

Honours personal track international perspective



If you opt for an International Perspective star, you have chosen for doing research or having experiences abroad or in the Netherlands in a setting of diverse cultural and language communities. This can include international companies, NGOs at home or abroad, cross-border journalism assignments, diversity in education, healthcare institutions inside or outside of Europe or exchange programmes in your field of education at home or abroad.

What can you do?

You choose and submit a personal track with an international approach.

Each track will connect to one of the current HU international directions. These are:

1. **Internationalisation abroad**, where you leave the Netherlands and go abroad. This can include work placement in another country, where you participate in extra-curricular activities in addition to the work placement. You may research cultural aspects of the community. Maybe you would like to go abroad for a few weeks or months to exchange professional qualities and skills, or perhaps take part in an initial orientation for this. Possibly you want to challenge yourself to learn to deal with other values, norms and cultural differences? Do you want to step out of your comfort zone? Or would you like to develop new perspectives? If you are studying to become a teacher you can go abroad under guidance of Edukans.
2. **Internationalisation at home**, where you are involved in international projects or conferences (such as those on sustainability, Urban Energy or Transform-CE) in the Netherlands. You might be taking an additional minor in the field of multicultural settings or diversity, participate in the Summer School, work with refugees (such as the commitment to support people from Ukraine or HU HOME), be involved in a mentoring programme, Language Room or Language Café events or supervise international students.

What will you learn?

You shape this honours track yourself and describe your personal goals for this. If you choose International, this does mean globalizing and taking in diverse cultural perspectives that you link to your field. For the International Perspective honours star, international competences serve as a guideline, as drawn up by Nuffic (2019):



How do you conclude the honours track?

As you are taking a personal journey, this will result in a personal final product of your choice.

The following guidelines, in the form of development areas, can support you in this.

1. Personal:

Where does your specific interest lie in the international field? What elements appeal to you in taking an international perspective?

Consider your personal preference or ambition within working in multicultural settings or within areas involving intercultural communication.

Are you interested in the various cultures, the communication between them (verbally and non-verbally), the perceptions that influence communication, the values and norms that play a role? In what way do you want to connect to this and what ideals do you pursue? In determining this, you can use the intercultural competences above (Nuffic, 2019).

2. Organisational culture & communication:

Here, you prepare an overview of the organisation within which you complete the track, outlining the mutual influences of organisational structure, (various) cultures and community (or various communities). The role of communication, given the (inseparable) relationship between culture and communication.

3. Developing a personal view:

Develop your own view by contemplating about the concepts of 'jam culture' (Kramer, 2019), in exploring how diversity and inclusion can be shaped. By studying the concepts of distinction, power, truth, confidence and courage (Kramer 2019), you will discover the role these concepts play when taking a different (international) perspective. Also you describe how you relate to and (potentially) commit to these concepts. Ethical questions are discussed that influence your views. In detailing your vision, you highlight the themes that take centre stage for you during the implementation of this honours track.

4. Value of this honours track:

You indicate what the value of this honours track has been for both your personal identity and your professional identity and what basic values underpin it (at the moment). You describe in what way these strengthen you in your identity and in what way they enable you to better connect with yourself and the environment. Does multiperspectivity apply? What cross-cultural or intercultural insights have you gained? What feedback have you received and in what ways has it had an effect? How will the track affect your future personal and professional learning landscape or professional action in practice?

International Perspective assessment

Please refer to the separate assessment form.

In addition to a substantive account of the track and reflection on it, the four points mentioned above are applied in a self-chosen final product. Personal reflection takes place on the basis of Nuffic's goals (Nuffic, 2019) in which both intercultural competences, international orientation and personal development are specified. The achievement demonstrates an international perspective or multiperspectivity (HU honours committee, September 2022).

The program of Edukans follows a different assessment (only in Dutch).

Please contact Mariken.vanbergen@hu.nl for any questions.