Exchange Scheme with Drexel University

Where is Drexel University?
Drexel University is a private research institution ranked among the top 100 universities in the United States. Located in the University City section of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, Drexel’s campus is part of a thriving student and scholar community. Denver, and is home to around 12,000 students.

Who can go?
- **One place** will be made available to York undergraduate students in 2020/21.
- **Two additional places** will be available to Management School students on additional (3+1) years.
- 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 consult the Opportunities by Subject webpage to see if your department is eligible for exchange.

Courses
- Students will be expected to take a minimum of **42** and a maximum of **48** credits over a three quarter term exchange period (14 - 16 per quarter).
- 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 Drexel catalogue of courses for previous years can be used as a guide: termmasterschedule.drexel.edu/webtms_du/app
- Most courses and all departments are open to exchange students although some may require prerequisite confirmation.
- More information on courses (majors and minors) for Exchange students [here](https://drexel.edu/coas/academics/undergraduate-programs/philosophy-politics-economics/).
- Students from PPE should look at the following courses in the College of Arts and Science: Politics and Economics - [https://drexel.edu/coas/academics/undergraduate-programs/philosophy-politics-economics/](https://drexel.edu/coas/academics/undergraduate-programs/philosophy-politics-economics/)
  - Global Studies - [https://drexel.edu/coas/academics/departments-centers/global-studies-modern-languages/](https://drexel.edu/coas/academics/departments-centers/global-studies-modern-languages/)

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 are able to 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 Drexel 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 $220 J-1 and $350 F-1 students **SEVIS Fee** payable in advance of the visa application. SEVIS is the US immigration system that tracks foreign and exchange students. (Further information below.)
- **Medical insurance and waiver**: All exchange students must purchase Drexel's health insurance in order to meet US immigration health insurance requirement of $600-$900 per quarter and pay a $35 **immunization fee** (a one-time fee). More information here: [drexel.edu/studyabroad/health-safety/medical-insurance/]
- **Additional costs to consider**: Housing $2,000 - $4,000 per quarter, Meals $1,000 - $1,895 per quarter, Books $500 per quarter, plus personal expenses.

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](#).
- **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/](#)

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.

- Drexel will ask you to complete an application form for the **Certificate of Eligibility (Form I-20 or DS-2019)** which, together with your passport and other supporting documentation including the letter from Drexel 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**.
- 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.

What’s it like to study there?

Now that I have returned to the UK, the experience of studying in the US and at Drexel has been a great and worthwhile experience. An experience that I will remember and reflect on throughout my life and career. Studying abroad has improved my communication skills and significantly improved my organisation and work ethic. The experience has taught me to travel more and taught me how to learn from and benefit more from a global perspective; allowing me to experience a different culture and environment.
The main difficulty that I had encountered would indeed be the differing academic environment at Drexel. The work load at Drexel was indeed intense and a lot more than the work load I had at York the previous year. With quizzes, exams, essays and readings to complete for numerous courses at Drexel. However, I believe this difficulty proved to be helpful and a learning curve at the end and throughout my time at Drexel. It has indeed improved my work ethic and allowed me to study more effectively and learn how to organise my study time. This improved work ethic and study skills will be a great asset during my final year at York.

Drexel has been a once in a lifetime opportunity and the friends I have made and the skills I have learnt and developed will stay with me throughout my life.

Aman, Politics 2018/19

Where will I live?

On-Campus Housing:

- On-campus housing is available but not guaranteed for full-year (fall/winter/spring) students.
- Suite style and double-occupancy rooms are available. More information about university housing can be found here: drexel.edu/campusservices/universityHousing/overview/

Off-Campus Housing:

- Off-campus housing is also available. Students must arrange off-campus accommodation independently and Drexel University offers an off-campus housing service here.
- The Drexel Dragons Abroad Facebook page is a great resource for finding sublets

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 Drexel

- Your principal source of general advice at Drexel will be: Andrew Sandefur (Inbound Student Advisor) Telephone: 215-571-3858 Email: inboundexchange@drexel.edu
- Address: Paul Peck Problem Solving & Research Center, 101 N. 33rd Street, Suite 201, Philadelphia, PA 19104

Useful web links

- Main University of Drexel Site
- Incoming Exchange Students
- Life at Drexel
- Support for Disabled Students
- Drexel Insurance Information
- American J-1 Visa Application
- Global Graduates
- Foreign Commonwealth Office
- Philadelphia Tourist Information
- 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.