International opportunities

FOR STUDENTS AT THE FACULTY OF SCIENCE
International opportunities for students at the faculty of science
Seize the opportunity – gain international experience!

The world is not static; it is constantly changing in many different ways. In recent years there has been a strong process of internationalisation, both within universities and the industry. Today, international recruitment of both students and staff is normal procedure.

As a student at the Faculty of Science at Lund University, you have many opportunities for gaining international work experience during your studies. For example, you can spend one or two semesters abroad, or create an international network at home in Lund. This opportunity does not always reappear later in life – seize the opportunity now!

ABOUT THIS BROCHURE
In this brochure we have compiled the various opportunities you have for gaining international experience. We hope we can inspire you to supplement your education with courses that are only available at our partner universities, practice your language and intercultural skills, or establish international contacts and networks.

You will greatly benefit from your international experience – not just in your future professional life but also in terms of your personal development.

Olov Sterner, Dean
Your international opportunities

The Faculty of Science is an international faculty at an international university. Here you can gain international experience in several different ways.

**EXCHANGE STUDIES**
Study one or two semesters abroad at one of our partner universities. You will not need to pay any tuition fees. Read more on the next page.

**COURSES AND DEGREE PROJECTS ABROAD**
At some departments you have the opportunity to take courses that are fully or partly taught abroad, or do part of your degree project in another country. If you are a Swedish citizen or permanent resident, you can apply for a Minor Field Study scholarship to carry out a field study abroad. For more information, contact your study advisor.

**SUMMER COURSES**
There are plenty of summer courses you can apply for all around the world. Read more on: www.lunduniversity.lu.se/summer-courses-abroad

**INTERNSHIPS ABROAD**
There are different ways to find and fund an internship abroad. One way is to apply for an Erasmus work placement scholarship (for internships within Europe). You can, for instance, work at a business, organisation or research and education institution. Read more on www.lunduniversity.lu.se/internships-abroad.

**NETWORKS AT HOME**
You can also gain international experience and qualifications right here in Lund.

**Become a mentor**
Help new international students get settled in Lund, at the University and in their student lives. Read more on: www.lunduniversity.lu.se/international-mentor

**Participate in language cafes**
Every week throughout the semester, a group of students get together to, among other things, play games, watch movies and discuss Swedish culture in Swedish. The language cafés include the Swedish Lounge and Café Multilingua.
International opportunities for students at the faculty of science
Exchange studies – when, where, and how?

Going abroad on an exchange means studying at one of Lund’s partner universities for one or two semesters of your study programme. A partner university is a higher education institution with which we have an exchange agreement, meaning you will not be subject to tuition fees.

**DID YOU KNOW THAT**
- You will not need to pay tuition fees.
- The courses you study abroad can be transferred towards your Swedish degree (decided by your department).
- You are insured throughout your study period abroad.
- You can apply for a scholarship for an Erasmus exchange and certain other exchanges. The scholarship can supplement your student finance and cover your additional costs.

**APPLICATION PERIODS**
*Universities outside Europe and some Nordic universities (Nordlys)*
- 1 Oct–1 Nov: Regular application period for the following academic year.
- 15 Jan–1 Feb: Second chance (apply for the places that remain).
- University of California: 15 Oct–1 Nov for the following academic year.

*Erasmus exchange (Europe)*
- 1 Oct–15 Oct: For the spring semester.
- 2 Feb–1 March: For the autumn semester or full academic year.

You can apply for some Nordic Universities through Erasmus.

**HOW TO APPLY FOR EXCHANGE STUDIES**

1) Prepare in good time and be aware of the application periods

If you want to study at a university outside Europe, you should start planning your exchange about a year in advance. If you want to go on an exchange within Europe, one semester will usually suffice. The application forms and instructions can be found on www.science.lu.se/studying-abroad.
2) Make sure you are eligible to apply for exchange studies
You are eligible if you:
• At the time of application, and the semester before your planned exchange, are a registered full-time student at the Faculty of Science, or have been granted approved leave from studies.
• At the time of application have completed at least 30 credits at the Lund University Faculty of Science.
• At the time of departure have completed at least 60 credits in Science (some departments require 60 credits within the main field of study).
• Have no more than 15 credits of non-completed courses within your main field of study.
• Are able to present a study plan that contains courses equivalent to full-time studies, and that are eligible for a credit transfer towards a degree at the Faculty of Science. For help with your study plan, please contact the international coordinator at your department. See contact information on page 10.

3) When is the best time for you to go on an exchange?
Please speak with your study advisor or international coordinator if you need help planning your exchange. We recommend that you complete at least three semesters of university studies before you leave.

4) At which international universities would you like to study?
If you want to make sure an exchange will be possible, you need to apply to several universities, and be prepared not to get your first choice. See the list of current partner universities on www.science.lu.se/studying-abroad. Note that the list may vary somewhat from year to year.

5) Apply for an exchange online
The application is available on:
www.science.lu.se/studying-abroad
If you are applying for the University of California, apply on:
www.lunduniversity.lu.se/Ucexchange

6) Wait for a nomination
For many of our exchanges, the number of students who apply exceed the number of available opportunities. The students are ranked based on achieved academic credits, grades, the purpose of the exchange, etc.

7) Apply to the host university
Once you have been nominated for an exchange, it is time for you to apply to the host university. They are mainly interested in seeing which courses you have studied, and how they fit with the ones you have applied for. When and how to apply is different for different universities. Your coordinator will help you through the application process.
Martin and Katarina talk about their exchange studies

**MARTIN, CANADA**

“I went on an exchange to Vancouver Island in Canada after having studied biology for three years. I wanted to hone my English skills and take courses that are not offered at Lund University. I also wanted to experience a cool environment, with close proximity to surfing and mountain hiking. My year in Canada was amazing – I will surely look back on that time as one of the highlights of my education.”

“Life as an exchange student is intense, and in the beginning quite tough, but also very exciting. There were high demands on performance with more exams, assignments and oral presentations than I was used to. I have never studied so hard in my life. But the study pace in Canada strengthened me. I had to learn how to structure my time to study efficiently, and not least to adjust to an international working environment. I have already benefited greatly from this, for example when working on my degree project.”

“I recommend everyone to take the opportunity to go on an exchange. Do it – it’s an amazing opportunity!”

**KATARINA, AUSTRIA**

“I went on an Erasmus exchange to Innsbruck to study courses in physical geography. I chose Austria because I wanted to practice my German and get to know the country better. I was also attracted by the beautiful hiking and skiing opportunities.”

“Among the best parts of being an exchange student is meeting amazing people, and learning about different cultures. One tip is to see if there are any Erasmus mentors at your host university. They have already studied there for a while and can, for example, show you around. Being new in town, you will discover that there are endless things to see and do. Remember, however, that you are also new to the university, which could mean new study habits, a new study pace, and different requirements than what you are used to.”

“A final tip is to try to participate in as many student activities as possible, and to have fun! The exchange can be so rewarding, but it’s up to you to make it great!”
Contact your international coordinator

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<th>General questions about exchange studies</th>
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<tr>
<td>Kristina Miolin, International Manager</td>
<td>Karl Ljung</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>046-222 30 01</td>
<td>046-222 39 96</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><a href="mailto:Kristina.Miolin@science.lu.se">Kristina.Miolin@science.lu.se</a></td>
<td><a href="mailto:Studievagledare@geol.lu.se">Studievagledare@geol.lu.se</a></td>
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<td>Nils Ryde</td>
<td>Magnus Wiktorsson</td>
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<tr>
<td>046-222 15 74</td>
<td>046-222 86 25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><a href="mailto:Nils.Ryde@astro.lu.se">Nils.Ryde@astro.lu.se</a></td>
<td><a href="mailto:Magnus.Wiktorsson@matstat.lu.se">Magnus.Wiktorsson@matstat.lu.se</a></td>
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<td>Christina Ledje</td>
<td>Sigmundur Gudmundsson</td>
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<tr>
<td>046-222 73 16</td>
<td>046-222 85 61</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><a href="mailto:Christina.Ledje@biol.lu.se">Christina.Ledje@biol.lu.se</a></td>
<td><a href="mailto:Sigmundur.Gudmundsson@math.lu.se">Sigmundur.Gudmundsson@math.lu.se</a></td>
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<td>Paul Miller</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>046-222 83 57</td>
<td>046-222 40 72</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><a href="mailto:Christina.Persson@kemi.lu.se">Christina.Persson@kemi.lu.se</a></td>
<td><a href="mailto:Paul.Miller@nateko.lu.se">Paul.Miller@nateko.lu.se</a></td>
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<td>Lassana Ouattara</td>
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<tr>
<td>046-222 37 82</td>
<td>046-222 77 58</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><a href="mailto:Yvonne.Persson@cec.lu.se">Yvonne.Persson@cec.lu.se</a></td>
<td><a href="mailto:Lassana.Ouattara@fysik.lu.se">Lassana.Ouattara@fysik.lu.se</a></td>
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Editors: Kristina Miolin, Mikael Antic and Helena Bergqvist, Faculty of Science, Lund University. Graphic design: Helena Bergqvist. Photographers: Johan Persson (1), Aidan Wakely-Mulroney (1), © University of Vienna/Barbara Mair (1,8,11), Helena Bergqvist (2), © Reykjavik University (5), Rebecka Silvekroon (8). Print: Media-Tryck, 2016.
Your international opportunities

- Exchange studies
- Courses abroad
- Summer courses abroad
- Internships abroad
- Networks in Lund

www.science.lu.se