

STUDEREN IN HET BUITENLAND

Full Master's Abroad



Guidelines

Arranging a full Master's programme abroad consists of orientation, selection and organisation. It's recommended to bear in mind that it takes at least a year to arrange your Full Master's Abroad.

Step 1 - Orientation

Answer the following questions before deciding to opt for a full Master's programme abroad.

Why is studying abroad an interesting option for you?

1. Are these particular academic reasons, such as deepening or broadening your knowledge, or would you like to gain experience in another academic education?
2. Are these personal reasons, such as living abroad, developing yourself, broadening your horizons, having new experiences and live independently?
3. Are you thinking about your future career and do you have the idea that a Master's abroad has an added value compared to a Master's in the Netherlands?

Advantages-disadvantages

- a. In general, if you would like to pursue an international career, a Master's abroad is a good option.
- b. It might be interesting as well if the Master's Programme is well ranked in your field of studies.
- c. If you would like to start your career in a specific country, a Master's programme in that country is of course an interesting advantage to your future career.
- d. If, on the contrary, you would like to work in the Netherlands afterwards, a lot of employers prefer graduates in a Dutch Master's Programme, as these graduates are regarded to have a better grasp of the Dutch education system.
- e. While you are doing your Master's Programme in the Netherlands, networking for your future career (e.g. having talks with people in the field you're interested in) is of course easier as you're already residing in the Netherlands.
- f. Is a Full Master Abroad the best option if you would like to gain international experience? Perhaps an internship abroad, travelling abroad, an exchange programme or a summer course suits you better?

Looking for specific opportunities

You have several ways to proceed if you are looking for a suitable Master's programmes abroad .

- a. Check the country pages on the [Nuffic website \(in Dutch\)](#) to find country information about the educational system and links to educational institutions.
- b. Talk to teachers and fellow students whether they have useful information for you. In particular, teachers of your programme can often tell which universities are strong in the field of your interest, and whether the relevant department at the UvA has good ties with particular institutions abroad.
- c. Refer to the website www.mastersportal.com, a specialized website in Master's Programmes in 32 countries in Europe.
- d. The international academic networks of the UvA may offer benefits for UvA students. Ask International Student Affairs for more information and advice about these international partners: <http://studyabroad.uva.nl/contact/networks-of-the-uva/networks-of-the-uva.html>
- e. Also, [rankings](#) offer more insight to universities abroad.

Step 2 - Selection

The next step is the actual selection of the Master's programme abroad.

Are you ready?

1. Do you have a clear view of your goals?
2. Or do you have multiple options that appeal to you and you don't know yet where you want to go?
3. Or do you have any doubts, now you've gathered information about a Master's Programme abroad?

Talk about it

- a. Make sure you involve others in your selection process. Friends, relatives and teachers can all, in their own way, help you make a good choice.
- b. In case you have questions and are looking for advice, please contact the [Student Careers Centre](#) to discuss which options suit you best.

Step 3 - Organisation

Once you've decided that doing a Master's Programme abroad is the perfect option for you and you explored the different options, the time is now to plan and organise your study abroad.

There are four different aspects to the planning process:

Apply to the university abroad

- Most students will apply to more universities at once. The application takes time, and you have to abide to the deadlines given by the university, so make sure to start early.
- A full Master's programme abroad cannot be arranged through the UvA. Please make sure you read the application instructions on the foreign university's website abroad carefully.

Prepare a budget and apply for scholarships

For tips on making a budget and available scholarships, please read about [Financial matters](#) on our website.

Start with practical preparations

- Nuffic offers a [great checklist and lots of advice](#) (in Dutch only) on arranging the practical matters like accommodation, insurances, visa, and other aspects.
- Or take a look at [Practical matters](#) on the UvA's Study Abroad portal.