

Who Can Apply to the DCU Study Abroad Programme?

Any student who is currently pursuing a course of undergraduate study at a US University can apply to become a Study Abroad student at DCU. Students can attend accredited modules (classes) and arrange with their home institution for credit transfer if they wish.

What year of college should I be in before I can apply?

Students should be a sophomore (second year) or greater in order to be considered for entry to the programme.

What are the minimum entry requirements for acceptance to the programme and when will I know if I am accepted?

Students should have a strong academic standing at their home institutions and should have achieved a good cumulative average to date, such as a G.P.A. of 3.0 / 4.0 **(or equivalent)** to be eligible for the programme. Students apply by downloading the online application. Japanese GPA minimums range from 2.7 – 3.0 depending on the University. Students will be notified in one to two weeks if their application is successful.

What can I study at DCU?

The DCU Study Abroad Programme offers four study streams as follows:

- Humanities and Social Sciences (HMSAO)
- HMSAO Lower IETLS (Language and Intercultural) for non-native speakers
- Business (BSSAO)
- Science and Health (SHSAO)
- Engineering and Computing (ECSAO)
- PBSSAO

Prospective students should visit <http://www.dcu.ie/international/module-or-class-choices.shtml> for details on module / class choices*.

How will I know which study stream to choose from?

Students should choose the stream closest to their major. For example, if a student is majoring in Communications or another Humanities discipline, they should choose HMSAO, whereas if a student is studying Sports Science, they should choose SHSAO.

Can I only choose modules (classes) related to my major?

No, this is the beauty of the programme – there is much flexibility in the programme. For example, science students registered on SHSAO can choose modules from Humanities, Business or Engineering and Computing if they wish but can only choose modules within their stream. Some modules (particularly science) will require prior learning and it is up to the student to ensure they have the correct background for each module. Students are advised to speak to the lecturers at the beginning of the semester if they are unsure.

Where can I find module choices available on the programme?

DCU Study Abroad has four lists of modules for all streams with a variety of choices open to each stream which can be found in the link mentioned on page one.

How many modules can I choose?

Students can choose 30 credits (ECTS) each semester or 60 ECTS over an academic year. This is a full load for a DCU student.

How will I know how many credits a module/class is worth?

The ECTS credit number is contained in the list of module choices in the previous link on page one.

Will there be an examination at the end of each module?

Some modules are assessed by Continuous Assessment (100%) and some are 100% Examination. Some modules are a mixture of both.

What does Continuous Assessment mean?

This means that some of the module or the entire module will be assessed through essays or projects (or other) throughout the semester. There may be an examination element too or 100% examination which will take place at the end of the semester.

How will I know if there is an exam element?

This information is available on the list of courses for each stream.

When will examinations take place if I need to take an end of semester examination as part of my course/module?

Semester One examinations take place in the January of the academic year. Semester one normally runs from September to December with examinations in January whilst Semester Two commences in February normally with examination at the end of semester in May.

The calendar for 2016/17 can be viewed here https://www4.dcu.ie/timetabling/ac-16_17.shtml

How will I find out the class timetables for each of my chosen/preferred modules?

Students should note that the class timetables are not available until the students arrive at the beginning of the academic year. Students are advised to pre-select more modules than they intend choosing in the event that two modules are timetabled together and they need to choose an alternative.

The International office team will assist students as they build their timetable. Timetable building workshops will run over the orientation period.

What if I enrol in a module and wish to change my mind if my class / module choice is not suitable?

There is a 'change of mind' period over the first two weeks of semester. Students should check with the Study Abroad Coordinator at their Home University for advice if they wish to transfer credits back home. At DCU, the 'change of mind' process is simple – complete an orange form which will be given to you at orientation and pass it to the office!

How much will the programme cost?

The current academic fee for a single semester is **€5950** whilst the fee for a full academic year is €11200.

What does the fee include?

The Programme Fee includes tuition, examinations, registration, orientation and administrative fees. It also includes full membership to our modern gym and sports centre. Students receive their gym wristband on arrival.

Can I apply for on campus accommodation?

The University can never guarantee accommodation for students who must apply separately. Students are advised to apply early to the programme and inform the International Office if they intend to apply for On Campus Accommodation. Students should visit <http://www.dcuaccommodation.ie/> for accommodation on campus. Students should also visit www.shanowensquare.com – excellent accommodation of a similar standard to DCU and only a 5 minute walk away from the University.

Will I receive much support in DCU especially if I have a Disability?

DCU has a dedicated student support department - <https://www.dcu.ie/students/index.shtml>. Check out the 'Resources and Services' Section on the left which include a Disability Office, health centre and counselling services. Students are also encouraged to reach out to the International Office Team for guidance.

How will I learn about pre-arrival and what will happen when I arrive?

An airport pick up will be available on the day before orientation and details of this will be available on the website prior to arrival. The office will also send each student comprehensive pre-arrival information. Also, check out our Blogs and Social Media sites available on the website.

STUDENTS SHOULD TAKE OUT INSURANCE PRIOR TO ARRIVAL AND SHOULD READ OUR PREARRIVAL PAGES - <http://www.dcu.ie/international/prearrival.shtml>

The International Office runs a full orientation programme complete with excursions on the week prior to the beginning of the semester. Details are posted on the website too well in advance of arrival.

DO I REQUIRE A VISA TO STUDY IN DCU?

It depends on the country you are coming from. Students coming to Dublin from many countries including the USA and Japan do not require a visa but may be required to register with the GNIB after arrival – visit page 16 of the attachment for details of NON VISA requiring counties - <http://www.inis.gov.ie/en/INIS/Guidelines%20for%20Colleges%20-%20August%202011.pdf/Files/Guidelines%20for%20Colleges%20-%20August%202011.pdf>

Tell me a little about the University?

DCU is a mid-sized campus with over 11000 students. There is a strong international feel to the university and over 15% of the student body is non Irish. Many students come from the USA, China, Japan, Europe, Brasil and many other countries.

The University is ranked globally in the top 50 universities under 50 years of age and is located close to the city and to Dublin's International Airport. Students settle in very quickly due to its mid-size and proximity. There is a strong commitment to student support and International students are well catered for by the International Office.

The University is currently undergoing a major incorporation programme and will merge with Patrick's College of Education in nearby Drumcondra (www.spd.dcu.ie). Once completed, the University will have multiple campuses, a fifth faculty of Education will be developed, DCU's student body will increase significantly and the Study Abroad Programme will also benefit greatly through extended offerings and facilities.

DCU is known within Ireland as the University of Enterprise and Innovation. The University has a separate Innovation Campus located near the main Glasnevin Campus.

DCU Study Abroad Programme

DCU offers a comprehensive Orientation Programme on arrival and students can get to know the University and meet the team. DCU is home to the Helix Theatre, a state of the art national theatre. The University offers a wide range of clubs and societies for students to get involved in.

Where can I learn more about the programme and ask further questions?

Email study.abroad@dcu.ie and the team will be thrilled to assist you. Alternatively, contact the Study Abroad Advisor at your University. Also check out www.dcu.ie/international.