

BIP AERES UAS DRONTEN 2025:

At Aeres University of Applied Sciences in Dronten, we are delighted to announce the organization of a Blended Intensive Programme (BIP) titled **"Navigating the Future: Addressing Challenges in Companion Animal Welfare."** This 3-ECTS programme, scheduled for May 2025, offers a unique opportunity to network with international students, guest speakers, and faculty members.

You wouldn't want to miss this chance, would you?

WHY?

The welfare of companion animals is set to gain greater prominence in the years ahead. The bond between humans and their companion animals has strengthened considerably in recent times. Today, pet owners regard their animals as integral members of their families, driving a growing demand for exceptional care. This makes it essential for the pet sector to adopt a forward-thinking approach. How can we ensure optimal care for all pets in the future? How do we address challenges related to feeding and sustaining them? And how can we continue to uphold and improve animal welfare standards? These are pressing questions that require innovative solutions. During this programme, we aim to explore these challenges and work collaboratively toward solutions for the future.

WHAT?

The BIP is organized by the Department of Animal Health and Management at Aeres UAS, inviting international students to delve into and discuss strategies for addressing these future challenges. This diverse and engaging programme includes:

- Thought-provoking lectures delivered by international academics and experts
- Excursions to pioneering organizations prioritizing animal welfare
- A symposium and interactive discussions on key issues
- Collaborative work on a compelling case study

By bringing together students from across Europe, the BIP fosters synergy, the exchange of knowledge, and opportunities for networking. At the conclusion of the week, participants will present innovative ideas to help propel the pet sector into the future.

The three-week programme combines face-to-face and online elements, featuring:

- Insights into international perspectives and mutual learning
- Lectures by global thought leaders
- Visits to innovative organizations
- Development of English communication skills (B2 or higher), both spoken and written
- Opportunities for networking and international collaboration
- Research on problem-solving methods and best practices
- Intercultural communication, sustainability, and integrated approaches to challenges

WHO?

This course is ideal for you if:

- You are passionate about companion animals
- You enjoy working with individuals from diverse countries and cultures
- You are eager to adopt fresh perspectives and explore innovative solutions

HOW and WHEN?

Preparation Phase: 1 EC

The preparation phase will be conducted online via Microsoft Teams **from 14 to 18 April 2025**. During this period, students and teachers will meet virtually to familiarize themselves with the programme. Experts from Aeres UAS will provide an overview of current Dutch legislation on companion animals and highlight existing challenges. Particular attention will be paid to the evolving human-animal relationship.

BIP Programme: 2 ECs

From 19 to 23 May 2025, participants will attend the on-site programme at Aeres University in Dronten, the Netherlands. The schedule includes:

- Guest lectures by international faculty
- Guided tours of practical facilities and research discussions
- Interactive sessions with Dutch and international students
- Engaging presentations by inspiring guest speakers
- Hands-on exploration of recent research findings

HOW MUCH WILL IT COST ME?

The course itself is free of charge. However, allowances for travel, accommodation, and subsistence expenses will be available through EU funding, provided participants complete the required documentation.

Where do I get more information, who I will apply with?

For further details or to apply, please contact:

- **Loes Spit**
Department of Animal Health and Management
Email: l.spit@aeres.nl
- **Aeres UAS International Office**
Information on Erasmus+
Email: international.uas@aeres.nl

Application Deadline: 28 February 2025