Come study with us!

The Faculty of Humanities at Utrecht University welcomes nearly 200 exchange students each year. Why don’t you join in?!

The Netherlands & Utrecht

Small country, big ambitions! Holland, as The Netherlands is often referred to, is just a 4-hour drive from north to south and with almost 17 million inhabitants, it is a densely populated country. Our pioneering spirit has resulted in an international and open-minded outlook on life.

Utrecht is a lively student city in the heart of The Netherlands; it is a beautiful and inspiring urban setting that nurtures talent and creativity. The dynamic is city characterised by the Dom Tower, the unique canal-with-wharfs, and home to the Miffy Museum! There is always something to do, be it shopping, going out, catching a (subtitled) movie, visiting museums or going to one of the many music or art festivals! Utrecht Central Station is the largest and busiest railway junction in The Netherlands, providing easy access to the rest of Europe.

Utrecht University

Utrecht University is the largest university in The Netherlands (appr. 30,000 students) and has consistently ranked #1 in The Netherlands on the Shanghai ranking. It is an international research university of the highest quality and the alma mater of many leading names, academics and scientists who have made an important contribution to the quality of society. It is comprised of seven faculties which collectively cover the full spectrum of research and education and have been at the forefront of educational innovation.

The Faculty of Humanities

The Faculty of Humanities is located in several monumental buildings in the historic city centre of Utrecht, all within walking distance of each other. Our education and research contributes to a better understanding of the Netherlands and Europe within a changing social and cultural context. The Faculty of Humanities at Utrecht University covers four areas of knowledge:

- History and Art History
- Languages, Literature and Communication
- Media and Culture Studies
- Philosophy and Religious Studies
Learning is based on a strong interdisciplinary approach and courses are taught in small groups to foster the intensive exchange of ideas between students and lecturers. Our academic staff have high expectations of their students, but also provide ample opportunities for students to develop their own views and talents.

Exchange Programme

COURSES
The Faculty of Humanities offers a wide range of courses that are open to international exchange students. Courses are offered by our four departments: History and Art History, Languages, Literature and Communication, Media and Culture Studies (including Gender Studies), and Philosophy and Religious Studies. Many courses are taught in English, but we also offer courses taught in Dutch, German, French, Spanish and Italian. You can find the course offer for exchange students on www.uu.nl/hum/coursesexchange.

LANGUAGE REQUIREMENTS
The academic level at Utrecht University is very high. Therefore, you are required to have a strong command of the English language. If you are not a native speaker, you must be able to prove that you have B2 level (for Bachelor courses) or C1 level (for Master courses) of the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages (CEFR). If you wish to follow courses in another language than English (i.e. Dutch, German, French et cetera), you must prove language proficiency in that language as well.

ACADEMIC CALENDAR
Our academic year is divided into 2 semesters. You can find the exact semester dates on www.uu.nl/hum/internationaloffice, but in general, semesters are as follows:

Semester 1: early September until end of January
Semester 2: early February until end of June

CREDIT SYSTEM
Utrecht University uses ECTS, the European Credit Transfer System. 1 EC equals 28 hours of study. Most courses at the Faculty of Humanities are worth 7.5 EC, which is 210 hours of study. A student will usually enrol in 4 courses per semester, totalling to 30 EC.
Practical information

APPLICATION PROCESS
As an exchange student, you must be nominated by your home university. We will then send you all the information you need for the online application. As part of the application we request proof of language proficiency and a transcript of grades. Students must have completed at least one full year of studies (i.e. obtained 60 EC). We also ask you for an indication of the courses you are interested in.

DEADLINES
Your online application must be submitted before May 1 (for start in September) or October 1 (for start in February).

HOUSING
Finding accommodation in Utrecht can be a real challenge as the housing market is scarce. The university does not own any student accommodation, but the university reserves furnished accommodation for exchange students with the housing agency SSH Short Stay Solutions. Reserved accommodation for exchange students is only available for a fixed period of 5 or 10 months (one or two semesters). Reservations are on a first come, first serve basis. More information on: http://sshxl.nl/en/utrecht-university.

ORIENTATION
At the start of each semester we offer an Orientation programme. The programme consists of a Meet & Greet, a university wide Orientation for all international students, a Faculty orientation for students at the Faculty of Humanities, as well as a social programme organized by the Erasmus Student Network. More information on: www.uu.nl/orientation.

Utrecht was named one of the happiest places in the world, according to BBC Travel

Utrecht hosted the Grand Départ of the Tour de France 2015
**ENTRY VISA AND RESIDENCE PERMIT**

Students who do not have an EU/EER nationality, must apply for an entry visa and/or residence permit. The procedure can differ depending on nationality. The procedure is quite time consuming and should be started 3–4 months before arrival. The International Office will inform you in due time and will provide assistance.

**STUDENT LIFE**

With so much to do in and around Utrecht, you probably don’t need much help finding your way. However, student organisations such as the Erasmus Student Network (www.esn-utrecht.nl) and Buddy go Dutch (http://buddygodutch.nl) will help you settle in and make it a bit easier to navigate in a new city. You can also download the app.

**CONTACT US**

International Office – Faculty of Humanities
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www.uu.nl/hum/internationaloffice
www.facebook.com/InternationalOfficeHumanities

There is a Facebook page dedicated to uncover Utrecht’s great little places, or unusual things to do: www.facebook.com/greatlittleplaceutrecht