Is studying abroad right for you?  
2020/21

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Study Abroad Team
WHY CONSIDER STUDYING ABROAD?

Aarti Bhogaita, Kieran Leigh
What are the benefits? - Academic / Career

- World-class teaching from respected academics.

- Wide range of modules to choose not available at UON - a more ‘tailored’ degree.

- International Network - useful for further study.

- Opportunity to work abroad.

- Exposure to new ways of learning, teaching and assessment.

- Fantastic way to make your CV stand out.
What are the benefits? - Personal

- Gain Confidence and Independence.
- Exposure to a New Culture.
- New Friends - exchange students and natives.
- Excuse to Travel.
- Tuition Fee Saving and bursaries.
What are the choices

School Factsheets –
www.nottingham.ac.uk/go/studyabroadfactsheets
• University-wide exchange
• Inter-campus exchange
• School exchange
• Summer Schools
• Other opportunities
Who are you?

- Your priorities
- Your budget
- Are you comfortable being away from support networks
- Any additional support needs or disabilities
- Preferred learning and assessment styles
- City or country person
- Choose the programme and destination that best matches these – not where everyone else is going

What do you want to get out of the experience?
Study Abroad for Disabled students webpage
Advice for students who have a physical disability, a long-term medical condition, a Specific Learning Difference (SpLD), a sensory impairment or mental health issues.

- Make an appointment to talk to DLO or Disability Support case worker
- Look at the disability and welfare provision at the partner you are considering
- Think about the different attitudes towards disability across the world
LGBTQ+

- Laws, legal rights/protections and social attitudes are not the same around the world
- Think about:
  - Laws and social attitudes in your destination country
  - Attitudes towards presenting a gender that is perceived as different to that on your passport
  - Customs laws with regards to bringing hormones into another country
  - Is it safe to be out in that country
  - Are there LGBTQ+ societies or support in your destination country/university?

This information is also important for students who do not identify as LGBTQ+
LGBTQ+ information and resources

Stonewall Global Workplace Briefings
- Comprehensive briefings of 36 overseas countries and regions to date
- https://www.stonewall.org.uk/global-workplace-briefings

FCO LGBTQ+ overseas travel advice

International LGBTI Association
- Comprehensive world maps and reports of laws, protections and recognition
- https://ilga.org/

Go Overseas: friendly LGBTQ+ study abroad destinations
- https://www.gooverseas.com/blog/the-most-lgbt-friendly-study-abroad-destinations
DIFFERENT LEARNING STYLES AND WHAT MIGHT SUIT YOU

Ed Taylor, Reema Sandhu
Learning style at the University of Nottingham Ningbo

- Teaching experience and approach is shaped and informed by the UK campus.
- Teaching in English - dynamic, engaging and internationally grounded.
- Smaller class sizes - more engagement.
- Culturally aware of people's differing opinions and beliefs.
- Enhances my global perspective - making friends from all over the world.
- Experiencing a new culture and language - learning Mandarin.
- RUOK? Week on campus.
How to know if UNNC is right for you?

- Being an open-minded person.
- Adapting and immersing yourself into the Chinese culture.
- Learning a new language.
- Being on a smaller campus.
- Balancing the work and travel - being organised.
Studying in Australia

- More interactive learning style
- Different levels of support - help given to those who ask!
- Continuous assessment
  - Quizzes, mid semester exams, group assessments
- ‘SWOTVAC’ - 1 week revision time before exams begin
- Different grading system
- Grade conversion to UK system
Choosing what’s best for you

- Can you adapt to learning in a different way?
- Are you organised and able to keep to deadlines?
- Can you work well in groups?
- May be hard at times but I wouldn’t change my experience at all!
Choosing somewhere far away - South Korea

About South Korea
- 5500 miles from the UK, English proficiency (55%), 3.4% of the population are immigrants

Why was studying far away right for me?
- Previous experience of solo travelling - pushing myself
  - A rare experience & enjoying a challenge - CV
  - Independence and confidence - self growth

Challenges: making the effort and doing things off my own back
- Knew nobody before going - mental preparation
- Couldn’t speak Korean to a good standard - language preparation
- Family dislike of flying (JOMO) - Facetime, Whatsapp (time?)

Support systems in place - the distance wasn’t an issue!
- Korea University Buddy Assistants (KUBA) - assigned Korean student
- Ipsellenti Music events, ISF and International Sports days
- Free Korean Classes & One to one language exchange - integration
- UoN 24/7 support if needed
About Sweden:
- progressive/environmentally focussed country
- The home of ikea
- Fika culture
- Weather
- Cultural traditions
- Lund specific traditions/plus points

>Why I chose Europe and Sweden

Travel/Scandinavia/Cost/Personal Preference

>the challenges

>the benefits

>culture
Going anywhere may feel far far away!

Don’t be afraid to travel further away from home
- You can feel homesick anywhere. This is completely normal!
- Culture Shock - Possible language and cultural challenges wherever you go

Choosing somewhere similar to the UK doesn’t mean you won’t feel homesick, or experience culture shock!
- Support systems in place
- Taking opportunities

All institutions will provide you with an international experience
- Leave all your options open
• What are you currently achieving, what do you think you will achieve?
• 60% minimum academic average required for the University-wide programme
• The popularity of some partners will mean you need a much higher average to be selected
• Look at the application success rate on the partner profiles to judge competitiveness
• Think about having a range of destinations but DON’T APPLY for somewhere YOU DON’T WANT TO GO TO

If in doubt apply – until you know your marks you won’t know if you are eligible
Short-term option

Study
• New subjects or expand on current study areas
• Non-credit-bearing
• Experiential learning

Costs
• One week to six weeks
• Hospitality packages
• Costs covered by the student
• Distance from home country
• Cost of living

Personal
• Limited or no previous international travel experience
• Long-term family or work commitments
• Access to funding
• Practical arrangements
Finance

Costs
• Cost of living
• Exchange rates
• Accommodation, travel, visa, insurance
• Summer school excursions/trips

Tuition fees and loans
• Reduced tuition fees
• Overseas rate of loan/grant

Scholarships and bursaries
• Global Travel bursary £750 – means-tested
• Student Finance Travel grant – university-wide
• Country or partner-specific scholarship
• Summer school scholarships – amounts and eligibility to be confirmed
• Global Leader Experience Abroad – Majority funded
Personal funding

• Your own income
  • Student loan
  • Bursaries e.g. University Core Bursary
  • Part-time employment
  • Personal savings
  • Financial support from parents/guardians/relatives

• Budget and make a plan
  • Think about your current expenditure
  • Making a weekly or monthly budget plan
  • If you can, start saving towards your study abroad
  • https://www.nottingham.ac.uk/ugstudy/budgetplanner/index.php

• Budget during your study abroad
  • Make an estimate budget for whilst you’re studying abroad
Drop-in sessions

Drop-in

Tuesdays and Thursdays:
2pm - 3.30pm

Peer Advisers and staff available for questions.
Global Opportunities presentation
Wednesday 27 November, 2-4pm
B01, ESLC

Practicalities Presentation
Wednesday 4 December, 2-4pm
B14, ESLC
Any questions?
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www.instagram.com/uonstudyabroad

email: studyabroad@nottingham.ac.uk

Drop-ins: Tuesdays, Thursdays, 2pm - 3.30pm

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