Welcome
Who we are

Maarten Dikhoff
International Communication Coordinator

Emily Thompson,
Master student Art History
What we will cover today

• University life
• Student life
• Movin’ to the UG
• Need to know
• Nice to know
• Time to answer some questions
What we will not cover today

Admissions
Please contact the Admissions Team directly:
study@rug.nl
Arriving in the Netherlands

- Most international students use Amsterdam Schiphol Airport
- Train station inside the airport
- Trains leave twice per hour to both Groningen and Leeuwarden
- There are also airports in other cities including Rotterdam, Eindhoven and Bremen (Germany)
- www.ns.nl, or www.9292.nl, or maps.google.com
OV-Chipkaart (public transport)

Openbaar Vervoer = public transport
Contactless public transport chipcard
Train, bus, tram, bike hire

Two main options:
- “anonymous” (blue) card, or
- “personal” (yellow), which offers:
  - OV bike hire
  - Discount of 40% during off peak times

www.ov-chipkaart.nl
The University of Groningen

- Founded 1614
- Research-oriented
- #76 worldwide (Shanghai Ranking 2022)
- 38,000 students
- Students from over 120 countries
- 28% international students
- 180+ degree programmes taught in English
- Nobel Prize Chemistry 2016
- 11 faculties and 10 graduate schools
Zernike campus:
Faculties of Science and Engineering, Economics and Business, Spatial Sciences

Centre to Zernike = 12 min

UMCG: Medical Sciences

City Centre:
Faculties of Arts, Law, Philosophy, Theology, Behavioural and Social Sciences, University College Groningen
Campus Fryslân:
- 6 minute walk from the station
- 34 minutes by train from Groningen
HOUSING IN GRONINGEN

- Be sure to book housing asap!
- Many students each year end up **without a room**
- May not get housing in the city
- After **August 1st** it is advisable to consider not joining the university

- [www.rug.nl/accommodation](http://www.rug.nl/accommodation)
HOUSING IN GRONINGEN

- SSH is the main provider of student housing [www.sshxl.nl](http://www.sshxl.nl)
- There are also alternative options at: [www.athomeingroningen.com](http://www.athomeingroningen.com) and [www.sugarhomesgroningen.com](http://www.sugarhomesgroningen.com)
- They include: private apartments, private student accommodation, rooms in student/regular apartments
- Prices range: **€350-650/month**, approximately
- Please be careful not to be scammed online!
HOUSING IN LEEUWARDEN

- Please check out the following website for all information about living in Leeuwarden: www.leeuwardenstudentcity.com/student-housing-leeuwarden

- You could also live in Groningen, 30 minutes by train
Welcome events

University-run events

• **Welcoming Ceremony** and **Information Market**: Thursday 29th August

• Goodie bags

• **Faculty introduction** events organised by study associations

[www.ru.nl/welcomingceremony](http://www.ru.nl/welcomingceremony)
Need to know

- Register at the municipality www.Gemeente.Groningen.nl
- https://www.leeuwarden.nl/
- ID/Passport
- Birth certificate and rental contract

→ BSN Nummer

- Health insurance, Dutch bank account and mobile phone subscription
- Dutch health insurance is mandatory if you work
Introduction Events

KEI Week
12 - 16 August

ESN Introduction Week
September

keiweek.nl/en
esn-groningen.nl
Payment of tuition fees

• Finalise tuition fee payment **before 31st August 2024**
• Indicate method of payment in Studielink (SL)
• Staggered payments 5 x (incl. admin fee € 24).
• PIN (debit card)/Credit card/Cash
• Arrange for payment at the Central Student Administration
• Tuition fee loan? Apply via DUO once you are in Groningen ([www.duo.nl](http://www.duo.nl))
Associations

Student Associations
ESN, SIB, AIESEC and many, many more
National/cultural associations

www.rug.nl/studentassociations

Study Associations
VIP, Clio or Esperia

Sports Associations
ACLO and many smaller ones

Cultural Associations
USVA
Learning the Dutch language

• Not a requirement!

• English is spoken to a **high standard** all over the Netherlands

• University offers international students 100 hours of **free Dutch lessons** to level B1

• **MOOC**: Introduction to Dutch language (online)

[www.rug.nl/language-centre](http://www.rug.nl/language-centre)
Support during your study

- Welcoming Events
- Student Services Centre
- Information Service Desk
- Study Advisors of the faculties
- Mentors for the start of your studies
- Careers Services
COVID-19

See the government dashboard for full information
www.government.nl

- Most people are fully vaccinated and boosted
- University has been fully open since 22nd March 2022
- Free test kits are available at information desks
- There are currently no travel restrictions within the EU/EEA

For more information visit: www.rug.nl/corona
Ukraine invasion

- The UG is concerned about the situation in Ukraine and the effect on our students, staff, and our the whole academic community.

- FAQ on our website for those concerned about the crisis: [www.rug.nl/Ukraine](http://www.rug.nl/Ukraine)
Bicycles! Fietsen!

- **65% of journeys** are made by bike: most bike-friendly city in the Netherlands
- You can buy a **second hand bike**. €50+/-. for a good bike
- Many students **rent a bike**
- Avoid buying bikes in the street from strangers
- **Buy a strong lock!**
Useful apps

Weather
Buienradar

Travel
NS
9292

Government
DigID

Paying (Going Dutch)
Tikkie

Student discounts
Knaek
Any questions?

Pre-Departure Guide
(link in chat)

General questions
prospectives@rug.nl

Admissions questions
study@rug.nl

University of Groningen:
Instagram
Facebook
Twitter
Linkedin