
Study Abroad Program Information Package 2018-2019

Important Dates (subject to change):

- February 5, 2018
BU Law application deadline
- Mid-March 2018
Selections made
- April 1, 2018
Leiden application, course selection and housing deadline for fall 2018 semester
- Late August/ Early September 2018
International Student Orientation, fall semester, recommended arrival August 15, 2018
- September 5 – late December 2018
- Fall 2018 semester dates (*BU Law students should arrange to take their final exams before the holiday break)
- Mid- October 2018
Leiden application, course selection and housing deadline for spring 2019
- Late January 2019
International Student Orientation, spring semester, recommended arrival January 15, 2019
- Late January 2019
Spring 2019 semester dates (*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.)

Please note: Due to ongoing negotiations with the United States Department of Education, Leiden is not able to honor federal student loans. Students who have federal loans, therefore, are advised to seek alternative programs as their financial aid will not transfer to this program.

Graduate and International
International Programs Office
Boston University School of Law
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We are pleased you are interested in Boston University School of Law's overseas exchange program with the Faculty of Law at Leiden University in The Netherlands. This package gives a general description of the program as well as details about some of its more important aspects. Carefully review this information before deciding whether to apply.

I. Some Preliminary – and Important – Points

At the outset, we would like to stress several aspects of the program which may be relevant to your decision to apply:

A. Timing

This is a one-semester program that will be offered during both the fall and spring semesters. You will need to state on your application which semester you are interested in studying abroad. The application process at BU Law will occur this spring only.

B. Credits

The program is designed to grant participating students 12 semester credits toward their J.D. degree.

C. Academic Focus

The program focuses on international and comparative law. Therefore, the list of courses from which students choose is limited for the most part to international and comparative law subjects.

D. Eligible Students

The program is open to second- and third-year students who have completed at least one full year at BU Law. First year students cannot participate.

E. Language

Most courses at Leiden University are taught in English. Students fluent in Dutch will have a greater selection of courses to choose from.

F. Number of Participants

Four students at most can participate each year. We may select fewer than four, but under no circumstances can we select more than four.

II. Why Study Law at Leiden?

All students should visit Leiden's web site for non-degree students at <http://www.prospectivestudents.leiden.edu/programmes/study-abroad> for regularly updated information on this program.

A. The Faculty of Law

Students with a keen interest in spending a semester concentrating on international and comparative law subjects will find few universities that match Leiden's reputation. It is among the

oldest and most highly regarded universities in Europe. Leiden's Faculty of Law has long enjoyed a reputation and cultivated a tradition of excellence in teaching and research in the areas of comparative and international law, including public international law, the law of the European Union, jurisprudence, legal history, canon law, Russian law and East European law. This tradition of excellence was extended to English-speaking students when, in 1988, with the funding of the European Community through the ERASMUS program (European Community Action Scheme for the Mobility of University Students), the Law Faculty began offering a series of international and comparative law courses in English through a program called Leiden Law Courses.

Today, Leiden's Faculty of Law is the largest in the Netherlands – and students from all over the world go to Leiden to study international law from some of Europe's foremost scholars.

The full-time teaching staff of the Law Faculty numbers about 330. The Faculty of Law's activities in the international arena are vast: the Department of Public International Law and its students organize the annual Professor B.M. Telders International Law Moot Court competition in The Hague. Leiden students also participate in the annual Phillip C. Jessup International Law Moot Court Competition and various European law moot court competitions. The *Leiden Journal of International Law*, which was founded in 1989, is published under the direction of both staff members and students.

In addition, the Faculty of Law boasts six specialized research and teaching institutes: the Europa Institute, the International Institute for Air and Space Law, the E.M. Meijers Institute of Legal Studies, the Institute of East European Law and Russian Studies, the Institute of Immigration Law and the Van Vollenhoven Institute for Law, Governance and Development. The Europa Institute, the oldest law institute of its type in the world, is known internationally for its publication of the *Common Market Law Review*. The Faculty is also known for its role co-organizing the Leiden-London Conference with the British Institute of International and Comparative Law. The school's close proximity to The Hague and the War Crimes Tribunal also gives Leiden students the opportunity to observe proceedings first-hand at these renowned international legal institutions.

BU Law students participate in the Leiden Law Courses Programme, which both reflects and builds upon the Law Faculty's well-established and distinguished Dutch and International curriculum. During its 17 years of existence, the Leiden Law Courses Programme has expanded considerably, with over 200 students participating annually, mainly from European countries with support from the Erasmus/Socrates Programme. Foreign students therefore no longer come to Leiden only to meet Dutch students but also to study in a truly international environment – with a large number of students from Europe, the United States, Australia, and South Africa. Nevertheless, a considerable number of Dutch students also take part in the courses offered in English, ensuring that the foreign students remain integrated within the Faculty.

B. The University

For four centuries, Leiden University has been a respected, internationally-oriented university of the highest standing. It was founded in 1575 by Prince Willem van Oranje, who offered a university to the citizens of Leiden as a reward for the valor they displayed against the Spanish armed forces during the Eighty Years War. By the 17th century, Leiden University was considered the most famous academic institution in Europe. Leiden's early prominent scholars include Hugo de Groot, one of the founders of the public international legal order. By the 1920s, Leiden's international reputation was enhanced by Nobel Prize winning physicists Albert Einstein and Paul Ehrenfest. Today, it is a fully accredited, classical university enrolling over 15,000 students.

One of Leiden University's main priorities is the promotion of international exchanges. The university has many contacts with foreign academic institutions, as well as a considerable number of foreign nationals on its full-time and part-time teaching staff. Leiden collaborates with other

institutions throughout Europe, the Middle East, the United States, and Japan. The University also maintains its own institutes in Tokyo and Cairo.

C. The City of Leiden

Participating exchange students have found the city of Leiden's rich historical tradition to be an ideal setting to study international law. Leiden is a picturesque town with 116,000 inhabitants, located 17km northeast of The Hague, 41km southwest of the Dutch capital, Amsterdam, and 10km from the North Sea. During Holland's Golden Age, it became the second largest city in the Netherlands as a result of the Dutch weaving industry, most of which was concentrated within the walls of the town. Today, the city presents a blend of old and modern architecture. Its center boasts nearly 1200 houses of historic interest and other historic buildings.

Since 1575, the city of Leiden has been clearly influenced by the relatively large number of students who study and live there. The area offers a great variety of cultural, recreational and athletic activities. Students enjoy easy proximity to other main Dutch centers such as Amsterdam (35 minutes by train), The Hague (15 minutes), Rotterdam (30 minutes) and Utrecht (40 minutes).

III. The Leiden Exchange Program

A. What the Program is – and isn't

The exchange program with the Faculty of Law is designed to offer a serious study of international and comparative law in an international setting, one deeply involved in one of the most important international developments of our time, the formation of the European Union. This is definitely not the same thing as a college semester abroad. If you are looking for a semester abroad with a light course load and plenty of time to sightsee and sample Dutch beer, this is not the program for you. This is not to say that you will have no time to sightsee and familiarize yourself with Dutch culture. You will. But we do want to emphasize that this program is much more academically rigorous than many overseas programs at the undergraduate level.

B. Number of Students

As noted above, since this is an exchange program, the number of BU Law students who can participate in the program is limited. We will be selecting no more than four BU Law students to attend Leiden either in the fall or spring semester.

C. Program Dates

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)

Spring Orientation: Late January

Spring Semester Dates: Late January- Late June

Spring Exam Dates: May – June (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.)

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.

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.

D. Course Offerings

The exchange program is designed to emphasize international and comparative law. Courses at Leiden's Faculty of Law fall into four "themes": foreign and comparative law, international and European community law, legal history and free subjects. Leiden has extremely strong offerings in each of these areas. All participating students are expected to take four courses at Leiden to receive the required 12 semester credits at BU Law. Students are free to take courses in any of these categories, as long as there is no duplication with a course they have already taken at BU Law (and as long as the class has an international/comparative law focus).

Most classes will be taught in a seminar format; attendance is therefore mandatory.

To browse course descriptions for courses offered during the 2016-2018 academic year, please visit: <http://law.leiden.edu/current-students/exchange-and-study-abroad-programme/lle.html>

Participating students will receive information on Leiden's 2018-2019 courses and registration procedures from Leiden's International Office once their application to Leiden is complete.

Students participating in the Leiden exchange program may also 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). BU Law students interested in enrolling in LL.M. courses should notify the Leiden program coordinator(s) in advance of their arrival.

E. Staggered Classes and Exams

Class Schedules: Each course has its own instruction period, and these instruction periods rarely last for a full semester. Therefore, in the spring term, since some courses do not end until late May or June, 3Ls 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.

Exams: 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.

F. Leiden Faculty

A regularly updated posting of faculty biographies is available online at: <http://www.law.leiden.edu>.

IV. How to Apply

If you decide to apply, you must do two things:

1. Complete an application available online at www.bu.edu/law/jd/studyabroad, and submit all additional materials.
2. Complete an interview with Assistant Dean John Riccardi and Assistant Director Shannon Supitkowsky, scheduled through the Graduate and International Programs Office.

In screening applicants, we will look for such things as a strong academic record, a favorable faculty recommendation, serious interest in international and comparative law, and experience with different cultures and overseas travel.

The application deadline is February 5, 2018.

* For first-year students applying to participate in their second year, we will be unable to make a final decision until mid-summer, after we have received your second semester grades.

V. Student Evaluation and Grades

Leiden courses will be evaluated by written and/or oral examinations. Each class's exam is given within one, two or three weeks of its last lecture. Exams will be graded in the first instance by Leiden faculty in accordance with Leiden's grading system. (In Leiden, 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 – and 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.) Because BU Law and Leiden have different grading systems, a direct translation to BU Law's letter grading system is extremely difficult. Participating BU Law students will, upon successfully completing a course, receive a designation of "credit" for the courses on their transcripts. This designation will include an asterisk or footnote indicating that the actual grades are available upon request, and that they will be accompanied by an explanation of the host institution's grading system.

ACCEPTANCE OF ANY CREDIT OR GRADE FOR ANY COURSE TAKEN IN THE PROGRAM IS SUBJECT TO DETERMINATION BY BOSTON UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF LAW. We expect, however, that all credits earned at Leiden will count towards Boston University School of Law credits.

Please note: To receive 12 BU Law academic credits, participating students must take at least four international/comparative law courses at Leiden. Students are graded on a scale of 1-10. Anything below 5.5 is considered a failing grade. None of the grades received for the Leiden semester will count toward your BU Law GPA or towards academic honors and awards (including the scholarly awards, graduation prizes or degree rankings, such as *cum laude*, *magna cum laude* and *summa cum laude*).

VI. Leiden's Program Director and Staff

The Academic Director of the exchange program is Professor dr. R. A. (Rick) Lawson, he is also the Dean of Leiden Law School. His full biography is available at <http://www.law.leidenuniv.nl/org/bestuursorganen/faculteitsbestuur/faculteitsbestuur/prof-dr-ra-lawson.html> and he can be reached at r.a.lawson@law.leidenuniv.nl.

The Office for International Law Programmes provides administrative support for international students. Ms. Mrs. Mahshid Alizadeh and Ms. Anette van Sandwijk (exchange@law.leidenuniv.nl) are the main administrative contacts at Leiden.

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As an international student, you may be unfamiliar with Dutch universities and need to be pointed in the right direction when searching for help. If you require additional administrative support, please 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.

For information about other types of support services available to international students, please see <http://www.students.leiden.edu/your-study/guidance/>.

VII. Library Facilities

Leiden University has two libraries: the University Library and the Law Library. The University Library contains over two million books. The Law Library contains 88,000 books, 2,350 magazine subscriptions, 11,500 microfiche, 502 meters of U.N. documents and 500 meters of EC documents and documents of the Council of Europe. There are 9 specialized Law Libraries: civil, criminal, constitutional, international, European, corporate (including commercial), comparative, East European and tax law.

The specialized library of the Documentation Centre of East European Law holds 40,000 titles and 300 current periodicals, and is the most extensive European library in its field. In addition to the libraries of the Faculty of Law, the Peace Palace at The Hague also houses a large public library of materials on international law and European Community law. This library serves the International Court of Justice, which is the principal judicial organ of the United Nations. The Peace Palace library, the largest in its field, is open to students from Leiden University (10 minutes by train from Leiden).

The Law Library has CD-ROM databases available which include Eur-lex, CELEX, the Kluwer database, and the U.N. Index. Students have full access to each of the specialized legal collections within the Faculty of Law and the University Library. Personal computers are available for student use in the library. Further information on the Leiden Faculty of Law Library can be found at <http://libraries.leiden.edu/law/>.

VIII. Student Housing and Living Arrangements

Leiden does not guarantee housing for program participants. However, Leiden has a number of rooms reserved especially for exchange students and will do its best to find suitable accommodation for accepted applicants, provided a completed application form reaches Leiden before the deadline(s) indicated below. Information about Leiden's housing services is available at <http://www.studenthousing.leiden.edu/exchange-students/>.

Due to the large demand for student housing at Leiden University, space is limited. For the best chance of securing housing through the university, students should ensure they pay the housing deposit prior to the housing deadline of June 1st for the fall semester and November 15th for the spring semester, even if they have not yet been admitted to the program. In the unfortunate case students are not admitted, the deposit will be refunded.

IMPORTANT LEIDEN PROCEDURES AND DEADLINES: Leiden's procedures require that participating BU Law students submit a fully completed "Study Abroad/Exchange Programmes Application for Admission" (with enclosures). An application form is available for download at <http://www.prospectivestudents.leiden.edu/study-abroad-exchange/application-admission/>.

Students who wish to apply for housing should indicate so on this form. Applications for housing can only be submitted by returning the completed "Study Abroad/Exchange Programmes Application for Admission". All students must submit their applications by April 1st (for the fall semester) or October 15th (for the spring semester).

To view descriptions of the different housing options available through the Housing Office at Leiden University, please visit: <http://www.studenthousing.leiden.edu/housing-via-the-university/>

Important Note: Traditionally, BU Law students who opt to secure housing through Housing Office at Leiden University have signed housing contracts that last for a full semester at Leiden, which is a longer period of time than most BU Law students will require housing for. Finding subletters for these leases is quite an arduous task, and past BU Law participants have experienced difficulties working within the Housing Offices' guidelines to identify suitable subletters. As such, the Graduate and International Programs Office strongly advises that participants explore other housing options in Leiden.

IX. Anticipated Tuition, Fees and Living Costs

Tuition is the same as the tuition at Boston University School of Law. Participating BU Law students will pay Boston University the normal tuition for a semester at BU Law. Housing in Leiden is generally less

expensive than Boston. Eating out, entertainment and transportation are approximately the same as in Boston, if not slightly more expensive. On average, a student will need at least € 1400 per month. This is an estimate and should be used as a general indication of the costs of living. How much money you actually spend will of course depend on your lifestyle and spending habits. The costs for housing, for example, may differ considerably. If you plan to travel a lot during your stay here, you will of course need budget for extra expenses. *(The conversions below are based on January 2015 rates)*

	<u>Euros</u>	<u>US Dollars</u>
• Rent <i>(per month)</i>	€ 410-565	\$485-\$670
• Rent total <i>(based on 5 months)</i>	€ 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

Students who are planning to travel while living in Leiden should budget accordingly. Exchange students who are staying in the Netherlands for longer than three months must apply for a temporary residence permit. The permit currently costs € 600 (or \$710) and requires a copy of a valid passport, proof of health insurance, proof of sufficient funds to cover your study and living expenses, statement of registration as a full time student, and two passport photographs.

X. Visa Information

As of January 1, 2004, new visa procedures apply for U.S. and Canadian citizens (if your country of citizenship is not the U.S. or Canada, please speak with us about the procedures you will need to follow). More information can be found here:

<http://www.students.leiden.edu/application-admission/visa-residence-permit/how-to-obtain-a-visa-residence-permit.html>

- 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.

The Graduate and International Programs Office at BU School of Law believes the above mentioned visa information to be correct. However, any student accepted into this program should work with the International Exchange Office at Leiden to make sure they have all the necessary documents needed to study in the Netherlands. It is ultimately the responsibility of any student accepted into this program to ensure that the proper immigration standards are adhered to.

XI. Provisions for Students with Disabilities

As far as we know, Leiden is not yet fully-equipped to serve students with disabilities, though the school has received – and has been able to accommodate – certain students with disabilities in the past. This

will change after the faculty's pending move to a new location, one which is fully-equipped. If you are interested in the program and will need some special assistance due to a disability, please talk with Assistant Dean John Riccardi, who will contact Leiden to obtain information about potential arrangements.

XII. Program Cancellation Information

We expect the program to go forward as planned and anticipate no obstacles to implementation. However, the ABA requires that we inform you about our contemplated course of action in case of cancellation or change and in case a State Department Advisory is issued for the program area.

A. General Policy

In the highly unlikely event that the entire program has to be canceled, students selected for the program will be informed immediately by telephone and by mail, email, or in person, and notices of cancellation will be posted on the BU Law website. In addition, individual meetings will be arranged with any student who wishes one. If in the even more unlikely event that the Program is canceled after students have arrived in Hamburg, Assistant Dean John Riccardi will contact all participating students by telephone, if possible, or by email.

Should particular courses be canceled or rescheduled, students selected for the program will be informed by email, telephone, or in person.

B. State Department Advisories

The most current Consular Information Sheet on is available on the internet at <http://travel.state.gov/>. If an Advisory is issued before you are selected for the program, notice will be posted on the BU Law website and all applicants interviewed for the program will be personally informed via email and phone. If, based upon the information conveyed to you, you wish to cancel your enrollment in the program, you will have an opportunity to do so. If such an advisory is issued after students are selected or during the program term, all participating students will be notified immediately by phone and email and given an opportunity to withdraw.

C. Specific Program Cancellation Information

- This study abroad program may be subject to cancellation by the host school in the event that conditions in and around its location may endanger the health, safety or security of its participants or others.
- In addition, addition, Boston University reserves the right to issue an instruction that all University faculty, staff, or students evacuate or not

travel to a given location when, in its sole judgment, conditions have changed to the extent that continued participation in an activity at that location endangers the health, safety or security of participants. Were this to occur, this program will be cancelled.

- BU Law will notify participants by email immediately of the program's cancellation and will post an appropriate announcement on the program's current student web page.
- If the program is cancelled prior to commencement of the term, all students will be refunded in full any fees paid to Boston University related to the program (excluding any advance room, board and travel costs associated with getting to the host country that have been paid). In addition, all students will be integrated into the regular semester at Boston University School of Law.
- If cancellation takes place while the program term is underway, students will be permitted to choose either a refund of fees billed by Boston University, in accordance with the University's refund schedule (this would exclude room, board, and any travel costs associated with getting to the host country prior to the date of cancellation), or completion of the semester's study at BU Law if such is feasible. WE CANNOT GUARANTEE THE OPTION OF COMPLETING THE SEMESTER AT BOSTON UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF LAW (AND THUS NOT LOSING A SEMESTER'S PROGRESS TOWARD THE J.D. DEGREE). This option is dependent on resources and the availability of course and independent study opportunities at BU Law. In the event that arrangements at the School of Law are not feasible, or the student elects a refund, the student will be refunded fees as above, in accordance with the University's refund schedule.
- If a faculty, staff member or student does not heed a University instruction to evacuate, that individual does so at his or her own risk, may forfeit insurance coverage, academic credit, tuition payments or expense reimbursement, and may be held responsible for additional expenses incurred by the University due to the individual's refusal to follow this policy.

XIII. Visa Information

A student visa is required for any student who will study in Spain for three months or longer. The full student visa procedure is outlined at the Spanish Consulate's website:

<http://www.exteriores.gob.es/Consulados/BOSTON/en/ServiciosConsulares/ConsularServicesBoston/Pages/Visas.aspx>

Students must contact the consulate that has jurisdiction over their state of residence. The consulate general in Boston has jurisdiction over Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Rhode Island, Vermont and Maine. If you have a primary residence in Massachusetts, you can obtain your visa at the Boston consulate by following the guidelines on the above website. Students can also contact Carmen González at ICADE with any general questions at cgonzalez@sri.upcomillas.es.

It is the student's responsibility to secure his or her visa. Visa applications are accepted no sooner than 90 days prior to the program's start date and no later than 4 weeks prior.

XIV. Program Reports

Please note that all BU Law students selected to participate in a study abroad program will be required to submit to the Graduate and International Programs Office:

1. Completion of a one-page mid-semester written report or survey, assessing their experiences in light of their academic goals and objectives
2. Completion of an end of program survey assessing a student's academic progress and attainment of educational goals.
3. A two-page report at the end of their program, evaluating their experiences.

Students will not receive academic credit until they submit these reports.