



International Student Exchange Program



Study overseas as part of your UWS degree!

Can I participate? UWS strongly encourages all students to participate in the International Exchange Program.

Applying is easy so start today!

Where will I go?

The hardest part about studying internationally is choosing which experience is right for you. Luckily, it can also be a lot of fun as you imagine where in the world you want to go.

UWS has an experience that will be just right – consider the suggestions below from our experienced team.

Choose Asia because:

- ✓ Close economic ties to Australia – make yourself invaluable to an Australian company when you graduate!
- ✓ Cheaper than many other destinations
- ✓ More scholarship opportunities through the Australian Government
- ✓ Many units taught in English

Short courses

Money tight? Family responsibilities? Strict degree rules? A short course may be perfect for you. Check out the information on AIM Overseas, ISEP, and what UWS exchange partners offer.

Is English your first language?

Many destinations teach in English even if the language of the country is not English. Think about Czech Republic, Germany, Hong Kong, Japan, Korea, Mexico, Norway, Sweden, or The Netherlands.

Many universities also offer you the chance to study a language at beginner level while completing other units in English.

Combine your options.

Short course plus a session, or two sessions in different locations.

How to choose the experience that is right for you.

- 1 Most degrees at UWS provide students with the flexibility for a full session or academic year exchange. However if your degree has professional registration requirements (such as medicine or nursing) a short course may be better suited to you.
- 2 Choose a host university that offers a wide variety of units in your degree. You are encouraged to study electives on exchange and complete your core units at UWS. This is particularly the case for Law and Accounting students.
- 3 Are you fluent in another language or would like to build upon your existing skills or learn a language? Consider studying at a university where they teach in that language. UWS and ISEP have information on universities that teach language courses at various levels from absolute beginner to advanced.
- 4 Feeling adventurous? Consider studying in English where the language of the country is not English.
- 5 Money tight? Consider a short course. Choose a destination where the opportunities for scholarships are greater, or where the cost of living is lower than average; such as South Korea, Taiwan, Hong Kong or Eastern Europe.

Did you know?

- » UWS will pay for your travel insurance while you are studying overseas. This could be a saving of around AUD\$1000!
- » Accommodation: most universities will reserve space for students in residences on campus. Where there is no on-campus housing, students are assisted to find off-campus accommodation.
- » Scholarship information is listed on the website each session to help you plan where to go and work out a budget.



The International Exchange application process

Am I eligible? UWS strongly encourages all students to participate in the International Exchange Program. For full session or one academic year exchanges it is important that students plan their exchange early in their degree to avoid missing out on this fantastic opportunity.

How do I find out more about the exchange program?

It is advised to attend an information session to have an extensive overview of the exchange program. See www.uws.edu.au/international/exchange_programs for information session times on UWS campuses to help you to decide such questions as: Short course? Which session? Which country? Which university? Which units? Scholarship opportunities?

What if I need more information and advice?

Meet with or contact an Exchange Adviser to discuss your options and the best program fit for you.

T: 4620 3696
E: exchange@uws.edu.au

OK – I want to apply! Great – the best decision you can make!

Complete and hand in your UWS international exchange program application forms to UWS by the deadlines below:

Application Deadlines

For full session/ full academic year exchanges

- » For overseas exchange session commencing in Autumn session 2011 – UWS Deadline is 25 May 2010.
- » For overseas exchange session commencing in Spring session 2011 – UWS Deadline is 25 October 2010.

Short Courses

For short courses through AIM Overseas and ISEP (International Student Exchange Program) please refer to the applicable application date.

Please note: International Exchange Applications received after the above dates will be considered, however priority for exchange placement and allocation of scholarship funding will be considered after all other applicants.

When do I find out if I am accepted?

UWS will notify you of the outcome of your application approximately 6 weeks after it is submitted. For short courses with AIM Overseas you will be notified directly by AIM Overseas.

I have been accepted – what happens now?

Complete and hand in the host (overseas) university applications forms, including your credit transfer form for the units you wish to study so you can obtain credit. The exchange office will nominate you to the host university. The final decision is made by the host university, however UWS guides you in nominating you to exchange partners where it is very unlikely that you would not be accepted.

Great news – I have been accepted by my host university!

You can now apply for your student visa, book some accommodation, book your airline tickets, prepare to take off on your overseas adventure! You will attend a predeparture session with your Exchange Adviser and other exchange students.

What happens while I am away?

You enrol in and study the units you have been approved for, keep in touch with your Exchange Adviser, be an ambassador for UWS and have a life-changing session abroad!

I'm back . . .

Congratulations! Finalise your credit transfer. You can continue to be an ambassador at UWS for the International Exchange Program for future UWS students interested in going on exchange and interacting with the network of exchange students from overseas studying at UWS.

Quick checklist of Academic Eligibility & Requirements

- » If you are in a Bachelors degree at UWS you must have completed 40 credit points at the time of application to go on exchange, however you are welcome to attend an information session on exchange during your first session to plan your exchange in your degree early.
- » If you are in a postgraduate degree you are encouraged to apply during your first session of study.
- » You should have a minimum GPA of 4.5 (out of 7.0) at UWS to be eligible to go on exchange. If your GPA is below 4.5 you may still be able to go on exchange but we will ask you to write a personal statement, supply an extra reference, and to come in for an interview.
- » To be eligible to go on session exchange you must intend to receive full credit (between 30-50 credit points per session) for the units you complete abroad. You may study on exchange in your final session as long as you study at least 30 credit points during this time.



Great opportunities



International Student Exchange Program (ISEP)
www.isep.org

UWS has an agreement with ISEP which allows its students to study at many more sites worldwide. ISEP also offers opportunities for students who may not be able to go for a full session abroad.

Exchange – UWS students may study on exchange through ISEP which offers many more sites worldwide than UWS. The ISEP program is administered differently to regular exchanges but the costs to students are about the same (or less) and academic credit procedures are the same – ensuring full credit at UWS for units earned through ISEP.

Language Study – If you do not (yet) have knowledge of a foreign language, are studying a language already at UWS, are not yet confident in your language skills, or would just like to experience a different language environment, ISEP has some excellent programs for you! There are sites that offer language courses at beginner to advanced level as well as regular units taught in English.

Short courses – Study during university breaks (July or December/ January) through ISEP. The ISEP program has specific administration and application procedures. However, academic credit procedures are the same – ensuring full credit at UWS for units earned through ISEP.

UWS Students may choose short courses indicated by either an I or D.

- ❶ I offerings mean that a UWS student pays HECS or international fees to UWS.
- ❷ D means that a UWS student pays fees as listed on the ISEP website directly to ISEP. Application deadlines are flexible but are generally due to UWS by mid-March.

ISEP Direct – Participating in an ISEP Direct program gives you much more choice in where you want to go. Some ISEP exchange sites have limited availability but ISEP Direct does not have the same restrictions. You pay tuition fees and other costs direct to ISEP, not to UWS. Students who complete a study abroad (known as ISEP Direct) will not be eligible to receive UWS insurance benefits.



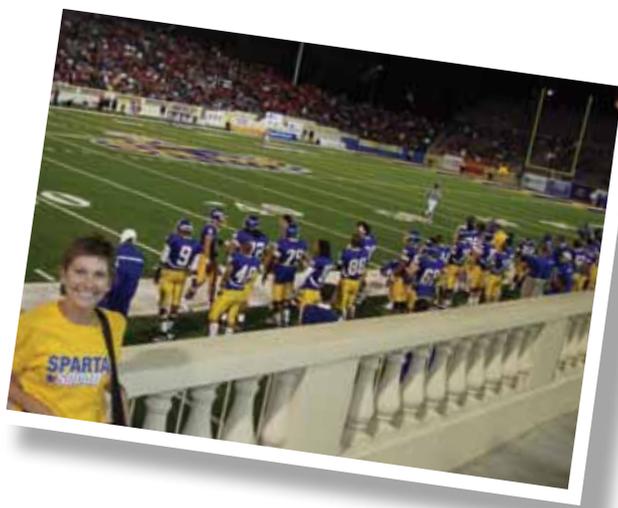
AIM Overseas
www.aimoverseas.com.au

AIM Overseas is an Australian organisation promoting and administering international short course offerings for Australian university students. UWS has an agreement with AIM Overseas ensuring credit transfer for approved units. Students pay fees to AIM Overseas directly; tuition fees or other fees are not payable to UWS. Students are still eligible to receive UWS insurance benefits for undertaking a short course through AIM.

Unit topics include: leadership, science, art history, European business, management, creative writing, human rights law, history, politics, sustainable environmental studies, indigenous communities, psychology, cultural studies, health sciences, education, and business in Asia.

Scholarships

- » In 2010, Spring session 100% of participants in the International Exchange Program received a scholarship ranging from AUD\$1,000 up to AUD\$5,500 in value.
- » **Scholarships through UWS.** Exchange programs offer amazing opportunities to students and UWS is actively encouraging as many students to participate as possible by offering scholarships of up to AUD\$2,500 in value.
- » **Scholarships through the Australian Government.** Typically available to countries in Asia Pacific, Latin America and North America up to AUD\$5,500 in value. Eligibility is limited to Australian citizens and permanent residents.



How to pay for these costs

- » **UWS tuition fees** will be paid to UWS as normal. Students who currently pay their fees using HECS-HELP may continue to do this (deferred or upfront).
- » **OS-HELP** is available to Australian citizens in a Commonwealth Supported Place at UWS. This is a loan scheme through the Australian Government similar to HECS-HELP that allows students to defer the costs of an international exchange program until their income reaches the threshold amount. Loans are currently up to AUD\$5000.
- » **Centrelink benefits** – participating in an exchange program should not affect your eligibility to receive a continuing benefit through Centrelink.

To do list - my budget

UWS tuition fees (HECS or international fees)	
Airfare	
Accommodation	
Food	
Public transport	
Textbooks	
Total =	

- ❶ Travel insurance is paid by UWS – saving up to AUD\$1000. Some North American partners may require you to take additional health insurance.

What students and employers say

“...the best decision I ever made...”

“...student exchange is more about the development of other skills.”

What employers say...

Simply put, international experience is valuable. Graduates should have experience and understanding of countries that have trade relationships with Australia and adequate cross-cultural skills.

A study by the Queensland Government has found that not only is it beneficial for a graduate to have overseas experience, but getting that experience will become more and more crucial for ambitious students in years to come. International study experience, the government found, is not only appealing to employers but it also helps graduates progress more quickly through the ranks and get international assignments and placements ahead of others.

The Herald Sun Saturday 7 June 2008
Career section, p.58 by Daniel Hoy

The chief executive of the Australian Association of Graduate Employers, Ben Reeves, said students who went overseas showed initiative and the ability to adapt to unusual situations. “When you’re screening candidates you get so much from marks and grades, but [student exchange] is more about the development of other skills,” he said. “It tells more about your motivations and what you’re interested in and whether you’re flexible.”

The Australian Financial Review
Monday 12 November 2007 Education section, p.38 by Erica Cervini

The University sector will invest at least AUD\$20 million in study abroad programs this year in a bid to help Australian graduates brush up on their international knowledge and stand out in an increasingly global employment market. The number of students going abroad for study has been growing each year and about 6 per cent of those who graduated in 2007, or 8354 undergraduates, spent some time overseas as part of their course. But experts say Australia will have to lift its game if local graduates are to be competitive in a jobs market where global knowledge, cross-cultural understanding and foreign language skills are at a premium.

The Australian Financial Review Monday 16 February 2009 Education section, p.27 by Joanna Mather



What UWS students say about their exchange...

“...the best decision I ever made...you will come back with a whole new outlook on life”

Madison, Keele University, UK, Autumn 2009

“When I go back to Japan there are so many people I want to speak more to. That’s my motivation [for improving my language skills]. I miss my Japanese friends like crazy.”

Ruth, Kansai Gaidai University, Japan, Autumn 2009

“An absolutely amazing experience; it was invaluable and I would encourage all students to take the opportunity”.

Rosanna, Thompson Rivers University, Canada.



Need more convincing?

- » **build your resume** – having exchange on your resume shows you have initiative, cross-cultural experience, and maturity.
- » **enhance your career prospects** – employers look on international experiences favourably – many studies have shown employers look for people with these experiences. Why? Because former exchange students tend to be adaptable, have cross cultural skills, and can take initiative.
- » **cultivate your cross-cultural experience and skills** – the ability to communicate and work with people from backgrounds different to your own is an important life and work skill. These are skills UWS is expecting you will be able to improve on from an exchange program.
- » **develop independence** – this is also an important skill that will help you in your studies and when you leave UWS.
- » **discover opportunities** – these might be learning about governments or organisations that are seeking university trained staff. Or, it might be a university that is offering a scholarship to students to study with them at a higher level. It could be the chance to go somewhere else and study a language for a period of time. Exchange opens doors for you.
- » **Remember** – many thousands of students just like you study internationally each year. You can do this and UWS can help.

www.uws.edu.au/exchange



The website has comprehensive information - check it out!

Topics include:

- Academic requirements
- Researching your exchange placement
- Participating universities
- Money matters or, "Yes! I can pay for this!"
- Academic information
- Insurance and policy information
- Exchange process
- Your responsibilities
- Short courses
- Language courses



CONTACT US

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