



Edge Hill University

Your Guide to Studying Abroad



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Introduction

So, you want to Study Abroad? Welcome to a great adventure!

A semester or year abroad is exciting and challenging, both academically and socially. It gives you the opportunity to immerse yourself in the cultural, political, and social life of another country, and to learn more about another society than you ever could by staying at home.

This handbook is packed with information to help you get through the entire Study Abroad process, from figuring when you want to go, to packing!

We know the decision to study abroad is a big one, and we hope that the information in this handbook helps to alleviate your fears and helps you prepare for a fabulous time abroad.

The International Team

5 Reasons to study abroad

Edge Hill's Study Aboard Programme, provides you with the opportunity to spend a part of your degree studying at a partner university either overseas or in Europe through the Erasmus programme. Most degree schemes offer this opportunity.

1. Stand out from the crowd

- Graduates who have studied overseas have been shown to be more desirable to employers in today's job market

2. Go on an adventure

- Edge Hill has partner institutions in the USA, Canada, Japan, Hong Kong, and more than 20 other countries across Europe

3. Immerse yourself in another culture

- Knowledge and experience of other cultures and perspectives is invaluable in the workplace and beyond

4. Discover yourself

- The independence and confidence that you build while studying overseas will change your outlook on future challenges

5. It doesn't cost the earth!

- Read on to find out more about applying to study abroad, costs, and immigration.

When do I go?

You can go away for one semester in your 2nd year if you are studying on a 3 year degree. If you would like to go study abroad for a whole academic year then you will spend your 3rd year abroad and extend your degree to 4 years.

Psychology and Performing Arts students can only spend a full academic year abroad and so must extend their degree to four years.

As well as studying abroad for a semester or a year, Biology students can also undertake a 2 month traineeship after the second year. This is usually from May – July.

Nursing students can undertake a 2 month traineeship in the Spring term of their second year. This usually takes place from January - March.

It is also worth noting that term dates will vary depending on which country you go to. North American universities tend to start in late August and finish by April. Whereas some of our European partners do not start until October and finish in July.

Where can I study?

You can only study at established Edge Hill partners.
An up to date list of partners can be found on our webpages.

What can I study?

The course you take must be approved by your department. Your grades will be translated back to Edge Hill and you must earn enough credits to pass the year. However, the grades do not count towards you Edge Hill degree.

Student Finance England

English students studying at an institution in England who can go abroad can typically receive 3 types of support to help them:

- A tuition fee loan
- A maintenance loan
- A travel grant

How much you are entitled to can depend on your family circumstances and on what year you are studying in.

Additional pre-departure costs that you may incur will include:

- Airfares
- Travel in country/vacations
- Passport renewal (if required)
- Visas - £75-£350
- Health insurance

Turing Scheme Grant

All students participating in the **Study Abroad** programme will receive a grant from the Turing Scheme. The amount you receive will be dependant on how long you are going away for, the destination you are travelling to and your personal circumstances.

The Turing Scheme covers costs of living overseas. Destination countries are divided into three groups with Group 1 having the highest cost of living.

Study Abroad placements of nine weeks to 12 months will receive:

- £380 per month (for Group 1 destinations)
- £335 per month (for Group 2 and 3 destinations)

Participants from disadvantaged backgrounds will receive a higher amount of funding

- £490 per month (to Group 1 countries/territories)
- £445 per month (to Group 2 and 3 countries/territories)

They will also receive funding towards the direct costs of travel depending on the distance between the host and destination provider. They will also receive funding for exceptional costs calculated on an actual cost basis and are specifically for any additional costs incurred to support the participation of disadvantaged participants. This covers passports/visa/insurance/appropriate clothes/luggage as necessary.

Disadvantaged backgrounds is defined as:-

- Students with an annual household income of £25,000 or less
- Students receiving Universal Credit or income-related benefits
- Care leavers and students who are care-experienced.
- Students who have caring responsibilities
- Estranged Students
- Refugees and asylum seekers

Accommodation (at Edge Hill)

- If you decide not to continue with the programme or are withdrawn for academic reasons, then we will guarantee you a room on campus (though not a specific type)
- If you are studying abroad for 1 semester, we will guarantee you a room on campus for the semester that you are at Edge Hill – whether that is Autumn or Spring term.
- If you are studying abroad for an academic year, you will be guaranteed a room on campus for the following year if you apply by the deadline

Applying to your allocated university

Once you have been accepted onto the study abroad programme, we will nominate you to your chosen university and they will contact you with application instructions.

Most applications forms are online and relatively straight forward. You will need to provide some or all of the following information at the time of applying, depending on which university you are applying to:

- Personal contact details
- Emergency contact
- Details of degree/exchange
- Copy of passport
- Course section form
- Academic transcript (we can provide this)
- Letter of nomination (we provide this)
- Financial Guarantee
- Personal Statement
- Photo
- Letter of academic recommendation
- Accommodation application *
- Health insurance application **

We are happy to help you, so if you have any questions about your application form, please email us at studyaborad@edgehill.ac.uk

*Accommodation types differ between universities. You will receive more information about your options with your application information.

**You may need to purchase health & medical insurance. Again, this differs on which county/university you are going to. All students are covered by Edge Hill University Travel Cover and you will need to purchase addition cover for when you will be off campus.

Course Selection

The first thing to do is research the course you would take next year if you stayed at Edge Hill and work out which ones you are interested in. This will be helpful in case you withdraw from the programme – you already have an idea of the courses you would then like to take. But it can also give you a guide on what courses you might like to take abroad.

Write your choices on your proposed study plan and make an appointment with the international coordinator in your department to get your choices approved and signed off. Please ensure that your advisor has one copy and bring the original to us.

Your proposed study plan must fit the required credits to allow you to progress onto your next semester or final year. The credits must translate back to 60 UK credits per semester, so if you are abroad for a whole year this means 120 UK credits.

Acceptance Letters

You will receive a formal acceptance letter from your host university. There will also be information and guidance on what to do next (depending on which country, this may include how to apply for accommodation and health insurance)

Visa applications

Whether you are planning to study in the EU or outside of the EU, you will need to apply for the appropriate Student Visa for your host country.

As part of your application to study abroad, you will be asked to show that your passport is valid for at least six months after you return from studying abroad. If it is not, you will need to renew your passport as soon as possible.

You will receive more detailed information about how to apply for a visa and medical insurance requirements by your host university.

Please note that immigration regulations may change so please check the appropriate embassy website for up-to-date information. Visas can take up to six weeks to be issued and you must allow sufficient time for this.

Before you go

- Attend the compulsory pre-departure briefing. This event gives practical information about your study abroad, what to expect and tips to get the best out of your time.
- Your parents may have some questions and concerns about you wanting to study abroad. Due to data protection we are only able to speak directly to your parents about you if you have given us written approval for us to do so.
- What to take? You can find lists on various websites on what to take. Feedback from our returning study abroad students is – don't take too much, you need space to be able to bring souvenirs home!
- Follow our social media pages:
 - Facebook
 - Instagram
 - If you post about your time abroad, please ensure to use the hashtag #ehustudyabroad that way we can see the adventures you are experiencing. Occasionally, with your permission, we may choose to feature one of your pictures on our main page to help us advertise the opportunity to prospective students

While you are there

August-September

You will start your first semester at your host university between August and September, depending on which country you go to.

On arrival, let your family know you have arrived safely. It is really important you attend the orientation events as this is an opportunity to meet people in the same boat as you, learn what you need to do and have some fun!

Once you have enrolled on your modules, you will need to return your signed study plan or learning agreement to confirm your choices.

Keep in touch with us via email, Facebook or Instagram – we love to hear how you are getting on and see your photos!

December

Watch out for the email from the Edge Hill Accommodation team sent to your EHU email account inviting you to apply for accommodation when you return. You are guaranteed accommodation on campus but only if you apply by the deadline.

April – July

As you come to the end of your time at your host university, please ensure that you have confirmed your transcripts will be sent to Holly Gilligan in the International Office. Without your transcript you may not be able to progress onto the next part of your course.

Please also contact the Intermarital Office if it seems as though you will not have sufficient credits to progress. If this is the case, we can arrange for you to complete a small independent study project to ensure that you have the correct number of credits needed to progress.

August

You will be contacted by the International team to complete a short survey on your time and experience abroad. Please complete this as it helps us to create partner profiles for prospective study abroad students to view and aid in their decision process.

November

We will ask you to be a part of the Global Opportunities Fair – to help promote the study abroad programme. Students like to hear from other students who have been a part of the opportunity most so it is incredibly helpful and beneficial to have student representatives.

Remember:

- You are representing Edge Hill while abroad
- Get involved with recruitment fairs. It could be us, or your host, asking.
- Encourage students who may be thinking about coming to Edge Hill on study abroad. We need students to come to Edge Hill so that future EHU students can study abroad. We need your help with this.

Need help?

You can go to the study abroad office at your host university and seek out their students support network. Do not keep difficulties to yourself find someone to talk to. If you need help during your time abroad, do not hesitate to contact us here in the International Office.

Frequently Asked Questions

One Semester or One Year Options

Q. Can anyone study abroad?

A. Most Edge Hill undergraduates have the opportunity to go abroad as part of their degree. However please check with your department as there are a few exceptions.

Q. Will the courses I take abroad count towards my degree?

A. No. You must pass your courses while abroad and achieve the required credits but the grades will not be translated back or count towards your degree.

Q. Where can I go?

A. Currently we have around 6 active partners overseas and another 30 partners in Europe. Due to the reciprocal nature of study abroad exchanges however, we can never guarantee places at all our partners will be available in any given year.

Q. When do I go?

A. You will usually go abroad for one semester in your 2nd or the full academic year in your 3rd year – extending your degree to four years.

Q. When do I apply?

A. You will need to apply at the end of the Autumn term, in the academic year before you will study abroad eg January 2023 to study abroad in 2023/24.

Q. How much will it cost?

A. For a full year abroad, you will pay zero tuition fees. For one semester abroad, you will pay 50% of your full tuition fees to Edge Hill.

You will be responsible for all other costs including flights, insurance and living costs.

Q. Is there any financial support available?

A. All students are able to receive a grant from the Turing Scheme, you do not need to apply separately for this as we will organise this in the International Office. **You will still be able to apply for a student loan.**

Q. Will I need a visa?

A. It is extremely likely that you will need a visa or study permit if you are studying abroad. You should check specific visa requirements on the country's Embassy/consulate website.

Q. Will I need any vaccinations before travelling?

A. All students going abroad should make an appointment with their GP to check health requirements.

Q. What support is there to help me through the process?

A. There is a dedicated Study Abroad team who will guide you through the process. We hold regular workshops and run drop in sessions. If you have any questions, please email us at studyabroad@edgehill.ac.uk

Contact Us

You will find the Study Abroad Team in the International Office, Clough 12, Main Building.

For study abroad queries: studyabroad@edgehill.ac.uk

Departmental International Coordinators

Biology

Mohamed El Mohtadi & Sven Batke

Law & Criminology

Andrea Cattaneo

English, History, and Creative Writing

Karen Ludke & James Renton

Performing Arts

James Hewison

Business

Chris Phelan

Social Sciences

Melanie Lang

Computer Science

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