Exchange Scheme with Beloit College

Where is Beloit?

Beloit College is a private liberal arts college in the city of Beloit, Wisconsin just over the border from Illinois. Founded in 1846 Beloit has an enrolment of roughly 1,250 undergraduate students. The City of Beloit is known for its farmers markets and film festivals with the city of Madison and Chicago only a 45 and 90 minute drive away respectively.

Who can go?

- **Two places** will be made available to York Undergraduates with priority to History students in 2020/21.
- This will replace your 2nd year of study at York for credit-replacing programmes (or the 2nd/3rd year of study if you’re on a 4 year programme). Please speak to your department about the availability of extended degrees that allow you to take an additional year to study abroad.
- You should speak to your supervisor/department if you intend to apply for any of the study abroad opportunities.
- Please consult the [Opportunities by Subject](#) webpage to see if your department is eligible for exchange.

Courses

- Students must enrol in a minimum of **four credits** per term at Beloit to equate to 120 York credits.
- Most Beloit courses have a credit value of one. One unit is equal to four semester hours or six quarter hours.
- A catalogue (or prospectus) for 2019-2021 courses is available online here as a general guide: [beloit.edu/academics/catalogs/](#)
- When reading the catalogue, bear in mind that York students will take mostly 200-300 level courses while on exchange at Beloit, although it may be possible to take one or two courses at 400 level.

How will my marks be assessed/converted?

- Grade Conversion Tables for each institution will be made available to successful applicants. Grades will only be converted for credit replacement students.
- University of York staff can access Grade Conversion Tables here: [york.ac.uk/students/study-abroad/accepted/#tab-5](#)
- Please ensure that you are fully aware of how your grades will be converted or processed on your return to York. Students on additional years will have different arrangements to those on credit-replacing exchange.

Costs

*Please note that the costs below are based on previous years and are provided for guidance only. Exact costs may vary due to exchange rates, inflation, personal circumstance and/or other reasons.*

- **Tuition Fees:** Students will pay no tuition fees to Beloit and in 2019/20 their University of York fees were reduced to 15% of the full academic fee.
- **Visas:** There are two fees associated with the visa application. The application fee itself is approximately $160. There will also be a $350 (F-1 students) and $220 (J-1 students) SEVIS Fee payable in advance of the visa application. SEVIS is the US immigration system that tracks foreign and exchange students. You will be advised which visa you have been given by your host university. (Further information below.)
• **Medical insurance:** International students are required to purchase the student medical insurance offered by Beloit College and may not waive the college health insurance online. Further information about the health care offered can be found [here](enter Beloit to be directed to correct information).

• **Health and Counselling fee:** Health Insurance for 2019-20 reached up to approximately $1,690 and the Health/Wellness Fee approx. $202.

• **Additional costs to consider:** flights, accommodation, travel insurance, living costs (food, books, money for additional travel/activities)

• Examples of costs can be found [here](enter Beloit to be directed to correct information). Don’t forget, you won’t be liable for tuition fees to Beloit.

**Financial Assistance**

• There is funding available for some students on North America exchanges through the US Alumni Connection Award Bursary. More information on this and other funding can be found on our [Exchange Finances and Funding webpage](enter Beloit to be directed to correct information).

• **York Futures Scholarship** new for 2019/20. Support for personal and professional development. Funding of up to £6000 available to students applying to study abroad in 2020/21. There are two rounds of applications for this funding, Autumn Term and Easter Vacation/start of Summer Term. We recommend that you apply for the first round of funding to secure this before you have received confirmation of your study abroad place. For more information please see the following web pages: [york.ac.uk/students/work-volunteering-careers_skills/work-experience/yfs/](enter Beloit to be directed to correct information).

**Visa**

*Please be aware that Centre for Global Programmes staff are not qualified to offer consultations or in-depth advice regarding visa applications. Immigration laws are complex and subject to frequent changes. Therefore if you do have any further questions about the process of applying for your visa you will need to contact the appropriate Embassy directly. The information below is intended as guidance only and unless otherwise stated applies only to UK citizens without exceptional circumstances.*

• Beloit will ask you to complete an application form for the **Certificate of Eligibility (DS-2019)** which, together with your passport and other supporting documentation including the letter from Beloit offering you a place and a photocopy of your completed financial resources form, will enable you to obtain a visa from the United States Embassy in London (or the United States Consulate General in Belfast). The DS2019 will allow you to apply for a **J1 visa**.

• Please ensure that you check and double check the information on the DS-2019, this will save problems or issues later in the process.

• The **SEVIS Fee** is a one off, non-refundable fee of $220 or $350 USD to cover the cost of administering the Student and Exchange Visitor Information System (SEVIS). The personal information used to fill out your SEVIS payment form (form I-901) must be an exact match for the information on your I-20 or DS-2019. You should allow at least three working days after submitting the online SEVIS payment before your visa interview date. Print a copy of your payment confirmation. You will need this to take to the Embassy for your interview and you will need to take it to the US with you.

• You can find instructions for paying your SEVIS fee [here](enter Beloit to be directed to correct information).

• You will be required to go to the US embassy in London (or your home country) in order to process your visa application, which you are responsible for organising.

• International students going on exchange are advised to apply for a US visa in their home country and not in the UK.

• In order to receive a visa you must show that you have sufficient funds available in your bank account, or are able to supply details of a third person who will support you. This can include proof of your government student funding, so make sure you complete your reapplication for finance at the earliest opportunity.

• A full list of costs including books and personal expenses are listed with the housing costs below, remember you won’t be paying any tuition fees to Beloit.

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*What’s it like to study there?*
“I enjoyed my first semester at Beloit... [Although] I had to get used to studying for 40-50 hours per week.”

“It’s a very (very) full timetable but it feels worth it when I think that I am unlikely to ever be taught about these subjects in the future. I’m also enjoying having more diversity in the official credits I’m taking, by studying an interdisciplinary class on Romany Gypsies and a Logic class in addition to my Education-related modules.”

“It’s a very close community, and a very busy one. I had to get used to being in a small, isolated space without public transport, to the food, the weather, to understanding all the words used in my classes to talk about the American education system. I had to get used to living around so many other people, but also with such a small number of people too.”

“Now that mid-term break is approaching and I am soon to be in the final quarter of my time here, I can feel myself wishing time would slow down. It’s going to be hard to say goodbye to some very close friends (some of the closest I’ve ever had) and move out of the ‘Beloit bubble’ and back into the ‘real world’.”

Ezephy, Education, Year Abroad 2016/17

“I am friends with lots of international students as well as Americans so I feel connected to the community but also like I have friends all over the world. I have a host family who I spend time with. They have lived their whole lives in Beloit so have shown me some cool traditions like Maple Tree Tapping and real Wisconsin cheese.”

“The campus is fairly insular so I have felt like a member of the Beloit College community pretty much since I got there. I have enjoyed how welcoming people have been and as a Londoner being introduced to "Midwestern niceties" was a shock but one that I definitely enjoy.”

Sarah, History, Year Abroad 2017/18

Where will I live?

- Exchange students live in Beloit College residence halls, which are located on campus.
- Most often, they live in double rooms due to a limitation in the number of single rooms. However, they may apply to live in a single room as although these are limited there is no extra cost.
- Details of the housing available to you can be found on their web pages here: beloit.edu/reslife/housingoptions/
- Meal plans are compulsory but there is a choice available.
- Examples of the costs including housing and health insurance: beloit.edu/offices/financial-aid/cost-of-attendance/

Is it the right choice for me?

- When thinking about choosing your destination for studying abroad please look through the Considerations Checklist on our web pages.
- This will help you find the best opportunity for your degree and personal circumstances.

Contact details at Beloit

- Your principal source of general advice at Beloit College is Erin Guth, Director of International and Transfer Admission (guthe@beloit.edu)
- Office of International Education, 700 College St. Beloit, WI 53511 email: oie@beloit.edu

Useful web links

- Main Beloit Site
- Incoming Exchange Students
- American J-1 Visa Application
- Beloit Visa Information
- Global Graduates
- Foreign Commonwealth Office Advice
- Beloit City Visitor information
- Alternative accommodation site
- Cost of living Comparison Site
- Alternative cost of living comparison site

Please note: The websites listed here are not intended to represent a comprehensive list. The Centre for Global Programmes cannot be held responsible for the content of external websites.

All information included in these guidelines correct at time of printing, October 2019.

Students are responsible for researching their own exchanges and making sure that they have considered all costs and the compatibility of the overseas programme to their own degree, in discussion with their departments and supervisors. The Centre for Global Programmes are here to offer support.