

Information for Students on Exchange

A. University	University of Birmingham http://www.birmingham.ac.uk/International/study-abroad/study-abroad-incoming/index.aspx
B. Country	United Kingdom
C. Academics	
i) Module Mapping & Credits Transfer	<p>Please ensure that your Study Plan is approved by the academics at your home faculty before the exchange.</p> <p>Modules approved in the past might not be offered by the host university or approved by your faculty when it is time for your exchange. Please check the latest course offerings at the host universities while you are preparing your Study Plan.</p>
ii) Academic Calendar	<p>Semester 1: Late September to Mid-December Semester 2: Mid-January to Mid-June (with Easter break)</p> <p>https://www.birmingham.ac.uk/undergraduate/courses/termdates.aspx</p>
iii) Exchange Duration	<p>Semester exchange is allowed if the required modules are available.</p> <p>However, full-year exchange is recommended as <u>more intermediate and honours level modules are designed based on a year-long curriculum</u>. You be advised prior to arrival by Birmingham if you have requested year-long modules that are not suitable for semester based study.</p>
iv) Examination	<p>Examination at Birmingham is held only at the end of an academic year.</p> <p>Students on exchange in Semester 1 only should be prepared for the possibility of sitting for special assessment in place of the year-end examination.</p>
v) Curriculum Structure	<p>NUS students should study 60 UK credits per semester in order to be considered as full-time student at Birmingham. All modules (classes) at UoB will be 10 or 20 credits each.</p> <p>You should aim to study 40 credits in a ‘preferred College’ and another 20 credits from one or two ‘optional’ Colleges.</p>
vi) Entry Requirements	<p>You should:</p> <p>(a) be registered as a full-time undergraduate student at NUS</p>

	<p>(b) have successfully completed at least:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) one (1) semester of study at NUS upon application for the Exchange Programme; and (ii) two (2) semesters of study upon admission to the host university; <p>(c) be a student of good standing with:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) a minimum CAP score of 3.5 out of 5.0 at NUS or a minimum 'B' average grade or 70% average marks or ranking in the top one-third of the class; (ii) a minimum 'B' grade in the current/intended discipline/major; (iii) no single grade below 'C'; <p>(d) show the aptitude, motivation and maturity, to thrive in the environment at the host university</p>
<p>vii) Language Proficiency Requirements</p>	<p>All study abroad and exchange students who are non-native speakers of English must provide proof of English language ability. Birmingham needs a scan of any official results by email.</p> <p>NUS students have to submit a scanned copy of their GCE "O" level certificates with at least a grade C for English. Please refer to http://www.birmingham.ac.uk/undergraduate/requirements/international/index.aspx for other accepted certificates.</p> <p>Students who do not have the GCE "O" level certificate with at least a grade C for English are expected to submit other accepted certificates or IELTS test score of at least 6.5 with not less than 6.0 in any one component or apply for a pre-sessional English Course with Birmingham's EISU department in order to be considered for Birmingham's exchange programme. Any student who wish to sit for the pre-sessional English course must successfully complete this course before they commence their studies at Birmingham.</p>

<p>viii) Modules Compatibility</p>	<p>Suitable for students from the following faculties:</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="470 369 1452 884"> <tr> <td data-bbox="470 369 630 526">FASS</td> <td data-bbox="630 369 1452 526"> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Geography, Earth and Environmental Sciences • Philosophy • African Studies and Anthropology </td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="470 526 630 649">FoE</td> <td data-bbox="630 526 1452 649"> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chemical Engineering • Civil Engineering </td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="470 649 630 806">FoS</td> <td data-bbox="630 649 1452 806"> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chemistry • Physics • Biology </td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="470 806 630 884">SoC</td> <td data-bbox="630 806 1452 884"> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Computer Science </td> </tr> </table> <p>Module catalogue can be found at : https://program-and-modules-handbook.bham.ac.uk/webhandbooks/WebHandbooks-control-servlet?Action=getSchoolList</p>	FASS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Geography, Earth and Environmental Sciences • Philosophy • African Studies and Anthropology 	FoE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chemical Engineering • Civil Engineering 	FoS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chemistry • Physics • Biology 	SoC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Computer Science
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<p>ix) Module restrictions and pre-requisites</p> <p>Please read!</p>	<p>Individual, personalised timetable, will not be finalised until after you arrive at Birmingham.</p> <p>Third-year (Honours level) courses will usually only be available to you if you are majoring in the subject area and have at least two years background in the discipline. Make sure you've checked you meet the pre-requisites before you apply. You will need to demonstrate that you have taken the relevant equivalent modules at NUS in order to be enrolled. Birmingham will review your NUS transcript before registering you for your chosen modules.</p> <p>Modules from the <u>Birmingham Business School</u>, <u>Law School</u>, <u>College of Medical and Dental Sciences</u> are not open to NUS students.</p> <p>Students will usually 'belong' to one and, at most, two schools or departments and will take the majority of their modules here. As far as possible exchange students should try to choose the majority of their modules from one specific department as this will help to give them a better 'identity' during their time at Birmingham.</p> <p>Students are reminded to read Birmingham's guidelines on choosing courses and module restrictions: http://www.birmingham.ac.uk/undergraduate/studyabroad/incoming-students.aspx</p>								

	<p>FASS</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Politics – Very popular. Mostly year-long modules. Early submission of exchange application is required • History – Very popular. Early submission of exchange application is required • English Literature – Very popular. Early submission of exchange application is required • American Studies – Very popular. Early submission of exchange application is required • Psychology – Very popular. Early submission of exchange application is required
	<p>FoE</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mechanical Engineering - Mostly year-long modules
	<p>FoS</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mathematics - Mostly year-long modules
	<p>USP</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • By invitation for USP students only. USP students are to be attached to Birmingham’s Liberal Arts and Natural Science.

D. Application

<p>i) Procedures</p>	<p>All NUS student has to be nominated by NUS before they can apply for fee-waiver exchange at the host university.</p> <p>The application procedures and list of supporting documents needed by the host university can be found in the SharePoint.</p> <p>Please look for the SEP coordinator at your Dean’s Office for the link to the SharePoint</p> <p>Supporting documents to be uploaded to Birmingham’s online application portal includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • One academic reference; • A copy of an official transcript showing the courses taken and grades; • A copy of your passport/ID photo page; • Evidence of English Language
<p>ii) Deadlines</p>	<p>All NUS student must abide by the internal application deadline set by their home faculty for exchange participation in the following academic year. After clearing the internal application and selection process, students have to take note of the application deadline set by the host university</p>

	<p>Failure to submit a formal application to the host university will result your exchange being forfeited even if you have been selected by NUS for the exchange.</p> <p>You have to be nominated by your home faculty by 20 February 2018 and all NUS nominations has to reach Birmingham before 28 February 2018 for they can consider your application for semester 1 exchange.</p> <p>Once you have been nominated by NUS, Birmingham will give you the link to submit an online application. You should apply as an international exchange student via the online application portal administer by University of Birmingham. Your application and supporting documents should reach Birmingham before 31 March 2018 for September entry.</p> <p>The application deadline for January entry is tentatively set on 1 November. More information can be found on: http://www.birmingham.ac.uk/International/study-abroad/study-abroad-incoming/applying.aspx</p>
<p>E. Accommodations</p>	
<p>i) University Accommodation</p>	<p>Birmingham guarantees accommodation for international exchange students. Students who need university accommodation should apply before the deadline. Accommodation is allocated on a first-come-first-served basis.</p> <p>Please note that students can only apply for accommodation once they have received their formal study abroad offer letter which has the University of Birmingham student ID number. Students cannot apply for accommodation without their student ID number.</p> <p>For accommodation information, visit http://www.birmingham.ac.uk/International/study-abroad/study-abroad-incoming/accommodation.aspx</p>
<p>ii) Private Accommodation</p>	<p>Alternatively, students may decide to rent private accommodation. Housing Services at the Birmingham offers a list of approved landlords for students who wish to rent privately. They also run a House Hunting Event at the start of each year. For more information on private accommodation, click here.</p>
<p>F. Visa</p>	
<p>Consular/Visa Regulation</p>	<p>UK Visa and Immigration updates their immigration policy regularly. It is the student's responsibility to check on the requirements via their website before they leave for the exchange. https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/uk-visas-and-immigration</p>

Short-term Study Visa for Semester Exchange

If you are a Singapore citizen or a citizen of another country on the UK non-visa nationals list, and if your course of studies is less than 6 months, you can apply for:

- (1) single-entry Short Term Study Visa to the UK at the port of entry (free) or;
- (2) multiple-entry Short Term Study Visa prior to leaving your home country (£93).

The single-entry Short Term Study Visa is free but if you leave the UK during your home university registration period you will need to re-apply as a short-term student when you re-enter; for this reason you should always travel with your short-term study visa support letter.

Alternatively if you think you are likely to leave and re-enter the UK during your course you should apply for a multiple entry short-term study visa in advance of travelling to the UK.

Non-visa nationals who enter the UK on a short-term study visa are required to leave the UK after the course end date given on your Short-term Study visa support letter. If you wish to travel within the UK after your studies you will need to exit the UK and re-enter as a Standard Visitor which you can do at port of entry.

Citizens from a country that needs a visa to enter the UK should apply for the multiple-entry Short Term Study Visa prior to leaving for your overseas exchange. You can contact the external visa office approved by UK Visa and Immigration to apply for multiple-entry Short Term Study Visa.

Applying for a single-entry Short-Term Study Visa is usually an easier and cheaper process than applying for a Tier 4 Student Visa, if you do not need a Tier 4 Student Visa, please do not apply for it.

Tier 4 Student Visa for Full-Year exchange

For students who need Tier 4 Student Visa, please refer to <http://www.birmingham.ac.uk/International/study-abroad/study-abroad-incoming/preparing/visa.aspx> for more information. Applicants should ensure that they are fully aware of what they will need to do in order to successfully apply for a Tier 4 Student Visa. The CAS statement will contain a number that allows student to apply for a Tier 4 Student Visa. The application for Tier 4 Student Visa can take up to three months and students are advised to apply for the visa in advance of their intended date of travel to the UK.

Your exchange at the host university depends on the clearance by the immigration of the host country.

G. Safety, Health & Medical Insurance

<p>Health/Medical Insurance</p>	<p>For less than six months of exchange, students are not entitled to subsidised NHS treatment and should arrange medical insurance before arriving at Birmingham.</p> <p>All registered NUS students are covered under the university health insurance and the blanket travel insurance. For more information on the university health insurance coverage, please refer to http://www.nus.edu.sg/uhc/services/billing-insurance/insurance-matters.html</p> <p>For more information on the blanket travel insurance, please refer to http://www.nus.edu.sg/finance/InsuranceCoverforOfficialNUSTrips.html</p> <p>If the insurance coverage is not enough, students are advised to purchase additional health and/or travel insurance from their preferred agent.</p>
<p>Emergency Number at Host University</p>	<p>Name : Security Office Tel : 0121 414 4444</p>

H. Cost of Living

<p>Estimated Living Expenses</p>	<p>Details can be found at http://www.birmingham.ac.uk/International/study-abroad/study-abroad-incoming/preparing/finance.aspx</p>
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I. Useful Links

<p>Study Abroad Guide</p>	<p>http://www.birmingham.ac.uk/International/study-abroad/study-abroad-incoming/guidance.aspx</p>
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