

STUDY ABROAD (outside EU) FAQ

- **Can I go for a semester?**

All BA and LLB students are required to go abroad for the full academic year. Students studying General Science, Engineering, Astrophysics and Product Design are eligible to go for one semester only. Enquire with your MU International Coordinator.

- **How do I know which host university to choose?**

*If you are interested in the US or Canada, most (if not all) host universities will allow you to do any subject they offer at undergraduate level. For example, if you do geography, if the university offer that subject, then you are eligible to take those modules. **This may not apply to Science students, as pre-requisites may be in place.***

- **Can I only take the subjects that I currently study at MU?**

Not necessarily, but this would need to be discussed and agreed with your MU International Coordinator.

- **How many places for students are available at each university?**

This varies by university, but available places are usually between 1-4 students, with two being the average.

- **What about partner universities in Australia?**

*LLB and BCL students get preference for **The University of Notre Dame and Australian Catholic University**, as these agreements were specifically set up for Law students. Science students get preference for **Edith Cowan University**. However, if available places aren't filled by an LLB/BCL or Science student, other students **MAY** have the option of applying.*

- **I study French, German or Spanish, can I go to a university outside Europe?**

Language students are required to go the host country of their target language in Europe. The only exception is for Spanish students, as we have partner universities in Uruguay and Mexico.

- **Will I get a grant when I go abroad?**

Grants are only available when studying within the EU.

- **Am I still eligible for the SUSI grant when I go abroad?**

You can still receive your SUSI grant. When you renew your SUSI application during the summer, you can fill in the option that you will be going abroad for the academic year.

- **How can I find accommodation?**

Most host universities offer on-campus accommodation.

- **Will I have to pay university fees abroad?**

- *You will only have to pay your Maynooth University fees. However, the host university can charge a separate fee for administration costs, such as a library fee etc. Check this with your host-university.*

- **Do I need an extra insurance for when I'm abroad?**
 Maynooth University provide (free of charge) a Student Travel Insurance Policy. This policy is for accident and emergencies ONLY and includes repatriation. **This policy does not cover lost/stolen items such as laptops or mobile phones.** Host universities in the US require that you purchase their health insurance plan. **This is non-negotiable and required for visa purposes.**
- **How much does it cost to Study Abroad?**
 The cost of study abroad varies depending on the host university. See link for more information on approximate costs: [Approximate Cost of Attendance](#)
- **How do I stay in touch with Maynooth University while I'm abroad?**
 The outgoing exchange coordinator can be reached via email: intl.outgoing@mu.ie. For academic queries, your MU International Coordinator is also available via email. **If you have any concerns or queries, let us know as soon as possible so that we can try and help you.**
- **If I add/drop modules during my year abroad, who shall I contact?**
 Any changes to your LA must be approved by your MU International Coordinator. When you receive it back (signed) send a copy to the International Office.
- **Am I allowed to work abroad?**
 Visa regulations allow you to work 20 hours per week on campus during term time.
- **How much money do I have to have in the bank?**
 You will be required to show a bank statement when applying for a US or Canadian visa. The amount varies depending on the country, area and university but is usually based on the estimated cost of accommodation, insurance and basic living expenses.
- **Which documents are required before I leave for my host university?**

 1. **Learning Agreement (LA)**

 - a. This document must be signed by the student, their MU International Coordinator and in some cases, the host university. If you make any changes during the year, make sure that you notify your MU International Coordinator for approval. After that, the International Office also needs a **copy** of your signed Learning Agreement (before, during and after mobility). The original LA should be kept by the student.
 2. **Credit Requirement Document**

 - a. This document is required by the Registrar to confirm that the student is aware of the credits required to successfully pass their year abroad. This document will be completed and signed by both the student and their MU International Coordinator when the LA is being completed.
- **Do I receive the Transcript of Records from my host-university?**
 It depends on the university you are attending. In some cases, they send it directly to Maynooth University or to your home address. If they send it to your home address, make

sure you send it on to us, so that we can send them on to your department. **Without a transcript on file, the Exam Board will mark your year abroad as incomplete.**

- **What happens if I fail my year abroad?**

If you are a BA student, your BA International degree will revert back to a BA degree and you will progress into final year as normal.

If you are on a 4-year programme (i.e LLB, IEF), you will be required to repeat 3rd year back at MU.

All information can be found at the below link:

<https://www.maynoothuniversity.ie/international/going-abroad-maynooth>