Overview

Semesters Available: Fall, Spring, or Academic Year
GPA Requirement: Good Academic Standing
Language of Instruction: English; Dutch
Academic Calendar:
Semester 1: September – December
Semester 2: February – early June

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

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, chair group 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 program.
- 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.

 Academic Calendar

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

 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

Students are billed their regular CALS tuition, with no added administrative fees. Students purchase plane tickets and pay remaining costs such as housing, meals, student visa application fees, local travel, and personal expenses. Some partner institutions charge student activity fees and/or health insurance plans which students are also responsible for.

Financial aid travels with students going abroad. Students must complete with grades equivalent to a Cornell “C” or better. Financial aid for study abroad is need-based, consistent with university and government policies and covers all costs relevant to study abroad, including tuition, all mandatory program fees, housing, meals, books, personal expenses, and round-trip airfare. If you are currently receiving financial aid, your aid package will be adjusted based on your determined level of need and the projected costs for your study abroad program. University grant aid and loan awards may be either increased or decreased to meet study abroad need. The normal work-study component of aid packages will be converted to student loans.

 How to Apply

You will apply to the exchange after meeting with the CALS study abroad and exchange advisor in 140 Roberts Hall. All application materials will be returned to CALS—not the university directly.