VU Application Form – PPE 2025-2026

**The admission process for Philosophy, Politics and Economics is selective**

PPE is a small-scale and intensive programme which means that in the programme we aim for high level learning outcomes within our learning community. We are therefore looking for talented and ambitious students with an affinity for each of the disciplines who are motivated to contribute to the PPE community.

To qualify for admission, you will need to meet the entry requirements and satisfy the specific selection criteria.

You can find more information about the selection criteria and procedure by clicking [here](https://vu.nl/en/education/bachelor/philosophy-politics-and-economics/admissions).

BEFORE YOU START, CHECK IF YOU MATCH THE ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

* [Philosophy, Politics and Economics (PPE)](https://vu.nl/en/education/bachelor/philosophy-politics-and-economics/admissions)

**INSTRUCTIONS: HOW TO COMPLETE THIS APPLICATION**

1. [**Consult the step-by-step application overview**](https://vu.nl/en/education/more-about/apply-bachelors-programme). Scroll down on the page to the application procedure: Applying with a non-Dutch diploma: PPE and Law in Society.
2. Create a new application in Studielink for the Bachelor’s programme of your interest and submit.
3. Fill out this form without using any external links (such as Google Drive, etc), and save the completed form in one **PDF format**. If you need assistance, we recommend asking your school counselor or tutor first.
4. After receipt of your VUnet-ID and password, upload the completed form in the application section of your VU Dashboard under ‘VU Application Form - Bachelor’.
5. Submit the application in your VU Dashboard and pay the non-refundable application fee of €100. [Find out more about the payment of the application fee and reasons for exemption](https://vu.nl/en/education/more-about/how-can-i-pay-for-the-application-fee).
6. After submission the International Office will check your documents. Once your file is checked and found to be complete, the International Office will confirm receipt by email.

**Deadline for submitting your application**:

* *Optional*: Early Bird deadline: **14 February**
* Non-EU/EEA students: **1 April**
* EU/EEA students and students who do not need a study visa/residence permit through VU Amsterdam[[1]](#footnote-2): **1 May**

**OUR POLICY**

|  |
| --- |
| Thank you for completing this assessment form and for your interest in studying PPE at the J.S. Mill College, VU Amsterdam.  Once you have received confirmation that the application is complete, the International Office starts with the evaluation of your academic background **based on the submitted documents only**. We then aim to inform you of the admission decision within:   * 4 weeks if your application was completed before the Early Bird deadline of 14 February * 6 weeks if your application was completed after the Early Bird deadline   For more information on the programme, please visit our website: [www.vu.nl/ppe](http://www.vu.nl/ppe) |

# **PPE Assessment form – Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam**

**Contact Information**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| VU Student number |  |
| Full Name |  |
| E-mail Address |  |
| * **Please submit this application form as a PDF document. Upload it instead of a motivation letter.** * **Note that applications where the answers exceed the word limit will not be taken into consideration!** * **You can find all information about the admission requirements and application procedure** [**here**](https://vu.nl/en/education/bachelor/philosophy-politics-and-economics/admissions)**.** | |

Curriculum Vitae (CV) **Read the instruction first, then delete this text and paste the requested document onto the page:**  
Include on this page a curriculum vitae that includes your personal details and lists your previous education (including clear mention of school/institution names and duration of your studies) and relevant work and volunteer experiences. You can use a template of your own choice or make use of the [Europass CV template](https://europass.cedefop.europa.eu/en/documents/curriculum-vitae/templates-instructions.iehtml).

**Assessment questions regarding motivation and suitability**

1. Interests/achievements in the PPE disciplines

What explains your academic interest in the PPE programme? If you have any prior achievements in the disciplines involved, do not forget to mention them! **(250 words max.)**

|  |
| --- |
|  |

2. International orientation

At the J.S. Mill College you will be part of an international classroom. Describe why you want to interact with people from different parts of the world. In your description, point out which relevant competences such as intercultural sensitivity, communication skills etc.) you would like to develop through these experiences. This can be both in local and international contexts. **(250 words max.)**

|  |
| --- |
|  |

3. Societal engagement

Our slogan is “better decisions for a better world.” What shows your engagement with the questions and issues that are typically addressed in a PPE programme? What topic would you like to see addressed in the programme? **(250 words max.)**

|  |
| --- |
|  |

4. Cognitive abilities / intellectual ambitions

The PPE programme is meant for talented and ambitious students. How would you yourself evaluate your cognitive abilities and your intellectual ambitions? What do you consider your strong and weak points? (**250 words max.)**

|  |
| --- |
|  |

5. Personal development

In order to get the most out of our programme, you need a reflective attitude towards your experiences. Please answer either question a) or b) **(250 words max.)**

1. Briefly describe a situation in which you worked with people from different backgrounds and explain what you learned from that experience
2. Briefly describe a time in which you had to step out of your comfort zone and explain what you learned from that experience

Also include your strong points and your weaknesses in your reflection.

Note: please answer only *one* of the two questions.

|  |
| --- |
|  |

6. Other relevant information

What other relevant information do you want to share with us in order to motivate your application and proof your suitability for our PPE programme? **(250 words max.)**

|  |
| --- |
|  |

1. **APPLICATION INFORMATION**

**2.1. PERSONAL INFORMATION**

PERSONAL INFORMATION

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **First name(s)**\*: | |
| **Last name(s)**\*: | |
| **Date of birth**: | **Nationality**: |
| **Email address**: | **VU student number**: |

*\*As indicated on passport*

**2.2. APPLICATION DETAILS**

|  |
| --- |
| **I am seeking admission based on**:  International previous education diploma[[2]](#footnote-3)  Dutch previous education diploma -> This document is not intended for you. Find information on our programme page under “applying with Dutch previous education”  *Voorbereidend jaar anderstalige studenten* (VASVU) -> Use the VASVU application form. For more information, please contact your mentor |

**2.3. HIGH SCHOOL DETAILS**

|  |
| --- |
| **Name of school**: |
| **Start date (dd-mm-yyyy)**: |
| **Country**: |
| **Name of qualification in the original language:**  **Name of qualification translated into English:** |
| **Study specialisation**  *Or followed curriculum (e.g. programme, stream, orientation, liceo type, study direction, etc.)*: |
| **Mathematics**  *Indicate the level (e.g. intermediate, advanced, specialité, seminar, etc.), topics and hours you have completed in your final two years of High School:* |
| **Have you graduated at the moment of application?**  Yes -> Graduation date:  No -> Expected graduation date: |

**2.4. IF APPLICABLE: UNIVERSITY ENTRANCE EXAMINATIONS**

|  |
| --- |
| **In addition to your high school diploma, have you taken/are you going to take any university entrance examinations in your country of education at the moment of application?**  Yes -> *Please fill out the rest of this section*  Not yet, but I am planning on doing so -> *Please fill out the rest of this section*  No -> *You may proceed to the next section* |
| **Name of university entrance examinations**  *(e.g. PAU/EVAU (Spain); YKS/TYT (Turkey); ENEM/Vestibular (Brazil); etc.)*  1) Original language:  2) Official English translation: |
| **Date of examination**: |
| **Name of institution/university**: |
| **Grades obtained (if applicable)**: |

**2.5. IF APPLICABLE: FURTHER EDUCATION AFTER HIGH SCHOOL**

|  |
| --- |
| **Name of institution/university**: |
| **Start date (dd-mm-yyyy)**: |
| **Country**: |
| **Name of qualification in the original language:**  **Name of qualification translated into English:** |
| **Duration of entire programme + total of credits** (*e.g. 4 years, 160 credits*): |
| **Language of instruction**: |
| **Website link to programme curriculum**: |
| **Have you graduated at the moment of application?**  Yes -> Graduation date:  Not yet -> Expected graduation date:  No, I have/will quit the programme. |
| **Course descriptions**  *List the following (make sure to include course descriptions, course codes and number of credits per course):*   1. Courses you have completed already 2. If applicable: courses you are planning to complete before 31 August 2025 |
| **Add your transcripts further down this application form under the section Transcript of Records** |

**3. IF APPLICABLE: DIPLOMA STATEMENT**

*This diploma statement needs to be completed by your* ***school's representative*** *if you have not yet graduated from high school.* ***If you have graduated from high school, you do not need to complete this page.***

**3.1. Applicant’s personal details**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **First name(s)**\*: | |
| **Last name(s)**\*: | |
| **Date of birth**: | **Nationality**: |
| **Email address**: | **VU student number**: |

*\*As indicated on passport*

**3.2. High school details**

The undersigned hereby certifies that the student is currently enrolled at the following school:

|  |
| --- |
| **Name of school**: |
| **Country**: |

The applicant will sit exams in the following subjects/courses[[3]](#footnote-4):

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Examination subjects** | **Level** | **Teaching hours per week** | **Predicted grade (if applicable)** | **Central examination[[4]](#footnote-5) (Y/N)** |
|  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |

|  |
| --- |
| **Name of qualification in the original language:**  **Name of qualification translated into English:** |
| **If applicable, programme/profile**: |
| **Language of instruction**: |
| **Graduation date**\*: |

*\*If the exact date of graduation is not yet known, please add only the month and year in which the student will graduate. This date should be before September 1 (start of the Dutch academic year).*

**3.3. GPA grading scale (please select below)**

**You will need to select the grading scale your school uses below**. If the school uses a different grading scale or grade calculation than mentioned, please indicate this clearly or provide a clear explanation. For diplomas not listed on our [website](https://vu.nl/en/education/more-about/list-of-diplomas-per-country), please include a transcript and a diploma supplement explaining the school’s grading system.

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | 1.0 to 4.0 | For U.S. GPA 4.0 scale only |  | 6 to 1 | 1 is the highest grade |
|  | 0/1 to 100 | 100 is the highest grade |  | 2 to 12 | 12 is the highest grade |
|  | 0/1 to 60 | 60 is the highest grade |  | 9 to 1 | 1 is the highest grade |
|  | 0/1 to 20 | 20 is the highest grade |  | F to A/A+ | A/A+ is the highest grade |
|  | 0/1 to 15 | 15 is the highest grade |  | U to A\* | A\* is the highest grade |
|  | 0/1 to 10 | 10 is the highest grade |  | F to A1 | A1 is the highest grade |
|  | 0/1 to 7 | 7 is the highest grade |  | VII to I | I is the highest grade |
|  | 0/1 to 6 | 6 is the highest grade |  | Other, please specify: | |
|  | 0/1 to 5 | 5 is the highest grade |  |  |  |

**3.4. Contact details school**

|  |
| --- |
| **Name school representative**: |
| **Job title**: |
| **Email address**: |
| *I hereby declare that the information provided in this form is true.*  **Date**:  **Signature**:  **School** **stamp**: |

**4. (HIGH SCHOOL) DIPLOMA**

**Instructions**

Please upload a clear scan/screenshot of your diploma(s)/degree(s)[[5]](#footnote-6) here. **After uploading, delete the text on this page**.

***Note:*** *I*t is not necessary for your diploma(s) to be together on one page; add more pages if needed.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Did you not obtain your diploma yet?** | * Proceed to the Transcript of Records form on the next page |
| **Did you obtain more than 1 high school / higher education diploma?** | * Include all diplomas here |

**4.1. Grade Point Average (mandatory)**

Please fill out your overall Grade Point Average (GPA) achieved of your previous education (as indicated on your final transcript/ diploma).

|  |
| --- |
| **Overall GPA:** |

***Note 1***

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **GCE A-level applicants** | Please include your GCSE certificates and AS grades. If no AS grades are available, your school will need to provide an interim or progress report of the most recently completed academic year. Predicted grades are not accepted for the GPA calculation. |
| **International Baccalaureate applicants** | Please provide a sum total of your grades from your IB Diploma Programme Year 1. Do not include the extracurricular points from Theory of Knowledge or CAS projects. |

**5. TRANSCRIPT OF RECORDS**

**Instructions**

Upload a clear scan/screenshot of your transcripts[[6]](#footnote-7) of (at least) the last 2 completed years of high school/upper high school/senior high school here. Are you currently in your final year? Then you can upload your complete transcript of 2023-2024 and your transcript of 2024-2025 with all grades obtained so far. **After uploading, delete the text on this page**.

***Note 1***

It is not necessary for all your transcripts to be together on one page; please add more pages if needed.

**Note 2**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **International Baccalaureate applicants** | Indicate the level of all subjects incl. language (HL/SL or A/B) and mathematics: Math Analysis & Approaches HL/SL or Math Applications & Interpretations HL/SL |
| **GCE A-level applicants** | Upload the GSCE certificates and AS grades/certificates obtained as well. If no AS grades/certificates are available, please provide an interim or progress report of the penultimate year |
| **US high school diploma applicants** | Indicate the Advanced Placement (AP) courses/AP College Board exams already obtained and/or the AP courses/College Board exams to be taken. Make sure to upload the official AP College Board exam certificates onto this page |
| **All other applicants** | Please proceed as previously mentioned under ‘Instructions’ |

***Note 3***

Did you complete **university entrance exams** or **further education** after obtaining your high school diploma? Include a scan/screenshot of your most up-to-date transcripts here as well.

**6. CHECKLIST**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  | I have checked the programme-specific admission requirements on the [information page](https://vu.nl/en/education/bachelor/philosophy-politics-and-economics/admissions) of my programme of choice – section ‘Admissions’ |
|  | I have read the [information about the application procedure](https://vu.nl/en/education/more-about/apply-bachelors-programme) |
|  | I have created an admission request in [Studielink](https://www.studielink.nl/) for 2025-2026 and submitted this |
|  | I have received my VUnet-ID and filled out the questions in my [VU Dashboard](https://vu.nl/en/dashboard/services/registration) |
|  | I have added my Curriculum Vitae (CV) as part of the Assessment Form |
|  | I have included in this document either a scan of my high school diploma (or further education diploma) or a completed Diploma Statement, filled out and signed by my school |
|  | I have included the overall grade point average (GPA) achieved of my previous education OR my school representative has selected the GPA grading scale the school uses |
|  | I have included the transcript of records with **grades obtained over the last 2 years** from my high school and if available any transcripts from further education |
|  | I have added additional information about university entrance examinations I have taken/am going to take in my own country, if applicable |
|  | I have checked the [English Language requirements](https://vu.nl/en/education/more-about/meeting-language-proficiency-requirements). When already available, I have uploaded a valid English language test or proof of qualifying for an exemption in the English language test section of my application in my [VU Dashboard](https://vu.nl/en/dashboard/services/registration). *Note that you can already apply without the English language test results* |
|  | I have read the policy on p.2 and understand that the decision on admission will be based on my submitted documents and provided information only |
|  | I have paid the [application fee](https://vu.nl/en/education/more-about/how-can-i-pay-for-the-application-fee) or have contacted the International Office when I qualify for an exemption |

Have you checked all the boxes above? Great, you are ready to submit your application in the VU Dashboard!

**Deadline to fully submit your application:**

**Note**: it is strongly recommended to submit your application as early on as possible

* *Optional*: Early Bird deadline: **14 February**
* Non-EU/EEA students: **1 April**
* EU/EEA students and students who do not need a study visa/residence permit through VU Amsterdam[[7]](#footnote-8): **1 May**

1. You can find out on our [visa page](https://vu.nl/en/education/more-about/visa-and-residence-permit) if you need to apply for immigration documents. [↑](#footnote-ref-2)
2. When you select this option, you will need to submit a certified copy of your obtained diploma after admission, before 31 August 2025. See for specifications: [vu.nl/diploma](http://www.vu.nl/diploma). [↑](#footnote-ref-3)
3. Please list the full official name of the course and, if applicable, the level (e.g. standard, advanced, higher etc.) [↑](#footnote-ref-4)
4. A central examination is a final and/or national exam for the upper secondary education often organised by an official institute such as a Ministry of Education. Other examples are an International Baccalaureate (IB) exam, a European Baccalaureate (EB) or an Advanced Placement (AP) College Board exam. [↑](#footnote-ref-5)
5. For the application phase we accept scans of diplomas and transcripts in English, German, Dutch, French, Italian, Spanish and Portuguese. Is your document issued in another language? Then please also include an English translation by a sworn translator. Note that for the diploma verification step (after admission) only documents in English, German, Dutch, French or Spanish are accepted. See: [vu.nl/diploma](https://vu.nl/en/education/more-about/verification-previous-education?slug=diploma).  [↑](#footnote-ref-6)
6. For the application phase we accept scans of diplomas and transcripts in English, German, Dutch, French, Italian, Spanish and Portuguese. Is your document issued in another language? Then please also include an English translation by a sworn translator. Note that for the diploma verification step (after admission) only documents in English, German, Dutch, French or Spanish are accepted. See: [vu.nl/diploma](https://vu.nl/en/education/more-about/verification-previous-education?slug=diploma).  [↑](#footnote-ref-7)
7. You can find out on our [visa page](https://vu.nl/en/education/more-about/visa-and-residence-permit) if you need to apply for immigration documents. [↑](#footnote-ref-8)