

Sept. 2021

Fresher's Issue

phoenix



Welcome to University

"My head is a hive of words that won't settle"
- Virginia Woolf

Fresher's Issue

Letter from the Phoenix Board

Dear Firsties,

Welcome to Utrecht University, we can guarantee you that picking us was a great decision! In our English course, you will find many people who will be just like you. Even though your last few years in school likely weren't very typical, we are immensely hopeful that this year we will be able to meet each other in the classrooms, although you may have already forgotten what those used to look like. By picking up this Phoenix issue, you have made your first contact with Albion's own magazine, which is made for you and - if you wish - by you! Phoenix comes out every semester and will contain a lot of well-written articles, amazing illustrations and pictures, and every issue has its own theme. If this sounds like music to your ears, you can become a part of this wonderful team, so don't be shy to join us! This Fresher's Issue is your survival kit for your first few weeks here. We included a map of Utrecht, an introduction from the Albion board, tips and tricks and some motivation for the upcoming academic year.

We are really looking forward to (hopefully) seeing you guys on campus!

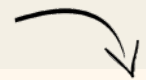
And, may the odds be ever in your favour

With love,

Marit Vogels, Editor-in-Chief 2021-2022
& Mohana Zwaga, Creative Director 2021-2022



Albion membership benefits



Eazie

If you feel like having a fresh wakame salad, or crave some Bombay curry, Eazie is where you should go. The store opens at noon, so you can satisfy your hunger all day long. The fresh ingredients and fair prices guarantee to satisfy just about any student in search for a meal. Show your Albion membership card at checkout and receive a 10% discount.

De Stadsgenoot

This cozy place, located just a few steps away from Neude, is where our monthly drinks take place. It's the perfect place to come for a drink and hang out with your fellow students! Don't forget to show your membership when you order at the bar, it'll give you a 10% discount on your order.

Cecil City Bike

As a student in Utrecht, you'll most likely travel through the city by bike, so we've arranged a nice discount at one of the friendliest bike shops near Drift. Cecil City Bike is located at the Voorstraat and will give you a 10% discount on all bikes, and 15% off on all repairs.

DressMe

Specialised in promotion, the people at DressMe (located at the Singeldwarsstraat) will print your shirts, sweaters and much more! Show your Albion membership card for a 10% discount.

Pampalini

Founded in 2014, this lovely lunchroom offers fresh paninis and sandwiches, delicious Lavazza coffee and Persian cuisine. It is located at Wittevrouwenstraat 14, and as an Albioner you can get every hot drink (except Persian tea) for only €2,50! (All prices excluding extra toppings/options).

Boekhandel Bijleveld

Wanting to add to your bookshelf? Stop by at Janskerkhof and step into this cosy, lovely bookshop called Bijleveld and get a 10% discount on your English, German or French book!

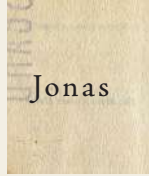


Mentor parade

Academic mentors



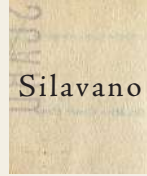
Leanne



Jonas



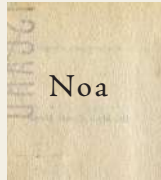
Jenny



Silavano



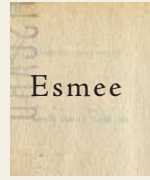
Farima



Noa



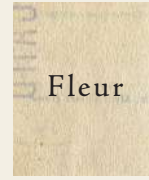
Mar



Esmee



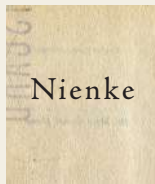
Charlotte



Fleur



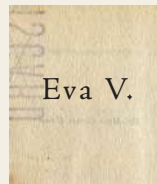
Rosa



Nienke



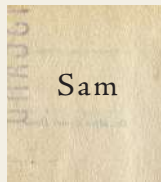
Veerle



Eva V.



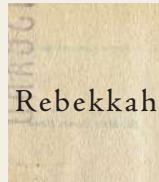
Elise



Sam



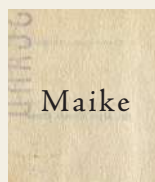
Rosalie



Rebekkah



Eva B.



Maike



PHOENIX

Magazine for students of English Language and Culture at Utrecht University.

Fresher's Issue - September 2021

Cover by Mohana Zwaga
Logo by Cecilie Balemans-Højberg

This special edition of Phoenix Magazine was assembled and revised for publication by two members of the **2021/2022 editorial board**: **Editor-in-chief** Marit Vogels and **Creative Director** Mohana Zwaga.

PREVIOUS BOARD

Editorial Board

Julia Schuurmans **Editor-in-chief**
Hester Schneider **Content Editor**
Anna Preindl **Content Editor**
Marit Vogels **Content Editor**

Staff Writers

Helenie Demir, Mohana Zwaga,
Eva Biesheuvel, Marit Vogels,
Thijs Biezen.

Creative Team

Cecilie Balemans-Højberg **Creative Director**
Fenna Leeuwenburgh **Photographer**
Elise Brouwer **Illustrator**
Mohana Zwaga **Photographer**
Marijn van de Visser **Illustrator**

Committee

Julia Schuurmans **Chair**
Cecilie Balemans-Højberg **Chair**
Leanne van Kampen **Secretary**
Thijs Biezen **Treasurer**
Trixt Tuinstra **Coordinator**

Thank You

Bram, Wobke, Daan, Dagmar, Victoria and Tessa from our 2021-2022 Albion board!

Special Thanks

Pexels, Sharon Etgar, Marissa Maestre, pinterst and Mia You

Subscriptions

Every issue will be published online at www.albionutrecht.nl and hard copies can be bought independently.

Contact Albion Utrecht

Trans 10
3512 JK Utrecht

Word of the board

Hello, and welcome to English Language and Culture in Utrecht! Over three years ago, I was in a position similar to yours. Fresh from the train at Utrecht central station for the first time, I didn't even know what the dom Tower was, or what life at uni would mean. That's where Albion stepped in for me. Having joined for the book discount, I didn't expect much. However, Albion and its colourful members were able to show me the amazing possibilities and the most fun things to do. I hope that, in return, I can do the same for you.

If you're not totally down to join Albion yet, that's fine too! I'm sure you're still going to have an amazing time at English Language and Culture. Take your time to enjoy the joys and freedoms your time as a student here will have on offer, it just may be the best time of your life!

I hope to see you around!

Yours,
Bram van Beerendonk
Chair 2021-2022



Advice from a first year survivor

written by Eva Biesheuvel, edited by Marit Vogels

As someone who has just finished their first year of English Language and Culture, I might seem like the perfect person to share my experience. However, I really hope that your first year will be a bit different than mine, because my entire first year consisted of online classes, and I don't want that for you. Of course, there's still a lot that I can tell you about, so in this piece, I will tackle some important subjects in order to take away a bit of those first week nerves. Just know that I won't be able to give you the details about haunted buildings, smelly teachers, or malfunctioning printers.

Meeting fellow students

One of the scariest things about starting at uni is meeting new people, but please don't worry too much about it. In my experience, English students are really nice. Just mention your love for Harry Potter and your hate for J.K. Rowling once, and 90% of your fellow firsties will like you. I also highly encourage you to actively contact people, which is scary. However, it also pays off, because everyone is scared, so people really appreciate it if you take the first step. If that's a bit too much, you can always join Albion for fun activities to get to know some new people. Yet, the most important and the most cliché advice for meeting new people is: be yourself. Everyone in our degree is very welcoming, so you don't have to be a posh talking tea lover to fit in. If you're nice, you will make friends.

Teachers

Our degree has lovely teachers, who are very willing to help you out. Even though formally they should be called (prof.) dr. *last name*, most of them will let you use their first name, which makes them sound a little less scary. They're very knowledgeable, so you will learn a lot, but don't hesitate to ask questions or add your own ideas in class, because they're very open to input and are glad when students participate. On top of that, they're not just uni teachers, they're fun people and they will make you listen to songs; they will put memes in their PowerPoint presentations, and they will laugh if you say something funny.

Literature vs. Linguistics

In your first year, you will follow both linguistics and literature courses, and near the end of the year, you'll have to decide what specialisation you want to pick, which means you have to choose between the two of them. Don't worry about this yet, though, because you'll have a really good idea of what the two of them entail after a year of studying them both. At the end of the year, most people will have a strong preference, and you might even find that literature fans will make jokes on behalf of linguistics, and linguistics fans on behalf of literature. It's part of the "culture" here, but don't worry because you'll be loved no matter what you prefer (but literature is superior of course...).

Firstie do's and don'ts

written by Leanne van Kampen, edited by Marit Vogels, Illustration by Emilie Wiingreen

DO meet up with your fellow students.

During your first year, you'll sometimes have a free period during classes. Those free periods are great for spending some time with your fellow students to get to know them, to familiarise yourself with the city or even to have small study groups to finish your homework for the Sound Lab ;)

DON'T be disrespectful to teachers.

Our teaching staff at Utrecht University is truly wonderful, and they are very passionate about sharing their knowledge. They studied and worked very hard to get where they are and deserve to be treated with respect, even if you aren't that fond of them. If you're struggling with something from their course, they would love to help you as long as you show them you actually want to know more.

DO join Albion.

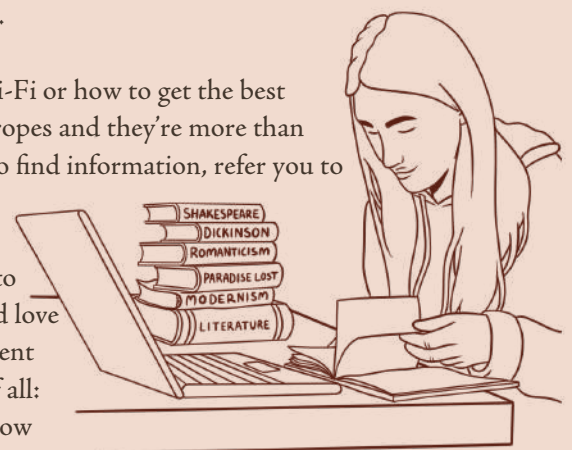
I most certainly recommend joining our study association Albion as a firstie. Not only will you receive discounts at local shops and cafes, but you'll also be able to participate in fun (and educational) activities to become more familiar with Utrecht and your fellow students such as laser gaming, pub crawls, annual hikes, and academic workshops.

DON'T be afraid to come up to your mentor.

Wondering how to get the University printers to work, how to connect to the Wi-Fi or how to get the best academic sources? Your mentor, who's at least a second-year student, knows the ropes and they're more than happy to help you out. They really don't bite and would love to show you where to find information, refer you to people or review your homework assignments.

DO enjoy your student life.

There's nothing wrong with romanticizing student life and there's no wrong way to have a student life. Some people live with their parents and enjoy their studies and love grabbing a coffee with their peers, others have a room in Utrecht and look at student societies. Grab that coffee, go study in one of the University libraries, and most of all: please enjoy Utrecht, a wonderful, cosy city full of amazing people you'll get to know



Meet the phoenix board

Marit

Editor in Chief of Phoenix.
Writer, organizer and editor.



Mehana

Creative director of Phoenix.
Illustrator, writer and photographer.

From? Bakel, The Netherlands. **Birthday?** 03-04-2002. **Zodiac sign?** Aries sun, Sagittarius moon, Leo rising. **Favourite book?** The Hunger Games :) & Girl, Woman, Other. **Favourite fictional character?** Stitch and Peeta Mellark. **Favourite book-to-movie adaptation?** Catching Fire. **Favourite English accent?** Scottish or Irish... **Favourite way to drink you coffee?** Ice coffee all the way. **Go to colour palette?** I am a lilac kinda gal :) Mixed with black and browns. **Guilty pleasure?** Bad dutch TV shows like 'Brugklas' and 'Twilight' of course. **Dream career?** Owning my own publishing house, while teaching high school students English and secretly writing my own book :). **Preferred fictional world?** Probably Monsters University or in the world of A Court of Mist and Fury. **Bookish fun fact about yourself?** I own my own bookmark Etsy shop! **Literature or linguistics?** Literature, the love of my life.

From? Zutphen, The Netherlands, but now I live in Utrecht. **Birthday?** 21-01-2000. **Zodiac sign?** Aquarius sun, Leo moon, Pisces rising! **Favourite book?** The Bear and the Nightingale by Katherine Arden OR The Bell Jar by Sylvia Plath. **Favourite fictional character?** Lorelai Gilmore. **Favourite book-to-movie adaptation?** The Secret Life of Bees & Outlander. **Favourite English accent?** Scottish & Irish. **Favourite way to drink you coffee?** An iced coffee or a cappuccino. **Go to colour palette?** Sage green, peach, warm yellow/honey, pale blue. **Guilty pleasure?** Using travelling as my preferred form of escapism. **Dream career?** University professor of Literature and published author, possibly also still active as a fine art photographer. **Preferred fictional world?** Narnia. **Bookish fun fact about yourself?** I love to write, mainly using Russian Folklore! **Literature or linguistics?** Literature all the way.

albioneers abroad

Please imagine a tiny, remote fishing village somewhere in rural Scotland, and fill it with super smart people from all over the world: the posh from England, the rich from Asia and the States, and regular folk from mainland Europe (especially Germans). Allow a few Scots in for supplying food and drinks, and you've got this weird micro-society called St. Andrews, my home this academic year. It is a massive contrast with Utrecht. The outside world does not exist; it is simply too far away to be a bother. St. Andrews is called the bubble for a reason, after all. I spend way more time studying than I ever did in Utrecht: there's hardly anything else to do. To give you an idea about the size: everything in the town centre is within a ten-minute walking reach. Imagine a Utrecht consisting only of Voorstraat, Drift, and Janskerkhof, and you get the idea. It saves a lot of time commuting! That makes settling really easy. The first person to get lost in St. Andrews has yet to be born. There's North Street, with most of the uni stuff: the library, Younger Hall – the St. Andrews version of the academiegebouw (it's ugly) – and the oh so British quad. Then there's Market Street, which is self-explanatory, and after that there's South street, with some shops and pubs. This cute little centre is surrounded by sea, golf courses, and some residential areas.

Having only a few shops made furnishing and decorating my room really difficult. I miss a Hema or Blokker. After two months, I still haven't found a proper biscuit tin, and if I ever run out of underwear, I only have an H&M to save the day. Thank god for Amazon. Well, there's Dundee, half an hour away, which is a real city with real shops. However, it's the ugliest city I've ever seen and deserves its title of Scumdee. I do not want to go there again; once was enough. Back to St. Andrews. I'm here for a reason: the master Modern and Contemporary Literature and Culture, which will reward me with the shining title Master of Letters (MLitt). So much cooler than MA, sorry guys. It does require some work, however. Even though we get an insanely long Christmas holiday (two entire months), I actually have to write my dissertation in the summer. Not that it really matters, since I'll have plenty of time when I'm unemployed afterwards anyway.





Tea Time

After roaming the streets of Utrecht on a sombre afternoon, we were greeted with a loud, playful barking at the front door of the house of one of Utrecht University's Mia You. Mia is a modern-day poet and a lecturer at Utrecht University. As we entered, a small passageway turned into a beautiful spacious home, and we were welcomed by her dog, Gijs, who seemed eager to join the interview. We took our coats off, sat down at the table and got ready for the first interview of the year.

Where did you study? "I went to college at Stanford, where I studied English literature, and then I did a Master's degree in East Asian studies at Harvard, because I decided I needed to learn more about Korean literature. Then I did my Ph.D. in English at UC Berkeley, because I missed Northern California a lot." She then expands on why she decided to do a degree in East Asian studies. "It took time - I think around college - for me to finally be like, okay, I really need to get to know my Korean side better and to really embrace that. "One of the things that was really eye-opening for me was that I did study abroad in England when I was in college. So I was at Oxford, and there I just realized that I knew so much more about British literature than I knew about Korean literature. I thought: it's so strange that I know all this stuff about Shakespeare, and I can't even name any twentieth century Korean writers, whilst I am Korean, and I speak Korean."

Would you recommend doing a study to find out more about your heritage? "I really enjoyed it and I think that it was really, really valuable. It's one of the things that I didn't think I would feel growing up, but now I am really proud of myself that I speak Korean and that I know about Korean literature and Korean history. At the same time, it also really made me realise why I wanted to go back to English literature: the way Korean literature, as I experienced, is studied in the US is still quite conservative, and there are things about Korean culture that are very conservative. Korean culture is hierarchal, it's still male dominated, it's a Confucian society so seniority is important, and younger people are not really free to question more experienced, older people, and that translates over to how studies are done as well. Even though it was in the US, I still felt this environment very pervasively at conferences and during other academic events, and so as a young woman doing Korean literature, I didn't really feel like my 'wackier' ideas about literature were appreciated. But I think, to study Korean literature for a couple of years, or East Asian studies for a couple of years, was definitely worth it. I just wouldn't have made it my life."

She then offers some valuable advice for aspiring poets: "Be selective about what you put out there, and be patient. When you put yourself out there, there will be a lot of things that you feel a bit insecure about. There has to be an inner core of confidence to be able to handle that. Don't publish anything just for the sake of getting a publication. The living poets that I tend to admire are those that can be kind of cranky actually. They know what they want, they know what they stand for and what they don't stand for. I admire that. I'm learning to be more like that!"



Do you have an idol in poetry? "When I was in elementary school I had a teacher that I really loved, she was really very supportive. She signed me up for this one-day creative writing conference for kids, and there they made us each memorize one poem, so I memorized an Emily Dickinson poem. I actually still remember it. I feel really lucky that I had a good teacher that pushed me towards poetry. That will definitely stay with me." The poem in question was 'I'm Nobody, Who are you?' *and after reciting the poem, Mia continues.* "Of course there are poets that I really admire as writers, but all the poets that I immediately think of as my 'idols' are poets that I associate with those kind of teaching moments. Also, in high school, my father - who often travelled to Korea on business - brought me back a copy of *The Wasteland* by T.S. Eliot. It was the Korean translation, with the English translation next to it, and so I first read it as a bilingual poem in my own languages. Even though it's this great canonical work, I have a deeply personal attachment to it and to Eliot."

Written by Laurel Sanders and Indie Reij-
nierse, edited by Mohana Zwaga

Map of Utrecht

Illustration by Marijn de Visser



1. Jans Kerkhof
2. Israelslaan
3. Hoog Catharijne
4. Neude
5. Eazie
6. De Stadsgenoot





Committee Market

AC

The Academic Committee mainly organises events that focus on the orientation of the labour market and events that tie in with education. Throughout the academic year we organise some field trips for the students of Albion to let them get to know the labour market. Past field trips have been to, for example, independent publishers and high schools. Apart from that we also organise pub lectures and a poetry reading where the teachers and creative writing students of our bachelor can read us their work. Together with the department of our degree the AC organises thesis workshops for the students and for the firsties there will be an information night at the end of the year where help will be offered about the second year courses.

FeestCie

Looking to join a fun committee? Look no further! Albion's Party Committee is one of the most diverse committees out there. Albion collaborates with a lot of other study associations to organise different theme parties. So, you will meet a lot of different students! Moreover, being a part of Albion's Party Committee means that you will have benefits such as free entry and/or consumptions (FREE BEER). Besides, Albion hosts a lovely party uniquely for Albion members in May called the Night of the Professors. Teachers of the English department will DJ for us Albioneers during that party. It is the perfect chance to get to know teachers on a different level. Next to that, being part of this committee is unbelievably fun. You get the chance to come up with fun themes, drink a lot of booze and dance the night away! If you like organising, dancing and drinking, then this is the committee for you!

IntroCie

The Introduction Committee is the committee that organises your introduction to the world of Utrecht University. The committee begins planning all activities in the second half of the academic year so everything is ready for the new batch of firsties. If you want to help those scared youngsters settle in, do join the Introduction Committee!

Accie

The Activity Committee is a very active committee within our association. We organise a variety of activities every single month. This makes the committee perfect for those who don't have a lot of experience organising big events (like the travel committees) or are a little hesitant about their capabilities to do so. Every month, we organise up to 3 events. We have active events, like bowling, laser gaming, etc., and provide our members with a discount. We also create our own fun and free activities. These activities include, for example, movie nights, artsy stuff (Bob Ross!) or even a dropping. Furthermore, we also organise a themed study-afternoon near the end of the block. This way, first-years can ask help to second- or even third-years for help with the oh so familiar paper-submitting deadline-stress. Last but not least, we organise each year's pubquizzes! If this has made you all excited, please, sign up to be part of this year's Activity Committee!

AlumCie

This committee was only launched two years ago, but has already accomplished a lot thanks to its excited and enthusiastic members. It has started a Buddy Project that connects Alumni with current English students. This project was and can be tremendously helpful for students who are in doubt about their career. Apart from running this project, the AlumCie also tries to actively engage with and keep track of all the Albioneers that came before, and thus forms a great way of meeting lots of different and unique people!

GroteReisCie

This is a call for the travellers amongst you. One week each year, Albion leaves for the British isles. The trip can go to anywhere in the UK or Ireland, and will be full of interesting activities and adventures. You can turn this experience into something even more special by joining the Big Trip Committee! As a member of this committee you become a travel guide for a week and you plan the trip from beginning to end: from choosing the destination to making sure everyone gets back home safely.

PHOENIX

At Phoenix Magazine, we strive to document the life and the culture of the English student in Utrecht. It's an encouraging space where aspiring writers, photographers and designers can channel their creativity into an end product every academic quarter, under the guidance of an editorial board. We value commitment and originality, and encourage taking initiative - and we promise that the deadlines don't negate the enjoyment. After all, the fun is in creating something together as a team. So, if you're looking to improve your already acquired skills and develop some new ones on the side, be sure to sign up and hopefully we'll see you at the first meeting!

KleineReisCie

Near the end of the Academic year, the Short Trip Committee organises a weekend for all Albioneers to just relax, make campfires, drink beer and talk about the ins and outs of life. This camp will be somewhere in the Netherlands, and it will be full of fun activities organised by the Short Trip Committee.



SportCie

Every year the SportCie organises various sports-related activities, ranging from mini-golf to the autumn fall hike. We are a bunch of the most fun and energetic people of Albion, and are always in for trying new sports and niche games! Apart from the development and strengthening of your organisational skills, joining this committee will be a great outlet for your own sports-related desires and a lovely way of sharing your passions with your fellow Albioneers.

SUDS

Welcome to the Students of Utrecht Drama Society! SUDS was founded in 1969, so that means we have our fiftieth anniversary in the fall! Every year we have a one-act festival (with four student-written one act plays) and a big play, and we do drama, comedy and everything in between. The only constant is that they are incredibly fun to do every year, and you will laugh, work and sweat, but the result is so worth it! Visit the SUDS Theatre-Group Facebook page for more info. to sign up and hopefully we'll see you at the first meeting!

SympoCie

The task of the Symposium Committee is to organise interesting symposia for everyone who's interested throughout the year. These symposia consist of lectures and talks on a large variety of subjects, for example, dystopian literature or forensic linguistics. As a member of this committee you brainstorm on a theme, approach possible speakers and make sure the event will run smoothly.

CampCie

Every year our introduction camp for first year students is a weekend full of fun activities, laughter, and, of course, making new friends. Being part of this committee means being in charge of choosing the theme, activities, location, food, basically everything. So whether you want to relive your own introduction camp because it was amazing, or if you didn't like it, make it even better



Meet the Board



Victoria (Vicky), 23 February 1999, from Brussels. - Commissioner of Education.

Drink? Something very sweet. **Specialty dish?** French crêpes or ratatouille. **Catchphrase?** "What on Earth". **Song?** Mr Blue Sky - Electric Light Orchestra. **Celebrity crush?** Riz Ahmed or Mark Ruffalo (dad bod alert). **Book?** Les Contemplations by Victor Hugo. **Fictional character?** Titus Andromedon is the attitude I strive for. **Movie?** A streetcar named Desire. **Country to visit?** New Zealand. **Guilty pleasure?** Cinnamon roll pop tarts. **No-one knows...** I'm not Belgian! I'm French and Spanish. **Can't live without...** My phone and my computer. **Literature or Linguistics?** Linguistics forever!

Wobke (Wobbel), 6 September, from Kampen. - Commissioner of Internal Affairs.

Drink? Mojito's all day every day. **Specialty dish?** I make killer banana pancakes.

Catchphrase? "Oh heeeeee goeie". **Song?** September - Earth Wind and Fire. **Celebrity crush?** Oof, I think Synyster Gates from A7X. **Book?** Coraline by Neil Gaiman. **Fictional character?** Sokka from Avatar.

Movie? Corpse Bride! **Country to visit?** Italy. **Guilty pleasure?** Programmes like Ex on the Beach.

No-one knows... As a kid, I've played a lead role in a musical across the country. **Can't live without...** My ukulele. **Literature or Linguistics?** Linguistics all the way babyyy



Daan, 27 October, from Geldrop. - Commissioner of External Affairs.

Drink? Non-alcoholic: coffee and Cuba Libre. **Specialty dish?** I love heating up pizza. **Catchphrase?** "bada bing bada boom" **Song?** Watermelon in Easter Hay by Frank Zappa. **Celebrity crush?** Emma Watson.

Book? Fear and Loathing in Las Vegas **Fictional character?** Bojack Horseman. **Movie?** Good Will Hunting.

Country to visit? Austria. **Guilty pleasure?** I don't believe in guilty pleasures. Let your freak flag fly! **No-one knows...** I've written two books. **Can't live without...** Affection, coffee, puns, sunlight, all the classics really.

Literature or Linguistics? Literature.

Tessa (Tess), 14 March, from Bergschenhoek. - Secretary

Drink? Green ice tea or a "rakketje". **Specialty dish?** Sushi! **Catchphrase?** "There is no such thing as too many plants! **Song?** "Fire" by The Pointer Sisters **Celebrity crush?** Dylan O'Brien and Zendaya. **Book?** Just all of the Percy Jackson books. **Fictional character?** Percy Jackson, Sokka and Spiderman. **Movie?** "Onward" or

"Star Wars: A New Hope" **Country to visit?** Greece and England. **Guilty pleasure?** Watching talent show compilations on YouTube. **No-one knows...** how many plants I have accidentally killed over the past few years...

Can't live without... ALBION! Just kidding, it's mangoes. **Literature or Linguistics?** Literature!



Bram (Barf), 11 March, from Best. - Commissioner of External Affairs, candidate Chair

Drink? Ice-cold bavaria pils. **Specialty dish?** Bavarois. **Catchphrase?** 'Vo (voor de leden). **Song?** Currently, Eduard 40Hands by Mom Jeans. **Celebrity crush?** Koen. **Book?** To kill a mockingbird, but I'm not much of a reader. **Fictional character?** Geralt of Rivia **Movie?** Breakfast Club **Country to visit?** Anywhere in Eastern Europe. **Guilty pleasure?** Dungeons and Dragons. **No-one knows that...** I write really sappy love poems.

Dagmar (Duckmar), 29 July, from Eindhoven - Treasurer

Drink? Red Wine. **Specialty dish?** Kaassouffles / cheese souffle. **Catchphrase?** Mij nie belle. **Song?** Go

Your Own Way - Fleetwood Mac. **Celebrity crush?** Megan Fox. **Book?** The Unbearable Lightness of Being by Milan Kundera. **Fictional character?** Rosa Diaz from Brooklyn Nine Nine. **Movie?** Pride and Prejudice (2005). **Country to visit?** Spain. **Guilty pleasure?** Drinking hot chocolate in bed with a blanket, eating even

more chocolate. **No-one knows...** I can't whistle. **Can't live without...** music to listen to every second I am not doing something. **Literature or Linguistics?** Literature



Bookstore

Poem by Thijs Biezen

*Head tilted inquisitively as my eyes rove
like a magpie's over the backs before me,
tattooed with letters in all colours.*

*The light in the room casts long shadows
of the few books jutting further,
because they wouldn't fit otherwise.*

*I reach out to pull some off the shelf
inspecting the front and back;
once satisfied, they go in the bag.*

*There is row upon row of them here,
all collected and categorised:
something to everyone's liking.*

*One by one, they're rung up at the till
and I part with the magpie's treasure
in favour of having my own.*

*I am homebound with a bag of books
slung casually over my shoulder
and a spring in my step, knowing I will fly.*

*From page to page; chapter to chapter:
epilogue to prologue; novel to novel
all from the comfort of my lazy chair.*



Letter from the Introcie

Hey there, new first-year student! Congratulations on choosing the English Language and Culture program. As someone who has just graduated, I can say I really enjoyed my first three years studying at Utrecht University. I personally really appreciated how versatile the courses were, and how they encouraged creativity. As a general piece of advice I would encourage you to be as involved as possible during the seminars. Even subjects I was uninterested in at first often turned out way deeper and more fascinating as a group discussion got started. The instructors often allow for students to influence the course of the session significantly, meaning your minor rumination might turn the class into a fierce debate. Furthermore (you might be tired of hearing about it after the introduction days and the committee market), but I would also highly recommend joining Albion as a way of connecting with new people. When I first moved to Utrecht I didn't know anyone here outside my seminar group, but through Albion's activities and committees I have been introduced to a lot of great people. The previous year and a half generally were not beneficial for social life, so let us hope Albion can create some great opportunities of creating new friends in the coming year. See you around university!

The introduction **Agenda**

Thursday 9 September 2021

15:00 - 17:00 Picnic.

**17:30 - 19:30 Dinner in a restaurant yet
TBD.**

Art by Marisa Maestre

Monday

6 September 2021

09:00 - 10:45 General introduction of
the program by the instructors, study advisors,
and Albion in two separate lecture rooms at KNG and
Drift 21.

11:00 - 12:00 Seminar groups are introduced to their tutor in
separate rooms.

12:00 - 13:00 Lunch.

13:15 - 16:00 Tour of Utrecht and the university buildings in
seminar groups, led by their mentors. This tour is combined
with the committee market.

16:00 - 17:00 General close of the mandatory part of the
introduction in two separate lecture rooms at KNG and Drift
21.

17:15 - 19:00 Take-away dinner in Griftpark.

19:00- ? Drinks at De Stadsgenoot.

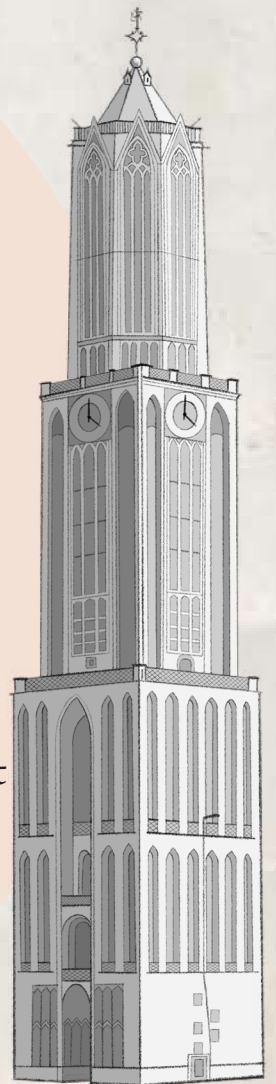


Illustration by Cecilie Balemans-Højberg