Education Abroad Programs for Students of Mathematics

UK Education Abroad offers a variety of programs that allow you to study mathematics in an international setting. Immerse yourself in another culture, expand your knowledge of mathematics, and explore what the world has to offer with any one of the exciting opportunities available to you!

Why study abroad?

Education abroad can help you…

- Learn mathematics in different cultures
- Globalize your world view
- Expand your intercultural understanding and problem-solving skills
- Prepare to work in an increasingly diverse and international workplace
- Gain new insight into the world and yourself
- Increase your language skills

As a student of mathematics, the best way to increase your knowledge is to immerse yourself in various mathematics courses in different environments. There is no substitute for the experience that a semester, year, summer, or winter abroad will give you.

Do I have to speak a foreign language to study abroad?

Absolutely not. There are plenty of mathematics programs in English-speaking countries. Furthermore, students can find mathematics classes taught in English in practically every country. Of course, there are also plenty of excellent programs for students who prefer to study mathematics in a foreign language.

How can I afford to study abroad?

The Education Abroad office offers scholarships for students interested in studying abroad. These scholarships range from $500-$1,500. Stop by one of the information sessions on scholarships or visit the Education Abroad website for more information.

Additionally, most UK financial aid applies towards the cost of studying abroad! Check with your financial aid advisor for more information.

Finally, please note that there are several education abroad programs that are comparable to the cost of attending UK. So, with a little bit of planning, if you can afford to attend UK, you can afford to study abroad.

What are my next steps?

Attend a First Step Session.

Find out what you can study abroad and where, and ask questions about the application process, financial aid and scholarships, etc. First Step Sessions are held on Mondays and Tuesdays from 4-5 p.m. and Wednesdays and Thursdays from 3-4 p.m. in 207 Bradley Hall.

Explore the programs available.

Search online or visit the Education Abroad Resource Center in 315 Bradley Hall.

Talk to an Education Abroad advisor.

Each UK Education Abroad advisor has expertise in specific majors and geographic regions. Check the website and make an appointment with the advisor who is an expert on the programs in which you are interested.

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UK EXCHANGE EDUCATION ABROAD PROGRAMS

City University of Hong Kong

Hong Kong

Language Req.: None
Class Standing: Undergraduate
Minimum GPA: 2.0
Term Offered: Year, Fall, Spring, Summer 1

This program offers math courses such as Discrete Math, Linear Algebra, Multivariable Calculus, and many more.

National University of Ireland—Maynooth

Maynooth, Ireland

Language Req.: None
Class Standing: Undergraduate
Minimum GPA: 3.0
Term Offered: Year, Fall, Spring

This university offers math courses such as Number Theory, Multivariate Calculus, Partial Differential Equations, and more. Other courses include literature, Irish studies, history, philosophy, and physics.

Massey University (ISEP Exchange)

Palmerston, New Zealand

Language Req.: None
Class Standing: Sophomore & Above
Minimum GPA: 3.0
Term Offered: Year, Fall, Spring

This program offers courses such as Discrete Math, Theoretical Math, Combinatorics, and many more. Students may also take courses in history, physics, biology, sociology, and more.

How do I choose the education abroad program that is right for me?

Look through the information in this advising guide for an overview of the programs available to UK students. You can also find more detailed descriptions online. To get started, it is important to consider the type of program you would like to attend, descriptions of which are included above. Consider the following important questions.

When can I study abroad?

- You can study abroad for an entire academic year, during the Fall or Spring semesters, Winter Intersession or over the Summer.

Will I earn credits while abroad?

- Yes! Earn credit towards your mathematics major abroad, or get some electives out of the way. Please check with your DUS to make sure specific courses will count towards your major.

Where will I live?

- Most programs provide accommodation for students in residence halls and foreign student dormitories. Some programs, particularly ones that focus on language immersion provide the option of living with a local family.

How much does it cost?

- Programs vary in cost depending on the program type, duration, and provider. Please be sure to familiarize yourself with the costs of the programs you are considering.

UK SPONSORED EDUCATION ABROAD PROGRAMS

Engineering and Calculus IV in Karlsruhe, Germany

Language Req.: None
Class Standing: Any
Minimum GPA: 2.0
Term Offered: Summer 2

This program allows to complete Calculus IV (MA 214) over the course of 5 weeks. Although designed specifically for students in the College of Engineering, undergraduate students from all academic disciplines are eligible to participate. Students must successfully complete MA 114 or the equivalent before participating in the program. Prior completion of Calculus III MA 213 is not required.

UK DIRECT EDUCATION ABROAD PROGRAMS

Budapest Semesters in Mathematics Education

Budapest, Hungary

Language Req.: None
Class Standing: Sophomore & Above
Minimum GPA: 2.00
Term Offered: Fall, Spring

This is a semester-long program in Budapest, Hungary, designed for undergraduates interested in teaching middle school or high school mathematics. Available courses include The Hungarian Approval through Observation & Teaching, The Posa Method, Problem Solving in Secondary School Math, Concept Building with Games & Manipulatives, and Technology in Mathematical Problem Solving.

Shanghai University

Shanghai, China

Language Req.: None
Class Standing: Sophomore & Above
Minimum GPA: 2.0
Term Offered: Year, Fall, Spring

When should I study abroad?

Most UK students study abroad during their sophomore or junior years. However, there are programs available for freshmen and senior students as well.

Another important decision to make is what time of year to study abroad. Programs are available for the academic year, the Fall and Spring semesters, Winter Intersession, and the Summer sessions. It is also possible to take a spring-embedded course, which is a class taught at UK with an international component during spring break or early summer.

Because many foreign institutions follow different academic calendars, it is important for students to consider the specific dates of the program far in advance. For example, many “fall” semester programs in the Southern Hemisphere may run from July to November and from February to June during the American spring semester.

Similarly, it may be difficult for students to study at some European institutions for the fall semester. Final exams may be scheduled in early January, and many programs do not make allowances for US students. Please be sure you consider this issue in advance.

Many students choose to study abroad during the Summer or Winter sessions. There are two summer sessions available: Summer I and Summer II. Summer I programs typically occur during May and early June, while Summer II programs tend to start late in the summer and end in late July or early August. The Winter Intersession occurs between the fall and spring semesters.

Scholarships

Numerous scholarships are available for students interested in completing an education abroad program. A few are featured below, but students are encouraged to visit the EA website and to consult with their department to explore more opportunities.

UK Education Abroad Scholarship
This scholarship is available for students of any major or discipline participating in an academic year, semester, or summer program in any country. Awards range from $750-$1,500. Deadlines: October 1st for Spring programs, and March 1st for Fall and Summer programs.

Duyssen Scholarship Fund for Education Abroad
First generation full time undergraduate students, completed 30 or more credit hours with a cumulative GPA of 3.0 or higher. Award amount varies. Deadlines: October 1st for Spring programs, and March 1st for Fall and Summer programs.

Kevin & Sheri Collins Endowment
First generation full time undergraduate students; financial need; cumulative GPA of 3.0 or higher. Award amount varies. Deadlines: October 1st for Spring programs, and March 1st for Fall and Summer programs.

UK PARTNER EDUCATION ABROAD PROGRAMS

Mahidol University (KEI) Bangkok, Thailand
Language Req: None
Class Standing: Any
Minimum GPA: 2.5
Term Offered: Fall, Spring, Year

This program offers courses such as Special Functions, Boundary Value Problems, Theory of Complex Numbers, Fluid Dynamics, Set Theory, and more. Students may also complete courses in chemistry, environmental studies, humanities and the arts, and physics.

Bluegrass Down Under: University of Newcastle (TEAN) Newcastle, Australia
Language Req: None
Class Standing: Sophomore & Above
Minimum GPA: 2.5
Term Offered: Fall, Spring, Year

Available math courses include Linearity & Continuity, Differential Equations, Logic & Set Theory, Number Theory, Topology, and more. Students may also complete courses in history, sociology, cultural studies, physics, and more.

Peking University (CIEE) Beijing, China
Language Req: None
Class Standing: Junior
Minimum GPA: 2.5
Term Offered: Fall, Spring, Year

Available math courses include Advanced Theory of Probability, Applied Stochastic Processes, Data Structures, Cryptography, Ergodic Theory, and many more.

Celtic Blue: University of Glasgow (Arcadia) Glasgow, Scotland
Language Req: None
Class Standing: Sophomore & Above
Minimum GPA: 3.0
Term Offered: Fall, Spring, Year

Available math courses include Complex Analysis, Algebraic & Geometric Topology, Differential Geometry, Fluid Mechanics, Galois Theory, Analysis of Differentiation & Integration, and many more. The university offers a full complement of other courses, such as history, literature, Scottish culture, chemistry, and more.

University of Reading (ISA) Reading, England
Language Req: None
Class Standing: Sophomore
Minimum GPA: 3.3
Term Offered: Year, Fall, Spring, Summer

Students of this program may complete courses such as Probability Theory, Galois Theory, Vector Calculus, Initial & Boundary Value Problems, and numerous other math courses. Students also have access to courses in physics, psychology, politics, art history, chemistry, and more.

Student Perspective
Beyond what was mandatory for everyone to see, much of what I learned was gained through self-travels and observations, all I had to do was open my eyes!
—Brandon Sander, ME & MSE major, on the 2011 Calculus III program in Germany
Are there other programs?

Yes! This advising guide is a good place to start, but you should also visit the UK Education Abroad website to learn about many other exciting opportunities to study, intern, or volunteer abroad.

If you don’t see your ideal program listed on the UK Education Abroad website, please contact an Education Abroad Adviser to learn more about UK External Education Abroad Programs and how to apply.

Are you concerned about how to transfer credits from courses taken abroad?

Our department collaborates with the Education Abroad office in order to assure pre-departure approval of course equivalencies and course bypass examination eligibility.

Courses taken at an institution other than the University of Kentucky should be evaluated by the appropriate UK department prior to the student's registration in that course to determine equivalencies and whether or not the department will accept that course in fulfillment of program requirements.

Meet with your advisor early on in the planning process in order to discuss the proper procedure.

Considerations for Education Abroad in the Mathematics Major

Students are encouraged to take a look at the inserted Pathway for an example of how a semester abroad may be built into a four-year degree plan without delaying graduation. Most of the programs featured in this MAP will allow students to complete this example semester’s curriculum.

However, students should not feel limited by the example featured in the Pathway. Other program options, such as summer or winter intercession programs, are available and may be completed without delaying graduation.

Students should always consult their academic advisor when considering completing an education abroad program. Working with an advisor early on in the process will allow the student to better plan the time and coursework that is most appropriate for their degree progression.

For complete degree requirements, see the undergraduate bulletin at http://www.uky.edu/sites/www.uky.edu.registrar/files/a&s_2.pdf