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

UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN LAW SCHOOL  
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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, 212 Hutchins Hall, 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://studiegids.uva.nl/sgs/WebSite_en

Timetables (https://rooster.uva.nl/) - Click on: “add study programme timetable” and select “Faculteit der Rechtsgeleerdheid (Amsterdam Law School)” to conduct your search.

The course list for the 2013-14 academic year will not be finalized until the summer of 2013.

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 (3013EUL5KY) 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 (3504INT4AY) 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 Studies 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 Roopal Shah (roopal@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 preliminary dates for the 2013-14 academic year are as follows. The first semester dates are Block 1: September 2, 2013 – October 18, 2013 (Exams: October 21-25, 2013). Block 2: October 28, 2013 – December 13, 2013 (Exams: December 16-20, 2013). All courses that are 5 EC units are examined before Christmas. Please note that the following information is subject to change: *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).


**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 is in the third week of August 2014. In addition, students are expected to attend the Introduction to the Faculty of Law, which is scheduled, so far, for Friday August 30, 2014.

**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
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 by going to the following link: [https://apply.embark.com/grad/Amsterdam](https://apply.embark.com/grad/Amsterdam)

The link will direct you to the webpage of the online application system called EMBARK. EMBARK is the system used by the UvA/HvA that allows international students to apply for various services such as international student housing and visa procedures. You may have already created an EMBARK account. In this case you can use the same login to apply for accommodation. Please note, that the above mentioned link is the link for the online housing application.

**Rental Period**

Please note that the rental periods for UvA/HvA students are always fixed periods. We strongly advise you not to choose one semester if your study has the duration of two semesters or more. If you choose only one semester we cannot guarantee you an extension. In case an extension is granted, you will have to pay the UvA/HvA fee once more. Therefore, please select the period corresponding with the duration of your study with a maximum of one year.

To fill in the application you will need the following faculty code: **RECHT-EX**

You will also have to fill in your student number. If you have not received a student number yet, please list the following number: 5555.

**UvA/HvA fee**

Students renting accommodation through the UvA/HvA will be charged a fee. For one semester the UvA/HvA fee is **€315**, for two semesters or a full year the UvA/HvA fee is **€525**. This fee is non-refundable. This fee is required to cover the UvA's/HvA’s expenses related to providing the housing service to international students. Applications can therefore only be submitted after paying the UvA/HvA fee by credit card. During the online application, you will automatically be informed about the payment procedure.

If you currently do not have a credit card, it is necessary to acquire one in order to complete the payment (please note that the payment cannot be executed with a debit card). If you do not have a credit card, you may use the credit card of a relative or friend.

Please note that all payments will be made in US dollars corresponding to the Euro amount. Due to currency fluctuations, the amount might be slightly lower or higher.
Deadline
We advise to submit your application as soon as possible. You can expect the room offer via email from De Key or DUWO between 1 July and 15 August 2012.

Filling in this form and paying the UvA/HvA fee does not guarantee placement. We will do our utmost to provide all applicants with a room. In previous years, we have been able to provide all applicants with housing. Nonetheless, if the number of applications exceeds the number of rooms, your name and preference will be put on a waiting list. If we are not able to send you a room offer, we will refund the UvA/HvA fee to you. This refund will be paid not before December 2012. However, if you have received a room offer via the UvA/HvA and do not accept it, the UvA/HvA fee will not be refunded.

We kindly ask for your patience during the room reservation procedure. After submitting the online application, please do not email your housing questions until you have received the room offer from the housing corporation. This email from the housing corporation contains all the information about the room offer.

For additional information on student accommodation in Amsterdam, please visit our website: http://www.uva.nl/en/education/other-programmes/practical-matters/housing/housing.html

Should you choose not to apply for university housing, students need to find a room in the private market. http://studentenserviceplein.uva.nl/en/service-point/content/accommodation/private-market-housing/private-market-housing.html Or get in touch with ASVA Student Union. (website: 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. You can apply for a Law course for one semester or a year by completing and sending us the application form plus the enclosures mentioned in the application form. Both exchange and independent (fee-paying) students need to complete this form and send it to us in order to be admitted.

All applicants must have a valid e-mail address at all times. Without a valid e-mail address we are not able to inform you about important matters, and the student will not be receive a housing offer. Online application form: https://pontifex.uva.nl/IntakeRTE/index.jsp?formid=ALS-AMEX&language=en 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 (M.Y.A.Zieck@uva.nl) is the Director Education and Internationalization of the Amsterdam Law School. The exchange programme is coordinated by Ms. Johanna Vogel (International Office of Amsterdam Law School).

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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’s Worldwide Presence in the Field; A Legal Analysis of UNHCR’s Cooperation Agreements*, (April) 2006, Wolf Legal Publishers, Nijmegen;

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 212 Hutchins Hall). 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://als.uva.nl/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.