

# **Student Information Guide 2023/2024**

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**WILLEM DE KOONING ACADEMY**  
Rotterdam University of Applied Sciences

# We welcome you!

Dear student,

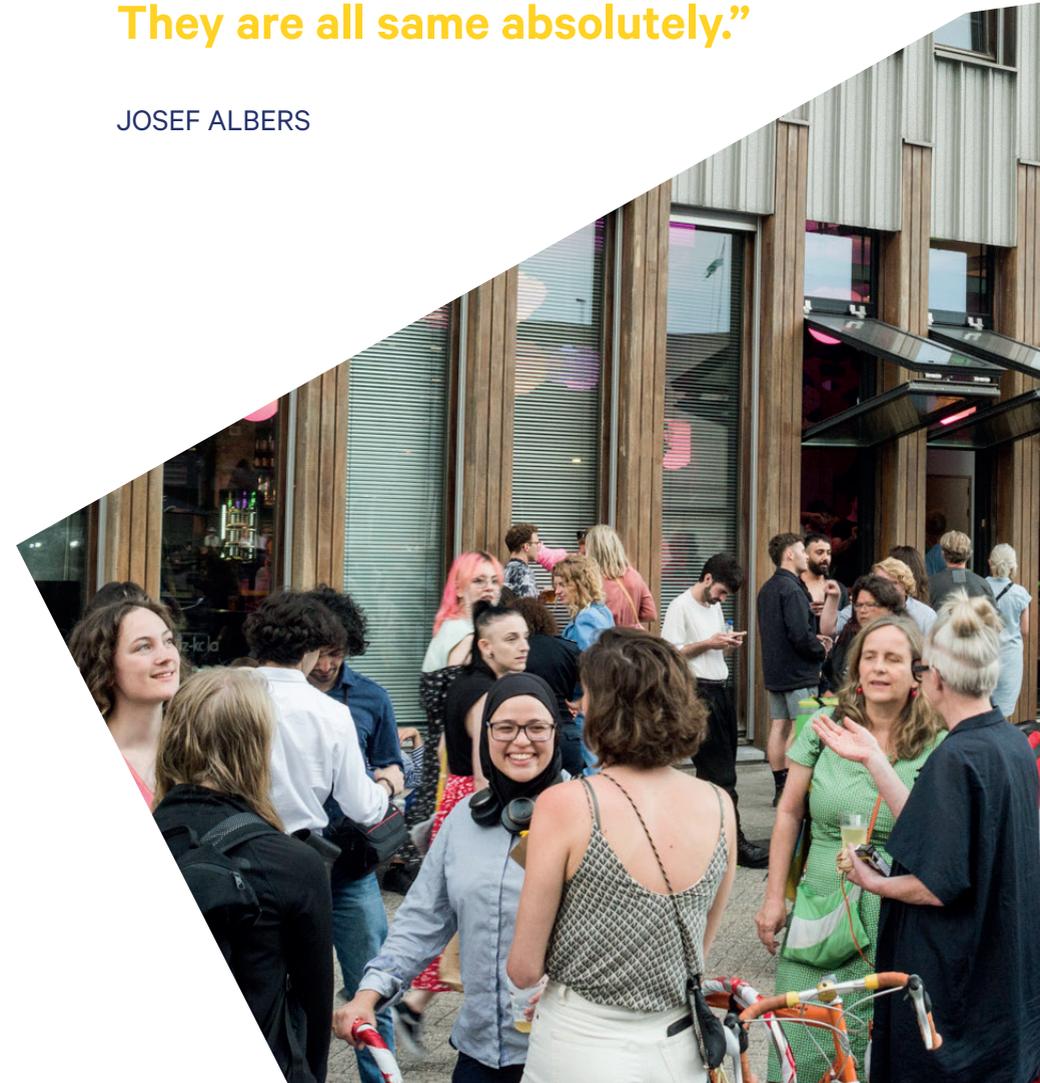
We are happy to be able to welcome you to the Willem de Kooning Academy. We hope that your educational journey with us will allow you to find your path toward your own ambitions. The Willem de Kooning Academy is located in the heart of Rotterdam, a city known for its vibrant art, design, and architectural environment. Rotterdam is of course also one of the main cities of the Netherlands. By immersing yourself in this new environment, you will encounter new cultures, new customs and a new language. These will serve you as a mirror in which you might see yourself and your own culture. We hope that most of this discovery will be enjoyable, and we want to help you navigate whatever aspects might prove more challenging.

To help you prepare for this journey, we have gathered relevant information about studying and living in Rotterdam, also including useful general information about the Netherlands. This compact student information guide will help you prepare for your arrival and guide you on your first steps here.

We look forward to meeting you soon, and we wish you an inspiring and successful time at the Willem de Kooning Academy and in the Netherlands!

**“Ah, the creative process is the same secret in science as it is in art. They are all same absolutely.”**

JOSEF ALBERS



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# Pre-departure

## IMMIGRATION PROCESS

Students from outside the EU / EEA (European Economic Area) and Switzerland who wish to follow a bachelor-level programme, are required to obtain a Dutch study residence permit.

The Centre of International Affairs (CoIA) will contact you regarding the visa application procedure and the steps to take within this process.

Keep in mind: you need to determine yourself which permit or visa rules are relevant for you. For more information and contact details, please consult the following web page: <https://www.rotterdamuas.com/study-information/practical-information/Visa-Application-Process/>

## HOUSING

Finding a room in the Rotterdam can be quite challenging. We advise you to start as soon as possible, since it can take a couple of months to find suitable housing. Student housing is not arranged by the University. There are some reserved rooms for our yearly incoming students. However, the amount of rooms is very limited.

The housing office for international students reserves approximately 220 rooms per year from the *Stichting Studenten Huisvesting* (Foundation for Student Housing, SSH). For those who are not eligible for SSH rooms, the housing office will provide you with clear and honest information about how to find a room on the private market. See the web page alternative housing providers: <https://www.rotterdamuas.com/study-information/practical-information/Student-Housing/>

## HEALTH INSURANCE

The Netherlands has a high standard of medical care. To make sure that every student is able to get the medical care they need, it is mandatory for international students in the Netherlands to purchase health insurance. International students are not automatically insured, they must arrange their own insurance. The type of health insurance that applies to you depends on your country of origin, your age, the length of your stay, and whether you have a job in the Netherlands alongside your studies. <https://www.rotterdamuas.com/study-information/practical-information/health-insurance/>

You can use this flowchart to find out what kind of health on insurances you will need. You can also find all relevant information on this web page.

## FINANCES: LIVING IN THE NETHERLANDS

Studying abroad is an investment in your future. If you wish to study in Rotterdam, you will need to consider the costs involved, such as tuition fees and daily costs of living. In some cases, you may be eligible for a scholarship. To cover your living expenses, such as housing, food, health insurance and transportation, you should expect to spend approximately € 750 - € 1,250 a month, excluding your tuition fee.

The costs are roughly as follows:

### Costs per month

Accommodation	€ 600- € 900
Food	€ 250 - € 300
Going out / sports	€ 100
Telephone	€ 30
Health insurance	€ 100 - € 150 (Basic Insurance)
Public transport	€ 40 - € 100

Please consult this web page for further information:

[www.rotterdamuas.com/study-information/finance/](http://www.rotterdamuas.com/study-information/finance/)

## DUO LOAN

If you are enrolled at Willem de Kooning Academy, you can apply for student finance. You must be a Dutch national or have the same rights. This means non-Dutch can also apply for student finance.

Do you fail to meet the nationality criteria for student finance? Then you may still qualify for a tuition fees loan.

More information:

<https://www.duo.nl/particulier/student-finance/>



## TUITION FEE

The amount that you will be required to pay depends on your nationality and the programme you have applied for. You pay tuition fees each year. The tuition fees are determined each year and therefore subject to change.

We distinguish two types of tuition fees for students:

- The statutory fee
- The institutional fee

### The statutory fee

The statutory fee is a fixed amount by the government. You pay the statutory tuition fee if you are enrolled as a student for a public funded program and meet the following two requirements:

First degree requirement: You have, since 31 August 1991, not been awarded a degree in Dutch higher education that is equivalent of your current programme of study .

Nationality requirement: You have an EEA/EU, Swiss or Surinamese nationality

### Institutional fee

Tuition fees are set each year by the Dutch government. EU students are subsidized, they do not pay the real cost of their education. The situation is different for those who do not come from the EU: the government wants tuition fees for non-EU students to be cost-covering. Students who do not meet the requirements for the statutory fee, pay the institutional fee. The amount of institutional fee differs per university, and there may also be a difference between EEA and non-EEA student. The institutional rates are determined annually by RUAS.

### Tuition fee for Refugees

Students who have been officially recognised by the UAF (the Foundation for Refugee Students) are required to pay the same tuition fees as EU/EEA students.

### Tuition fee 2023 – 2024

Full time Bachelor or Master	€ 2.314,-	(statutory fee)
Full time Bachelor	€ 9.174,-	(institutional fee)
Full time Master	€ 11.594,-	

Note: Payment in instalments is possible

More information:

<https://www.hogeschoolrotterdam.nl/globalassets/standaard-tekstelementen/kosten/collegegeldwijzer-studiejaar-2023-2024---nl.pdf>



# After arriving in the Netherlands

## REGISTRATION WITH THE MUNICIPAL GOVERNMENT

If you are staying in the Netherlands for more than 4 months, you will need to register with the municipal government as a new resident of the municipality where you are living. This register is called the Personal Records Database (Basisregistratie Personen, BRP).

Registration procedures and regulations may vary from one municipality to another. It is best to contact either your higher education institution, or the municipal government directly. They can inform you about the specific registration procedure, including which documents you need to submit (a valid passport, your rental contract, etc.).

Everyone in the Netherlands has a personal registration number: **the Citizen Service Number (Burgerservicenummer, BSN)**. This number is assigned to Dutch citizens at birth; international students living in the Netherlands are assigned one after registration in their municipality.

With a BSN you can apply for a **DigiD** ('Digital Identity'). A BSN and DigiD are required to open a bank account, to purchase health insurance, to apply for benefits or allowances, and for other public services.

## MUSEUM CARD

A Museum Card gives you free entrance to museums in the Netherlands. A Museum Card is available for Euro 64,90 from the website [www.museumkaart.nl](http://www.museumkaart.nl)

## ROTTERDAM PAS

The Rotterdam Pas gives you free entrance to the cinema, swimmingpool, Euromast and Spido and almost all museums in Rotterdam, the Hague and Delft. Price for students Euro 20,00.

[www.rotterdampas.nl](http://www.rotterdampas.nl)

## OPENING A DUTCH BANK ACCOUNT

You should have no problem obtaining cash from your overseas account using an ATM (Dutch: geldautomaat). All ATMs can be operated in English, and accept a wide range of debit and credit cards.

The amount you can withdraw, and any extra service charges, will depend on what kind of account you have. There should be no charge if you are using a card from one of the Eurozone countries (the UK is not one of these countries).

<https://www.rotterdamuas.com/study-information/practical-information/open-a-dutch-bank-account/>

## GETTING A MOBILE PHONE OR SIM CARD

The best-known Dutch telecom providers are KPN, Vodafone and T-mobile. There are numerous provider shops in the city centre of Rotterdam where you can buy a SIM card. You can also purchase a SIM card online; however, most websites are in Dutch only.

# TRANSPORT

Public transport in the Netherlands is well organised. However, if you are new here, you might need some extra tips. There are many ways to get around in Rotterdam. You can go on foot or by bike, but public transport is an easy way to get from A to B.

Rotterdam has tram and bus services operating throughout the city and its surroundings. Rotterdam also has two (mostly underground) metro lines, one from North to South and another from East to West.

You will need to purchase a smart card, the OV-Chipkaart. Provided that you have at least a minimum amount of credit stored on the smart card, you will be able to pass through the entry gates of all train and metro stations. The smart card is contact-less, with a detection distance limited to 100 mm to prevent erroneous charging. At the exit, the card will be re-read and the fare deducted. The same principle also applies to metro, tram and bus trips throughout the rest of the Netherlands, where the same card is also valid.

Bicycles: To get around quickly, easily and cheaply, you should consider buying a bicycle (Dutch: fiets) and a good quality bicycle lock. A second-hand bike in reasonable shape will cost you approximately € 150. Second-hand bicycles can be bought at most bicycle shops and at the bicycle parking garage at the Central Station. You can also rent a bike, using various services such as Swapfiets.

Check this website for more information:  
<https://9292.nl/en>

**Tram lines to the Willem de Kooning Academy from Rotterdam Central Station:**

Line 21 towards De Esch  
Line 24 towards De Esch

**Bus line to the Willem de Kooning Academy (Blaak station bus stop):**

Line 32



## WORKING IN THE NETHERLANDS

As an international student in the Netherlands, you may wish to work alongside your studies or internship. Which rules apply to you will depend on your situation. You will find the rules for each situation described below.

### Citizens of an EU / EEA country

If you are a citizen of an EU / EEA country, you are allowed to work in the Netherlands. A work permit is not necessary. The conditions below then do not apply to you.

### Citizens of a non-EU/ EEA country

If you are a non-EU and non-EEA international student, you will need a work permit (TWV, Tewerkstellingsvergunning) in order to be allowed to work in the Netherlands. It is not up to you, but up to your employer, to apply for a TWV.

### How to obtain a work permit

For international students seeking to work part-time alongside their studies, there is a simplified application procedure. In that case the Dutch national Employee Insurance Agency (UWV) is not required to conduct all of the background checks stipulated in the Foreign Nationals Employment Act (WAV, Wet Arbeid Vreemdelingen). This means that, in order to submit the application, you only need to provide the terms of employment (with a competitive regular salary), and a copy of your passport and/or residence permit.

Employers are not always aware of this simplified procedure, and may therefore be wary about applying for a work permit. Also note: there are no costs involved in submitting the application for a work permit.

### Further conditions

Once you have your TWV and start working, the number of hours you are allowed to work is restricted. You may either work full-time in June, July and August only, or work part-time (no more than 16 hours a week) throughout the rest of the year. You are not allowed to do both.

Your work permit will be issued for a maximum duration of one year. After one year, a new application must be submitted; an extension is not possible.

**Note:** keep in mind that your employer is required to provide you a copy of your work permit.

More information:

<https://www.nuffic.nl/en/subjects/work-regulations/working-netherlands-or-another-eu-country>



# Living in Rotterdam

Everything seems possible in Rotterdam. The typical Rotterdam mentality and DNA are best captured in words such as: *international, entrepreneurial, raw, and straightforward.*

Rotterdam is the second-largest city in the Netherlands, and one of the biggest ports in the world. The city has a population of 652.541 inhabitants.

It is a dynamic world city, internationally known as the 'gateway to Europe'. Our port is the hub of Europe's maritime cluster. Thanks to our many internationally acclaimed knowledge institutions, a flourishing international business community, high-quality culture and architecture, a wide range of entertainment and leisure options, and a very diverse population, Rotterdam offers everything in one single package.

Rotterdam is a city of innovators, pioneers, and people with the courage and will to drive change. Business, innovation and experimentation are all part of the city's DNA.

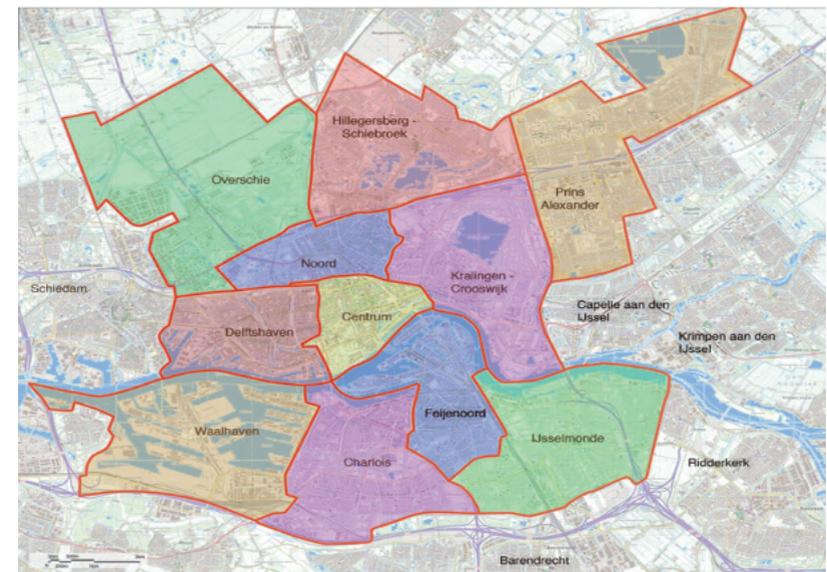
Rotterdam offers a thriving and exciting cultural infrastructure – something that is absolutely essential for high-quality education in the arts, allowing you to study in an environment that will continually challenge your talents and capabilities, offer you alternatives, inform you, and inspire you.

Rotterdam is widely acclaimed as being culturally innovative, internationally oriented, cosmopolitan and multicultural, eager to host large-scale cultural manifestations, and interested in experimentation.

Naturally, the WdKA collaborates with many cultural institutions and businesses in the city – and thus with many of our own alumni, who have found work and a source of inspiration in Rotterdam's cultural sector.

Rotterdam is also famous for its festivals, a great night life, and plenty of shops that are open 7 days a week. In addition, Rotterdam is well-known for its modern architecture, which you can find throughout the city. The Erasmus Bridge and the Cube Houses are great examples of this modern industrial design. All sights in Rotterdam can be reached by means of a quick and cheap public transport system.

For more information about Rotterdam, see: <https://en.rotterdampartners.nl/> or <https://en.rotterdam.info/>



# Studying at the WdKA

At the Willem de Kooning Academy, we generate a setting in which students can develop and broaden their interests. Students can choose different ways of working, the type of assignment that suits them best, and even their own style of learning and talent development.

You will find the Willem de Kooning Academy right in the heart of the design city of Rotterdam. The academy is part of the multi-sectoral Rotterdam University of Applied Sciences (RUAS), a dynamic knowledge institute for higher professional education.

Students of the WdKA not only choose a particular major course – let's say Advertising&Beyond – but also graduate in a professional context, which we refer to as 'Practices'. We offer three of these graduation profiles: Autonomous - Social - Commercial Practices.

You can also follow an honours programme and/or supplement your graduation specialisation with an exchange programme at an academy or university abroad. This gives you the opportunity to adapt the academy's curriculum to your own preferences and to the development of your own talent.

## INTERNATIONAL CLASSROOM

The academy recognises the clear added value of an 'international classroom'. Although our official language is Dutch, the language we use on daily basis is English. The main reason for this choice is that the contemporary professional field requires professionals with international competencies and 21st-century skills. Even for students who do not intend to work in a foreign country, these skills are essential. Therefore a TOEFL or IELTS certificate is a mandatory part of our admission.

Needless to say, we also consider it essential for our teaching staff to possess or develop these skills, whether through training or by working for a period as a guest tutor at one of our partner institutes. Finally, students are provided with optional modules for improving their English-language skills.

## START OF THE ACADEMIC YEAR

What is it going to be like, to study at the WdKA? To gain a better understanding of how we will be teaching during the upcoming year, please keep an eye on IG @wdka. Detailed information regarding the start of the academic year will be e-mailed around the beginning of July.

## LANGUAGE

We still advise you to learn some Dutch for personal use, as it will make your stay in the Netherlands more pleasant and convenient (for a Dutch language course, see for example: [www.albeda.nl](http://www.albeda.nl)). Once you are enrolled there are also electives available for you with basic Dutch.

### **Advertising&Beyond**

The WdKA is the only Dutch art school with a major specialisation in this field. We believe creativity will be the key that contributes to our future in a positive and meaningful way. And becomes more effective in combination with science, technology, data and research. You develop a strong moral compass; you determine what's most meaningful to you. You become conscious of the power of your creative talent and how you can apply it to influence society, today and in the future.

The art of influence and persuasion

In the Major Advertising & Beyond you become familiar with the tools of advertising and communication, such as research, conceptual thinking, idea-generation, branding, brand-activism, futurizing, communication-strategy, social media-strategy, hacking, artificial intelligence, virtual reality, target group analysis, visualization, storytelling, design and copywriting. You'll learn to apply them in your concepts and ideas.

### **Animation**

WdKA Animation Department combines movement, narratives, sound, technology and visuals. It is not merely a technique, nor is it a genre, it is a means of communication. Technological developments continue to shape this art form. The animator who is aware of these evolutionary developments also knows the future of the profession and, perhaps more importantly, is in tune with relevant developments in society.

### **Audiovisual Design**

Audio-visual media play a key role in providing information, in education and in entertainment. The WdKA's major specialisation Audio-Visual Design Stories and messages in image and sound are everywhere around us. From cinema and television to billboards and from museums to the screens of our phones. At the Willem de Kooning Academy you will learn in a dynamic, international and urban environment how these powerful audiovisual media work and how you can apply them yourself to share the stories that are important to you.

### **Transformation Design**

Transformation is activation by interaction. At the Transformation Design study we enter into a dialogue with the public, scientist and technicians about real life contemporary questions. We use interactive media as our main research tools.

### **Fashion Design**

You are trained to be able to work in the existing fashion system but are also encouraged to adjust and bring change to this system through practice and knowledge. We offer the hardware (design methods and technology) and the software (skills and attitude) to do this.

### **DeFine Art**

Studying Define Art at the WdKA means learning to define and redefine what your art can be in relation to society. Through material experimentation, art theories, research and peer-to-peer collaboration you develop ways of making and of positioning yourself in art fields of your choice.

### **Fine Art & Design Teacher Training**

After completing this full-time course, you will be qualified to teach art subjects in secondary education, as well as mid-level and higher professional education. You can also find employment as an educator for a cultural institution. This programme is provided in Dutch only.

### **Graphic Design**

At the WdKA Graphic Design programme you learn to embrace this wide variety of media and find out where this expansion of the field might lead you. You are trained to understand the full potential of analog, digital and hybrid media formats.

## Illustration

The contemporary illustration practice is dynamic and constantly moving beyond the limits of several other disciplines. This is precisely why illustration offers an excellent opportunity for critically questioning and discussing art, design, politics and the illustrator's position in relation to these fields. At the WdKA Illustration department, you will be trained as a "visual specialist" who is able to interact - through their work - with different audiences. You will learn to work in flexible partnerships with experts, amateurs and audiences all participating in the same creative process.

## Photography

When studying photography with us you will start with experimenting, playing and investigating the medium of photography. You will move into developing your own projects and form your vision. During your studies, you will position yourself as a professional maker and connect with your future professional context. You do this through projects both inside and outside of school.

## Product Design

Product Design is about constantly examining the relationship between products and their users. There are all kinds of products and they are everywhere, from the purely functional to those that make a statement. At its core, product design is all about questioning and redefining that which already exists. This is why product designers develop meaning and think about appearance.

Emerging technologies have already triggered fundamental debates on the future of well-established ideas regarding product design, the use of products, and the product economy. The widespread application of new methods of distribution and production are now providing major new opportunities for today's product designers.

## Spatial Design

Cities, buildings, interiors: all of these have a huge impact on how we experience the world. In spatial design, we consider the urban environment as well as indoor and outdoor spaces on a small and large scale. It is a discipline that creatively combines cultural and artistic awareness, social engagement, economic responsibility and technical insight.

You will learn to deal with the complex tasks and situations facing contemporary society. You will learn to develop a personal vision and to concretely implement this vision within a design practice. The teaching method focuses on projects that address contemporary themes such as sustainability, identity and the repurposing of buildings

## Leisure & Events Management

You are creative and inspired, economically driven and practical. You are at the centre of a buzzing cosmopolitan city with infinite opportunities for young talent. You are at the heart of regional development: life, work, recreation, sports and entertainment. Conquer Rotterdam and you conquer the world!

In today's market, characterised by a combination of increasing consumer expectations and decreasing financial possibilities, there is a clear need for leisure managers who can produce and deliver. Leisure managers with a 'hands-on' mentality, who are able to take on an entire process from initial development to roll-out, based on a well-considered strategic vision. This programme is provided in Dutch

## RASL Dual Degree

The RASL programme offers you the opportunity to develop your knowledge on an academic level while also developing your artistic skills. After graduating from this programme, you will have acquired the necessary competencies to address complex and multidimensional challenges by approaching issues from different angles. In addition, your artistic practices will benefit from your theoretical knowledge of the arts, media and culture – and vice versa: your theoretical work will be fuelled by your experience as an artist.

# Practices

When students arrive at the Academy, they begin within a Major discipline such as Advertising & Beyond, Animation, Spatial Design, or Photography to name a few. The Major promotes discipline specific knowledge, (cross-media) skills, and attitudes relevant to a wide range of professional fields. On top of the Major specific courses, WdKA students also engage with interdisciplinary graduation profiles called Practices: Autonomous Practices, Commercial Practices, Social Practices and/or the Honours Programme.

There are new, urgent issues for studying and practicing arts and design today: limited resources & sustainable development, new ecologies & economies, new demographics & political struggles. These are not just themes to be addressed and reflected upon, but they redefine the very way artists, designers and educators work. Within each of the Practices students can choose from a wide range of contemporary subjects and issues to explore artistic research, creation, and design beyond the formal boundaries of their Major discipline.

The Practices' projects are interdisciplinary in nature and work to introduce students to real life, practical assignments within the local environment while thinking of the international context. By exploring research and making in interdisciplinary groups with students from other Majors, the purpose is to widen contextual understanding and push students to strengthen their profiles as artists, designers, or educators in a changing world.

## STRUCTURE

In Year One students get introduced to all 3 practices, working in interdisciplinary teams in collaboration with a Station in terms 1.2. Then in term 1.3 students explore experimental forms of writing.

In Year Two students get the opportunity to work in 2 of the 3 practices in term 2.3.

In Year Three students further deepen their knowledge and skills on 1 of the practices and vraagstuk (subject) issue of their choice in term 3.1.

In Year Four students begin building towards graduation in the Practice and vraagstuk (subject) of their choice, made during Year three and further developed through a focused Practices Minor (term 4.1). This Practice is their graduation profile where they will receive graduation supervision in term 4.2 and do their final examination in term 4.3.

## POSITION WDKA PRACTICES

Each Practice has its own themes, subjects, research methods, and critical lenses that students get to know as they build towards graduation. Students can fine-tune the direction of their study programme based on their own professional goals. Over the course of four years of study, students develop a deeper understanding of themselves and which of the Practices' subjects best align with their creative interests, passions, and future goals. In the final phase of study, students graduate inside the Practice profile which best suits the next steps they want to pursue post-graduation.

To encourage students to explore, experiment, and gain foundational interdisciplinary skills that will benefit them throughout their years at the WdKA and in their chosen creative paths, the Practices are defined as:

### Autonomous Practices

At the core of the Autonomous Practices curriculum lies critical inquiry into and experimentation with what autonomy can mean today, how it relates to life praxis, and how autonomy can be (re)defined and practiced in various creative disciplines. Within the Autonomous Practices students are encouraged to radically experiment with what art and design can be, and to develop projects through critical self-organization that might not even be strictly identifiable as such.

### Social Practices

Social Practices are critical practices and modes of inquiry (experiments) around collective care, equity, social justice as well as raising consciousness. In Social Practices, students commit to engaging with systemic change, collective action, and different relations to urgency by critically imagining other ways of being and doing. It is important that we foster the capacity to learn with uncertainty and for a world that doesn't exist yet.

### Commercial Practices

The Commercial Practices focus on design research in relation to the world as an ecosystem consisting of complex interrelationships. To gain a holistic understanding of the large and complex systems that we are part of in local ways, we look at the world through different lenses. By connecting how systems of meaning extend through material objects, social ideas, and human identities, creative output is positioned to explore alternative understandings of value, contest current realities, or make preferable futures more tangible.

### Honours Programme

The Honours Programme is a student-driven educational programme that focuses on research, non-normative narration and interdisciplinary knowledge creation. In the Honours Programme you collaboratively work on complex, self-formulated research questions under the supervision of your tutors, guest lecturers and guest editors.



# Learning route

**The structure of the curriculum:** All competencies have been calibrated and applied within all modules in the form of learning outcomes, as well as specific knowledge, attitudes and skills, all of which serve as building blocks for developing the given competencies. The chart show an overview of the modules of your first year.

In the Stations, the station instructors provide education in skills and promote research through making; they work in synthesis with the modules and tutors, and also promote selfdirected study. Providing a rich array of facilities, from digital to traditional crafts, the Stations are integral to the learning process and the curriculum.

Course/Project	EC	Assessment method	Term description
<b>Term 1.1</b>			
Major	18	Oral and visual presentation based on assignments	Start Major, focus on gaining disciplinary knowledge and skills, learn to think conceptually in a professional context.
Major Theory	6	Paper based on assignment	Theoretical framework of discipline in relation to the project, and start with reflection on subject matter.
Plusweek 1.1	4	Evaluation of Plus plan	Additional learning activities in a self-directed programme consisting of self-initiated learning activities and electives.
<b>Term 1.2</b>			
Practice P1	9	Reflection on workshops	Introduction to the attitudes, content and methodologies of the Autonomous, Social and Commercial Practices.
Practice Theory	3	Paper based on assignment	Focus on contemporary theoretical frameworks in conjunction with the Practices
<b>Term 1.3</b>			
Major	9	Oral and visual presentation based on assignments	Second Major Project, acquisition of the necessary knowledge and skills to enter the second year.
Major Theory	3	Paper based on assignment	Focus on the disciplinary theoretical framework in relation to the project, and start with reflection on subject matter.
Plusweek 1.3	2	Evaluation of Plus plan	Additional learning activities in a self-directed programme consisting of self-initiated learning activities and electives.

Course/Project	EC	Assessment method	Term description
<b>Terms 1.1, 1.2, 1.3 / year</b>			
Study Career Coaching	2	Participation and deliverables	Development of professional competencies: independently research, determine and justify study choices.
Electives	4	Oral and visual presentation based on assignments	Electives are short projects in which students are introduced to the content and methodology of the Practices, specific skills in the Stations or short practice-based projects.
<b>Term 2.1</b>			
Major	18	Oral and visual presentation based on assignments	Third Major Project, focus on gaining necessary professional knowledge and skills, and working conceptually in a professional context.
Major Theory	6	Paper based on assignment	Theoretical framework of discipline in relation to the project, start of developing personal perspective on the subject matter.
Practice Theory	3	Paper based on assignment	Focus on contemporary theoretical frameworks in conjunction with the Practices
Plusweeks 2.1	4	Evaluation of Plus plan	Additional learning activities in a self-directed programme consisting of self-initiated learning activities and electives.

Course/Project	EC	Assessment method	Term description
<b>Term 2.2</b>			
Major	8	Oral and visual presentation based on assignments	Fourth Major Project introduces relevant contemporary disciplinary aspects, and learns to apply knowledge and skills in complex contexts.
Major Theory	3	Paper based on assignment	Theoretical framework of discipline in relation to the project, continuation of developing personal perspective on the subject matter.
Competency Assessment 2	1	Portfolio; Visual and oral presentation; Interview	First overall reflection on and assessment of the competence level of each student as acquired after 4 terms of the bachelor's programme.
<b>Term 2.3</b>			
Practice P2	9	Oral and visual presentation based on assignments	Preparation of Practice year 3, investigation of engagement & identity as an artist or designer by studying in two different Practices.
Practice Theory	3	Paper based on assignment	Theory programme focuses on contemporary theoretical frameworks in conjunction with the Practices.
Plusweek 2.3	2	Evaluation of Plus plan	Additional learning activities in a self-directed programme consisting of self-initiated learning activities and electives.

# Community of Care

## STUDENT COUNSELLOR

If you are experiencing special circumstances that are affecting your study progress, you can turn to your student counsellor. Circumstances could be: psychological or physical illness or disability, dyslexia, but also relationship or family problems, pregnancy, violence, home eviction threat, addiction, financial problems, concentration and motivation problems, fear of failure etc.

Positive exceptions are students taking part in top sport activities and those with an administrative position in a student association; these special circumstances can also be discussed with your student counsellor.

By discussing your problems and through the advice given by your student counsellor, you can often find a solution for the problem yourself. It is also possible that more needs to be done. For instance, if you are studying with a disability, specific agreements can be made with your programme concerning the provisions that you will require in order to obtain your degree (these agreements will be documented in an educational agreement).

Walk-in consultation hours on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday from 11.00 - 12.00 pm.

More information: <https://www.rotterdamuas.com/go/study-help/my-study/student-assistance/student-counsellor/>

## STUDY CAREER COACH

During your education you will encounter new challenges connected either to the process of studying or to the development of your own professional competencies and preferences.

As part of your curriculum, you will be assigned a tutor who will function as

your Study Career Coach. They will coach you to meet these challenges with increasing independence.

Your study coach will inform and guide you through your education. You will see them in individual and group contexts where topics about education, assessments, communication, development, challenges, presentation, learning objectives and personal growth are discussed.

They will help you understand the academy, the curriculum, but also help you make choices regarding your professional orientation and ambition. The study coach has an independent and confidential role, who knows all aspects of the Academy and your educational route.

## OFFICE FOR INCLUSIVITY (O4I)

The Office for Inclusivity provides support to students who encounter difficulties or challenges in any issues related to equal opportunities and inclusivity – for example if you face othering or discrimination within the academy. You can go to the O4i for a listening ear in a confidential setting where you can share your experiences, express your concerns, or be advised on how to deal with a situation.

Walk-in Hour on Thursday from 13.00-14.00



## VITALITY OFFICE

WdKA Vitality aims to stimulate, facilitate and amplify the vitality of students or employees. Preventive vitality interventions focus on the improvement of one's sense of purpose, happiness, balance, energy and well-being. The vitality interventions are based on a plethora of themes and topics (mental, social, physical or spiritual well-being) wherein we use the vitality wishes and needs of our community as our guideline. All vitality interventions are available for free for students and employees of the WdKA, both online and at the Academy.

## INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS OFFICE

In your third year you can choose either to go on exchange or internship. Next to the information you can find on mywdka (exchanges) you can also go to the International affairs office. If you have practical questions about visa, insurances, housing, a.s.o you can contact Cora Santjer [c.j.santjer@hr.nl](mailto:c.j.santjer@hr.nl)

## CONFIDENTIAL ADVISORS

Rotterdam University of Applied Sciences has rules on protection against discrimination, (sexual) intimidation, bullying, aggression or violence. A complaints procedure has been described for this (see the Hogeschoolgids annex Complaints procedure regarding discrimination, intimidation, harassment, harassment, aggression and violence).

Students and staff who are confronted with one or more of these problems can contact the confidential advisors who have been appointed at the Hogeschool.

<https://www.rotterdamuas.com/go/study-help/my-study/student-assistance/confidential-counsellor/>

## COACHING BY FELLOW STUDENTS

If being a student at an art school proves challenging, you can also seek help of fellow students acting as peercoaches (LEM) or PALs (KUO).



# Stations

## CREATING PROTOTYPES, EXPERIMENTING, REMIXING AND IMPROVING YOUR IDEAS

All of the Willem de Kooning Academy's students and staff members are welcome to work in our Stations (Workspaces), regardless of their major specialisation, minor, elective module or study year. The Stations are where you can explore the viability of your ideas and find out how to turn them into fully-functioning creations.

Dig in and get your hands dirty! Study, explore and experiment with tools, techniques, materials and equipment. Find support and inspire others by collaborating with fellow students, tutors and instructors. Bring your assignments and your independent projects to life in the Interaction Station, the Image & Sound Station, the Publication Station, the Material Station, the Living Station, the Fabric Station, the Drawing Station, the Research Station, the Education Station and the Business Station.

## WHAT IS A STATION?

Students, instructors and tutors work in and around the Stations: main central hubs which provide students with specific knowledge as well as the necessary high-quality tools and instruments. The opening hours of the academy are defined by those of the Stations. Stations are not the exclusive 'property' of any specific major specialisation or graduation profile (the Practices): rather, they function as a crossroads, a meeting place for students and tutors from various disciplines and academic years. At the Stations, you will find the facilities and expertise required in order to carry out your work. The expertise available in the Stations covers software, hardware, technology, equipment and machinery. Tutors, instructors and student assistants are present in the Stations all day long – and also in the evenings – in order to assist you.

## WHAT CAN YOU DO AT A STATION?

You will follow classes and receive technical instructions while working on your regular quarter projects. Outside of these projects, you can also work independently in the Stations. You can also choose from a broad range of instruction sessions and courses. These will allow you to familiarise yourself with specific technologies and equipment, so that you can learn to use them in ways that are uniquely your own. You can learn techniques that are of particular interest to you, and develop skills that are interesting, relevant or complementary to the projects that you have chosen.

## THE STATION AS A KNOWLEDGE DOMAIN

Research of new developments and innovations in the fields of technology, art and design also takes place in the Stations. The application of new technologies is constantly and critically examined here, while students increase their awareness of current technologies and learn how to make well-founded decisions on how to apply these technologies. This approach is entirely in line with the premise that students at the academy learn by doing, and then by reflecting upon what they have done. The Stations are environments that encourage and facilitate making and doing, and of course also thinking. You will be working not only with your fellow students and tutors from your own major specialisation, but also with students and tutors from other majors and other study years. Here you will find the state-of-the-art facilities and expertise required in order to carry out your work. Software, hardware, technology, equipment and machinery: you name it, we have it!

<https://www.wdka.nl/stations>

# Facilities

Please note that all students must carry a student identity card, to be shown upon request. A student identity card is also required to access our buildings and for borrowing books from the library.

## LIBRARIES

At the Research Station in the Wijnhaven building there is a library, where you can borrow books and magazines. You can study there undisturbed and in peace for a few hours. Also the nearby Municipal Library has a vast collection of books, audio visual materials, periodicals and newspapers.

## COMPUTERS

Your account details will be sent to you by mail before your arrival. With this account, you will be able to use the computers located in the Willem de Kooning Academy's buildings, and also to make use of e-mail and internet facilities.

## COPIERS

The copiers in the buildings are available to all users. Payment is done using your student card.

## LOCKERS

At various locations inside the buildings you will find lockers, which can be opened by following the instructions printed on the front. Payment is done using your student card.

## RENTAL & SHOP

At the Rental, students and staff members can rent or borrow equipment (under certain conditions and requirements) for educational projects. Both bachelor-level (WdKA) and master-level (PZI) students may rent equipment here.

The WdKA.Rental carries a wide variety of equipment including:

- Photo equipment
- Video cameras
- Audio equipment
- Presentation equipment
- Mannequins

Renting or borrowing the equipment listed above is subject to certain conditions. Reserving equipment is only possible through the Request Portal <https://rental.mywdka.nl>

In the WdKA Shop you can purchase most of the supplies you'll be needing for your studies. The academy buys the supplies in bulk and makes no profit, so the prices are usually lower than in the professional supply shops. Keep in mind that the assortment is smaller.

## SPORTS

The WdKA has made arrangements with the Erasmus University Rotterdam (EUR); our students can make use of The EUR's sport facilities for a fee of approximately € 175 per year (prices subject to change). During the month of September, students can try out sports facilities for free, and decide whether they wish to purchase a sports subscription card. This card allows students to use the EUR's sports facilities all year long, for example tennis, squash, fitness, aerobics and various team sports.

## THE WILLEM

The Willem de Kooning Academy has its own cafeteria: the Willem. The Willem provides hot and cold beverages, as well as sandwiches, salads and meals. You can pay using a bank chip card.

## STUDENT INITIATIVE | WDKA HAVEN

The @wdkahaven is a student community, set up and led by (international) students. They organise social events, meet-ups, share student initiatives and help students to find their way in the academy, Rotterdam and the Netherlands IG: @wdkahaven



## MEETING STUDENTS OUTSIDE WDKA

Once you are studying in Rotterdam, your time here will undoubtedly be enhanced by a healthy social life. Social contacts are very important, especially for exchange students arriving in a new country with a different culture. It is in fact the combination of this specific 'student culture' and a new 'educational culture' which makes a period of study abroad so worthwhile.

One of the best ways to get in touch with other students is to visit one of the many student associations in Rotterdam.

Student associations focus primarily on extracurricular activities. Here you will find students from all schools and departments. The associations usually have their own off-campus locations where members can meet. The various student associations of Rotterdam each have their own distinctive features.

The student association of the Rotterdam University of Applied Sciences is called RISA. For more information, see: <http://risarotterdam.nl>

## GENERAL PRACTITIONER

The first person to contact in the Netherlands for almost all medical assistance is a General Practitioner (GP). In Dutch a GP is called a Huisarts.

### Registration

Your first step will be to register with a GP. This external website from Erasmus MC shows you a list of GPs in Rotterdam.

Make sure to register with a GP as soon as possible. It can be difficult to find a GP since not all practices take in new patients. Don't wait until you are sick, because you need to be registered with a GP before you can make an appointment.

### GP after hour services

Do you need to consult a GP at night or in the weekend? You will need to call the Huisartsenpost (referred to as HAP). Ask your GP for the contact details of your HAP so that you have it ready in case you need medical assistance at night or in the weekend.

### Are you finding it difficult to find a GP to register with?

If you cannot find a GP to register with, then we suggest that you get in touch with HelloDoc. HelloDoc provides medical advice and treatment for international students who are not yet registered with a GP. Consultations take place online and are offered in multiple languages. Please note that AON student insurance is accepted by HelloDoc.

## HOLIDAYS

In the Netherlands, not all holidays are celebrated in an equally exuberant manner. Christmas, for instance, is often celebrated within the family circle. The King's Birthday, on the other hand, is a feast that is celebrated in the streets. Thousands of people go out to enjoy the delicious food, the many live bands, and the stalls selling all kinds of (second-hand) goods.

### 2023 – 2024

Autumn	14 October - 22 October 2023
X-mas	23 December 2023 - 7 January 2024
X-mas Day and Boxing Day	25 & 26 December 2023
New Year's Day	1 January 2024
Spring Half Term	17 February - 25 February 2024
Good Friday	29 March 2024
Easter	31 March - 1 April 2024
King's Birthday	27 April 2024
Spring (May)	27 April - 5 May 2024
Liberation Day	5 May 2024
Ascension	9 May 2024
Whitsun	19 & 20 May
Summer	13 July - 25 August 2024

For the official study recess dates, please log in to MyWdKA



# Contact / emergencies

## WILLEM DE KOONING ACADEMY

Physical address (two entrances):  
Blaak 10, 3011 TA Rotterdam  
Wijnhaven 61, 3011 WJ Rotterdam  
The Netherlands

Tel: (+31) (0)10 7944631

Postal address:  
P.O. Box 1272, 3000 BG Rotterdam

Information desk:  
[wdka.informationdesk@hr.nl](mailto:wdka.informationdesk@hr.nl)

## ROTTERDAM CITY AND TOURIST INFORMATION

Tourist information:  
Rotterdam VVV  
Coolingsingel 195-197 (entrance on  
Binnenwegplein), Rotterdam  
Tel: +31 (0)10 790 01 85  
[https://en.rotterdam.info/  
visitors-info/](https://en.rotterdam.info/visitors-info/)

## HOSPITALS IN ROTTERDAM

### Central district

Erasmus MC  
's Gravendijkwal 230,  
Rotterdam

[www.erasmusmc.nl](http://www.erasmusmc.nl)

### East district

IJsellandziekenhuis  
Prins Constatijnweg 2,  
Capelle a/d IJssel  
Tel: (+31) (0)10 258 50 00  
[www.ysl.nl](http://www.ysl.nl)

### North / central district

Sint Franciscus Gasthuis  
Kleiweg 500, Rotterdam  
Tel: (+31) (0)10 461 61 61  
[www.sfg.nl](http://www.sfg.nl)

### South district

Maasstad Ziekenhuis  
Maasstadweg 21, Rotterdam  
Tel: (+31) (0)10 291 19 11  
[www.maasstadziekenhuis.nl/en](http://www.maasstadziekenhuis.nl/en)

Ikazia Ziekenhuis  
Montessoriweg 1, Rotterdam  
Tel: (+31) (0)10 297 50 00  
[www.ikazia.nl](http://www.ikazia.nl)

## EMERGENCIES / HEALTH

Emergency telephone number: 112  
Local police, non emergency: 0900  
8844

## FINANCES AND IMMIGRATION

Immigration and Naturalisation  
Service (IND)  
Tel: (+31) (0)900 123 45 61  
[www.ind.nl/en](http://www.ind.nl/en)

## TRANSPORT

**Public Transport Rotterdam**  
[www.ret.nl/?sc\\_lang=en](http://www.ret.nl/?sc_lang=en)

**Public Transport Planner**  
[www.9292.nl/en](http://www.9292.nl/en)

**Dutch Railways**  
[www.ns.nl/en](http://www.ns.nl/en)

**Schiphol airport**  
[www.Schiphol.nl/index\\_en.html](http://www.Schiphol.nl/index_en.html)

**Schiphol taxi**  
[www.schipholtaxi.info/English/index.html](http://www.schipholtaxi.info/English/index.html)

**Route planner**  
[www.routenet.nl/default.aspx](http://www.routenet.nl/default.aspx)

