



NOTES OF GUIDANCE FOR YOUR EXCHANGE DESTINATION

University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, USA

Fast Facts:

Website:	General university website Exchange students website
Language of instruction:	English
Semester dates:	Semester 1 (Fall): August to December Semester 2 (Spring): January to May
Number of students currently enrolled	>30,000
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>	Exchange students and Global Visiting Students cannot take courses in the professional schools unless their home university has a specific agreement with that school. It is unlikely that students may take a full course load within a single department. There is a 2 course limit, per semester, for Economics and Psychology courses.
General Costs	Estimated around \$9,000 per semester including insurance and visa, not including the cost of flights. 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 North Carolina at Chapel Hill was founded in 1793 as the first public state university in the young United States. Since then, it has grown into one of the most renowned teaching and research universities in the country and internationally, and ranks highly on a global scale. Chapel Hill is a small college town with roughly 50,000 residents, of which 18,500 are undergraduate students and 10,000 are graduate students. The area boasts rich cultural, historic, dining, and sports opportunities that allow students to experience college and community life in the United States. Although Chapel Hill itself is small, Raleigh, the capital city of North Carolina is only 30 minutes away, and Washington DC can be reached in around 4 hours. The

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university is also within close driving distance to the beach and the Blue Ridge Mountains.

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 North Carolina at Chapel Hill, 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>There are courses in over 40 academic departments. See the catalogue here.</p> <p>**Please be aware, there may not be an up-to-date course catalogue available at this exchange destination. Please use the information available to get an idea about what you can study while on exchange**</p>
Academic Restrictions	<p>It is unlikely that students may take a full course load within a single department. There is a 2 course limit, per semester, for Economics and Psychology courses.</p> <p>Exchange students and Global Visiting Students cannot take courses in the professional schools unless their home university</p>

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	<p>has a specific agreement with that school. The professional schools include</p> <p>Eshelman School of Pharmacy, Gillings School of Global Public Health, Kenan-Flagler Business School, Law School, School of Dentistry, School of Education, School of Government, School of Information & Library Science, Hussman School of Journalism and Media, School of Medicine, School of Nursing, and the School of Social Work</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>All exchange students are required to attend orientation at the start of their program. Orientation is a full day session scheduled the day before the first day of class. Attendance is mandatory. Specific dates and times will be provided after you are accepted.</p>

Accommodation

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	<p>International students can select from the 31 campus residence halls. Double occupancy rooms are the only option. Apartment style housing is limited. Learn more about the residence halls and rates here. Previous exchange students have found living on campus to be a rewarding and quintessentially American university experience.</p>
Private Accommodation	<p>International students can reside off-campus. Students who choose to live off-campus are responsible for finding their own housing. Some tips on off-campus housing can be found here.</p>

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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.

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>Expected cost per semester</p> <p>Housing (double occupancy in Residence Hall): \$3,438</p> <p>Meal Plan: \$1,500 - \$2,430 (depends on plan selected)</p> <p>Health Insurance: \$1,308.40</p> <p>Books and Supplies: \$300 - \$500</p> <p>Travel and Personal: \$500 - \$1,350, varies</p> <p>Exchange Student Fee: \$100</p> <p>Visa Application Cost: \$510</p> <p>Total: ~\$9,000 per semester</p> <p>Please also consider the cost of flights.</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>All students are required to have health insurance coverage. International students can enrol in the university insurance program, Student Blue. Exchange students can waive the Student Blue insurance and substitute it for a preferred insurance policy. Students cannot start the process of waiving out of the mandatory insurance until after acceptance to the exchange program. More details about the specific waiver process will be provided post-acceptance.</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>

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	<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>
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Other

Passports	<p>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.</p> <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>
Visas	<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>International exchange students will apply for an F1 visa. This visa will allow you to enter the US 30 days prior to the program start date listed on your I-20 form and depart the US 60 days after the program end date listed on your I-20 form. Proof of funds in the amount of USD \$9,500 for one semester and \$19,000 for an academic year is required to be issued an I-20 form. Additional information can be found on the U.S. State Department’s Study & Exchange website.</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>
Disability Statement and Accessibility	<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>

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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.