CALS International Exchange Program
Wageningen University [Netherlands]

Overview

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Information for incoming exchange students
About Wageningen

Semesters Available: Fall, Spring, or Academic Year
GPA Requirement: Good Academic Standing
Language of Instruction: English; Dutch
Academic Calendar:
Semester 1: mid-September – late December
Semester 2: mid-January – early May

Through an agreement between Wageningen University and the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences (CALS) at Cornell University, CALS undergraduate students may apply to enroll directly in any field of study at Wageningen for a semester or a year. Students study alongside Wageningen students and are eligible to participate in the many activities sponsored by the university and its student body.

This exchange program is open to undergraduate CALS students of sophomore or higher standing, and is awarded on first-come, first-serve basis. CALS students pay their current Cornell tuition with no additional fees. Housing, food, visa, travel, health insurance, books, and other personal expenses are paid separately.

- International student body comprising ~7,000 students, hailing from 105 different nations
- Safe place, where commuting by bike is the norm
- Affordable
- Unique and interesting classes
- Excellent international reputation
- Voted by students as the number one university in Netherlands
- Take classes in English, at the BSc or MSc level
- Amsterdam is about an hour away
- The rest of Europe is on your doorstep
- Exchange student orientation and buddy program
- Majors align very closely to CALS

Areas of Study

For a full list of majors, click here.
Key areas of study relevant to CALS majors:

- Agricultural Sciences
- Animal Science
- Applied Economics and Management
- Atmospheric Science
- Biological Sciences
- Biology & Society
- Communication
- Development Sociology
- Food Science
- International Agriculture and Rural Development
- Natural Resources
- Nutritional Sciences
- Plant Sciences
- Science of Earth Systems
- Science of Natural and Environmental Systems
Classes

Fall semester = Periods 1 & 2 at Wageningen
Spring semester = Periods 3, 4 & 5 (with 6 optional) at Wageningen.

Class planning at Wageningen can be confusing if you're used to working within the Cornell system. Wageningen has 6 terms (details above).

- A normal study load in period 1, 2, 5 and 6 is 12 credits per period. In the two shorter periods, 3 and 4, the normal study load is 6 credits. Most subjects are 6 credits. When choosing two courses in one period, make sure you choose a morning and afternoon course (Please note that in period 6 some courses are given in blocks of 4 weeks).
- Check if language of instruction is English
- If you intend to work on a thesis research project, mention the project title, ECTS, chairgroup and supervisor at Wageningen University.
- The departmental exchange coordinator of WU will give you feedback on the subjects you selected. You should use the learning agreement form for your definite study program, which needs to be confirmed by the responsible coordinator of your home university. Without and approved learning agreement the exchange cannot proceed.
- Always check the prerequisites of a subject. We advise you to choose courses of your own field of study.
- It is advisable to select courses from one specific BSc/MSc programme.
- The new Study Handbook is published in August. Check for changes, you might have to change your study plan.

In general you may choose courses on MSc level and 3rd year BSc level, because the 1st and 2nd year BSc courses are taught in Dutch. By clicking one of these you will find detailed information including timetable information.

Wageningen University offers 46 "minors/specializations" of 24 ECTS.

Academic Calendar

Period 1: Early September-late October
Period 2: Late October-mid/late December
Period 3: Early January-early February
Period 4: Early February-mid March
Period 5: Mid March-late April
Period 6: Early May-early September

Accommodation

Although housing is difficult to find in Wageningen, the international office at Wageningen will locate housing for you. Students live in dorms or apartments with other students.

Student Visa

The international office at Wageningen will walk you through the steps of applying for an entry visa/residence permit.

Program Costs

CALS students pay their current Cornell tuition with no additional administrative fees. Students are responsible for their own living expenses including travel, accommodation, meals, healthcare, books and supplies during the exchange period.

Financial Aid

If you currently receive financial aid your package will be adjusted based on your determined level of need and the projected costs for your study abroad program. Financial aid for study abroad is needs-based, consistent with university and government policies, and covers all costs related to study abroad (including program tuition, all mandatory program fees, housing, meals, and round-trip airfare).

Application Process/Deadlines

Students apply to the exchange after attending CALS Study Abroad 101 and meeting with the CALS Exchange Coordinator to discuss plans. All application materials will be returned to CALS.