

Leiden University, Leiden, The Netherlands

Study Abroad Fact Sheet

Program Distinction: Broad range of international and comparative topics with particular depth in public international law. Proximity to Hague and diversity of ERASMUS students taking Leiden Law Courses makes Leiden the ultimate international study destination.



IMPORTANT NOTICE	<i>Due to complications with the US Department of Education, Leiden is unable to honor US government financial aid at this time. As a result, any student receiving federal student loans should seek an alternative program.</i>
Program Dates	<p>Fall or Spring: Each semester is divided into two blocks. The fall semester runs from late August or early September through late December. The spring semester typically begins in late January or early February and concludes in May or June.</p> <p>The anticipated program dates are: Fall Orientation: Late August Fall Semester Dates: Early September – late December Fall Exam Dates: Late December – January (BU Law students should arrange to take their exams before the holiday break)</p> <p>Spring Orientation: Late January Spring Semester Dates: Late January- Late June Spring Exam Dates: May – June</p> <p>Leiden University's International Office recommends that participating students arrive by August 15 for the fall semester and by January 16 for the spring semester. All dates are approximate and subject to change.</p>
Participation Cap	Up to four BU Law students may participate each year.
BU Law Academic Requirements	To receive 12 BU Law academic credits, participating students must take at least four international/comparative law courses at Leiden, and in all instances meet the equivalent of 12 BU Law/ABA credits.
Timing Considerations	<p>The exact finishing date will depend on your individual course and exam schedule. Exceptions for taking earlier/later exams are sometimes possible for international students. 3Ls should check with their professors before finalizing their schedules to be sure to be home in time for graduation and bar certification. In the past, 3L students have been able to arrange to take their exams and receive final grades in time for graduation and bar certification/preparation. But to be safe, 3Ls should strongly consider studying abroad in the fall semester. The Graduate & International Programs Office cannot guarantee that any 3L who chooses to study at Leiden during the spring will receive their final transcripts in time for commencement and/or bar certification.</p>

Course Offerings	<p>Leiden Law Courses (i.e., those that are taught in English and are open to exchange, as well as Dutch, students) fall into four "themes": foreign and comparative law, international and European community law, legal history and free subjects. Participating students will receive information on Leiden's - courses and registration procedures from Leiden's International Office once their application to Leiden is complete.</p> <p>To browse course descriptions for courses offered during the prior academic years, visit: http://law.leiden.edu/current-students/exchange-and-study-abroad-programme/llc.html.</p> <p>BU students may also be able to enroll in LL.M. courses through Leiden's LL.M. programs in European Law and Public International Law. Enrollment in these courses is subject to space available, in addition to consultation with the program coordinator(s). Interested students should notify the Leiden program coordinator(s) before they arrive.</p>
Staggered Classes and Exams	<p>Each course has its own instruction period rarely lasts for a full semester. Since some courses do not end until late May or June, 3Ls studying in the spring should pay careful attention to the courses they choose since some course schedules would preclude them from attending graduation and perhaps preparing to take a state bar exam.</p> <p>There is no official "exam period" in Leiden. Instead, exams for each class are given within one, two or three weeks after the class's last lecture. Students should take this into account when planning their schedules. Many exams for courses in English available to foreign exchange students are held so that students may return home by the end of December. There is, however, no guarantee that this will be possible.</p>
A Note on Leiden's Grading Scheme	<p>Students are graded on a scale of 1-10. The most common grades are 6, 7, and 8; grades above 8 are rarely given. Anything below 5.5 is considered a failing grade; in some courses, as much as half the class fails. Students can re-take the exams they fail. Re-takes can generally be arranged soon after grades are published, though in the fall term, this might not happen until after the holiday break, in early January.</p>

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Important Links	<p>Leiden University Overview: https://www.universiteitleiden.nl/en/education</p> <p>Leiden Law School: https://www.universiteitleiden.nl/en/law</p> <p>Rules and Regulations of Leiden Law School Exchange Program https://www.universiteitleiden.nl/binaries/content/assets/rechtsgeleerdheid/faculteitsbestuur-en--bureau/bio/rr-leiden-law-school-exchange-programme-2019-2020.pdf</p> <p>Leiden Law Courses – Class Directory: https://studiegids.universiteitleiden.nl/en/search?for=courses&ec-min=&ec-max=&type%5B%5D=is_exchange&faculty%5B%5D=1&city%5B%5D=1&language%5B%5D=en&q=&edition=2019-2020</p> <p>Office for International Education: https://www.organisatiegids.universiteitleiden.nl/en/faculties-and-institutes/law/faculty-bureau/office-for-international-education?_ga=2.50184930.558292459.1578864025-497070980.1578864025</p> <p>Leiden Academic Calendar: https://www.student.universiteitleiden.nl/en/study--studying/study/educational-information/academic-calendar/leiden-university/guest?cd=guest&cf=leiden-university</p>
Living Expenses	<p>Estimated Living Expenses for a Semester:</p> <p>Rent (per month) € 410-565 (\$485-\$670) Rent total (based on 5 months) € 2050-2825 (\$2,425-\$3,350) Food & Beverages € 1250 (\$1,500) Miscellaneous living expenses € 575 (\$680) Local Transport € 515 (\$610) Social Activities and Events € 825 (\$975) Books & Supplies € 300 (\$355) Residency Permit € 600 (\$710) Total € 6115-6890 (\$7,255-8180)</p>

Visas	<p>All accepted students must work with the International Exchange Office at Leiden to make sure they have all the necessary documents to study in the Netherlands. It is ultimately the responsibility of accepted students to comply with immigration requirements.</p> <p>Students staying longer than 90 days in the Netherlands need to obtain a residence permit. Information is here: https://www.universiteitleiden.nl/en/education/international-students/prepare-your-stay/visa-and-residence-permit?_ga=2.16279026.558292459.1578864025-497070980.1578864025#steps-to-take-non-degree-students-exchange-study-abroad-courses</p> <p>Leiden has informed us of the following, but all students should confirm with Leiden's Office for International Education (exchange@law.leidenuniv.nl):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• An MVV or Schengen-visa is not required to enter The Netherlands• Students are free to travel to The Netherlands on a valid passport• Students must report to the Foreign Police within 3 working days of their arrival in The Netherlands For a stay longer than 3 months: students need to apply for a residence permit within 3 working days of their arrival, with the help of Leiden's International office• For stays of 4 months or longer: students must also register with the Town Hall of the Dutch Municipality of Residence.
Contacts	<p>The Office for International Law Programs provides administrative support for international students. The main administrative contacts at Leiden are:</p> <p>Ms. Anette van Sandwijk, Director</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Email: a.m.m.van.sandwijk@law.leidenuniv.nl <p>Mrs. Mahshid Alizadeh, Program Coordinator & Exchange Officer</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Email: m.alizadeh@law.leidenuniv.nl <p>Leiden University Office for International Education Steenschuur 25 2311 ES Leiden, The Netherlands Tel: +31 71 527 3593 Email: exchange@law.leidenuniv.nl</p> <p>For additional administrative support, students may contact: Ruth Davison at r.c.davison@sea.leidenuniv.nl Jacomijn Zoutewelle at j.n.zoutewelle@sea.leidenuniv.nl, or May Berry Dahl at m.b.dahl@sea.leidenuniv.nl.</p> <p>For information about other types of support services available to international students, visit: http://www.students.leiden.edu/your-study/guidance/.</p>