



# NOTES OF GUIDANCE FOR YOUR EXCHANGE DESTINATION

## Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México, Mexico

### Fast Facts:

<b>Website:</b>	<a href="#">General university website</a> <a href="#">International website</a>
<b>Language of instruction:</b>	Spanish (must be able to prove at least level B2 on the European Common Framework), some English courses
<b>Semester dates:</b>	Semester 1 (Sem. 2 in UNAM): August to December Semester 2 (Sem. 1 in UNAM): January to June <i>Note: In Latin America, the academic year runs from January to December. In order to allow you to start and finish your studies abroad on time, you will reverse the academic year at your host university (i.e. your semester 1 will be their semester 2 and vice-versa).</i>
<b>Number of students currently enrolled</b>	>350,000
<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>	At Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México each School and Faculty has their own admission requirements. Such requirements are referred in the following link: <a href="#">Blog - Requisitos especiales</a>
<b>General Costs</b>	Cost of living for the academic year is estimated around 100,000 Mexican Pesos, this does not include flights, visa fees or mandatory insurance.
<b>About the University</b>	Founded in 1551, UNAM is one of the oldest institutions of higher education in the Americas. The campus constitutes a unique example of 20th century modernism as it integrates urbanism, architecture, engineering, landscape design and fine arts with references to local traditions, especially to Mexico's pre-Hispanic past. UNAM has played a major role in the history and formation of the country. The fundamental tasks of this public and autonomous institution are teaching, research and the promotion of culture.

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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 UNAM, 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>As UNAM is such a large institution, there are many different types of courses offered. Information can be <a href="#">found here</a>.</p> <p>To improve your Spanish language knowledge, please take a look at the intensive Spanish and Mexican Culture Courses at “Centro de Enseñanza para Extranjeros”</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>
<b>Academic Restrictions</b>	<p>At Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México each School and Faculty has their own admission requirements. Such requirements are referred in the following link: <a href="#">Blog - Requisitos especiales</a></p>

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	<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>Students may be interested in taking part in the <a href="#">UNAMigo programme</a>, which consists on assigning one UNAM student to each one or two exchange students, who will be their host from their arrival in campus until the end of the mobility period. They will support students with advice regarding school registration, study methods, safety, transportation, food, campus, moving across the city and participation at activities organized by DGECI (International Office).</p> <p>Further orientation information will be made available to successful applicants.</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!

<p><b>University Accommodation</b></p>	<p>There is no student residence at UNAM.</p>
<p><b>Private Accommodation</b></p>	<p>Full information on accommodation is sent to all accepted students in advance. They register through CEPE website (Teaching Center for Foreigners) to find individual rooms or shared rooms in a house, etc. CEPE visits and approves all options and students have our support and advice. <a href="http://www.cepe.unam.mx">www.cepe.unam.mx</a> consult Services – Accommodation (“Alojamiento”).</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.

<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>	<p>Living costs in Mexico City are approximately \$10,000 MXN pesos per month</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Housing approx. \$2500-\$4500 MX pesos per month</li><li>• Food and groceries approx. \$3000 MX pesos</li><li>• Public transportation (depending on distance to campus) \$700 MX pesos</li><li>• Books and other materials (depending on study area)</li></ul> <p>Please consider the additional costs of flights, visa, and insurance.</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>
<b>Insurance</b>	<p>Insurance does not need to be purchase through UNAM. Medical and Travel Insurance Policy <b>is mandatory for each student and must be contracted before travelling to Mexico</b>. It must be valid during the complete length of stay in the country. Coverage is to include <b>all</b> medical attention and services, hospital, accidents, attention in case of a disease, major health expenses and repatriation expenses <b>without any exception</b>. Health insurance coverage is mandatory for enrolment at UNAM.</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</p>

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	they may offer. For example: some loan providers offer travel grants to students.
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## Other

<b>Passports</b>	<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>
<b>Visas</b>	<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>If mobility period is for a full academic year (more than 180 days) or your country requires visa for your student to travel to Mexico, the original acceptance letter will be sent to the international office at the University of Edinburgh, with the information requested by the Mexican Embassy/Consulate. Student visa is mandatory.</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>
<b>Disability Statement and Accessibility</b>	<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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