

Data Science: Computer Science (MSc)



Universiteit
Leiden

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Part of

Computer Science (MSc)

The Data Science master's specialisation equips you with state-of-the-art knowledge on the foundations and algorithmic aspects of data mining, machine learning, and statistical data analysis.

What does this master's programme entail?

Data science is an interdisciplinary discipline at the border of computer science and statistical science, aiming at discovering knowledge from typically large sets of data. To achieve this goal, data scientists use methods from data mining, machine learning, and statistical data analysis, all of which rely on computer science foundations. This specialisation provides you thorough knowledge and understanding of the computational aspects of data analysis, including mining of massive datasets, deep learning, network analysis, and text analytics.

Read more about our Data Science programme.

Discover why our students choose the Computer Science master's programme

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Why study Data Science: Computer Science at Leiden University?

- Within the Data Science master's specialisation you focus on the computational and statistical aspects of data science as well as on its applications.
- The strength of the programme is the individual possibility for each student of studying other future-oriented topics in Advanced Computing Systems, Artificial Intelligence and Foundations of Computing.
- The specialisation is a unique collaboration between Leiden Institute of Advanced Computer Science and the Mathematical Institute, in collaboration with the Leiden Centre of Data Science.
- You can benefit from a research environment and collaborations with other scientific disciplines, companies and organizations.

Find more reasons to choose Data Science at Leiden University.

Data Science: Computer Science: the right master's programme for you?

If you are interested in the computational aspects of data science and its applications, the master's specialisation in Data Science is the right choice. The programme guarantees a thorough training in data science, with ample flexibility to design your own study path by choosing from a wide variety of specialised computer science and statistical science courses.

Read more about the entry requirements for Data Science.

Why Leiden University?

Our programmes are known for our scientifically based education and for our open atmosphere.

Leiden Centre of Data Science (LCDS)

The Leiden Centre of Data Science (LCDS) is a network of researchers from different scientific disciplines, who use innovative methods to deal with large amounts of data. Collaboration between these researchers leads to new solutions for problems in science and society. Research at the Leiden Centre of Data Science covers a wide range of topics and is connected to many different academic disciplines. The common denominator of all these projects is their use of innovative ways to collect, analyse and validate large amounts of data. Our research projects fall into two broad categories: fundamental and applied research.

Read more.

Leiden Institute of Advanced Computer Sciences (LIACS)

The master's in Computer Science is offered by the Leiden Institute of Advanced Computer Science. The Institute has a strong tradition in combining a theoretical, experimental and applied approach to the field of expertise. This reflects in the research profile of the institute and the education programme it offers. LIACS is a partner in the Lorentz Center, an international research centre for astronomy, computer science, mathematics, physics and biosciences. The centre has extensive international contacts and excellent connections with other Dutch university research groups, as well as with Dutch industry.

Broad scope

Due to our broad research scope, we have knowledge about all computer science areas, such as data science, machine learning and computer vision. As a student in one of our bachelors or masters, you will be educated by our researchers. That means that you will learn to look at research questions from a scientific point of view.

Applicable science

Furthermore, in Leiden, computer science is interwoven with all other academic fields. So studying at LIACS will enable you to make a bridge between computer science and mathematics, physics, astronomy, chemistry, biology, economics, linguistics, law, history, psychology, medicine, archeology, governmental sciences or even gaming. This will make your time at LIACS very dynamic and applicable.

Faculty of Science

The Faculty of Science is a first-class research faculty with an excellent position in the basic disciplines of science. The current research and education programmes span the entire spectrum of science ranging from Mathematics and Statistical Science, Computer Science and Data Science, Astrophysics, Physics, Chemistry and Bio-Pharmaceutical Sciences to Biology and Environmental Sciences. Our science community is driven by their curiosity and desire to increase basic knowledge, for science and to contribute to the great societal challenges of today and tomorrow. Core values are scientific impact, technological innovation and relevance to society.

Study at a world-class university

Leiden University is the oldest university in the Netherlands and enjoys an excellent worldwide reputation built up over more than four centuries. Since 1575 we've provided sound personal education for hundreds of thousands of students. We'll do our utmost to give you the best possible support. And if you can and want to do more, we'll challenge you every step of the way. For many years, we've been among the leaders in Dutch university rankings and we are currently to be found in a variety of top international rankings too.

More reasons to choose Leiden University

About the programme

The two-year Data Science: Computer Science programme consists of 120 European Credit Transfer System (EC) points and includes courses and electives as well as a Master's Thesis Research Project.

Programme overview

The curriculum of the Data Science: Computer Science specialisation consists of:

- Core programme (36 EC)
- Specialisation courses and seminars (42 EC)
- Master's Thesis Research Project (42 EC)

Read more about the programme outline and courses.

Educational methods

- Computer lab
- Assignment
- Individual research paper
- Literature study
- Presentations
- Lectures
- Working group
- Master's Thesis Research Project

Programme structure

The programme is designed to train you as independent researcher, while equipping you with the necessary skills to advance your career.

Programme outline

The programme of Data Science is a full-time 2-year master's programme. The first year consists of a selection of courses from a core programme in Computer Science (42 EC) and three mandatory specialisation courses (21 EC) from Statistical Science.

In the second year you follow two mandatory specialisation courses (9 EC) from Statistical Science and one specialisation course (6 EC). In the second year, you will also work on innovative research and applications within the context of the Master Thesis (42 EC). The Master Class is mandatory for all master students.

For an up-to-date course overview, please visit the Prospectus.

Extra-curricular

Are you interested in taking up an extra challenge during your master's programme? Have you thought about developing your personal leadership style?

Leiden Leadership Programme

Do you like a personal challenge in leadership? Then join the Leiden Leadership Programme. In this one-year programme, you work on developing your personal leadership skills through an assessment, training, seminars and a practice assignment in an organisation. You discover and develop your qualities in the context of an organisation. The goal is to learn how to work intensively with other professionals and learn how to use their qualities. With the Leiden Leadership Programme, a Dutch-based honours programme, you will be able to follow 20 EC next to your Leiden, The Hague or Delft master's programme.
Read more about Leiden Leadership Programme

International Leiden Leadership Programme

Curious about your personal leadership style? The International Leiden Leadership Programme is a 5 EC honours programme for master's students looking to understand leadership, train and develop their leadership skills and acquire an insight into their personal strengths and weaknesses. Thanks to its small-scale approach and supportive tutor-mentor system, you'll be working on your development on a very personal level. During this interdisciplinary programme you will attend seminars and skills-training sessions, which will give you more insight into the effect that your behaviour has on others. The programme

involves the creation of a Personal Leadership Roadmap, a five-year plan for reaching and developing your own leadership style.

For more information: International Leiden Leadership Programme

Study abroad

Because of the tailor made construction of the programme students get the opportunity to study abroad. There is the option to follow elective courses abroad or you can conduct your research project at a university or in industry abroad.

Career prospects

With an MSc in Computer Science you are well prepared for broad array of career prospects in research or industry. The master's degree is an excellent stepping stone for pursuing a PhD degree.

With a Leiden degree in Computer Science you will have cultivated an analytical mind and a problem-solving attitude. Based on these qualities, you enjoy a wide variety of career opportunities, in research as well in commercial or industrial environments.

Career

Your job perspectives with a master's degree in Computer Science are excellent and diverse. They range from software engineer to product manager, from researcher to IT-manager, and from engineering to financial applications, from business intelligence specialist to service manager or consultant. And the demand is constantly growing. With this education, 96.9% of all graduates have a full-time job, and they find a job within an average time of 1.3 months.

Career preparation

Leiden University offers you several services related to career orientation and job application skills.

Science Career Service

Are you looking for career advice? Get in touch with our science career advisor. The Science Career Service supports students of the Science Faculty in their career orientation and making effective career decisions during their study. We offer services such as consultation hours, individual appointments with the career counselor and advice on your CV or motivation letter.

Science Career Event

Whether you are actively looking forward to meet interesting employers, or even if you have no idea what your career will look like yet, the Science Career Event gives you a chance to speak with a large number of employers. Every year the Science Career Event is organized by students of the Faculty of Science. During this event you can get your resume checked, participate in a workshop or speed date with a potential employer to discuss possibilities in the near future. The Science Career Event is the ideal day to orient yourself on career possibilities.

The Mentor Network

If you have questions about the job market, you can get in touch with Leiden alumni who are happy to offer their advice. On the Mentor Network platform you can view the profiles of around 650 alumni. Once you have found someone you would like to contact for advice, you can send him or her a request for assistance.

Master's application and admission

Find out how to apply for Data Science: Computer Science at Leiden University by following our step-by-step guide.

Step-by-step guide

This guide clearly explains the steps you need to take to apply, and the subsequent admission process.

- Step 1: Check the admission requirements.
- Step 2: Check the application deadlines.

- Step 3: Collect the required documents.
- Step 4: Start your application.
- Step 5: Pay your tuition fees
- Step 6: Prepare for your studies at Leiden University

Admission requirements

To be eligible for Data Science: Computer Science at Leiden University, you must meet the following admission requirements.

Master's admissions: exceptional circumstances

The university is providing an option for third-year bachelor's students who have encountered a study delay because of the corona measures and wish to begin a master's programme in the 2020-2021 academic year.

For this Master's programme, this means that students are allowed to complete their Bachelor's programme during the 2020-2021 academic year and will already be allowed to start the Master's programme on 1 September 2020. The following additional conditions apply:

students must have a minimum of 150 ECTS to be able to apply, the missing 30 ECTS must include the final bachelor's project.

You will have to have completed your Bachelor's programme by 31 August 2021 at the latest.

This option does not apply for students from applied universities or students who are following a pre-Master's programme.

Enrol on and request admission to both programmes (Bachelor's and Master's):

1. Fill out this form before 15 June
2. Register for the Master's programme in Studielink
3. Request admission in uSis before 15 June
4. Re-enrol for the bachelor's or pre-master's programme before 1 September for a maximum of one month.

Your Master's programme enrolment will be definitive as of 1 September 2020 on the condition that you have completed your Bachelor's programme before 31 August 2021 at the latest; otherwise your Master's programme enrolment will be cancelled.

You pay only one tuition fee, so you only pay for your master's programme. This is on the condition that you have completed your bachelor's programme by 31 August 2021 at the latest and have de-registered for this programme. If your master's enrolment is cancelled, you pay the tuition fee for continuing the bachelor's programme. If you are following a bachelor's programme at another institution, you can request proof of tuition fee payment (bewijs betaald collegegeld) via the contact form from Student Affairs Front Office, so that you will not have to pay the tuition fee. In the form choose the option tuition fee in the field *Category.

Questions

If you have any questions about admission and enrolment, please use the online contact form to contact the Student Affairs Front Office, using 'Admission request' as the subject.

Diploma requirements

You are eligible to apply if you have

- a bachelor's degree in Computer Science (Informatica) or Artificial Intelligence from any research university in the Netherlands.
OR
- a bachelor's degree in a Computer Science-related programme from a research university in the Netherlands, under the condition that you have accumulated at least 90 EC (or the equivalent thereof) in courses/projects in the domain of Computer Science.

The Board of Admissions will assess whether your degree and background are sufficiently related to the BSc degrees in Computer Science or Artificial Intelligence.

If you have a bachelor's degree that does *not* meet the requirements specified above, you may be eligible for an individual bridging programme tailored to your individual background. If you have successfully met the requirements of the imposed bridging programme, you will be admitted to the master's programme.

For more information, please contact the Computer Science study advisor.

If you have a degree in Dutch higher vocational education (hbo) in a Computer Science or Bioinformatics-related field of science, you are eligible to apply under the condition that you have

- obtained the diploma within a maximum of five years and
- an average final grade of at least 7.5.

The Board of Admissions will assess whether your degree and background are sufficiently related to the level and content of the Dutch BSc degree in Computer Science and whether you meet the additional requirements.

You may be eligible for an individual bridging programme tailored to your individual background. Eventual deficiencies up to 30 EC can be removed upon discussion with the study advisor using a bridging programme. If you have successfully met the requirements of the imposed bridging programme, you will be admitted to the master's programme.

For more information, please contact the Computer Science study advisor.

If you have a bachelor's degree in Computer Science or Artificial Intelligence, or in a Computer Science-related programme from a foreign research university with a level similar to Dutch universities, you are eligible to apply under the condition that you have accumulated at least 90 EC (or the equivalent thereof) in courses/projects in the domain of Computer Science.

The Board of Admissions will assess whether your degree and background are sufficiently related to the level and content of the Dutch BSc degree in Computer Science.

For more information, please contact the Computer Science study advisor.

Language requirements

In order to successfully participate in this programme, you must be proficient in English. The following requirements apply*:

- IELTS: minimum 6.5, with a minimum of 6.0 for each of the components Listening, Reading, Writing and Speaking
- TOEFL: internet based 90 (with a minimum component score of 20)
- Cambridge Certificate of Advanced English (CAE), minimum 180, with a minimum component score of 169

*Please note: You do **not** have to submit proof of proficiency if you have

- An International Baccalaureate diploma (or other with English A);
- A diploma of secondary or higher education completed in the US, the United Kingdom, Ireland, New Zealand, Australia or Canada (with the exception of French-taught education in Canada);
- A diploma of an English-taught university degree programme completed at a Dutch research university;
- A pre-university education (vwo) diploma;
- A high school (or higher) diploma determined by SEA (Admissions Office) in an EER country, where English has been studied up to and including the final year of the programme, and where the level of English can be considered comparable to Dutch vwo (pre-university education).

For detailed information about which English qualifications are accepted, as well as the relevant exemption criteria, refer to English language proficiency.

[>> Go to the next step: Check the application deadlines](#)

Application deadlines

Application deadlines

- If you need a visa or residence permit, you must apply for admission before **1 April**.
- If you do not need a visa or residence permit, you must apply for admission before **15 June**.
- If you need a visa or residence permit, you must apply for admission before **15 October**.
- If you do not need a visa or residence permit, you must apply for admission before **1 December**.

Apply early!

If you don't have a Dutch diploma that grants direct admission, you'll have to complete a two-part application procedure:

- First register your application(s) in the national system Studielink.
- A day later you will receive log-in details for Leiden University's application system (uSis), where you can complete your application.

You must submit your application via Leiden University's application system (uSis), before the deadlines mentioned above. So don't delay; if you haven't registered in Studielink and activated your uSis account in time to apply by the deadline, you'll miss out!

Other deadlines

If you want to request accommodation via Leiden university Housing Office, apply early! Accommodation is allocated on a first-come first-served basis and there is limited availability, which means the Housing Office cannot guarantee accommodation. Submit

both your application for admission and your housing request well before the deadlines. You don't have to wait for a decision on your application before submitting your housing request. Read more about when to arrange housing.

If you want to apply for a scholarship, grant or loan, please bear in mind that different deadlines apply, and these deadlines can often be earlier. Deadlines vary per scholarship. Visit the [scholarship website](#) for more details.

>> Go to the next step: Collect the required documents

Required documents

When you apply for admission, you'll be asked to submit several documents.

Note: If you have a Dutch diploma that grants direct admission, you will generally *not* be asked to submit additional documents.

Required application documents

You'll need to submit the following documents:

Please upload a copy of the page(s) in your passport containing your personal details and photograph. If you are from the EU/EEA, you can submit a copy of your identity card instead. Please upload copies of both sides.

If you are a non-EU/EEA national already living in the Netherlands, upload copies of both sides of your Dutch residence permit.

Your CV (curriculum vitae) must be written in English and should contain your basic personal data, as well as a clear overview of your educational and professional history to date.

You can apply for admission before receiving the results of your English language test. However, a sufficient result will then be a condition of your eventual admission. Of course, if you already have your English language test results, you can upload them directly.

- Digital copies of diplomas and transcripts are initially required. Once you have been admitted, we will inform you how to submit certified copies.
- The documents must be in the original language. If they are not in English, Dutch, German or French, they must be accompanied by official translations into one of these languages.
- If you have not yet completed your current programme, state your expected graduation date and submit copies of all transcripts obtained to date plus an official list of subjects still to be completed.

Additional documents for this programme:

In this letter you are asked to explain in writing that you possess the same level of knowledge, understanding and skills as applicants who are holding a Bachelor's degree in Computer Science or Artificial Intelligence in the Netherlands and that you have accumulated at least 90 ECTS (or the equivalent thereof) in courses and projects belonging to the domain of Computer Science.

See courses and projects that are taught in the Leiden BSc degree programme in Computer Science for your reference. Based on this list you can check if you meet the admission requirement mentioned above.

Please note that if you would like to apply for a scholarship with this programme, you may need to upload additional documents with your application. Please inform yourself here.

>> Go to the next step: Step 4: Start your application

Application procedure

The application procedure is broken down into three parts.

Part 1. Application in Studielink

All students applying for a degree programme at Leiden University must start the application process in Studielink, the national online registration system for students wishing to follow a degree programme at a Dutch university. Studielink is open for applications from 1 October in the year preceding the academic year in which you wish to start.

1. Go to Studielink and enter your details according to the instructions provided.
2. Within two days you will receive:
 - an email with information on the next steps you'll need to take;
 - your university ULCN student account details (unless, of course, you already have a ULCN account)
 - the link to Leiden University's online application portal (uSis)

Please note: If you wish to apply for a specialisation of a Master's Programme: First select the Master's Programme in Studielink, then select the specialisation for which you wish to apply in Step 4 (Institutional Questions) in Studielink.

After receiving your ULCN student account details, log into Leiden University's online application portal (uSis), using the link provided. Here you can view the status of your application, which will be one of two possibilities.

1. You can be directly admitted

If your (Dutch) diploma grants you direct admission, Leiden University's online application portal (uSis) will let you know. The portal provides an overview of what you have to do to complete your application, for example arranging housing, scholarships, applying for a visa /residence permit and insurances. Please follow the instructions carefully and proceed to step 3 Student registration.

2. You cannot be directly admitted: additional action is required

If you do not have a (Dutch) diploma that grants you direct admission, we will require additional documents to allow us to decide about your application. The online application portal (uSis) will tell you this and explain how to do so. See also Part 2: Admission to Leiden University.

Part 2. Admission to Leiden University

If you cannot be directly admitted, you must apply for admission via Leiden University's online application portal (uSis). Please follow all steps below.

In our online application portal (uSis) you can finalise your application by uploading the necessary documents and answering a few questions. This portal provides an overview of what you need to do to complete your admission application. Please follow the instructions carefully and make sure to include all the items that are asked for. We strongly recommend that you complete your application well in advance of the application deadline.

All applicants with an international degree must pay a **non-refundable** €100 application fee, which entitles you to apply for up to three programmes/specialisations in the same academic year. We cannot start processing your application until we receive this application fee, so please pay it as soon as possible. The online application system explains how you can pay it.

Can I be exempted from paying the application fee?

You do *not* have to pay the application fee if:

- You are following, or have completed, a bachelor's degree at a Dutch university (of applied sciences).
- You have previously registered as an exchange, bachelor's, master's or pre-master's student at Leiden University.
- You have previously been admitted to **the same** degree programme at Leiden University, but you decided to postpone your studies. This does *not* apply if you are applying for a different study programme or specialisation.
- You have refugee status in the Netherlands (with a residence permit for asylum).
- You are an Indonesian student applying for an MSc programme and have been given a "review letter" by the Leiden Science Indonesia Office.

Exemptions cannot be granted for any other reasons.

After you have submitted your application, the online application portal (uSis) will, if applicable, ask you if you want to apply for student housing, a visa/residence permit or a scholarship. Be sure to make a careful note of the relevant deadlines for these options.

After receiving your application fee payment (if applicable), the Admissions Office will check whether all the necessary documents have been uploaded and they will inform you by email whether any further items are required. The Board of Admissions of the faculty will then:

- decide whether you meet the admission requirements for the programme;
- strive to issue a decision on your completed application within four to six weeks of the University receiving it.

Once a decision has been reached you will be informed by email. You can view your admission status in the online application portal (uSis).

There are three possible outcomes:

1. You are admitted

You have met all conditions for admission.

2. You are conditionally admitted

You will be admitted, provided that you meet certain conditions. These conditions will be specified in the online application portal (uSis).

3. You are not admitted

The reason(s) for non-admission will be clearly stated in the online application portal (uSis).

If you are informed that you have been (conditionally) admitted, you will have to take a number of additional steps.

The Admissions Office will ask you if you want to accept the offer of (conditional) admission. Please respond via the online application portal (uSis), by going to ‘Application study programme(s)’ then accessing the ‘Confirm’ screen, where you will have three options:

1. Accept
2. Accept, but defer to a later start date
3. Decline

Part 3. Student registration

If you've been (conditionally) admitted, follow these steps to register as a student at Leiden University:

Check in the online application portal (uSis) whether you need to submit any documents to meet the conditions of your admission. Instructions on how to do so will be provided in uSis.

Arrange the payment of your tuition fee before the official start date of your programme. You will receive instructions and information on the available payment methods by email.

If you are an international student, go to the Prepare your stay page of our website for information about the practical matters you should take care of before and upon arrival. These include, for example, arranging housing, scholarships, applying for a visa/residence permit and insurances.

>> Go to the next step. Step 5: Pay your tuition fees

Tuition fees

Your tuition fee depends on a number of factors, such as your nationality and your previous Dutch higher-education qualifications.

The tuition fees for the academic year 2021-2022 are:

- Dutch, EU/EEA, Swiss and Surinamese students: €2,168 per year
- Non-EU/EEA students €19,100 per year
- Second Dutch master's programme: €14,700 per year

More information about tuition fees

The tuition fee for this programme is €2,168 for the academic year 2021-2022 (statutory fee).

This tuition fee applies if this is your first master's programme and you are a national of one of the following countries:

Austria	Latvia
Belgium	Liechtenstein
Bulgaria	Lithuania
Croatia	Luxembourg
Cyprus	Malta
Czech Republic	Norway
Denmark	Poland
Estonia	Portugal
Finland	Romania
France	Slovakia
Germany	Slovenia
Greece	Spain
Hungary	Suriname
Iceland	Sweden

Ireland	Switzerland
Italy	

The fee applies for both full-time and part-time study.

The tuition fee for this programme is €19,100 for the academic year 2021-2022 (institutional tuition fee).

If you are not a national of an EEA country, Suriname or Switzerland, generally speaking you will have to pay an institutional tuition fee. This fee applies for both full-time and part-time study.

However, if, on the basis of your Dutch residence permit, you are eligible for student finance from the Dutch education agency (DUO) you are entitled to pay the statutory tuition fee. Information on qualifying residence permits can be found in the [DUO nationality chart](#).

Please note! If you will be studying at Leiden University via a cooperation agreement, the fees quoted in the agreement will apply.

Only applicable to EU/EEA, Swiss and Surinamese nationals.

The tuition fee for this programme is €14,700 for the academic year 2021-2022 (institutional tuition fee).

If you are following a second Dutch master's programme you will generally have to pay an institutional tuition fee that is higher than the statutory tuition fee. Some exceptions apply.

Consult the [tuition fee flowchart for second master's programmes](#) to find out how much tuition fee you will have to pay.

Less than 45 EC

If you are going to follow a pre-master's or conversion programme after completing a bachelor's programme, and if the programme is less than 45 ECs, you will have to pay €37 per study credit (EC).

45 EC or more

For programmes of more than 45 ECs you will have to pay the statutory tuition fee. If the pre-master's or conversion programme is more than 60 ECs – and therefore longer than one year - or if you are going to follow courses that are not part of your conversion programme, you will have to pay the institutional tuition fee for the programme in question (see second study programme). These fees apply to students of all nationalities.

Scholarships, grants and loans

Leiden University offers a wide range of scholarships for students from specific regions of the world, or for specific programmes. Leiden University also offers the Leiden University Excellence Scholarship (LExS), a programme specifically designed for non-EU/EEA students enrolling in a master's programme. [Find out more about scholarships, grants, loans and deadlines](#)

If you are an EU/EEA or Swiss national and under 30, you may be eligible for a loan from the Dutch government to cover your tuition fees.

>> Go to the next step. Step 6: Prepare for your studies at Leiden University

Prepare for your studies

You've been accepted! Leiden University looks forward to welcoming you as a new student. Your next step is to prepare for your studies. Below you can find some tips to help you get a head start as you embark on your studies at Leiden University.

For international students

If you are an international student, a wealth of information can be found on the '[Prepare your stay](#)' page of our website. This includes information about visas, housing, financial matters, what to arrange upon arrival, and much more.

For Dutch students

- The '[student website](#)' page on Leiden University's student website contains information about practical aspects, introduction weeks and student associations. It's also a handy source of study-related information and advice.
- For detailed information about courses, schedules and reading materials, check out the [Prospectus](#).

Sign up for an introduction programme! It's the best way to get acquainted with student life and the student cities of Leiden and The Hague.

Your student card is your proof of registration as a student of Leiden University. It will be sent to you at your Dutch address as soon as you have registered as a student and paid your tuition fee. Alternatively, you can collect it from the Student Affairs Front Office. Read more about your student card [here](#).

As soon as you start studying at Leiden University you should apply for a Leiden University ID card, or LU-Card. It also serves as your library card, print & copy card and access pass. Read more about applying for an LU-card [here](#).

Student life

Your time at Leiden is about more than just studying. Some of your best experiences will stem from being a part of our lively and diverse student community, as well as from life in the beautiful city of Leiden.

Life in Leiden

Quaint, picturesque and the perfect size, Leiden is an idyllic place to spend your university days. You will soon become familiar with the dozens of cafes, shops and bars that line the leafy canals, as well as its year-round line-up of cultural events. For visits further afield, the major cities of The Hague and Amsterdam are a short train ride away, along with Schiphol Airport, which is just half an hour away by train.

Within the university's student community, our study and student associations organise a huge variety of social, cultural, and study events to keep you busy all year round. You can also join the University Sports Centre, which offers scheduled group sports and fitness classes amongst other activities.

Welcome and orientation programme

In August and February each year, Leiden University hosts the English-language Orientation Week Leiden (OWL), which welcomes both international and Dutch students. The OWL is an excellent way to get to know Leiden University, the city and to meet other students.



New to the city and the university? Take part in the best introduction to the city, the university and your faculty: The OWL! Enjoy this week of fun, music, culture, sports, games and making new friends. It will be an unforgettable start of your studies!



• Our Hortus botanicus is a place where science is conducted, but it is equally popular for studying or relaxing. Come visit it!



Leiden is a lively, compact and safe city which is appreciated by national and international students alike. Everything is in reach within a 15 minutes bicycle ride.



The city is located centrally between Netherland's biggest cities like Amsterdam, The Hague, Utrecht and Rotterdam, all easily reached by public transport.



• Enjoy strolling through the narrow cobbled streets and become familiar with the dozens of cafes, shops and bars that line the leafy canals.

De Leidsche Flesch

De Leidsche Flesch is the study association of the studies Computer Science, Physics, Astronomy and Mathematics. The main goals of the De Leidsche Flesch are to contribute to the interaction between its members and the scientific community and to contribute to the interaction between its members themselves. They organize a wide range of activities, like (lunch) lectures, excursions and study trips. They also try to acquaint you with job opportunities for after completing your study.

Science Buddy Programme

The Science master's Buddy Programme has been set up by the Faculty of Science to help all international students who are new to the university to integrate quickly and easily into university life. Through the programme you will learn everything you need to know about the university, the student community, and the practical side of life in Leiden. Your buddy is your first connection in the Netherlands and he or she can help you to find your way

around. A few weeks before the start of your studies, you will get an invitation for the programme. After signing up, you will be matched to a student preferably from your own study programme.

Information activities

Are you thinking about studying at Leiden University? Come and visit our Master's Open Day.

About our Master's Open Day

Are you exploring your options for a master's programme? You can learn a lot by coming to our Master's Open Days. This event is your opportunity to learn everything you need to know about our master's programmes and how they can help you reach your goals. Attend presentations by the different programmes, visit the information fairs, and ask lecturers, students, alumni and study advisers all your questions. And you'll get to know the best student city right in the heart of Europe in the Netherlands.

Read more about the Master's Open Days

Impressions Master's Open Day

Contact

Do you have any questions about the master's programme Data Science? Please contact us.

General questions

For questions about the application and admission procedure, tuition fees and scholarships, please check our FAQ, or contact the Student Affairs Front Office:

Online contact form

Phone: +31 (0)71 527 8011

Office hours: Monday to Friday between 11.00 am and 16.00 pm.

Do you have questions about studying at Leiden University?

Do you want to know more about one or more programmes or about our information activities? The StudyLine is a source of information for students and is staffed by students. You can contact them by mail or by phone on +31 (0)71 527 1111 on working days between 9.00 am and 17.00 pm.

Programme specific questions

For inquiries about the programme:

Ms. J. (José) Visser

Programme coordinator/ Study advisor

E-mail: mastercs@liacs.leidenuniv.nl