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Meet the Exchanges Team

Ahmed Masoud
Head of International Partnerships Development

Areas of responsibility:
- Exchanges Team Manager
- Strategic overview of student mobility
- Strategic development of partnerships
- Faculty partnership support
- Contact for staff

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Sally Tait
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- Erasmus+ teaching and staff training mobility
- Erasmus+ bilateral agreements
- Promotional literature for exchanges
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International Exchange and Study Abroad Manager (Non-European countries and fee paying non-European Study Abroad programmes)

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- International exchange agreements
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- Contact for staff

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studyabroad@brookes.ac.uk

Yelena Ablaeva
International Exchange and Study Abroad Administrator

Areas of responsibility:
- Administrative support for Exchanges and Study Abroad
- Exchange events and official visits of partner institutions

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Email for staff: yablaeva@brookes.ac.uk

Email: erasmus@brookes.ac.uk or studyabroad@brookes.ac.uk

Students wishing to make an appointment with a member of the Exchanges team should refer to the information on our website. http://www.brookes.ac.uk/international/study-abroad-and-exchanges/going-from-brookes/
European and International Exchanges

Oxford Brookes University has been running exchange programmes for over 20 years. The University has in excess of 150 agreements worldwide to promote student and staff mobility with a view to enhancing student experience and making them more employable in the global employment market. The University welcomes four distinct groups of students for study in Oxford: Erasmus+ (European exchange), International exchange, European Study Abroad (European fee-paying) and International Study Abroad (fee-paying).

Undergraduate (and some postgraduate) students can take part in our exchange programmes as specified in the institutional agreements. Students can go on exchange for up to two semesters (they can even do one semester in Europe and one international semester if eligible).

IMPORTANT: ALL nationalities are eligible to apply for both Erasmus+ (exchanges and work placements) and International exchanges. Please find below the Erasmus+ participating countries;

- EU Member States: Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Netherlands, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, United Kingdom
- Non EU Programme countries: Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Iceland, Liechtenstein, Norway, Turkey

Exchange Agreements

Both Erasmus and International exchanges rely on partnerships between Oxford Brookes University and European or International Higher Education institutions. These inter-institutional agreements provide the framework for student and staff mobility, and specify incoming and outgoing numbers, as well as the subject area (not for institutional links) and level of study.

Setting up new Erasmus+ Agreements

Mobility between universities must happen as part of an inter-institutional (Erasmus+) agreement. The Erasmus+ Agreement specifies:
- Duration of the Agreement
- Names and contact details of the co-ordinators in each institution
- Details of incoming and outgoing student mobility and/or
- Details of incoming and outgoing staff mobility
- English Language requirements and any additional academic requirements
- Contact details/information about insurance, accommodation, visas

In order to be valid the agreement must be stamped and signed by both institutions.

Procedure for setting up new agreements
- Complete a proposal form – to be approved at faculty executive level before forwarding to the Erasmus Manager for approval by the Director of OBI.

---

1 For example MA in European Culture Business and Language
• A copy of the form signed by the Director of OBI will be returned to the academic contact in the Faculty, once approved.
• The Erasmus Manager will generate an Erasmus+ Agreement which will be forwarded to the partner for signature.

The process is complete once a signed a stamped agreement has been received from the partner. The original will be held in the Exchanges Office and a copy will be sent to the relevant faculty for its records.

**Setting up new International Exchange Agreements**

Mobility between universities must happen as part of an inter-institutional agreement. The Agreement specifies:
- Duration of the Agreement
- Names and contact details of the co-ordinators in each institution
- Details of incoming and outgoing student mobility and/or
- English Language requirements and any additional academic requirements
- Information about insurance, accommodation, visas

In order to be valid the agreement must be stamped and signed by both institutions.

Procedure for setting up new agreements
- Complete a proposal form – to be approved at faculty executive level before forwarding to the International Exchange and Study Abroad Manager for approval by the Director of OBI.
- A copy of the form signed by the Director of OBI will be returned to the academic contact in the Faculty, once approved.
- The International Exchange and Study Abroad Manager will work with Legal Services to generate an Exchange Agreement which will be forwarded to the partner for signature once the content has been agreed and finalised.

The process is complete once a signed a stamped agreement has been received from the partner. The original will be held in the Exchanges Office and a copy will be sent to the relevant Faculty for its records.

**Your role as Exchange/Subject Coordinator**

The role of the Exchange/Subject Coordinator is a vital part of the process for ensuring that the exchange experience of our students is a positive one. The provision of high quality information, advice and guidance is a key part of the preparation for undertaking an exchange programme and we rely on you as an Exchange/Subject Coordinator to support this process by:
- Acting as the main point of contact in the department/subject area for all exchange matters
- Promoting exchanges within the department (staff and students)
- Maintaining a good working knowledge of partner institutions
- Dealing with academic queries concerning module choices and accreditation
- Checking and approving outgoing applications for exchange programmes
Outgoing Student Mobility

Recruitment of outgoing students

The Exchanges Team organises a range of marketing activities to promote the exchange programmes throughout the academic year. We work closely with International Exchange Erasmus Student Network (ESN), which helps to staff these events and actively promotes the exchange experience to the student population of the University. In addition to our programme of promotional activities, we also participate in information, advice and guidance sessions organised by some departments within the University.

Events for 2016/17

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>EVENT/ACTIVITY</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Location</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>General information session about exchange opportunities</td>
<td>17/10/2016</td>
<td>16:15 - 17:00</td>
<td>Kennedy Room JHB308</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>General information session about exchange opportunities</td>
<td>20/10/2016</td>
<td>12:15 - 13:00</td>
<td>Snow Room JHB408</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Erasmus (European) information session</td>
<td>31/10/2016</td>
<td>12:15 - 13:00</td>
<td>Chakrabarti Room JHB208</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oceania/Asia/Latin America information session</td>
<td>02/11/2016</td>
<td>15:15 - 16:00</td>
<td>Chakrabarti JHB208</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>North America information session</td>
<td>03/11/2016</td>
<td>12:15 - 13:00</td>
<td>Chakrabarti Room JHB208</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Exchanges End of Semester Event</td>
<td>06/12/2016</td>
<td>17:30 - 19:00</td>
<td>TBC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Exchanges information session</td>
<td>TBC</td>
<td>TBC</td>
<td>TBC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Exchanges information session</td>
<td>TBC</td>
<td>TBC</td>
<td>TBC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Exchanges Afternoon Tea</td>
<td>29/03/2017</td>
<td>15:00 - 16:30</td>
<td>TBC</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Please visit the exchanges website [http://www.brookes.ac.uk/international/study-abroad-and-exchanges/going-from-brookes/exchanges/](http://www.brookes.ac.uk/international/study-abroad-and-exchanges/going-from-brookes/exchanges/) for the latest information about events.

Approval of study programmes for outgoing exchange students

Subject/Exchange Coordinators are generally responsible for approving students’ applications (see ‘How to apply’ pages of website), however before signing the application to signify approval, they should check that the proposed university of destination offers suitable modules. Please note that the deadline for outgoing student applications is Thursday, 9 February 2017.

It is the students’ responsibility to check modules from our partners’ websites in detail and present them to their Subject/Exchange Coordinator for approval. Once approved, those modules must be added to the students’ learning agreement. These documents and guidance notes for the Erasmus+ Learning Agreement can be found in the staff section of the study abroad and exchange web pages. [http://www.brookes.ac.uk/international/study-abroad-and-exchanges/](http://www.brookes.ac.uk/international/study-abroad-and-exchanges/)

Joint degree students require the signature of both Subject/Exchange Coordinators, even if both subjects are not going to be followed at the host institution.
Please note that at the time of application, our partners might not be able to provide us with their most up to date course catalogue, therefore students should always choose additional modules as back up. Brookes Exchanges Team is also happy to establish a link between the Brookes Subject/Exchange Coordinator with their counterpart at the partner institution in order to facilitate discussion regarding module choices.

Subject/Exchange Coordinators should be aware that compulsory modules can be taken abroad as long as equivalent modules are available at our partner universities. It is also possible to take some honours modules at the host university (see regulations as per link below).

http://www.brookes.ac.uk/Documents/Regulations/Current/Specific/B2/b2-13admission_credit_and_credittransfer/

Please visit our website http://www.brookes.ac.uk/international/study-abroad-and-exchanges/ for the students’ application process and get to know our partners institutions http://www.brookes.ac.uk/international/study-abroad-and-exchanges/exchange-partners/

After enrolling at their exchange university, the student might be required to make changes to their original Learning Agreement. Any module change must be approved by the Subject/Exchange Coordinator and an email record of the agreement of all parties should be retained.

‘On Exchange’ module

Most students must add module “U99996 On Exchange” to their PIP pages prior to departure, using the M100EX form. This module provides a structure for students choosing to complete between four (one semester) to eight modules (two semesters) abroad to obtain credit within their Brookes qualification. As well as successful completion of their courses overseas, students will also be asked to submit a reflective student report of their academic/professional and cultural learning to the Exchanges Office, Oxford Brookes International (International Exchanges), or direct to the European Union (Erasmus+).

The M100EX form must be completed for each semester the student is away and cannot be added remotely via PIP as Subject/Exchange Coordinators need to sign the form before forwarding it to the Exchanges Office. The Exchanges Office will sign and forward the completed document to Student Central. Documents can be submitted as scanned PDF copies. Language and Nursing students have modules specific to being on exchange, which remain on the student’s PIP page.

Please note the pre-requisite for module “U99996 On Exchange” is that students should have completed Stage I of their course and be of good academic standing, i.e. have passed at least 6 module credits in the previous two semesters and have a GPA of at least 2.5. If a student has double modules during the first year running until May, we need written confirmation from the relevant module leaders stating current results.

For specific information on non-European countries’ credit systems, please refer to https://www.brookes.ac.uk/international/study-abroad-and-exchanges/going-from-brookes/exchanges/modules-and-credits/credits-equivalences/
Credit transfer

Students are required to enrol for the equivalent of 30 ECTS credits for one semester or 60 ECTS for a whole academic year. Each Oxford Brookes module is worth 7.5 ECTS credits (15 CATS), therefore 4 Oxford Brookes modules equals 30 ECTS credits.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Oxford Brookes/ UK credits</th>
<th>ECTS credits*</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>One semester</td>
<td>60 CATS</td>
<td>30 ECTS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>One full academic year</td>
<td>120 CATS</td>
<td>60 ECTS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>One module</td>
<td>15 CATS</td>
<td>7.5 ECTS</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Explain to your students that 30 ECTS credits abroad might be equivalent to 3, 4, 5, or 6 modules as the credit value for each module abroad is calculated based on contact hours. **What really matters is the total number of credits and not the number of actual modules.**

For example, one module might be worth 10 ECTS credits, another one 8 ECTS credits, so it is a matter of calculating the total amount of ECTS credits for a semester’s workload of 30 ECTS.

Additional information on the equivalence of non-European credits into ECTS can be found on the link below: [https://www.brookes.ac.uk/international/study-abroad-and-exchanges/going-from-brookes/exchanges/modules-and-credits/credits-equivalences/](https://www.brookes.ac.uk/international/study-abroad-and-exchanges/going-from-brookes/exchanges/modules-and-credits/credits-equivalences/)

Please advise students that failure to bring back 30 ECTS or 60 ECTS credits to Oxford Brookes will result in them having to:

**Either:**
Add an additional module to their following semester if their module shortfall is of one Oxford Brookes module (i.e. if the total number of credit is between 22.5 – 29.5 ECTS credits). Therefore the student will have to enrol and pay for a 5th module the semester following their exchange to fulfil their course requirements.

**Or:**
Extend their degree by one semester to make up for the number of outstanding credits. This means that they will have to extend their completion date (graduation) and pay tuition fees for an additional semester.

The Exchanges Team send the students’ transcripts to Subject/Exchange Coordinators (or in some cases to another assigned staff member) for the Credit Transfer process. Please see Staff Guide to Exchange Credit Transfer, which can be found in the staff section of the study abroad and exchange web pages. [http://www.brookes.ac.uk/international/study-abroad-and-exchanges/](http://www.brookes.ac.uk/international/study-abroad-and-exchanges/)

**Degree Classification**

**After spending one semester abroad (and bringing back 30 ECTS/60 UK credits):**
Subject to the modules that the students have already passed, they would normally be in a position where they need to complete 12 acceptable module credits at Brookes including six level 6 honours modules.

**After spending one year abroad (and bringing back 60 ECTS/120 UK credits):**
Subject to the modules that the students have already passed, they would normally be in a position where they need to complete 8 acceptable module credits at Brookes including six level 6 honours modules.

http://www.brookes.ac.uk/regulations/current especific/b2/

**Erasmus+ Language Support**

If a student is undertaking an exchange, or work placement through the Erasmus+ programme, it will be mandatory to take a language assessment prior to departure, unless their native language is the language of study or work. Prior to the Erasmus+ mobility they will be contacted via email with information about how to access the language assessment.

Once the initial assessment of their language level has been made, they will automatically be allocated a licence for an online linguistic course, if their result is B1 or below.

Students with a level between B2 and C2 will have the option of following an online course in the language of instruction or work, assuming that the language is one of those available in the tool, currently French, German, Spanish, Italian or Dutch. The OLS language courses provide a combination of self-paced activities and interactive features, which students can undertake at their own pace. They can personalise their learning to meet their own needs and preferences, for example they can skip content in which they are already proficient. They can also benefit from interactive live sessions, such as a forum, moderated by native speaker tutors, where they can exchange experiences with other Erasmus+ students and tutoring sessions with an online tutor.

At the end of their exchange or work placement, the student will take a final language assessment, which will quantify the progress they made and they will receive a detailed notification confirming their new language level.

There is no charge for this language development provision. Further information can be found on the OLS website http://erasmusplusols.eu/.

**Money matters**

1. **Tuition fees**

   **One semester exchange**
   There is a direct exchange of tuition fees. Oxford Brookes students continue to pay their tuition fees to Oxford Brookes as incoming students pay tuition fees to their home institution. Therefore it is a simple “swap”.

   **Two semester exchange**
   Eligible students paying fees of £9000 per academic year will receive a fee waiver of 85%, paying fees of £1350 to Brookes for the academic year during which they go on exchange. They will be able to access a student loan for this (if eligible) and those undertaking work placements, study or Language assistant roles in Europe will eligible for Erasmus+ funding.
2. Erasmus+ funding

All students studying for an Oxford Brookes award (European exchanges) are eligible to receive Erasmus+ funding to offset their mobility costs in addition to their student loans. The grant allocation varies from year to year and for 2016/17 will be determined according to the country of destination.

The Erasmus+ grant is not a maintenance grant, so students should not expect it to fully cover all their living costs while abroad. Students will also be entitled to Erasmus+ funding even if they are in receipt of financial support from the Student Loans Company. Students are credited their Erasmus+ grant once they return their Grant Agreement, learning agreement and certificate of arrival to the Exchange Office and not before.

Students are eligible for a total of 12 months’ exchange and/or work placement (funded or unfunded) during each cycle of higher education (undergraduate/master's/doctorate). In order to work out the funding allocation for the period of exchange, please see the table below (2016/17 funding) and note that whilst the table specifies funding in Euros, students will receive payment in pounds.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Study per month</th>
<th>Work Placement Per month</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Group 1 countries (high cost of living)</strong> Austria, Denmark, Finland, France, Ireland, Italy, Lichtenstein, Norway, Sweden</td>
<td>€330</td>
<td>€430</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Group 2 countries (medium cost of living)</strong> Belgium, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Germany, Greece, Iceland, Luxembourg, Netherlands, Portugal, Slovenia, Spain, Turkey</td>
<td>€280</td>
<td>€380</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Group 3 Countries (low cost of living)</strong> Bulgaria, Estonia, Hungary, Latvia, Lithuania, Malta, Poland, Romania, Slovakia</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

3. Student Finance England Travel Grants and Maintenance Grants

If the student’s finance is based on household income he/she may qualify for a travel grant from Student Finance England. Students studying abroad may also be eligible for the study abroad rate of maintenance loan. Further information is available in the relevant Student Finance England fact sheets, which can be found in the Money Matters section of our website pages.

http://www.brookes.ac.uk/international/study-abroad-and-exchanges/going-from-brookes/exchanges/money-matters/

http://www.brookes.ac.uk/international/study-abroad-and-exchanges/going-from-brookes/european-work-placements/funding-for-erasmus-work-placements/

4. Santander Student Awards - funding up to £1,000 is available for students wishing to undertake an exchange outside Europe.
5. **BUTEX Scholarships** - each year BUTEX awards a number of scholarships to students going on non-Erasmus+ international exchanges for either a semester or whole academic year

**In summary:**

**Students going on Erasmus+ exchange 2016/17 academic year**

- will receive an Erasmus+ grant
- will receive their funding from the Student Loans Company, if entitled to
- will have up to 85% of their tuition fee waived when on a full year UG exchange (if eligible)

**Students going on International exchange 2016/17 academic year**

- will receive their funding from the Student Loans Company, if entitled to
- will have up to 85% of their tuition fee waived when on a full year UG exchange (if eligible)
- can apply for Santander funding can apply for a BUTEX Scholarship

**Students going on Erasmus+ exchange for one semester plus International exchange for one semester 2016/17 academic year**

- will receive an Erasmus+ grant for the semester they are on exchange in Europe
- will receive their funding from the Student Loans Company, if entitled to
- will have up to 85% of their tuition fee waived when on a full year UG exchange (if eligible)
- can apply for Santander funding for the non-European semester can apply for a BUTEX Scholarship for the non-European semester

http://www.brookes.ac.uk/international/study-abroad-and-exchanges/going-from-brookes/exchanges/money-matters/

**Insurance for students**

The Oxford Brookes Travel Insurance Policy provides cover for Oxford Brookes students who undertake journeys as part of their course of study (e.g. field trips, work placements, research). Please note the following:

- The policy covers the duration of
  - The exchange which is defined as until the end of the semester plus up to an additional 7 days if required to complete studies and/or to arrange to return home/move out of halls of residence etc.
  - The work placement which is defined as the agreed placement end date plus up to an additional 7 days if required to complete studies and/or to arrange to return home/move out of halls of residence etc.
- Please note, that the Oxford Brookes University Insurance does not cover personal/leisure journeys outside the country of study during time abroad or holidays after the completion of studies. Students will therefore need to ensure that they have arranged adequate insurance cover for those periods.
The Exchanges Office notifies the Finance Officer in each faculty of those students who will be undertaking study or work placements abroad. The Finance Officer is responsible for contacting students with a summary of the insurance cover provided.

**Studying in Europe**

Students planning to study in Europe should apply for the free European Health Insurance Card (EHIC), which gives you the right to access state-provided healthcare during a temporary stay in another European Economic Area (EEA) country or Switzerland. Please note that many of our partner universities require students to submit a copy of the card as part of their application process.

**Studying outside Europe**

- Australian exchange universities require that ALL exchange students take out the Overseas Student Health Insurance (OSHC). You will only be issued the Confirmation of Enrolment (CoE) number that you will need to apply for your visa once the relevant insurance provider receives your OSHC payment. Details on how to pay for this will be on the acceptance letter from your host university.
- The North-American health care system is one of the best (and most expensive) in the world. Most Canadian and US universities have their own health insurance plans for students. Participation in the plan is often mandatory, especially for non-U.S. visiting students. Currently hardly any of our North-American partners accept Oxford Brookes insurance policy. A number of private companies offer insurance plans specifically designed for international students. The quality of these programs varies, so please request advice from your host university's exchanges team before you purchase any policy. Many Brookes students choose to buy the host university policy to avoid any complications later.
- Our other partner universities have different requirements regarding health insurance. Please discuss the required insurance cover with your host university early in the application process. Some require the purchase of their own health insurance policy, others accept other insurance policies. Only a few of our international partners accept the Oxford Brookes policy.

Please note that students eligible for Student Finance England’s Travel Grants (see Money Matters page), might get some of their health insurance costs reimbursed.

**Working in Europe**

The student’s work placement company should provide information about their employers’ liability and public liability policies to meet their legal liabilities towards. However, not all countries have the equivalent to the UK’s employers’ or public liability, some having voluntary or statutory workman's compensation schemes run by the state, which do not always offer protection to placement students.

If the placement company is unable to insure the student’s legal liability as an employee, the University’s public liability cover will automatically extend to include this risk but this must be confirmed with the relevant faculty. Please note that this does not extend to insuring the host’s own liability to the student, so students are advised to obtain a personal accident policy to provide this cover. Details of the insurance policy provider and policy number should be notified
to the relevant individual in the faculty (see below), copied to Erasmus@brookes.ac.uk and recorded on the student’s Training Agreement.

**Medical work placements**

Please note that only limited cover is available for medical malpractice insurance under the University’s public liability cover. Therefore, if the host organisation does not provide under their liability insurance, the student will need to ensure that they take out indemnity/medical malpractice insurance in their own name.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Faculty</th>
<th>Contact</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>HSS</td>
<td><a href="mailto:placements-hss@brookes.ac.uk">placements-hss@brookes.ac.uk</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BU (Hospitality)</td>
<td>Maureen Jones</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BU (all other BU students)</td>
<td><a href="mailto:waves@brookes.ac.uk">waves@brookes.ac.uk</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TDE</td>
<td>Andy King</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HLS (Adult Nursing)</td>
<td>Tim Ainslie</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HLS (Physiotherapy)</td>
<td>Jon Revis</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Frequently asked questions**

1. **Why go on Exchange?**
   International Exchanges broaden students’ minds, make them more independent and self-confident, improve language skills, and allows them to see the world, look impressive on a CV and increase employability. Plus, they are an amazing once in a lifetime opportunity to go live somewhere entirely new and exciting!

2. **Can everyone go on Exchange?**
   Most undergraduate students can apply to go on exchange with their academic department’s approval. Students should have completed the first year of their course successfully and be of good academic standing, i.e. have a GPA of 2.5.

3. **Where can students go?**
   Please visit our Exchange Partners page [https://www.brookes.ac.uk/international/study-abroad-and-exchanges/exchange-partners/](https://www.brookes.ac.uk/international/study-abroad-and-exchanges/exchange-partners/) for information about what each university has to offer.

   **EUROPE:** European institutions with which Oxford Brookes has exchange agreements [https://www.brookes.ac.uk/international/study-abroad-and-exchanges/exchange-partners/european-partners/](https://www.brookes.ac.uk/international/study-abroad-and-exchanges/exchange-partners/european-partners/). Agreements are listed by subject within faculties.

   **OUTSIDE EUROPE:** Oxford Brookes has exchange agreements with institutions in Argentina, Australia, Canada, Hong Kong, Japan, Kazakhstan, Mexico, New Zealand, Thailand, Uruguay, the United States, and Vietnam. Some of the institutions in these countries are open to most subjects. Where the link is subject specific, it will be specified under the name of the university. Please note, that all Japanese exchanges are only open to BA/BSc Japanese Studies students aside from Ritsumeikan Asia Pacific University which is also open for students studying International Relations, Sociology, and Communication, Media and Culture or some Business degrees. [https://www.brookes.ac.uk/international/study-abroad-and-exchanges/exchange-partners/international-partners/](https://www.brookes.ac.uk/international/study-abroad-and-exchanges/exchange-partners/international-partners/)

4. **How long can students go for?**
   Students can go on exchange for a full year in their second year or for one semester only. It may be possible to spend two semesters in different exchange locations.
5. Is the exchange programme part of the degree?
Yes! All exchange students gain credits (not grades/marks) which count towards their Brookes degree.

6. When do students need to start applying?
Most students study abroad during year 2 of their degree. The main application deadline is in February of the first year and so students will need to start planning an exchange right from the beginning of year one.

7. Do they have to pay fees?
Before they leave, they will need to pay their tuition fees to Oxford Brookes or to confirm with Oxford Brookes that the Student Loans Company will contribute towards the fees as usual. 
Tuition fees are not paid to the host university.

8. Do students need to get insurance?
For Erasmus exchanges students may not need to get additional insurance beyond the Brookes insurance, but should check the most current guidance on our website. For international exchanges students need to follow the instructions of the host institution regarding their insurance requirements. Most non-European partner institutions require students to purchase additional cover. Please see our website for further information about insurance https://www.brookes.ac.uk/international/study-abroad-and-exchanges/going-from-brookes/exchanges/insurance/

9. What are other costs do students need to consider?
Students will be responsible for costs such as purchasing airfares, travel and accommodation. Other costs to be considered are health insurance and visas. However, students are able to apply for Student Finance England travel grants to cover for some of these costs. Students going on exchange to Argentina, Hong Kong, Mexico, Uruguay and the USA can also apply for Santander Bank’s Student Mobility Awards.

10. Do students need to get a visa?
If he/she is an EU citizen and going abroad to an EU member nation, a visa will not be required. If going internationally to a non-EU nation and not a passport-holder from that country, students will need to check their specific visa information, as some might not require a visa for only a semester, while some are quite strict.

11. Joint/combined degree- can students still go on exchange abroad?
Usually yes. It is very common for students doing combined degrees to go on exchange to one or two of our partner institutions as long as the academic departments approve those choices.

12. If students don’t speak any other languages than English, can they still go to non-English speaking countries on exchange?
Check whether or not those institutions in countries where English is not the official language, teach in English. In some cases (Europe) may be essential to have a good knowledge of the language of the country. The European programme offers intensive language courses outside the normal study programme. Students can also take one language module during both 1st year semesters at Brookes in addition to their degree modules. All non-European partners except for Latin American and Japanese institutions (aside from Ritsumeikan Asia Pacific) teach in English.
13. How do students know what courses they need to take while abroad?
This will need to be discussed with the relevant academic in the department prior to undertaking an exchange. More about modules and credits [http://www.brookes.ac.uk/international/study-abroad-and-exchanges-going-from-brookes/exchanges/modules-and-credits/](http://www.brookes.ac.uk/international/study-abroad-and-exchanges-going-from-brookes/exchanges/modules-and-credits/)

14. Can the student go with a friend?
Though it may be possible to go with a friend, we highly recommend that they make their own independent decision because we cannot guarantee that friends will be able to get a nomination to study at the same institution.

15. How are places allocated?
As there are set number of places at each exchange institution each year, Oxford Brookes will allocate places based on students’ suitability for the programmes and nominate them for study in one of their chosen institutions. The decisions are based on academic standing, personal statements, and in some specific cases, academic programme requirements.

16. What about accommodation at Brookes?
It is now possible to arrange to stay in halls for only one semester of the year if students need to do so. This is done on a first come, first serve basis and Oxford Brookes Exchanges team in liaison with the Accommodation Bureau will inform all nominated students about the process.

17. Are there any short-term options?
There are no exchange programmes at Oxford Brookes that are shorter than a semester however; we also have other international options available that can be found at [http://www.brookes.ac.uk/international/study-abroad-and-exchanges-going-from-brookes/other-international-opportunities/](http://www.brookes.ac.uk/international/study-abroad-and-exchanges-going-from-brookes/other-international-opportunities/)

18. How can students find out more about my Exchange options?
They can come to the Exchanges Office on Tuesdays 1.00pm - 3.00pm and Thursdays 11.00am – 1.00pm or to any of our upcoming events to ask questions and get information!

Troubleshooting

If a student makes contact saying that they are having difficulties whilst on their period of exchange please do ask them to make contact with their Student Support Coordinators (contact details on PIP) or the Programme Support Team in Student Central ([programmesupport@brookes.ac.uk](mailto:programmesupport@brookes.ac.uk)).

An option available to all students is to take a period of temporary withdrawal from their course. The link below provides information on temporary withdrawal: [http://www.brookes.ac.uk/students/your-studies/programme-advice-and-support/time-out/](http://www.brookes.ac.uk/students/your-studies/programme-advice-and-support/time-out/)

Important Deadlines:
Friday of week 7 – deadline for an on time temporary withdrawal request (M201).
After this a request is late and a student will need to complete a late request (M201L).
No request can be made after Wednesday (week 13) of the semester.

Limitation on Modules taken - "The 22 Rule"

A candidate for Honours degree is not able to take more than 22 acceptable module credits, therefore, is unable to fail more than 6 acceptable module credits. [http://www.brookes.ac.uk/regulations/current/specific/b2/b2-7/](http://www.brookes.ac.uk/regulations/current/specific/b2/b2-7/)

If a student is on exchange for a full year, they could potentially come back to Brookes with 8 advanced acceptable failed credits. This would mean that they would have lost their eligibility
for Honours. It is, therefore, important for student to keep the University up to date of any changes to the modules they are taking whilst abroad. If they want to leave the exchange study completely they need to request temporary withdrawal.

Incoming Student Mobility

Approval of learning programmes for incoming students

Oxford Brookes University welcomes over 400 European and International exchange and study abroad students every year.

Academic programmes are approved prior to arrival by the relevant Faculty contact. This individual is normally the Academic Adviser for the student during their exchange at Brookes. Any additional changes to programmes will be dealt with in Week 0.

For International Exchange and Study Abroad students for whom the Academic Adviser is Laura Ryhânen, the study programme will be finalised in liaison with the relevant module leaders.

If incoming students select one or more modules outside your faculty/department/subject, please discuss the application with the relevant Module Leader straight away and before confirming the programme to the student. In general, students should not choose more than one module outside their main subject area and it is important to check that there are no timetable clashes, that students have met any pre-requisites and that they don’t have more 30 ECTS per semester.

Please note the following:
- Incoming students may opt to take level 4 modules as part of their programme of study and this is acceptable, if approved by their home university.
- If an incoming student wishes to take a level 4 module, or level 5 module without pre-requisites and restrictions, the academic adviser does not need to check with the module leader and can proceed with registering the student.
- Students coming for a full year have to take 45 ECTS minimum.
- Incoming students are able take a mixture of different level modules.

As an Academic Adviser, you will need to meet with incoming students during week 0 (see below for guidance as to what should be covered during this meeting) and we encourage you to meet with them during the mid-semester to check that their exchange is progressing satisfactorily.

English Language Support

Incoming exchange students can continue to develop their language skills whilst at Brookes by including an academic English module in their programme of study, either as one module out of their initial module selection, or as an additional fifth module. For some students one of the Applied Languages modules might be more appropriate, specifically the level 5 English Language 2: Professional Communication.

Further information about the language support available can be found on the website https://www.brookes.ac.uk/international/support-and-advice/english-language-support/
Your role as Academic Adviser

The role of the Academic Adviser is a vital part of the process for ensuring that the exchange experience of our incoming exchange students is a positive one. The provision of high quality information, advice and guidance is a key part of the support the University provides and we rely on you in your role as Academic Adviser to support this process by:

- Acting as the main point of contact for the department for all academic matters
- Dealing with academic queries concerning module choices
- Providing information as part of your initial meeting with the student to ensure that he/she is able to effectively engage with their academic programme at Brookes
- Ensuring that the student knows where to go for support whilst studying at the University, for example the Upgrade service for study advice, or English language support for continued development of their English Language skills etc
- Making the student aware of key dates, key documents etc relating to their academic studies

Application requirements

- Incoming students are expected to have attained a GPA of 2.8 in order for their application to be accepted. If this is not the case, you may be contacted and asked to make a judgement about acceptance of the application based on the academic transcript supplied by the student.
- Incoming students must demonstrate how they meet the English Language requirements of Oxford Brookes. Further information about the requirements is available on our web pages.

Accommodation

All exchange and study abroad students need to apply for accommodation whether they are in Oxford for one or two semesters. After students have been accepted to Oxford Brookes, they will be sent an email by the Accommodation Bureau with details of how to apply online and the deadline for doing so.

**Students who will be in Oxford for one semester** will be allocated to non-en-suite accommodation close to the Headington Campus such as Warneford Hall or Clive Booth Student Village.

**Students who will be in Oxford for two semesters** will have a full range of halls available to choose from, and will be allocated to accommodation based on their application.

Arrival and induction

Students are sent information about travelling to Oxford and where to go when they arrive at the University. They are invited to attend our welcome meeting in Week 0 and are made aware of the wealth of information available on the new student website which contains detailed induction schedules for each Faculty. Students can also do on line enrolment once they have their applicant PIP password, as well as accessing information about Arrivals Weekend and Induction week workshops.

Transcripts

Academic transcripts are automatically generated for all incoming students by Student Central and will be sent to their home address. It is therefore important to remind them to ensure that their PIP page is amended (if required) before leaving Brookes to show the address to which
they wish their transcript to be sent. In addition, the Exchanges Office receives a second transcript, which is sent to the home institution.

**Procedures for incoming work placement students**

Each year Brookes hosts a number of incoming work placement students through the Erasmus+ programme. The Department providing the work placement is responsible for the incoming student, but should liaise as necessary with the Erasmus Manager (Erasmus@brookes.ac.uk).

1. Before agreeing to provide a work placement, the details should be agreed by the department as follows:
   - Start and end dates of placement
   - Working hours
   - Training supervisor
   - Content and objectives of training programme

2. The following documentation will require completion by the relevant faculty/directorate prior to the student’s arrival
   - Affiliate Form
   - Personal Details Form (to be completed by student and returned to department)
   - MIS Access Control Form (to be completed by the department and sent to student for signature)
   - There will be various documents from the home institution – usually a training agreement of some type (this varies from institution to institution), which will require signature by the department and possibly signature plus stamping by the Erasmus Manager.

3. The student will be allocated a ‘p’ number, email address and staff card

On arrival the student will require an induction programme to be arranged by the relevant faculty/directorate to include:

1. Visit to Library to collect password
2. Introduction to the department/faculty/supervisor
3. Briefing about content of their training programme
4. Attendance at compulsory training sessions as appropriate – students should have basic health and safety training and should be made aware of the Data Protection Act and Bribery Act, if the nature of their roles at Brookes requires this knowledge.

**Notes**

- Work Placement students are not routinely offered accommodation in University Halls.
- We would advise them like/follow our Facebook page as a means of contacting other students either on placement, or exchange at the University and to look at the Exchanges pages on the website, where they can find lots of useful information. http://www.brookes.ac.uk/international/study-abroad-and-exchanges/coming-to-brookes/
- We would also advise joining ESN (Erasmus Student Network), which organises social activities for International students.
Staff Mobility

Erasmus+ staff mobility can be undertaken by both teaching and support staff. Funding is available for staff to teach or train in Europe, with a view to:

- Giving a career boost
- Exchanging expertise and generating new ideas
- Developing international networks

In addition to benefiting, or adding to the career development of the individual member of staff, the period of mobility is expected to contribute to the:

- overall priorities of Erasmus+
- EU Agenda for Modernisation of Higher Education
- international strategy of the University

Previously funding has been allocated to staff undertaking teaching visits to a number of our European partners. Non-teaching mobilities have included partner visits to exchange best practice, project management training and participation in international weeks run by other European universities.

Staff Teaching Visits

Teaching staff employed by the University may apply for funding to undertake staff mobility for teaching. The teaching period must take place at a partner HEI, which must have an ECHE (Erasmus Charter for Higher Education) and an inter-institutional agreement with Oxford Brookes University. Erasmus+ Partner Listing

Mobility for teaching may be from two days to two months, excluding travel time. You must deliver at least eight hours of teaching per week or part of a week. Prior to departure, a teaching programme must be formally agreed by Brookes and the host university, using the Staff Mobility Agreement. This can be completed electronically. Any amendments must also be agreed and retained.

Staff Training Visits

Erasmus+ training periods support the professional development of university staff, both teaching and non-teaching. The training period may be in another university or any other appropriate organisation and can last from two days to two months, excluding travel time. A host university for staff training does not need to have an inter-institutional agreement with the home university.

Staff can apply for training events abroad including job shadowing, observation, attendance at workshops and courses, with the purpose of:

- transferring of knowledge and good practice
- learning from shared experience
- acquiring practical skills or discovering new ideas for teaching and learning.

Attendance at conferences cannot generally be funded, but may occasionally be allowed if the purpose is to acquire new skills and knowledge for the modernisation of the university (this will need to be evidenced). Attendance at conferences is never allowed solely to enhance the individual’s career within a single field of study.
Prior to departure, a training programme must be formally agreed in writing by Brookes and the
host university/organisation. Before the mobility commences, you must ensure that you have
signed the Staff Mobility Agreement formally accepting the grant and acknowledging the
obligations associated with its acceptance. This can be completed electronically. Any
amendments must also be agreed and retained.

Staff Mobility Grants

Please note that the mobility grant is provided as a contribution towards subsistence and travel.
Any additional expenditure over and above the grant total must be met by the relevant
department.

Staff subsistence and travel costs are paid as flat rates. Any reasonable costs for one travel
day before the teaching period begins and one day after the period can also be included.

Mobility grants are based on receipted expenditure and will not be disbursed until your return.
Visits should be funded in the first instance as follows:

- Faculty staff advance (preferred option)
- Personal cash
- Brookes Business visa card
- Personal credit/debit card

It is your responsibility to make the necessary arrangements with your Faculty Finance Officer.

Organisational Support Funding

In addition to funding for staff teaching and staff training mobility, the University receives funding
for organisation support, which can be used to fund activities which support student and staff
mobility, for example:

- Preparatory visits to prospective Erasmus+ partners.
- Marketing activities or materials for staff and students
- Student placement visits
- Mentoring and supervision visits for outgoing exchange students
- Language preparation/training for languages not provided for by an EC online course
- Integration activities for incoming exchange students
- Quality assurance visits to student work placements
- Re-integration of mobile participants and building on their acquired new competences for
  the benefit of the university and their peers

If you are interested in applying for Organisational Support funding, please submit the
relevant application form to the Erasmus Manager.

Application and reimbursement procedure

Please complete the relevant application form and return it to the Erasmus Manager
erasmus@brookes.ac.uk for approval. Please note that forms can be scanned and emailed.
The deadline for applications for funding for 2016/17 academic year is 31 December 2016.

- Teaching Mobility Application Form
- Training Mobility Application Form
- Organisational Support Application Form
Funding will be allocated according to the guidelines set down by the British Council and staff members will be notified if their applications for funding have been successful. (Priority will be given to staff members who have not previously participated in the programme.) The notification will include links to the remaining documentation you are required to complete.

**Pre-departure**

Please complete and submit these documents to the Erasmus Manager a minimum of one month prior to departure, accompanied by a letter/email of invitation from your host institution.

- Teaching mobility – Teaching Agreement
- Training mobility – Training Agreement
- Teaching and training mobility - Grant Agreement (staff)

**On your return**

1. Please claim your expenses from your Faculty Finance Office, submitting original receipts with your claim.
2. Submit the following documentation to the Erasmus Manager within one month of your return. Once all the required documentation has been received, your faculty will be reimbursed for your trip expenses.
   - Copy of your authorised OBU expense form, plus copies of receipts for expenditure, including documentation relating to travel and accommodation booked through the University’s preferred supplier
   - Copy of your Brookes credit card statement if items paid by card
   - Confirmation of Attendance from the host institution confirming the period of teaching/training
3. Staff undertaking non-teaching/training visits, for example visiting students on work placement, or meeting potential new partners, should complete the Organisational Support Visit Report on their return and submit this to the Erasmus Manager with their Confirmation of Attendance, Erasmus+ expense claim and a copy of their OBU expense claim.
4. It is a programme requirement that you complete an individual feedback form for your period of mobility (teaching and training visits). Once you have completed your time in Europe, you will be contacted by the EU via email and asked to complete an online report. Please ensure that this is done within the specified timescale.

**Recognition of Staff Mobility**

Your period of mobility should be formally recognised through the University’s PDR process. You should disseminate learning to your colleagues at the appropriate level within your department, as previously agreed with your line manager.

**Other sources of funding**

**International Credit Mobility**

UK higher education institutions holding the Erasmus Charter for Higher Education (ECHE) can now apply for Erasmus+ funding in 2016 to send and receive students and staff to and from countries beyond the European Union (EU). The new programme supports the international exchange of students and academics between institutions and comprises of four
funding strands called ‘instruments’ which provide the available budget for different areas of the world. For further information, please see the link below, or contact the Erasmus Manager.

http://www.britishcouncil.org/education/ihe/opportunities/international-credit-mobility-erasmus

**Santander funding**

As well as supporting students, Santander funding supports members of staff to undertake:

- academic research [Research awards](http://www.britishcouncil.org/education/ihe/opportunities/international-credit-mobility-erasmus)
- staff development [Non-academic staff development](http://www.britishcouncil.org/education/ihe/opportunities/international-credit-mobility-erasmus)
**Funding**
Travel sum determined by distance travelled, which covers travel to your destination, but not local travel whilst there. Subsistence = a daily rate determined by your country of destination. This should cover all reasonable expenditure on accommodation and meals.

**Before** undertaking the mobility the following documents must be submitted to the **Erasmus Manager**:
- Invitation/letter from host institution confirming dates of mobility
- **Staff Mobility Agreement**, including the approved programme of activity

**After** undertaking the mobility:
1. Complete the online report when prompted by the EU.
2. Submit an **OBU expense form** for the trip to the **Faculty Finance Office** accompanied by original receipts.
3. Submit an **Erasmus expenses claim form** accompanied by copies of the documents in (2) and a signed, letter-headed document from the host institution, evidencing the mobility to the **Erasmus Manager**.

**Please note** that in the first instance the trip is funded by your faculty. The faculty will be reimbursed once your expenses have been approved and processed.

The **Erasmus Manager** will issue a memo requesting that an IDT be raised for the sum to be reimbursed to the Faculty.
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### OUTGOING FACULTY EXCHANGE CONTACT

#### EUROPEAN ERASMUS EXCHANGES

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<thead>
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<th>Faculty Name</th>
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**Note:**
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- US students, Law students please contact Chris Lloyd.
- Texas students, Law students please contact Chris Lloyd.