COURSE SELECTION GUIDE FOR EXCHANGE STUDENTS

FACULTY OF HUMANITIES 2024/2025



This Course Selection Guide provides all the details you need to select your courses. After the course registration is finalized, there are very limited options to change courses. Therefore follow the instructions carefully and pick you courses wisely.

General information

Academic calendar and Timeslots

The academic year is divided in two semesters: semester 1 (early September until late January) and semester 2 (early February until late June). Each semester consists of two 10-week periods (blocks). Each period concludes with examinations.

Timeslots divide the week in different parts to prevent a clash in course times. Per period you should select courses in different timeslots. It is NOT possible to choose courses that are scheduled in the same timeslot. Each timeslot is indicated by a single letter, if the timeslot is indicated with 2 or more letters, that means that the course can be scheduled in multiple timeslots. You can find a detailed explanation of the academic calendar and the timeslot system here:

https://students.uu.nl/en/hum/exchange-students/schedules-calendar-and-timeslots.

Course Load

Utrecht University uses ECTS, the European Credit Transfer System. 1 EC equals 28 hours of study. A normal study load is 30 EC per semester. We recommend that exchange students always register for a full course load. It is possible to deregister for courses until the 2nd week of the study period.

Early Exit (only on Bachelor level for semester 1)

The Faculty of Humanities offers an Early Exit option for all Bachelor courses in period 2. This option is only available if your home university indicated that you need to return home by January 15th (due to conflicting academic calendars). The Early Exit option means that you can finish the course before Christmas break, but you will receive a course load of 5 EC instead of the normal 7,5 EC. Taking the Early Exit option will allow you to receive a maximum of 25 EC during your exchange.

Which courses can I take at the Faculty of Humanities?

- You can take courses within our four different departments: Department of Languages, Literature and Communication (TLC), Department of History and Art History (GKG), Department of Media and Culture Studies (MCW) and Department of Philosophy and Religious Studies (FR).
- Bachelor (undergraduate) students can only choose Bachelor-level courses (levels 1, 2 and 3) that are open to exchange students. In general, courses on levels 1 and 2 in all four departments will be available to students of all Humanities backgrounds. Admission into courses on level 3 will be more restrictive, depending on your background. Any specifics are mentioned on the course page (www.uu.nl/hum/coursesexchange select a department > period > course). Please make sure that you always read the entry requirements and course content. Of course, you also have to meet the language requirements.
- Master (graduate) students are allowed to choose courses on Bachelor and Master level. If you choose Bachelor courses, please make sure to check this thoroughly with your home university as they have to approve this as well. Courses on Master level will be much more restrictive; in general, you can only choose courses that are in the same or very similar field of studies. Any specifics are mentioned on the course page (www.uu.nl/hum/coursesexchange).
- Courses may have a limited number of places. For some courses priority rules apply. If this is the case, it will be mentioned in the course description of the course catalogue. Students who fulfill the priority requirements for that course are guaranteed a place. Other students will be placed by means of random selection, if there are places available.

Can I take courses at other faculties?

- At least 50% of your courses should be courses offered by the Faculty of Humanities. You can request up to 50% of courses from one other faculty. Most faculties will allow exchange students to take courses at (Bachelor) Levels 1 or 2, depending on required knowledge of the subject. Level 3 courses usually require a fair amount of academic background in the subject. Access to courses in other faculties may be difficult due to restrictions or timetable clashes. Make sure that you include alternative courses on your course form.
- You may find the list of courses per faculty on this page <u>Course information</u>. It is not possible to choose courses from University College Utrecht or University College Roosevelt.
- Master level students are strongly advised to limit their course choice to courses offered by the Faculty of Humanities, due to the specific academic background that is required.

How many credits do I have to take?

- We recommend that you enroll for a full course load (15 EC per study period = 30 EC per semester).
- It is possible to deregister for a course until the 2nd week of the study period.

What else should I know?

- In cases of oversubscription, we will prioritize degree-seeking students. You can be denied enrolment into courses due to insufficient background knowledge or lack of places available. If this happens, we will always do our best to find suitable alternatives.
- We expect exchange students to fully participate in courses. This means that students should meet attendance requirements, hand in assignments before the deadline, and sit exams. Please note that traveling abroad is not an excuse to miss class or deadlines.
- It is not possible to visit a lecture of a course that you are not enrolled in.
- Courses that you have not deregistered for in time (before the third week of the study period), will be shown on the Transcript of Records that we will send to you and your home university at the end of your exchange period. If you did not attend a course, your Transcript of Records will show a *Not Participated*; if you did not complete one or more of the assessments your Transcript of Records will show a *Not Completed*. If you deregister for the course in time, the course will not be mentioned on your Transcript of Records.
- Work that you are doing for your home university (e.g. thesis research) while on exchange does not count towards your credit load at Utrecht and will not be mentioned on your Transcript of Records.

Choosing your courses

Step 1. Determine which course level(s) match your level of knowledge

Choosing the correct course level is very important when selecting your courses and will reduce the risk of being denied enrolment. Make sure that you also check the entry requirements, but keep in mind that some entry requirements are aimed at full degree students (a requirement may be that you have completed a specific course; this does not apply to exchange students, but we will check if your academic background is sufficient).

Bachelor/undergraduate courses

Please make sure that you choose your courses wisely, depending on your academic background. It is possible that we cannot enroll you in the course of your choice if you do not have sufficient academic background for that course. If that happens, we will always do our best to find a suitable alternative.

- **Level/category 1: Introductory** broad introduction to the subject. You don't need any specific background knowledge, courses are mostly followed by 1st year students.
- Level/category 2: Elaborating exploring aspects of the subject, current debates, specific methods and techniques. Generally, no specific background knowledge is needed, but sufficient academic skills are. Sometimes there are requirements.
- **Level/category 3: Advanced** integration/synthesis, formation of theories based on research results. You must have sufficient background knowledge in the subject area. You must either be a major in this subject area at your home university or have completed (an equivalent of) at least 30 EC in the same subject area.

Course codes explained

The course codes of Bachelor courses at the Faculty of Humanities are all designed the same way. The first two symbols are letters that indicate the subject area and the third symbol indicates the course level. The subject areas are:

CI	Communication and Information Studies	МС	Media and Culture
CS	Conflict Studies	ME	Media and Culture
DU	German Language and Culture	MU	Musicology
EN	English Language and Culture	NE	Dutch Language and Culture
FR	French Language and Culture	RS	Religious Studies
GE	History	RT	Religious Studies
IA	Islam and Arabic	SP	Spanish Language and Culture
IT	Italian Language and Culture	TL	Languages, Literature and Communication
KE	Keltic Language and Culture	TW	Linguistics
KI	Artificial Intelligence	VR	Gender Studies
KU	Art History	WY	Philosophy
LI	Literary Studies		

Master/graduate courses

Master/graduate courses are always indicated by **level/category M**. Many of our Master programmes are selective and have very limited spots available. To be considered for Master-level courses, you must meet all of the following requirements:

- Have sufficient background knowledge in the subject area. Generally, this means that you must be enrolled in a Master's degree in the same (or very similar) field of study at your home university. Often, we will also take into consideration the courses you took during your Bachelor degree.
- Completed the first semester of your Master's degree at your home university before coming to Utrecht.
- You must be able to prove sufficient language proficiency (C1) at the time of application (i.e. May 1 for the 1st semester, October 1 for the 2nd semester).
- You must submit your course choices by the deadline May 1, incomplete or late applications will not be considered.

Course codes explained

The course codes of Master courses at the Faculty of Humanities are more difficult to interpret. In general, when the third letter is an 'R', this means that it is a Research Master course. Research Masters are two-year programmes and are often more restrictive than courses from the academic (one-year) Master programmes.

Step 2. Start searching the course offer

- 1. Go to www.uu.nl/hum/coursesexchange and select your level (Bachelor or Master). Then find the department(s) that you wish to choose courses from. Per department, limitations or specific requirements may be listed. Please keep in mind that admission into Master courses is nearly impossible if you do not have sufficient academic background in the specific field of study.
- 2. You will find links to the course offer taught only in English. Students who wish to take courses taught in English, should only browse through the course offer via these links. Students who also command other languages (Dutch, German, French, Spanish, Italian), can consult the course offer via the links "Full course offer". Please note that the language of the course title may be different from the language of instruction. The language of instruction is indicated in each individual course description. You must be able to show proof of language proficiency for each language you wish to follow courses in. Our general CEFR guideline is B2 level for Bachelor courses and C1 level for Master courses. However, some courses may have higher entry requirements (which is explained on www.uu.nl/hum/coursesexchange). You can find the language requirements on www.uu.nl/hum/internationaloffice How to Apply.
- 3. Make sure the courses you select do not have overlapping **timeslots**. You cannot select courses with overlapping timeslots, as explained on page 1.

Explanation of the contents of the Humanities Course Catalogue



