



NOTES OF GUIDANCE FOR YOUR EXCHANGE DESTINATION

University of Richmond, USA

Fast Facts:

Website:	General university website Exchange student website
Language of instruction:	English
Semester dates:	Semester 1 (Fall): August to December Semester 2 (Spring): January to May
Number of students currently enrolled	>3,500
Academic restrictions at a glance <i>Please note: These are guidelines. It is your responsibility to research whether the partner provides appropriate courses for your degree programme.</i>	Courses with restrictions or prerequisites will require the permission of the instructor.
General Costs	Around \$22,000 for academic year, including visa, flight and insurance costs. Important information: You will be asked to provide proof of sufficient finances in order to receive your visa. Your host will provide more information on this if you are allocated an exchange place.
About the University	The University of Richmond is a private, predominantly undergraduate university located in Richmond, Virginia, spread over 350 acres in a beautiful suburban setting. The campus is only six miles from vibrant downtown Richmond, the capital of Virginia, and is two hours from Washington, D.C., the Blue Ridge Mountains and Virginia's beaches. The university is home to approximately 2900 undergraduate students, 700 graduate and law students and 318 full time faculty members. Ninety-eight percent of faculty members hold a Ph.D. or other terminal degree. Twelve percent of all undergraduate students are international and more than sixty percent of University of Richmond students study abroad before they graduate. There are 180 student clubs and organizations and over two-thirds of University of Richmond students participate in volunteerism or community service each year.

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What to expect

Application process

You apply for study exchanges through SWAY. You can find out more about our [study exchange routes here](#), and more about the [application process here](#).

After applying, if you are allocated an exchange place at University of Richmond, you will be officially nominated by the International Programmes Team. We will then provide you with your detailed application instructions. **You can ONLY apply to any exchange destination if you have been allocated a place there, and if you are officially nominated by us.**

Academics

For support with the academic side of your exchange, your best point of contact is your Exchange Coordinator, [found here](#). The Exchange Coordinator is a member of academic staff who will be a key contact throughout your exchange.

Course Load and Credit Load	<p>You are normally required to take whatever constitutes a full academic credit or course load at your host university.</p> <p>The page linked below contains a copy of the International Exchange Credit Requirements. This outlines the number of credits you are required to take at your host institution. There are also more answers to frequently asked questions about the academic side of your exchange.</p> <p>Academic matters The University of Edinburgh</p>
Courses	<p>University of Richmond offers a large number of subjects for students to study, including the Humanities, Math, Social Sciences, Business Administration, Sciences, Leadership Studies, and Law, among others. For a list of departments, click here. View courses here.</p> <p>To make the most of your exchange, University of Richmond strongly encourages you to take at least one course on U.S. history, politics, literature, or culture. The American Studies program in particular offers courses that may be of interest to exchange students. You may choose among these courses for registration, in addition to courses from other departments.</p> <p>**Please be aware, there may not be an up-to-date course catalogue available at this exchange destination. Please use the information</p>

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	available to get an idea about what you can study while on exchange**
Academic Restrictions	<p>At the University of Richmond, courses with restrictions or prerequisites will require the permission of the instructor. There is no formal arrangement for exchange students to conduct research during their study abroad program at Richmond. If interested in doing research, arrangements must be made on an individual basis with a UR faculty member. Depending on faculty and course availability, this may need to happen after arrival to UR and such arrangements cannot be guaranteed.</p> <p>Students are restricted from registering for School of Professional and Continuing Studies (SPCS) academic courses by several provisions (contact the University of Richmond for additional information).</p> <p>Law is a JD program so any incoming students must be approved by the University of Richmond Law School. A maximum of 5 law exchange students may be accepted per semester.</p> <p>The University of Richmond has an agreement with Virginia Commonwealth University (VCU), Virginia State University (VSU), and Virginia Union University (VUU) to allow undergraduate students to cross register on a space available basis under specific conditions (contact the University of Richmond for additional information).</p> <p>Please note: These are guidelines. It is your responsibility to research whether the partner provides appropriate courses for your degree programme. Even if there are not restrictions on your degree subject, it does not mean that there are appropriate courses for you. Please check.</p>
Orientation	<p>The University of Richmond provides an in-depth orientation program to help acclimate international and exchange students to their new surroundings. The mandatory on-campus orientation program includes discussion of topics such as the US academic system, US laws, health care, immigration, cross cultural issues, academic services, and a number of social activities. Airport-pickup service may be available for students who arrive in Richmond on the designated arrival date for a fee.</p>

Accommodation

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Finding accommodation that you are happy with on your year abroad is very important and there are often many aspects to consider when looking for somewhere to live.

Many host institutions do offer university accommodation but please do note, **this is not always guaranteed**. You may also need to pay for things like agent or administrative fees that is not always the case here in Edinburgh. It is a good idea to do your research so you do not have any surprises!

University Accommodation	
University Accommodation	<p>All exchange students, including law and graduate students, are required to live on-campus during their exchange program because of added expenses of living off-campus and lack of transportation to campus.</p> <p>With the exception of a few gender specific residence halls on-campus, housing at the University of Richmond are co-ed by suite. In the apartments both men and women are housed in single sex units. With the exception of Gender Flexible Housing, students will be housed with at least one other undergraduate student of the same gender. However, students of the opposite gender may live in the same building.</p> <p>There are two kinds of housing available to exchange students:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Residence Halls2. University Apartments <p>Due to the timing of the exchange application, students are not able to request a specific type of housing and will be assigned based on roommate compatibility. You can see photos and video of the residence halls and apartments by viewing the virtual tours found here (click on a specific residence hall to view).</p>

Costs

It is important to budget for different expenses while on exchange. Your exchange destination may be more expensive than Edinburgh, and different expenses may be required. For example, rent may be higher; you might need to take public transport more; essentials may be more expensive or different, like sun cream in warmer climates or woolly socks in colder climates! These costs will add up so it is good to have an estimate of how much money you might need.

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Tuition Fees	<p>While on exchange, you will continue to pay fees to the University of Edinburgh, as appropriate, and your fee status will determine how much you pay.</p> <p>Consult our webpage here and follow the link to consult the university's information on tuition fees for students studying abroad.</p>
Estimated Cost of Living	<p>Estimated costs for the 22/23 academic year, costs may increase or change in the future:</p> <p>On campus housing: ~\$7,000 to \$8,500</p> <p>Meals: \$3,330 for a limited plan or \$8,000 for an unlimited plan</p> <p>Health Insurance: \$2,610</p> <p>Books and supplies: \$1,100</p> <p>Personal expenses: \$1,130</p> <p>Flights: Varies, ~\$1,500</p> <p>Visa costs: Varies, several hundred dollars</p> <p>Total: ~\$22,000</p> <p>You may also be required to pay for administrative fees at your host institution. This can include paying for your transcript to be sent to us at the end of your exchange.</p>
Insurance	<p>International students are required to participate in the University's Student Health Insurance Plan, and are automatically enrolled.</p>
Student Loans and Grants	<p>Consult our funding webpages for more information about the Funding available to you through SWAY while on your year abroad.</p> <p>If you receive a student loan or grant, you may still be eligible to receive them during your exchange. Contact your funding providers for more information on the availability and eligibility of funding during your exchange, as well as any additional support they may offer. For example: some loan providers offer travel grants to students.</p>

Other

Passports	Make sure that your passport will be in date for the entirety of your stay, and for any additional required time after the end of your exchange for entry requirements and visa purposes.

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	<p>If you need to apply for a new passport during the application process to your host institution, this may delay the application and visa processes.</p>
<p>Visas</p>	<p>The visa process will vary from country to country, and your own citizenship will influence the visa process you need to undertake. You must make sure to enter your host country on the appropriate visa.</p> <p>See University of Richmond's immigration webpage.</p> <p>All international students planning to study at the University of Richmond must obtain the appropriate visas before traveling to the United States. The U.S. Department of Homeland Security (DHS) and the U.S. Department of State (DOS) are responsible for implementing and overseeing immigration regulations for non-immigrant students.</p> <p>Here in SWAY we cannot give specific visa advice. Please research using the relevant embassy and government websites for more information. There is more information on our webpage about things to consider regarding visas here.</p> <p>Once you have received an offer from a host institution, you will be given more advice from them about the visa processes.</p>
<p>Disability Statement and Accessibility</p>	<p>Some destinations may be more accessible than others for disabled students. If you require any adjustments due to disability or specific learning difficulties or disabilities and you wish to study abroad please contact The International Programmes Team via email: international.outgoing@ed.ac.uk.</p> <p>We will work together with you to explore the help available at your host institution. It may also be helpful if you discuss this with your Personal Tutor and the Disability and Learning Support Service as well.</p>

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