

Exchange Infosheet - Faculty of Science

Why study abroad at Leiden University?

- Study at the oldest, most reputable university in the Netherlands, that scores highly in international rankings (THE 2018 #67)
- Benefit from Leiden's top-level quality teaching and research, and enjoy personal attention from your lecturers
- Live in our small and beautiful city, from which you can easily explore other cities in the Netherlands and Europe

Science programmes

The Faculty of Science is a first-class research faculty with an excellent position in the basic disciplines of science.

Programmes are available in:

Astronomy, Biology, Bio-Pharmaceutical Sciences, Chemistry, Computer Science, ICT in Business, Industrial Ecology, Life Science & Technology, Mathematics, Media Technology, Physics, Science Based Business and Statistical Sciences.

Most 3rd, last-year BSc courses and all our MSc courses are fully taught in English. For an overview of all courses and course descriptions, students can check our online E-Prospectus: www.studiegids.leidenuniv.nl/en.

International students can also apply for a (summer) research project at one of our research institutes: www.universiteitleiden.nl/en/science/research.

Application & academic calendar

All non-degree students need to apply via our online application system for exchange students.

For more information about application deadlines, the application procedure and requirements, please visit: www.prospectivestudents.leiden.edu/study-abroad-exchange/application-admission



**Universiteit
Leiden**

Online application deadlines	As courses and research groups might have limited spots available and housing will be offered on a first-come first-served basis, we advise students to submit their application as early as possible.	
	Fall + Full Year	1 April (in case visa and/or housing are required)
	Spring	15 October (in case visa and/or housing are required)
Admission requirements	A GPA of 3.2 out of 4.0 and at least 2 years of prior academic study. Unless otherwise agreed in bilateral agreements.	
	Required documents: nomination form signed by the home university (see online application), latest transcript of records, motivation letter, copy of passport, copy of student ID card. All Chinese nationals also need a Nuffic certificate.	
Language requirements	A level of English similar to that reflected by a score of min. 6.5 on the Academic IELTS. All Chinese nationals need an IELTS or ibTOEFL certificate in order to get a Nuffic certificate. Any agreement-specific requirements above this take priority. More info on our application website.	
Course registration	Course approval occurs at the time of admission to the exchange program. Prior to the start of the semester, admitted students will receive further instructions how to finalize their enrollment for courses and exams.	
Semester dates	1st semester: 03/09/2018 - 01/02/2019 (exams: late Dec & Jan)	
	2nd semester: 04/02/2019 – 05/07/2019 (exams: May & June)	
Orientation (participation obligatory) www.orientationweek.org/	1st semester: 27 -31 August 2018, fee €80	
	2nd semester: 29 January – 2 February 2019, fee €45	

Practical matters

For more detailed information, students can visit: www.students.leiden.edu/pre-departure/to-do-exchange.html.

Course load, credits and grading

Leiden University uses the ECTS credit transfer system. The standard course load for exchange students is 20-30 ECTS per semester. 1 ECTS credit equals 28 hrs of study, including contact hours and self-study. For a full-time research project, students receive 6 ECTS per month. As is common in the Netherlands, the top grades of 9 and 10 are rarely given.

Housing

Student housing in Leiden is limited, especially in Fall when there is more demand. Students may therefore also be offered housing in the city The Hague (\pm 15 minutes by train). For the best chance of securing housing through the university, students should ensure they pay their (non-refundable) housing fee of €350 **as early as possible after application** and before the housing application deadline of 1 June for the Fall semester and 15 Nov for the Spring semester. Other costs, such as the refundable €500 housing deposit, are due before arrival. More info: www.studenthousing.leiden.edu.

Visa

Non-EU/EEA students must get a Dutch residence permit and in many cases an entry visa to the Netherlands as well. Keep in mind that this also applies to Erasmus+ students with a non-EU/EEA nationality. Once a student has been admitted, our Admissions Office will work with the student to apply for these documents on their behalf. Students should note that there is a fee of €317 for visas/permits (this fee is subject to change) and they need to proof that they have sufficient funds to cover their stay. For more info, please visit: www.students.leiden.edu/application-admission/visa-residence-permit.

Insurance

It is mandatory by Dutch law to have adequate health insurance. We strongly recommend students to ensure they have medical insurance before their arrival. We also highly recommend to take out liability insurance to cover any accidental damage caused to other persons or property during their stay. International students can find more information here: www.prospectivestudents.leiden.edu/study-abroad-exchange/after-admission/insurances/insurances.html.

Estimated living expenses

€860 - €1400 p.m. for rent, living costs, transport, insurance, books and social activities (excl. tuition fees and visa costs).

Student support services

Leiden University provides a wide range of support services, including student counselling, information services, career service and a Disability Center. Students can rely on personal attention and guidance in academic as well as personal life. Thereby, the International Student Advisor can help international students with all types of practical advice.

Student life

Leiden and The Hague are typical student cities with a rich student life. Besides different student and study associations, the **International Student Network** (www.isnleiden.com) organises many cultural and social events throughout the year. For sports activities, the **Leiden University Sports Centre** (www.uscleiden.com) has something to offer for everyone! From fitness and dance to several team and defence sports. Our faculty also offers a **Leiden Science Buddy Programme** to connect new international students with current science students. More: www.universiteitleiden.nl/en/news/2017/08/start-of-leiden-science-buddy-programme

Dutch language courses

The **free online course 'Dutch & More'** is especially aimed at international students who are going to study at Leiden University. Throughout the course, students will learn the basics of the Dutch language and will get to know student life in Leiden and The Hague better. After successful completion of the online course, students can register for the Dutch Language course at the Academic Language Centre at the strongly reduced price of €75. More: www.prospectivestudents.leiden.edu/study-abroad-exchange/after-admission/after-admission/online-course-dutch-more.html.

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