Plan the experience of a lifetime!

Going abroad requires planning to succeed. The sooner you start preparing, the better your experience will be.

1. Research partner institutions as not all destinations are open to every degree programme. Discuss destination and duration with your academic School/Department Coordinator, as well as your eligibility to switch on to a version of your degree programme including a year abroad (if applicable and if not already enrolled on this).

2. Consider financial implications of going abroad and seek advice from appropriate sources when deciding which destination is affordable and right for you. What sources of funding are available? (Erasmus+, SFE travel grant, Study Abroad Bursary, etc.)?

3. Apply online to Global Opportunities for an exchange abroad, ranking your choices. Keep in mind different deadlines! (You will only be made an offer for one destination.)

4. Once you have been selected and nominated, apply to the partner institution as a next step.

5. If you will be spending a full year abroad, ensure you are registered on the respective Queen Mary degree programme allowing you to spend a full year abroad (if applicable) and, if not yet, confirm with your academic school when you can expect to be switched on to this.

6. Seek approval from your academic School/Department Coordinator for modules at the partner institution.

7. Prepare for the adventure:
   - Meet the conditions of your offer
   - Apply for a visa (if applicable)
   - Make travel arrangements
   - Apply for/secure accommodation abroad
   - Obtain relevant insurance

Sources
Erasmus Impact Study - Effects of mobility on the skills and employability of students and the internationalisation of HEIs (2014): key findings and full report

qmul.ac.uk
Destinations and opportunities

Queen Mary University of London has over 150 exchange partnerships around the world.

Opportunities abroad last from a few days up to a full academic year which gives you the flexibility to choose an experience that will suit your study programme and personal interests.

All academic departments at Queen Mary offer their students the opportunity to study abroad, either with the Erasmus+ Exchange Programme/Swiss-European Mobility Programme or the International Exchange Programme. Modules taken abroad will form an integral part of your Queen Mary degree.

Queen Mary also offers Summer and Short-Term Programmes which allows students to spend a shorter period abroad. These programmes are non-credit bearing.

You can go abroad without the knowledge of a foreign language.

‘With year abroad’ Degrees
Queen Mary offers many undergraduate programmes with an extended “year abroad” option, which gives you the opportunity to live and study abroad for an entire year. Normally you will be expected to achieve at least a 2:1 (60%) overall in your first and second year, though this threshold may be set at a higher level for individual programmes. You will also be expected to sustain a high level of attainment in your second year. For progression requirements, please consult the Terms and Conditions for the Queen Mary Outbound Student Exchange Programme as well as the Queen Mary Academic Regulations:

- qmul.ac.uk/international/global-opportunities/outgoing-students/terms-and-conditions/
- arcs.qmul.ac.uk/policy/

Why go abroad?

Better degrees and better jobs
Going abroad during your Queen Mary degree does more than just give your CV a boost.

Students who go abroad are:

- 9% more likely to gain a 1st or 2:1 degree
- 24% less likely to be out of work
- 10% more likely to be in ‘graduate’ jobs 6 months after graduation
- 7% higher average wage earners 6 months after graduation

International networks
Students who go abroad build new international long-term social, academic and professional networks that can increase global job prospects further down the line.

I’ve always wanted to explore more of the world, it’s too small to stay at home!”

Charlotte
International Exchange Programme, Boston College, USA, 2016

Skills for success

International placements develop important global skills for students, such as:

- Intercultural awareness
- Language skills
- Knowledge of other countries
- Confidence
- Tolerance
- Self-awareness
- Sociability
- Problem-solving
- Decisiveness
- Adaptability

Throughout this journey, you will be supported by Queen Mary Services (GO Office, Advice & Counseling, DDS, etc).

I spent so much time with people whose friendships I cherish dearly”

Kyran
Erasmus+ Exchange Programme, Uppsala University, Sweden, 2018