

# STUDY ABROAD 2023/24

Birmingham City University (BCU) is based in the heart of the UK's second-largest city, with all the social and professional opportunities that brings. We offer a wide range of courses on a modern campus to provide the best possible learning environment. With over 29,000 students you'll find a diverse and welcoming environment. BCU is a modern and dynamic international university, with staff, students and alumni from more than 120 countries. Study with us and you'll be at the heart of it all.

## **INSTITUTIONAL INFORMATION**

Contacts	Birmingham City University Go Abroad Team:
	Maggie Wootton
	Kyla Townsend
	Lucy Stubbs
	Virginia Garcia
Telephone number	+44 (0) 121 331 5389
Main email address	goabroad@bcu.ac.uk
Study Abroad website	www.bcu.ac.uk/international/go-abroad-at-bcu

# ACADEMIC CALENDAR 2023-24

#### Semester one\*

Welcome:	4 September 2023
Semester begins:	18 September 2023
Winter vacation:	18 December 2023 - 2 January 2024
Classes end:	19 January 2024

#### Semester two\*

Welcome:	15 January 2024	
Semester begins:	22 January 2024	
Easter vacation:	1 - 8 April 2024	
Classes end:	24 May 2024	

\*Dates are indicative only. Confirmed dates for each programme will be indicated on the individual offer letter.

# STUDY ABROAD/EXCHANGE APPLICATION AND ADMISSION

If you are a student at one of our partner universities, your home university will firstly need to send a nomination to goabroad@bcu.ac.uk. Then it's as easy as 1, 2, 3...

- 1. Find your course
- 2. Complete our application
- 3. Submit your online application with the required documents by the deadlines.

#### Supporting documents required (in English):

- Completed application
- Passport copy (photo page only)
- Academic transcript from your home university
- Module information from your home university for Computing, Engineering and the Built Environment courses
- English language qualification (if applicable)
- Portfolio for Arts, Design and Media courses. Please visit our website for specific Portfolio Guidance: Birmingham School of Architecture, Birmingham Institute of Jewellery, Fashion and Textiles, and Birmingham Institute of Creative Arts.

## DEADLINES

One Semester (Autumn) for September entry Full Year for September entry	One Semester (Spring) for January entry
Nomination deadline - 14 May	Nomination deadline - 14 September 2023
Application deadline* - 1 June	Application deadline* - 1 October 2023

\* We cannot guarantee consideration of applications submitted after the above deadlines, although we will try to consider every application where possible.

## **FEES**

If you apply to study at Birmingham City University on a Study Abroad programme, the fee will include tuition, examination costs and membership of the Students' Union. Please see fees below:

Study Abroad for One Semester:	£6,990
Study Abroad for Two Semesters:	£13,980

Students from our partner institutions who participate in an exchange programme may have their tuition fee waived. Please contact your home university for further details.

## **AVAILABLE COURSES**

You can find a full list of our courses on our website.

International students are required to take a full-time study load for visa purposes as follows:

#### One Semester students: 60 credits required (3-4 classes per semester)

#### Two Semester students: 120 credits required (6-8 classes for the academic year)

We recommend that students take classes from within one School. Module options will be advised at application stage.

## **TRANSCRIPTS**

All credit-bearing Study Abroad students will be issued with a transcript detailing their modules and final grades at the end of the academic year. This will be mailed directly to the home university.

# **VISA AND IMMIGRATION REQUIREMENTS**

If you are coming to the UK as a student you may need to obtain entry clearance (a visa) before travelling to the UK, such as a Short-term Study Visa or a Tier 4 (General) Student Visa, unless you are a European Economic Area (EEA) or Swiss National. Find out if you need a visa by visiting the <u>gov.uk website</u>.

## ACCOMMODATION

#### University Halls of Residence

As soon as you have accepted a course offer from us, you can apply for University accommodation. Students are advised to apply as soon as possible after accepting an offer. Find out more information about accommodation options by visiting our <u>website</u>.

#### Key application dates

- Applications for semester 1 and full year open on 1st March. Applications for semester 2 open on 1st September.
- Closing date for international student accommodation applications is 31 August for September entry.

#### Things to consider:

- Accommodation is subject to availability and cannot be guaranteed.
- Some accommodation options are not based in the city centre and may involve a journey by public transport.

Contact the Accommodation Services Team for more information: ① +44 (0) 121 331 5191 ② accommodation@bcu.ac.uk

#### **Private accommodation**

The University also supports students in finding accommodation through <u>Birmingham City Student Homes</u>, a student-focused letting agency, owned and operated by Birmingham City University Students' Union.

## **CURRENT ESTIMATED COST OF LIVING\***

According to the UK's National Union of Students (NUS), the average annual cost of living in England (outside of London) for students is £12,056\*\*. Most students will spend around £150 (~US\$180) per month on food and groceries, or £1,350 (~US\$1,660) per academic year

Living costs will vary depending on lifestyle but it is generally cheaper to live in Birmingham than other UK cities, such as London or Edinburgh. To find out more about living expenses for your time abroad <u>this website</u>. \*\* www.topuniversities.com/student-info/student-finance/how-much-does-it-cost-study-uk, May 2022

## **PLANNING YOUR ARRIVAL**

Once you've received and accepted your offer of a place with us, there are a number of steps you need to take to ensure you can take up your place and begin your studies in the UK. You'll also need to plan your travel to Birmingham, organise your accommodation, and prepare yourself for living and studying in the UK.

It's an exciting time, but you'll also need to be organised to ensure everything runs smoothly. Visit our **website**, outlining the main things to prepare for your studies at Birmingham City University.

We offer a 'Meet and Greet' service on specific dates at Birmingham Airport and there will be activities available for you to join once you arrive. For more information please see **our website**.

## **ALL ABOUT BIRMINGHAM**

Studying in Birmingham offers you the chance to live and work in the youngest major city in Europe with worldclass restaurants, entertainment and shops. Birmingham is home to more than one million people from a range of different cultures and ethnic groups, 29 per cent of this population is under 20 years old. Discover more <u>here</u>.

## **STUDY ABROAD IN BIRMINGHAM**

goabroad@bcu.ac.ukwww.bcu.ac.uk/study-abroadImage: State of the state