

Amsterdam University College



**EXCHANGE PROGRAMME
INFORMATION SHEET 2025-2026**

General Information & contacts

Name of institution	Amsterdam University College
Study programme	Liberal Arts & Sciences (joint degree)
Erasmus code	NLAMSTERD01 (University of Amsterdam) NLAMSTERD02 (Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam)
Address	Science Park 113, 1098 XG Amsterdam
Telephone	+31 (0)20 525 8780
Website	www.auc.nl
Contact	AUC Digital Service Desk

International Office

Mr. Marcus Smit	Head of International Office
Ms. Marliene Stolker	Internationalisation Coordinator
Mr. Rein Bernard	Student Assistant



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About AUC



BRIEF FACTS

Amsterdam University College (AUC) is a joint initiative of the University of Amsterdam and VU Amsterdam. We offer a small-scale and intensive liberal arts and sciences programme taught entirely in English.

EDUCATION

AUC is designed for students eager to tackle global challenges. Rooted in the American liberal arts tradition but enriched by a European perspective, AUC provides a dynamic learning environment where small class sizes, interactive teaching and close faculty engagement foster critical thinking and intellectual curiosity. With a curriculum spanning Sciences, Social Sciences, and Humanities, students have the flexibility to tailor their studies while benefiting from a strong academic foundation (Academic Core) and research opportunities.

Located in Amsterdam Oost (East), AUC's residential campus forms the heart of our community. The programme emphasises real-world application, encouraging students to engage with pressing societal issues through internships, research and community projects. Whether focusing on sustainability, global health, international relations or another global issue, students gain the analytical skills and perspective needed to thrive in today's interconnected world.

STUDENT SUPPORT

AUC offers a variety of services for students related to health, safety and well-being.

AUC's tutoring system

All AUC exchange students will be assigned an academic advisor, which we call the tutor, for the period of their exchange. Find more information about the AUC tutoring system [here](#).

Studying with a disability

Working to maintain a diverse and inclusive learning environment for all, AUC welcomes students studying with a disability, specific learning difficulty or chronic illness. Find more information about studying with a disability and AUC's student support services, see [here](#). For specific information on studying with a chronic illness, please view our website [here](#).

CAMPUS

The AUC academic building is located at [Amsterdam Science Park](#). The Academic Building is located across the street from the [student residences](#). The AUC programme is residential meaning that all AUC students live together in the student residences. Please note that housing on AUC's campus is not guaranteed for exchange students and is dependent on availability.

UNIVERSITY WEBSITE & STUDENT INFORMATION

- University website: www.auc.nl
- Student information: student.auc.nl

DEADLINES

- Nomination deadline (by home university): 1 April 2025 / 1 October 2025
- Autumn 2025 and full year application deadline (for students): 15 April 2025
- Spring 2026 application deadline (for students): 15 October 2025

Academics



COURSE INFORMATION

Exchange students may participate in all courses offered by AUC. Courses are coded by major (Academic Core, Sciences, Social Sciences and Humanities) and by level (100, 200 and 300). Courses may have entry requirements. Students who wish to take a course with an entry requirement must have completed a course similar to the entry requirement in order to be allowed to take the course of choice. Not all courses are offered in every semester. It is important to determine if a course is taught in the semester of choice. Also take into account that semester changes do occasionally occur over the year and the new course catalogue won't be published until after you apply to AUC. Exchange students at AUC can only take courses offered by AUC, as UvA and VU courses lead to timetable clashes. All courses at AUC start with code 900. For more information about the courses offered at AUC, please visit our [course catalogue](#) and view the complete [overview of the majors](#) and areas of studies, including course levels.

COURSE REGISTRATION

Course registration takes place in May for the Autumn semester and in November for the Spring semester. Exchange students will be informed about course registration procedures after acceptance and will get access to AUC's online course registration portal to select their preferred courses. Confirmation of course enrolment will be given in June (Autumn semester) or December (Spring semester). In the first week of the semester there is an add/drop period during which students make adjustments to their schedule.

PRIORITY OF ENROLMENT

Please note that we **cannot** guarantee courses. AUC courses have a maximum capacity of 25 students. If a course attracts more students than there are places, students enrolled in the AUC degree programme will be given priority over exchange students.

LANGUAGE COURSES

AUC offers intensive (contextualising) language courses in January and June for all AUC students. Languages offered include Spanish, French, German, Dutch, Chinese and Arabic.

The Institute for Dutch as a Second Language (INTT) also organises Dutch language courses for exchange students. Students interested in taking part in one of the courses should visit the website of the INTT. AUC exchange students are eligible for a special reduced fee for courses taken at the INTT. Upon successful completion of the course students will receive a certificate of completion, but the course will not count towards the AUC credits. For more information about the INTT Dutch language courses, please see the following website: www.intt.uva.nl.

ACADEMIC CALENDAR

The AUC academic calendar is divided into two semesters. Each semester is then subsequently divided into one period of 16 weeks and one period of four weeks. Students complete four courses of 6 European Credits (EC) during the 16-week period and one course of 6 EC over the four-week period. It is possible to 'overload' and take 5 courses (i.e. 30 EC) during the 16-week period for students who wish to leave early but need to complete a full workload.

Academics

AUTUMN SEMESTER ACADEMIC YEAR 2025-2026

AUC Introduction Week	25 August – 29 August 2025
16-week period	1 September – 19 December 2025
4-week period	5 January – 30 January 2026

SPRING SEMESTER ACADEMIC YEAR 2025-2026

AUC Introduction Days	30 January – 3 February 2026
16-week period	2 February – 29 May 2026
4-week period	1 June – 26 June 2026

For more information on the academic calendar, please click [here](#).

COURSE LOAD

AUC uses the European Credit Transfer System (ECTS). A full study workload consists of 30 EC per semester, split into 16-week and 4-week periods as defined below:

- 16-week period: 24 EC (4 courses)
- 4-week period: 6 EC (1 course)

Courses offered by AUC count for 6 EC. The AUC credit system is based on “student workload”. Student workload involves not only lectures and seminars, but also self-study. Students are required to attend class from 12 to 16 hours per week and spend an additional 28 to 32 hours per week engaging in self-study. The minimum required course load for exchange students is 24 EC. Students wishing to take less than 24 EC will need written permission from their home university.

ASSESSMENT

Students at AUC are graded per course on a 1-10 grading scale. Students must achieve a grade of 6.0 or higher in order to pass a course.

GRADING

The educational style at the AUC strives to train students to be independent, take initiative and invest in their studies and research. Grading and credits are organised in accord with national and European systems. In the Netherlands, students are expected to take on a high level of individual responsibility and initiative. AUC especially encourages students to develop an independent and critical way of thinking. You can read more about the grading scale and what you can expect in terms of teaching, evaluation and education style at AUC on the University of Amsterdam’s website [here](#).

LANGUAGE OF INSTRUCTION

With the exception of language courses (e.g. Dutch, French, Spanish, German, Chinese, Arabic), all courses at AUC are taught in English.

ON-CAMPUS ACCOMMODATION

All AUC students are housed in a purpose-built complex on the Carolina MacGillavrylaan in Amsterdam Science Park. The student residences are owned and run by housing association DUWO. Housing on AUC’s campus is not guaranteed for exchange students and depends on availability. Two months before

the start of the exchange semester, students will be informed about whether they can be placed in on-campus housing. By default, exchange students placed in on-campus housing live in shared, furnished double occupancy rooms. This means that they share a large open space. In some cases students will be able to sublet a single or shared room from students who are abroad themselves. These rooms are then furnished with the items of the AUC student who is on exchange.

In case of direct tenancy from the landlord DUWO, rooms will come furnished. Students are only permitted to live off-campus in case there are no rooms available in the AUC student residences. The partial residential campus fee for exchange students is 325 EUR, paid once. For more on the student residences, please view the page [here](#).

LIVING COSTS

You can find an overview of living costs on our website [here](#). The costs provided above are rough estimates. Prices are subject to change due to inflation and will vary depending on lifestyle and individual preferences. Exchange students pay tuition fees to their home university.



Immigration



STUDENT VISA

Citizens of European Union member states, EEA, Australia, Canada, Japan, South Korea, New Zealand, the UK and the USA do not need an entry visa to enter the Netherlands.

All other students must apply for a visa called “Machtiging tot Voorlopig Verblijf” (MVV) in order to enter the Netherlands. Your visa is a sticker in your passport issued by the Dutch Embassy or Consulate. The purpose of this sticker is to allow you to travel to and enter the Netherlands. For actually staying and studying in the Netherlands, you also need a residence permit.

All exchange students will be guided through the visa and registration procedure through the University of Amsterdam. For more information about the student visa, visit www.uva.nl/visa.

RESIDENCE PERMIT

All students (except citizens of European Union member states and EEA states) need to apply for a residence permit in order to study in the Netherlands for a period longer than three months. A residence permit is called a “Vergunning Verblijf Regulier (VVR)” and this is a permit that allows you to legally reside in the Netherlands. It is issued for a specific purpose and in your case that is to study.

Student Services at the University of Amsterdam (uvastudentservices@uva.nl) will inform students about their personal immigration procedure and guide them through the online process of obtaining a visa and residence permit. The student residence permit (including a visa if applicable) costs €210. For more information on the visa procedure, please visit the [University of Amsterdam website](http://www.uva.nl).

Health insurance



UNIVERSITY HEALTH SERVICE

International students enrolled at the AUC are entitled to use the [University of Amsterdam Student Medical Service](#) free of charge if they are properly insured. In other cases, access to the Student Medical Service requires an annual fee or payment per consultation. These fees do not cover the cost of prescriptions. Students should check with their insurance company on how medical costs are reimbursed.

International students from European countries can request a European Health Insurance Card (EHIC) from their home country, which simplifies the procedure when receiving medical assistance during their stay in a European Union member state.

INSURANCE

Health insurance is mandatory by Dutch law. AUC also strongly recommends students take out an appropriate general third-party insurance (liability insurance). For non-EEA/EU students requesting a residence permit through the University of Amsterdam, liability insurance is mandatory. If students have plans to travel outside of the Netherlands, they should make sure that their insurance policy covers those regions as well.

Students should check whether their insurance will cover the complete period of their stay abroad and what type of coverage it consists of before arriving in the Netherlands. For more information on the type of insurance required based on country of citizenship, please visit the Nuffic website.

<https://www.studyinnl.org/plan-your-stay/insurance>

For recommended private insurance companies offering insurance covering medical expenses, accidents, luggage, general liability and legal assistance in the event of physical injury, please see www.uva.nl/insurance

Application



PROCEDURES

AUC/UvA will send nomination instructions to the home university of the exchange candidate. The home university nominates their student in the University of Amsterdam (UvA) online nomination portal at least two weeks before the application deadline. After AUC accepts the nomination, the student will receive a UvAnetID (student number) and an invitation to start the online application.

APPLICATION INSTRUCTIONS FOR STUDENTS:

1. UvA will send two emails:
 - The first email will contain instructions on how to apply.
 - The second email will be sent within one working day after the first email and will include your UvAnetID (student number).
2. Activate your UvAnetID as instructed in the second email.
3. Once you have carefully read the information in the AUC fact sheet, and you have activated your UvAnetID, you can go to the SIS student portal via the link provided in the first email. Log in with your UvAnetID and click on 'My Admissions' to submit your application.
4. Please note that you will need to upload the following documents in PDF format with your study abroad application in the SIS student portal:
 - Motivation letter
 - Curriculum Vitae/Resume
 - Official transcript(s) in English of all university courses/examinations the student has taken including the credits and grades obtained
 - List of courses in progress
 - Scan of passport or ID card (front and back)
 - Proof of English proficiency (see the section on entry requirements below for acceptable proofs of English proficiency)
5. Submit your application in the SIS student portal before the given deadline. Once we have evaluated and accepted your application, you will receive further information about course registration, housing and immigration procedures.

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

- Students must have completed at least 1,5 years of studies/90 ECTS (or the equivalent in local credits) at the time of departure for study abroad.
- Students should have a grade point **average of at least 3.0** (out of 4.0) and a relevant academic background in the proposed field of study. See also above for how a 3.0 GPA is translated into percentages. For 1-10 grading scales, 7 is the minimum requirement.
- Proof of English proficiency (one of the items below is required):
 - ◊ IELTS: overall score of 7.0 (with at least 6.5 in each of the four components)
 - ◊ TOEFL: overall score of 100 (with a minimum sub-score of 24 for reading and writing, 22 for listening and 25 for speaking).
 - ◊ Cambridge: C1 Advanced (with a minimum score of 190)

STUDENT APPLICATION DEADLINES FOR 2026-2027 ACADEMIC YEAR

Autumn semester intake (including full year)	15 April 2026
Spring semester intake	15 October 2026