



Utrecht University

Utrecht, 2020

Dear student,

It is my pleasure to inform you that you have been (un)conditionally admitted to our Bachelor's programme in History. Congratulations!

Corona update

Right now, nobody can foresee the full scope of the impact of the corona crisis. We will keep you up to date, should there be any changes regarding the information below and the next academic year. You can also check [the latest updates](#) in relation to the corona developments. We are preparing to offer our education in Block 1 of the new academic year online to a large extent, and in our buildings where possible. We will keep you informed in the beginning of July. For now, I wish you strength and good health for the coming period. My colleagues and I are looking forward to meeting you (online) in September.

Orientation

Although it may still seem far away, we hope to welcome you to the programme's orientation in the first week of September. Due to Corona this may be in different circumstances than we are used to, but we will try our best to make you feel welcome! During orientation you will get to know the programme, our teachers, your fellow students and our study society, the UHSK, and its activities. Take a look at their [website](#). Similarly look at our programme's [Instagram page](#) and [our website for students](#). By mid-July you will receive more detailed information. International students will also receive an invitation for the UU Orientation.

The History Department's Introduction Committee is already busy organising the History Orientation and you can meet them and find more information on this website: <https://icgeschiedenis.sites.uu.nl>

Getting up to speed

You will be informed about the required readings for your classes in block 1 in due course, but if you would like to do some background reading this summer before you begin your studies here are some suggestions:

- E.H. Gombrich, *A Little History of the World* (Yale University Press, 2005)
- James Kennedy, *A Concise History of the Netherlands*. (Cambridge University Press, 2017).
- Mary Beard, *SPQR: A History of Ancient Rome*. (Profile books, 2015).
- Jan de Vries, *The Industrious Revolution* (Cambridge University Press, 2008)

For those of you who read Dutch:

- Geert Mak, *De Eeuw van Mijn Vader* (Atlas, 2004)

The [Very Short Introductions](#) by Oxford University Press are also worth a look. For instance Robert Allen, *Global Economic History* or James Fulcher, *Capitalism*.

And now for something completely different recommended by our director of research:

- Jeff Hobbs, *The Short and Tragic Life of Robert Peace* (Simon & Schuster, 2015)

Practical matters for international students

- ➔ Being new to Utrecht can be exciting and challenging at the same time. Therefore the Erasmus Student Network Utrecht has set up a network of Dutch student mentors to stimulate the integration of international students into Dutch student life. [Become part of the mentor programme.](#)
- ➔ Also check our [Welcome to Utrecht](#) website for practical information on your arrival, housing and student life in Utrecht.
- ➔ In spring and summer, Utrecht University will be hosting several [pre-departure meetings](#) online. These meetings are for all our future students and not mandatory, but they will help you prepare for your stay abroad, providing you with practical information about life in Utrecht and The Netherlands. You will receive an invitation.
- ➔ Do you feel like **chatting** with one of our current international students? They are happy to answer your questions through our [Unibuddy website](#). Or you can join the [Utrecht University Future Students Facebook group](#).

Are you not joining us?

Have you decided not to join our programme in September? That's very unfortunate! Could you be so kind to help us and yourself by cancelling your application in [Studielink](#).

Students with special needs

Utrecht University wants all of its students to be able to study without limitations. If you have special needs, for example because you have a chronic illness or a disability, or if there are other circumstances in your life that may affect your studies, it is important that you let us know by [using this form](#).

Questions?

Should you have any questions concerning the application procedure please contact the [Student Desk](#) (if you have a Dutch educational background) or our [Admissions Office](#) (if you have a non-Dutch educational background). If you have any questions concerning the programme please contact me at: s.l.m.stevens@uu.nl.

We wish you a good summer and look forward to meeting you in September!

Kind regards,



Dr Saskia Stevens
Programme Coordinator BA History
Utrecht University