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University

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# Six faculty positions in climate science, climate impact and climate adaptation

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Faculty of Geosciences

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# Six faculty positions in climate science, climate impact and climate adaptation

The faculty of Geosciences at Utrecht University is creating six assistant professor positions to strengthen its research and educational programmes in the field of climate science, climate impact and climate adaptation. The faculty will further build upon existing expertise in these fields that currently encompasses research and teaching in the working of the climate system over geological time scales, current and future climate variability and change, the role of the carbon cycle in the climate system, the formulation and evaluation of climate scenarios, the impacts of climate change on water, food, energy supply and ecosystems, climate mitigation and carbon sequestration and climate adaptation strategies with a focus on nature-based solutions. These areas of research are part of a broader palette of expertise in the area of earth and sustainability that encloses, among others, water scarcity and environmental quality, natural hazards, energy transitions, food security, sustainable cities, sustainable business and innovation science. Interdisciplinary research into these themes is organized under the university wide theme 'Pathways to Sustainability'. Utrecht University is at the forefront of innovation in sustainability research.

The department of Earth Sciences is hiring:

- **Assistant Professor in Earth System/Climate Sciences (0.8-1.0 FTE)**  
An Earth System/Climate scientist linking research on modern climates with paleoclimatology, e.g., through studying the role of long-term feedbacks on modern climate dynamics.
- **Assistant Professor in Ocean Solutions/Carbon (0.8-1.0 FTE)**  
An earth or environmental scientist focusing on climate solutions involving the ocean, or carbon sequestration in marine systems.

**Interested?** Interviews for these two positions will take place in September.

**Questions? Join our Online Information sessions!**  
*To ask questions to faculty and staff members you are invited to join one of our online information sessions. Click on the vacancy of your interest and see on which day these sessions are planned. You can ask us about our profiles and tasks of the offered positions, the possibilities of professional development, and moving to and living in Utrecht (housing, visa, schools, partner opportunities) We look forward to meeting you!"*



The department of Physical Geography is hiring:

- **Assistant professor in past environmental change in high mountain regions (0.8-1.0 FTE)**  
A paleoecologist or sedimentologist with broad experience in high alpine environmental change to jointly develop the interface between hydrology, geomorphology and paleoecology in mountain regions.
- **Assistant professor in adaptation strategies in deltas (0.8-1.0 FTE)**  
An earth or environmental scientist or civil engineer who quantifies impacts and risks of sea-level change and socioeconomic development on deltas, and assesses adaptation strategies.

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The department of Sustainable Development is hiring:

- **Assistant professor in Nature Based Solutions on climate adaptation and water (0.8-1.0 FTE)**  
An earth or environmental scientist to work on the increase adaptive capacity to water-related impacts of climate change while at the same time increasing carbon sequestration in the landscape and minimizing loss of biodiversity.
- **Assistant professor in model-based analysis of system transitions for climate mitigation and adaptation. (0.8-1.0 FTE)**  
An environmental scientist to develop mitigation and adaptation transitions with insights from model-based scenarios and detailed regional technology assessments.

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## OFFER

We offer a position (0.8-1.0 FTE) as an Assistant Professor for a period of 18 months. After a positive evaluation the position will be made permanent. You will work in a collaborative, social and dedicated team and you will receive guidance. The Faculty of Geosciences has an excellent merit-based career and promotion policy. As part thereof, career development up to Associate Professor (level 2) is possible without a so called 'formation principle', yet based on performance. The gross monthly starting salary – depending on qualifications and experience – ranges between €3,821 and €5,230 (scale 11 of the Collective Labour Agreement of Dutch Universities) for a full-time employment. Salaries are supplemented with a holiday bonus of 8% and an end-of-year bonus of 8,3% per year. In addition, you will have access to all equipment in our state-of-the-art laboratory infrastructure, coaching for teaching and supervision of researchers, and training and support regarding the acquisition of external funds. We encourage you to grow and support work-life balance. Utrecht University offers excellent secondary conditions, including an attractive retirement scheme, (partly paid) parental leave and flexible employment conditions (multiple choice model). More information about working at Utrecht University can be found [here](#). Facilities for childcare and sports are available on campus.

## INTERESTED?

Everyone deserves to feel at home at our university. We welcome employees with a wide variety of backgrounds and perspectives. To apply, please click on the vacancy of your interest and send the required documents via the 'apply' button or join one of the information sessions online!

The application deadline is **August 15, 2022**.

# The Faculty of Geosciences

The Faculty of Geosciences was created in 2003 from a merger between the faculties of Earth Sciences and Geography. However, the origins of geosciences research in Utrecht date back to over 120 years earlier when a chair of Geology and Mineralogy was endowed in what was then the Faculty of Physical Sciences. Today the Faculty is the largest academic institute for geosciences in the Netherlands, with 3800 students studying in 4 Bachelor's and 14 Master's degree programmes. The Faculty offers a comprehensive range of geoscience courses in both the sciences and social sciences. This unique combination within a single faculty enables students to look beyond the limits of their own courses and to study scientific and social issues in an integrated context.

In cooperation with the city and province of Utrecht the Faculty is seeking to present the Utrecht region as a centre of excellence on environmental, spatial planning and sustainability issues, both within and outside Europe. The Faculty has a long track record in fundamental knowledge of the earth and urban and regional development on all time and spatial scales, and this means it can make a significant contribution to providing integrated solutions for the challenges currently facing society.

In the spring of 2018, the Faculty moved to a new building with state of the art facilities. The building accommodates a restaurant and bicycle parking facilities, which is shared with TNO and Deltareis.

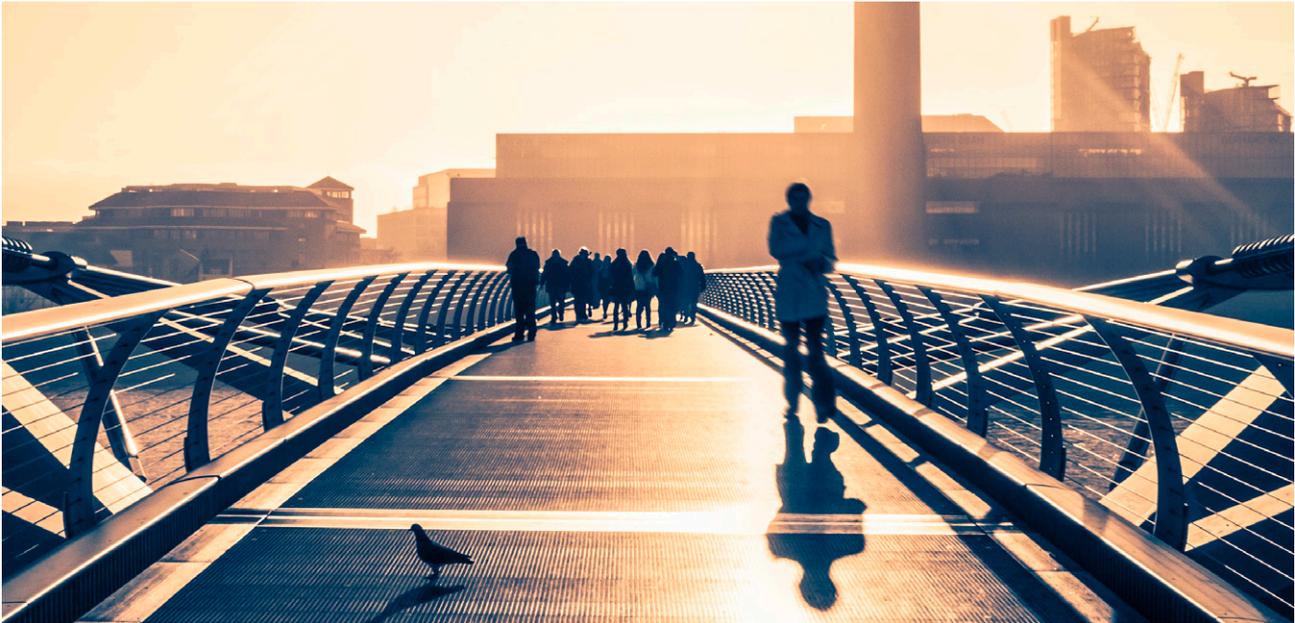
## STRUCTURE

The Faculty, led by the Dean, Professor Wilco Hazeleger, comprises four departments, namely:

- [Earth Sciences](#);
- [Physical Geography](#);
- [Sustainable Development](#) (Copernicus Institute of Sustainable Development);
- [Human Geography and Spatial Planning](#).

Each department houses an institute and multiple research groups which makes up the research activity of the Faculty. For a full list of the institutes and groups please visit: <https://www.uu.nl/en/organisation/faculty-of-geosciences/research>.





## RESEARCH

The Faculty of Geosciences performs at top-level research with a clear focus, excellent research groups, and with deep, leading partnerships. Its research has been assessed as excellent by research review boards recently.

Geosciences plays a key role in the University's strategic theme of 'Sustainability'; looking to bring together research ranging from the core of the earth to the city, with a focus on water, energy and a healthy environment. Sustainability research in the field of climate change and ecosystems has the greatest impact worldwide. That is the conclusion of a study conducted by Times Higher Education.

The Faculty of Geosciences focuses on the following themes in particular:

- **Energy in transition** – Scientific experts are working together with industry partners and stakeholders to support the radical transformation of industry needed for society to meet Paris climate ambitions. The key question is: how will new technologies and societal choices shape the future of Industry
- **Transforming cities** – The transforming cities community focuses on sustainable solutions for cities. Together with societal stakeholders, the researchers of the community work to understand how cities change and how sustainability transformations can be accelerated. Our ambition

is to find solutions that help cities to transform into sustainable, healthy and equal places.

- **Water, climate and future deltas** – In the community, scientific experts from a broad range of disciplines cooperate directly with experts in the field to combine knowledge on natural system functioning with spatial planning, land and water governance and legislative frameworks. This allows for developing resilient delta management strategies, which is urgently needed to sustain the quality of life in these unique ecosystems.
- **Towards a circular economy and society** – The community Towards a Circular Economy and Society of Pathways to Sustainability is a platform for scientists of Utrecht University and stakeholders to jointly contribute to the transition to an sustainable circular society.
- **Future food Utrecht** – Future Food Utrecht offers a platform for scientist and external stakeholders on which they contribute to the transition of the food chain for a sustainable, world by means of unique transdisciplinary research and education.

For more information, please visit: [Pathways to Sustainability](#)

## EDUCATION

The Faculty promotes an ambitious study of environment, focusing on developing talent and quality. The quality of education is assessed as good to very good, both by educational review boards and



in surveys of students and professors. The high quality programmes, the broad and attractive range of courses and the proven quality of teaching staff attract students both from the Netherlands and abroad.

For more information on Bachelor's and Master's programs please visit: <https://www.uu.nl/en/organisation/faculty-of-geosciences/studying>.

### MISSION AND STRATEGY

A leader in the field of earth studies and sustainability, the Faculty of Geosciences stands for high-quality teaching in a challenging educational environment, and aims to be an active discussion partner in the social debate.

### LEADERSHIP MODEL

The faculty embraces an integrated academic leadership model that values, besides excellence in core areas of research and teaching, also leadership competences, societal impact and team spirit.

### GENDER DIVERSITY

The faculty of Geosciences has set itself the goal to achieve gender balance at all levels of scientific staff. A special Equality Diversity and Inclusion committee has been installed for this purpose.

### MERIT

The faculty of Geosciences has a new appointing and promotion scheme focussing on Management, Education, Research, Impact and Team spirit.

The Faculty's Strategic Plan can be downloaded here: [Strategic Plan 2025](#).

# About Utrecht University

Our world is changing rapidly. The global issues we are facing are complex in nature. They are not restricted to one generation or one continent and cannot be resolved based on a single perspective. That's why now is the time to issue an open invitation to all.

## SHARING SCIENCE, SHAPING TOMORROW

We are Utrecht University. The place for new collaborations and cross-pollination. Students, academic and administrative staff, policymaker, members of the public, professionals and business owners. All are invited to contribute to a better world. Ever since its establishment in 1636, our university has been encouraging and promoting dialogue. Deeply rooted in the city of Utrecht, we are connected in our communities locally, nationally and internationally. No matter what social challenges we face.

Utrecht University researches, educates and communicates the results across disciplines and shares knowledge and insights that lay the

foundation for the future. Shared perspectives are the source of tomorrow's solutions. That's why we bring together thinkers and doers, link education to research, and work beyond the boundaries of groups and organizations.

For starters, our research drives innovation in human and veterinary healthcare and helps children grow into self-reliant, independent adults, while we and our partners also promote and foster more open and resilient societies and develop solutions that contribute to a fair and sustainable future.

With open minds, open attitudes and open science, we join forces to create solutions that have a positive impact on us all.

## MISSION

The university's mission is working to contribute to a better world. Our graduates have the knowledge and skills to make a substantial contribution to society. Our research is ground-breaking and focused on solving major global issues. Our collaborative culture fosters innovation, new insights and societal impact.

Utrecht University is working hard on a sustainable world within and outside the University. That is why it will be CO<sub>2</sub> neutral by 2030.

## CORE VALUES

Inspiration, ambition, independence and commitment are the core values that guide the conduct and attitude of the staff and students at Utrecht University.

More information can be found in Utrecht University's [Strategic Plan 2025](#).

## INTERDISCIPLINARY RESEARCH AND EDUCATION

The quality of research at the University is demonstrated by positive research evaluations and a high position in international league tables.



Research at Utrecht University is focused and aims to connect scientific excellence and fundamental research with societal change. Utrecht University has a culture of cooperation. Our students are challenged to look beyond their own discipline and to gain experience in interdisciplinary issues. Our researchers collaborate in interdisciplinary contexts, while maintaining a strong base in their own discipline. Interdisciplinary research within the university is focused on four strategic themes which relate to societal challenges:

- **Pathways to Sustainability** – Utrecht University makes an active contribution to a sustainable society by sharing academic knowledge and by providing an inspirational example for others.
- **Dynamics of Youth** – Dynamics of Youth researches the development of young people in a rapidly changing society. Who is at risk and how can we ensure the optimal conditions for individual and social development?
- **Institutions for Open Societies** – How do institutions – the formal and informal rules of human action – contribute to long-term prosperity, equality and democracy?
- **Life Sciences** – Infectious diseases (including those transmitted from animals to humans) and chronic diseases such as cancer and cardiovascular diseases pose major social problems that demand new medicines and technologies.

## STRUCTURE

Utrecht University boasts seven faculties and three teaching institutes. Each faculty consists of a number of departments. Each department coordinates the research and teaching programmes of a specific field of science. Scientific staff are appointed at department level.

### Faculties

Faculty of Geosciences  
Faculty of Humanities  
Faculty of Law, Economics and Governance  
Faculty of Medicine  
Faculty of Science  
Faculty of Social and Behavioral Sciences  
Faculty of Veterinary Medicine.

### Teaching institutes

University College Roosevelt  
University College Utrecht  
Centrum voor Onderwijs en Leren (website in Dutch).

## EQUALITY, DIVERSITY AND INCLUSION

Utrecht University believes that diversity of students and employees enriches the academic debate and that everyone deserves equal opportunities. Living up to this ambition is considered as a social responsibility. In the summer of 2020 Utrecht University launched a new programme Equality, Diversity and Inclusion. See more via: <https://www.uu.nl/en/organisation/equality-diversity-inclusion>.



# Living and Working in Utrecht

## THE NETHERLANDS

The Kingdom of the Netherlands consists of twelve provinces in Western Europe (commonly known as the Netherlands) and three islands in the Caribbean. The Netherlands, (also known informally as Holland), with a population of over 17 million, is a constitutional monarchy with a parliamentary system. It is a geographically low-lying country, with about 20% of its area and 21% of its population located below sea level, and 50% of its land lying less than one metre above sea level. This small nation boasts a wealth of cultural heritage and is famous for its painters, windmills, tulips, clogs and notoriously flat lands. Today, international trade is still the main driver of economic growth. Holland is the sixteenth largest economy in the world and one of the ten leading exporting nations. As a modern European country, it preserves its highly international character and is known for its liberal mentality. As a founding member of the EU and NATO, and host to the International Court of Justice in The Hague, the Netherlands is at the heart of international cooperation. Its small size, welcoming attitude to travellers and many sights make it a unique and fairly easy to discover destination.

## ABOUT UTRECHT

Utrecht is located in the eastern corner of the Randstad conurbation, and is the fourth largest city in the Netherlands with a population of nearly 360,000. Utrecht's ancient city centre features many buildings and structures several dating as far back as the Early Middle Ages. Utrecht boasts beautiful canals with extraordinary wharf cellars housing cafés and terraces by the water. As well as the famous Dom tower, the city has hundreds of other monuments that each contribute to the special atmosphere in this centuries-old university town. There are also a broad variety of shops and boutiques which line the canals and streets in the inner city.

Utrecht Central Station forms the community of the Dutch rail network, and is easily accessible directly, or with one change of train, from almost every station in the Netherlands. There are direct connections from Amsterdam and Schiphol Airport (even at night), both taking 30 minutes. The high-speed train ICE to



Cologne, Frankfurt and Basel stops in Utrecht and there are also has daily night train (Euronight/ CityNightline) connections to Berlin, Copenhagen, Prague, Warsaw, Zurich, Munich and Innsbruck (seasonal).

Utrecht has its own International school – the International School Utrecht (ISU). ISU provides a high quality and accessible international learning environment for children from diverse backgrounds. For more information please visit: <https://www.uu.nl/en/organisation/working-at-utrecht-university>.

## TAXATION

Certain categories of international staff (e.g. Researchers) can receive tax exemption on approximately thirty per cent of their gross salary. This is to compensate for the extra costs they incur in living abroad, such as having to rent temporary accommodation, etc. In principle, the 30% rule applies to staff who have been expressly recruited from another country and who have a formal contract of employment in the Netherlands.

## MORE INFORMATION

For more information on terms of employment at Utrecht University please see: <https://www.uu.nl/en/organisation/working-at-utrecht-university/terms-of-employment>.



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