Exchange Scheme with North Central College, Chicago

Who can go?
- **One place** will be made available to York Undergraduates students in 2020/21.
- This will replace your 2\textsuperscript{nd} year of study at York for credit-replacing programmes (or the 2\textsuperscript{nd}/3\textsuperscript{rd} 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 are required to take 12-15 credit hours per semester at North Central.
- Many North Central courses are worth 4 credit hours each. Students should check the Undergraduate Catalogue online [catalog.noctrl.edu](catalog.noctrl.edu/) for further information.
- When reading the catalogue, bear in mind that York students will take mostly 200-300 level courses while on exchange at North Central.
- Students should consult with their departmental International Coordinator or personal supervisor when selecting their modules.

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 studies.
- University of York staff can access Grade Conversion Tables here: [york.ac.uk/students/study-abroad/accepted/#tab-5](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 North Central 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:** Mandatory for all international students and should be applied for prior to arrival in the USA. Charges are approximately $120 per month. [https://www.northcentralcollege.edu/immunizations-and-health-insurance](https://www.northcentralcollege.edu/immunizations-and-health-insurance)

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

• Examples of costs can be found [here](https://www.northcentralcollege.edu/immunizations-and-health-insurance). Don’t forget, you won’t be liable to pay tuition fees to North Central.

• For visa purposes students will have to provide evidence of funds of around $15,360 for the academic year.

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**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](https://www.northcentralcollege.edu/)

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

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**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.*

• North Central 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 North Central 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](https://www.northcentralcollege.edu/)

• 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 list of costs including books are listed under the [Costs](https://www.northcentralcollege.edu/) section of these guidelines, remember you won’t be paying any tuition fees to North Central. These costs should be used as a guide only.

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**What’s it like to study there?**

This is a new exchange for 2020/21, we have not yet sent any students to North Central. We have however previously sent students to the USA who would be happy to share their experiences. Please contact us for further information. Alternatively, you can check the Scheme Guidelines for some of our other USA partners.
**Where will I live?**

- All exchange students to North Central are required to live on campus and accommodation is guaranteed.
- Please note that quite often, you will be required to live in a double room. However, you may apply to live in a single room as although these are limited there may be extra costs.
- Details on housing at North Central can be found [here](https://www.northcentralcollege.edu/housing-and-meals)
- Meal plans can also be purchased [https://www.northcentralcollege.edu/housing-and-meals](https://www.northcentralcollege.edu/housing-and-meals)

**Is it the right choice for me?**

- When thinking about choosing your destination for studying abroad please look through the [Considerations Checklist](https://www.northcentralcollege.edu/housing-and-meals) on our web pages.
- This will help you find the best opportunity for your degree and personal circumstances.

**Contact details at North Central**

- Your principal source of general advice at North Central Jesús Valesco jvelasco@noctrl.edu
- The address is Center for Global Education (Education Abroad), North Central College, 30 N. Brainard, Naperville, IL 60565

**Useful web links**

- [Main North Central Site](https://www.northcentralcollege.edu)
- [Incoming Exchange Students](https://www.northcentralcollege.edu)
- [American J-1 Visa Application](https://www.northcentralcollege.edu)
- [North Central Visa Information](https://www.northcentralcollege.edu)
- [Global Graduates](https://www.northcentralcollege.edu)
- [Foreign Commonwealth Office Advice](https://www.northcentralcollege.edu)
- [Alternative accommodation site](https://www.northcentralcollege.edu)
- [Cost of living Comparison Site](https://www.northcentralcollege.edu)
- [Alternative cost of living comparison site](https://www.northcentralcollege.edu)

*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.