GO ABROAD!

Study or work abroad as part of your degree
“ Academically, the year abroad has been fantastic and I have really enjoyed both studying new things and learning a different approach to material I have studied at Kent. A great experience which I would recommend.”

Georgia Kelly
History and Philosophy of Art
WHY GO ABROAD?

We have many prestigious partners around the world, both in academia and in industry. As a Kent student, why not tap into this global network by going abroad as part of your degree?

Going abroad, either on a work placement or to study at one of our partner universities, is an amazing opportunity and a chance for you to develop academically, personally and professionally. The fact that you have spent time abroad is also a distinct advantage when you graduate and look for a job. You are likely to develop many skills and attributes that will enhance your CV.

For instance, being in a new environment allows you to develop your problem-solving and intercultural communication skills. You are also likely to make huge gains in terms of your self-awareness, independence and confidence. In addition, you develop the ability to adapt to new situations, experience life in another country and possibly develop your language skills, all of which can give you a broader cultural awareness.

If you are thinking of studying abroad, the time you spend at another university is a great way to broaden your view of your chosen subject and gain new perspectives. If your aim is to undertake a work placement abroad, you have an opportunity to develop a range of professional skills and make useful contacts.

A number of our undergraduate and postgraduate degrees offer an option to go abroad. But even if you haven’t registered on one of those degrees, a placement abroad may still be possible. Please ask our Go Abroad team for more details by emailing goabroad@kent.ac.uk

We make sure you receive excellent assistance in finding the right place and support you throughout your time abroad. For details of the types of placement you can choose from, and where you can go, see p9-p11.

There is a whole world within your reach!

DID YOU KNOW?
Students who take part in mobility* score highly in character traits including curiosity, confidence, serenity, decisiveness and vigour; 98% of employers in Northern Europe said that these traits were important in the recruitment and professional development of their employees.
Erasmus Impact Study Regional Analysis 2016
Source: European Commission

*studying or working abroad as part of a degree
WHAT OUR STUDENTS SAY

**Studying in Indiana, USA**

“Purdue University has given me the opportunity to expand my knowledge in both television production and sound design. The facilities are incredible and I have already completed several projects that have made my portfolio a lot stronger.

“I am a member of the National Broadcasting Society and I take trips around the States, networking with professionals and increasing my knowledge within broadcasting. With the scholarship from Santander, I have been able to take part in these field trips and have just returned from a weekend away in Washington, DC.

“With the skills I have learnt at Purdue, I will definitely be composing music for theatre, film and radio shows when I return to Kent.”

*Jenna Wild*
Drama and Theatre Studies

**Language assistant in Poitiers, France**

“My advice would be to enjoy every second that you are there because it goes by in a flash. Homesickness was something that I worried about before I arrived but, apart from my first day, I have felt so at home and comfortable in Poitiers and around the people I have met.

“Take every opportunity that comes your way and try to visit as many places as possible. As a language assistant, you get school holidays, which is great! Make the most of the free time and travel. There will always be someone around to help you if you are unsure of anything – don’t be afraid to ask! And have fun!”

*Maria Perry*
French and History

**Working in Thailand**

“I have spent my year in industry working in Thailand. I had not really travelled much, apart from the occasional family holiday in Europe, so travelling across the world has been a totally new experience and one that I will never forget. You aren’t expected to learn the language but I have. People really appreciate my efforts and always offer to help.

“I am sure working or studying abroad will be one of your most memorable experiences while at university, and maybe one of the most important. Everyone feels a small amount of fear at the beginning, but don’t end up missing what could be the time of your life.”

*Stephanie Ashenden*
Forensic Biology with a Year in Industry
Studying in Hong Kong

“Hong Kong’s location in Asia is perfect for travelling to other countries in the continent. I have already been to Beijing, Shenzhen and Macau. As the world is becoming increasingly globalised, I felt that it would be beneficial to come to Hong Kong as it is such a global hub, with a good mix of East and West. “The Santander Scholarship has been a blessing and has given me financial assistance to prepare for my year abroad. My time in Hong Kong has opened my eyes to another way of life. It has made me more confident and allowed me to step out of the box and live and work abroad; there are so many opportunities available – all I need to do is find them.”

April-Louise Pennant
Sociology

Studying in Bologna, Italy

“I think the year abroad is a highly rewarding experience that every student should try. I have become more culturally aware, and the experience I have gained will look amazing on my CV and be beneficial for my future career. I have deepened and enriched my knowledge outside the area of film, and really broadened my understanding of my main study subject.
“To sum up, the whole study abroad experience is life-changing and provides academic, personal, career and social benefits. It is definitely worth doing.”

Kristina Juodisiute
Film Studies

Studying in Prague, Czech Republic

“Quite frankly, this has been the most remarkable and interesting learning experience of my life. I can’t really put into words how much I have learnt, not just academically but also about myself and about Europe in general. I have taken great pains to travel as frequently as possible in order to soak up the rich culture offered by Europe as a whole. I cannot recommend this experience enough to all who have the opportunity.”

Jack Nicolaou
European Legal Studies
WHICH DEGREES OFFER TIME ABROAD?

If you want to spend time abroad, we have a wide range of degrees for you to choose from. Some of them offer you the opportunity to study abroad; others enable you to go on an international work placement.

Language programmes
Spending time in another country is an integral part of some degree courses, such as French, German, Italian or Hispanic Studies. This time abroad allows you to develop fluency in the language you are studying and gain first-hand knowledge of the country’s people and culture. Some students choose to study at a partner university. Others choose to take a work placement; a popular option is to work as a language assistant, teaching English in a school.

‘Year Abroad’ programmes
Degrees with a “Year Abroad” in the title allow you to spend a full academic year at one of our partner universities. All the universities are chosen for their academic standards and for their courses, which complement your studies at Kent. Our partners include highly prestigious universities, a number of which are ranked within the top 100 institutions in the Times Higher Education World University Rankings.

Faculty of Humanities programmes
Within the Faculty of Humanities, all undergraduate programmes offer you the option to apply to study for a year/term abroad or take a year’s work placement.

Postgraduate programmes
There are a number of opportunities for study and research abroad within postgraduate programmes. These include international double award programmes and options under the Erasmus programme.

Further information
For details of degrees that offer the option to work or study abroad and eligibility criteria, see www.kent.ac.uk/goabroad

Even if you have not registered on one of the degree programmes listed on our website, it may still be possible to add a term or year studying or working abroad to your degree. Please email the Go Abroad team to discuss your options: goabroad@kent.ac.uk

DID YOU KNOW?
Another option open to some overseas students is to take a work placement in their home country. This allows them to work in their native language.
DO I NEED ANY LANGUAGE SKILLS?

The language skills needed depend on the kind of study or work placement you choose. Some placements only require English; others provide an opportunity for you to develop the language skills you have learnt during the first two years of your degree.

Study or work in English
You don’t need to be able to speak another language to take advantage of the opportunity to go abroad. We have many study opportunities in English-speaking countries such as the USA or Canada, as well as destinations where tuition is in English, such as the Netherlands, China, Hong Kong or Japan.

English-speaking employees are in demand all over the world and some overseas employers offer work placements where English is the only language you will need.

Bear in mind that you often pick up quite a lot of the local language, even if you are studying or working in English. You may be able to take language classes at Kent before taking up the placement, or while you are there.

Work or study in another language
Degree programmes at Kent that include language studies allow you to reach a level of fluency that enables you to work or study abroad in the local language. Please bear in mind that to apply for such a degree at Kent, you need to have an A level, GCSE or equivalent in the chosen language or a related European language. Entry requirements vary; see www.kent.ac.uk/ug for details.

Remember, the choice of destinations available to you may be wider than you think. For example, students taking French have the option to go to Canada, not just Europe.

“Going abroad is a fantastic way to improve your language skills and to discover more about work experience placements and job opportunities for the future.”

Marina Ivanova
European Economics with Econometrics

DID YOU KNOW?
Five to ten years after graduation, the rate of unemployment among mobile students is lower than that of non-mobile students.

Erasmus Impact Study Regional Analysis 2016
Source: European Commission
WHERE CAN I GO?

We have many prestigious partners, both commercial and academic. They are based in Europe, the Americas, Asia, Africa and Australia.

Studying abroad
We already have links with many partner universities and are continually adding new partnerships. We only choose universities that have excellent reputations, with courses that can complement your studies at Kent. The destinations available depend on your particular degree and language skills. Some are linked to specific subjects, or may be only for undergraduate or only for postgraduate students.

See our map (overleaf) or check www.kent.ac.uk/goabroad for the latest details.

Working abroad
If you are taking a work placement – usually called a ‘Year in Industry’, a ‘Placement Year’ or a ‘Sandwich Year’ – you may be able to take this placement outside the UK. Many of our academic schools have links with well-known and highly respected international companies. For language students, we can help you to find a placement as a teaching assistant.

It is possible to take a work placement anywhere in the world, providing you can fulfil the visa requirements and the Foreign & Commonwealth Office approves travel to the region. For more details, please contact your academic school. Alternatively, speak to a member of staff in the Go Abroad team based within International Partnerships, or email goabroad@kent.ac.uk

Erasmus+ programme
The Erasmus+ programme, funded by the European Union, can offer financial support to students participating in an Erasmus study or work placement. Under the current arrangements, Kent students can choose to study or work in the Erasmus+ countries marked on the map overleaf. See p15 for more details of the funding available.

The University of Kent is pleased to acknowledge the support of the European Commission under the Erasmus+ programme for its Erasmus activities.
WHERE CAN I GO? (CONT)
Study destinations covered by the Erasmus+ programme

Study destinations outside of the Erasmus+ programme

*Subject to availability, work placements can be undertaken anywhere in the world.
WHAT SUPPORT DO I GET?

We offer excellent support to help you find a work or study placement. But our help doesn’t stop there. While you are away, you can stay in contact with your academic school at Kent and get practical support from Kent’s Go Abroad team.

Studying abroad
If you are intending to study abroad as part of your degree, the Go Abroad team within International Partnerships can provide information on partner universities and set up preparatory meetings. They can also advise you on how to apply for a place. You can email them at goabroad@kent.ac.uk

Working abroad
If you intend to work abroad, the Placement Officer within your academic school provides support in finding you a placement. Work opportunities abroad are highly sought after and the support of your Placement Officer gives you a greater chance of success. Their input can range from putting you in touch with Kent’s industry contacts to helping you with the application process or improving your interview techniques. Your Placement Officer can also advise you on how to make the most of your placement and other practical and financial matters.

Preparing to go
The Go Abroad team at Kent produces guidance that gives you basic information regarding your stay abroad. We can also advise you on practical matters, such as finance, accommodation and travel arrangements. We host briefings in the first and second years of your degree course to make sure you have detailed information and support as you prepare to go abroad. We also offer an online module to help prepare you culturally before your time abroad.

You often have the chance to meet and talk to students from your chosen destination before you travel. This gives you the chance to learn more about the country and, where appropriate, to practise your language skills.

Visas and work permits
If you wish to study or work in a non-EU country, or if you are not an EU national, you may require a visa or work permit. If you wish to study in a non-EU country, you may also need to provide a financial guarantee in order to apply for your visa/study permit. The Go Abroad team can advise you on this process.

DID YOU KNOW?
You can watch video interviews with Go Abroad students at www.kent.ac.uk/goabroad/video.html
Employability skills
A study or work placement overseas offers a unique way of enhancing your personal development and boosting your employability skills. Prepare for the overseas placement before you go, so that you are able to make the most of opportunities that arise while you are there. Used and reflected upon wisely, your time abroad will strengthen your CV and your employment prospects.

During your stay
Support is provided by staff at your host university, or by your supervisor if you are taking a work placement. You are also able to contact the Go Abroad team at Kent with any queries. In addition, your academic school at Kent keeps in touch with you to ensure that you are gaining the maximum benefit from your time abroad, and that you have access to help and advice should you need it.

Assessment
The term/year abroad is currently assessed using a pass/fail system and will not count towards your final degree classification. For further information, contact your academic school. If you are on a work placement, the way your year is assessed depends on your degree programme. The Placement Officer in your academic school will be able to advise you further.

“I had a lot of support from Kent’s Go Abroad team. As an Erasmus student, they sorted out my accommodation before I went, by providing a list of available rooms to rent for the year. While I was in France, they were very good at keeping in touch to ensure that I wasn’t struggling.”

Jonathan Brown
European History with a Year Abroad
HOW TO APPLY

You can apply for direct entry to a four-year undergraduate degree course that includes study or work abroad. Alternatively, you might be able to arrange study or work abroad as an option once your course has started.

Undergraduate students
If you want to apply for direct entry to a four-year programme, you can apply via UCAS, the UK’s Universities and Colleges Admissions Service.

If you are a current student and would like to add a year/term abroad to your degree, please contact your academic school to discuss your eligibility.

If you are a current student registered on a degree that includes a year/term abroad, your academic school and the Go Abroad team will contact you during your first year of study. The Go Abroad team host information sessions to give guidance about destinations, finance and other practicalities for you to consider over the summer.

Study abroad students are then required to submit an internal application to the Go Abroad team during the first term of their second year, in order to be allocated a place at a host university. Please email goabroad@kent.ac.uk if you have any queries.

Work abroad students should contact the Placement Officer in their academic school during their first year to discuss their options.

Please note: places and destinations are subject to availability, language proficiency and degree programme. For a full list, see www.kent.ac.uk/goabroad

Requirements
Students must meet the criteria for attendance and academic progression set by their school in order to study or work abroad. For more information, visit the Go Abroad website.

Postgraduate students
If you are a postgraduate student, please apply directly to Kent for the relevant degree programme. You should discuss appropriate study/research abroad activity with the Graduate School and the Go Abroad team.

Graduate School:
T: +44 (0)1227 824089
E: graduateschool@kent.ac.uk
www.kent.ac.uk/graduateschool

Go Abroad team:
E: goabroad@kent.ac.uk
FEES AND FUNDING

There are several funding options, including our own scholarship scheme, to finance your time spent abroad.

Kent’s Study Abroad Scholarship
The University’s undergraduate Study Abroad Scholarship is open to all UK and EU undergraduate students applying to Kent for a full-time degree course starting in September 2018 that includes a year abroad. The Scholarship is worth £2,000 during the year abroad (or pro rata for the period of time spent abroad).

To qualify, students must make their university application through UCAS, gain a minimum of AAB (from three A levels) or equivalent, fulfil the normal entry requirements for their subject and submit an essay. For details, please search for ‘Study Abroad’ at www.kent.ac.uk/scholarships/search

For information on our other university scholarships for undergraduates, please see www.kent.ac.uk/scholarships/undergraduate

Tuition fees
Students undertaking a full year of studying or working abroad pay tuition fees to Kent at a reduced rate. Those undertaking a term abroad are expected to pay 100% of the normal fees to Kent. No tuition fees are payable to the host universities for any study placement, whether a full year or a term. Postgraduate students pay the normal tuition fee to Kent for the term or year abroad.

Erasmus+ programme
Erasmus+ is a programme funded by the European Union to promote student mobility across Europe. Eligible students spending a year or term abroad on a study or work placement may receive a top-up grant from the Erasmus+ programme, subject to availability.

Further information
Please note that all funding arrangements are subject to change. Information is correct at the time of going to press; for the latest details, speak to a member of staff in the Go Abroad team, email goabroad@kent.ac.uk or visit our website, www.kent.ac.uk/goabroad

This brochure was produced in July 2017. The University of Kent makes every effort to ensure that the information contained in its publicity materials is fair and accurate and to provide educational services as described. However, the courses, services and other matters may be subject to change. For the most up-to-date information, see www.kent.ac.uk/ug and for full details of our terms and conditions, see www.kent.ac.uk/termsandconditions

For the University to operate efficiently, it needs to process information about you for administrative, academic and health and safety reasons. Any offer this institution makes to you is subject to your consent to process such information and is therefore a requirement before we can register you as a student.

www.kent.ac.uk/goabroad

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FIND OUT MORE
www.kent.ac.uk/goabroad