Exchange
Go Abroad Fair 2018
10 reasons to study abroad

- Obtain VUB credits for all approved academic coursework abroad
- Study & learn differently
- Brush up on your language skills
- Boost your employment opportunities
- Gain a global mindset
10 reasons to study abroad

- Enhance your intercultural competences
- Learn about yourself & your culture
- Boost your self-confidence & independence
- Be adventurous & explore the world
- Friends for life from all over the world
VUB Exchange Contacts

International Relations office (IRMO)
- Practical info & support
- Grants
- Pleinlaan 5, 1050 Brussels
- T: 02 614 81 01

Student Administration Center (OWSA)
- Exchange administration
- Pleinlaan 9, 1050 Brussels
- T: 02 614 87 07

Exchange Coordinators Faculty
- Application & Selection
- Learning Agreement (Studies & Traineeships)
- Grade conversion
- Credit recognition

exchange.outgoing@vub.be
student.vub.be/go-abroad
Exchange Programmes

- **Studies or Traineeship**
  - Always **during & part** of your VUB studies, never after graduation (excl. Erasmus+ Traineeships)

  - **Studies**: course package at VUB is substituted by course package at host institution
    - You take courses and exams abroad
    - Obtained credits abroad are recognized at VUB
    - Grade conversion by Faculty (not always a 1:1 conversion)

  - **Traineeship**: recognition based on Traineeship agreement (credits, part of thesis work)

- **Apply following VUB’s exchange procedure**
  - i.e. selected by Faculty, according to their procedure, and nominated towards IRMO
  - Exchange officially confirmed after exam period
  - Host institution/organisation needs to accept the exchange as well
Exchange Programmes

- Study level

- EU or non-EU host institution

- Tuition Fee Waiver

- Grant - Included? Amount??
  ✓ If awarded a scholarships; must meet the administrative requirements:
    ✓ All programmes: complete and signed 1) Learning Agreement for Studies or Traineeship, 2) Grant Agreement, 3) Certificate of Arrival and 4) Certificate of Departure.
    ✓ Some cases: non-binding language test, essay and/or survey upon return

✓ Nationality is not a criterion, but you should be enrolled fulltime at the VUB

- Min – max duration

* Amounts are subject to change
APPLICATION PROCEDURE
Application Procedure

**Application at Faculty**
- Application file (host institution, scholarship programme)
- You compose a first study or training plan, viz. a Learning Agreement (LA)

**Nomination**
- Your faculty nominates you officially to IRMO, after March 1st 2019
- IRMO nominates you to your host institution

**VUB Application**
- IRMO sends you the VUB procedure, SOP Mobility-Online
- You compose a final LA
- Your faculty approves your LA
Application Procedure

**Host Institution Application**
- You apply to your host institution or make arrangements with host institution

**Official Approval**
- Your Faculty officially confirms your exchange after the June and/or September exams
- Acceptance by the host institution

**Departure Administration**
- IRMO invites you to a take-off meeting
- IRMO sends you the scholarship administration
Faculty Deadlines
Feb-March 2019

LATE APPLICATIONS WILL NOT BE CONSIDERED!
Erasmus+ KA1

- Studies & Traineeship
- As part of your VUB programme
- Sufficient funds for all nominated students (if not, Faculty ranking)
- Minimum & maximum duration
- Bachelor and Master (depending on the Faculty regulations)
- Online Linguistic Support (test & courses) & Online survey upon return

Find more information online
Erasmus+ KA1 - Studies

- Specific cooperation agreements per VUB programme
  - 28 EU member states, FYROM, Iceland, Norway, Liechtenstein, Turkey
  - More information per programme & exchange coordinator > online

- Grant: €235 - €335/month (+€100/month if Flemish study allowance)
  - Depending on the destination

- Min. 3 – max. 10 months

- Swiss European Mobility Programme (SEMP)
  - Specific cooperation agreement with Switzerland per VUB programme
  - Grants paid by Swiss host institution (+/- 400CHF/month)

Find more information online
Erasmus+ KA1 - Traineeship

- **Traineeship = Stage**

  - **During** your studies
    - As part of your VUB programme that contains an internship (n° ECTS)
    - Traineeship in the framework of thesis work
    - You carry out an internship abroad
    - Evaluation from your host organization is recognized (in ECTS and a grade) by the VUB

  - **After** your studies/graduation
    - Not part of your VUB programme
    - In line with your obtained degree
    - Within 1 year after graduation
    - Apply before graduating, following the VUB rules & deadline, to the VUB and Flanders Knowledge Area

Find more information online
Erasmus+ KA1 Traineeship

- **Host organization**: university, research institute, company, NGO, etc.
  - Find a host organization yourself or through the contacts of your VUB programme
  - In an EU member states, FYROM, Iceland, Norway, Liechtenstein, Turkey
  - Approval Exchange Coordinator
  - Online database: [https://erasmusintern.org/](https://erasmusintern.org/)

- **Grant**: € 335 - €435/month
  - Depending on the destination

- **Min. 2 – max. 10 months**
Erasmus Belgica

- Studies: Specific cooperation agreements per VUB programme
  
  More information per programme & exchange coordinator > online

- €100 (1x)
- Min. 2- max. 10 months
- Bachelor and Master
- Sufficient funds (if not, Faculty ranking)
NON-EU DESTINATIONS
Non-EU Studies

- General VUB exchange agreements
- Approval at Faculty level (Exchange Coordinator)
- Tuition fee waiver
- Min. 5 - max. 10 months
- No grant guaranteed
- Preparing for a non-EU exchange application: more effort

- Teaching language: English or local language (Spanish, Portuguese, etc.)
Non-EU Studies

- VUB has general exchange agreement with universities in the following countries:
  - Brasil
  - Canada
  - China
  - Colombia
  - Japan
  - Mexico
  - Morocco
  - Russia
  - South-Africa
  - South-Korea
Non-EU Studies

- Contact IRMO (exchange.outgoing@vub.be) and your VUB exchange coordinator (by Mid-December) by e-mail to express your interest and receive more detailed info on the specific host institutions for the listed countries.

- Look up the offered programs online and compose a draft study plan:
  - Individual match for courses
  - You will need approval from your exchange coordinator
  - You can be nominated for one non-EU destination only &
    - You can select one EU back-up destination too

- In case the number of place per non-EU institution is exceeded, faculty ranking
Non-EU Traineeship

- Host organization: university, research institute, company, NGO, etc.
  - Find a host organization yourself or through the contacts of your VUB programme
  - Anywhere except an EU member states, FYROM, Iceland, Norway, Liechtenstein, Turkey
  - Approval Exchange Coordinator

- No grant guaranteed
Non-EU Scholarship

- Flemish government scholarship: return ticket, 650 – 850 EUR/month
- Min. 1 – max. 12 months (some exceptions) & depending on available funds

- “Generieke Beurzen” (i.e. generic scholarships) (Studies & Traineeship)
  - If nominated by your Faculty, you receive information on the VUB call (after March 15th)
  - Apply to IRMO and selection at VUB (period of May)
  - Priority to exchanges to VUB partner institution
  - At least 25% of the selected candidates receive a Flemish study allowance

Find more information online
Non-EU Scholarship

- Flemish government scholarship: return ticket, 650 – 850 EUR/month
- Min. 1 – max. 12 months (some exceptions)

- **Priority Country Programme** (Studies & Traineeship) > [information online](#)
  - 9 countries: Brazil, Chile, Japan, Mexico, Morocco, Russia, South Africa, Turkey, USA
  - Express interest to IRMO (mid-December) & if nominated by your Faculty, you receive information on the call (deadline mid-Feb tbc)
  - Application at IRMO and external selection
  - Max 2600 EUR

Find more information online
Non-EU Scholarship*

- **The Washington Center > information online**
  - Scholarship from the Flemish government
  - Internship and seminars at Washington Center (! Exchange Coordinator awards 30 ECTS)
  - Advocacy; Service & Arts; Business & Global Trade; International Affairs; Law & Criminal Justice; Media & Communication; Politics & Public Policy; Science, Technology & Society
  - **Express interest to IRMO** (mid-December) & if nominated by your Faculty, you receive information on the call (deadline mid-Feb tbc)
  - Application and external selection
  - 7500 – 9000 EUR
  - 15 weeks (1 semester)
  - [www.twc.edu](http://www.twc.edu)

Find more information online
Non-EU Scholarship*

- **VLIR - UOS “REISBEURZEN”** (i.e. travel grant) > information online
- 32 countries in Africa, Asia & Latin America
- Work Placement/Internship or thesis
- Apply at VUB (a.o. invitation local supervisor & recommendation VUB supervisor), preparatory programme UCOS, selection external
- 1000 EUR
- at least 28 consecutive days

Find more information online
Non-EU Scholarship – China*

- **China Summer school**
  - Applications online in March

- **Partner university scholarship**
  - Master and Advanced Master (1 semester – academic year)
  - VUB partners universities: check their website
    - Tongji University,
    - Fudan University,
    - Renmin University of China,
    - Sichuan University,
    - Northwest Polytechnical University
  - Information becomes available in March

- [www.chinanetworkvub.eu](http://www.chinanetworkvub.eu)
- Contact [xiaohong.tong@vub.ac.be](mailto:xiaohong.tong@vub.ac.be) / [maarten.gernay@vub.ac.be](mailto:maarten.gernay@vub.ac.be)
Non-EU Scholarship – China*

- **Chinese government scholarship**
  - Information about destinations online
  - Website of the Chinese Ministry of Education
  - Yearly call by Flemish Government
  - High school diploma at least, from EU country
  - Procedure
    - Choose 1 academic programme
    - Choose 3 universities by preference
  - 1 semester – academic year
  - Application deadline is 1st April
    - Advise: apply early! Call for applications launched in February
Practicalities

- Choice of Host Institution
- Required language knowledge
- Selection procedure
- Registration & tuition fee
- Courses, exams & resit exams
- Recognition & credit transfer
Practicalities

- Insurance
- Childcare benefits (‘kindergeld’)
- Housing

- Finances
  - VUB Social, Legal & Financial Support Team (Social Dienst Studenten)
  - [student.vub.be/studiefinanciering#ondersteuningsaanbod](student.vub.be/studiefinanciering#ondersteuningsaanbod)
More information needed?

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