



Exchange Programme Factsheet

Faculty of Science - University of Amsterdam

A. Information about the higher education institution

Name of the institution	Erasmus code	Contact details	Website
University of Amsterdam Faculty of Science	NLAMSTERD01	<p>Selma Kujundzic <i>Coordinator Exchange</i> T: +31 20 525 7802 E: studex-science@uva.nl</p> <p>University of Amsterdam Faculty of Science ESC, Student Exchange Office Science Park 904 1098 XH Amsterdam</p>	<p>Application (Erasmus and faculty agreement programmes): www.uva.nl/exchange-science</p> <p>Courses: www.coursecatalogue.uva.nl</p> <p>➤ Select Programme: 'Exchange Programme Faculty of Science'</p>

B. Required or recommended language skills

- Students holding an EU nationality applying for bachelor courses (except courses in Future Planet Studies) can hand in their Online Linguistic Support results (OLS). The minimum required level is B2.
- Students holding a non-EU nationality who are applying for bachelor courses need to show proof of English proficiency by one of the official tests indicated below. OLS is not accepted.
- Students applying for master courses always need to show proof of English proficiency by one of the official tests indicated below. OLS is not accepted.
- Students applying for courses of the bachelor programme Future Planet Studies must show proof of English proficiency as indicated below. OLS is not accepted.
- Students who are enrolled in a fully English taught bachelor or master programme at their home university, are not required to hand in a proof of English proficiency. They can upload a statement from a university administrator stating the programme is fully taught in English.
- Native speakers are not required to hand in a proof of English proficiency. They can upload their transcript of records instead of the proof of English proficiency.

For further information see table below or www.uva.nl/exchange-science.

English language requirements	Bachelor level (1 st cycle)	Master level (2 nd cycle)
IELTS (academic)	Minimum 6,5 overall score Minimum score 6 per component	Minimum 6,5-7 overall score Minimum score 6 per component
TOEFL (ibt)	Minimum 90 overall score Minimum score 20 per component	Minimum 90 overall score Minimum score 20 per component



Cambridge Advanced or Proficiency English (CAE/CPE)	Minimum grade C	Minimum grade C
Online Linguistic Support (OLS)	Level B2	Not accepted

C. Remarks/restrictions

Study programme for exchange students

- It is not possible for students to hand-in their final BSc-/MSc-/PhD-thesis at the host institution. Final theses need to be graded and supervised by the home institution.
- Exchange students are expected to stay and study for the complete duration of the semester. It is not possible to arrive later than the start date of the semester, nor to end the exchange before the end of the semester (except in special circumstances).
- It is not possible to attend courses as an auditor. Students have to attend all sessions and participate actively in class discussions and presentations and are also required to take the exam(s).
- Exchange students nominated to the Faculty of Science are expected to take their courses at the Faculty of Science. Exchange students can apply for a maximum of two courses at another department or our partner university the Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam if these courses are listed as such in the [UvA Course Catalogue](#). Please note that placement at other departments is difficult and cannot be guaranteed.

Please note: Some of our Joint Degrees and Joint Programmes courses are taught at our partner university the Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam (VU). Personal details of student applying for such courses will in due time be shared with the VU in order to finalize the registration for the selected VU courses.

Master programmes

- Students who wish to apply for master courses must have obtained a bachelor degree or equivalent (first three years of a bachelor equivalent to 180 EC) in the relevant study area, before their exchange period. Acceptance into courses on master level is dependent on the approval of the master programme coordinator. An official English language certificate is obligatory to participate in English taught master courses.
- Courses of certain selective master's programmes and Academic English courses are not open to exchange students. These are:
 - Courses of the master programme Artificial Intelligence are (partially) restricted. Placement cannot be guaranteed.
 - Courses of the master programme Biomedical Sciences
 - Courses of the master programme Forensic Science
 - Courses of the master programme Security and Network Engineering
 - Academic skills courses (Academic English, Teaching skills, etc.)

**D. General information****1. Academic information**

University of Amsterdam									
Credit system	The University of Amsterdam uses the European Credit System (ECTS, EC's). 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).								
Courses & entry requirements	<p>Courses can be found in the course catalogue: www.coursecatalogue.uva.nl > select Programme: 'Exchange Programme Faculty of Science'.</p> <p>There is a limited amount of courses in English with a limited amount of places available for exchange students. Therefore it is very important for students to keep back-up courses in mind and be flexible about the course choices.</p> <p>Below you can find a list of the departments and their entry requirements.</p> <p><i>Bachelor:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Biology - application possible for 3rd year Biology students (only in semester 1) • Chemistry - application possible for 2nd and 3rd year Chemistry students • Future Planet Studies - application possible for 2nd and 3rd year Environmental Studies (or comparable programmes) students • Mathematics - application possible for 3rd year Mathematics students • Physics and Astronomy - application possible for 3rd year Physics and Astronomy students (most courses are taught in semester 1) <p>The following fields are open to students from all study areas:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Interdisciplinary courses - application possible for 2nd and 3rd year students of all study areas • Psychobiology - application possible for 2nd and 3rd year students of all study areas (only in semester 1) <p><i>Master:</i></p> <p>Students with a degree comparable to a Dutch Bachelor's degree can apply for courses at a Master's level. All Master's programmes are taught in English. Please note that master courses are only open to students who will have obtained a bachelor degree or an equivalent (first three years of bachelor equivalent to 180 EC) in the required field of study, before their exchange period.</p>								
Number of study weeks/academic year	<p>42 weeks (40 weeks courses, 2 weeks holidays). A semester consists of 3 periods (8-8-4 weeks).</p> <table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <thead> <tr> <th style="width: 50%;"><i>Semester 1</i></th> <th style="width: 50%;"><i>Semester 2</i></th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Period 1: September-October</td> <td>Period 4: February-March</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Period 2: November-December</td> <td>Period 5: April-May</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Period 3: January</td> <td>Period 6: June</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>Courses last for one, two or three periods. The length of a course is indicated in the course catalogue. Courses do not run for the complete academic year. When selecting courses please note that you should divide your study load equally. For example if you are selecting a standard study load of 30 EC per semester, you should select 12 EC in period 1, 12 EC in period 2 and 6 EC in period 3, as period 3 is the shortest period.</p>	<i>Semester 1</i>	<i>Semester 2</i>	Period 1: September-October	Period 4: February-March	Period 2: November-December	Period 5: April-May	Period 3: January	Period 6: June
<i>Semester 1</i>	<i>Semester 2</i>								
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Workload	<p>The credit system is based on student workload. Student workload does not only consist of lectures and seminars, but also of individual study. The workload is expressed in credit points based on the ECTS.</p> <p>1 EC represents 28 hours of full-time study, including lecture attendance, hours spent on individual study and preparation of assignments.</p>
Language	<p>Most of the third year bachelor courses are taught in English. For more information go to: www.uva.nl/exchange-science</p> <p>All master courses are taught in English.</p>
Application procedure	<p>Prospective Erasmus exchange students fill out the online web form before the set deadline. For more information go to www.uva.nl/exchange-science.</p> <p>Prospective Global Exchange Programme students need to apply through the Global Exchange Programme procedure. For more information go to www.uva.nl/exchange.</p>
Duration of programmes	<p>A bachelor's programme (Bachelor of Science) has a duration of three years (180 EC).</p> <p>A master's programme (Master of Science) has a duration of either one year for a regular master (60 EC) or two years in case of a research master (120 EC).</p>
Type of education	<p>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 all classes. First course of the semester is obligatory. Canvas, our digital learning environment, is used to prepare for classes, for discussions and exams.</p>
Assessment	<p>Various types of exams are practiced: written exams, essays, class room presentation and assignments.</p>
Academic climate	<p>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. Students find the academic climate challenging but rewarding.</p> <p>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 reports and most courses have mid-term as well as final exams.</p> <p>It is not common for teachers to be more lenient or easy on the exchange students. Exchange students are expected to fully participate in courses, there are no auditor-only options.</p>

2. Calendar Exchange Programme Faculty of Science

	Semester 1 (autumn)	Semester 2 (spring)
Erasmus nomination and application	<p><u>Nomination deadline: 1 April</u> <u>Application deadline: 1 May</u></p> <p>Students receive acceptance emails by 15 June.</p> <p>Students will receive general exchange information by e-mail prior to their arrival.</p>	<p><u>Nomination deadline: 1 October</u> <u>Application deadline: 15 October</u></p> <p>Students receive acceptance emails by 1 December.</p> <p>Students will receive general exchange information by e-mail prior to their arrival.</p>



Course registration deadline	1 June Students will be informed in due time about course registration. Students receive their final course list at the end of August.	1 December Students will be informed in due time about course registration. Students receive their final course list at the end of January.
Term dates (general)	1 September - 31 January See Academic Calendar for specific dates per academic year.	1 February - 30 June See Academic Calendar for specific dates per academic year.
Date of arrival	Recommended: 7 to 14 days prior to start of the semester	
Introduction and welcome meeting	The introduction programme is organized by International Student Network (ISN), usually one or two weeks before the start of the semester. More information can be found on www.isnamsterdam.nl . The Faculty of Science Student Exchange Office will organize a welcome meeting. Date and time will be announced in due time.	
Transcript of Records	Students receive a transcript of records in March.	Students receive a transcript of records in August.

3. Grading system

In the Netherlands grades are awarded on a grading scale from 1-10, 10 being the highest. A passing grade is a 6 or higher. Very good/excellent grades are an 8 or higher. A 'pass' is given for courses/seminars which are not graded, but for which the student has met the requirements

University of Amsterdam 10 point grading scale	ECTS Quality Assessment	Distribution percentages	Recommended U.S. grades	Recommended ECTS grades
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

4. Visa

University of Amsterdam	Contact details (email, phone)	Website for information
Student Service Desk	<i>See website.</i>	www.uva.nl/visa

5. Housing

University of Amsterdam	Contact details (email, phone)	Website for information
Faculty of Science	<i>See website.</i>	www.uva.nl/housing The University of Amsterdam does not have a campus, and housing for international students is accommodated by housing corporations on the basis of an agreement with the University. Please note that accommodation cannot be guaranteed. As soon as a student is accepted to the exchange programme of the Faculty of Science, the student will receive instructions on how to apply for housing.

6. Insurance

University of Amsterdam	Contact details (email, phone)	Website for information
Faculty of Science	Faculty of Science - Student Exchange Office	www.uva.nl/insurance

7. Assistance student with disabilities or special needs

University of Amsterdam	Contact details (email, phone)	Website for information
Faculty of Science	Faculty of Science - Student Exchange Office, or Disability counsellor Mrs Claudia Flüggen	www.uva.nl/disability