

Report Zoom session First year BSc students Nanobiology

Organized for students who have accepted or are waiting to be offered a place in our Nanobiology Bachelor's degree programme

Monday June 22, 2020 15:00-16:15

Present: 73 students, 9 Nanobiology staff and students

Agenda:

- 15.00-15.05 CET Digital walk in"
- 15.05 CET Welcome and introduction by Claire Wyman
- 15.10 CET Introductions Nanobiology Team
- 15.20 CET Information about introductory period, Tanja Hilkhuijsen
- 15.30 CET Information about starting courses, Johanna Colgrove & Diane Mevius
- 15.40 CET Q&A

Introductory period

We highly recommend that you participate in the introductory activities as you will get the chance to meet your future classmates as well get an introduction to student life.

OWee

This year's OWee, the introduction week of TU Delft, will be completely online (August 14-16). The OWee serves as a way of getting to know TU Delft and is for all incoming Bachelor students. During this period, you will get to know the variety of student associations in Delft. For the OWee, small groups of students are created (Nanobiology only), based on how you answer the OWee's questions when signing up. For signing up for OWee, please go to <https://www.aanmelder.nl/introweek2020/subscribe>.

After the OWee there will be one physical day per programme. For Nanobiology, everyone is welcome on the **20th of August in Delft** (please note that this is a different date from the date we sent in our latest message). This will be a full day, until the end of the afternoon, where you will participate with your OWee group in a campus tour and a tour in the city centre of Delft. Nanobiology's study association S.V.N.B. Hooke will organize lunch and drinks on this day. Also, some members of the Nanobiology team will be present. This will be the first physical day for Nanobiology students to meet up with each other, which is exactly why all of you are encouraged to join.

Intron

After OWee, the online introduction days organised by S.V.N.B. Hooke will take place on the 21st and 22nd August. These two days will be for Nanobiology students only, where you get the chance to meet your fellow Nanobiology students, not only the students of your OWee group.

Mentor groups

After Intron, we will ask you to let us know your preferences regarding your fellow mentees, and your preferred mentors. Based on these preferences we will assign all first year students to a final mentor group. A mentor group consists of about 10 students and will be mentored by two older Nanobiology students. Throughout the first semester (and maybe even after) you will meet frequently with your mentor group. The mentors serve as a person to talk to about any problems you might encounter, or just to ask questions about studying or academic life. Students who choose not to take part in the introductory period will be placed in mentor groups as well. We will make sure there's a good balance within the mentor groups regarding male/female, Dutch/international students and students that did or did not join the introductory period.

Start of courses

Lectures in the first semester will be online. Apart from lectures, there will be work sessions. These will mostly be online too, probably using Discord (you can download the app on your laptop for the best experience).

We are aiming for some small-scale on campus education as well.

We strive to make every mentor group meet with every lecturer on a weekly basis, in person. What this will look like in the schedule is however not clear yet. We will maximize the time spent on campus.

Practicals: Starting in the second semester of the first year, you will follow Labcourse 1 and Labcourse 2. We hope to be able to let you have full practical days, like ordinarily.

S.V.N.B. Hooke

Hooke is Nanobiology's study association. Here you can buy your books and other necessary equipment for the study, like lab coats for the second semester. An updated list of which books you need will soon appear online (<https://hooke.tudelft.nl/book-sale/>).

By becoming a member, you get discounts on the books and you will be able to participate in social and study related events.

Apart from study related purposes, Nanobiology's study association serves as a way of having an active social life.

Q&A

After the formal announcements in the zoom session, a lot of questions were asked and answered. You can find them below, organized by subject.

- **Studying**

If, for whatever reason, I cannot be in Delft in September, am I able to follow the programme?

We will make sure you can follow as much as possible online, therefore you will be able to follow the programme, even if you are not in Delft. However, the schedule will be adjusted to the Dutch time-zone. Lectures are recorded and posted online.

Math and Physics Refresher

To help make sure you are (still) at the physics and mathematics level we expect you to be, there are two MOOCs to help you. The one for mathematics is already available. The one for physics is expected to be ready soon, probably between mid-July and 1 August.
Pre-University MOOC (Online module) Calculus.

Will I be offered a place for the programme?

We do not have a lot to say about this. This depends on your rank and on what the students with a higher rank do. You may be offered a place if other people decline their offers or can no longer come. This offering of places can take up to mid-August for EU students. Students outside of the EU who have not been offered a place, will not be offered one anymore.

Will I receive information on my EUR account?

You will get an EUR account including a student ID. These are equivalent to the account you received information about from the TU Delft. Information about this account will come in time, as long as your enrolment to Nanobiology is completed.

What do I need to be able to join the Honours Programme?

The Honours Programme is meant for students who want to take it upon themselves to take part in an extra challenge. Students that complete their first year with a GPA (Grade Point Average) of 8.0 or higher and 60 credits, and thus passed all first year courses in their first year, will receive an invitation.

Can you give some information on grading and examinations in Nanobiology?

We work with a scale from 1 to 10 where every grade is rounded off to halves. Thus, a 5.7 is a 5.5 and a 5.8 is a 6. Therefore, you pass an exam, or course, when you receive a 5.8 or higher.

For every course, there will be some way of examination. This can range from a computer practical, to a presentation or a theoretical exam, which is most frequently the case. You will be provided sample exams and other practice material for the exams so that you know what to expect.

- **Housing**

- *Do I need a room in Delft from September onwards?*

- The question whether you need a room in Delft from the beginning of the semester was posed frequently. This is completely up to you. As previously stated, we will maximize the time that can be spent on campus.

Being a student is however more than “just” studying. Many of our students love socializing and living on their own. Needless to say, socializing will be much easier for students who live in Delft, or nearby. We also expect student associations to organize some physical activities throughout the academic year.

- *When should I start looking for a room?*

- Honestly, the sooner the better. You can look for pages on Facebook, you can look on Kamernet.nl or Duwo.

- **Introduction period**

- *Do you advise joining the Eureka week?*

- The Eureka week is the introduction week of Erasmus University in Rotterdam. Most of Nanobiology students’ life happens in Delft, which is why we advise students to take part in the OWee, but you can also participate in the Eureka week. It might be that activities of OWee, the physical day or IntroN interfere with the Eureka week.

- **Laptops**

- *What laptop do I need?*

- Soon, the university will update their page on the laptops advised per programme (see <https://www.tudelft.nl/en/student/ict/ict-facilities/laptop-project/>). You should really take this advice into consideration, as a laptop is not just for convenience for writing. In the first year you will have programming courses, which require quite the computational power. For any specific questions related to laptops, please contact sid-drw@tudelft.nl

- **Student life**

- *Can I join associations in Rotterdam?*

- As you’re a student of both the TU Delft and Erasmus University when you start the programme, you are able to join associations in Rotterdam.

- **Other questions**

- *Will international students receive more information on administrative things to take care of?*

- Yes, you will. In July you will receive information from the International Office through the Osiaan application.

One of the students took it upon himself to create a Whatsapp groupchat for all coming first year students. If you are curious about your fellow students, join through this link!

<https://chat.whatsapp.com/L3XPFuZ4FTIB4PIEk5Gb6E>