

# Honours: U-TEAch

## U-TEAch

U-TEAch (Utrecht Teacher Education Academy) is an honours track which provides extra enrichment to the regular Teacher Education possible to Utrecht University. U-TEAch is a full time one year track.

If you have been admitted to the U-TEAch honours track within SEC, your secondary electives will be mostly filled by three U-TEAch specific courses ([GSTKO17](#), [GSTKO18](#), and [GSTPGO2](#)), and your study timeline will be different from the regular programme. Your study planning will require extra attention since your primary electives have to be taken outside the periods of the U-TEAch teaching practice.

- For U-TEAch-specific programme requirements, see your planning form.
- For U-TEAch-specific timelines see [SEC schedules](#).

## Study Programme

Apart from the regular teacher training program, U-TEAch offers you two integrated modules which focus on topics related to Content and Language Integrated Learning (CLIL) and International and Cross Cultural Education (ICE).

You will conduct an extended practice based research dealing with a topic related to bilingual or international education and your second teaching internship is spent abroad where you teach for about 14 weeks full-time at school.

The innovative U-TEAch course is offered in partnership with various international and bilingual partner schools in the Netherlands and abroad. This creates a perfect combination of theory and practice. During the first semester you follow classes in English\* two days a week at the university, and the rest of the week you teach your subject in English at either a bilingual school (TTO) or international IB school. You will be taught and coached by a team of experienced teachers at our partner schools and teacher educators. This combination of work and study means that you have the opportunity to immediately practice what you learn in class in a classroom environment.

\*Classes are all in English, except for lectures on your subject methodology.

## Course overview

### International and Cross-cultural Education (ICE)

This module explores and evaluates the characteristics of different educational systems, e.g. the International Baccalaureate (IB). You study the IB curriculum both for your own subject area, as well as the IB philosophy about international education. Another extremely important factor in becoming a successful international or bilingual teacher is cultural awareness, which is another integral element of this course.

### Content and Language Integrated Learning (CLIL)

This module focuses on theories related to teaching your subject through English. You learn

about how learners learn languages and how you can facilitate this in your subject lessons. How is teaching biology or history through English different from teaching it in the learners' first language? Which skills do you need to develop to facilitate learning of both your subject and English? How can you give feedback to learners on both content and language? This course focuses on the answers to those questions.

## **Internships and in-service students**

### **Second teaching practice abroad**

The second internship abroad is mandatory and will take place between February and May. You will go abroad for three to four months, usually in pairs or threes. This training period takes place either in a bilingual, mainstream or international school abroad. You will be asked to teach and assume responsibility for a number of classes at one of our partner schools, though the ultimate responsibility for your classes rests with your school supervisor. At this moment internships are being offered in South Africa, Norway, Poland and Saint Maarten.

Grants from the VIOS-programme (Europees Platform) may be available for a number of the internships abroad.

### **In-service students**

If you already are teaching but want to join U-TEAch you can apply to the U-TEAch in-service program. During your U-TEAch course, you work at your own school and are at the university for two days a week for an academic year. To enter the U-TEAch course, you need to be teaching a minimum of 5 lessons and an absolute maximum of 12 (50 minutes) lessons per week at a bilingual school or international school in the Netherlands. Your course starts with an introductory period of one full-time week. After this, you work at school three days each week and spend the other two days at the university where you have the opportunity to reflect on your in-school experiences. It is vital that your school provides supervision.

You have the possibility to go abroad for a short period during the second part of the course as well as continuing to work at your own school.

## **Career opportunities**

The course leads to a Dutch first-degree teaching certificate which fully qualifies you to teach at Dutch schools in your school subject. In addition to the first-degree teaching certificate, you will receive a U-TEAch honours certificate to provide evidence that you have specialized in international and bilingual teaching.

For questions about U-TEAch, enrolment, admission et cetera, please check our [FAQ](#) or contact our study advisor Alice Bor via [studieadviseur.gst@uu.nl](mailto:studieadviseur.gst@uu.nl).

Within the U-TEAch honours track, [Matt Decovsky](#) and [Gerrit Jan Koopman](#) are tutors.