Office of Academic Links

i-Centre

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Photos on the cover
Left: Alia Cai; Nan Kong on exchange at the University of Oslo; Dublin; Belgrade
Right: Geethika Harsha on exchange at the Korea University, Korea

EXCHANGE
For CUHK Students
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 in 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.
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
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 Term)
• One Summer

Visit www.cuhk.edu.hk/destinations for a comprehensive list of programmes available.

You can choose from more than 270 programmes in over 35 destinations

• Australia
• Brunei
• Canada
• Chile
• China
• France
• Germany
• Japan
• Mexico
• South Korea
• Sweden
• United Arab Emirates
• USA
• UK

• and many more!
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 student 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 study.

What are the requirements?
To be eligible for exchanges, you must be a full-time CUHK student. You will not be allowed to go on 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 certain academic standards (e.g., a minimum GPA 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.). Please scan the QR code for more information.

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 application 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 credit earned while on exchange may be transferred back to CUHK in accordance with relevant regulations. Consult your academic advisors 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 the iCentre: for guidance and advice on programme details and applications
- 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 support throughout your exchange
How Much Will It COST

The cost of living during exchange varies 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 fee associated with your exchange include (but not limited to) the following:

- CUHK tuition
- Airfare and transportation
- Student visa
- Accommodation
- Health and travel insurance
- Meals
- Books and stationery
- Cultural activities
- Student union fees
- Personal expenses

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 is 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 Offices 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

04 Invite two current CUHK full-time teaching staff to provide online recommendations

05 Check the applicant shortlist posted in CUSIS

06 Select an interview session in CUSIS and attend if required

07 View composite score and finalise choice of programmes in CUSIS

08 Accept offer in CUSIS and submit offer acceptance documents

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.eal.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 for the first round and March for the second round. Applicable to both selection rounds:
- Open to all full-time undergraduate and postgraduate students, and;
- Require online recommendations from two current CUHK full-time teaching staff.

First round

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<tr>
<th>Period</th>
<th>Activity</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Late September to early October</td>
<td>Online application opens</td>
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<tr>
<td>Late October</td>
<td>Online application closes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Early to mid-November</td>
<td>Shortlist and interview registration available in CUSIS</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mid-November to early December</td>
<td>Interviews</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mid to late January</td>
<td>Composite scores available in CUSIS</td>
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<tr>
<td>Late January to early February</td>
<td>Exchange offers posted in CUBIS</td>
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<tr>
<td>Early February</td>
<td>Deadline to accept exchange offers</td>
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Second round

No interview opportunities will be arranged/offered. Fewer number of available programmes and quotas will be available.

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<th>Period</th>
<th>Activity</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Late February</td>
<td>Online application opens</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Early March</td>
<td>Online application closes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mid to late March</td>
<td>Individual selection appointment and acceptance of offer</td>
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Visit [www.asd.cuhk.edu.hk/applying](http://www.asd.cuhk.edu.hk/applying) for more details about the application timeline and restrictions.

The above timelines are subject to change without prior notice.