

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 varied, with a focus on 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 English.

Students may choose most of the courses offered in English from the following programs: International and European Law: Public International Law (Master's in); International and European Law: European Union Business Law (Master's in); International and European Law: European Union Law (Master's in); International and European Law: International Trade and Investment Law (Master's in); European Private Law (Master's in); European and International Labour Law (Master's in). Program content and course information may be found at: http://www.studeren.uva.nl/exchange_law/object.cfm/65711180-0F66-4327-A4C2AE4D9FCCF7E1/3E4A110A-F99D-4BFC-B392D713A35612F4. Click on "Law courses".

Timetables for the courses taught the first block and second block of the first semester may be found here: http://rooster.uva.nl/current_en/. Click on "Course" or "Programme" at the top of the page to conduct your search.

The course list for the 2012-13 academic year will not be finalized until the summer of 2012.

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. Otherwise, they will be required to take an introduction to EU law 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. The introductory course on Public International Law is offered only in the fall term; EU law is also offered in the winter 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 component 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 University of Amsterdam has indicated that the specific dates for the 2011-12 academic year are as follows. The first semester (our fall 2011 term) dates are Block 1: September 5, 2011 – October 21, 2011 (Exams: October 24-28, 2011). Block 2: October 31, 2011 – December 16, 2011 (Exams: December 19-23, 2011). All courses that are 5 EC units are examined before Christmas. The courses that are 10 EC units are examined in January and participation in the scheduled examination is required; however, it is possible to conduct a written 10 EC exam at the University of Michigan Law School. This would be organized by Amsterdam in coordination with Ms. Debby Hartranft, University of Michigan Law School Student Services Exam and Grade Coordinator (dmhart@umich.edu; tel: 647-7589). The exam must take place on the same day that it is scheduled in Amsterdam, but the time of day is flexible due to the time difference. The January 2012 exam period runs from Monday, January 9, to Friday, February 3, 2012. In the case of where 10 EC unit courses are examined by a paper, those courses can be taken by any student anywhere.

The second semester dates are Block 1: February 6, 2012 – March 23, 2012 (Exams: March 26-30, 2012). Block 2: April 2, 2012 – May 25, 2012 (Exams: May 29 - June 29, 2012).

Students should confirm exam periods and details 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: aexp-fdr@uva.nl). Please know the aforementioned dates in the academic calendar are subject to change.

Students are also invited to attend the University of Amsterdam's International Student Network (ISN) Introduction Program, which for the fall 2011 term runs from August 21-23, 2011. In addition, students are expected to attend the Introduction to the Faculty of Law, which is scheduled for September 2, 2011. Dates for the ISN Introduction Program and Introduction to the Faculty of Law for the winter 2012 term, are to be determined, and will be a shorter version than that conducted for the fall 2011 term.

General Administrative Matters

The Amsterdam Law School International Office will assist students with services such as housing, banking, health insurance, 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 their arrival in Amsterdam. For information about these administrative matters, please refer to the Amsterdam Law School website at http://www.studeren.uva.nl/visas_and_permits.

Housing

The University of Amsterdam does not have a campus, and housing for international students is accommodated by housing associations on the basis of an agreement with the University. Please note that accommodation cannot be guaranteed.

If you would like to apply for student accommodation via the University of Amsterdam (UvA), please read the information below and fill in the online application form.

Link

You can apply for accommodation via the following link:

<https://apply.embark.com/grad/Amsterdam/14/>

The link will direct you to the web page of the on-line application system called EMBARK. You may have already created a UvA EMBARK account. In this case, you can use the same login to apply for accommodation.

Rental Period

In EMBARK you can choose your preferred room type, maximum rental price and the rental period. Please select the period corresponding with the duration of your study.

To fill in the application you will need the following faculty code: **Recht-EX**. You also need your UvA student number which will be sent to you by e-mail.

Please do not hesitate to contact us if you have any questions or experience problems with the on-line form.

Deadline

The deadline to complete your on-line accommodation application is **1 June 2012 (for students studying at Amsterdam Law School for the first semester) and 1 November 2012 (for students studying at Amsterdam Law School for the second semester)**.

UvA fee

Students renting accommodation via the UvA will be charged an extra fee in addition to the monthly rent. This fee will be collected by the housing corporation and is necessary to cover the UvA's costs in providing the housing service to international students. The UvA fee is between €20 and €35 per month, depending on the type of room you rent, and is payable at the start of contract.

At the time of application you will also have to pay a fee. This fee of € 300 covers the costs UvA makes in providing you with student accommodation. If you apply before the deadline, the fee also means that housing is guaranteed.

The general administrative procedure for housing is also described on the following web site:
http://www.studeren.uva.nl/coming_exchange/object.cfm/62C6EECC-1321-B0BE-68842B222DC48849/3A41BA91-957C-430C-98D511C0C3059D1C.

Should you choose not to apply for university housing, 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” or get in touch with ASVA Student Union. (web site: <http://www.asva.nl/kamers>). Please do not think lightly about the housing situation in Amsterdam. There is a massive shortage of housing. This means that every year, several students who decided not to apply for university housing have trouble finding a room once they’re in Amsterdam. Applying for university housing is therefore highly recommended.

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: aexp-fdr@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 Graduate Programs and Foreign Affiliations 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 complete an on-line Amsterdam Law School Application Form for the Amsterdam Exchange Programme and include any required supporting application materials. The Center for International & Comparative Law will send the printed application form with supporting materials to Amsterdam Law School. *Amsterdam reserves the right of final approval of Michigan applicants.*

Contacts

Professor Marjoleine Zieck is the Director Education and Internationalization of the Amsterdam Law School. The exchange programme is coordinated by Ms. Martha Oosterom (International Office of Amsterdam Law School).

Martha Oosterom, International Office
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Professor Marjoleine Zieck

Marjoleine Zieck studied Philosophy and Public International Law at the University of Amsterdam and obtained her Ph.D. degree (in Public International Law) in 1997 (*cum laude*) at the same University. She worked in the immigration section of the law firm Pels Rijcken & Droogleever Fortuijn (*Landsadvocaat*) before joining Amsterdam Law School. From 2002 until 2008 she was Director of the LL.M. programmes and Ph.D. training programme, and since 2008 she is the Director of the Graduate School of Law and College of Law of Amsterdam Law School. She is a member of the Board of Directors of the Leyden-

Amsterdam-Columbia summer programme and Executive Director of the Amsterdam sessions of the summer programme since 2005. In 2005, she was appointed Professor of Public International Law at the Pakistan College of Law (Lahore, Pakistan) and in 2009 she was awarded a chair in International Refugee Law at the Amsterdam Law School.

Key publications:

- *UNHCR and Voluntary Repatriation of Refugees; A Legal Analysis*, 1997, Martinus Nijhoff Publishers, The Hague;
- “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;
- *UNHCR’s Worldwide Presence in the Field; A Legal Analysis of UNHCR’s Cooperation Agreements*, (April) 2006, Wolf Legal Publishers, Nijmegen;
- “The Legal Status of Afghan Refugees in Pakistan, A Story of Eight Agreements and Two Suppressed Premises”, 20 *International Journal of Refugee Law* 2008, 253-273;
- “Doomed to Fail from the Outset? UNHCR’s ‘Convention Plus Initiative’ Revisited”, 21 *International Journal of Refugee Law* 2009, 1-34.

For further information about Amsterdam

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.

Please consult the Amsterdam Law School web site at: <http://www.studeren.uva.nl/law-programmes>

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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.