Exchange Scheme with the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

Where is UIUC? — Founded in 1867—the University of Illinois — with a land-grant heritage as a foundation and over 40,000 students - is a world-class leader in research, teaching, and public engagement, located in the twin cities of Champaign and Urbana, about 140 miles south of Chicago.

Who can go?
- One place will be made available to York undergraduate students with priority to History students.
- This will replace your 2nd year of study at York (or the 2-/3-year of study if you’re on a 4 year programme) for integrated 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 department webpage to see if your subject is eligible for exchange. [https://www.york.ac.uk/students/study-abroad/opportunities/](https://www.york.ac.uk/students/study-abroad/opportunities/)

Courses
- Students will be expected to take **24 credits** during their year at Illinois (i.e. 12-18 credits per semester).
- All 24 credits should be taken in the student’s degree subject in order to achieve the equivalent of 120 York credits.
- If a student wishes to take extra courses in other non-degree related subjects, they should limit this to an additional 3 credits per semester.
- Students studying Economics modules are not eligible to apply for this exchange.
- Places at the College of Engineering are limited and demand is very high. There are also severe enrolment capacity restrictions within the departments of Sociology, and Political Science.

How will my marks be assessed/converted?
- Grade Conversion Tables for each institution will be made available to successful applicants.
- 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 integrated study.

Costs
1) **Tuition Fees**: Students will pay no tuition fees to Illinois 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 student’s) 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 complete the Medical and Immunization History form prior to arriving on campus. For more information, visit: [http://studyabroad.illinois.edu/before-you-come](http://studyabroad.illinois.edu/before-you-come) Students are automatically enrolled in and expected to pay for University of Illinois Student Health Insurance, but if proof of other adequate health insurance coverage can be provided, the insurance can be waived. For more information, visit: [http://studyabroad.illinois.edu/exchange-student-finances#VgLxwrSs2-9](http://studyabroad.illinois.edu/exchange-student-finances#VgLxwrSs2-9) or [http://si.illinois.edu/](http://si.illinois.edu/)
4) **Additional costs to consider**: flights, accommodation, travel insurance, living costs (food, books, money for additional travel/activities)

Visa
- UIUC 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 Illinois
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?

York students are strongly encouraged to live in the University Residence Halls. To ensure that place is reserved for you, your housing application must be received by the deadline specified by Illinois together with a deposit.

On-Campus Housing:
- Most students admitted will be placed in either Sherman or Daniels Halls, both of which house students in their second year and above. Both halls offer single and shared double rooms. Both halls do not require a meal plan. However, if you are placed in an undergraduate residence hall, you must pay for a compulsory meal plan scheme, through which your meals will be provided.
- You can learn more about on-campus accommodation by going to this website: [http://www.housing.illinois.edu/](http://www.housing.illinois.edu/)

Off-Campus Housing:
- Options are available to live off-campus. For more information, visit: [http://studyabroad.illinois.edu/before-you-come](http://studyabroad.illinois.edu/before-you-come)

Contact details at Illinois

Your principal source of general advice at Illinois will be Program Coordinator – Kristen Stout. Address: 112 International Studies Building, 910 South Fifth Street, Champaign, IL 61820. Email: kmstrom2@illinois.edu

Useful web links:
Main Illinois site: [http://www.illinois.edu/](http://www.illinois.edu/)
International Students at Illinois: [http://international.illinois.edu/](http://international.illinois.edu/)
Visa application: [http://j1visa.state.gov/participants/how-to-apply/](http://j1visa.state.gov/participants/how-to-apply/)
Third Year Abroad: [http://www.thirdyearabroad.com/](http://www.thirdyearabroad.com/)
FCO Advice: [http://www.gov.uk/foreign-travel-advice/usa](http://www.gov.uk/foreign-travel-advice/usa)

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