

## First exams done - hurrahhhh!

*Congratulations!* You have now finished your first period of the semester, here at the VU in Amsterdam! Our classes had different kind of exams - in one of our classes we had to turn in a paper and in the other class we had to take a test - consisting of multiple choice questions and a few open-answer questions. It was a little bit more difficult than we expected and more detailed in terms of things you had to remember, but we did our best. Maybe you have had the same experience? We hope that we all did good - or just good enough to pass. But now we feel more prepared for next time.

### What not to do when going to an exam:

You learn by making mistakes - and we really did this time. So here is what we learned from this exam: Don't ever turn up to an exam without your ID and also don't forget your password to your student log-in! We managed to do both (yes, we are the blond girls), when going to our exam for the class "New Media Challenges". Luckily there were some nice people to help us out and we solved the problems (that we caused ourselves) and we got to take the exam (wuhu!). But just a friendly tip, if you didn't yet have to take an official test at the VU - **ALWAYS** remember your ID and password!

## New courses - new challenges

We are ready to kick-start the spring with a new and exciting period in school! New courses will of course always bring along new challenges in terms of new routines and getting started. We are excited to explore and see new places in the school, meet new people, find out what our classes will bring and maybe we should rather soon figure out, where to get our books (?).



Another challenge that is emerging is the **sun!** When being Danish it is an instinct to go outside, when the sun is out... And the weather has been so very nice the last month (apart from the extreme

wind and a little rain from time to time) and if this continues - it will be a big challenge to study inside. Do you feel the same way? Anyway we hope for the sun to stay and then we will have to stay strong together and be good students - still remember to get some vitamin D though!

## Foreigner of the week!

This time you will meet our second foreigner of the week: Say  
Hi to - **Nicole!**



**Name:** Nicole Mormando

**From:** Chicago, IL USA

**Study:** Urban Planning

**Best advice:** Get a bike!! You can see so much traveling that way.

**Favorite place:** Any park!

**The weirdest thing about Dutch culture:** Drinking with coworkers in the office.

## New Discoveries in the city!

***Sun is out and you should go to:***

- *Vondelpark*
- *Take a trip on your bike along the Amstel river to Amstel park*
- *And don't forget the TULIPS!!*
- *Botanical garden*
- *Waterkant (bar by the water)*
- *Find find a place to have the Dutch dish: Bitterballen*

**“Do you speak Dutch?” - Word(s) of the week phrases you have to know:**

- How are you? = Hoe gaat het met je?
- What is your name? = Hoe heet je?
- Where are you from? = Waar kom je vandaan?



## See you soon!

This was all for now - we will be back soon. Next time you will hear about the topic “social life” here in Amsterdam (we have some more tips for you).