

Call for Course Proposals

VU Amsterdam Summer School
on-campus courses in July 2026



Offer a course -> VU Amsterdam Summer School 2026

The International Office of Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam is now preparing the new edition of [VU Amsterdam Summer School](#) in July 2026. The courses in the summer period will be targeting Bachelor's and Master's level students, PhDs and professionals. The programme is [fully on campus](#)!

The selection of courses is wide and focusing on [5 pillars](#) that embody the values of the [Vrije Universiteit](#). Namely, [Sustainability & Innovation](#), [Entrepreneurship in an international setting](#), [Society & Governance](#), [Health & Wellbeing](#), [Peacebuilding](#).

The course catalogue offers intensive short programmes for [all academic levels](#) (introductory, advanced Bachelor's, Master's, PhD/Professionals)

The main goal of the programme is to:

- Profile VU Amsterdam internationally
- Offer national and international students the opportunity to gain extra-curriculum knowledge in short, on-campus courses
- Provide more opportunities for short-term mobility with partner universities

VU Amsterdam lecturers are invited to organise a course in the programme, alone or in collaboration with other (international) colleagues.

VU Amsterdam Summer School will take place between [4 July to 1 August 2026](#). You can submit your course proposal through [the online form in the final page](#) of this document.

Deadline for submitting a course proposal -> 3 August 2025



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In this document you will find more information about:

1. Reasons to offer a course
2. Framework of the VU Amsterdam Summer School
3. Financial model
4. Timeline
5. Form for course proposal

If you have a question or would like to schedule a meeting, don't hesitate to contact us by email at amsterdamsummerschool@vu.nl or via +31 (0)20 5986429.

Kind regards,

Team VU Amsterdam Summer School

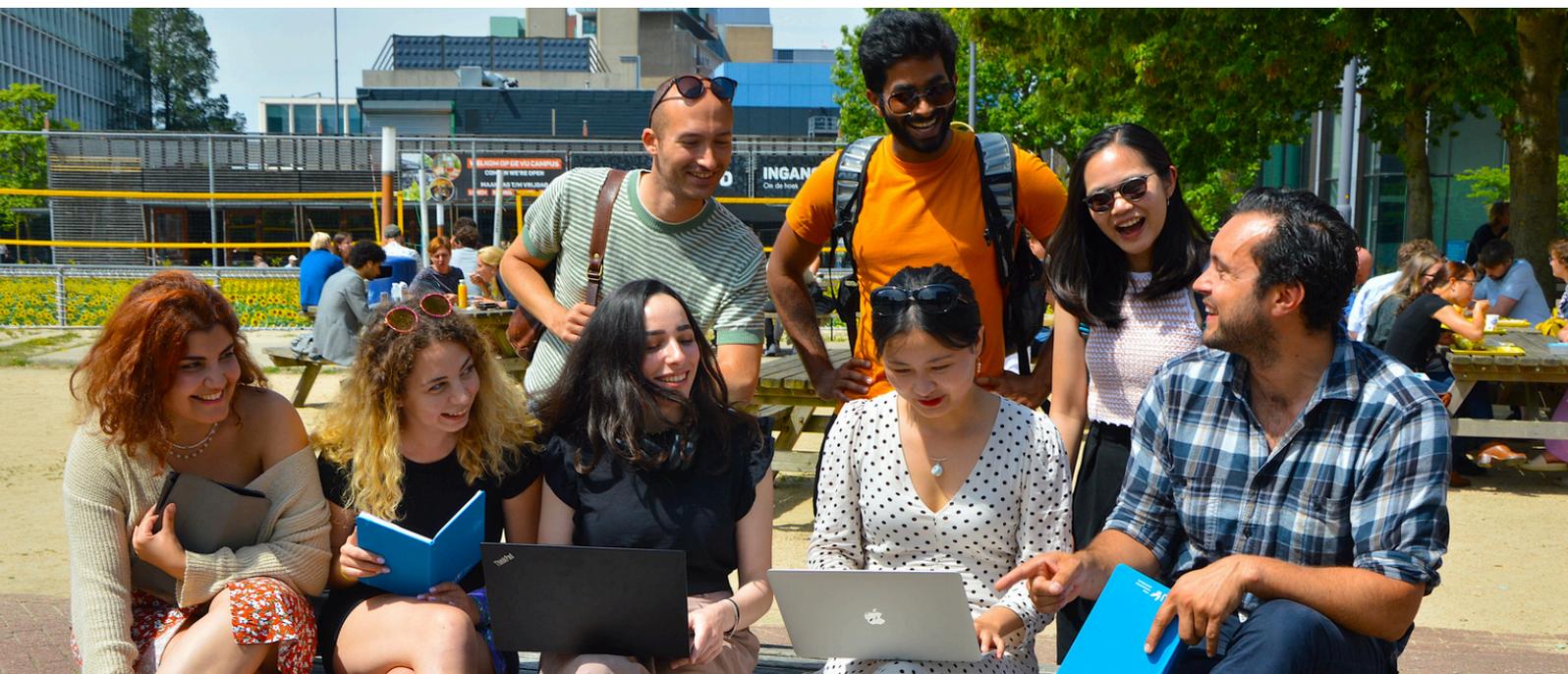
Panagiota (Yota) Christidou (Programme Coordinator)

Esther Fris (International Officer) and Rüya Erdogan (Temp. International Officer)

Mark Jeffreys (Digital Marketer)

1. Reasons to offer a course

- Profile your department and/or field of study internationally
- Generate additional income for your department (see Financial Model on p.8)
- Present current VU students with the possibility of attending an exciting course, equivalent to 2 or 3 ECTS
- Promote your programme to potential Master's students
- Design a course specifically in your own field of interest/research
- Work with a highly motivated and diverse group of students
- Initiate or strengthen collaborations with an international colleague and/or university
- Experiment with innovative teaching methods



2. Framework VU Amsterdam Summer School

Division of responsibilities

The VU Amsterdam Summer School organisation School organisation team's tasks:

- Marketing of the programme through website, partners, online paid campaigns (Google + social media) and study portals
- Recruitment, administration and handling payments of students
- Student support and online information sessions
- Offering (limited) accommodation options for students
- Welcome, goodbye and optional social programme activities
- Reservation of classrooms, preparation of course Canvas page, arrangement of VUnetIDs
- General computer rooms without specific software can be reserved by the Summer School organisation
- Registering courses and grades, sending certificates of attendance

The course organiser's tasks:

- Design of the course and focus on the academic content
- Recruitment of students through your own network
- Ensure personal attention with the participants, interaction between course members and in-depth educational focus

*You are free to plan the course as you wish, however, the organisation will ask to keep certain times (weekends included) in the course schedule free for side-programme activities.

*In case specific computer software or equipment needs to be arranged, this is the responsibility of the course organiser, as well as guest lecturers expenses.



[Dates, courses, and applicants](#)

VU Amsterdam Summer School 2026 will run from [4 July to 1 August 2026](#) and it offers courses in consecutive 2-week sessions. In Session 2 it is possible to offer a one-week course in the first week and this session is called 2B.

For summer 2026 the dates are:

- [Session 1](#): 4 July to 18 July 2026, course runs from Monday 6 July – Friday 17 July
- [Session 2A](#): 19 July to 1 August 2026, course runs from Monday 20 July – Friday 31 July
- [Session 2B](#): 20 July to 26 July 2026, course runs from Monday 20 July – Friday 24 July

[Courses run on weekdays from Monday to Friday.](#)

ECTS

All 2-week courses (English taught) are equivalent to 3 ECTS/84 workload hours, including course excursions and self-study. All 1-week courses can only be equivalent to 2 ECTS/56 workload hours.

Please bear in mind the hours of workload and their ECTS equivalent for students when designing your course. The ECTS estimation is used as a guideline to assess the course and assist in quality control and will not be used in external communication. You can choose between:

- 3 ECTS (28*3 hours workload)
- 2 ECTS (28*2 hours workload)

Students need to be assessed individually and obtain a 1-10 scale grade at the end of the course. Individual assessment is mandatory and it needs to reflect 60% of the final grade. Examples of modes of assessment are: a presentation, group assignment, multiple-choice exam or a short (one-page) paper.

Minimum course participants

The minimum number of participants per course is 8, and the maximum is 25/30 students. The course will proceed if there are at least (8) participants. You are also allowed to run the course with less than 8 students. If you would like to exceed the maximum, then this is allowed if personal contact is guaranteed. The course should ensure personal attention for each student, interaction with fellow course members and in-depth educational focus.

Target group and course topic

The courses need to be prepared in a way that cater to applicants currently enrolled in a Bachelor's programme, Master's programme, working on a PhD or professionals, both national and international. Students expect a high workload and intensive "nine-to-five" course days.

3. Financial model

The reimbursement (paid to the course organiser's department):

3 ECTS: €570 per certified participant

For example: The course has 15 participants. The reimbursement would be

$$15 \times 570 = \text{€}8,550$$

2 ECTS: €350 per certified participant

For example: The course has 15 participants. The reimbursement would be

$$15 \times 350 = \text{€}5,250$$

The rest of the tuition costs will cover:

- Staff and organisational costs for student contact management, administration, IT-costs and the additional social programme
- Scholarships and various discounts
- Marketing costs (website, online campaigns, study portals), and several discounts (such as an early bird discount, exchange partner university discount and VU-student/employee discount)

Costs related to the course content, such as reading materials and/or guest lecturers need to be paid from the course organisers' share of the tuition fee.

The final payment will be transferred to the department from which the course is offered.

*The VU Amsterdam Summer School team has no influence in how these funds are distributed to the course organisers. We recommend course organisers to make an agreement about this with the financial controller/supervisor of their department.

4. Timeline*

- **3 August:** deadline to submit course proposals
- **15 August:** initial feedback from summer team
- **1 September:** deadline to submit adjusted proposal, based on feedback
- **3 November latest:** course organisers are informed about the selection of their course based on the advice of the quality board. After approval, the link to the final form is shared with course organisers
- **13 November:** deadline to submit final website/promotion form
- **1 December:** Website content updated for new summer school courses
- **Beginning of January:** open for applications and website goes live
- **1 March:** deadline for preliminary course syllabus
- **1 May:** decide if the course will run (did the course reach the participant minimum?)
- **June:** students are enrolled in course Canvas page
- **July:** courses run
- **August:** submit grades to summer school team
- **October:** course organiser payment



*subject to slight changes

Form course proposal VU Amsterdam Summer School 2026

Please read through this [course proposal checklist](#) for detailed guidelines, resources and examples, before you fill in the form.

You can submit your course proposal via this [online form](#).

The deadline to submit the proposal is **3 August**.

If you have any questions, don't hesitate to contact us at amsterdamsummerschool@vu.nl or +31 20 59 86429 to schedule a call with the Programme Coordinator.

Thank you

Team VU Amsterdam Summer School
International Office



Yota



Esther



Mark



Rüya