



# Exchange programme Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam

Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam - Exchange programme Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam - 2024-2025

## Exchange

Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam offers many English-taught courses in a variety of subjects, ranging from arts & culture and social sciences, neurosciences and computer science, to economics and business administration.

The International Office is responsible for course approval and course registration for exchange students. For details about course registration, requirements, credits, semesters and so on, please [visit the exchange programmes webpages](#).

# Applying Economics

Course Code	E_MUE_APEC
Credits	6
Period	P3
Course Level	300
Language Of Tuition	English
Faculty	School of Business and Economics
Course Coordinator	P.D. Schirmer
Examiner	P.D. Schirmer
Teaching Staff	dr. P.R. Koster, prof. dr. M.P. Pradhan, M.J. van der Meijden BSc, P.D. Schirmer
Teaching method(s)	Study Group, Lecture

## Course Objective

The objective of this course is to develop your capability to report your findings in a clear, logical and informative way. Specific learning outcomes upon completion of this course are:

- you are able to analyse a relevant (economic) policy issue, to motivate the relevance of the issue, and to formulate an appropriate research question;
- you are able to locate relevant economic theory in the literature and to apply it correctly in order to analyse the policy issue and to identify the economic rationale of potential or actual policy responses;
- you are able to identify, interpret and compare empirical findings from the economic literature to describe the policy issue, and/or the behavioural response of the market and government actors, and/or the impact of these responses;
- you have developed a critical attitude to the relevance and shortcomings of empirical data compared to theoretical requirements, and have become aware of limitations in insights that can be gained from theoretical reasoning alone when addressing real-life issues;
- you are able to present your findings clearly to academic expert and non-expert audiences;
- you are able to work independently, while incorporating relevant feedback into their work;
- you are able to give constructive feedback to peers.

## Course Content

In this intensive four-week course, you work in one of a selected number of policy areas (for example international financial systems and banking regulation, macro policy, development and growth, environment, urban/transport, health, human capital, competition policy, industrial policy). You will write an economic policy-oriented research paper focusing on policy analysis, design and/or evaluation.

## Additional Information Teaching Methods

One introductory lecture followed by weekly working groups organized by policy area. The course closes with a plenary presentation where all groups present. All have mandatory attendance.

## Method of Assessment

Grade is based on individual participation and contributions in tutorial sessions, and a group grade based on the group policy research paper and presentation of research. A sufficient individual contribution in the first 2 weeks is required to participate in rest of the course.

## Literature

Various theoretical and empirical academic papers (dependent on the student's selected topic), based on suggested and own literature search.

## Recommended background knowledge

All courses from period 1 and period 2:

"An Introduction to Economics", "Economic Challenges", "Choices, Inequality and Welfare" and "The Economics of Crises"