

# Study at the University of Antwerp



University  
of Antwerp

| Let's shape the future

## Contact

International Students Office


T: +32 3 265 31 89


[internationalstudents@uantwerp.be](mailto:internationalstudents@uantwerp.be)

[www.uantwerpen.be/international-degree-students](http://www.uantwerpen.be/international-degree-students)

## Follow us!

 [facebook.com/UAntwerp](https://facebook.com/UAntwerp)

 [instagram.com/UAntwerpen](https://instagram.com/UAntwerpen)  
[instagram.com/antwerpsummeruniversity](https://instagram.com/antwerpsummeruniversity)  
[instagram.com/studyinantwerp](https://instagram.com/studyinantwerp)

 [linkedin.com/school/university-of-antwerp](https://linkedin.com/school/university-of-antwerp)

 [youtube.com/UAntwerpen](https://youtube.com/UAntwerpen)

### **Publisher**

Prof. dr. Herman Van Goethem  
Rector, University of Antwerp  
Prinsstraat 13 | 2000 Antwerp  
Belgium

### **Design**

International Students Office and Nieuwe Media Dienst

### **Disclaimer**

This brochure was last updated in September 2023.  
As all information is subject to change, please check  
our website for the latest update.



## Welcome!

Our university is located in the city of Antwerp, in the **heart of Belgium and Europe**. The port of Antwerp is one of the biggest in the world. The city of Antwerp is not just an ancient medieval and baroque city full of history, it is also a bustling metropolis with a vibrant social scene, impressive architecture and cultural contrasts. Over 170 nationalities live here, more than in New York! This cosmopolitan vibe is also reflected at the University of Antwerp.

**First-rate research and education** make the University of Antwerp a wonderful place to study and to work. We foster the nexus between research and education. Internationalisation is one of the keywords in our mission statement. It is no coincidence that the University of Antwerp is a partner in one of the most promising European university alliances, Young Universities for the Future of Europe (YUFE).

As home away from home to over **21 000 students**, the University of Antwerp prides itself on operating on a human scale. Our faculty and staff will welcome you into top-notch infrastructure on one of our four campuses. While you're here you are also invited to enjoy our vibrant cultural activities, sports facilities and many other student services.

### **Are you keen to find out more?**

Contact our International Students Office or visit [www.uantwerp.be](http://www.uantwerp.be).

Cordially,

**Prof. dr. Herman Van Goethem**  
Rector



*Antwerp (Antwerpen/Anvers in Dutch/French) is Belgium's second city, biggest port and capital of cool. It has long been a powerful magnet for everyone from fashion moguls and club queens to art lovers and diamond dealers.*

**Lonely Planet**

# Antwerp @ the river Scheldt

The city of Antwerp is well known for its major international port and for being the world centre for diamond trade. Antwerp has always played an important role in the political and cultural history of the Low Countries. It is a charming and green city with many excellent museums and a large cultural heritage, with Rubens as its most famous ambassador. Antwerp ranks 3rd on the latest Global Bicycle Cities Index. It is a flat and bike-friendly city offering many bike rental options. This, combined with over 2000 bars and restaurants, along with some of the finest fashion districts in Europe, makes Antwerp the **ideal city for students**.

## Antwerp, a pocket-sized metropolis

- In the **heart of Europe** and close to Brussels
- **536 079** inhabitants
- **172** nationalities
- **50+** monuments and musea
- **6 large parks**, various green areas
- **100+** large events, concerts, food fairs each year

## An innovative business city!

- **World-class port** of Antwerp-Bruges. Second largest port in Europe
- **Oil and chemical cluster**. Largest integrated oil and chemical cluster in Europe
- **World diamond capital**. Largest diamond trade centre in the world
- **Fashion and retail hotspot**. Preferred city in Belgium by (inter)national retailers
- **Digital innovative**. Fast-growing ecosystem for digital products and technologies
- **Creative pool**. Rapidly growing sectors: design, advertising and media
- **Circular economy**. Ideal location for companies active in waste management and cleantech



# University of Antwerp

The University of Antwerp has about **21 000 students**, which makes it the third largest university in Flanders. It is characterised by high standards in education, internationally competitive research and an entrepreneurial approach.

## Student-centred learning

The University of Antwerp is a firm believer in student-centred learning. We start from the premise that all students have the **desire to learn** and **increase their knowledge**. Our study programmes are designed to support and activate this desire. Studying means taking responsibility and making a commitment, but it is also a social process where you learn from others, both from lecturers and classmates. We focus on competence-oriented education. These competences include specific skills and attitudes, in addition to knowledge and insight.

## Young and excellent

The University of Antwerp is ranked **5th in the Times Higher Education Millennials 2020 list**. This proves that our future-oriented approach works. The University of Antwerp offers a number of programmes exclusive in Flanders. For our brightest and most promising students we have the 'Honours Programme' in several faculties, a master class project that aims at providing extra challenges and support in terms of career development for top students. Students are partners at our university. Our student-centred and research-based education is directed at maximal student participation, with a minimal distance between professors and students. The university's axiom of active pluralism and diversity is not just a saying: The University of Antwerp wants its students to become **critical** and **articulate citizens**. For this reason all students take a university-wide course on general world views.

## Figures and rankings

- 21 428 students  
(17,5% international, 127 nationalities)
- 2171 PhD students
- 242 PhD defences in 2020
- 3650 scientific publications per year
- 6425 staff members  
(23% international, 134 nationalities)
- 80 000+ alumni
- 4 campuses
- Times Higher Education Millennials 2020 Rank 5
- Times Higher Education Young University Ranking 2023 - Rank 7
- QS 50 under 50 2021 Rank 20

## International

The University of Antwerp is an international university, with students from all over the world. Around **17%** of our students are **international students**, representing **127 nationalities**. The university participates in several European education programmes and is a member of the prestigious Utrecht Network and the Young European Research Universities Network (Yerun). It is also a partner in one of the most promising European university alliances, the Young Universities for the Future of Europe (YUFE).

✓ [www.yufe.eu](http://www.yufe.eu)

Playing a prominent part in **international research**, the University of Antwerp works with universities and research institutions from all over the world. Many international researchers are members of our university's research teams. The individual research carried out by our academics is fully integrated into the courses taught at the university.

The Faculty of Business and Economics has **AACSB** and **EFMD accreditations**, both hallmarks for excellence in business education.



## Faculties

- Applied Engineering
- Arts
- Business and Economics
- Design Sciences
- Law
- Medicine and Health Sciences
- Pharmaceutical, Biomedical and Veterinary Sciences
- Social Sciences
- Science

The University of Antwerp also has 17 institutes and centres, including the Institute of Development Policy (IOB), and **15 Centres of Excellence**.

✓ [www.uantwerpen.be/faculties](http://www.uantwerpen.be/faculties)

## Working in Belgium after graduation

All **international students** who have graduated in a Bachelor's, Master's or PhD programme, can apply for an orientation year and extend their stay in Belgium to look for work.

✓ [www.uantwerpen.be/orientation-year](http://www.uantwerpen.be/orientation-year)

## E-learning

E-learning plays a significant role within the university. Lectures and seminars only account for part of a course. Education is also offered through the electronic learning environment **Blackboard** in the form of assignments, tests, exercises, group work and question time via a forum. Our teaching staff uses Blackboard for all official communication and for the distribution of course materials.

## ECTS credits

The University of Antwerp applies the '**European Credit Transfer and Accumulation System**' (ECTS) in all its degree programmes.

A full-time one-year study programme amounts to 60 ECTS credits (30 ECTS credits per semester), which implies a student workload of about 1500 to 1800 hours. One ECTS credit stands for 25 to 30 hours of work including contact hours, preparatory work, study and assessment.

## Higher education in Flanders

The Flemish higher education consists of 18 publicly funded higher education institutions: five universities and 13 small and medium-sized university colleges, also known as universities of applied sciences (and arts).

Higher education in Flanders has adopted the **Bachelor-Master structure**. A three-year undergraduate cycle of 180 ECTS credits leads to a Bachelor's degree and is followed by a one-year, two-year or three-year graduate cycle of 60, 120 or 180 ECTS credits leading to a Master's degree.

Advanced Master's programmes offer **further specialisation** in a specific field of study. A doctoral PhD degree is the highest level of specialisation in scientific research. In Belgium this degree can only be awarded by universities. For professionals who want to upgrade their knowledge and skills, we offer short-term postgraduate certificate programmes.



# Student facilities

## Computers and ICT

At the University of Antwerp you study in a **modern learning environment**. On every campus you will find computers with an internet connection, which students can use free of charge. The Student Information System Antwerp (SISA) is the digital heart of education administration at the University of Antwerp. And Blackboard, the digital learning environment, is your online compass. It not only provides you with the most up-to-date information about every course you are taking, but is also a student intranet.

✓ [www.uantwerpen.be/computers-and-ict](http://www.uantwerpen.be/computers-and-ict)

## Libraries

The university's **libraries** are a favourite place to study for many students. Our libraries are modern, academic libraries, as well as heritage libraries. Most databases and electronic journals can also be accessed remotely.

✓ [www.uantwerpen.be/library](http://www.uantwerpen.be/library)

## Language courses

Belgium has **three official languages**: Dutch, French and German. Antwerp is located in the Northern part of Belgium, Flanders, where Dutch is the lingua franca. Linguapolis, the language institute of the University of Antwerp, offers intensive Dutch language courses at the beginning of each semester and during the academic year. It offers intensive courses in 13 other languages, from French and German to Chinese and Korean, and specific Academic English modules as well.

✓ [www.linguapolis.eu](http://www.linguapolis.eu)

Students at the University of Antwerp can sign up for **online language courses**. **Altissia** offers robust online language courses in 25 languages. All languages and levels are available at the same time, from beginners to advanced level. Each module consists of exercises, vocabulary, grammar and pronunciation.

## Student services and advice

- Study coaching
- Psychological support
- Social and financial support
- Medical problems
- Functional impairment
- Career coaching
- Language tutoring

✓ [www.uantwerpen.be/flexible-studying](http://www.uantwerpen.be/flexible-studying)



## Antwerp Summer & Winter University

**Broadening your horizon** by studying, travelling and meeting people: At Antwerp Summer & Winter University you have it all! Antwerp Summer & Winter University offers intensive, short-term academic programmes during the summer and winter months within the areas of excellence of the University of Antwerp and its partners. Come and learn from experts, all outstanding in their disciplines, and meet fellow students from all over the world.

✔ [www.uantwerpen.be/aswu](http://www.uantwerpen.be/aswu)

## Sports and culture

**MOVE** offers students and staff access to the University of Antwerp's sports programme. You also have access to an extensive cultural programme organised by **Rubi – The Cultural Factory**.

✔ [www.sportuantwerpen.be/en](http://www.sportuantwerpen.be/en)

✔ [www.uantwerpen.be/culture](http://www.uantwerpen.be/culture)

## Housing

Our housing service helps you find your way on the private rental market through a unique database developed for students in Antwerp: **Kotweb**. Most students either live at home or rent a room in shared accommodation close to their campus.

✔ [www.studentkotweb.be/en](http://www.studentkotweb.be/en)

✔ [www.uantwerpen.be/housing](http://www.uantwerpen.be/housing)

# Student participation

## Student representation

Whether it's planning examination schedules or discussing the prices at the student restaurants, elected student representatives are involved in the university's decision making process. Students are represented in various bodies of the University of Antwerp and the city of Antwerp. In many meetings students comprise a **third of the vote**.

## Student associations

The campus-related student umbrella organisations **ASK-Stuwer** and **Unifac** guide student life on campus life. They coordinate the cooperation between the different faculty associations, inform students about all events on campus and organise parties, a film week, student balls, a go-kart race and various other events. Together with the Student Council, these umbrella organisations ensure that students are represented in various university and city bodies.

✓ [www.uantwerpen.be/student-associations](http://www.uantwerpen.be/student-associations)



# Estimated cost of living

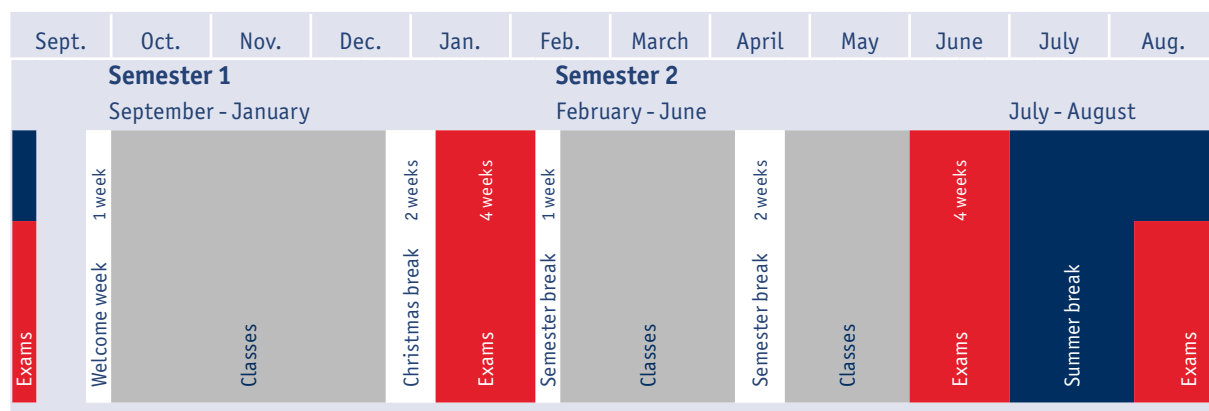
## €16 000 - €18 000 per year

<b>Health insurance</b> €200 per year	<b>Living costs</b> €800 per month	<b>Utilities</b> €150 per month
<b>Housing</b> €390 - €470 per month	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Food</li><li>• Clothing</li><li>• Medical costs</li><li>• Transport</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Internet</li><li>• Water</li><li>• Electricity</li></ul>

✓ [www.uantwerpen.be/cost-of-studying](http://www.uantwerpen.be/cost-of-studying)

# Overview of the academic year

The academic year at the University of Antwerp usually starts on the last Monday of September and is split up into two semesters. Each semester comprises 13 weeks of classes followed by a 4-week examination period.



✓ [www.uantwerpen.be/academic-calendar](http://www.uantwerpen.be/academic-calendar)

# From study choice to arrival

## Make your choice

You can read about the programmes we offer and browse the **individual fact sheets** on our website. By using our online study guide, you can narrow down your options, compare curricula and teaching methods and explore career paths. This will help you choose the study that is best suited to your academic background and interest.

Do check the prerequisites for the programmes you have selected to ensure you meet the degree and language requirements. Contact the relevant faculty for any questions about the programme's content or prerequisites.

✓ [www.uantwerpen.be/education-offer](http://www.uantwerpen.be/education-offer)

## Application

International students need to submit an **online application** file with supporting documents.

### Language requirements

For programmes taught in English, you need to prove your proficiency in English:

by submitting a **language certificate** showing your TOEFL, IELTS, ITACE or Cambridge English FCE results

**OR**

by **submitting proof** you have studied at least one academic year (or 60 ECTS credits) in an English-language Bachelor's or Master's programme. Please note that the Board of Admission may require that you obtained your credits or diploma in an English-taught programme in Australia, English-speaking Canada, Ireland, New Zealand, the United Kingdom or the United States of America before you are exempted from providing a language test certificate.

Applicants for the English-taught Bachelor's programme Social-Economic Sciences should check the language requirements on the programme's website.

## Acceptance

After your application has been approved, you will be sent an **official Letter of Acceptance**.

Each programme has **strict application deadlines** and these vary for EEA \* and non-EEA residents.

**Please consult the Admission website** for detailed information on the application and the enrolment process.

\* EEA =  
EU + Norway, Iceland and Liechtenstein

✓ [www.uantwerpen.be/admission-degree](http://www.uantwerpen.be/admission-degree)



## Do you have a Chinese degree?

If you want to come to Belgium to study and you have a Chinese degree, you will have to go through a mandatory academic screening, called **Akademische Prüfstelle (APS)**. The screening is done by the German Embassy in Beijing and consists of two parts: a formal check of the diploma and an interview with the student to test their academic knowledge. Upon a successful screening you will get an APS certificate.

The screening can take **several months**. We recommend to start the procedure on time and to contact the Academic Evaluation Centre in Beijing as soon as possible.

✓ [info@aps.org.cn](mailto:info@aps.org.cn)

✓ [www.aps.org.cn](http://www.aps.org.cn)

## Student visa

If you are a national of an EEA country, Monaco or Switzerland, you may travel to Belgium on the strength of your **national passport** or **identity card**.

If you have any other nationality, you need to apply for a **student visa type D** at the Belgian embassy or consulate in your current country of residence before leaving for Belgium.

If you have **dual citizenship** (e.g. non-EU and EU) and you are currently not a resident of an EU country, we strongly advise you to apply for a student visa.

✓ [www.uantwerpen.be/student-visa](http://www.uantwerpen.be/student-visa)

## Scholarship

The University of Antwerp directly participates in the **selection process** of certain scholarship programmes. In addition students can also check if they are eligible for external funding opportunities.

✓ [www.uantwerpen.be/scholarships](http://www.uantwerpen.be/scholarships)

## Tuition fees

In most cases, your tuition fee is calculated based on how many credits you use when registering for courses. You can see how many credits each course is worth in the online student guide. Tuition fees are subject to yearly revision and are calculated on an individual basis, partially determined by the nationality of the student. Tuition fees are published online.

✓ [www.uantwerpen.be/tuition-fees](http://www.uantwerpen.be/tuition-fees)

## Goin' App connects fellow students

The University of Antwerp provides an exclusive app to its students to get to know each other and build their community, even before arriving at their new university. Build your network online, start friendships, and let your peers help you prepare your big move.

## Welcome Week

Just before the start of each academic year, all international degree students take part in Welcome Week to get to know the university and student life in Antwerp. This is a great opportunity to meet other international students and experience the social side of being a student in Antwerp. Learn to cook a typical Flemish meal, brush up on your cycling skills, speak your first words in Dutch and discover Antwerp's student bars! The faculty day this week gives you the opportunity to get to know the professors and students of your degree programme.

✓ [www.uantwerpen.be/welcome-week](http://www.uantwerpen.be/welcome-week)



## Join us in Antwerp!

*The professors at my faculty are all very well prepared to teach international students, which is a must as the programme targets an international audience. Almost half of my fellow students are international students.*



**Julia Port, Germany**  
Master of Biomedical Sciences: Infectious and Tropical Diseases (M.Sc.)

*It's good to be able to get a European view on my field of study, which certainly will make me a better biologist. My study programme can be considered as pretty international, since almost half of my fellow students are from abroad.*



**Blake Alexander Simmons, USA**  
Master of Biology: Biodiversity: Conservation and Restoration (M.Sc.)

*Joining UAntwerp is a huge challenge since the level of education is quite high but definitely worth the effort. The academic staff is very professional and eager to share their expertise. Your stay in Antwerp will undoubtedly be one of the best experiences of your life.*



**Gerardo Orellana, Ecuador**  
Master of Computer Science: Data Science and Artificial Intelligence (M.Sc.)

# Programmes

in English

## Bachelor programmes

- **Social-Economics Sciences** (60 ECTS credits)

## Master programmes

- **Applied Ecohydrology**
- **Applied Economic Sciences:**  
Economic Policy (60 ECTS credits)
- **Biology:**
  - Biodiversity: Conservation and Restoration (120 ECTS credits)
  - Global Change Biology (120 ECTS credits)
- **Biomedical Sciences:**
  - Infectious and Tropical Diseases (120 ECTS credits)
  - Neurosciences (120 ECTS credits)
- **Bioscience Engineering:** Sustainable Urban Bioscience Engineering (120 ECTS credits)
- **Business Economics** (60 ECTS credits)
- **Business Engineering:** Financial Engineering (120 ECTS credits)
- **Chemistry** (120 ECTS credits)
- **Computer Science**
  - Computer Networks (120 ECTS credits)
  - Data Science and Artificial Intelligence (120 ECTS credits)
  - Software Engineering (120 ECTS credits)
- **Digital Business Engineering** (120 ECTS credits)
- **Digital Text Analysis** (60 ECTS credits)
- **Electronics and ICT Engineering Technology** (60 ECTS credits)
- **Epidemiology** (120 ECTS credits)
- **Laws (LL.M)** (120 ECTS credits)
- **Linguistics and Literary Studies** (60 ECTS credits)
- **Marine and Lacustrine Science and Management** (120 ECTS credits)
- **Molecular Biology** (120 ECTS credits)
- **Philosophy** (120 ECTS credits) (Research)
- **Physics** (120 ECTS credits)
- **Political Science** (60 ECTS credits)
- **Rehabilitation Sciences and Physiotherapy:**
  - Internal Conditions (120 ECTS credits)
  - Neurological Conditions (120 ECTS credits)

## Advanced Master programmes

- **Development Evaluation and Management** (60 ECTS credits) (IOB)
- **Global Health** (120 ECTS credits)
- **Globalisation and Development** (60 ECTS credits) (IOB)
- **Governance and Development** (60 ECTS credits) (IOB)
- **Water Sustainability:** Integrating Technology- and Nature-based Solutions (60 ECTS)

## Postgraduate programmes

- **Algology** (40 ECTS credits)
- **Asia-Europe Cultural Curatorship Studies** (50 ECTS credits)
- **Energy and Climate** (30 ECTS credits) (IMDO)
- **Epidemiology** (60 ECTS credits = 2-year half-time day programme)

## Erasmus Mundus Joint Master programmes

- **Applied Ecohydrology** (120 ECTS credits)
- **Leading International Vaccinology Education** (120 ECTS credits)

### Preparatory one-year programme: **Dutch as a Foreign Language in an Academic Context**

This programme is offered by Linguapolis, the language institute of the University of Antwerp. It is aimed at students who want to learn Dutch and start a Dutch-language study programme afterwards.

✓ [www.linguapolis.eu](http://www.linguapolis.eu)

✓ [www.linguapolis.eu/preyear](http://www.linguapolis.eu/preyear)