

Agreements

VU Master's and pre-Master's Introduction Days for international students

The induction days are all about getting to know one another, exploring and building connections. They offer participants the chance to get to know each other, the programme, the campus and student life in Amsterdam in a relaxed and enjoyable way. To ensure that these days are pleasant, safe and respectful for everyone, a number of agreements have been drawn up. These cover, amongst other things, substance use, safety and how we treat one another. Participants are asked to read these guidelines carefully and comply with them, so that together we can ensure a pleasant and responsible start.

The guidelines below apply throughout the VU Master's and pre-Master's Introduction Days and to all associated activities during those days.

In addition to Dutch laws and regulations, the VU's regulations also apply at all times: [VU House rules](#), [VU Code of conduct](#), and the [Student Charter](#).

Code of Conduct - form of social interaction

1. Participants treat others with respect in verbal, digital and face-to-face interactions, show understanding and empathy, and contribute to a sense of community.
2. Participants treat everyone equally.
3. Participants address others' behaviour and are themselves open to feedback on their own actions and comments.
4. Participants use their authority and influence solely in the general or organisational interest and avoid conflicts of interest.

Alcohol

5. Together, the participants create an environment in which they encourage one another to consume alcohol in a mindful, moderate and responsible manner.
6. Drinking alcohol is prohibited for all participants younger than 18 years old. The age of the participants will be checked before the activity and the participants younger than 18 years will be recognizable via a wristband.
7. Participants of 18 years or older do not purchase alcohol for participants who are younger than 18.
8. During the day program, participants do not consume alcohol before the late afternoon. These rules apply for both activities that take place at the VU campus, as well as for those that take place at external locations.
9. For activities that take place, enough alcohol-free beverages will be available.

10. For activities that take place, the price of alcoholic beverages will not be lower than that of non-alcoholic beverages. Alcohol beverages will not be distributed for free, nor will there be a discount on alcoholic beverages.
11. None of the organized activities will encourage the drinking of alcoholic beverages.

Drugs

12. It is not permitted to use, possess or be under the influence of drugs (both hard and soft drugs), including nitrous oxide and similar psychoactive substances.

Smoking and vaping

13. Smoking and vaping are only permitted in designated areas and with respect for the environment and others. The VU encourages a mindful and responsible approach to smoking and vaping, with a focus on health and well-being.

Undesirable behavior

14. Undesirable behavior will not be accepted VU Master's and pre-Master's Introduction Days.
 - a. Undesirable behavior is behavior that is perceived as threatening, humiliating or intimidating. Examples of undesirable behavior are sexual harassment, discrimination, aggression, violence and bullying.
 - b. Sexual harassment is a form of unwelcome behavior in the area of sex, such as sexist remarks, annoying behavior or the unwelcome touching of someone, whereby the boundaries of manners are exceeded.
15. If a participant notices inappropriate behaviour, ask: 'Are you OK?' This is how a participant can help someone else if they think the situation is not right. It is important that everyone feels encouraged to raise the issue of inappropriate behaviour with their organisation.
16. Inappropriate (sexual) behaviour can be discussed with and reported to the VU confidential advisor. This is a confidential conversation in which the person making the report is in control, and the organisation will not take any action without their knowledge and consent. For more information on support from VU confidential advisors for students, please visit the webpage: [Confidential counsellor students - Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam](#).

Safety

17. Safety is most important
18. In the event of an emergency or life-threatening situation on the VU campus, please call (020) 59 82222. In the event of an emergency, existing measures may be (temporarily) tightened.
19. In the event of an emergency, participants must always follow the instructions of staff or the emergency services immediately. If in doubt or if an unsafe situation arises, the participant must report this immediately to a member or staff from the VU Master's and pre-Master's Introduction Days.

20. In the event of (suspected) theft or a break-in on campus, the participant must contact Security immediately on 020 – 598 5454 or report to the Security Desk in the Main Building (KC 04), and must also inform a member or staff from the VU Master's and pre-Master's Introduction Days.
21. Staff at VU Amsterdam may ask participants to show valid identification. If valid identification cannot be produced, they may be asked to leave the venue and/or the event.
22. The organisation reserves the right to inspect personal belongings, such as bags, where there is good reason to do so, for example for safety reasons or to ensure compliance with the rules. This is always done with respect for the person concerned.
23. Participants who do not comply with this may be denied access to the venue and/or the event, or may be removed immediately (without a refund for the closing party, if applicable).

External locations

24. For some program components, we will be on external locations. Besides the VU regulations, we will adhere to potential extra regulations of the external location.

Compliance with agreements and disciplinary rules

25. In the event of a violation of any of the above rules or other regulations, the organisation may impose one or more disciplinary measures.
 - a. The participant will receive a verbal warning. The warning will be confirmed by email.
 - b. The participant will be (temporarily) denied access to the introduction activities. The suspension will be confirmed by email.
 - c. Other disciplinary measures, which may be imposed by the Director of Operations.
26. The choice and severity of the measure are always adjusted to the situation. In the event of serious incidents or situations where safety is at risk, more severe measures may be implemented immediately, in accordance with the relevant VU procedures. The normative instruction will be confirmed by email.
27. Participation in (the remainder of) the VU Master's and pre-Master's Introduction Days may be refused (without a refund for the closing party, if applicable) in the event of a breach of these agreements, the VU's house rules or the Student Charter.
28. In addition to disciplinary measures, de-escalation and restorative measures may be adopted, which focus on raising awareness, fostering a sense of responsibility and rebuilding trust.

Reachability

29. Participants can reach out to the organisers of the VU Master's and pre-Master's Introduction Days at internationalintroduction@vu.nl.
30. In the event of an emergency, participants should contact the emergency services immediately on 112, or staff on campus on (020) 59 82222, or ask a member or staff present for assistance.