# American University Fact Sheet 2017-2018

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<th>Name</th>
<th>American University</th>
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<tr>
<td>Name of Study Abroad Office</td>
<td>Abroad at AU</td>
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<tr>
<td>Website</td>
<td><a href="http://www.american.edu/abroadatau/">http://www.american.edu/abroadatau/</a></td>
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| Contact person for incoming students | • Sarah Beumer Harlow – Assistant Director  
• Ethan Merritt – advisor for student from Waseda University and JSAF |
| Address | American University  
AU Abroad-Aboard at AU  
4400 Massachusetts Ave, NW  
Rockwood Building  
Washington, DC 20016-8039 |
| Phone and Fax numbers | Phone:+1-202-885-1329  
Fax:+ 1-202-885-1370 |
| Email | abroadatau@american.edu |
| Available Exchange/Study Abroad Period | Fall (August – December)  
Spring (January – May)  
Academic Year (August – May)  
Calendar Year (January – December) |
| Academic calendar | [http://www.american.edu/provost/registrar/academic-calendar.cfm](http://www.american.edu/provost/registrar/academic-calendar.cfm) |
| Nomination and Application Deadlines | Fall + Academic Year | March 15  
Spring + Calendar Year | October 1 |
| Admission requirements | 1. Are currently enrolled at the undergraduate level at a university outside the United States  
2. Have completed one full-year of undergraduate studies  
3. Have clearance to study abroad (or take a leave of absence) from their home institution  
4. Fulfill English language requirements listed below |
| Language requirements | Fulfill one of the following: |
• Official **TOEFL** *(minimum scores: 80 IBT overall and at least 18 on each subsection). We cannot accept institutional TOEFL results.*
• **IELTS** *(minimum: 6.5)*
• **Pearson Test of English - Academic**: *(minimum score: 59)*
• For students from the American University of Sharjah, the American University in Cairo and the American University of Beirut, a grade of C or above in two academic English writing courses.

### List of application materials with instructions

[http://auabroad.american.edu/?go=aau](http://auabroad.american.edu/?go=aau)

### Nomination procedure

The university international office should complete the Inbound Study Abroad and Exchange Nomination Form and submit it to [abroadau@american.edu](mailto:abroadau@american.edu). Home institutions/representatives can nominate multiple students using one form. The form should be submitted along with one PDF per student with the student’s (1) letter of recommendation and (2) transcript. The nomination form needs to be received by the deadlines listed above for the application.

### Supplemental application material

Students will need to upload the following documents to the Abroad at AU application:

- Completed Signature Verification Form (downloaded from online application)
- Copy of the picture and signature page(s) of the passport.
- Completed Certificate of Finances for International Student (CFIS) Form
- Financial Documents
- Valid Proof of English Language Proficiency (Official TOEFL or IELTS results). Minimum 80 IBT and at least 18 on each subsection; or Minimum 6.5 IELTS
- Course Request Form *(available in the online application)*

The international programs office will need to create one PDF of all documents and email it to abroadau@american.edu

- Inbound Study Abroad and Exchange Nomination Form *(available in the student’s online application)*. Home institutions/representatives can nominate multiple students using one form. The form has separately been emailed to all partner institutions.
- Letter of recommendation from a professor that has taught the student at the college level. The letter must be on official university letterhead with his/her signature.
- Official university transcript from the university the student currently attends (if the transcript is not in English, please provide a certified English translation).

### Accommodation

University-managed housing may be available. The Abroad at AU office will notify partner institutions if housing is available each term. If students are eligible for housing and want a spot, they will be required to fill out an online application after they have been admitted and paid their deposit. More information about university-managed housing can be found here: [http://www.american.edu/ocl/housing/abouthousing.cfm](http://www.american.edu/ocl/housing/abouthousing.cfm)

If students are not eligible for university managed housing or wish to live off campus, the Abroad at AU office and the off-campus housing coordinator at American University can provide some general guidance but the student is ultimately responsible for finding housing him/herself. Some off-campus resources can be found here: [http://www.american.edu/ocl/housing/Off-Campus-Housing-Resources.cfm](http://www.american.edu/ocl/housing/Off-Campus-Housing-Resources.cfm)

### On-campus dining options

Students must have a meal plan if they live in university managed housing. For detailed information about meal plans and dining options, please see: [http://www.american.edu/ocl/dining/index.cfm](http://www.american.edu/ocl/dining/index.cfm)
### Visa

All students are required to obtain a J-1 visa unless they are US citizens or permanent residents.

As an exchange visitor, students need a J-1 visa to enter the United States. New J-1 visas can be acquired only at a US embassy or consulate outside the US. It is not possible to renew a J-1 visa by mail or in person once in the US. Every US embassy has different visa application procedures, with many requiring appointments for visa processing.

Apply for your visa as soon as you receive your official acceptance packet. More information can be found in your acceptance packet that will be sent to you.

Students need to contact the **US Embassy or Consulate** overseas where they plan to apply so that they can ask about additional information and if an appointment is required. Students should plan ahead and allow ample time to secure a visa.

### Estimated living expenses

http://www.american.edu/abroadatau/ - click on costs on the left side of the website

### Immunizations

All students under age 26 studying at American University need to provide proof of the following vaccinations by the first week of classes:

- Two vaccinations against measles, mumps, and rubella (MMR) given after one year of age and at least 30 days apart
- One tetanus / diphtheria booster within ten years
- The hepatitis B 3-shot series (must be completed within a six month time period)
- Students residing on campus must also have the meningococcal meningitis immunization or sign a waiver stating that they are aware of the risks of meningitis and do not wish to be immunized against the disease.
- Students under the age of 18 must also show proof of being vaccinated against polio.

If students are missing certain immunizations, they will have to get the necessary vaccinations once they arrive here at American University through our Student Health Center (at a cost).

### Health Insurance

Automatic student health insurance applies unless waived. There are **very specific requirements alternative health insurance must meet to waive the AU policy.**

In addition to the requirements to waive the AU policy, students on a J1 visa and their dependents are required to have medical insurance coverage with the following:

- The J-1 (as well as J-2 dependent) is required to maintain health insurance for the **entire period of the program** indicated on the DS-2019.
- The minimum requirement for health insurance coverage must provide **medical benefits of at least $100,000 per accident or illness.**
- Insurance for **medical evacuation** is required with a $50,000 minimum. This is used in the unlikely event that there is a need for the J-1 visa holder to return to the home country for the medical treatment.
- Insurance coverage for **repatriation of remains** is required with a $25,000 minimum. This is used in the unlikely event that the J-1 visa holder should die in the U.S. and his/her remains need to be returned the home country.
- The maximum deductible on the health insurance may **not exceed $500 per accident or illness.**
- **Rating:** Any insurance policy, plan, or contract must, at a minimum, be underwritten by an insurance corporation having one of the following:
  - an A.M. Best rating of “A-” or above
  - a McGraw Hill Financial/Standard & Poor's Claims-paying Ability rating of "A-" or above
  - a Weiss Research, Inc. rating of "B+" or above
  - a Fitch Ratings, Inc. rating of "A-" or above
  - a Moody's Investor Services rating of "A3" or above
  - be backed by the full faith and credit of the government of the exchange visitor's home country
  - part of a health benefits program offered on a group basis to employees or enrolled students by a designated sponsor
  - offered through or underwritten by a federally qualified Health Maintenance Organization or eligible Competitive Medical Plan as determined by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid
The J-1 program may be cancelled if the student fails to meet this requirement. In addition, students may need to show proof of this coverage.

### Health facilities
Student Health Center: [http://www.american.edu/ocl/healthcenter/index.cfm](http://www.american.edu/ocl/healthcenter/index.cfm)

### Emergency number
During normal business hours (Monday – Friday, 9am-5pm EST): 202-885-1329
Outside normal business hours: 202-885-3636

### Language of instruction
English

### Areas of study open to study abroad/exchange students
- All Abroad at AU students are required to maintain full-time student status with a course load of 12 credit hours (typically four classes). Students may choose courses from within the university's schools:
  - School of International Service
  - College of Arts and Sciences
  - School of Public Affairs
  - Kogod School of Business

### Areas of study not available
School of Communication courses are not recommended due to limited course offerings

### Restrictions on courses available to study abroad/exchange students
Abroad at AU students can only enrol in undergraduate level courses (100-500 level). Students cannot take graduate level courses (600 and above). Additional course restrictions here: [http://www.american.edu/abroadatau/courserestrictions.cfm](http://www.american.edu/abroadatau/courserestrictions.cfm)

### Websites for course information
- [http://www.american.edu/abroadatau/Courseofferings.cfm](http://www.american.edu/abroadatau/Courseofferings.cfm)
- List of courses: [http://www.american.edu/provost/registrar/schedule/index.cfm](http://www.american.edu/provost/registrar/schedule/index.cfm)

### Credit and grading system used
One credit is defined as at least twelve and a half hours of direct faculty instruction with at least twenty-five hours of student work outside of that direct instruction, usually spread over fifteen weeks, or the equivalent amount of work over a different amount of time.

Full time status is 12 credits (typically four classes).

Grading used: A-F
Pass is: A grade of Pass indicates performance of no less than a 2.00 on a 4.0 grading scale.

### Language courses available
Arabic, Chinese, French, German, Italian, Japanese, Russian, Spanish, Swahili, Portuguese, Hebrew, and Korean. Students must take a placement test before registering for courses above an introductory level.

### Transcript
Requested directly by student at no cost after receiving all grades.

### Internship opportunities
Internships may be available in some circumstances; If students wish to do an internship this must be discussed with the Abroad at AU office to ensure it meets the standards and approval for Academic Training. The student is responsible for finding his/her own internship.