



Dear student,

On Wednesday 10 June we had the privilege to already meet some of you (online) on the Live Welcome at HAS green academy in 's-Hertogenbosch. We got further acquainted, provided basic information regarding the IFA study programme and shared some of the practicalities related to the first weeks of your studies.

Information about the start of the Academic Year

Please find herewith the latest update on what you need to know to start the International Food & Agribusiness programme. Read it carefully, and don't hesitate to reach out to us, should you have any questions before starting.

1. [Arrival in the Netherlands](#)
2. [Welcome days](#)
3. [IFA Introduction week including practical information to start the academic year](#)
[academic calendar](#) – [timetable](#) – [laptop](#) – [study materials](#) – [literature](#) – [website](#)

1. Arrival in The Netherlands

For the *international students* in specific, please ensure to arrive in The Netherlands in time to enable yourself to participate in the HAS Welcome Days starting Wednesday 26 August 2026.

The International Office and relevant IFA staff members will then welcome you and try to assist you in all necessary arrangements to be made.

The introduction week of the IFA programme itself, organised for *all students* starting the IFA programme, begins on Monday 31 August 2026, and marks the official start of the academic year 2026/27. All IFA students are expected to attend.

General overview attendance

Date	Activities	Participants
Wednesday 26 and Thursday 27 August	HAS Welcome Days	International students only
Friday 28 August	Welcome Days closing event & lunch	All new IFA students
Monday 31 August – Friday 4 September	IFA Introduction Week	All first-year IFA students

2. Welcome Days: 26 – 28 August 2026

The HAS Welcome Days are organised by HAS green academy to help new international students settle into life in the Netherlands and prepare for their studies.

Who should attend when?

- **Wednesday 26 August – Thursday 27 August:** International students only.
- **Friday 28 August:** All new IFA, HBM and exchange students (international and Dutch) are invited to join a social event including a food truck lunch.

Attendance is mandatory for all new international students.

For international students, we strongly advise arriving in the Netherlands well before Wednesday 26 August so that you can fully participate in the Welcome Days programme. The latest information regarding the 3-day programme can be found on [our website](#).

3. IFA introduction week: 31 August – 4 September 2026

The IFA Introduction Week starts on **Monday 31 August 2026** and marks the official start of the academic year 2026–2027.

During this week, you will meet your fellow students, lecturers, coaches and the wider IFA community. The programme will help you get to know the curriculum, the university, the IFA staff and everything you need for a successful start to your studies.

Who should attend?

- All first-year IFA students (international and Dutch).

Attendance is mandatory for all first-year IFA students.

Activities include:

Date	Activities	Location
Monday 31 August	Official welcome to the IFA Programme	HAS green academy
Tuesday 1 September	First meeting with your coach	HAS green academy / online
Wednesday 2 September Thursday 3 September	3-day excursion to Land van Cuijk, together with students of Horticulture & Business Management (HBM)	Group accommodation
Friday 4 September	Late afternoon arrival back from the excursion	HAS green academy

Academic year

One academic year consists of 4 terms of 10 weeks. Each week you have a study load of 40 hours, of which 15-20 hours are contact hours in the first year. Lectures, tutorials, project meetings and other class-activities can be scheduled from 8h30 to 18h00 each day, requiring your availability for your studies app. 40 hours a week. The academic calendar, indicating the exact school weeks, holidays and official Celebration days, will be shared with you at the start of the academic year and explained in class in the introduction week.

Timetable and online classes

End of August the timetable will be published on HAS Intranet. During the introduction we explain where to exactly find your schedule(s), and how to read and import these into your digital calendar. Next to that, we will give you further instructions on what applications we use and how these online tools work in practice.

Laptop, HAS Student e-mail address + login codes

There are no computers available for self-study at HAS University. We expect you to bring your own device. The minimum requirements for this device can be found here:

<https://www.has.nl/en/more-has/study-at-has/information-for-new-students/>.

End of August you receive your account information such as your HAS e-mail and login codes. There are tutorials on how to access and install the required software. Make sure to bring your laptop on Monday 31 August, so we can help you getting ready.

Important: Apple laptops/devices are not compatible with software at HAS!

Please ensure to carefully check the exact requirements for the laptops. Since we use specific ANS software at HAS green academy to conduct our written exams digitally, you cannot use the Apple Macbooks. These appear to be non-compatible with ours systems. This may thus cause serious problems, as this would prevent you from participating in digital exams.

You should at least have a laptop with Microsoft Office including MS-Teams available prior to the start on Monday 31 August 2025.

Costs for study materials, literature, and excursions

Expected costs in year 1 for books are around 120.- and for excursions around € 350.-. Each course has a course manual informing you about required study materials and excursions; these course manuals are available prior to the start of the course. Study materials include:

- Book(s)
- Digitally available articles/books
- Reader(s)/ course manuals digitally available

We will ask you to buy a limited number of books prior to the start of courses. These are all reference materials that will be used for the entire duration of the IFA-programme.

Books can be ordered online/at any bookstore. Other study materials are made available digitally at the start of a course. Please find below the required books IFA year 1.

Literature list International Food & Agribusiness, year 1

Title	Author(s)	Edition	Published in	EAN (ISBN)	Cost (ref. bol.com)
Strengths Finder 2.0	Gallup	NA	2007	9781595620156	€ 26,00
Changing the Game	Simons & Nijhof	NA	2020	9780367145996	€ 22,00
Applied Strategic Marketing	Alsem, K.J.	1	2019	9781138332089	€ 33,00
Accounting for Non-Accountants	Horner, D	12	2020	9781789664300	€ 32,00
Total					€ 113,00

On our website you can also find the latest information for new students:
<https://www.has.nl/en/more-has/study-at-has/information-for-new-students/>

LOOKING FORWARD TO MEETING YOU!

We trust this letter provided relevant information about Welcome Days, IFA introduction week and the start of the academic year.

Should you have any questions and/or remarks, feel free to contact us. However, **please be informed that HAS green academy is closed for the Summer break as of Friday 17 July 2026 and will open its doors again on Monday 24 August 2026.**

If your questions are study and planning related, please contact our study advisor Esther van Lieshout (E.vLieshout@has.nl).

If your questions are related to visa, housing, etc., please contact our International office (international@has.nl).



Follow us and stay updated: @hasgreenacademy_ifa

Kind regards,

The IFA Team

