Exchange Scheme with the University of British Columbia - Vancouver Campus

Who can go?
- **Two places** will be made available to York undergraduate students in 2020/21. Priority for one place will be given to **History 3+1** students.
- This will replace your 2nd year of study at York (or the 2nd/3rd year of study if you’re on a 4 year programme) for credit-replacing programmes. 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
- You can take up to a maximum of **30 credits per academic year** or **15 per semester** and a minimum of 24 (year) or 12 (semester) to ensure that you complete a full workload for 120 York credits. Most single-semester courses are a 3-credit course (equivalent to 3 hours of lectures per week for 13 weeks, with an additional 2-week examination period).
- You will normally be taking second or third year courses at UBC.
- Audiology and Speech Sciences, Dentistry, Journalism, Medicine, Nursing, Pharmaceutical Sciences, and Rehabilitation Sciences are not open to exchange students. Theatre and Film have most courses not open to exchange students.
- For more details please see the following web page: [ubc.ca/about/go-global/coming-ubc-exchange/register-courses-ubc-exchange](#)

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 UBC Vancouver and in 2019/20 the University of York fees for students on exchange were reduced to 15% of the full academic fee.

- **Visas**: Study permits for Canada $150 (approx. £87)

- **Additional costs to consider**: flights, accommodation, travel insurance and visas (see below), living costs (food, books, money for additional travel/activities)

**Medical insurance:**

- Full year students are automatically covered by iMED for the first three months before they can be enrolled in BC Medical Services Plan (MSP), which is the basic medical insurance provided by BC government for anyone who will reside in BC for more than six months.
- The cost of iMED for full year students is $180 CDN. The iMED plan will ensure that students have adequate medical coverage from the time they leave home (up to ten days prior to arrival if within the coverage dates) and while they are waiting for BC MSP to be effective.
- Full year and split-year students must apply for BC’s provincial Medical Services Plan (MSP) as soon as they arrive in BC, Canada.
- There is a three-month waiting period before students can be enrolled in MSP, during which time the students are covered under iMED.
- The UBC website has more information on iMED [here](#) and more information on BC MSP [here](#).

**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.*

- Students will need to apply for a Canadian Study Permit to allow them to study in Canada. The application consists mainly of providing documents; passport, two passport photos, letter of acceptance from UBC and proof of financial support (bank statement, student finance, and letter from parent/guardian). For more information and for where to apply visit the Canadian Government website [here](#).
- When going through your application, make use of the instruction guidelines and in particular, the document checklist. These can be found here: [gc.ca/english/information/applications/guides/S269ETOC.asp](#)
- Once the application is approved, you will receive your Visa at immigration in the first Canadian airport you travel through. For example, there will not be a direct flight to Kelowna but will most likely stop over at Vancouver or Calgary, it is at these airports that you go through immigration and will receive an official Visa document and a stamp in your passport. To receive your visa, you will need all the documents you used to apply for the visa and the email confirming your application approval. They will most likely only ask for the acceptance letter from UBC, however carry everything with you just in case.
- A Temporary Resident Visa (TRV, “entry visa” or “visitor visa”) is required for students with certain citizenships to enter Canada. Electronic Travel Authorization (eTA) is required for foreign nationals from some visa-exempt countries. To find out if an Electronic Travel Authorization (eTA) or an entry visa is required, please check [gc.ca/english/visit/visas.asp](#) or contact the nearest Canadian visa office.
From 31st July 2018, students applying for Canadian Visas will have to register for Biometric checks. More information can be found on the official Canadian government webpages here: https://www.cbsa-asfc.gc.ca/security-securite/biometrics-biometrique-eng.html.

Additional information can be found on the UBC website here.

What’s it like to study there?

“My experience has changed me in that it has made me more confident to deal with challenges on my own and has made me more independent. I don’t think that I would have developed this confidence whilst staying in York as when I went to UBC, I knew nobody there. I had to forge entirely new relationships and navigate new places without familiar faces to fall back on. As a result of this, I have made some amazing friends that I had some brilliant experiences with. I became more outgoing, more willing to try new things and generally improved as a person. My experience has been, in one word, amazing. I loved being at UBC and I miss it very much, but I am so, so glad that I got to be there.”

Ellie, History, Year Abroad 2018/19

“What follows will surely be the highlight of my university experience. In short, I have met a host of interesting and diverse people, made a group of friends that will last long after I graduate, travelled some 12,000 km across Canada and the United States including a surprise trip to Mexico, had the opportunity to live in and experience one of the world’s most liveable cities, and got the chance to study outside of my degree program. Granted, there are some clichés there but largely they hold true. While I would say that my exchange has not been a completely revelatory experience, nor have I ‘found myself,’ I am aware that a year studying and travelling in a foreign country has changed me. In many ways, exchange is like first year again and the challenges with that are amplified by the fact that you are in an entirely different country. It is no surprise then that I feel I have acquired a greater sense of independence and personnel accountability from this year. By living and studying at UBC this year, I now have a greater appreciation for diversity and the fact that we are part of a very varied and colourful society.”

Sam, Year Abroad 2017/18

Where will I live?

- **On-Campus:** You will be guaranteed a room in selected on-campus residences provided that you complete the housing application and submit the $50 non-refundable application fee in Canadian funds by the exchange application deadline (usually 1st May).
- General Information about prospective student/international student housing can be found here.
- For information on the different types of Accommodation: ubc.ca/residences-rooms/residences/
- For information on Fees and Payment: ubc.ca/applications/fees-payments/
- Accommodation cost: From single suite apartment to shared rooms pricing varies considerably.
- **Off-Campus:** There are resources available at International House and through the UBC Housing website to help students find housing on their own: ubc.ca/other-housing/off-campus-housing/

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 Vancouver

- Ms. Rebekah Junkermeier Email: rebekah.junkermeier@ubc.ca
- Address: Go Global: Inbound Exchange Team, UBC Life Building, 1001-6138 Student Union Boulevard, Vancouver, BC, V6T 1Z1, Canada.
- Tel: +1-604-822-0942
General Email: go.global@ubc.ca

Useful web links

- UBC Vancouver Site
- Vancouver Incoming Students
- UBC Incoming Students 2018 FAQs
- UBC Facts and Figures
- UBC Application Information
- UBC Vancouver Housing
- Global Graduates
- Foreign Commonwealth Office Advice
- On Campus Accommodation
- Off Campus Accommodation

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.