



香港中文大學  
The Chinese University of Hong Kong



# EXCHANGE

For CUHK Students



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# Discover A New You

There are many reasons to go on exchange, but embarking on a life experience is the most important one.

You can undertake adventures in unfamiliar places.

You can break language and cultural barriers.

You can challenge yourself to new knowledge and examine them from different perspectives.

You can acquire a range of skills, both academic and interpersonal, which will stand you in good stead for future careers and life.

## **YOU CAN DISCOVER A WHOLE NEW YOU.**


As a CUHK student, you are presented with this invaluable opportunity to achieve all of the above during your full-time education. This will be a once-in-a-lifetime experience that you don't want to miss.



Over **1,100**  
CUHK students go on exchange each year



Over **270**  
exchange programmes



Over **36**  
destinations



# Why Should I Go On Exchange?



## ▼ Pick up a second language

- Learn and develop a language in and out of the classroom with native speakers
- Return with the ability to read text in quantity and communicate effectively in written and verbal presentations

## ▼ Expose yourself to a new environment

- Study your major or minor subjects from new cultural perspectives
- Take courses not offered at CUHK

## ▼ Prepare for career and future studies

- Gear up for your career and explore postgraduate study options
- Enhance international experience to add value to your resume

## ▼ Explore the world and make new friends

- Experience the wealth of culture of your host country and surrounding regions
- Make lifelong friendships and build valuable career networks

## ▼ Build confidence and develop yourself

- Increase self-confidence and independence in a new environment
- Gain life lessons that will shape your future

## ▼ Become a global citizen

- Enrich yourself with enhanced language, social and working skills
- Bridge across cultural and national boundaries



You can choose from more than  
**270**  
programmes in over  
**36**  
destinations

- Australia
- Brunei
- Canada
- Chile
- China
- France
- Germany
- Japan
- Mexico
- South Korea
- Sweden
- United Arab Emirates
- USA
- UK
- **and many more!**

# What Are My Options?



## Programme types

Three types of exchange programmes are offered at CUHK:

### UNIVERSITY-WIDE (U-WIDE) PROGRAMMES

Open to students from all colleges and faculties

### COLLEGE PROGRAMMES

Open to students of specific colleges only

### FACULTY AND DEPARTMENTAL PROGRAMMES

Open to students of specific faculties or departments only

## Duration

Exchange programmes are available in various durations:

- One Term (First or Second Term)
- One Year (First and Second Terms)
- One Summer

Visit [www.oal.cuhk.edu.hk/destinations](http://www.oal.cuhk.edu.hk/destinations) for a comprehensive list of programmes available.





# I'm Interested. What Should I Do?

**01**

Start early. Begin planning during your first year at CUHK.

**04**

Check the requirements of programmes you are interested in.

**02**

Identify programmes that provide the academic and cultural experiences you are looking for.

**05**

Seek advice if you have questions on the exchange programmes.

**03**

Decide when and how long you wish to go on exchange.

## When should I go?

Ideally, you should go during your third year of undergraduate study. You should plan your academic studies carefully so that your exchange(s) would take place before you earn sufficient credit units to meet graduation requirements.

## How long could I go for?

Exchange programmes last either one term, one year (two terms) or one summer. CUHK full-time students can go on exchange for a maximum of one academic year (two terms plus one summer) in total. Consider your major programme requirements, your budget, along with your goals and objectives when deciding on the duration of your exchange.

## What are the requirements?

To be eligible for exchanges, you must be a full-time CUHK student. You will not be allowed to exchange after you have completed all courses and credits required for graduation (fulfilled graduation requirements according to CUHK regulations). Most programmes require you to meet a certain academic standard (e.g. a minimum CGPA of 2.7) and language proficiency, such as a minimum IELTS or TOEFL score for English or certification in the host university's language of instruction (French, German, Japanese, Spanish etc.).

## Do I need to delay my graduation?

Depending on your academic planning, you may not have to delay your graduation. Speak with your academic advisor or department on transferability of courses when identifying exchange programmes.

If you need to defer your graduation, ensure that you will only fulfil your graduation requirements after completing the exchange, not before. Extension of study period applications will not be approved if you will earn sufficient credit units to meet graduation requirements before the exchange begins.

## Can I transfer my credits back to CUHK?

Academic credits earned while on exchange may be transferred back to CUHK in accordance with the relevant regulations. Consult your academic advisor and department when identifying exchange programmes and courses to take. You must meet minimum course load requirements while on exchange.

## Who can I talk to if I have a question?

- **Advisors at i-Centre:** for guidance and advice on programme details and application
- **Your department:** for details on your graduation requirements and credit transfer
- **Returned exchange students:** for the experience abroad
- **Students on exchange at CUHK:** for information on their home countries and institutions
- **Your professors:** for advice for your exchange plan and study during exchange
- **Your friends and family:** for emotional support during your exchange



# How Much Will It Cost?

The cost of living during exchange vary according to where you go and how long you go for.

## What do I need to pay for?

If you participate in an approved exchange programme, you do not have to pay tuition fee at the host institution. You will continue to pay the CUHK tuition fee for regular term-time exchanges. Typical fees associated with your exchange include (but not limited to) the following:



CUHK tuition



Airfare and transportation



Student visa



Accommodation



Meals



Books and stationery



Cultural activities



Student union fees



Health and travel insurance



Personal expenses



Huanzi WANG on exchange at Korea University, Korea

## When do I pay?

You pay CUHK tuition and associated fees before departing for your exchange (August for Term 1 and year exchanges, December for Term 2 exchanges). Fees payable to your host institution are due either before or during your exchange, depending on the programme and the nature of the fees.

## Are scholarships and financial aids available?

Scholarships, awards, grants and financial aids are available to support your exchange. Information are available from the Office of Academic Links, the Office of Admissions and Financial Aid, as well as your college, faculty and department.



# How Do I Apply?

Follow these steps to apply for exchange programmes administered by the Office of Academic Links. For other exchange programmes, please consult the offering college/faculty/department.

**01**

Read through programme requirements and identify up to 10 preferred programmes

**02**

Take appropriate language proficiency tests (e.g. TOEFL, IELTS, etc.) if necessary

**03**

Complete and submit online application through CUSIS

**06**

Select an interview session in CUSIS and attend if required

**05**

Check the applicant shortlist posted in CUSIS

**04**

Invite two current CUHK full-time teaching staff as referees

**07**

View composite score and finalise choice of programmes in CUSIS

**08**

Accept or decline offer in CUSIS and complete deposit form

**09**

Apply for financial aid and scholarship in CUSIS

The above steps apply to the first selection round only and are subject to change without prior notice. Visit [www.oal.cuhk.edu.hk/applying/](http://www.oal.cuhk.edu.hk/applying/) for detailed instructions on applying for exchange programmes.







# When Do I Apply?

Application for exchange in the following summer and academic year will take place in October. There are two placement rounds:

## First placement round

Open to all full-time undergraduate and postgraduate students.

Period	Activity
Late September to early October	Online application opens
Late October	Online application closes
Early to mid-November	Shortlist and interview registration available in CUSIS
Mid-November to early December	Interviews
Mid to late January	Composite scores available in CUSIS
Late January to early February	Exchange offers posted in CUSIS
Early February	Deadline to accept exchange offers

## Second placement round

Only for eligible applicants who were shortlisted in the first placement round, and indicated their wish to participate in the second placement round.

Period	Activity
Late February to early March	Online application opens for updating
Early to mid-March	Individual selection appointment and acceptance of offer

Visit [www.oal.cuhk.edu.hk/applying/](http://www.oal.cuhk.edu.hk/applying/) for more details about the application timeline and restrictions.

The above timelines are subject to change without prior notice.





Wing Yee FAN on exchange at University of Helsinki, Finland



Lok Yiu Winnie POON on exchange at University of Copenhagen, Denmark



Chuwei ZHANG on exchange at the Universiti Brunei Darussalam, Brunei



Cynthia FONG on exchange at University of Calgary, Canada



**“A life-changing experience!”**

**“I learned to embrace diversity.” “I am proud of myself.”**

**“Taught me how big this world is.” “Just great!”**

**“Never too late to challenge yourself!”**

**“One of the most precious experiences in my university life.”**

**“Enjoyed everything!” “The best choice I have ever made.”**

**“Had a blast!” “Academically challenging, but very rewarding.”**

**“Chance to realise my dream.”**

**Office of Academic Links**

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Photos on the cover:  
Top: Wing Yung LEE on exchange at University of Essex, UK  
Lower left: Yu Hei AU on exchange at University of New South Wales, Australia  
Lower centre: Oi Yee LAM on exchange at Waseda University, Japan





Office of Academic Links

[www.oal.cuhk.edu.hk](http://www.oal.cuhk.edu.hk)