus University Rotterdam
Woudestein
Burgemeester Oudlaan 50
Van der Goot (M) building (7th floor)
3062 PA Rotterdam