



BIRMINGHAM CITY
University

STUDY ABROAD FACTSHEET

2018/19

INSTITUTIONAL INFORMATION

University	Birmingham City University (BCU)
Main office	Go Abroad Team
Address	International Office Second Floor, University House 15 Bartholomew Row Birmingham B5 5JU United Kingdom
Telephone number	+44 (0) 121 331 5389
Contacts	Rebecca Davis Senior Partnerships Officer - Student Mobility and Liaison Rebecca.Davis@bcu.ac.uk Telephone Number: +44 (0) 121 331 7709 Maggie Wootton Head of Operations Maggie.Wootton@bcu.ac.uk Telephone Number: +44 (0) 121 331 4630
Main email address	goabroad@bcu.ac.uk
Study Abroad website	www.bcu.ac.uk/international/go-abroad-at-bcu

ACADEMIC CALENDAR 2018-19

Semester one*

Welcome:	17 September 2018
Semester begins:	24 September 2018
Winter vacation:	17 December 2018 – 6 January 2019
Classes end:	25 January 2019

Semester two*

Welcome:	28 January 2019
Semester begins:	4 February 2019
Easter vacation:	15 – 28 April 2019
Classes end:	31 May 2019

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

STUDY ABROAD/EXCHANGE APPLICATION AND ADMISSION

Please visit 'How to apply' on our website to complete an application.

Documents required (in English):

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

Please return completed application and supporting documents to goabroad@bcu.ac.uk

Nomination deadlines	Application deadlines*	
25 May 2018	1 June 2018	One Semester (Autumn) for September 2018 entry Two Semester (Autumn and Spring) for September 2018 entry
21 October 2018	28 October 2018	One Semester (Spring) for January 2019 entry

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

FEES

If you come to 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:	Study Abroad for Two Semesters:	Visiting Master's Programme:
£6,000	£12,000	£2,400

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 PROGRAMMES

You can find a full list of our courses in our Study Abroad Brochure 2018/19. You can download this from 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. All non-credit bearing students will receive a Certificate of Attendance 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 gov.uk website.

ACCOMMODATION

University Halls of Residence

As soon as you have received a course offer from us, you can apply for University accommodation. Students are advised to apply as soon as possible after receiving an offer.

2018/19 key application dates

- Applications for the academic year 2018/19 open in March 2018.
- Closing date for international student accommodation applications is 31 August 2018 for September 2018 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:

Tel: +44 (0) 121 331 5191

Email: accommodation@bcu.ac.uk

Private accommodation

The University also supports students in finding accommodation through Birmingham City Student Homes, 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. Here is a breakdown of some general expenses for you to consider when preparing your finances:

General expenses	Approximate cost
University accommodation (52 weeks) Please check with the Accommodation Services Team whether certain items are included e.g. bedding, kitchen utensils, etc, and whether you would be required to pay a deposit as well as made an advance payment. Fees can be found at www.bcu.ac.uk/accommodation .	From £3,510 to £6,426 (over 52 weeks)
Bedroom in a shared house Please check with the landlord whether bills are included in the price.	From £90 to £150 (per week)
Private shared house deposit	One month's rent in advance
Kitchen utensils, plates and cutlery	£35
Course related costs: books/stationery/photocopying/binding	£50 (per month)
TV licence	£12 (per month)
Insurance for personal belongings (depending on the level of cover)	£10 to £30 (per month)
Laundry (using a laundrette)	£20 (per month)
Food and groceries	£300 (per month)
Mobile telephone (depends on usage)	£20 to £30 per month for local usage
Bus pass – 3 terms + summer pass	£390 (per year)
Meal in a restaurant for one person	£10 to £30
Cappuccino (regular)	£3
Police registration (if applicable)	£34
Subscription to journals/magazines	£36 (over 9 months)

Gas and electricity (if required)	£230 (per month)
Social activity costs (depending on activities)	£70 to £100 (per month)

* Please note: The above costs are estimated and subject to each student's individual personal expenses and spending habits.

** www.topuniversities.com/student-info/student-finance/how-much-does-it-cost-study-uk, January 2017

Additional items	Approximate cost
Coat/jacket	£55
Waterproof shoes	£50
Trousers	£35
Jumper/sweater	£20
Scarf	£5
Gloves	£5
Hat	£8
Basic computer	£500
Television	£130
International phone card	From £5
Prescribed medicine per item (from 1 April 2015)	£8.20
NUS Extra Card	£11

TRAVEL AND WELCOME INFORMATION:

Arriving in the UK by air

If you're travelling by air, it's easiest to arrive at Birmingham Airport (BHX) (11.9 miles).

Other airports

London Heathrow Airport (LHR): 114 miles

London Gatwick Airport (LGW): 150 miles

Arriving by rail

Birmingham New Street Station

Birmingham Moor Street Station

Website: www.nationalrail.co.uk

Arriving by bus/coach

Birmingham Coach Station

Mill Lane

Digbeth, Birmingham B6 6DB

Website: www.nationalexpress.com/destinations

Website: www.networkwestmidlands.com/tickets-and-passes/students

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. Please see bcu.ac.uk/meet-and-greet for more information.

OTHER GENERAL INFORMATION

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

You may find an answer to your question at www.bcu.ac.uk/international/go-abroad-at-bcu/frequently-asked-questions

Extra Resources

10 reasons to choose BCU

www.bcu.ac.uk/international/why-study-here/10-reasons-to-choose-bcu

Arriving in the UK

www.bcu.ac.uk/international/preparing-for-the-uk/meet-and-greet-service/overview

Life in Birmingham

www.bcu.ac.uk/student-info/why-study-at-bcu/life-in-birmingham

Living costs

www.bcu.ac.uk/international/fees-costs-and-scholarships/planning-your-finances/living-costs

Meet our previous Study Abroad students

www.bcu.ac.uk/international/go-abroad-at-bcu/student-experiences

Study Abroad in Birmingham

www.bcu.ac.uk/international/go-abroad-at-bcu