

Explanation of the exchange score card

For many partner universities there is a maximum number of places for VU exchange students. If there are more applications than the available number of places, VU International Office will select the highest ranked students. We rank students according to a certain method. For reasons of transparency in the selection process, we created this score card. This score card will be used to evaluate your application for one of your top 3 preferred universities. Please note that it is not possible to receive the details of your score after the selection process.

The score card consists of:

1. [Motivation and CV](#)
2. [Grade average](#)
3. [Credits at the time of application](#)
4. [Extra \(study\) programmes](#)
5. [Language proficiency](#)

1. Motivation and CV

We expect students to fill out our motivation form as part of their application. If you do not provide sufficient motivation for why you would like to study abroad or why you wish to study at a particular university, you do not receive any points. However, if you provide us with an exceptional motivation you can receive up to 4 points. You should use the VU motivation form (which can be found on our website). If you do not use this form, we cannot take your application into consideration.

You should indicate which courses you would like to take at the host university. This is not your final list, but it is important to do your research and make sure there are enough suitable courses offered in your field of study. In case actual courses are not listed on the host university's website, then at least a general outline of your proposed or planned study field in a particular faculty or department is expected. Please take into account possible prerequisites for courses and potential restrictions for certain fields of study available under the exchange agreement (check [VU Worldmap](#)). If you do not mention courses or copy your motivation, we cannot select you for that particular university.

Motivation	Score
General motivation on why to study abroad and one goal	0 to +2.0
Motivation for particular universities and choice of courses	0 to +2.0
Not mentioning courses	Application rejected

CV	Score
Work experience/activities which reflect social engagement and/or international experience	0 to +2.0

Another part of your motivation form is two questions about your CV. When reviewing this part of your motivation form, VU International Office focuses on the experience that you gained in your current/previous job. We are curious to hear what you have learned and what skills you obtained. We also focus on activities which reflect social engagement and/or international experience.

- *Social engagement* refers to your experience related to participation in a community or society. For example: voluntary work at a refugee centre, position in a student-, study- or sport association.
- *International experience* is defined as the activities related to living and working abroad and travelling. For example: months of traveling in Asia on your own, taking a language course in Germany, or an internship in Spain.

Please note that you do not have to attach your CV.

2. Grade average

The grade average is the weighted average of all numeric grades that you have received for passed courses of the study programme with which you applied for exchange. Alpha numeric grades (V, VD etc.), as well as grades for courses not part of the main degree programme, will not be included. If you would like to see your grade average for yourself, please refer to the Study Monitor on VU.nl. Each grade corresponds to a different score:

Average weighted score on passed grades	Score
6.0	0.2
6.1	0.4
6.2	0.6
6.3	0.8
6.4	1.0
6.5	1.2
6.6	1.4
6.7	1.6
6.8	1.8
6.9	2.0
7.0	2.2
7.1	2.4
7.2	2.6
7.3	2.8
7.4	3.0
7.5	3.2
7.6	3.4
7.7	3.6
7.8	3.8
7.9	4.0
8.0	4.2

Average weighted score on passed grades	Score
8.1	4.4
8.2	4.6
8.3	4.8
8.4	5.0
8.5	5.2
8.6	5.4
8.7	5.6
8.8	5.8
8.9	6.0
9.0	6.2
9.1	6.4
9.2	6.6
9.3	6.8
9.4	7.0
9.5	7.2
9.6	7.4
9.7	7.6
9.8	7.8
9.9	8.0
10	8.2

3. Credits at the time of application

As a Bachelor's student you should have obtained at least 60 ECTS credits at the time of application. No exceptions will be made. We will take into account the courses you passed in your first and second year. It is not necessary to have passed all courses *of the first year* at the time of application. Grades and credits will be checked after Monday 17 January 2022, enabling the registration of grades from the second period, if registered in time by your professor. We don't have any influence on this process. We can only take registered grades/credits into consideration.

As a master's student you should have obtained at least 12 ECTS credits at the time of application. An exemption is made for VU bachelor's students in Law who would like to go on exchange during the second semester of their one-year master's degree (LLM). These students can apply in the third year of their bachelor's programme to go on exchange in the second semester of the master's programme.

Please be aware that:

- All bachelor's students with less than 60 ECTS credits (at the time of application) will not be considered for exchange.
- All bachelor's students should have obtained at least 90 ECTS credits by the time they go on exchange. Check if your faculty has any additional conditions.
- All master's students with less than 12 ECTS credits obtained in their first year will not be considered for exchange (with the exception of the LLM programme).

Credits at the time of application	
Less than 60 ECTS credits for bachelor's students	Application rejected
Less than 12 ECTS credits for master's students	

4. Extra (study) programmes

When you are participating in the VU Honours programme, or if you successfully participated as a buddy in the *VU International Office/ESN Buddy programme*, the *Get connected programme*, or mentor programme of your faculty (e.g. the SAM programme at the School of Business and Economics) you will receive max. 1 point extra. If you will start one of the programmes in the 2nd semester of this academic year, you will not get 1 point, since you didn't start or complete the programme yet. Are you currently enrolled in two study programmes at VU, and did you obtain at least 12 ECTS? In that case you will receive 1 point extra.

Extra programme	Score
Honours programme	+1.0
Two study programmes at VU (for your second study programme, you need to have obtained at least 12 ECTS)	+1.0
Participation in the <i>VU International Office/ESN Buddy programme</i> , the <i>Get connected programme</i> or <i>mentor programme of your faculty</i>	Max. +1.0

6. Language proficiency

We expect you to have sufficient knowledge of the language in which you would like to take (the majority of the) courses. The general proficiency level of that language should be at least B2 of the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages (CEFR, check explanation of the levels [here](#)) by the time you start your courses.

You will have to upload proof of your language proficiency as part of your application in Mobility Online. Please carefully check on the [VU Worldmap](#) what level of proficiency is required at the time of application per university and if applicable, what the level needs to be at time of arrival at your host university.

Please note that if the language proficiency is not sufficient for the requirements of the university of your choice, you can be rejected for your university of choice, even if there are enough places left. If we are in doubt if your knowledge of the language is sufficient, we will get in touch with you about your level of proficiency.

If you have any question or doubts, please contact us on outgoing@vu.nl.

Good luck with your application!