Pre-Application Briefing USA

Lillian Read
Study Abroad Co-ordinator
First of All…

CONGRATULATIONS!
The Presentation

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- Your Conditional Offer
- Accepting your Offer
- The Handbook!
- What’s next?
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Who are You? Where are you Going?

- Name:
- Degree Programme:
- Host University:
Your Conditional Offer

• Every study abroad offer is conditional, based on Semester 1 marks

• You must maintain a 60% academic average, with no fails for all of 2015/16

• Offers are confirmed after Semester 2 marks are released

• We do not recommend buying plane tickets or submitting your visa application until after your marks are released
How do I accept my offer?

- You need to log into your Mobility Online account (the system you submitted your application through)

- Login credentials are at the very bottom of the Confirmation Message you received after submitting your application

- If you do not have this message please email saenq@liverpool.ac.uk and the message will be re-sent to you
Pre-Application Briefing Handbook

Read your handbook before emailing questions
What happens next?
There’s still work ahead!

The Study Abroad process takes time and effort

In the course of this process YOU will:
• discuss modules with your Academic Study Abroad Co-ordinator
• complete a Host University Application
• submit your Host University Application and wait for acceptance
• provide even more forms/info to your host university after you are accepted
• sort out your accommodation abroad and in the UK
• attend the Pre-Departure Briefing May 18, 2016
• enjoy a Farewell Networking Reception on May 19, 2016
• see your Semester 2 Marks and receive a confirmed offer (July)
• submit your visa application and secure flights
• pack your bags
…… and then finally you will be abroad!
Applying to your Host University

- Consult your host university handout (it will be emailed to you too)
- Host University (HU) or UoL will contact you with application details
- Sometimes you have to send Application Form AND Visa Documents **TOGETHER**
- You **MUST** respect the INTERNAL (i.e. UoL) deadlines
- It rarely happens but Host Universities can refuse your application
Choosing your Modules
(Course Approval Form, access through Mobility Online)

1. Look at the modules you WOULD do here in Liverpool (especially compulsory and pre-requisites for year 3)

2. Compare with modules available at the Host University

3. Email a list of modules to your Academic Study Abroad Co-ordinator (ASAC) WITH module descriptions
   1. You should list extra (backup) modules
   2. Complete the Course Approval form and download it

4. Meet with the your ASAC to sign approval form

5. Upload the form to Mobility Online

6. Ultimately, ensuring that you choose the correct modules for your degree is your responsibility
Who is my Academic Study Abroad Co-ordinator (ASAC)?

https://www.liverpool.ac.uk/study/undergraduate/goabroad/departments/

- The ASAC will approve the modules you take abroad, ensuring that you will earn credit toward your degree

- Combined Honours/Honours Select students need to contact ASAC for both subjects
What is my the academic calendar at my host?

These are approximate dates, consult your host university website for exact days

Boston College: Mid August to 3rd Week of December
Uni of Arizona: early August to 3rd Week of December
Uni of Georgia: early August to Mid December
Uni of Illinois at Urbana Champaign: Mid August to 3rd Week of December
Uni of Maryland: Mid August to 3rd Week of December
Kansas State University: Mid August to Mid December
Uni of Texas at Dallas: Mid August to Mid December
Washington State University: Mid August to Mid December

Don’t forget that you will need to arrive a little early to attend an orientation!
Further Academic Considerations

1. Your exams will be taken abroad, at the end of your semester at the host university

2. You will EARN MARKS for modules taken abroad which will be calculated into your Liverpool degree
   • Some people you meet abroad will not earn credits

3. Shortly you go abroad, you will have an Academic Pre-Departure Briefing to see the grade conversions
   [link](https://www.liverpool.ac.uk/media/livacuk/study/Grade,Conversion,Tables,for,Publishing,on,the,web.pdf)

4. Re-sits do not exist in the USA!
Sorting out your Visa

• Your Host University must accept you before you will officially apply for the visa
  • Apply in Summer for Semester 1 exchange
• Usually have to send financial statements; either your own or those of a sponsor (parent, grandparent, friend, etc.)
• If you have a sponsor you must have a sponsor letter to accompany their statements/bank letter
• If your passport is not valid for at least 6 months after your exchange will finish, renew it now!
• Read all instructions very carefully and plan ahead
Study Abroad Drop In Meetings

• No appointment needed, first come first served
  • Located in Careers and Employability Service (Building number 502 on University Map)

  • Tues, March 15: 2-3pm
  • Tues, March 22: 2-3pm
  • Weds, March 30: 1-2pm
  • Weds, April 5: 1-2pm
  • Tues, April 12: 2-3pm
  • Weds, April 13: 1-2pm
  • Tues, April 19: 2-3pm
  • Tues, April 26: 2-3pm

  • Weds, April 27: 1-2pm
  • Tues, May 3: 2-3pm
  • Weds, May 4: 1-2pm
  • Tues, May 10: 2-3pm
  • Weds, May 11: 1-2pm
  • Weds, May 25: 1-2pm
  • Weds, June 1: 1-2pm
  • Weds, June 8: 1-2pm

Ring the Study Abroad Team if you have an urgent concern that cannot wait for Drop In (0151 794 3039)
Accommodation Abroad

- Accommodation is your responsibility, options depend on your Host Uni
  - **Boston College**: on campus accommodation is limited, apply for private accommodation with help of Off Campus Housing Office
  - **Uni of Arizona**: Exchange Students can apply for campus owned and managed apartments
  - **Uni of Georgia**: exchange students can apply for private room in 4 bedroom suite
  - **Uni of Illinois at Urbana Champaign**: can apply for on campus accommodation or private housing
  - **Uni of Maryland**: guaranteed place in campus accommodation
  - **Kansas State University**: Can apply for shared room in halls
  - **Uni of Texas at Dallas**: guaranteed place in campus accommodation
  - **Washington State University**: Can apply for shared room in halls

- Respect your Host University deadlines!

- Remember, a lot of universities will only offer shared rooms

- If you don’t get accommodation in their Halls, book accommodation in advance of Orientation (give yourself a few days to settle)
Accommodation in Liverpool

• Live in the Study Abroad Village!
  • Send your name to saenq@liverpool.ac.uk if interested in a place for one semester

• Tick the ‘Share my Email’ box on the register so we can circulate a list of those interested in swapping rooms

• Use Liverpool Student Homes website

• ALWAYS SPEAK TO YOUR LANDLORD AND HOUSEMATES!

• Get contracts to protect yourself

• Remember, accommodation is your responsibility
Student Finance and Bursaries

• Apply for your 2016/17 Student Finance NOW!!!
  • Tick a box to say you will be studying abroad during the next academic year

• Should get normal Student Loan/Grants, as a minimum. Student Finance offer means tested support on sliding scale. Student to pay first £303.

• Liverpool Travel Award Grants: after you arrive, when you send back confirmation. All students will receive it!
  USA: £600

• Liverpool Bursary students will still get bursary during semester abroad

• Remember, all grants (including Student Finance) are paid AFTER you’ve spent the money, so plan accordingly.
Tuition Fees

• You will continue to pay tuition fees to UoL
  • Semester Abroad: Same tuition fee as normal

• Your host university may charge you fees for submitting your study abroad application, accommodation deposit, university administration fee or health services fee – read the fine print as soon as you get your host university web link
Scholarships and Grants

Consult your handbook for a description of the funding (Page 7)

Emails with applications will be sent after March 16\textsuperscript{th}

You can ask to be considered for as many scholarships as you are eligible, but you will only be awarded one
Insurance

- You will apply for UoL’s Travel Insurance (free) shortly before departure.

- Some Host Universities will require you to purchase, or will give you the option to opt into, basic medical insurance with them, but you’ll still need travel insurance (e.g. for repatriation).

- Important exclusions from UoL Travel Insurance include routine check-ups/ prescriptions for pre-existing medical conditions.

- It will cover you for incidental travel during HU holidays/weekends to adjacent countries. It will not cover you if you choose to travel after your exchange has ended. It will also not cover you for travel to countries deemed dangerous by the FCO or economically sanctioned countries (North Korea).

- If you are ever in any doubt, check directly with the UoL Insurance Office (finsec2@liverpool.ac.uk).

- Application form at PDB in May (Semester 1 Abroad) of Dec (Semester 2 Abroad).
Things to Think About Now…

- Do I know when my Host Uni application is due?
  - Do I know the academic calendar at my host university?

- Do I know the student visa requirement in my host country?

- Have I informed Student Finance that I will study abroad next year?
More things to think about…

• Do I have any special needs or concerns?
  • Disability Support?

• Do I have any medical needs or allergies that might impact my time abroad?
  • Do I carry an epi pen in the event of an allergic reaction?

• What vaccinations might I need? (including if you plan to travel afterwards)

• Continue to research your host uni/city/country
  • Foreign and Commonwealth Office
  • Buy a guidebook/phrasebook/dictionary
Contact Details

• Lillian Read, Study Abroad Co-ordinator: goabroad@liverpool.ac.uk

• Aimee Campbell, Study Abroad Assistant: saenq@liverpool.ac.uk

• Website: www.liverpool.ac.uk/goabroad

• Twitter: www.twitter.com/livuniandabroad

• Facebook: www.facebook.com/uolstudyabroad
QUESTIONS about the USA?