



## UvA Start Newsletter

### Happy holidays!

This holiday season is probably very different from what you are used to, and we hope you and your loved ones are safe and healthy. Whether you will be celebrating with friends or family, in real life or online: we wish you happy days and a wonderful new year, and we look forward to welcoming you in 2021!



### Stay updated

You might have questions about how corona measures in the Netherlands affect your education at UvA. As the situation changes often, make sure to regularly check our coronavirus information website [uva.nl/corona](https://uva.nl/corona) for the latest news. This website is updated every time there are changes in the government measures, and has a FAQ section specifically for international students.

Go to [uva.nl/corona](https://uva.nl/corona) →

You can also visit the [website of the Dutch government](#) for more background information. The [website of RIVM](#) (the National Institute for Public Health and the Environment) gives you information from a more medical perspective.

## Start your visa application

*[Message sent to non-EEA students only]*

Did you already start your immigration procedure? You need to apply for a residence permit through the UvA Immigration office to start your study programme at UvA. Having a Dutch residence permit is a legal requirement to start your studies, **even if your studies are taught completely online**, and you want to study from your home country.

The IND will need to have approved your residence permit application before the start of your study programme. You can find more information on this online.

**Go to our immigration website →**



## University life in times of corona

In summer, our student ambassador Najiba made a vlog about university life in Amsterdam during this global pandemic. The situation as shown is the largely same as now (except for the sunny weather), so watch her video to see how the Dutch government measures influence a student's life.

Got questions about living and studying in Amsterdam? [Chat with Najiba and other international students on our website.](#)

Watch Najiba's vlog (YouTube) →



Photo by @pchuexckor - Freepik

## Living expenses in the Netherlands

It's a good idea to check your budget before coming to Amsterdam. Expect to spend about €900-€1,500 a month on living expenses alone, tuition fees not included. For a rough breakdown, go to the link below. Keep in mind that finding additional funding might not be easy once you've arrived. Most scholarships, for instance, have to be applied for while you're still in your home country.

**Read more about living expenses →**

## Student finance DUO

A Dutch word you will probably hear a lot throughout your studies is *stuft*, the abbreviation for *studiefinanciering* (student finance). You might be eligible for student finance from the Dutch government. Whether you qualify for these loans depends on your nationality or residency status, age and study programme.

**Check your eligibility here →**



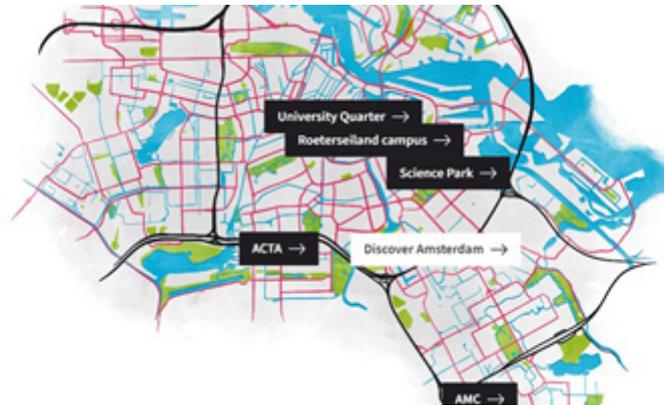
## Learning Dutch

*Hallo, hoe gaat het?* INTT, UvA's Institute for Dutch Language Education, offers Dutch language courses at different levels and intensities. You will find out that most people in Amsterdam speak English as well, but learning a little Dutch can be very useful if you want to find a job next to your studies in the

future. A reduced fee applies to UvA students enrolled in international study programmes.

All courses are being offered online during this period, find out more on the INTT website.

**Go to the INTT website →**



## University locations

You might not be able to physically visit all UvA's buildings just yet, but you can already take a digital stroll on our campuses! Have a look at the new interactive map and watch the videos to discover where you will be having your classes and meeting your friends when it will be possible again in the future.

**Explore the campus →**



## Studying with a disability

The UvA aims to be optimally accessible to all students, regardless of a disability or special needs. We offer help and advice to make your studies successful, and respond to your individual situation as best we can.

Are you dealing with issues that might affect your studies, like limited mobility, a chronic illness or dyslexia for example? Please contact a student counsellor well in advance before the start of your programme to discuss your situation.

**Support for students with a disability →**

## University of Amsterdam

Editors: UvA Student Services. Contact us through the UvA Central Student Service Desk.

The Start Newsletter is sent to all new international UvA students from June to the beginning of September. Did you miss one? All previous editions are available online.

Images: UvA Beeldbank and Unsplash

If you no longer want to receive this newsletter: [unsubscribe here](#)