YEAR ABROAD OPTIONS
2019-20 / SOCIAL SCIENCES

Sophie Baker and Janet Wilson-Sharp
International Partnerships
Appropriate for…

Students following degrees in the:

- School of Anthropology and Conservation
- School of Economics
- School of Politics and International Relations
- School of Psychology
- School of Social Policy, Sociology and Social Research
- Kent Business School
- Kent Law School
The Erasmus and Study Abroad teams

Erasmus team: study and work placements within Europe
- Janet Wilson-Sharp
- Françoise McKee
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Study Abroad team: study placements outside Europe
- Hazel Lander
- Sophie Baker
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Room 155, first floor of the Registry Extension
www.kent.ac.uk/goabroad
Why study or work abroad?

“Graduates who were mobile during their degree were less likely to be unemployed…more likely to have earned a first class or upper second class degree…and be in further study…Those in work were more likely to be in a graduate-level job…and [on average earned] 5% more than their non-mobile peers”.

Universities UK International, ‘Gone International: mobility works’

https://globalgraduates.com/articles/100-reasons-to-study-abroad
“The UK needs graduates who have the skills and confidence to compete globally, and can compete against foreign talent that may speak more languages and have wider international experience.”

British Council ‘Broadening Horizons’ report 2015

“…university students who spend a longer period of time abroad (i.e. 9 – 12 months) either on study or work placements have a real advantage over students who stay in the UK for the whole of their degree when it comes to the UK job market.”

Klaus, A. and S. Mentchen, ‘Why we cannot afford to lose Erasmus+’ 2016
“…alongside widely-valued international competences such as language skills, cultural knowledge and tolerance, employers increasingly valued productivity, resilience and curiosity from candidates. All of these desirable skills can be developed during periods abroad on an outward mobility programme.”

Centre for International Mobility, Finland ‘Hidden Competencies’ (2014), quoted in UUKi ‘Gone International: mobility works’
Eligibility

To add a Year Abroad to your degree, contact the Director of Studies for your degree programme.

• Attendance

• Good academic standing

• Stage 1 average mark
  • Meet your School’s minimum requirement for the Year Abroad
  • All marks, including Wild modules, count in the calculation of the average. No special consideration is given for low marks on wild modules.
  • [University of California: NOT CURRENTLY AVAILABLE minimum 70% Stage 1 average]
Academic matters

- Excellent host universities: [www.kent.ac.uk/goabroad](http://www.kent.ac.uk/goabroad)
- Different academic systems
  - Teaching styles
  - Work and assessment
- Modules
  - Chance to take modules not studied/offered at Kent
  - Normally 2\(^{nd}\) or 3\(^{rd}\) year of Bachelors degree
    - e.g. 300-400 level at non-EU universities
  - 60 ECTS or equivalent
- Kent’s expectations
  - Participation
  - Pass/fail mark
Practicalities

- Language
  - For some exchanges, no language skills are required
  - Others require basic or advanced language skills
  - Language Express: https://www.kent.ac.uk/cewl/courses/world/language-express/index.html

- Accommodation

- Location and environment

- Support

- Travel

- Student questionnaires, host university websites
Finance

- No tuition fees payable to host universities
- Tuition fees payable to Kent (2018/19 figures)
  - Full year placements: £1,385 (15% of standard fee)
  - One term placements: normal fees apply
- Student Finance
- Plan your budget
  - Cost of living
  - Discuss your plans with whoever supports you financially
Erasmus+

- Eligible countries:
  - EU member states plus Norway, Iceland, Lichtenstein, FYR Macedonia and Turkey

- Study or Work placements

- Grant rate
  - Top-up grant
  - Not your main source of funding

- Brexit

The University of Kent is pleased to acknowledge the support of the European Commission within the framework of the Erasmus+ Programme.
Visas

- Non-EU destinations
- Non-EU nationals travelling to EU
- Consider costs for obtaining the visa
  - Travel to interview
  - Cost of visa
  - Medical if required
- Ensure your passport is valid for the necessary period (six months after travel)
- Do you hold a Tier 4 visa?
  - If the Year Abroad is not yet part of your degree, you might have to re-apply for your visa. Contact the Immigration Compliance team.
Financial guarantee

- Non-European destinations
- Requirement for visa
- Students have to show they have access to required amounts
- Amounts vary according to country/university
- As a rough guide, 2017/18 figures are:
  - Australia: A$18,610
  - Canada: full year = $10,000 CAD; one term = no guarantee needed
  - Hong Kong: £8,000
  - Japan: ¥1,000,000 (currently about £6,800)
  - Singapore: no or minimal guarantee
  - South Africa: no or minimal guarantee
  - South Korea: no or minimal guarantee
  - US: full year = $10,000- $20,000; one term = $6,000-10,000
Considering Study Abroad

• Choose from the list of partner universities for your subject: www.kent.ac.uk/goabroad

• Research the university/those universities carefully

• Be pragmatic and consider all aspects:
  • Your budget, modules, health, language, environment

If in doubt, contact us

If the Year Abroad is not yet part of your degree, contact your School now!
Apply through Moodle

DP6100

‘Essential Study and Work Abroad Preparation’

Deadline: **Friday 16 November**

Applications received after this date will not be considered.
How the allocations are made

- If you have a choice of destination
  - Stage 1 average marks
  - Attendance/academic standing
  - Suitability of exchange, e.g. subject area, language, provision of support
  - Availability of places at partner universities

While every effort will be make to allocate students to their first or second choices, the University reserves the right to decide otherwise based on the suitability of the exchange or the availability of places.

- If you don’t have a choice of destination…
  - Europe: the Erasmus Team will make sure that there is a place for you at the appropriate university.
  - If there are any difficulties, we will notify those affected.

- You will be emailed the allocation in January 2019
Any questions?
THE UK’S EUROPEAN UNIVERSITY