



Bachelor International Studies

# Why study abroad



**Universiteit  
Leiden**

The Netherlands

Discover the world at Leiden University

“It’s also learning about yourself, and coming to realise how much of what you do and think is a product of where you’re from. It’s impossible to come home from studying abroad and not be a changed person.”

**Wencke Appelman, International Studies Study Abroad Coordinator**



# Study abroad

## Why?

One of the main aspects of the BA International Studies is the specialisation in a certain area in the world, in its culture, politics, history and economics. However, in order to truly understand an area, one must experience it up close. This is exactly what a semester abroad offers: the chance to be a student at a different university in a different country for four to five months; learning and taking courses in a different education system, while deepening one’s knowledge and understanding of the area.

Nothing develops self-awareness more than being immersed into another culture, living in a different country, and getting to know and interacting with people there. A semester abroad offers all this and more to students as they meet new people and make bonds and friendships across the globe.





## What and when?

Students can apply to study abroad at a partner university as exchange students for one semester, in the first semester of the third year. Those students selected for exchange remain registered in their BA International Studies programme at Leiden University, and pay their regular tuition to Leiden, while studying at the partner university. So exchange students do not pay tuition to their host university. Students, are however, responsible for associated costs, such as travel, insurance, housing, and food, just as they would be in the Netherlands.

## Who can go on exchange?

Any International Studies student has the option of applying to study abroad, provided they pass all their first year courses, and maintain a minimum GPA of 7.0. Some individual universities will have their own specific requirements, which can be discussed with the Study Abroad Coordinator.

Places at partner universities are limited, so eligible students go through a selection process. The Study Abroad Coordinator will support you in finding a place at the most suitable and exciting university.

“I enjoy my classes and find them quite challenging, with a similar workload to International Studies. At the moment I am taking two courses at master’s level and two law courses. The best thing about living and studying in Istanbul is the atmosphere and the liveliness, which combined with the rich history and culture means you will be guaranteed a great semester if you chose to study at Bilgi!”

**Grace Atkinson at Bilgi University in Istanbul, Turkey**

## Where can students go?

There are three groups of partner universities that International Studies students can choose from:

- International Studies’ partner universities,
- University-wide partners,
- Faculty partners.

Lastly there is the possibility of “free moving”: a separate framework through which you can study abroad at a university which is not an official partner in the previously mentioned groups of universities. Different conditions apply to “free moving” (e.g. on grade averages and tuition fees).

# Exchange Partner Universities

for BA International Studies students

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## Europe

### Austria

University of Vienna\*  
(Political Science)

### Belgium

University of Antwerp  
(Faculty of Political and Social Sciences)

### France

Université de Poitiers  
(Faculté de Lettres et Langues)

Université Lumière Lyon 2\*  
(Political Science)

Sciences Po Grenoble

Université Toulouse - Jean Jaurès

### Germany

University of Bonn\*  
(Political Science and Sociology)

University of Mannheim  
(School of Humanities)

### Ireland

University College Cork  
(Arts / Humanities)

### Norway

University of Oslo  
(Humanities / History)

### Spain

University of Deusto

Universitat Internacional de Catalunya\*

Universidad Autónoma Madrid

### Sweden

University of Lund

### Switzerland

Université de Genève\*

### United Kingdom

University of Leeds

University of Leicester

## North America

### Canada

Université Laval\*

### United States

Bentley University

## Latin America

### Chile

Universidad Central de Chile\*

### Mexico

Instituto Tecnológico y de  
Estudios Superiores de Occidente  
(ITESO)

## Russia and Eurasia

### Russia

Ural Federal University

## Middle East

### Turkey

Bilgi University

Middle Eastern Technical University  
(International Relations)

### Israel

Tel Aviv University

### Morocco

Ecole de Gouvernance et d'Economie  
de Rabat

## East-Asia

### China

Beijing Language and  
Culture University  
(College of Chinese Language Studies)

University of Hong Kong

University of Macau  
(Faculty of Arts and Humanities,  
Faculty of Social Sciences)

Shanghai International Studies  
University (SISU)

### Japan

Akita International University

Kanazawa University

Nagasaki University

### South Korea

Chung-Ang University

Dongguk University

Hanyang University

Pusan National University

### Taiwan

National Taiwan University

## South and Southeast Asia

### Thailand

Chulalongkorn University

Thammasat University  
(Faculty of Political Science,  
Faculty of Economics)

### Singapore

National University of Singapore

### India

Symbiosis International University

## Australia

Bond University

Monash University

**Disclaimer:**  
This list of universities  
is always subject to  
change, please check  
[bit.ly/abroad\\_options](https://bit.ly/abroad_options)  
for more information.

\* There are likely no English-language courses at this university. A high level of relevant language proficiency is required. Some may offer language programmes. See universities' websites for more details. The number of English-language courses at universities not marked \* varies per institution.