Exchange Scheme with the City University of Hong Kong

Where is CityU?
City University of Hong Kong is a public research university in Kowloon Tong, Hong Kong. Founded in 1984 as City Polytechnic of Hong Kong it became a fully accredited university in 1994. It is one of eight government-funded degree-granting tertiary institutions and is globally recognised as a top centre of higher learning and research.

Who can go?
- **Two places** will be made available to York undergraduate 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.
- Please note that replacement credit for some courses may not be possible due to availability of modules at CityU.
- 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 will be expected to take **12 credits per semester (24 a year)** for a normal full-time course load during their year at CityU. All credits should be taken in the student’s degree subject in order to achieve the equivalent of 120 York credits.
- All City U courses are taught in English and all departments accept exchange students. However, some classes are more popular than others so they cannot be guaranteed. These courses include Mandarin and Cantonese classes for non-Chinese speaking students, Economic & Finance and Marketing.
- The course catalogue serves as a **general guide** to the courses available. However, not all courses may be available in each semester and some may be restricted. The catalogue for the previous 2018-19 courses can be accessed here: cityu.edu.hk/exchange_visiting/exchange/info/
- Course codes starting with 1, 2, 3 or 4 (e.g., GE 1111, CS2114, AIS2012, MA4152) are undergraduate courses (indicating year of study).

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 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 City University and in 2019/20 their University of York fees were reduced to 15% of the full academic fee.
- **Visas:** A payment of approximately HK$500 will be charged for the visa.
- **Insurance:** Exchange students may enrol in the CityU-contracted insurance plan. The CityU-contracted insurance plan is available to all non-local students, and it provides relatively basic coverage such as personal accident and medical benefits. The 2019/20 premium CityU-contracted insurance plans for non-local students was HK$254 (Basic Package Premium). For more information visit: [cityu.edu.hk/gso/ies_healthinsur.htm](http://cityu.edu.hk/gso/ies_healthinsur.htm)
- **Note** that the CityU-contracted insurance plan does not include general medical consultation. If you wish to secure all-round protection, you should purchase an insurance policy on the market that will meet your personal needs.
- **Additional costs to consider:** The average cost of living in Hong Kong (excluding tuition and accommodation fees) was estimated for 2019/20 to be around HK$36,000 (approx. £3600) per student for 2 semesters of study to pay for meals, transport, education expenses such as books and stationery, laundry and other personal items. [cityu.edu.hk/geo/ies_costlivenfin.htm](http://cityu.edu.hk/geo/ies_costlivenfin.htm). Please remember that you won’t be asked to pay tuition fees to CityU for your year.
- CityU offer the **Outstanding Athletes Entrance Scholarship** to inbound exchange students. Please contact the Centre for Global Programmes for further information on the criteria.

Financial Assistance

- **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/](http://york.ac.uk/students/work-volunteering-careers/skills/work-experience/yfs/)

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.

- Students are encouraged to apply for a student visa to Hong Kong via CityU who will act as the local sponsor for exchange students who are accepted for admission and meet Hong Kong visa application requirements.
- Applications should be made at least two months in advance at a Chinese Embassy in the student’s country of residence.
- Full details regarding applying for the visa, including the paperwork required, can be found at: [cityu.edu.hk/gso/ies_stdvisa.htm](http://cityu.edu.hk/gso/ies_stdvisa.htm)
- Details and procedures can be found at: [immd.gov.hk](http://immd.gov.hk)
- Completed application form and other necessary documents should be sent to the Global Services Office, Room 3210, 3/F, Cheng Yick-chi Building, City University of Hong Kong, Tat Chee Avenue, Kowloon, Hong Kong SAR at least 6-8 weeks before the semester starts.

What’s it like to study there?

‘A year abroad in Hong Kong eventually turned in to all the optimistic expectations I had for it. It did, however, take a while to become that. My two answers to the repeated question of ‘How was Hong
Kong?” varied greatly from December to May. In my first semester, I definitely learned how to enjoy my own company, and how to be a productive worker.

Hong Kong ……… surprised me - ………… I went with expectations of an urban jungle, but instead found myself within an hour of white sand beaches, and peaks of nearly 1000 metres. I also believe that being a minority was a notable feature of my experience.

I have come home from Hong Kong a different person (hopefully better and a bit more interesting) [and] with new friends - applying to study abroad is one of my best decisions so far.’

Jack, PEP, Year Abroad 2017/18

Where will I live?

- On-Campus Housing:

  Exchange students may apply for on-campus accommodation, although it is not guaranteed due to limited capacity. Applications should be made online when students apply for the exchange. An undergraduate hall, double room fee is HK$15,400 per year (2019/20). More information can be found at: cityu.edu.hk/sro/htm/e_apply3_fee_ug.htm

- Off-Campus Housing:

  If on-campus accommodation is not available, exchange students should be prepared to arrange their own off-campus accommodation. City U has an online portal, which gives help and information on on-campus housing options, peer support and searching for a flatmate/roommate, along with legal advice and other useful resources.

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 page.
- This will help you find the best opportunity for your degree and personal circumstances.

Contact details at CityU

- Your principal source of general advice at CityU will be Executive Officer – Ms Jenny Lai. Email: lai.jenny@city.edu.hk
- Address: City University Hong Kong, 88 Tat Chee Ave, Kowloon Tong, Hong Kong

Useful web links

- Main CityU Site
- Incoming Exchange Students
- CityU Pre-Arrival Checklist
- CityU Visa Information
- Global Graduates
- Foreign Commonwealth Office Advice
- Discover Hong Kong
- 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.