



BIRMINGHAM CITY
University

Study Abroad

at Birmingham City University

2026/27

Based in the heart of the UK's second-largest city, Birmingham City University offers a wide range of courses on a modern campus, aimed at providing the best possible learning environment.

With over 31,000 students coming from more than 100 countries, you'll find a diverse and welcoming environment at a dynamic international facing university.

Study with us and you'll be at the heart of it all.

Institutional information

Contacts

Birmingham City University Go Abroad Team:

Virginia Garcia (Senior Go Abroad Officer)
Charlie Breen (Go Abroad Officer)

Main email address

studyabroadatBCU@bcu.ac.uk

Study abroad website

www.bcu.ac.uk/study-abroad

Academic calendar 2026/27

Semester One*

Welcome:	8 September 2026
Semester begins:	22 September 2026
Winter vacation:	22 December 2026 - 5 January 2027
Semester ends:	23 January 2027

Semester Two*

Welcome:	19 January 2027
Semester begins:	26 January 2027
Easter vacation:	30 March - 12 April 2027
Semester ends:	22 May 2027

*Dates are indicative only. Confirmed dates for each programme will be indicated on the individual offer letter.

How to apply

1. If you are a student at one of our partner universities, your home university will firstly need to complete our nomination form.
2. Complete online application(s) before the deadline including all the documents needed (please see below).
3. We will let you know when your application has been accepted and when we may need further details from you.

Supporting documents checklist:

- ☐ Passport copy (photo page only)
- ☐ Academic transcript from your home university in English
- ☐ English language qualification. Generally an IELTS of 6.0 overall (with no band below 5.5), please note that some courses may require a higher IELTS score - for more information, please see www.bcu.ac.uk/english-tests
- ☐ Module information from your home university for Computing, Engineering and the Built Environment courses
- ☐ Portfolio/sample of your work for Arts, Design and Media courses.

PLEASE NOTE: all documents should be provided in English.

Royal Birmingham Conservatoire applicants

Students applying to Royal Birmingham Conservatoire firstly require nomination. Details of the required online application will be shared following the acceptance of a nomination.

As well as the supporting documents above, Royal Birmingham Conservatoire students must also provide:

- a supporting statement.
- an audition or portfolio. Applicants should upload their audition videos to a platform like YouTube or Vimeo. If they are uploading a portfolio, they can use platforms like SoundCloud, Spotify, Google Drive etc. Links to the audition video or portfolio should be included in the written statement as part of the online application. Please visit [our website](#) for guidance.

BCU English proficiency test

Students who do not hold an English language qualification accepted by Birmingham City University, can take the Birmingham City University English Proficiency Test (BCU EPT) to demonstrate their English ability.

[Visit our website to find out more about the BCU EPT](#)

Application deadlines

One Semester (Autumn) or Full Year for September entry

Nomination deadline: 16 March
Application deadline*: 1 April

One Semester (Spring) for January entry

Nomination deadline: 14 September
Application deadline*: 1 October

* We cannot guarantee consideration of applications submitted after the above deadlines, although we will try to consider every application where possible.

Royal Birmingham Conservatoire applications All applicants (One Semester or Full year)

Nomination deadline: 1 March
Application deadline: 31 March

Fees

- Study Abroad for one semester: £8,845
- Study Abroad for two semesters (full year): £17,690

The fees include tuition, examination costs and membership to BCU Students' Union.

Students from our partner institutions who participate in an exchange programme may have their tuition fee waived. Please contact your home university for further details.

Modules (Classes)

- One semester students must take 60 BCU credits (30 ECTS) = 3-4 modules per semester
- Two semester students (full year) must take 120 BCU credits (60 ECTS) = 6-8 modules per semester

You can find a list of example modules on our [website](#). The module selection process occurs after you have applied. We recommend that you take modules from within one school.

Transcripts

All credit-bearing students are issued with a transcript showing their modules and final grades, at the end of the academic year. This is emailed directly to students, and to the partner university upon request.

Visa and immigration requirements

If you are coming to the UK as a student you may need to obtain a visa before travelling. Find out if you need a visa by visiting www.gov.uk/check-uk-visa.

Accommodation

University Halls of Residence

As soon as you have accepted a course offer from us, you can apply for University accommodation. We advise students to apply as soon as possible after accepting an offer. Find out more information about accommodation options by visiting our [website](#).

Private accommodation

The University also supports students in finding accommodation through [Birmingham City Student Homes](#), a student-focused letting agency, owned and operated by Birmingham City University Students' Union.

Current estimated cost of living

Living costs will vary depending on lifestyle but it is generally cheaper to live in Birmingham than other UK cities, such as London or Edinburgh. [Find out more here.](#)

Planning ahead

Once you have received your offer to study at BCU, it is your responsibility to plan travel to Birmingham, organise accommodation, and prepare for living and studying in the UK.

It's an exciting time, but it is important to be organised to ensure everything runs smoothly. Visit our [website](#) to see how to prepare for your studies at Birmingham City University.

All about Birmingham

Studying in Birmingham offers you the chance to live in the youngest major city in Europe with world-class restaurants, entertainment and shops. Birmingham is home to more than one million people from a variety of different cultures and ethnic groups, with 29% of the population under 20 years old. Discover more [here](#).

Study abroad in Birmingham

studyabroadatbcu@bcu.ac.uk

www.bcu.ac.uk/study-abroad

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