
For more information
VU
VRIJE UNIVERSITEIT AMSTERDAM
A Broader Mind
Join the Broader Mind Course.
Learn to see things differently.
Starting February 2027
VU
VRIJE UNIVERSITEIT AMSTERDAM
vu.nl/broadermindcourse

Is happiness a goal, a moment, or something else? Do you control your digital environment or does it control you? Who decides what success looks like in your life?

If our answers differ, can we truly hear each other? In the Broader Mind Course, we create space to listen, share, and be brave together.

What is the Broader Mind Course?

Imagine stepping into a class room where students from every faculty, science, arts, business, and more, come together. Instead of a traditional teacher, the course is guided by a VU student. Together, you'll explore the big questions that shape our society. In this class room, there are no right or wrong answers, only stories, ideas, and perspectives that challenge how we see the world.

How does the course work?

Step 1: Choose a Theme Track:

- **Track A:** Success & Failure, Poverty, Human Body, Rebellion
- **Track B:** Health & Happiness, Digital World, Viewpoints & Worldview, Sustainability

Step 2: Explore the Themes online and offline

- **Online:** You will watch videos, read articles, and complete challenges.
- **Offline:** You will participate in discussions, creative assignments, and activities.

What is in it for you?

- Earn a **Certificate** and an **Edubadge** to boost your **CV** and **personal growth**. Sharpen your **critical** and **creative thinking** with real-world **challenges**.
- Reflect on your **beliefs** and how they shape your **worldview**.
- Listen to **diverse perspectives** and engage with **disagreement** constructively.
- Explore new ways of **thinking** through **dialogue**, **reflection**, and **imagination**.
- Connect with **curious minds** and broaden your view of the **world** and **yourself**.

2026-2027

		Track A	Track B			
P4				Kick-off meeting First Group meeting	• Tue 02 or Wed 03 Feb 2027 • Tue 02 or Wed 03 Feb 2027	18:00-18:30 hrs 19:00-20:30 hrs
Feb '27	3 weeks:	**Theme 1:** Success & Failure	**Theme 1:** Health & Happiness	2 on campus meetups	• Tue 09 or Wed 10 Feb 2027 • Tue 16 or Wed 17 Feb 2027	17:30-19:30 hrs 17:30-19:30 hrs
Mar '27	3 weeks:	**Theme 2:** Poverty	**Theme 2:** Digital World	2 on campus meetups	• Tue 02 or Wed 03 Mar 2027 • Tue 09 or Wed 10 Mar 2027	17:30-19:30 hrs 17:30-19:30 hrs
P5					Free week (Assessment Week)	
Apr '27	3 weeks:	**Theme 3:** Human Body	**Theme 3:** Viewpoints & Worldview	2 on campus meetups	• Tue 30 or Wed 31 Mar 2027 • Tue 06 or Wed 07 Apr 2027	17:30-19:30 hrs 17:30-19:30 hrs
May '27	3 weeks:	**Theme 4:** Rebellion	**Theme 4:** Sustainability	2 on campus meetups	• Tue 20 or Wed 21 Apr 2027 • Tue 11 or Wed 12 May 2027	17:30-19:30 hrs 17:30-19:30 hrs
P6				Final group meeting Closing meeting	• Tue 08 June 2027 • Tue 08 June 2027	17:30-19:00 hrs 19:00-20:00 hrs

Who Can Apply?

Open to all Bachelor's students (first to third year), Honours students, and Master's students.

When does the course take place?

Duration: February to May 2027
(Periods 4 and 5, excluding exam weeks)

Format: Blended learning
(course language: English)

- 10 on-campus sessions on Tuesdays or Wednesdays, 17:30–19:30
- Online assignments completed at your own pace

Workload: ± 2 hours per week

Is this course part of the regular study program?

The Broader Mind course is primarily designed as an extracurricular activity but has also been integrated as a core component in some study programs.

How Can You Enrol for the Broader Mind Course?

Enrol via the VU Dashboard.
Questions? Contact: **broadermindcourse@vu.nl**