



Host University Checklist

Making a solid study away plan is time-consuming, but it is well worth the effort! A well-researched plan will save you time and money and prevent costly mistakes. Can you imagine making a plan to study away at a university that does not offer any courses that you want to take? We have provided you with some questions that will help you to assess whether you are well suited for a study away experience.

Find the answers to the following questions on the website of the host university that you are interested in attending:

Language

- What is the language of instruction at the host university?
- What is *your proficiency* in that language?
- Does the school have a large selection of courses offered in English?

Academic dates

- What is the start and end date of each term of study? Keep in mind that universities in certain regions; [Japan](#), [Germany](#), [United Kingdom](#) and [Australia](#) as an example, have term dates that may not match McGill's. For example, if the Fall term at the host university ends in January, this may impede your ability to resume your McGill studies on time in January.
- How many terms are there in one academic year?
- How many weeks are there in one term of study?
- What is the start and end date of each *examination period*?

Course offerings/selection

- When is the **course calendar** available for each term of study?
- How many courses must a student take per term to be a **"full-time"** student?
- Using your completed [Arts OASIS Degree Planning Worksheet](#), can you find courses at the host university that match the course content you need to complete for your McGill program requirements/degree?
- Have you consulted with your McGill [Departmental Program Advisers](#) to guide your course selection and ensure that you are meeting your McGill program requirements?
- Does the host university offer elective courses that are of interest? Are these courses available to visiting students?
- When will the **course syllabus** for each course be available? Does each course you wish to take have a syllabus that includes, at a minimum: *contact hours, course objectives, readings, and method of evaluation*? Keep in mind that the course syllabus you submit for assessment on McGill's [Course Equivalency System](#) **must correspond to the term in which the course is taken.**
- How many contact hours are there per week per course?

Method of Evaluation

- What *grading system* does the host university use? Does a grade of "C" at the host university have the same numeric value as a [grade of C at McGill](#)?
- Will each course you take generate a final grade that will be recorded on this university's official transcript? Keep in mind that grades of Pass or Satisfactory are not acceptable. (See Step 3 of the [Transferring Credit section](#) on our website)

Registering for courses

- When does the registration process begin at the host university? Are you able to register for courses without having to provide the instructor with proof that you have the proper academic background to take a course?
- Is there a course change period at the host university?
- What are the host university's course withdrawal deadlines?

Transferring Credit

- Transfer credit will only be considered for courses that are completed during a pre-approved study away at a host university that appears on the Arts OASIS listing of approved host universities. (See Step 2 of the [Transferring Credit section](#) on our website)
- What is the credit system used at the host university? (i.e credits, ECTS, etc.)
- Are there any courses that have been assessed for this host university on McGill's [Course Equivalency System](#)?
- How do you order an official transcript from this host university?

Housing

- Is the university residence open to visiting students or will you have to find off-campus housing?

Safety

- What does [Canada's Travel Advisory](#) website report about the safety of this host university's country?