Study Abroad & Exchange

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The International Student Exchange Program gives you the opportunity to study overseas for one or two sessions of your UOW degree. You will become immersed in the life and culture of another country while completing an appropriate program of study at one of UOW’s 140+ overseas partner universities.

With careful planning, going on exchange should not add any additional time to your studies, as you can receive credit towards your degree for subjects completed overseas. This means that you will be able to combine study and travel without delaying your graduation from UOW. If you have ever dreamed of seeing the world, student exchange can offer you the educational adventure of a lifetime!

Want to go places?

Sebastian Swaczynski, Switzerland
Why?

10 reasons to consider student exchange

1. Gain a truly ‘international education’ by living and studying overseas for 6–12 months
2. Study at some of the most prestigious universities for teaching and research around the world
3. Broaden the scope of your degree by taking subjects that may not usually be available at UOW
4. Experience life overseas as a ‘local’ not just as a tourist!
5. Combine study and travel without extending or delaying your degree!
6. Enjoy the unique student lifestyle of an overseas university
7. Develop a greater understanding of both your own and other cultures
8. Meet new people and form lifelong friendships around the world
9. Gain self-confidence and independence
10. Enhance your employment prospects by graduating from UOW with an international edge
Where?

UOW Exchange is your ticket to:

**Asia – Pacific:** China, Hong Kong, Indonesia, Japan, Malaysia, New Caledonia, Singapore, South Korea, Thailand

**Europe:** Austria, Belgium, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Macedonia, Malta, the Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Turkey, Switzerland and the United Kingdom

**Latin America:** Mexico

**North America:** Canada and the United States of America

A list of UOW’s partner universities in each country is available from the Study Abroad & Exchange Office or online via the exchange website at: [www.uow.edu.au/student/exchange](http://www.uow.edu.au/student/exchange)
These images were taken during my time at the University of Colorado in the USA.

I loved how different Colorado was to Wollongong. I could snowboard after class every day—though I definitely missed the surf in Wollongong.

The life skills I gained, the friends I made and experiences I had around the world have all influenced me to make new goals for when I finish my degree. I’ve kept these friendships overseas, too, and I’m counting down until I’m there again.
Iris Day
Bachelor Of Commerce Dean’s Scholar (Economics, Finance)

I went to Lancaster University in England for six months in 2010. Exploring Europe was something I had always wanted to do, and the International Exchange Program seemed the perfect way to combine travel and my studies. Studying at a different university was a fantastic experience; it exposed me to new subjects, lecturers and teaching methods. Adapting to a new environment was challenging at times, but also very rewarding. I definitely gained a sense of confidence and independence after travelling and studying by myself away from family and friends.

In the yellow clog, central Amsterdam (opp. page) and visiting Neuschwanstein Castle in Bavaria, Germany.
I chose Dublin City University because it has an amazing reputation for its range of clubs and societies and, being close to Europe and the UK, enabled me to travel overseas on weekends and session breaks.

Studying overseas widens your focus in academic enquiries from a solely Australia/Pacific focus to a more global interest which will ultimately increase the knowledge to be gained from a degree.

Exchange teaches you to be more relaxed and flexible in dealing with new and challenging situations as well as allowing you to develop new interests and fascinations. Above all, it gives you the travel bug – you’ll never want to sit still ever again!
Can I afford it?

Yes! While you are away you continue to pay tuition to UOW, not the overseas university! You will pay for your airfare, visas, overseas accommodation and any applicable host uni fees. All eligible students can apply for a $1,000 Student Exchange Travel Grant from the University of Wollongong with some additional Targeted Travel Grants offered up to the value of $5,000.

- The Australian Government offers OS-HELP loans allowing eligible undergraduate students to borrow over $5,600 per session of overseas study (maximum of two sessions) to use towards airfare, accommodation and other travel/study expenses. OS-HELP loans are then repaid with your accumulated HELP debt (including HECS) after your graduation from UOW.
- If you currently receive Austudy or Youth Allowance, you may continue to receive these benefits while you are on exchange. Contact Centrelink for further details.
- You may be able to work part-time while on exchange to assist in funding of your exchange (subject to host country visa regulations).

For a listing of targeted travel grants on offer please see the exchange website at [www.uow.edu.au/student/exchange](http://www.uow.edu.au/student/exchange)
“I can’t study overseas—I don’t speak another language.”

Although the Exchange Program does provide opportunities for students to learn a new language or improve their existing language skills, you can study in English at many of UOW’s partner universities around the world. There are programs taught in English in both English-speaking and non-English speaking countries, including: Canada, Japan, Korea, the Netherlands, Norway, Sweden, the UK and USA.

“Myths & Facts

Jacqueline Fenwick, visiting Namibia before travelling to Ireland to study.

“I can’t afford to go on exchange.”

Going on exchange is affordable! You will continue to pay tuition to UOW (upfront or deferred via HECS) rather than to your host university. Eligible undergraduate students may also borrow over $5,600 per session of overseas study (max two sessions) through the Australian Government’s OS-HELP loan scheme. All eligible students can apply for a $1,000 travel grant from the University of Wollongong and there are also targeted travel grants of up to $5,000 for eligible students.

“I won’t be able to graduate on time if I go on exchange.”

With careful planning, studying overseas should not delay your graduation from UOW. Part of the exchange application process involves meeting with your faculty to ensure that you will receive credit towards your UOW degree for subjects completed overseas. Almost all fields can be studied while on exchange and students can complete courses to fulfill both major requirements and electives.

“Studying overseas sounds like a luxury that isn’t going to help me find a job after graduation.”

International study and experience is highly valued by employers, as it demonstrates your ability to take initiative, work independently and function in a cross-cultural environment. While you are on exchange, you will also have the opportunity to establish professional and career opportunities by networking with people from around the world. A successful exchange gives your resumé an added dimension and will give you a competitive edge in the employment market.
Attend an Information Session held every Tuesday and Thursday at 12.30pm in Student Central. Come and learn how to start planning for your exchange. Visit us in Student Central or email studyabroad@uow.edu.au for more information.

Application Criteria
- You must be enrolled in a degree program at UOW
- Have a credit average (65%) or higher at UOW
- Completed the equivalent of one full-time year of study (48 credit points) at UOW by the time you depart on exchange

Application Deadlines
Application deadlines are posted on the exchange website and are displayed inside the Study Abroad & Exchange Office located in Student Central.
- For exchange commencing in January/February (UOW’s Autumn Session): Applications close June/mid-July
- For exchange commencing in August/September (UOW’s Spring Session): Applications close between December and March

Apply Now!

If you think going on exchange for 6–12 months might be too long, why not consider going on a short-term program?

Programs can now be chosen from UOW partner universities, or if you find another program that looks interesting you can talk to your faculty about getting approval. Short-term programs usually run in the UOW session breaks so it won’t interrupt your UOW semester studies.

For more information, visit us in the Study Abroad & Exchange Office or at www.uow.edu.au/student/exchange

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