The University of Western Australia is committed to providing a learning and teaching environment that encourages students to achieve international excellence. Our aim is to ensure our students are not only qualified at the highest international standard but graduate as culturally competent world citizens with the capacity to create, distribute and apply knowledge for the benefit of society.

We live in a state which is rich in natural resources and often described as the powerhouse of the Australian economy. This, combined with the State’s geographical proximity to Asia, means we are ideally placed to participate in and prosper through two-way exchanges with some of the world’s largest and fastest growing nations. International collaboration enriches social, cultural, political and economic contexts and increases global awareness.

We believe everyone benefits from intercultural exchange and continue to work hard to strengthen and create new partnerships with leading universities around the world. These formal agreements with high-quality institutions foster a spirit of internationalism and promote a lively exchange of staff, students, knowledge and ideas. They also allow our students to fully engage in, and benefit from, global education.

We hope you will be transformed by your experience of study here at UWA – not just through your academic engagement and achievements but also through the cultural and social experiences, such as student exchange, available to you.

Studying overseas, in a different learning environment, encourages you to explore, test viewpoints and widen your experiences and understanding, all of which are critical aspects to quality learning.

I encourage you to take advantage of the opportunity for student exchange while you are here at UWA.

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Professor Paul Johnson
Vice-Chancellor

Definitions

» **Student Exchange Program:**
A program of study at overseas host institutions where an official Student Exchange Agreement has been established with UWA to exchange students on a fee-waiver basis. Programs are usually offered on a semester/year basis.

» **Study Abroad:**
A term that may be applied generally to overseas study programs. At UWA Study Abroad is generally referred to all types of overseas study programs which fall beyond the Student Exchange Program. These may include specialised programs arranged by Faculties or a study program arranged independently by students according to their choice. As no Exchange Agreement is in place, tuition and other fees may apply.
UWA Study Abroad

The University of Western Australia encourages all students to broaden their education by spending up to one year on an approved international study experience. Studying overseas is a great way to learn more about the world and other cultures, and it also gives you the opportunity to develop academically, professionally and personally, preparing you for success in today’s global society.

UWA offers many opportunities for students to study overseas. The Student Exchange Program is the largest and most comprehensive program, offering you a diverse range of learning opportunities. The program is offered on a fee waiver basis at many renowned international universities that hold formal Agreements with UWA. The program operates on a reciprocal basis which means students from our partner universities have the opportunity to study at UWA.

Apart from the Student Exchange Program, some Faculties also arrange discipline-specific overseas study opportunities for their students such as short courses (less than one semester) internships, fieldwork, practicum or placements. These programs usually take place in between semesters. If you are interested in exploring these opportunities please contact your faculty.

This information is written mainly about the Student Exchange Program however information about financial assistance applies to all types of credit-bearing overseas study.

Exchange students studying for one or two semesters will be automatically considered for the full range of available scholarships as part of the application process for the Student Exchange Program. All other students must apply separately by the prescribed deadlines.

Studying overseas can give you the opportunity to:

- experience a different educational system and get a comparative perspective on your field of study,
- achieve in a different academic and cultural environment, demonstrating to employers that you are flexible, adventurous and are a self-starter,
- study specialist units or take part in experiential opportunities that may not normally be available at UWA,
- choose one of our many language-immersion programs to increase your language proficiency and cultural awareness or learn a language,
- meet people from around the globe and develop new friendships,
- develop greater independence and confidence.
Where can I go?
Currently, UWA has over 130 Student Exchange agreements with universities spread across 20 different countries.

New arrangements are continually being established to meet the increasing demand from UWA students. Your next lecture theatre could be in Austria, Canada, Chile, China, Denmark, France, Germany, Hong Kong, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Malaysia, Netherland, New Zealand, Norway, Singapore, South Korea, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, United Kingdom, or even in the United States!

How do I choose my destination and what are my chances of getting accepted into my first preference?
You should select at least three preferences based primarily on where your course is offered as all study must be for credit. The Student Exchange Program is a competitive program with some destinations more competitive than others. It is therefore essential that you are flexible with your options. Explore other destinations that you may have not considered. Remember that many universities teach in English even though English is not the primary language of instruction.

When can I go and how long can I study?
If you are an undergraduate student the earliest you can go on exchange is usually in the second semester of your second year. However, early planning is essential to ensure you meet the eligibility criteria of the program and continue to meet your course progression requirements. You may study for a maximum of two semesters. Most students study for one semester. Don’t delay. Contact your Faculty Adviser or the Study Abroad Office in the first semester of your first year. Postgraduate students should contact the Study Abroad office for more information.
Will going on exchange affect my competitiveness to be admitted to a postgraduate professional degree such as Medicine, Dentistry or Law?
Provided you successfully complete your approved study plan, going overseas will not negatively impact on your ability for entry to a postgraduate professional degree. Results obtained overseas are recorded on a Pass/Fail basis and so excluded when calculating your UWA Weighted Average Mark (WAM). You will therefore retain the same WAM that you achieved prior to exchange. We encourage you to participate in exchange during your undergraduate degree as you may not have the opportunity during your professional degree.

What can I study?
Subject to approval and availability students who are studying in both the New Courses and pre-2012 courses, can receive credit towards their UWA degree to count towards their major(s), second major, broadening unit requirements (New Courses) complementary units, optional units or electives.

If you are studying in the New Course structure, you must study at least one level 3 unit at UWA, preferably two. Studying overseas may satisfy all broadening requirements including Category A.

If you are studying a combined degree in a Pre-2012 degree or for two majors in the New Course structure, you may not be able to study for both courses due to timetabling restrictions or course restrictions.

Postgraduate students should contact the Study Abroad office for more information.

You should plan your overseas study experience so as not to add extra time to your degree as you may incur additional HECS or international fees, or jeopardise eligibility for continuation of any financial support that you may be receiving. (eg Austudy)

Where will I live while on exchange?
All our partner universities offer a range of on-campus and off-campus housing options, some including Halls of Residence (dorms) and on-campus apartments.
On-campus accommodation is often the most convenient for students and is a really great way to get into the campus lifestyle. Housing is one of the most important considerations when planning your exchange. Make sure you fully understand housing availability and limitations.

Am I eligible?
Generally you must be an enrolled student at the time of application and have:
- completed, or about to complete, 48 points of study at UWA
- achieved an overall weight average mark of 65% in your current course
- no fail grades (a fail grade may be disregarded if there are extenuating circumstances)
MBA and postgraduate students should check with the Study Abroad Office for special academic requirements, or refer to the website.

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Discover
There is a difference between visiting a place on holiday and living there. You can enjoy all the known tourist attractions but also discover some local haunts, giving you a different perspective of a place than if you had just gone on holiday. Student Exchange gives you the unique experience of starting out as a visitor and leaving as a local, encouraging you to adapt your internal compass to a new city far from home and teaching you how to fit-in in new surroundings.

Immerse
Expand your view of the world and learn how Australia is viewed overseas. Immerse yourself in a new culture and discover the things that make us different, and the things that make us the same around the world.

Challenge
Step outside of your comfort zone and challenge yourself to try new things, meet new people and make new friends. The experience of living, and sometimes working, in a different country encourages you to develop a greater sense of your own self-confidence and independence.

Experience
There is a need in today’s global society for graduates to be innovative and adaptable. International study provides students with real-world experience. Allowing you to gain valuable skills and knowledge, you can draw upon in your future career path, making student exchange more than just a line on your résumé.

An international exchange will be the highlight of your time at UWA! The people you meet, the opportunities that present themselves, the travel experiences and the memories will define your character and have a lasting influence on your university degree experience, all while shaping you for your professional career.

Take advantage of UWA’s great program with respected universities located across the world and study abroad for a semester or a year. The independence and confidence I’ve gained overseas will be a huge advantage when I return to Perth, and also once I’ve completed my degree!”

Richard Stevenson

Richard Stevenson studied at the University of New Mexico, USA.
How much will it cost?
The biggest advantage of participating in an approved student exchange program is that NO TUITION FEES are payable to your host university! However, you must maintain your HECS/HELP or international student fees payable to UWA and pay any additional expenses for student exchange; such as be responsible for other expenses including:
- Accommodation and living; expenses, including books;
- Travel expenses;
- Passport and visa costs;
- Health and additional travel insurance;
- Any other incidental costs.

UWA provides Travel Insurance coverage for UWA students participating in approved overseas study programs.

Casual work opportunities are limited overseas and you should not rely on this to support yourself during your exchange. UWA provides travel and medical insurance for the full period of your study program, but additional compulsory health insurance may be required at some universities.

All in all, the cost of exchange depends on the location and your spending habits, but on average it costs around AU$10,000 per semester of study in the Northern Hemisphere – although some locations may be more affordable than others.

Financial assistance to help you succeed internationally
To ensure the opportunity to study internationally is available to the broadest range of students, a range of scholarships, and affordable loans through UWA and external funding sources are available to assist with travel expenses and other associated costs.

The following information may apply to non-exchange opportunities.

All UWA students studying overseas on approved learning programs which have a credit value of at least 6 UWA points are eligible for support.

Scholarships
All applications are considered by the Study Abroad Scholarships Committee for the full range of available UWA and external scholarships. Awards are allocated on a merit basis. Students who already hold a UWA Swans Scholarship or a Commonwealth Learning Scholarship or other equity-based awards may be eligible for a supplementary study abroad scholarship in addition to a Study Abroad Scholarship.

The value of scholarships are the same for semester or year study programs and range in value from $2,000 to $5,000. Scholarships for short-term programs of less than one semester will be awarded on a pro-rata basis of the full award based on the amount of credit points awarded for the program. Further information is available from the Study Abroad Office or the website.

Loans
Australian Government Loan
In addition to scholarships, students may wish to apply for the OS-HELP Loan Program which is available to eligible Australian Government supported students. OS-HELP allows students to borrow up to $5,824 (2012 amount) per study period for one or two overseas study periods. There is no loan fee and no real interest charged however the debt is indexed annually to the consumer price index. OS-HELP is administered by UWA’s Financial Aid Office located in Student Support Services. http://www.studentfinance.uwa.edu.au/

UWA Loan
Students can also apply for a UWA Student Exchange loan, up to a maximum of $8,000 for one semester or $12,000 for two semesters, interest free during your course of study. Repayments are not required until you return from exchange.

Other Support
If you currently receive Austudy, Abstudy or Youth Allowance payments, these should continue while studying internationally provided you maintain eligibility.
Scholarship Application Deadlines
Exchange students studying for one or two semesters are automatically considered for the full range of available scholarships as part of the application process for the Student Exchange Program. All other students must apply separately by the prescribed deadlines.

How can I apply?
Application deadlines for Student Exchange:
- Applications close on the first Friday in June, for exchange in semester 1;
- Applications close on the first Friday in December, for exchange in semester 2.

Please note some universities, including all the Canadian universities, have only one application deadline for Student Exchange, which means applications for semester 2 or semester 1 the following year must be submitted in December; for detailed information on application deadlines check with the Study Abroad Office.

Student Exchange Application Process:
Applications for student exchange are made using our online application system.

For further information on how to apply, visit www.international.uwa.edu.au/students/exchange/apply

What are the next steps for applying for the Student Exchange Program?
Don’t delay! Start planning as soon as you commence your studies at UWA. Use the following checklist to assist with your planning:

- Do you meet the eligibility criteria? Register your interest as early as possible on the online application system as it will determine your eligibility. If you do meet the criteria (see page 3) make an appointment to meet with a Student Exchange Adviser.
- Meet with your Academic Adviser to ensure an overseas study period is possible within your course structure.
- Research! Research! Research! Where do you want study? Is your course offered? What are the deadlines? Do early deadlines apply? You will find most of the information on the internet, however, the Study Abroad Office also holds a range of information including partner university profiles and evaluations from returned students.
- Prepare a Proposed Study Plan for three possible options. Submit your application by the due deadline.
- Do you have a passport and is it valid for at least six months beyond your proposed exchange (and travel)?
What happens next?

1. Your application will first be considered by the Student Exchange Selection Committee (SESC). You may be required to attend an interview if there are any concerns with your application.

2. Acceptance to the Student Exchange Program involves being approved by both UWA and the host university.

3. If your application is approved by the SESC, you will be notified and allocated to a host university. A Student Exchange Adviser will help you with the host university’s application process. Due to the competitiveness of the Program, you may not receive your first choice so be prepared to be flexible with your options.

4. You will need to finalise your Proposed Study Plan prior to your departure. The Study Abroad Office will assist with this.

5. Acceptance from your host university may take some time. You should not make any travel plans until you receive confirmation of your acceptance but you should make sure your travel documents are in order.

6. After you receive your Acceptance of Admission and visa documents, you should apply for a visa without delay.

Pre-departure

All students participating in the Student Exchange Program are required to attend a Pre-departure session which covers a range of issues from travel insurance, and health and well-being, to important administrative issues. You will also have the opportunity to meet with other UWA students who are about to embark on the same adventure as you.

The Study Abroad Office is committed to supporting you every step of the way. If at any point you have questions or concerns do not hesitate to contact us.

I found the semester one, 2011, ‘Chandigarh Project’ an insightful and educational experience. For me travelling abroad is an important aspect of personal and professional growth. The opportunity to visit Northern India with Christopher Vernon and my fellow students allowed me to develop a greater understanding of India’s ancient culture and exciting history of landscape architectural practice. The study abroad trip was valuable to me from both a landscape architectural standpoint and as a personal confidence and skills building opportunity. The study tour has been a highlight of my time at UWA as is an experience one that I will remember long past graduation. The financial support that I received for the Chandigarh Project made this adventure possible for most of our group and we are grateful for the assistance it provided. I would not hesitate to share my experiences or to encourage others to participate in a UWA run study tour as these cross-cultural experiences are both rare and incredibly eye opening.

Laura Thwaites
The UWA Student Exchange Program offers you the opportunity to study overseas at renowned universities for one or two semesters while still gaining credit towards a UWA degree. Some short-term options are also available.

The program is a great way to learn more about the world and other cultures and is open to international students. You would continue to be enrolled at UWA, so do not pay tuition fees at the host institution, however you will need to pay airfares, accommodation and other living expenses while you are away. Scholarships, bursaries and loans are available.

Benefits of participating in student exchange include:

**Academic benefits**
- You can take units (subjects) related to your degree which are not available at UWA.
- You can study at other outstanding universities that are also international leaders in their chosen research fields.

**Employment benefits**
- Your achievement in a different academic and cultural environment will show to employers that you are flexible, adventurous and a self-starter.
- You may be able to gain invaluable experience for future employment through vacation internships in your area of study offered by some universities.
- By undertaking overseas study during your UWA degree, you will be satisfying the University’s requirements to study for broadening units from outside your degree area.

**Personal benefits**
- Travel within the host country and further afield with local students or other international students.
- Meet people from around the globe and develop new friendships.
- Gain independence and confidence.
- Develop an understanding of other cultures and a global perspective.

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**AUSTRIA**
- Vienna University of Economics and Business Administration
- University of Vienna

**CANADA**
- Concordia University, Montreal (pending)
- HEC Montreal
- Laval University
- McGill University
- McMaster University
- Queen’s University, Kingston, Canada (International Study Centre at Herstmonceux Castle, UK)
- Simon Fraser University
- University of Alberta
- University of British Columbia
- University of Calgary
- University of Montreal
- University of Ottawa
- University of Toronto
- University of Waterloo
- University of Western Ontario

**DENMARK**
- Copenhagen Business School
- University of Århus
- University of Copenhagen

**FRANCE**
- Burgundy School of Business
- Charles de Gaulle University (Lille III)
- ESSEC Business School
- Galileo Institute—University Paris 13
- Grenoble Institute of Political Studies
- Louis Pasteur University (Strasbourg I)
- Paris-South II, University
- Paul Cézanne University (Aix-Marseille III)
- Sciences Po, Paris
- The University of Rouen
- University of Evry/Val of the Essonne (UEVE)
- University of Limoges
- University of Montpellier 2 (UM2)
- University of Pierre & Marie Curie
- University of Poitiers
- University of Science and Technology (Lille I)
- University of Sorbonne Nouvelle (Paris III)

**CHINA**
- Dalian University of Technology
- Fudan University
- Harbin Institute of Technology
- Nanjing University
- Peking University
- Shanghai Jiao Tong University
- Tsinghua University
- University of Science & Technology
- Xian Jiaotong University
- Zhejiang University

**CHILE**
- Pontifical Catholic University of Chile

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Contact Us
For more information visit:
www.international.uwa.edu.au/students/exchange

The Study Abroad Office is located in Hackett Hall, next door to the Prospective Students Office.

Office hours are 9am to 4pm, Monday to Thursday.

Telephone and email enquiries will be answered 9am to 5pm, Monday to Friday.

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