**What we do**

Amsterdam Centre for Origins of Life (AMCOOL) is a platform for interdisciplinary research, educational and outreach in Amsterdam on the origins and evolution of life on Earth and generically. It brings scientists, teachers, and resources in Amsterdam together in varying compositions of consortia ranging over a wide variety of disciplines. AMCOOL is dedicated to both forefront origins research and interdisciplinary education connected to Amsterdam. We stimulate research and education projects, bridging existing and future efforts.

AMCOOL represents a localised manifestation of the national Origin Center.

**Research**

At the University of Amsterdam (UvA), the disciplines astronomy, chemistry, and biology have joint forces and set up a collaborative research and training program on the origins and fundamental aspects of life, with a strong focus on possibilities for generic life or life elsewhere in the universe. Terrestrial life has a common biochemical origin. Life elsewhere mightbe very much alike but does not need to be. Though the required biochemical functionalities will need to be consistent with life, the biochemical components may differ, from monomeric to macromolecular building blocks, with consequences to the makeup of alternative life and their detectability. Information of the joint interdisciplinary projects can be found below.

**Education**