Exchange Scheme with Seoul National University

Where is SNU?

SNU is South Korea’s first national and leading research university founded in 1946. The university has 16 colleges and 82 different departments for almost 17,000 undergraduate students. SNU also boasts over 12,000 graduate students and approx. 700 exchange students amongst its four campuses in the country’s capital.

Who can go?

- **One place** will be made available to York Undergraduate students in 2020/21 for the full year exchange.
- The full year place 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.
- Medical students are not eligible for this exchange but can apply for the summer school.
- 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.
- The summer school places are open to all students, the credits gained are not transferrable to your York degree.

Courses

- The majority of courses are taught in Korean but each college or department offers a number of courses in English. List of courses for a new semester is available at the beginning of January or July each year. Undergraduate students should take between **12 credits (4 courses)** to **15 credits (5 courses)** to ensure that they take the equivalent of 120 York credits.
- A **course registration guide** will be provided to the students who are offered an acceptance letter from SNU. In general, a course registration period is scheduled at the end of July for the following Fall semester and at the end of January for the Spring semester.
- If you would like more information on searching for a course please contact global-programmes@york.ac.uk

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 Beloit and in 2018/19 their University of York fees were reduced to 15% of the full academic fee.
- Visas: The application fee has recently been approximately £150 - £200. Information on Fees
- Medical insurance: It is mandatory for every exchange student to obtain travel medical insurance. SNU do not provide medical insurance themselves yet students should comply with their following guidelines which can be found on their webpage here: snu.ac.kr/page/exchange_program2.php.
- Additional costs to consider: flights, accommodation, travel insurance, living costs (food, books, money for additional travel/activities). Examples of costs can be found on the SNU webpage here. Don’t forget, you won’t be liable for tuition fees to SNU.

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/

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 on exchange must apply for the student visa (D-2) after you have received your acceptance packet from SNU. You have to visit a Korean embassy/consulate in your home country with the Certificate of Admission which will be enclosed in the packet along with other supporting documents requested by the embassy/consulate. Please contact your nearest Korean Embassy/consulate for more details on the visa application process. For UK citizens the contact information can be found here. More information about the D-2 Visa can be found here: mofa.go.kr/gb-en/brd/m_20265/view.do?seq=669256

What’s it like to study there?

- No York students have studied in SNU for a full academic year however some have studied at SNU on a Summer School. This is what they thought:

  “The experience has definitely made me more confident and self-assured. Being in a country and having to deal with culture shock and navigating daily life including currency and public transport was a challenge, and at first I felt very homesick. However, I adapted quickly.”

  "The International Relations course I took was very interesting and has had an effect on my career direction. I now intend to apply to a conversion course after university. I would encourage every student to study abroad, even if it is just for a summer. It makes you re-evaluate your perspective and what you really want out of life.”

  Elspeth, History, Summer School 2017

  “Study life in Korea has taught me a lot on how to live and study well in such a non-English country. During this process, it has facilitated not only my communication skills but also the skill of thinking of solutions rather than sitting around.”
“I would strongly recommend students to shape different outlooks and values through going abroad, especially those which are totally different with original backgrounds. In those countries, you not only need to learn how to minimise cultural differences when making friends but also get to know a new cultural environment.”

Hongyu, Management, Summer School 2015

Where will I live?

- The Dormitory application guide will be provided to the students who are offered an acceptance letter from SNU. While all exchange students can apply for on-campus halls, the dormitory assignment is not guaranteed due to limitation in spaces.

- On-Campus Housing: The Gwanak campus is the main campus of the SNU. Most colleges and schools are located here and housing for exchange students is available at the Gwanak Residence Halls. For more information about housing at Gwanak visit their site here: snu.ac.kr/eng/sub02/sub02_1.php#tab_menu01

- The cost for on-campus housing in 2018 according to the SNU website could range from 456,000-762,000 KRW (approx. £317 - £530) per semester for an undergraduate student.

- Off-Campus Housing: Off-campus housing is available around the campus. You can request information for off-campus housing from the Office of International Affairs (international@snu.ac.uk) or ask your SNU buddy for help. While SNU will assist you in searching for housing, it is your own responsibility to obtain and maintain the off-campus housing contract. Some of SNU’s recommendations for Off-campus housing can be found here: snu.ac.kr/page/c_housing_off.php

- The cost for off-campus housing in 2018 according to the SNU website could range from 400,000 – 800,000 KRW (approx. £280 - £556) per month for an undergraduate student.

- ‘SNU buddy’ is a student group created to help exchange students settle at SNU. They organise various events and activities throughout the semester to integrate incoming exchange students.

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

- European University-Wide Agreements: Ms. Jaeyeon SHIN (colormysoul@snu.ac.kr)

- For more details of who to contact, see SNU’s Office of International Affairs team here.

Useful web links

- Main SNU Site
- SNU Incoming Exchange Students
- FAQ’s SNU Incoming Exchange Students
- Korean D-2 Visa Application Information
- Global Graduates
- Foreign Commonwealth Office Advice
- Seoul City Visitor 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.