

Guidelines for Semester Study Abroad at Amsterdam Law School, the Netherlands

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The University of Michigan Law School has developed a semester study abroad opportunity with Amsterdam Law School which is part of the Faculty of Law of the University of Amsterdam, for up to four students per academic year. The University of Amsterdam is one of Europe's excellent universities, located in the heart of one of the world's most dynamic and enjoyable cities and easily reachable by train and air from cities throughout Europe and the world. Interested students must comply with the General Guidelines for Semester Legal Studies Abroad available in the Center for International and Comparative Law, 300D Legal Research, or on the Law School web site at:

<http://www.law.umich.edu/curriculum/studyabroad/Pages/default.aspx>. Please consult the General Guidelines along with this document. They contain important information, including how to apply.

Course Offerings and Requirements

Students will be able to choose from a selection of classes offered at the LL.M. level. The classes are quite various, with a focus in the fields of advanced European Union Law and Public International Law. Amsterdam advises that the course in European Contract Law and the course in Comparative Law are conducive to exposing students to how civil lawyers think. The language of instruction is in English.

The course list for the 2009-10 academic year will not be finalized until the summer of 2009. The following web site shows the offerings in 2008-09.

<http://www.student.uva.nl/lawstudents/timetables.cfm> - from here, under the heading of "Timetables courses", click on "Course Schedule 1st Semester 2008-2009".

Because Michigan students will enroll in LL.M. classes, if they wish to take European law classes, Amsterdam will expect either that they will have successfully completed EU law at Michigan or they will be required to take an introduction to EU class (M 1910) concurrently with other classes at Amsterdam. If Michigan students wish to take advanced international law classes, they will be expected to have taken public international law at Michigan or to take concurrently the introduction to public international law class (M 2510) at Amsterdam. These introductory classes are offered only in the fall term. Amsterdam is willing to review the syllabus for the particular Transnational Law section of each Michigan student to see whether there is a sufficient public international law to meet the prerequisite.

In addition to the course requirements at Amsterdam, students will be responsible for fulfilling all the requirements for the transfer of credit described in the General Guidelines for Semester Legal Study Abroad.

A student's course selection at Amsterdam must be approved by the University of Michigan Law School prior to the student's departure for Amsterdam. Any subsequent requested changes must be approved in advance by Assistant Dean Virginia Gordan (vgordan@umich.edu; TEL: 734-764-5269). The acceptance of any credit or grade for any course taken in Amsterdam Law School is subject to determination by the University of Michigan Law School.

Tuition and Fees

The tuition and fees charges at Amsterdam Law School are waived for students who participate in this exchange program.

Michigan students must pay full tuition and fees to the University of Michigan Law School as described in the General Guidelines for Semester Legal Studies Abroad.

Please note that the tuition structure and amount are subject to change at any time.

Dates of Term

Students may go in either the fall or winter semester, although the fall is preferable because other students are starting new at Amsterdam, the curriculum contains more foundational courses, and the fall academic calendar is generally more compatible with our own.

The specific dates for the 2008-09 academic year are as follows. The fall 2008 term dates are Block 1: September 1, 2008 – October 17, 2008 (Exams: October 20-24, 2008). Block 2: October 27, 2008– December 12, 2008 (Exams: December 15-19, 2008). Although the examination period for courses that are scheduled during Block 1 **and** Block 2 takes place in January, the University of Amsterdam commits to give exams to their American exchange students before December 21, or, alternatively, to allow them to turn in a paper following the winter holiday break. The 2009 winter term dates are Block 1: February 2, 2009 – March 20, 2009 (Exams: March 23-27, 2009). Block 2: March 30, 2009 – May 22, 2009 (Exams: May 25-June 12, 2009). Exams for courses that are scheduled during Block 1 and Block 2 can be set in the period of May 25-June 12, 2009, but students must first discuss this with Mrs. Martha Oosterom, International Officer, Amsterdam Law School, Universiteit van Amsterdam, P.O. Box 1030, 1000 BA Amsterdam (phone +31-20-525-3421; fax: +31-20-525-3495; email: M.M.oosterom@uva.nl).

Students are also expected to attend the University of Amsterdam's International Student Network (ISN) Introduction Program, which for the fall 2008 term runs from August 25-29, 2008. In addition, students are expected to attend the Introduction to the Faculty of Law, which is scheduled for August 29, 2008. Dates for the ISN Introduction Program and Introduction to the Faculty of Law for the winter 2009 term, are to be determined, and will be a shorter version than that conducted for the fall 2008 term.

General Administrative Matters

The Amsterdam Law School International Office will assist students with services such as housing, banking and residence permit/visa application. Students who are approved to study abroad at Amsterdam Law School will also receive an information package with important information prior to his/her arrival at Amsterdam. For information about these administrative matters, please refer to the Amsterdam Law School web site at http://www.studeren.uva.nl/certificate_law.

Housing

The University of Amsterdam does not have a campus, and housing for international students is accommodated by housing association De Key (<http://www.shortstay.dekey.nl/>) on the basis of an agreement with the University. (Students should not contact De Key until they have first received information from De Key.) Please note that accommodation cannot be guaranteed. The administrative procedure for housing is as follows. A student must first complete the Amsterdam Law School Application form for the Amsterdam Exchange Programme, which includes the question: "Do you want us to apply for housing for you?" Assuming the answer is affirmative, then Student Services of the University of Amsterdam sends a confirmation form by e-mail to prospective exchange students at the

end of June, respectively, or, at the beginning of January, dependent on the semester chosen for exchange. This form indicates whether or not a room has been assigned. In case no room has been assigned, students need to find a room in the private market.

http://www.studeren.uva.nl/practical_exchange/accommodation.cfm - Click “How to find a room in Amsterdam by yourself”. Students are advised to take part in the lotteries that are organized by the accommodation agency of the ASVA/Studentenunie. This agency offers rooms and apartments that are privately owned or sublet by Dutch students and provides information on finding and renting rooms in Amsterdam. The available rooms are allotted to students by means of lotteries in which exchange students can participate unless they have refused a room assigned to them by the housing association or have cancelled a lease contract with that association. Those lotteries take place on a daily basis and special lotteries are organized at the beginning of each semester. Students will be provided with information about the actual lotteries upon arrival or through Mrs. Martha Oosterom, International Officer, Amsterdam Law School.

Students may try to exchange lodgings with their counterparts from the Amsterdam Law School. A request may be addressed to Mrs. Martha Oosterom, International Officer, Amsterdam Law School, Universiteit van Amsterdam, P.O. Box 1030, 1000 BA Amsterdam (phone +31-20-525-3421; fax: +31-20-525-3495; email: M.M.oosterom@uva.nl).

Please note that the deadlines for applying for accommodation are very strict. For the first semester: June 1, and for the second semester November 1.

Application to Amsterdam

Students who receive approval from the Law School’s Global Affairs Committee to study abroad at Amsterdam pursuant to the process described in the General Guidelines for Semester Legal Studies Abroad will then be required to promptly complete the Amsterdam Law School Application Form for the Amsterdam Exchange Programme including supporting application materials. The Center for International & Comparative Law will send the application form with supporting materials to Amsterdam Law School. *Amsterdam reserves the right of final approval of Michigan applicants.*

Contacts

The Director of the International Exchange Program at Amsterdam law School Law School is Prof. Marjoleine Zieck, Ph.D. If students have questions on any kind of practical matters, they are asked to contact Ms. Martha Oosterom in Amsterdam Law School’s International Office.

Amsterdam Law School
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Prof. Dr. Marjoleine Y.A. Zieck, Professor of Law, Amsterdam Law School, is the director and academic coordinator of the Amsterdam Exchange Program.

Dr. M.Y.A. Zieck

Marjoleine Zieck studied philosophy and international law at the University of Amsterdam (degrees: M.Phil. and LL.M.) and obtained her Ph.D. degree, in the field of international law, in 1997 (*cum laude*) at the same University. She worked in the aliens and refugee section of the law firm Pels Rijcken &

Droogleever Fortuijn (*Landsadvocaat*) before joining the Faculty of Law: she was appointed associate professor of public international law in 2002 and Director of LL.M. programmes and Internationalization in 2003. In 2005 she was appointed extraordinary professor of public international law, Pakistan College of Law, Lahore. She is a member of the Board of Directors of the Leyden-Amsterdam-Columbia summer programme as well as the executive Director of the 2007 session of the programme. She was a member of the ILA Committee on Refugee Procedures (1997-2002) and participated as invited expert in the Global Consultations on International Protection of UNHCR (exclusion from refugee status, and cessation of refugee status) and in the 2006 Colloquium on Challenges in International Refugee Law (co-hosted by the Universities of Michigan and Melbourne) on the fourth set of Michigan Guidelines on the International Protection of Refugees (on 'protection elsewhere'). She teaches international refugee law in Amsterdam (Faculty of Law), Lahore (Pakistan College of Law) and Santander (Whittier Law School, California).

Relevant publications:

- *UNHCR and Voluntary Repatriation of Refugees; A Legal Analysis*, 1997, Martinus Nijhoff Publishers, The Hague (500 pages);
- "Voluntary Repatriation: Paradigm, Pitfalls, Progress", 23 *Refugee Survey Quarterly* 2004, 33-54;
- "Vanishing Points of the Refugee Law Regime" [response to James Hathaway], 20 *Ohio State Journal on Dispute Resolution* 2005, 217-248 [also included in 26 *Immigration and Nationality Law Review* (University of Cincinnati College of Law) 2006];
- *UNHCR's Worldwide Presence in the Field; A Legal Analysis of UNHCR's Cooperation Agreements*, (April) 2006, Wolf Legal Publishers, Nijmegen (400 pages);
- "Materieelrechtelijke consequenties van UNHCR's institutionele expansie" [substantive legal consequences of UNHCR's institutional expansion], 81 *Nederlands Juristen Blad* 2006 (37), 2121-2125.

For further information about Amsterdam

Please consult the Amsterdam Law School web site at http://www.studeren.uva.nl/certificate_law.

Students are strongly encouraged to read the Student Study Abroad Reports currently available in the Center for International & Comparative Law (Room 300D Legal Research). The reports contain invaluable information about courses, professors, library, computers, housing and so on. They identify the pluses and minuses of the students' study abroad experiences and what aspects they enjoyed and what they found problematic while studying at Amsterdam.

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The information about the overseas program contained herein is provided by the host institution and is subject to change. Interested students should confirm all information with the host institution prior to departure to ensure that the opportunity meets their goals.