Introduction Programmes

The start of a fantastic student time

Discover the world at Leiden University
Get to know the city, your studies and student life

Whether you’re from The Netherlands or from abroad, whether you want to join a student association or not, and whether you’re starting your bachelor’s or master’s degree: the introduction programmes offer various versatile events and information to get new students up to speed for their new chapter in life as a student of Leiden University. The introduction programmes see it as their responsibility to get you acquainted with the city, your study, and its vibrant student life. You also meet fellow students during this programme, and possibly life-long friends. A perfect start of your student life!

The start of your student life
The introduction programmes are accessible for every student. Dutch, English, party animal or the more cultured type: we happen to organize a programme just for your liking. The OWL is for our international students, the HOP for our university community in The Hague and the EL CID for the Dutch students studying in Leiden. The introduction programme is the perfect start for everyone, for both your academic and your social life at Leiden University. Of course, participation voluntary, but the university highly recommends her students to participate. It is an experience to never forget!

The outline of the programme
We find ourselves in an extraordinary time, which challenges us to think in different opportunities than normal. It is therefore, unclear how the introduction programme of 2021 will take place. But we can assure you of the virtual programme which is a platform of various activities and information, and most likely a physical programme suitable for the safety requirement we have to uphold at that time. We realize that especially in these times, a warm welcome is more needed than ever. So make sure we will deliver! Check out our social media channels and the websites of the introduction programmes for the latest updates.

5 reasons to take part

1. You will make new friends for the rest of your student life many years thereafter!
2. Along with a group of fellow students you will discover your future student city.
3. Enthusiastic mentors will give you essential tips for your student life.
4. You will be introduced to your study in a fun and interesting way.
5. You will receive access to an online platform full of study tips, information on the cultural, sports, and student associations of Leiden, and a lot more!

Ries de Moor, student Criminology in Leiden

‘During the EL CID, suddenly all door opened wide for me! I took a boat tour through the canals of Leiden, learned everything about Leiden’s student life in the student show and I tried several different sports at the University Sports Centre (USC). I also visited my new faculty and many student associations. A bonus was the ability to chat with my new fellow students on the digital platform of the EL CID. During my introduction week, I learned all the ins and outs of Leiden!’
Your choice!

Three introduction programmes for students of Leiden University.

To prepare you for your student life, there are several introduction programmes in which you can participate. Each of the programmes is a fun way to get to know your student city, your study, and of course the student life that comes with it. Two mentors will guide you and your group of fellow students during all of it.

**EL CID**
Leiden: around the week of August 16th, 2021*
Are you a future bachelor or master student at Leiden University? Participate in the EL CID! During your introduction, you will have all the opportunity to find your place: from boat tours through the city to a silent disco, and from lunches in the Singelpark to visiting the student associations. Also bring a visit to the University Sports Centre, the open-air cinema, and your faculty.

[www.elcidweek.nl](http://www.elcidweek.nl)
[@elcidweek](http://@elcidweek)

**HOP**
The Hague: around the week of August 23rd*
If you are going to live and study in the Hague, at Leiden University, you can participate in the HOP-week! This is a programme for both Dutch and international students in the Hague. You will visit your new faculty and meet students of different studies. You will also get to know all the student initiatives and you will explore the Hague.

[hopweek.org](http://hopweek.org)
[@hopweek](http://@hopweek)

**OWL**
Winter-OWL: around the week of January 26th, 2021
Summer-OWL: around the week of August 30th, 2021*
The Orientation Week Leiden is meant for all the international students in Leiden. As an international student, you will be introduced to student life in Leiden and the Dutch culture and language. During the OWL you will also meet the student networks that are established especially for all the international students.

[orientationweek.org](http://orientationweek.org)
[@orientationweekleiden](http://@orientationweekleiden)

* due to the Corona virus, the exact dates will be announced. Check out our social media channels for the latest updates.

**Dimitra Zachariadi, student International Relations and Organisations in The Hague**

‘This year’s HOP week was the best introduction week I could have asked for. Despite the circumstances and the restrictions that the government had placed, our mentors were able to provide for us a week of activities that helped us understand the city as well as gave us important information for our adaptation in this new environment. Holding all the safety precautions, I was able to meet some really interesting people from all over the world, that I still keep in contact with today. Sign up for HOP week, you won’t regret it!’
Hadas Kuhr, exchange student

‘My student experience in the Netherlands would not have been the same without OWL! During the week I got to taste authentic food from all over the world. Thanks to OWL I made friends with a girl from across the globe and we’re still in touch one year later.’

Sanne Heynen, student Arts Media and Society

‘As a mentor, I guided a group of first-year students during the EL CID. This is amazing, because I get to share my love for this city and all my favourite spots with them. I answer all their questions about the student, study, and sports associations, the best study spots, and the way to find student housing. I hope next year I get to guide you in my group!’
Which programme suits me?

Do you speak Dutch?

Ja

Ga je in Den Haag studeren?

Ja

Ik kies voor het studentenleven in:

Nee

Nee

Leiden

Den Haag

No

Are you going to study in The Hague?

Yes

HOP around the week of August 23rd, 2021
Institution: university
Language: Dutch and English
City: The Hague

No

OWL around the week of August 30th, 2021
Average age: 22
Language: English
City: Leiden

EL CID rond de week van 16 augustus 2021
Instelling: universiteit én hogeschool
Taal: Nederlands
Stad: Leiden