



UvA Start Newsletter

no. 4 - 4 January 2024



Just a few more weeks!

Dear **Student**,

February is just around the corner, which means you are about to start your studies at the UvA. We look forward to seeing you soon! We have created an online [checklist](#) to help you **make necessary arrangements** for your time in Amsterdam. Check the website often to stay up to date about the latest developments.

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

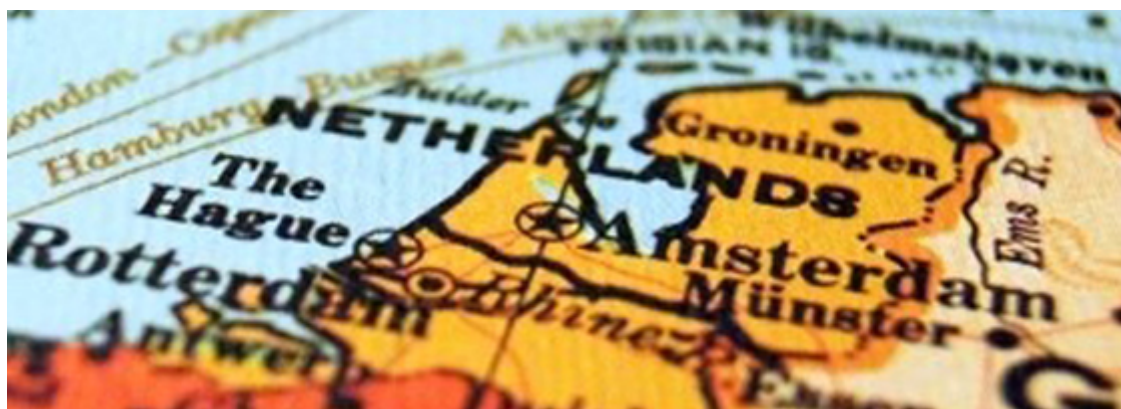


ESN Buddy Programme

ESN Amsterdam organises a Buddy Programme, especially for international and exchange students. The programme will match you to a local student and a group of other international/exchange students. This buddy can help you get to know the city and the University of Amsterdam. ESN Amsterdam will organise at least one Buddy meet-up and two Buddy activities which you and your buddies can attend together. Of course, you are welcome to join any of our other activities together or meet outside of ESN.

The application **deadline is 21 January, 23:59 CET**. If you have any questions, you can contact us at integration@esn-amsterdam.nl. See you soon in Amsterdam!

[Read more about the ESN Buddy programme →](#)



Reminder: Upon arrival webinar

In this helpful webinar, we'll bring you up to speed with the latest information on your municipality registration, student card, residence permit, and health insurance. You'll also have the opportunity to chat with staff and ask your questions.

This webinar, for EU and non-EU students, is scheduled for **Wednesday 17 January at 15:00 CET**.

[Find the webinar on our Upon arrival page →](#)



Opening a Dutch bank account

Once in the Netherlands, you might find it helpful to open a Dutch bank account. International money transfers can be expensive, and credit cards are not widely accepted. **A Dutch debit card allows you to pay** at supermarkets, cafes and restaurants easily and free of charge.

ING, Bunq and ABN AMRO are examples of banks that will offer you an account. Check our Upon arrival webpage for more details.

[Go to step 4: how to open a bank account →](#)



Student finance DUO

A Dutch term you will probably hear a lot throughout your studies is *stufi*, 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. Do check your eligibility to not miss out.

[DUO website about student finance →](#)



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 situation as best we can. Contact a student counsellor well before starting your studies if there is anything the UvA should consider, like limited mobility, chronic illness or dyslexia.

UvA IDEAs: our Student Platform

UvA IDEAs is a student platform that promotes Inclusivity, Disability, Equity, Accessibility for and by students. This team of committed students works to create awareness, informs and advises and aims to safeguard the interests of students with a disability or chronic illness. You are welcome to join their sounding board group. Take a look at the [UvA IDEAs webpage](#) for more information.

Support for students with a disability →



All information in one place: student.uva.nl

Your studies are about to begin, and a lot of information is likely coming your way. At the UvA, it's important to remember one website: student.uva.nl. Here, you will find **all the information you need during your studies**, easily check your schedule and your study results, stay informed about the latest news, and discover events you don't want to miss. Moreover, you can go there for all your questions, and can opt to receive push notifications for important updates.

Visit student.uva.nl →



Reminder: ESN Winter Introduction

Don't forget to register for the ESN Amsterdam Winter Introduction 2023! At this three-day event you'll meet your fellow international students and become fully prepared for your stay in Amsterdam.

The ESN 'Wintro' will take place from Thursday 1 February 2024 until Saturday 3 February 2024.

The registration **deadline is 19 January 23:59 CET.**

[ESN Winter Introduction](#) →

University of Amsterdam

Editors: UvA Student Services. Contact us through the [UvA Central Student Service Desk](#).

You are receiving this newsletter to help you prepare for your study programme at the University of Amsterdam, once every two or three weeks, from November up to the beginning of February. [Previous editions](#) are available online (pdf).

Images: UvA Beeldbank, Unsplash and Freepik.



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