

Europe, in English

English-taught degrees across Europe, the business schools, the sciences and the low-grade-bar route most parents miss

My pick of the top European universities, with the real grade requirements

@EduStrategyCaroline

English-taught European universities

The big difference from the UK. Many Dutch courses are non-selective, meet the minimum and you are in, no AAA race.

The business schools, liberal-arts colleges and Ireland are genuinely selective. Indicative, verify on each site.

UNIVERSITY	ENGLISH-TAUGHT COURSE(S)	FEE / YR	ENTRY REQUIREMENTS
Business & economics, the prestige names (selective)			
Bocconi Milan, IT	Int'l Economics & Finance, Management, Econ & CS	~€16-17k	Offer on GCSEs + Bocconi test, not predicted A-levels. Apply early.
IE University Madrid, ES	BBA, Global BBA, dual degrees	~€24k	Holistic. ~ABB to A*A*A*, online test, interview, essay. Rolling.
ESADE Barcelona, ES	BBA, double degrees	~€20.5k	Selective. 3 A-levels ~AAB-AAA, maths at B or above required.
HEC Paris FR	Bachelor (Data, Society & Organizations)	~€13-16k	Very selective. Top grades, tests, interview.
Business, the accessible Dutch route (lower fees and grade bar)			
Erasmus Rotterdam (RSM) NL	International Business Administration (IBA)	~€9-12k	Lower bar but capped (numerus fixus). 3 A-levels incl maths.
Maastricht (SBE) NL	International Business, Economics	~€9-16k	Modest. Meet the minimum, subject rules apply.
Amsterdam (UvA) NL	Economics & Business, PPE	~€11-15k	Mostly non-selective minimum, some courses capped.
STEM and sciences (from the elite to the low-grade-bar opening)			
Ecole Polytechnique Palaiseau, FR	Bachelor of Science, Maths & Physics (English)	~€13-15k	Very selective. Strong maths and physics, tests and interview.
TU Delft / Eindhoven NL	Engineering, Computer Science	~€15-20k	Selective for some. Maths and physics required.
Groningen / Twente / Leiden NL	Sciences, CS, AI, Psychology	~€9-15k	Mostly non-selective minimum, subject rules matter most.

English-taught European universities (continued)

UNIVERSITY	ENGLISH-TAUGHT COURSE(S)	FEE / YR	ENTRY REQUIREMENTS
Liberal arts and holistic (grades matter, so does the motivation letter)			
Amsterdam UC / Utrecht UC NL	Liberal Arts & Sciences	~€14-16k	Selective. ~ABB-AAB plus motivation and interview.
Sciences Po Reims / Le Havre, FR	Social sciences (English track)	~€13-19k	Very selective. ~AAA plus essays and interview.
English-speaking (Ireland)			
Trinity Dublin / UCD IE	Broad, business, STEM, arts	~€18-26k	Competitive, points-based (CAO). UK-level grades.

How Europe is different (read this first)

1. Many Dutch courses are not a grades race

At Dutch research universities you often just meet the minimum, frequently 3 A-levels at modest grades plus the right subjects and you are in. A genuine opening for a bright child whose grades won't reach the equivalent UK name.

2. The business schools are a different game

Bocconi, IE and ESADE are selective and pricey, with their own tests, interviews and essays. Strong maths matters. But the Dutch route (Rotterdam, Maastricht, Amsterdam) gives a far lower bar at a lower fee, often capped, so apply early.

3. Subject rules beat grades and capped courses fill

The thing that catches families out is not the grade, it is the subject requirement and whether a course is capped (numerus fixus). Check both on every course page.

4. The honest catches

UK student loans do not fund this, so the family pays, though fees are often lower than the UK once you do the maths. And English-taught does not mean an English-speaking country, factor in living abroad.

Could Europe be your child's second front?

The right European option depends on the subject, the grades and the budget. An EduStrategy session works out whether it belongs on your child's list and which courses are a realistic, affordable fit.

Book a 1:1 at uniplan.me/shop

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