Exchange Scheme with Mount Holyoke College

Where is Mount Holyoke College? — Founded in 1837—Mount Holyoke College is a women’s only college located in South Hadley, Massachusetts, 90 miles west of Boston. Ranked 117th in the US College rankings, Mount Holyoke has a relatively cozy feel with just over 2000 students.

Who can go?
- One place will be made available to a female York undergraduate student in 2017/18.
- This will replace your 2nd year of study at York for integrated 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 department webpage to see if your subject is eligible for exchange. https://www.york.ac.uk/students/study-abroad/opportunities/

Courses
- Students will be expected to take 16 credits per semester for a normal full-time course load during their year at Mount Holyoke. All credits should be taken in the student’s degree subject in order to achieve the equivalent of 120 York credits.
- Students will be asked to indicate course preferences at the time of application, but will not be able to formally pre-register until later. Students will meet with an academic advisor during orientation, who will help them finalise their schedule.
- The course catalogue can be accessed via http://catalog.mtholyoke.edu/

How will my marks be assessed/converted?
- Please ensure that you are fully aware of how your grades will be converted on your return to York.

Costs
1) Tuitions Fees: Students will pay no tuition fees to Mount Holyoke and in 2016/17 their University of York fees were reduced to 15% of the full academic fee.
2) Visas: There are two fees associated with the visa application. The application fee itself is approximately $160. There will also be a $180 (J-1 and 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)
3) Medical insurance and waiver: Students are required to purchase the student medical insurance offered by Mt Holyoke College and may not waive the college health insurance online. For more information, visit: https://www.mtholyoke.edu/sfs/health_insurance. 2016/17 fees $1,900
4) Student Activities Fee: 2016/17 £186
5) Additional costs to consider: flights, accommodation (2016/17 $13,440), travel insurance and visas (see below), living costs (food, books, money for additional travel/activities) Mount Holyoke advise that students should budget to a minimum of $2,100 for the year for these additional costs.

Visa
- Mount Holyoke 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 Mount Holyoke 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).

- 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.

Where will I live?

- Campus housing is guaranteed for exchange students. Students will be asked to complete a housing questionnaire upon their acceptance.
- Students who enrol for the full year may remain in their rooms during breaks, except for the December Break, when they may have to move into another residence hall. Students who enrol for fall semester only may remain in their rooms through the end of exams in December.
- All students are required to take the full meal plan, which provides 21 meals per week when classes are in session. The cost of room and board for 2016/17 was $13,440.
- For further information, visit: https://www.mtholyoke.edu/studentlife/living-here

Contact details at Mount Holyoke

- Your principal source of general advice at Mount Holyoke will be Program Coordinator – Donna Van Handle.
- Address: McCulloch Center for Global Initiatives, Mount Holyoke College, 50 College St., South Hadley, MA 01075 USA. Email dvanhand@mtholyoke.edu

Useful web links:

Main Mount Holyoke site - https://www.mtholyoke.edu/
Incoming Exchange Students - https://www.mtholyoke.edu/global/international_students/international_exchange_students
Handbook for International Students: https://www.mtholyoke.edu/global/international_students/int_hb
Mount Holyoke accessibility services - https://www.mtholyoke.edu/accessability
Visa application - http://j1visa.state.gov/participants/how-to-apply/
Third Year Abroad - http://www.thirdyearabroad.com/
Foreign Commonwealth Office advice - https://www.gov.uk/foreign-travel-advice/usa

All information included in these guidelines correct at time of printing, October 2016.