



Study Abroad Opportunities for

Information Management for Business

Why Should I Study Abroad?

Studying abroad offers exposure to a different cultural and academic environment.

Spending a prolonged period in another country can be challenging and rewarding. It can improve self-confidence and give you the chance to hone a variety of skills, which are highly regarded by employers. As such it is a good way to improve your CV.

Depending where you go you could also improve your language skills.

When Can I Study Abroad?

To be eligible to study abroad you must be registered on the MSci programme (PN11). The period of study abroad will be one year only and it will take place during the third year of your programme.

Students wishing to take up this opportunity should have a minimum of 50% by year 2 as this is the benchmark for the MSci.

In practice, because the process is competitive you will need a minimum overall score of 60-65% in your first year in order to be considered.

If you wish to take up your study abroad in an American institution, you will need a minimum overall score of 70-75% in your first year to be eligible for consideration.

Please note that if you are applying to institutions in Australia or Singapore the semester will begin in mid July (Australia) and early August (Singapore). You will therefore have a much reduced summer vacation at the end of your second year.

You will be required to register your interest in studying abroad at UCL's Study Abroad Office by the end of the autumn term of your second year and you will then follow the Study Abroad Preparation Programme during the spring term.

Where Can I Study Abroad?

For a list of the destinations open to Information Management for Business students please see list at the end of this hand-out.

What Will I Study Whilst I Am Abroad?

You will follow courses at another institution in lieu of courses you would have been taking at UCL.

As study abroad forms an integral part of your UCL programme you will be expected, in the main, to study courses directly related to your degree.

The exact courses you take will be agreed by you and your Study Abroad Tutor.

How Do I Know What Courses To Take Whilst Abroad?

You will need to put some time into researching the available courses at the institution of your choice and this process should begin as soon as possible.

You should not submit an application to study abroad until you have established that the host institution you wish to apply to offers courses compatible with the requirements of your UCL degree.

You will need to liaise closely with your Study Abroad Tutor in order to agree a provisional course list to send to the host institution together with the rest of your application.

How will I be given academic credit for the work I do at another institution?

This varies from department to department and you should therefore ensure that you are absolutely clear in your own mind how this will work *before* you embark on your study abroad period.

If you do not understand then ask your Study Abroad Tutor to explain further. It is in your interests to establish the means of assessment and to know how your grades will be determined.

You will receive your degree at the end of the MSci fourth year. You graduate with the degree of MSci Information Management for Business. Your period of study abroad will be accredited by your overseas university, and the results from there will be integrated with your results from UCL to provide your final classification.

If I Study In A Non-English-Speaking Environment Do I Need To Speak The Relevant Language?

This will depend on the language of instruction at the host institution. If classes are not taught in English then yes, you will certainly need to have good language skills in order to ensure that you can follow courses at the host institution. Typically no allowances will be made for non-native speakers by our partner institutions, so it is therefore important that you are confident operating in the target language at an advanced level.

Even if courses are taught in English you should be prepared to try and pick up some of the language whilst you are in the country. You will, after all, be living in a place where English is not the first language.

What If I Want To Go To An Institution UCL Does Not Have An Exchange Agreement With?

This is not possible. By studying at an institution with which we have an agreement you will benefit in a number of ways:

- i) You can be sure that the institution you study at is of good academic standing. UCL's partner institutions are carefully chosen and include some outstanding universities and high-ranking departments.
- ii) We have fee waiver arrangements in place for all our exchange programmes. Such arrangements mean that you do not have to pay fees to the host institution.
- iii) We have built up relationships with colleagues at the institution and are familiar with the methods of teaching and with how work is assessed and graded.
On the administrative side, exchange applications are handled efficiently and the necessary paperwork issued promptly.
- iv) Our partner institutions undertake to support and look after our students.
This means that there will always be someone you can approach for help (not always the case in large, impersonal overseas institutions).

How Can I Get More Information?

- Research your choice of institution via its website (see list below).
- Speak to your Study Abroad Tutor.
- Contact one of the Peer Advisers (UCL students currently abroad).
- Speak to the Study Abroad team.

Contact Details

Study Abroad Tutor
Email: [Richard Pettinger
r.pettinger@ucl.ac.uk](mailto:r.pettinger@ucl.ac.uk)

Study Abroad Team
Email: study-abroad@ucl.ac.uk
Tel: 020 7679 0121
Office: Room 21, 1st Floor, South Wing

Exchange programmes for Information Management for Business students:

The ERASMUS programme that operates within the EU is very flexible; if you would like the opportunity to study elsewhere in the EU, please contact the study abroad tutor.

France (NB Language of instruction is French - good knowledge of French required)

Telecom SudParis
www.it-sudparis.eu
Type of Exchange: Erasmus

Germany (NB Language of instruction is German - good knowledge of German required)

Technical University Munich
www.tum.de
Type of Exchange: Erasmus

Greece (NB Language of instruction is English)

Athens University of Economics and Business
<http://www.aueb.gr/>
Type of Exchange: Erasmus

Poland (NB Language of instruction is English or Polish – if you take a programme in the Polish language a good knowledge is required)

Jagiellonian University
<http://www.uj.edu.pl/>
Type of Exchange: Erasmus

Slovenia (NB Language of instruction is English)

University of Maribor
<http://www.uni-mb.si>
Type of Exchange: Erasmus

UCL Exchanges available

As these exchanges are also open to students from other UCL departments and faculties, there is a competitive selection process organised by the Study Abroad Office. Application forms and further details are available from our website:

www.ucl.ac.uk/studyabroad

The deadline for applications is provided by the study abroad office each year.

Australia

University of Western Australia
www.uwa.edu.au

Melbourne University
www.unimelb.edu.au

Canada

University of British Columbia
www.ubc.ca

McGill University
www.mcgill.ca

University of Toronto
www.utoronto.ca

Hong Kong (NB Language of instruction is English)

Chinese University Hong Kong
www.cuhk.edu.hk

City University
www.cityu.edu.hk

Japan (NB Language of instruction is Japanese. Native level Japanese required)

Waseda University
<http://www.waseda.jp>

USA

Caltech
www.caltech.edu

Columbia University, New York
www.columbia.edu/

Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute
www.rpi.edu

Rutgers, State University of New Jersey
www.rutgers.edu

University of Illinois Urbana Champaign
<http://illinois.edu/>

University of Washington
www.washington.edu

Please note that the exchanges above have a broad Engineering focus and not all of the institutions will offer courses suitable to your programme of study. Note in particular that business and management courses are often excluded from existing exchange agreements and that it may therefore not be possible to take courses in these areas.

Be sure to research institutions carefully *in advance* of making your application to the Study Abroad Office.

Once department agrees institutions, the process is as follows:

1. Students attend International Office information sessions in autumn term
2. Students submit Study Abroad Approval Form to Department for approval
3. Return form to International Office – to be used to log student's preparation for the year abroad
4. By mid-January students will be required to register for the zero-weighted course unit Preparation for Study Abroad B (STAO6002).

5. Students follow preparation programme provided by the International Office.
6. Students research and obtain departmental/UCL and host institution approval for planned programme of study via Course Choice Approval Form
7. Upon completion of preparation programme, students must submit completed Study Abroad Approval Form and Course Choice Approval Form (by April 30).

General notes

The International Office decides who takes up the places based on academic achievement. (Personal statements are no longer an integral part of the selection process).

Students are encouraged to provide a 1st, 2nd and even 3rd choice of institutions.

Priority is given to students for which study abroad is an integral part of the programme. (eg. MSci in Biochemical Engineering **with** Study Abroad)

There is an expectation that students are studying full-time during the period abroad (just as they would be at UCL).

UCL's Study Abroad Preparation is concentrated in the spring term and consists of a series of generic sessions (eg finance, health and safety, culture shock) together with region-specific sessions (eg US, Europe), all of which are supported by the Student Handbook.

Fees

Full year - 1/3 of normal fees are paid to UCL (to increase to 50%)

Single term – standard fees paid to UCL

No fees paid to host institution if part of a reciprocal exchange.

If not part of a reciprocal exchange, student would pay UCL fees AND fees to host institution.

Erasmus – fees are covered by UK government plus mobility grant of £225 per month. There are currently more students than places.

Student preparation

Insurance/health/visas/travel arrangements/accommodation

Insurance - UCL arranges insurance

Health - Students should visit UCL Travel Centre for required immunisations

Visas - Students apply for visas – International Office supports applications

Travel - Students are responsible for travel and accommodation arrangements

Accommodation - Students studying abroad in year 3 should apply for accommodation in year 2

Practical complications with Study Abroad for single term:

Visas for one term?

Accommodation for one term – overseas and at UCL

Pay standard fees to UCL

Department-owned exchanges

The department decides who goes where

Pro – guaranteed placement

Con – partner institutions are not keen on too narrow an exchange

The International Office is not involved in the application process if it is a departmental exchange.