

BHASVIC

BHASVIC HE Bitesize
6.Study Abroad & Gap
Years



Aims of the Session

- To explore **studying abroad**
- To think about the pros and cons of a **gap year**
- To understand how **you might apply to uni in a gap year**

Going to University Abroad

- * Every year we have students apply to **universities abroad**
- * All other countries **do not have a UCAS system** like the UK, so every country/university has different deadlines
- * You might like to consider especially if you have a **dual passport and speak another language fluently** (although some countries such as Holland have English speaking courses)
- * You will need to **consider funding (Student Finance England does not cover study abroad)** although the new Turing system post-Brexit might help, and you will need to do plenty of independent research

Why spend time studying abroad during your UK degree

- * **Enhanced CV :** shows you are creative, open-minded, make most of opportunities
- * **Personal development:** increased confidence, independence; problem solving and decision making
- * **International perspective:** can work across cultures, language skills, increased tolerance; develop and broaden networks
- * **Widen academic horizons:** study your subjects with a different focus; consider Masters at universities abroad

Why might it be a good idea to study abroad?

Example options from University of Sussex



Example options from University of Bristol

- * I have taken **Classics** as an example looking at a Year Abroad

University of Maryland ***

College Park, USA



University of Sydney ***

Sydney, Australia



Pitzer College **

Claremont, Los Angeles, USA



University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill

Chapel Hill, USA



University of Rochester ***

Rochester, USA



University of Adelaide

Adelaide, Australia



McMaster University **

Hamilton, Canada



How to research

- * **Not all unis** offer a year or semester abroad
- * Literally **google your uni + study abroad** to find out if they offer for YOUR subject and where
- * It is **covered by the student loan** and your uni will arrange accommodation etc.
- * You will be studying at a **link university** for your department
- * A very good question to ask on an **open day** if you are interested!



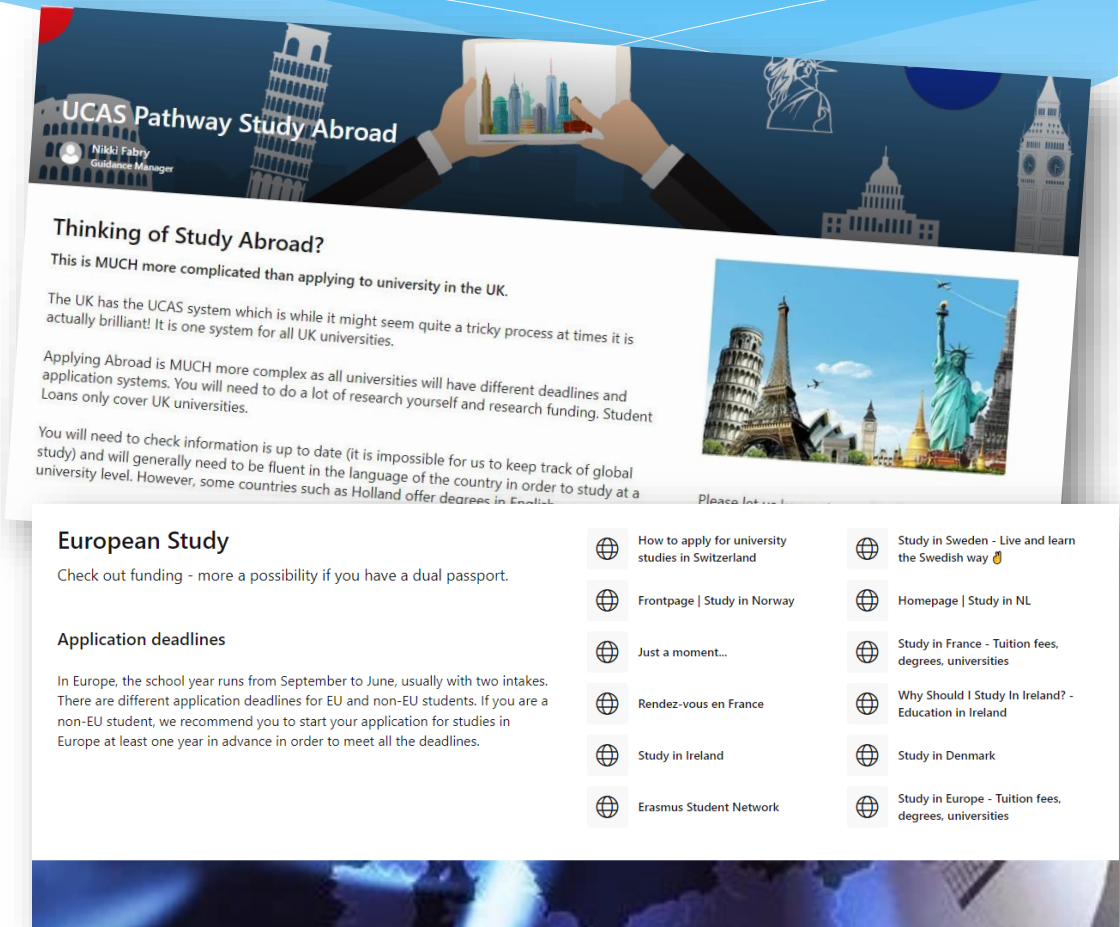
INTERNATIONAL UNI LEAGUE TABLE

Scores based on number of unis in QS world top 100,
but with a weighting given for their actual rankings

- | | |
|---------------------------|--------------------------------|
| 1. USA (28) | |
| 2. <u>UK</u> (19) | |
| 3. Australia (8) | |
| 4. Canada (5) | |
| 5. Japan (5) | |
| 6. Switzerland (4) | |
| 7. Hong Kong (3) | |
| 8. Germany (3) | |
| 9. France (2) | |
| 10. Singapore (2) | |
| | 11. The Netherlands (6) |
| | 12. South Korea (3) |
| | 13. China (3) |
| | 14. Denmark (2) |
| | 15. Sweden (2) |
| | 16. Finland (1) |
| | 17. Ireland (1) |
| | 18. Taiwan (1) |
| | 19. Belgium (1) |
| | 20. New Zealand (1) |

OUR DEDICATED STUDY ABROAD SHAREPOINT PAGE

- * There is lots of up to date info on our **Student Services / Study Abroad Page** for you to browse
- * **Applying to unis abroad is a very complex process and you will need to start early!**



UCAS Pathway Study Abroad
Nikki Fabry
Guidance Manager

Thinking of Study Abroad?

This is MUCH more complicated than applying to university in the UK.

The UK has the UCAS system which is while it might seem quite a tricky process at times it is actually brilliant! It is one system for all UK universities.

Applying Abroad is MUCH more complex as all universities will have different deadlines and application systems. You will need to do a lot of research yourself and research funding. Student Loans only cover UK universities.

You will need to check information is up to date (it is impossible for us to keep track of global study) and will generally need to be fluent in the language of the country in order to study at a university level. However, some countries such as Holland offer degrees in English.













Please let us know if you are interested in studying abroad.

European Study

Check out funding - more a possibility if you have a dual passport.

Application deadlines

In Europe, the school year runs from September to June, usually with two intakes. There are different application deadlines for EU and non-EU students. If you are a non-EU student, we recommend you to start your application for studies in Europe at least one year in advance in order to meet all the deadlines.

 How to apply for university studies in Switzerland	 Study in Sweden - Live and learn the Swedish way 🇸🇪
 Frontpage Study in Norway	 Homepage Study in NL
 Just a moment...	 Study in France - Tuition fees, degrees, universities
 Rendez-vous en France	 Why Should I Study in Ireland? - Education in Ireland
 Study in Ireland	 Study in Denmark
 Erasmus Student Network	 Study in Europe - Tuition fees, degrees, universities

‘Sandwich’/ work placements/ year studying abroad

- * Placement year is usually paid (e.g. Sussex average = £16 - £25K)**
- * Tuition fee for placement reduced to £1,800 (UK/EU)**
- * Great options for study abroad – NOT ALL universities offer it!**

Why take on a work placement?

- * Emphasis is placed on **work skills**
- * Work experience – **organised for you**
- * **60% of placement students are offered full time employment** by their placement employer
- * In **Investment banking** up to **71% of vacancies** are filled by graduates who have **already worked** for the employer
- * Encourages **commercial awareness**



Why might it be a good idea to take on a work placement year?

Gap Years – what could you achieve?

- * **Volunteering** – You could take part in a wildlife conservation project, teach children in an orphanage, or help build a school in a third world country.
- * **Travel** - You could go backpacking across South East Asia, InterRail through Europe, or buy a round the world plane ticket!
- * **Paid employment** - You could work on an outback farm in Australia, as a ski lift operator in Canada, or at a backpacker hostel in New Zealand.
- * **Work experience** – if you want to gain relevant experience and skills for a particular career or subject you plan to study, you could consider a work placement or internship.

Gap Years

Pros

An opportunity to have a break from studying and return refreshed. You can volunteer, get valuable work experience, and travel the world.

A productive gap year can be valuable on your CV.

You could relate the experience and activities to the subject area you plan to study.

You can earn and save money towards your higher education costs or future plans.

You will develop maturity if you don't yet feel ready for higher education or work life. For some careers, it can be an advantage to be slightly older and have some life experience.

Cons

Some people find a year out becomes a distraction from their longer term plans.

An unstructured year out may not add much value to your future – careful thought and planning is essential.

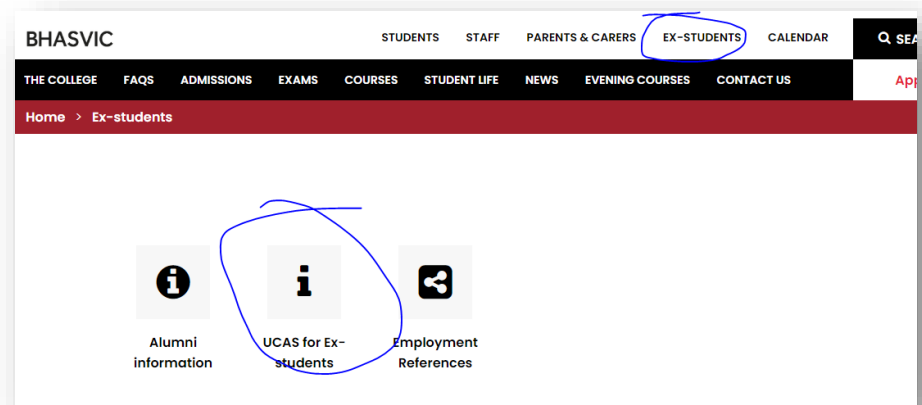
It can be harder to return to study or work after a year-long break.

It can be expensive and you could find yourself in a worse financial position at the end.

If you don't get organised, you may end up spending your gap year just 'thinking about it'

Applying to uni through your gap year as a BHASVIC ex-student

- * You will apply through BHASVIC
- * We will update your **reference**
- * We can check your **personal statement** and **UCAS form**
- * We can also help you with **advice and guidance**
- * So don't worry you are not on your own



Useful Links

- * <https://www.prospects.ac.uk/jobs-and-work-experience/work-experience-and-internships/work-placements>
- * <http://www.studentladder.co.uk/work-placements.html>
- * <https://www.studyabroad.com/>
- * <http://www.fulbright.org.uk/>
- * <http://gapadvice.org/>
- * <https://www.studential.com/gap-year-guide>
- * <https://successatschool.org/advice/gap-years>
- * <https://www.ucas.com/ucas/undergraduate/getting-started/alternatives-higher-education/gap-years>

What next.....

- * **If considering studying abroad then please tell your tutor and give them lots of notice** – it can be incredibly complex and take up a lot of staff time
- * Remember to keep notes of your **research and questions**.
- * Remember ££££ - factor in cost of flights home and that you will NOT receive a student loan. **It can be expensive.**
- * You are likely to need **top grades to displace home students** (e.g. American students in US unis) so be aware of this.
- * **Good luck!**