

MINOR

GOING DUTCH: KICKSTART YOUR DUTCH WORK-LIFE



As an international UT student, you may be considering staying in the Netherlands to start your career. Building your career in the Netherlands is not always as easy as it seems. It requires building your cross-cultural muscle to get a feel for Dutch culture, knowing more about Dutch organisational cultures and businesses, as well as sufficient Dutch language skills. The minor is new: we will start with a small group of 20 students. We will scale up next year.

About Going Dutch

The minor 'Going Dutch: Kickstart your Dutch work-life' offers you a kickstart for entering the Dutch work-life, closely supported by UT and businesses in the Twente region. This minor aims to enhance your opportunities to find a job and build your career in a Dutch company, by learning to:

- speak Dutch at a B1-level to be able to communicate on the work floor
- understand and adjust to Dutch culture and labour market, as well as
- acquire useful skills to read and handle Dutch organisational culture well and build connections by doing a consultancy assignment in a Dutch company.

Courses

- Dutch Language Course (5 EC)
- Adjusting to the Dutch Labour Market (5 EC)
- Organisational Cultures and Consultancy in the Netherlands (5 EC)

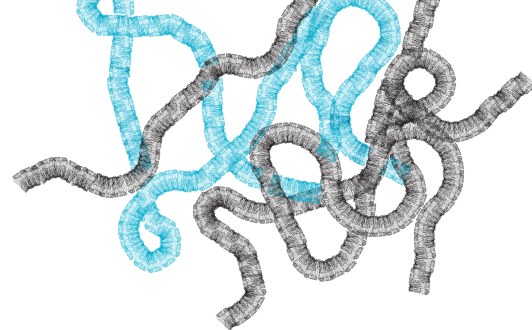
During the first four weeks, students will follow a Dutch language course bootcamp to get them up to speed.

After two weeks the other two courses will start gradually.

Learning objectives

After completing the courses, you will:

- learn how to build a (professional) network in the Netherlands and know how to use it
- be able to assess and select companies in the Netherlands that fit to your ambitions and work preferences
- understand the main points in a Dutch conversation on familiar matters which are regularly encountered at work, school, leisure, etc.
- recognise the pattern of the Dutch way of thinking and behaving, both on the work floor and in general
- understand Dutch texts consisting mainly of very frequent everyday or work-related language. You will be able to understand the description of events, feelings, and wishes in letters
- become familiar with the Dutch work floor and the expectations that employers have
- deal with most situations that may arise in an area where Dutch is spoken



"Increase your chances of employment in the Netherlands"

- be able to participate in basic social interaction, follow simple instructions, and work together on a joint task with a benevolent interlocutor
- connect expressions in a simple way so that you can describe experiences and events, dreams, hopes, opinions, books, movies, and aspirations
- analyse the organisational structure and culture of a Dutch small-, medium- or large-sized business and how exactly the Dutch culture is ingrained in this business
- advise a Dutch business on how it could enhance its long-term/sustainable employment of highly-educated international recruits
- reflect on your own experiences and preferences in terms of organisational culture and work environment as well as how you can constructively solve cross-cultural differences at work

Teaching methods

The minor integrates challenges and other workgroup assignments into the courses. The courses consist of self-study, cases, group (conversation) lessons, daily workgroup challenges (with field visits/observations and interviews), a combination of lectures, and workshops. In addition, you will be asked to do an extensive orientation search of the companies and other organisations in the region (or beyond) that would fit your job ambitions.

How is the minor assessed?

The Dutch language course will be assessed with an exam, a portfolio, and a presentation. The other two courses will be assessed with a combination of individual written assignments (including reflection essays) and group assignments (such as an advisory report for participating regional companies on how to enhance their long-term/sustainable employment of highly-educated international recruits).

For whom?

The minor is only open to non-Dutch UT students who have mastered the A2-level Dutch language. In the tool of options on utwente.nl/minor you can see if the minor

is open to your programme. For those who currently have not yet attained the required language level, free summer courses will be offered by CES to get up to speed. Exchange and pre-master students cannot apply.

The minor forms a good preparation for the Master's programme in Business Administration (BA), among others, the International Management & Consultancy track which offers courses like Change Management & Consultancy in a Global Context and Cross-cultural Behaviour. At the same time, the minor also particularly targets technical students who might want to work at a (high-tech) organisation in the Netherlands.

MORE INFORMATION

Minor coordinator:
Dr. Arnold Enklaar
T: 053 489 1687
E: a.h.enklaar@utwente.nl

For more information about this minor and for general information about minors:
www.utwente.nl/minor