

STUDY ABROAD AT SUSSEX

US

UNIVERSITY
OF SUSSEX



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ACADEMIC CALENDAR 2025-2026

AUTUMN SEMESTER

Arrival weekend	Saturday 20 September to Sunday 21 September 2025
Orientation	Monday 22 September to Friday 26 September 2025
Teaching starts	Monday 29 September 2025
Teaching ends	Friday 12 December 2025
Winter vacation	Saturday 13 December 2025 to Sunday 4 January 2026
Autumn assessment period	Monday 5 January to Saturday 17 January 2026* *Students are not required to be on campus during this period as assessments can be taken remotely.
Inter-Semester Week	Monday 19 January to Friday 23 January 2026

SPRING SEMESTER

Arrival date	Wednesday 21 January 2026
Orientation	Wednesday 21 January to Friday 23 January 2026
Teaching starts	Monday 26 January 2026
Spring vacation	Saturday 21 March to Sunday 12 April 2026
Teaching ends	Friday 1 May 2026
Spring assessment period	Monday 11 May to Saturday 30 May 2026
Resit assessment period (all modules)	Monday 10 August to Saturday 22 August 2026



ENTRY REQUIREMENTS AND APPLICATION

ACADEMIC REQUIREMENTS

Students must have completed at least one year of their degree.

To undertake first year modules only as part of our 'gap' semester study abroad programme, you should be in good academic standing upon completion of your senior secondary (high) school diploma or equivalent.

Applicants must provide an official transcript and have a minimum GPA of **2.8 out of 4** (or equivalent).

PROOF OF ENGLISH LANGUAGE ABILITY

For those whose first language is not English, they will need to demonstrate that they meet the University's English language requirements. Students can do this in a number of ways:

- Provide us with an IELTS (International English Language Testing Systems) with a score of 6.0 overall and at least 5.5 in each of the four components
- Provide us with the Test of English as a Foreign Language TOEFL (iBT). The standard requirement is an overall score of 80, with at least 17 in Listening, 18 in Reading, 20 in Speaking and 17 in Writing. We will accept TOEFL (iBT) Special Home Edition Test.

We assess each application individually and may contact students or partners to request further information.

CHOOSING MODULES

A module is a credit-bearing unit of study. The total number of credits a student should take are:

- full year: 120 credits
- autumn or spring semester: 60 credits

Students are required to choose six modules on their application in order of preference. They can take any combination of modules for which they are academically qualified.

Places on modules may be limited due to student demand. We will always aim to place students on their preferred choices and if this is not possible, we'll make sure to let them know at the earliest opportunity.

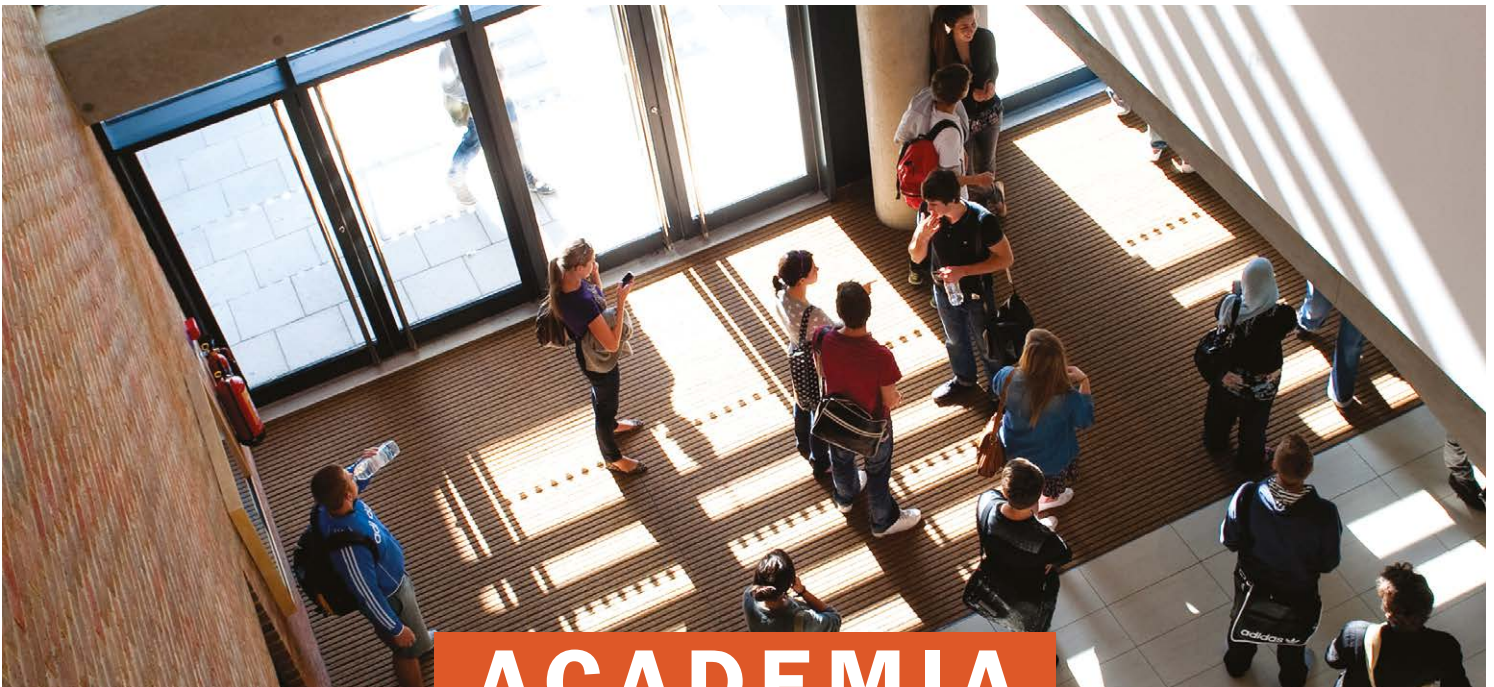
More information can be found on our **How to choose your modules** page.

HOW TO APPLY

A step by step guide can be found on our **How To Apply** pages. We recommend students read the pages before making their application to study with us.

DEADLINES

Semester	Nomination	Application
Autumn semester	1 March	1 April
Spring semester	15 September	15 October



ACADEMIA

TEACHING

Study Abroad students will learn in a series of seminars and lectures and will be expected to:

- attend all classes scheduled in their timetable
- carry out lab work (if taking a science module)
- attend workshops
- undertake independent learning, such as reading, preparing for classes or writing assignments.

Each module requires approximately 150 hours of work and this will consist of contact time and independent study.

Students are automatically enrolled on modules they choose in their application. They will view their timetables once they are registered at Sussex.

ASSESSMENTS

Students are assessed by a mixture of unseen exams, essays and presentations. If the mode of assessment says 'observation', the module will be assessed on a pass/fail basis.

The UK grading system may be different to your home institution. We use percentages to grade work. The transcript will show a percentage score and a pass/fail mark.

Autumn students are not required to stay for the January assessment period. They can take alternative assessments which means submissions are completed remotely. The deadlines may fall during the January assessment period.

Spring and Full Year students must take all assessments scheduled in their timetables. Alternative assessments are not permitted.

In case of national lockdowns or other Covid-19 related restrictions, Sussex will switch fully to online learning including assessments and exams.

EXAMS TIMETABLE

Semester	Published	Exam Period
Autumn	November	January
Spring	March	May – June

TRANSCRIPTS

Semester	Dispatch
Autumn only	sent in late March
Full Year or Spring only	sent in late July





PRE-DEPARTURE

ACCOMMODATION

Full Year applicants are guaranteed university accommodation if they apply by the 30 June deadline.

Autumn/Spring students are required to check our **Accommodation pages** for updates whilst we are confirming the arrangements.

Students will receive housing application instructions with their offer letters (or shortly after). Our Housing Office processes all applications and they will inform the students directly about their allocations. In order to confirm their room offer, students will be required to formally accept.

Allocations are subject to availability.

VISA

There are two visa routes.

1. Standard visitor visa

Applies to students coming for **one semester**. How to apply for a standard visitor visa depends on the student's nationality.

Those classed as **visa nationals** must apply before arriving to Sussex. Sussex offers immigration advice and we strongly advise students read **our visa guidance**. Students can check if they need a visa **here**.

Those classed as **non-visa nationals (incl. EU/EEA)** do not have to apply for immigration clearance. They can enter the UK as visitors free of charge. Students might be asked to show certain documents at the border and we strongly advise they read **our visa guidance**.

Students will be required to show their Passports and Boarding Passes upon registration at Sussex as a proof of their clearance to study in the UK.

2. Student visa route

Applies to students coming for the full academic year. It is important students read **our visa guidance** before applying to understand application cost, processes and documents required.

The UK is currently rolling out a new Electronic Travel Authorisation (ETA) scheme. An ETA is a travel permission and will be a requirement for passengers visiting or transiting through the UK who do not currently need a visa for short stays and do not already have any other UK immigration status before travelling.

Further guidance on the scheme and which countries this applies to, will be updated on our visa webpages and in our direct communications.

HEALTH & INSURANCE

Students coming to Sussex for one semester must take out private medical insurance before travelling. The insurance must cover their time in the UK and provide cover if they intend to travel outside of the UK. This applies to EU/EEA nationals as EHIC cards are no longer valid in the UK.

Students coming TO Sussex for the full academic year will pay the **healthcare surcharge as part of the visa application**. This permits students to access National Health Services (NHS). However, students will need to pay for some services such as dental treatment, eye tests and prescriptions. It is recommended students take out adequate insurance to cover other health related costs.



STUDENT LIFE

OUR CAMPUS

Green and welcoming, our campus offers students the perfect, safe environment to study abroad. Students will find all they need on our single-site campus from shops, a medical centre, sports facilities and cafés.

Sussex is just nine minutes by train from the famed seaside city of Brighton and Hove. Brighton is located on England's south coast in the county of East Sussex and is only an hour away from central London by train.

We're also 30 minutes away from Gatwick, one of Europe's largest airports, serving over 90 countries and 200 destinations including Barcelona, Dublin, Amsterdam, Madrid and Copenhagen.

Students can find out more on our **campus and local area** pages or take a **virtual tour**.

WELCOME AND ORIENTATION

An orientation programme is arranged for all new students before term starts with specific events aimed at international students ranging from fun events to academic advice sessions.

The highly successful **Sussex Buddy Scheme** is organised by the Sussex Students' Union and helps new students to settle in by matching them up with current students to meet up, share tips and socialise together.

We will let students know further details about the Orientation Programme closer to arrival.

STUDENT SUPPORT

We can provide specialist support for study abroad students at Sussex. Whether it's academic concerns, homesickness or health issues, our support services are here to help.

To learn more, visit our **student support pages**.

COST OF LIVING

Students may need to budget for more or less money depending on your lifestyle and type of accommodation they live in. Students can visit our **living cost guide** to financially prepare for their study abroad experience.

Costs are based on 52 weeks in a calendar year.

