

PRESS RELEASE

RESPONSE TO GROWING DEMAND WORLDWIDE: NUMBER OF ENGLISH-LANGUAGE PROGRAMMES OFFERED BY DUTCH HIGHER EDUCATION INSTITUTIONS RISES TO 1300

The number of English-language study programmes offered by Dutch institutions of higher education is set to rise this year to 1300. The Netherlands will thus retain its position as the biggest provider of English-language higher education in continental Europe. The increase in the number of courses is a response to the growing interest among students throughout the world in Dutch degrees and diplomas.

This is the situation outlined in the latest edition of Study in Holland, 'International Degree Programmes', the international study guide for the Netherlands, which is due to be published in the next few days. The 1300 courses cover the entire spectrum of university and higher professional education, from music and economics to geoinformation and business studies, and from social sciences to biotechnology. Many courses lead to a bachelor's or master's degree. Dutch higher education also offers a large number of highly specialized short courses designed for highly educated specialists.

The number of foreign students in the Netherlands has been on the increase for many years, and is currently approaching fifty thousand. The number of foreign researchers studying for a PhD at a Dutch university is also rising, particularly in science faculties. The Netherlands has over half a million students, out of a total population of sixteen million. The economy is becoming more and more dependent on knowledge, and the country is investing a great deal in creating an advanced education and research system. Recruiting talented foreign students and promoting international academic collaboration are essential elements of the country's knowledge policy.

Study in Holland

The new study guide is part of the Study in Holland campaign that Nuffic – the Netherlands Organization for International Cooperation in Higher Education – uses to highlight the programmes available in the Netherlands to students from all over the world. The Internet plays a key role in the campaign, particularly the website www.studyin.nl.

Nuffic also has offices in Mexico City, Jakarta, Beijing, Taipei and Ho Chi Minh City, known as Netherlands Education Support Offices (NESOs). New NESOs are due to open shortly in Bangkok and Moscow, and plans are afoot for NESOs in Delhi, Kuala Lumpur and Sao Paulo.

Quality

The quality of the courses on offer is guaranteed by the International Students in Higher Education Code of Conduct, whereby signatory institutions undertake certain commitments regarding the standard of the education itself and the support students will receive in the Netherlands. Institutions must sign the code in order to participate in Nuffic's Study in Holland campaign, commissioned by the Dutch government to promote studying in the Netherlands. Only students who register with a participating institution will be granted a residence permit to study here.

Students can find out all they need to know about studying in the Netherlands on www.studyin.nl. Printed versions of brochures and study guides can also be ordered via the website. For more information on the Code of Conduct, see www.internationalstudy.nl.

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Nuffic is the Netherlands Organization for International Cooperation in Higher Education. Our motto is Linking Knowledge Worldwide. This means linking people, because it's knowledge that makes us unique as people. Nuffic works in line with Dutch government policy to serve students and higher education institutions in three key areas:

- **Capacity Building & Scholarships**

Administering international mobility programmes (scholarships) and institutional cooperation programmes.

- **Communication**

Providing information about higher education systems in the Netherlands and in other countries; providing credential evaluation services; providing information in the Netherlands about studying abroad, and in other countries about studying in Holland; promoting Dutch higher education in other countries; encouraging international mobility.

- **Knowledge & Innovation**

Conducting studies into international cooperation in higher education; providing information to expert groups and consultation forums; transferring our knowledge of international cooperation in higher education through courses and seminars.

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