What to think about and research when considering an exchange

When deciding to study abroad we would suggest you consider the following questions to decide what your key requirements are. You can then research the choices to make sure you apply for a University that is a good fit. **We suggest you research at least three options** thoroughly and consider the following points:

**Academic Considerations**

- Are you confident you will achieve an average of 60% or above? (You need 60% or above by the end of the year proceeding the exchange to participate in an exchange)

- Have you spoken to your Supervisor about the exchange? (We will request a reference as part of the application process)

**Practical Considerations**

- Do you know where your A level certificates (or equivalent) are? (You will need to present them once you have been accepted on an exchange)

- Do you have a passport? This should be valid for at least 6 months after you will return from your study/work placement.

**Location**

Preferred country/region? _________________________________

Do they teach in English or do you need a second language? _________________________________

Are there any cultural differences to be aware of – for example academic style, food, legal (drinking age, drugs laws etc)?

**University general**

Have you considered the practicalities of the preferred Universities, for example:

- Do you prefer large or small universities? _________________________________

- Do you prefer a city or country campus? _________________________________
Are there certain sports, clubs or extra-curricular activities you want to join? Do your choices have these activities?

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<th>Activity</th>
<th>Yes</th>
<th>No</th>
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**Course**

Will you be on a credit-replacing (2\textsuperscript{nd} year) or an integrated exchange (Do you know the difference?)?

____________________

Does the University have my subject?  Yes ☐  No ☐

Does it have similar modules to the key topics I have to study in the second year (if applicable)? Your Supervisor/department will be able to provide information on the key topics.

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<th>Key Topic</th>
<th>Yes</th>
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How are the courses marked? (essays/exams etc)
Cost
There is more detailed information in each of the exchange Universities scheme guidelines about costs to consider. You are responsible for researching your budget.

You will need to provide evidence of funding in order to apply for a visa. This can be supplied by you in the form of a bank statement or letter (this needs to be a hard copy signed and stamped by the bank) or a third party who will need to supply a letter confirming they will support you if required during your time abroad.

Scholarships and Funding

Students are still able to apply for funding through Student Finance. Additional grants may be available to assist with travel costs:

- Student Finance England: [https://www.gov.uk/travel-grants-students-england/overview](https://www.gov.uk/travel-grants-students-england/overview)
- Student Finance Wales: [http://www.studentfinancewales.co.uk/media/195279/sfw_study_abroad_fs_1617_en_d.pdf](http://www.studentfinancewales.co.uk/media/195279/sfw_study_abroad_fs_1617_en_d.pdf)
- Student Finance Scotland: [https://www.saas.gov.uk/_forms/sas4.pdf](https://www.saas.gov.uk/_forms/sas4.pdf)
- Student Finance Northern Ireland: [http://www.studentfinanceni.co.uk/portal/page?pageid=54,1266570&_dad=portal&_schema=PORTAL](http://www.studentfinanceni.co.uk/portal/page?pageid=54,1266570&_dad=portal&_schema=PORTAL)

There are some bursaries available through the Centre for Global Programmes provided by our Alumni in the USA. Please see our web pages [https://www.york.ac.uk/students/study-abroad/finances/](https://www.york.ac.uk/students/study-abroad/finances/)

BUTEX scholarships are also available, for more details please visit [http://www.butex.ac.uk/scholarships/how-to-apply/](http://www.butex.ac.uk/scholarships/how-to-apply/)