

Course Choice Abroad

2025

Requirements for all Programs

- Students must take a minimum of 18 units (2 to 4 classes based on credit/unit system of partner university) in the department closest to their STEM option at the host university – can be for required, equivalent, elective credit, broadening, etc. Must be a STEM class
- If you have a double option, the 18 credits must be in your admitting department, no splitting

Requirements for all Programs

Must take at least 36 Caltech units and minimum of 4 classes with max of 6. Some partner universities (UCL & Melbourne) only allow 4 classes.

6 classes are allowed where classes are offered that are less than 9-unit equivalents, e.g., 3 or 6 – primarily occurs at Cambridge in certain subjects such as CS or physics to achieve the 36 unit minimum.

No need to get professor/instructor's approval for courses at this point. (This happens after you have been placed in a program)

Background for Classes

- Prerequisites are not always listed on class descriptions, you may need to reach out to study abroad program for clarification
- All proposal's should use the current year's fall schedule
- Make sure the class has graded assignments or tests
- Classes can not overlap or be tough at the same time

DTU



Subjects

- Natural Sciences
- Engineering
- Bioengineering
- Bioinformatics
- Chemical & Environmental Eng
- Bio-Sustainability
- Mech E & EE
- Micro & Nanotechnology

- Applied Math
- Computer Science
- Systems Biology
- Physics
- Transport
- Food Science
- Photonics
- Space Sciences
- Wind Energy, & Mgmt Eng (BEM)

Credit²

- ECTS = European Credit Transfer Credits
- Classes are usually 5 or 10 ECTS
- 5 ECTS classes are equivalent to about 60% of CIT course load - it is advised to at least take one 10 ECTS point course
- Both = 9 Caltech unit unless you are trying to get credit for a 12-unit CIT equivalent class.
- Students are limited to 30 ECTS or minimum of 36 CIT units

Choosing Classes

- When choosing classes pay attention to the term taught (fall only) and the level of class, e.g., Bachelors or Masters
- Must take 2 classes (min 15 ECTS) in your option equivalent or related field that counts towards option requirements (science or engineering)
- Go to the following link to search for classes:
 - <https://kurser.dtu.dk/search>
- Students can take classes in any faculty at DTU as long as:
 - you have background knowledge/classes to all the courses you plan to take abroad
 - exchange students are allowed to take the class

Block System

- The weekly schedule is composed of ten teaching blocks
- Each block is 4 hours long 8am to noon or 1pm to 5pm:
 - Lecture/coffee break/lecture & discussion/break/problem or project session with faculty member attending
- Each 5 ECTS class is taught in one 4-hour block.
- Each 10 ECTS class is taught in two 4-hour blocks, but not on the same day

Block System continued...

Time	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
8-12	1A	3A	5A	2B	4B
12-13	Pause	Pause	Pause	Pause	Pause
13-17	2A	4A	5B	1B	3B

- Under the schedule in the course description there might be written E or F. E means autumn (efterår) and F means spring (forår)
- If a course is said to take place in E3, then this means that the course is being taught during autumn in BOTH module 3A AND 3B.
- If in the course catalogue a course is said to take place in E3A, then this means that the course is being taught during autumn, ONLY in module 3A and NOT 3B.



École Polytechnique

General Info



No Language
requirement!

- Can only take classes from Year 3 curriculum
 - Students take 4 classes in your PA (area of scientific specialization) and can only take classes in one PA
- Can take one hum or social science depending on offerings and schedule – All students must take a French language class
- Cannot do Bachelor's classes
- Online course catalog (language of instruction indicated):
<https://synapses.polytechnique.fr/catalogue/2025-2026/diplome/1/X-titre-d-ingenieur-diplome-de-l-ecole-polytechnique>

Available PAs

- Biology
 - Bioinformatics
 - Chemistry
 - Computer Science
 - Economics
 - Energy
 - Electrical Engineering
 - Science for Environmental Challenges (GPS)
 - Technological Innovation
 - Mathematics
 - Applied Mathematics
 - Physics
 - Sciences & Space Challenges
- When searching for course, go to Year 3 Scientific Specialization:
<https://programmes.polytechnique.edu/en/ingenieur-polytechnicien-program/program-details/year-3-of-the-ingenieur-polytechnicien-program>

Schedule and Credits

- Courses follow a block schedule
 - meet once a week
 - classes are 4-5 hours long
- École Poly uses ECTS
 - most science classes are worth 5-10 ECTS
 - humanities and language are worth 2-4 ECTS
 - students must complete at least 36 CIT units = about 20 ECTS, plus French language course
- only look at classes numbered in the 500 range
 - course codes starting w/ 550 and 570 are generally taught in the fall
 - codes starting w/ 560 and 580 are generally taught in the winter
 - codes starting with 590 refers to research internship (spring)

Edinburgh



Subjects

- University organized into 3 colleges:
 - College of Arts, Humanities, & Social Sciences (CAHSS)
 - College of Science & Engineering (CSE)
 - College of Medicine & Vet Medicine - no courses can be taken in this college
- Students are admitted into the college of Science and Engineering
 - biological sciences, chemistry, engineering (ME, Chem E, EE, Civil), geosciences, informatics, mathematics, physics, astronomy

Credits & Choosing Classes

- Only use the SCQF credit numbers, either 10 or 20, when looking for classes
 - do not list ECTS credits
- Classes are equal to 9 CIT units
 - unless student requests 12 CIT units
- Your proposal should list 4 to 5 courses totaling 60 to 80 Edinburgh credits
 - must take at least 4 courses
 - and a max of 5 classes
 - 2 in your option and other 2 can be in HSS department

Choosing Classes Continued...

- In the DRPS, classes have codes such as SVI, SS1, and VV1
 - <http://www.drps.ed.ac.uk/25-26/>
 - these codes indicate when a class is taught
 - courses not available to visiting students: SS1, VV1 and labeled “N”
 - SV1 - available to visiting students - **must be taught in semester 1**
 - **all classes you list should be SV1**
- Courses are designated by level
 - 3rd and 4th year students are at level 9 and above (for your option or closely related field)
 - level 7 or 8 are usually introductory classes
 - more appropriate if you have minimal prior background in the subject for humanities and social sciences

Schools in Depth

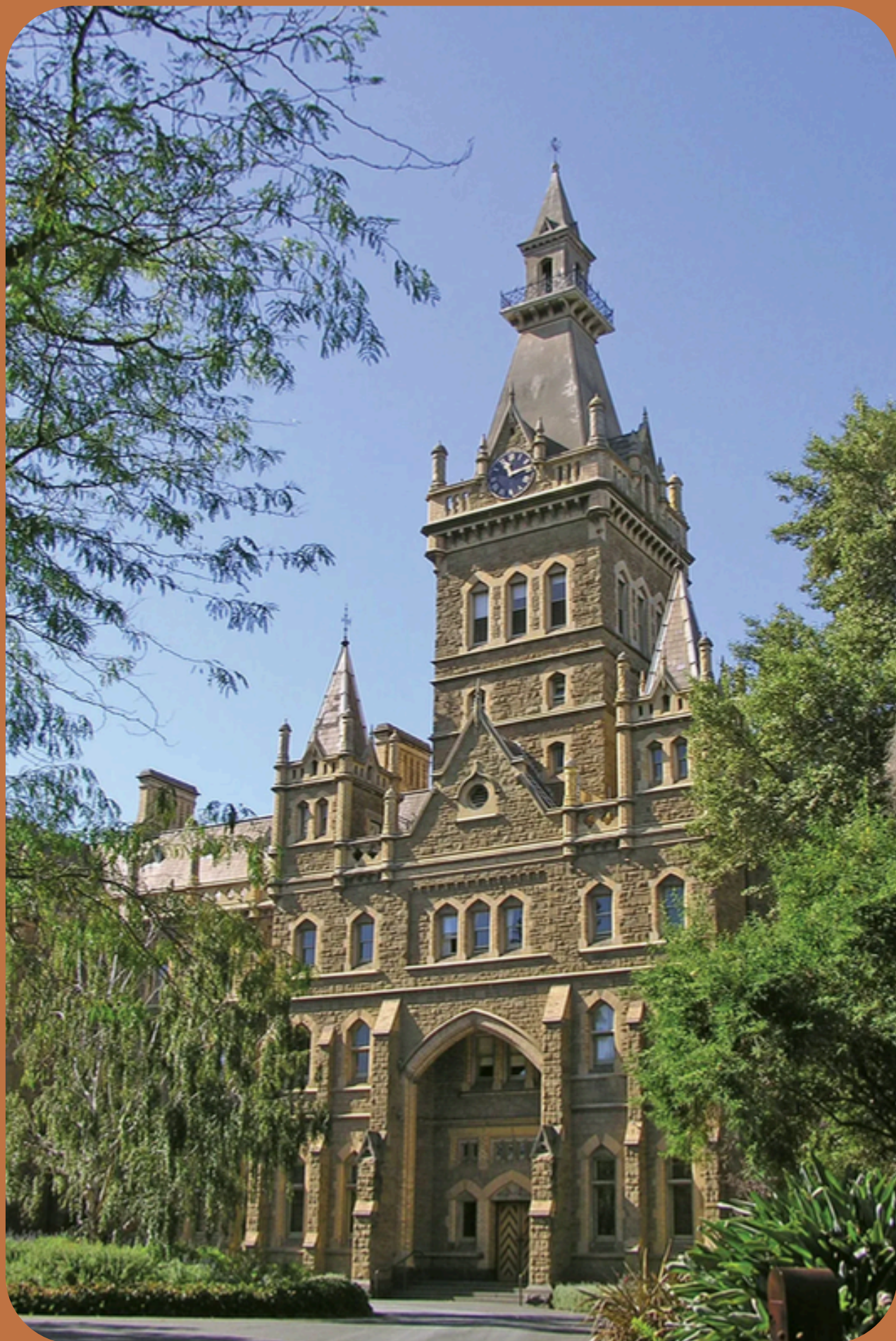
*Engineering class choice factors:

- ME, ChemE, and EE have fall project & design classes open to study abroad students
 - ex) Design of Microsystems, Electronic Product Design & Manufacture

- Biological Sciences:
 - some subjects don't have intro levels, biochemistry starts at level 10
 - 10 is the top level for undergrad classes - you can not take post grad classes
 - you must have prereqs to take level 10 classes
- Chemistry:
 - levels 8-10 & some 11
- Engineering:
 - levels 8-11
 - 11 available for most engineering and level 8 unavailable for chemical engineering

Schools in Depth continued...

- Geosciences
 - includes human geography, economics, environmental science, & geology/geochemistry
 - postgrad classes may be available depending on background
- Informatics
 - levels 8-11 can be taken
 - Classes in design, machine learning, human-computer interaction, robotics, etc.
- Mathematics
 - levels 8-10 can be taken
 - most level 11 classes unavailable to SA students
 - both pure & applied
- Physics & Astronomy
 - levels 8-11 can be taken
 - Astronomy can work well for GPS Planetary Science option students



Melbourne

About & Requirements

- All subjects (classes) are 12.5 points each
 - equivalent to 9 CIT units
 - can request 12 CIT units from evaluator
- Must take exactly 50 points, no more or less
- At least 50 % of classes in option
 - Can do 25% of classes as research class
 - Up to 50% in other subjects in science/eng or in humanities or social –your choice.
- Choose Semester 2 subjects (classes) only

Choosing Classes

- subjects = classes
- courses = degree program
- Handbook - <https://handbook.unimelb.edu.au/search>
 - Choose **Semester 2** Choose Undergraduate **Subjects**
 - **Choose Subject Study Area, Faculty & Depts**
- Another resource to help choose classes
 - What Can I Study Guide: bit.ly/47UZJHL
- nominate 6 subjects (classes) to ensure you will be accepted into 4 of them
- Class codes
 - 1-3 often undergrad
 - 4 often Honours year and could be UG or PG
 - 5-9 is post-grad
- You may be able to take some post-grad (grad) level subjects

Choosing Classes Continued...

- Subject names and codes must be listed in your proposed course list
 - ex) GEOL30009 Advanced Field Geology
- There are 2-week long intensive subjects offered in December available to Study Abroad students - extra fees/cost
- Students can register for subjects labeled “Research Project”
 - pursue research and receive credit
 - contact prof beforehand to establish relationship & discuss option for research
 - limited to **one** research class for 9 to 12 CIT units

University College London



Departments of Study

- **Allowed:**

- Civil, Environmental, & Geomatic Engineering, Mechanical Engineering, Computer Science, Biomedical Sciences, Biological Sciences, Molecular Sciences, Neuroscience, Chemistry, and Earth Sciences
- any social science or humanities that allow fall term only students

- **Not allowed:**

- Biochemical Engineering, Chemical Engineering, Electronic and Electrical Engineering, Management Science & Innovation, Law, Physics & Astronomy, and Mathematics

Choosing Classes

Humanities & Social Science usually
only level 1 or 2:

- Economics - level 1 only
- Can **not** take English Lit classes at UCL but may in other Lit depts
 - ex) Roman poetry

- search by Subjects to find classes
- Admitted to one department and students must take 50% of classes or 30 UCL credits in that dept.
- Students must take exactly 60 UCL credits
 - list UCL credits only
 - do not include US or ECTS
- In Science, Engineering, Humanities and Social Sciences, 15 credits is one class
- Since classes for next fall are not yet listed, list classes based on the current schedule
- Courses will be designated by Fall term, Spring, or Year



UChicago

Choosing Courses

- Students must take 4 classes
 - 2 must be in your option
 - Other 2 can be humanities/social science or 2 more option required classes
 - can take graduate level classes if you have the prior knowledge
- Classes are 100 units each = 9 CIT units
- Course search: bit.ly/49Bj0PM
- Classes numbered 1000 to 1999 are intro or first level
- 2000 to 2999 are upper level
- 3000 and up are grad level

Find Classes

- DTU: <https://kurser.dtu.dk/search>
- École Polytechnique:
 - <https://moodle.polytechnique.fr/course/index.php?categoryid=1302>
 - <https://synapses.polytechnique.fr/catalogue/2025-2026/diplome/1/X-titre-d-ingenieur-diplome-de-l-ecole-polytechnique>
- Edinburgh: <http://www.drps.ed.ac.uk/25-26/>
- Melbourne: <https://handbook.unimelb.edu.au/search>
- UCL: <https://www.ucl.ac.uk/prospective-students/study-abroad-at-ucl/subjects>
- UChicago: bit.ly/49Bj0PM

Course Lists & Proposals

- Examples in FASA library
 - Examples are listed by University and Option
 - We are open Mon-Fri 8am-12pm/1pm-5pm
- Check host universities course catalog as offerings change
- After you are placed in a program you are able to change classes via a petition/approval process
- All course you take abroad must be approved by a CIT professor in advance

Course List for Edinburgh

NAME --- 2022

**Bioengineering Option Caltech
Science and Engineering Edinburgh**

Edinburgh Credits: 80

CIT Units: 36

Date: September 25, 2022

1. Biological Chemistry 2 (CHEM08030)

College of Science and Engineering

School of Chemistry

Credits: 20

Caltech Units: 9

BE Option Requirement (Introduction to Biochemistry Ch/Bi 110a Equivalent Course)

Caltech Evaluator: Professor Scott Virgil

2. The Green Planet 2 (BILG08016)

College of Science and Engineering

School of Biological Sciences

Credits: 20

Caltech Units: 9

BE Option Credit (General BE Elective)

Caltech Evaluator: Professor Justin Bois

3. History of Art 1A: Images and Identity, 500-1700 (HIAR08029)

College of Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences

Edinburgh College of Art

Credits: 20

Caltech Units: 9

General Credit (Misc. Hum)

Caltech Evaluator: Dehn Gilmore

4. Medieval Worlds: A Journey through the Middle Ages (HIST08035)

College of Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences

School of History, Classics and Archaeology

Credits: 20

Caltech Units: 9

General Credit (Misc. Hum)

Caltech Evaluator: Dehn Gilmore

Questions?

All application materials and references are due

January 25, 2026

Please reach out to the FASA office if you have any questions!