Exchange Scheme with the University of Western Ontario

Where is the University of Western Ontario?

Western is situated on nearly 1,200 acres of land along the banks of the Thames River - a Canadian Heritage River - in London. Located in the centre of south western Ontario, London is approximately two hours driving distance from Toronto and Detroit. With more than 1,350 faculty members and more than 30,000 students.

Who can go?

- Five places will be made available to York undergraduate students in 2017/18.
- 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 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 normally be expected to take a course load of up to 5 Western Credits (combination of full and half courses) with a minimum of 3.5 Western Credits (combination of full and half courses).
- All credits should be taken in the student’s degree subject in order to achieve the equivalent of 120 York credits.
- You will normally be taking second or third year courses at Western.
- If a student wishes to take extra courses in other non-degree related subjects, they should limit this to an additional 0.5 credits per semester.
- Course timetable: [https://studentservices.uwo.ca/secure/Timetables/mastertt/ttindex.cfm](https://studentservices.uwo.ca/secure/Timetables/mastertt/ttindex.cfm)
- Exchange students are not eligible to take courses in professional programmes such as Law, Medicine, Business (Ivey), Education and Health Sciences.

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 Western and in 2016/17 the University of York fees for students on exchange were reduced to 15% of the full academic fee.

2) **Visas**: Study permits for Canada $150 (approx. £87)
3) **Medical insurance and waiver:** You must obtain medical insurance cover for the length of your stay in Canada. You will have to enrol in the University Health Insurance Plan (UHIP) upon arrival at Western. Details will be given in materials from Western before arrival and during the orientation. As a guide, the 8 month premium for the academic year 2016/17 is CDN $432. Please note: it is not possible to opt out of UHIP. Western also recommend that students have supplementary health insurance in addition to UHIP to cover prescription medications and para-health services including massage therapy, chiropractors etc.

4) **Additional costs to consider:** flights, accommodation, travel insurance and visas (see below), living costs (food, books, money for additional travel/activities) The sum needed to cover living costs at Western for one academic year is estimated at a minimum of Can. $13,500.

**Visa**

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 [www.cic.gc.ca/english/visit/visas.asp](http://www.cic.gc.ca/english/visit/visas.asp) or contact the nearest Canadian visa office.

It is the student’s responsibility to find out the immigration requirements and to obtain the necessary documents for travel to Canada. Contact you nearest Canadian Consular Office [www.voyage.gc.ca/contact/offices-list_liste-bureaux-eng.asp](http://www.voyage.gc.ca/contact/offices-list_liste-bureaux-eng.asp)

**Where will I live?**

On-campus - Eligible exchange students who receive academic acceptance by mid-May and who will be attending Western for the full academic year will receive a guaranteed offer of residence. Late acceptances will receive residence waiting list information with their academic offer. Building assignments will be available online in late July.

Accommodation: [http://iesc.uwo.ca/new_students/prearrival/housing/residence.html](http://iesc.uwo.ca/new_students/prearrival/housing/residence.html)

Accommodation fees: [http://www.residenceatwestern.ca/rates.cfm](http://www.residenceatwestern.ca/rates.cfm)

Off campus - Exchange students may choose to live off campus during their exchange. Western offers assistance through the Off-Campus Housing Service. Their website offers listings for both apartments and houses, in a variety of price ranges. A map is available so you can view the general location of the listings. [http://offcampus.uwo.ca/exchange_students.htm](http://offcampus.uwo.ca/exchange_students.htm)

**Contact details at Western**

Your principal general source of advice at Western will be Western International (Western University, 2nd floor, International and Graduate Affairs Building, London, Ontario, N6A 3K7) and in particular Rebecca Denby (International Learning Coordinator – [rdenby@uwo.ca](mailto:rdenby@uwo.ca))

**Useful web links:**

General Western website: [http://www.uwo.ca/](http://www.uwo.ca/)
Student Life: 
http://international.uwo.ca/learning/come_to_western/Incoming_Exchange%20Students/student_life.html
Accommodation Fees: http://www.residenceatwestern.ca/rates.cfm
Third Year Abroad - http://www.thirdyearabroad.com/
Visas: www.cic.gc.ca/english/visit/visas/asp
FCO Advice: https://www.gov.uk/foreign-travel-advice/canada

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