



# NOTES OF GUIDANCE FOR YOUR EXCHANGE DESTINATION

## University of Miami, USA

### Fast Facts:

<b>Website:</b>	<a href="https://welcome.miami.edu/studyabroad.miami.edu">https://welcome.miami.edu/studyabroad.miami.edu</a>
<b>Language of instruction:</b>	English
<b>Semester dates:</b>	Semester 1 (Fall semester): August - December Semester 2 (Spring semester): January - May
<b>Number of students currently enrolled</b>	11, 000 undergraduates
<b>Academic restrictions at a glance</b> <i>Please note: These are guidelines. It is your responsibility to research whether the partner provides appropriate courses for your degree programme.</i>	<p>Exchange students cannot register for courses in:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The School of Medicine</li> <li>• The School of Nursing</li> <li>• The School of Law</li> </ul> <p>There are restrictions within</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The School of Music</li> <li>• Miami Herbert Business School</li> <li>• College of Engineering</li> <li>• Neuroscience</li> </ul> <p>Please see more information below</p>
<b>General Costs</b>	<p>Using estimates provided by the University of Miami, students should expect to spend between \$23,000 - \$38,000 at least per academic year on housing, university fees, mandatory insurance and personal spending. Please note these amounts are subject to change and depend entirely on your personal preferences and lifestyle.</p> <p>This amount does not include your flights or all visa costs.</p> <p><b>Important information:</b> 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.</p>
<b>About the University</b>	Chartered in 1925, the University of Miami (UM) has approximately 10,000 undergraduate students studying in over 180 different academic areas. As a gateway to

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Central America, South America, and the Caribbean, Miami is one of the most culturally diverse institutions in the United States. They are a community-centric and love sharing the experience with exchange students! There are many traditions to get involved with during your time abroad

## 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 the University of Miami 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.

<b>Course Load and Credit Load</b>	<p>You are normally <b>required</b> 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 <b>International Exchange Credit Requirements</b>. 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><a href="#">Academic matters   The University of Edinburgh</a></p>
<b>Courses</b>	<p>You can search for <a href="#">courses offered</a> at the University of Miami <a href="#">here</a>, as well as browse the <a href="#">course catalogues</a>. In the drop down menu's under 'Career', be sure to select 'Undergraduate', and under 'Term' select an appropriate term (e.g. not 'Non-credit Term</p>

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	<p>2022-2023') to be able to see the courses on offer. Make sure to check whether these courses are available to exchange students.</p> <p>Courses are listed as a three-letter code for the department and a course number (e.g.HIS 101) with a section letter or number. 100-200 level courses are introductory courses, levels 300-400 are intended for upper division students (that's you while on exchange). Exchange students should not register for 500-level classes without first consulting both the professor of the course and the UM Study Abroad Advisor.</p> <p>Academic departments maintain their own websites and often have a webpage that shows information on all courses available within the department. Do not assume that the courses on those websites, or the UM Academic Bulletin, will be offered during the semester or year you are here on exchange. These resources should only be utilized as a general guide. Courses are often the same from year to year, but you should alternative courses as not all courses are guaranteed to be offered, some courses will be taught at the same time, and some courses may be full.</p> <p>Students applying for courses in Engineering must receive approval from the University of Miami</p> <p><b>**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**</b></p>
<p><b>Academic Restrictions</b></p>	<p>Exchange students cannot register for courses in:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The School of Medicine</li> <li>• The School of Nursing</li> <li>• The School of Law</li> </ul> <p>Courses in the School of Music are limited to those listed under MNM (for non-music majors only)</p> <p>Miami Herbert Business Courses are limited, and special restrictions apply to courses within Miami Herbert Business School and the College of Engineering.</p> <p>Neuroscience classes may not be available to exchange students due to limited space.</p> <p><b>Please note:</b> These are guidelines. It is <b>your</b> responsibility to research whether the partner provides appropriate courses for your degree programme. <b>Even if there are not restrictions on your degree subject, it does not mean that there are appropriate courses for you. Please check.</b></p>
<p><b>Orientation</b></p>	<p>The orientation program at University of Miami is referred to as <a href="#">Cane Kickoff</a>. As an exchange student, you will be participating in Cane Kickoff with the larger student body at UM. Cane Kickoff is a comprehensive program that helps you adjust to life in Miami and</p>

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at UM. As part of Cane Kickoff, the Study Abroad Office will be hosting a compulsory session specifically for exchange students. More information can be found [here](#).

## 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

[On campus housing](#) is a great way to meet new people and to get involved in University of Miami life! There are both single and double rooms available in the [residential communities](#), however new students are assigned to double occupancy rooms. Effort is taken to assign roommates of similar age, and class standing.

Housing facilities are organised with men and women on alternate floors or alternating suites. All residential college rooms are air-conditioned and equipped with a bed (extra-long twin), dresser, desk, chair, bin, recycling container and window coverings. 140+-channel cable television and local telephone services are also provided. Each residential college room has wired internet access, and wireless internet access is available throughout campus. Rooms are furnished, but students must provide bedding and other household items.

Students who live in the Residential Halls and Colleges are required to select a [meal plan](#).

Before applying for on-campus housing, it's your responsibility to review the housing contract and the cost. Some contracts may not cover the holiday periods.

On-campus housing is **not guaranteed** and is only available to students who come to UM through an undergraduate exchange. We have also been informed that due to renovation work at the On-Campus housing, there are fewer spaces than normal so please bear this in mind.

**Private Accommodation**

The Department of Housing and Residential Life operates a ['Living Off Campus' page](#) that allows students to view listings, apartment complexes, and realtors, as well as create a roommate profile and search for potential roommates.

Miami has a very large rental market. When living off-campus, you should expect to sign a lease agreement to secure housing. Renters are expected to pay rent on a monthly basis, and the due date is strict. Typically, the lease will require renters to provide first and last month's rent in addition to a security deposit that will be returned to the renter following the end of occupancy, provided there is no damage assessed. In the US, renters are not expected to pay realtors; rather, the landlords pay the realtor once a lease is signed. There are more tips found in the ['Off-Campus Housing Guide'](#).

When living off campus, you still have the option to obtain a ['Commuter' meal plan](#)

## 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.

<b>Tuition Fees</b>	<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 <a href="#">here</a> and follow the link to consult the university's information on tuition fees for students studying abroad.</p>				
<b>Estimated Cost of Living</b> (All costs in \$USD)	<p>The expenses below cover university fees (not tuition fees), on-campus housing and on-campus meal costs the full academic year. More information can be found <a href="#">here</a>.</p> <table border="1"><tr><td>SEVIS Fee (part of the visa process)</td><td>\$200</td></tr><tr><td>On-Campus Housing (You may not be allocated the cheapest housing option. Please keep this in mind and don't assume this will be the case!)</td><td>\$9000- \$23,000</td></tr></table>	SEVIS Fee (part of the visa process)	\$200	On-Campus Housing (You may not be allocated the cheapest housing option. Please keep this in mind and don't assume this will be the case!)	\$9000- \$23,000
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	Meal Plans	\$4,200 - \$8,100
	Health/Medical Insurance	\$3,593.00
	Activity Fee (Required of all students)	\$167.00
	Student Centre Complex Fee (Required of all students)	\$196.00
	Wellness Centre Fee (Required of all students)	\$166.00
	Student Health and Counselling Fee (Required of all students)	\$210.00
	Athletic fee (Required of all students)	\$138.00
	<p>You may also be required to pay for additional 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>	
<b>Insurance</b>	<p>Upon full course registration, students will automatically be charged for and enrolled in the UM student health insurance plan. Waivers are not permitted, regardless of existing insurance coverage. The fee for the University sponsored health insurance covers medical, surgical, and hospital insurance for major illnesses, accidents, surgery, psychiatric emergencies, and for off-campus emergency room care.</p> <p>The UM health insurance does not cover dental or vision insurance. An additional policy to cover dental and vision is optional, and can be <a href="#">purchased online</a>.</p>	
<b>Student Loans and Grants</b>	<p>Consult our <a href="#">funding webpages</a> 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

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<p><b>Passports</b></p>	<p><b>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.</b></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>
<p><b>Visas</b></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>Currently, the information from the University of Miami is that upon acceptance by the University of Miami, UM will issue an acceptance letter and Form I-20. The Form I-20 is official US documentation that allows you to apply for an F-1 visa. You will need both the acceptance letter and I-20 during the visa application process. Please bear in mind this may change in the future if you are allocated a place at this institution, or that the F1 visa is not appropriate for you. Please verify this with the appropriate <a href="#">embassy or consulate</a>.</p> <p><b>You must not enter the US on a tourist visa, or attempt to complete your exchange on a tourist visa.</b></p> <p>Currently, students going to the University of Miami must prove they have access to a minimum of <b>US \$28,494</b> (for academic year) in their account (or their sponsor's account). Please note these figures are an estimate for the 2021-2022 academic year and typically increase by 5% per year.</p> <p>Students should consider government-mandated travel restrictions, mandatory quarantines or vaccinations, airline route cancellations, and visa processing times.</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 <a href="#">here</a>.</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><b>Employment</b></p>	<p>Students on an F1 visa are eligible to <a href="#">work on campus</a>, and for no more than 20 hours per week. Exchange Students are not eligible for employment at the end of their study abroad semester or year because they will neither return to study in the U.S. after the employment nor will they receive a U.S. degree.</p>

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<p><b>Other – Immunisations</b></p>	<p>All new students are required to provide <a href="#">proof of immunization</a> against <a href="#">measles, mumps and rubella, and tetanus, diphtheria and pertussis</a>. All new students must also provide proof of immunization against hepatitis B and meningococcal meningitis or sign a waiver declining these immunizations.</p> <p>All international students must also be screened for risk of tuberculosis. Students should also consider immunization against varicella (chicken pox).</p> <p>All students living on campus will also be asked to document receipt of hepatitis and meningococcal meningitis immunisations.</p> <p>Your registration may be cancelled if you are not compliant with the University's immunization requirements.</p>
<p><b>Disability Statement and Accessibility</b></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: <a href="mailto:international.outgoing@ed.ac.uk">international.outgoing@ed.ac.uk</a>.</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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