



Start your PhD at Leiden University

Leiden University's scientific research makes an important contribution to a safe, healthy, sustainable, prosperous and just world. Ever since the university's foundation in 1575, we have applied our efforts to developing, disseminating and applying scientific knowledge. Reflecting our motto, Bastion of Liberty, we aim to be a reliable authority in both scientific and societal debates. Our research infrastructure, facilities and collections are world class.

Why Leiden University?

- ▶ **Great scholars and scientists:** Leiden University is the oldest university in the Netherlands and one of the oldest in Europe with more than 16 former Nobel Prize winners. Our academics feature strongly in awards from the National Research Council (NWO), the European Research Council (ERC), the Royal Dutch Academy of Sciences and other research organisations.
- ▶ **Ranking:** Leiden University consistently scores highly in international rankings such as the Times Higher Education World University Ranking (THE) and the Shanghai Academic Ranking of World Universities.
- ▶ **International:** Students and staff from over 129 different nationalities are represented throughout the university. It's not necessary to know any Dutch; English is widely used.
- ▶ **Facilities:** World-famous collections, high-level research infrastructure and extensive international collaboration.
- ▶ **Inspiring locations:** The university is located in the safe, dynamic and historical cities of Leiden and The Hague, on the doorstep of Europe.



**Universiteit
Leiden**
The Netherlands

Discover the world at Leiden University



What can you expect as a PhD student in Leiden?

Every year, around 400 PhD candidates defend their dissertation at Leiden University, spread across all the University's different disciplines. Doing your PhD in Leiden involves conducting four years of research and having access to courses at Leiden University and Dutch Research Schools. You will write a doctoral dissertation under the close supervision of Leiden's renowned academics and your dissertation will be defended before an expert jury. Leiden has strong ties with other top research institutes across the world and is one of the founding members of the League of European Research Universities (LERU). This provides you with ample opportunities for expanding your global academic network.

Support

The LEO Leiden PhD Association and the Dutch PhD Network are both organisations that promote the interests of PhD students. In addition, the university offers training and careers advice to maximize employment potential. PhD candidates also receive support in developing grant proposals and in administrative issues such as applying for visa and work permits.

How can you arrange your PhD?

In the Netherlands there are different ways of funding your PhD. You can apply for a paid PhD position advertised on our website or you can enroll as a full-time or part-time PhD candidate supported by a scholarship or by your own funding. Leiden University has options on offer across all fields for those ambitious enough to pursue a PhD.

In the Netherlands, your doctoral research and your course work are developed in close cooperation with your supervisor and the Graduate School. Finding and securing a PhD position starts with finding a professor willing to supervise your doctoral research. The following options are available for finding a placement at Leiden University:

1. The university vacancy database advertises available PhD vacancies.
2. The Graduate Schools can be contacted directly. Moreover, they can provide more specific information on the application procedure at their school and support you in finding a possible supervisor.
3. You can contact a professor to ask if he/she is willing to be your potential supervisor. Include your research proposal, CV and publication list.

Diploma requirements

You are required to have a relevant master's degree (or equivalent) with good results from a recognized university.

Finances and housing

To cover your living and other expenses, you will need approximately €17,000 per year. There are several ways to find housing in and close to Leiden and The Hague. The University can assist PhD candidates in finding accommodation.

Find out more

Studying for your PhD

www.universiteitleiden.nl/en/research/studying-for-a-phd

Professors

www.universiteitleiden.nl/professors

The university vacancy database

www.universiteitleiden.nl/phd-positions

Service Centre International Staff

www.universiteitleiden.nl/scis

Summer Schools

www.universiteitleiden.nl/summerschool

MOOCs

www.coursera.org/leiden