

SSEES YEAR-ABROAD HANDBOOK

For students abroad in 2022-23



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1. Introduction

Studying abroad is a highly rewarding, though often challenging, experience. SEES students returning from their year abroad describe thei

. The experiences and skills developed while abroad further academic and personal development, as well as cultural and social awareness, and provide a foundation for final-year undergraduate and future postgraduate study. Employers of all kinds require people who can think and work in a global context; graduates who have embraced the challenge of a year abroad are best equipped to meet these demands.

The following pages summarise the year-abroad destination options on offer within each SEES programme and explain what you have to do to prepare for your year abroad. Please remember: your year abroad is your responsibility and you should take ownership of it. You are responsible for knowing and adhering to the programme requirements of your year abroad. Please take some time to read through this Handbook, therefore, to explore the SSES Year-Abroad Moodle site for second-year students and to browse the UCL Study Abroad webpages: <a href="https://www.ud.ac.uk/students/go-abroad/study-abroad-and-erasmus/preparing-go-abroad/study-abroad-and-erasm

2. Preparing for your year abroad

General advice about issues to consider when choosing your destinations and the effects of coronavirus (COVID-19) on travel can be found here: https://www.ud.ac.uk/students/go-abroad

Also use the resources on the YA Moodle site and bear in mind the advice given at that the year-abroad destination briefing in November.

i. First, make sure that you are registered on a four-year degree programme

Key dates for your YA preparation are given in the calendar below. Please make a note of them in

study. This information will be on the website of the relevant institution, most likely through their office for international students. Partner institutions observe their application deadlines very strictly and do not accept late applications. If you miss their deadlines, you could find yourself without a year-abroad placement and might have to interrupt or transfer to the 3-year degree programme.

4. Choosing where to go: your programme guides

Students on language degrees have been preparing for the year abroad with language tuition during the first two years of their degree. This will continue during the year abroad. For students on other degree programmes, knowledge of the local language, while advantageous, is not usually essential, as the discipline-based taught courses at our partner universities are delivered in English. Remember, however, that you do need to be able to live and function in your host country, so choosing to go to Russia if you have never studied Russian, for example, is not advisable.

4.1. Economics & Business programme (EBEES+YA)

EBES+YA students are required to spend their year abroad in the SSES region. They are required to spend a whole year abroad and to study at approved institutions. EBES+YA students may not undertake work placements

Higher School of Economics (HSE) St Petersburg, Russia	Homepage https://spb.hse.ru/en/ Exchange https://spb.hse.ru/en/io/	Exchange (fees waived)
MGIMO, Moscow, Russia (Russian speakers only)	Homepage <u>www.mgimo.ru</u>	Fee (off track, but pre-ap- proved)

4.3.2. Russian language

A period of study abroad at an approved institution is a compulsory and integral part of the programme for students taking Russian degrees at UCL Russian semesters normally run from the end of August/early September to late December (autumn semester) and from mid-January/mid-February to June (spring semester). The RLUS placements have different semester dates from the HSESt Petersburg L&C placement.

The Erasmus+ scheme does not apply to Russia, so SSEES pays the tuition fees charged by the host university for students who go to Russia during the year abroad.

- Students taking BA Russian Studies, BA Russian and History and BA Russian with an East European Language, BALC and ESPS you will normally go to Russia for 34-36 weeks.
- Joint-honours students (ie. students taking BA Russian <u>and</u> another language): you will split
 your year abroad between Russia and the country of your other language and will spend only
 one semester (16-18 weeks) in Russia.

SSEES recommends the following year-abroad placements in Russia:

1. HSE St Petersburg - Language and Culture (L&C) placement

This is a relatively new partnership between SSES and

- Yaroslavl State University [course code Y16A]
- St Petersburg State University [course code PST16A]
- Kazan Institute of Social Sciences and Humanities [course code KAZ16A]

Spring semester 2022 (18-week placements)

- Moscow Language Link (MLL) [course code MLL18S]
- Yaroslavl State University [course code Y18S]
- St Petersburg State University [course code PST18S]
- Kazan´Institute of Social Sciences and Humanities [course code KAZ18S]

Autumn and spring semesters 2021-22 (full-year, 36-week placement)

- Moscow Language Link (МЦ) [course code МЦЗ6]
- St Petersburg State University [course code PST36]

PLEASE ALSO NOTE THE FOLLOWING AS YOU CONSIDER RUSSIAN

diet should be addressed to your Programme Administra

Abroad Team (<u>study-abroad@ud.ac.uk</u> or <u>https://www.ud.ac.uk/students/askud-student-enquiry-system</u>) if you have any questions about this requirement.

9. Costs, funding and finance

See: https://www.ud.ac.uk/students/go-abroad/study-abroad-and-erasmus/preparing-go-abroad/tuition-fees-and-financial-help

There are three basic categories of costs that apply to the year abroad:

i. Fees payable to UCL: During the year abroad, home fee-paying students are required to pay to UCL a certain percentage (usually 15%) of their usual annual tuition fee eW* nce* 2 12 Tf1 0 0 1str e6m3(ries)-5(o)7

^{***}Transcript from host institutions: You are responsible for ensuring that your host university forwards your transcript to UCL at the end of your period of study.

support, intervention or help of UCL and/or SSEES, then please write to either the International Tutor or your Personal Tutor, as you prefer. Most problems can be overcome with a little help. If you are not sure who your Personal Tutor is, check your Portico account as this information is given there.

Occasionally, students on their year abroad experience difficulties relating to health and welfare or their dealings with the local university. This is rare but if it does happen you should write immediately to the SSEES International Tutor or to your Personal Tutor. Information about your key year-abroad contacts in UCL and SSEES are given in the next section.

12. Key points of contact

https://www.ud.ac.uk/students/global-opportunities/study-abroad-

and-erasmus/while-youre-abroad

behaviour; Financial support; Insurance; Emergency support; the Global Assistance Programme) is available through this page).

Documents and Forms: https://www.ucl.ac.uk/students/global-opportunities/study-abroad-and-erasmus/documents-and-forms

Returning to UCL: https://www.ucl.ac.uk/students/go-abroad/study-abroad-and-erasmus/returning