

NAVIGATING STUDY ABROAD: A STUDENT EXCHANGE INFORMATION SESSION

Fall 2024

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Reconcili- Action

- Choose to do something that brings indigenous and non-indigenous people together. Create awareness, learn and share in the spirit of reconciliation.
- Change begins with each of us, and we can individually and collectively make a positive impact.

Adapted from: <http://www.lspirg.org/knowtheland/>





LET'S EXPLORE

- Why study abroad?
- How does exchange work?
- Who is eligible?
- Where can you go?
- Is it safe?
- What courses can you take?
- What does it cost?
- How do you apply?



WHY STUDENTS CHOOSE TO STUDY ABROAD?

- Personal development
- Intercultural competency
- Enriched academics
- Language skills
- Career preparation and professional development
- Gain new perspectives and life-long connections





HOW DOES EXCHANGE WORK?

- You pay tuition to Laurier
- Student in host country pays tuition to their institution
- “switch places”





HOW DOES EXCHANGE WORK?



PRE-APPLICATION RESEARCH

- Mandatory information session
- Choose top 4 schools



LAURIER'S EXCHANGE APPLICATION

- Initial application
- ONE reference
- MyDegree Assessment
- Exchange Course Planning Tool
- Pay \$30 applicaiton fee



MATCHED & NOMINATED

- Accept placement
- Pay \$110 placement fee
- Nominated by Laurier to partner institution
- SHERM Safety Plan



PARTNER INSTITUTION APPLICATION

- Second application
- Receive acceptance letter
- Start visa application



COURSE CREDIT TRANSFER

- Complete course registration at host institution
- Complete Course Credit Transfer Agreement (CCTA) with academic advisor approval

■ ■ ■ WHO IS ELIGIBLE FOR EXCHANGE?

- **Students need:**
 - To be in **3rd, 4th or 5th year**
 - **10.0 credits** on your Laurier transcript
 - GPA 7.0 or higher
 - 6.0 – 6.9 possible with a GPA Waiver (excluding Kinesiology and LSBE students, exception for Economics students)
- **Language assessment**
 - If studying abroad full-time in another language
 - Assessed by Languages department





HOW LONG CAN STUDENTS GO?

*Typically one term

Depends on the following:

-  Your current program
-  The number of spaces at exchange partner
-  Your finances
-  Term dates at host institution

■ ■ ■ WHEN CAN STUDENTS GO?

- **Semester abroad:**
 - Apply the year before (8-12 months before)
 - Fall 2025
 - Winter 2026
 - Fall 2025 and Winter 2026 (some locations)
- **Summer abroad**
 - Spring/Summer terms (condensed 1-8 weeks)
 - Apply for one program in Winter 2025 for Spring/Summer 2025



■ ■ ■ TERM DATES: MANY DIFFERENT FROM LAURIER'S

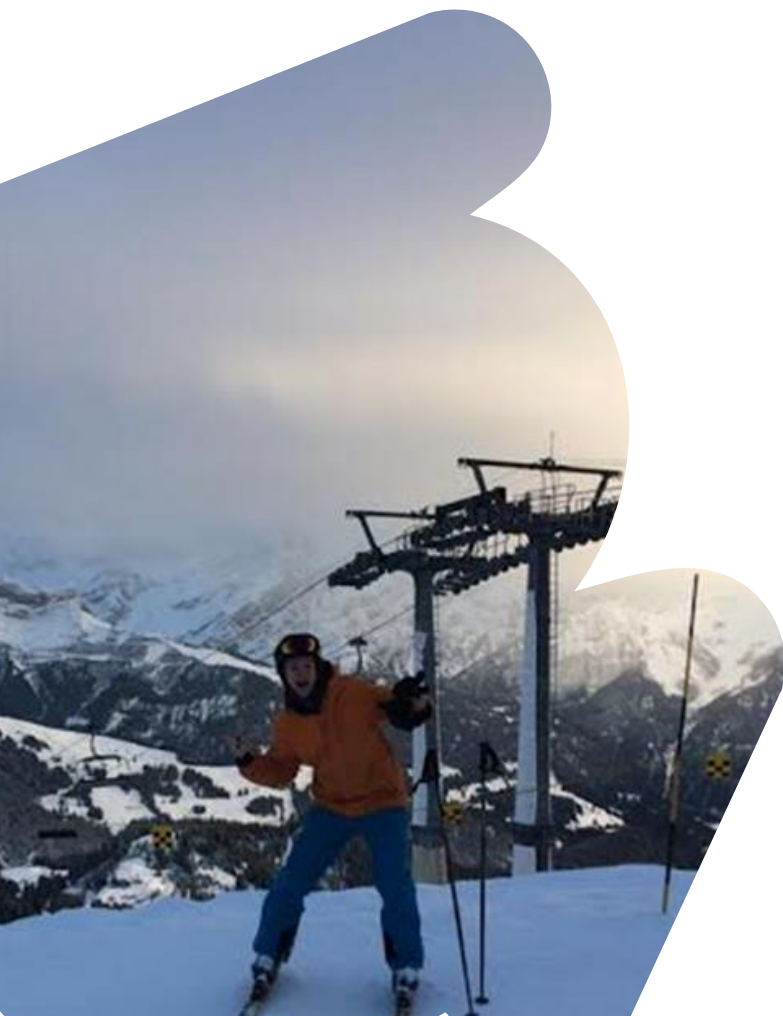
- **Germany: Technical University of Munich (TUM)**
 - Laurier Fall: TUM Winter semester – October–late March
 - Laurier Winter: TUM Summer semester – April–late September
- **Australia: University of Western Sydney**
 - Laurier Fall: UWS Spring session (July–November)
 - Laurier Winter: UWS Autumn session (Late February–late June)





WHERE CAN I GO?

- Australia
- Austria
- Belgium
- China
- Denmark
- France
- Germany
- Ghana
- Hong Kong
- Ireland
- Italy
- Japan
- Mexico
- Norway
- Portugal
- Slovenia
- South Korea
- Spain
- Sweden
- Switzerland
- United Kingdom
- United States



WHERE CAN I GO?



wlu-horizons.symplicity.com/index.php?s=programs

ala... Calendar - Sinthu Vi... Mail - Exchange - O... Journey Homepage Global Engagement... Connect - Home XM Projects | Qualtrics...

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Inspiring Lives.

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Search Programs

Any program that requires a Waiver/Consent Form will be marked with the icon

Search Filters

Keywords For More	<input type="text"/>	Destination	<input type="text"/>
Institution	<input type="text"/>	Indigenous Supports	<input type="text"/>
Language of Instruction	<input type="text"/>	Disability and Accessibility Supports	<input type="text"/>
Program Name	<input type="text"/>	Equity, Diversity and Inclusion Supports	<input type="text"/>
Term(s)	<input type="text"/> [select] <input type="button" value="clear"/>	Field of Study	<input type="text"/>

Areas of study at partner universities are subject to change.



IS IT SAFE?

- Laurier monitors safety situations at host institutions – so should you!

travel.gc.ca

- Can likely travel:

- Exercise normal security precautions

- Exercise a high degree of caution

- Cannot travel:

- Avoid non-essential travel

- Avoid all travel

The screenshot shows the Government of Canada website's travel advice page for Japan. At the top, there is a navigation bar with the Canadian flag, the text "Government of Canada / Gouvernement du Canada", and a search bar for "Search Travel.gc.ca". A "Français" link is also present. Below the navigation bar is a "MENU" dropdown. The main content area features a breadcrumb trail: "Canada.ca > Travel > Destinations". The title of the page is "Japan travel advice", accompanied by the Japanese flag. A prominent green banner with a checkmark icon states "Take normal security precautions". Below this banner, it says "Latest updates: The Need help? section was updated." and "Last updated: September 25, 2024 07:54 ET". There is a section titled "On this page" with a list of links: "Risk level", "Safety and security", "Entry and exit requirements", "Health", "Laws and culture", and "Natural disasters and climate". To the right of the main content is a sidebar titled "Need help?" with a hand icon. It contains sections for "Local services" (with a link to "Emergency services"), "Consular assistance" (with links to "Tokyo - Embassy of Canada", "Fukuoka - Honorary consul of Canada", "Hiroshima - Honorary consul of Canada", "Nagoya - Consulate of Canada", "Osaka - Honorary consul of Canada", and "Sapporo - Honorary consul of Canada"), and "Risk level" (with a link to "Japan - Take normal security precautions" and a "Back to top" button). Below the "Risk level" section is the "Safety and security" section, which includes the heading "Fukushima nuclear power plant and surrounding area" and the text "Following the 2011 incident at the Fukushima Daiichi nuclear power plant".



IS IT SAFE?

- After Laurier determines if it is safe to travel:
 - You decide what is comfortable based on your personal risk level
- Once in-country, Laurier monitors travel advisories and local situation
- You may be asked to return home, even if the travel advisory has not escalated to “Avoid Non-essential travel”

The screenshot shows the Government of Canada website's travel advisory page for Mexico. At the top, there is a navigation bar with the Canadian flag, the text "Government of Canada" and "Gouvernement du Canada", a search bar for "Search Travel.gc.ca", and a "Français" link. Below the navigation bar is a "MENU" dropdown and a breadcrumb trail: "Canada.ca > Travel > Destinations". The main heading is "Mexico travel advice" with the Mexican flag icon. A prominent yellow banner contains a warning icon and the text "Exercise a high degree of caution (with regional advisories)". Below this, it states "Latest updates: Risk levels; Natural disasters and climate - updated information on Hurricane Helene" and "Last updated: September 25, 2024 13:38 ET". A section titled "On this page" lists links for "Risk levels", "Safety and security", "Entry and exit requirements", "Health", "Laws and culture", and "Natural disasters and climate". To the right, a "Need help?" section lists "Local services" (Emergency services) and "Consular assistance" for Mexico City, Acapulco, Cabo San Lucas, Cancún, and Guadalajara. At the bottom, a "Risk levels" section features a warning icon and the text "Mexico - Exercise a high degree of caution" followed by a detailed advisory: "Exercise a high degree of caution in Mexico due to high levels of criminal activity and kidnapping." Below this, a "Regional risks" section shows a minus sign icon and the text "Yucatan peninsula - Avoid non-essential travel" with a detailed advisory: "Avoid non-essential travel to the Yucatan Peninsula from Cabo Catoche to Tulum, including Cozumel, due to Hurricane Helene."



WHAT COURSES CAN YOU TAKE?

Course approval has 2 steps:

1. Exchange Course Planning Tool form

- Part of initial application
- “Wish list” or draft of courses
- Does NOT require Academic Advising approval

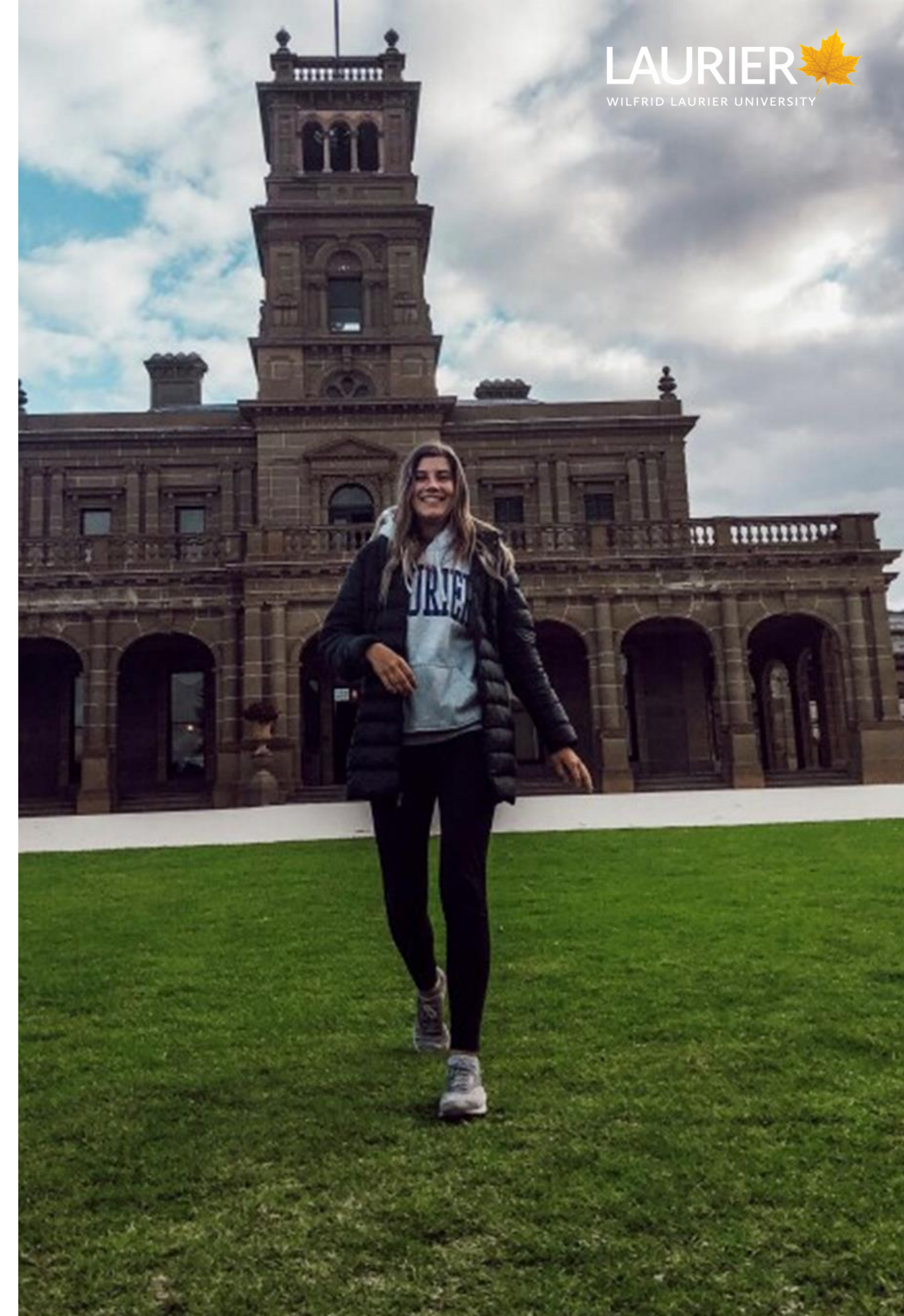
2. Course Credit Transfer Agreement (CCTA)

- Complete after placement in your host institution
- “Guarantee” of how credits transfer
- Requires Academic Advisor / Program Coordinator approval



WHAT COURSES CAN YOU TAKE?

- Take **elective** courses that are **unique to the institution and location**
- If you take a redundant course, it will not be counted towards your degree





STEP 1: EXCHANGE COURSE PLANNING TOOL (FORM)

- Your “wish list” showing the whole academic year
- Includes terms at both Laurier and host institution
- Submit the form as an attachment to your online application
- **DOES NOT REQUIRE ACADEMIC ADVISOR / PROGRAM COORDINATOR SIGN OFF**



EXCHANGE COURSE PLANNING TOOL (FORM)

Your courses can be:

- Elective
- Major
- Program Requirement
- Minor Concentration
- Option

Part (i)

Name and country of host university:	University of Birmingham, England
Faculty/department of study at host university:	School of Government
Semester dates at host university: Month/Year to Month/Year (e.g. Aug. 2025 to Jan. 2026)	September 2025 – December 2025

Part (ii)

Term	Course Code and Title	Course Type (Elective, Major, Program Requirement, Minor, Concentration or Option)	Course Credit (e.g., 0.5 WLU credit, 6 ECTS, etc.) <i>*see last page for correct number of credits to take at host institution</i>
FALL 2025 <input type="checkbox"/> Study at Laurier <input type="checkbox"/> Coop <input type="checkbox"/> Absent <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> On Exchange	20900 - International Relations Theory	Major	20 CATS
	27732 - Global Governance	Major/Program Requirement	20 CATS
	30171 - Poverty, class and inequality	Elective	20 CATS
WINTER 2026 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Study at Laurier <input type="checkbox"/> Coop <input type="checkbox"/> On Exchange <input type="checkbox"/> Absent	PO220 - Poverty and Inequality in the Global South	Major/Program Requirement	0.5 Laurier credit
	PO210 - Introduction to Law	Major/Program Requirement	0.5 Laurier credit
	PO320 - Women, Gender, and Politics	Major/Program Requirement	0.5 Laurier credit
	PO383 - Law, Gender and Sexuality	Major/Program Requirement	0.5 Laurier credit
	PO315 - Politics and Society in Contemporary Quebec	Major/Program Requirement	0.5 Laurier credit
SPRING 2026 <input type="checkbox"/> Study at Laurier <input type="checkbox"/> Coop <input type="checkbox"/> On Exchange <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Absent	Absent from school (not taking courses; graduation)		

“DOCUMENT LIBRARY” IN JOURNEY

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Document Library

Documents My Documents

Search Filters

Keywords Document Type

RESULTS Items 1-4 of 4 Showing 20

Title	Type	File Name	File Type	Size
BBA/Econ Department Approval form 2024-25	Exchange, Outgoing, Application and Admin documents	BBA_Econ_Department_Approval_2024-25.docx	application/octet-stream	84538
Department Approval Form 2024-25	Exchange, Outgoing, Application and Admin documents	Exchange_Department_Approval_2024-25.docx	application/octet-stream	95149

■ ■ ■ HOW MANY CREDITS DO YOU TAKE?

- Course transfer is done by credit weight
- **Count the number of CREDITS you take abroad, not how many courses**
- Credit weighting is different at each host institution



Table 1. Amount of credits required to earn 2.5 Laurier credits while on exchange

<i>Country</i>	<i>Credits needed to earn 2.5 Laurier Credits</i>
Australia	<u>University of Canberra</u> : 12 UC credit points, or 30 UCTS <u>Western Sydney University</u> : 40 UWS credit points, or 30 UCTS <u>Australian Catholic University</u> : 40 ACU credit points
Europe	30 (ECTS) European Credit Transfer System
United Kingdom	60 CATS or 30 ECTS
Ireland	30 ECTS
United States of America	12 credits (typically 4 courses as each course is worth 3 credits)
Mexico	ITAM: 4 courses Tec de Monterrey: 40 credits
Hong Kong	<u>HKUST</u> : 15 credits (typically 4 courses) <u>HKU</u> : 30 credits
Macau	18 credits (typically 6 courses)
Japan	<u>Akita</u> : 18 credits <u>Nagoya</u> : Each course is worth 2 NUCB credits, which equals 3 ECTS (see Europe) <u>Saga</u> : 15 credits
South Korea	12 credits (typically 4 courses)
China	15 credits (typically 4-5 courses) *Please confirm with Student Abroad Advisor Shanghai: 30 ECTS Nanjing: 2.0 = 0.5 Laurier

**When neither the ECTS nor UCTS credit systems are available, credits are awarded on the basis of Laurier course hours. Each Laurier 0.5 credit course is 36 hours over a period of 12 weeks. Multiplied by 5 courses per term, the normal course load at Laurier is 180 contact/ lecture hours per term.

STEP 2: CCTA FORM (ONCE REGISTERED ABROAD)

- Credits transfer back to your Laurier degree as pass or fail credits (CR)

And your GPA stays the same!

Exchange Institution			Laurier		
Course Code and Title <i>(Student completes)</i>	Course Credit <i>(ECTS, etc.) (Student complete)</i>	Pass Fail	Course Code and Title <i>(specify if a credit is to be used for an Concentration/Option/Minor) (Academic Advisor or Program Coord. completes)</i>	Laurier Credit Weight <i>e.g. 0.5</i>	Advisor or Coordinator Initials
Corporate Strategy	5 ECTS	P	Business Policy 1 (BU481)	0.5	AN
Cross-Cultural Management	5 ECTS	P	UU1XX	0.5	AN
French as Foreign Language	5 ECTS	P	FR251	0.5	MR
Consumer Culture	5 ECTS	P	BU4XX	1.0	AN
Wine Marketing	5 ECTS	P			
Business CSR	5 ECTS	P			
Total Credits Received Abroad:	30 ECTS		Total Laurier Credits Received:	2.5	
Please note: 30 credits at this Exchange Institution is equal to 2.5 WLU credits					



HOW MUCH DOES IT COST?

Application fees:

- **\$30** application fee (part of your initial application)
 - **\$110** placement fee (when you are accepting/declining your offer)
-

Tuition costs:

- 2.5 credits paid to Laurier (full-time studies)
 - Exception: ALC reduced course load
-

Incidental fees at host school and cost of travel:

- Airfare, visa
- Study permits (\$20-\$500), review embassy/consulate website of host country
- Accommodations, activity fees, bus pass or other ground transportation, health insurance, etc.



Ljubljana University,
Slovenia



Akita International
University, Japan



NEOMA Business School
Residence, France



HOUSING

- Housing “leads” provided by international office at host institution
- On-campus or off-campus
- Some universities offer international residences



SAMPLE COSTS FROM EXCHANGE

ALUMNI: 1 TERM ABROAD



- **Does not include tuition**
- **Includes:** flight, rent, utilities, food, travelling, visa, health insurance, bus pass, phone, etc
- Students traveling to same destination can have varied budgets based on how much they travel, cost of accommodations, preferences etc.

France	Neoma Business School, Rouen Campus	\$ 9,208
France	Neoma Business School, Rouen Campus	\$ 13,620
France	Kedge Business School, Marseille Campus	\$ 9,093
Spain	Universidad de Deusto, Bilbao Campus	\$ 8,279
Spain	Universidad de Deusto, Bilbao Campus	\$ 13,368
Spain	Universidad de Navarra	\$ 9,716
United Kingdom	Keele University	\$ 6,948
China	Beijing Jiaotong University	\$ 5,071
Japan	Akita International University	\$ 5,300
Australia	University of Canberra	\$ 9,278
Australia	Western Sydney University	\$ 8,208
Australia	Western Sydney University	\$ 15,547



FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

- Still eligible for OSAP
- Apply for awards after accepted to program
- Student Awards through LORIS (listed on exchange website)
- Research external sources
 - MyWorldAbroad

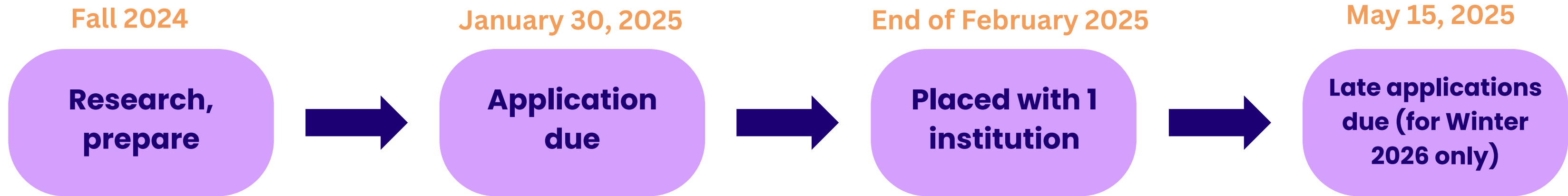




NEXT STEPS: TIMELINES & DEADLINES



FALL & WINTER EXCHANGES



SUMMER PROGRAMS



■ ■ ■ APPLY USING JOURNEY



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Keywords	<input type="text"/>	Destination	<input type="text"/>
Institution <small>More In...</small>	<input type="text"/>	Indigenous Supports	<input type="text"/>
Language of Instruction	<input type="text"/>	Disability and Accessibility Supports	<input type="text"/>
Program Name	<input type="text"/>	Equity, Diversity and Inclusion Supports	<input type="text"/>
Term(s)	<input type="text" value="[select]"/> <input type="button" value="clear"/>	Field of Study	<input type="text"/>

Areas of study at partner universities are subject to change.



NEXT STEPS: HOW TO APPLY?



**Search programs
using Journey**



Apply to 4 choices



**Select "Apply" to your first
choice to initiate application**

- Can rearrange program selection in Journey application portal



Submit required documents:

- One referee
- Passport
- MyDegree Assessment
- Exchange Course Planning Tool
- Motivation letter



APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS

- **Reference** (submit early via Journey)
 - Academic or non-academic reference
 - Will be automatically emailed from Journey
- **Exchange Course Planning Tool** (course “wish list”)
- **Copy of passport** (or approved alternative)





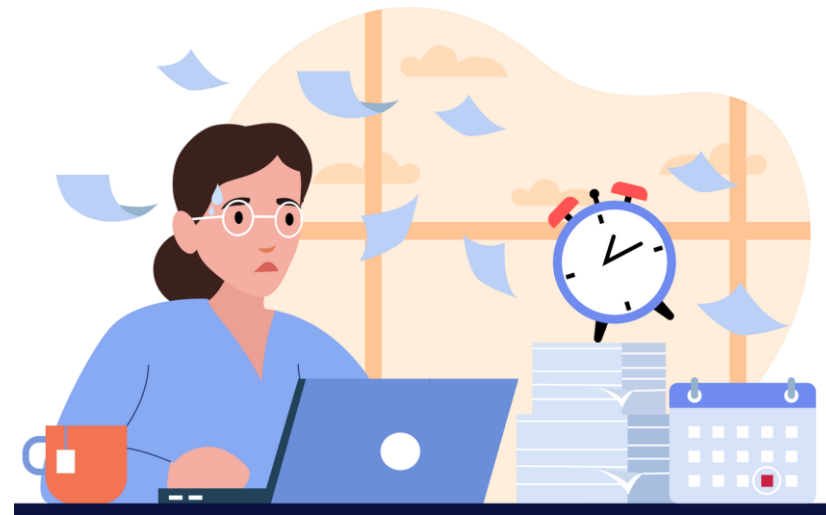
APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS

- **Acknowledgement of Risks (allow 60+ minutes to read)**
- **“Letter of Motivation” questions (500 words max.)**
 - Why do you want to study abroad?
 - Why did you choose the destinations you chose?
 - Relate this experience to your academics
- **Budget: Estimated cost of 1 host institution (most expensive)**





FALL 2025 / WINTER 2026
APPLICATION DEADLINE:
JANUARY 30, 2025, 4 P.M.





OTHER GLOBAL ENGAGEMENT OPPORTUNITIES AT LAURIER!





NON-EXCHANGE PROGRAMS

- **Internship**
 - Ghana Internship
- **Faculty-led field courses**
 - Laurier course with Laurier instructor abroad for 2-4 weeks
- **Volunteer opportunities**
 - Exchange alumni





INTERNATIONAL @ HOME

- Intercultural Certificate
- International Education Week
- Tandem Language Program
- World University Service of Canada (WUSC)
- Volunteer opportunities

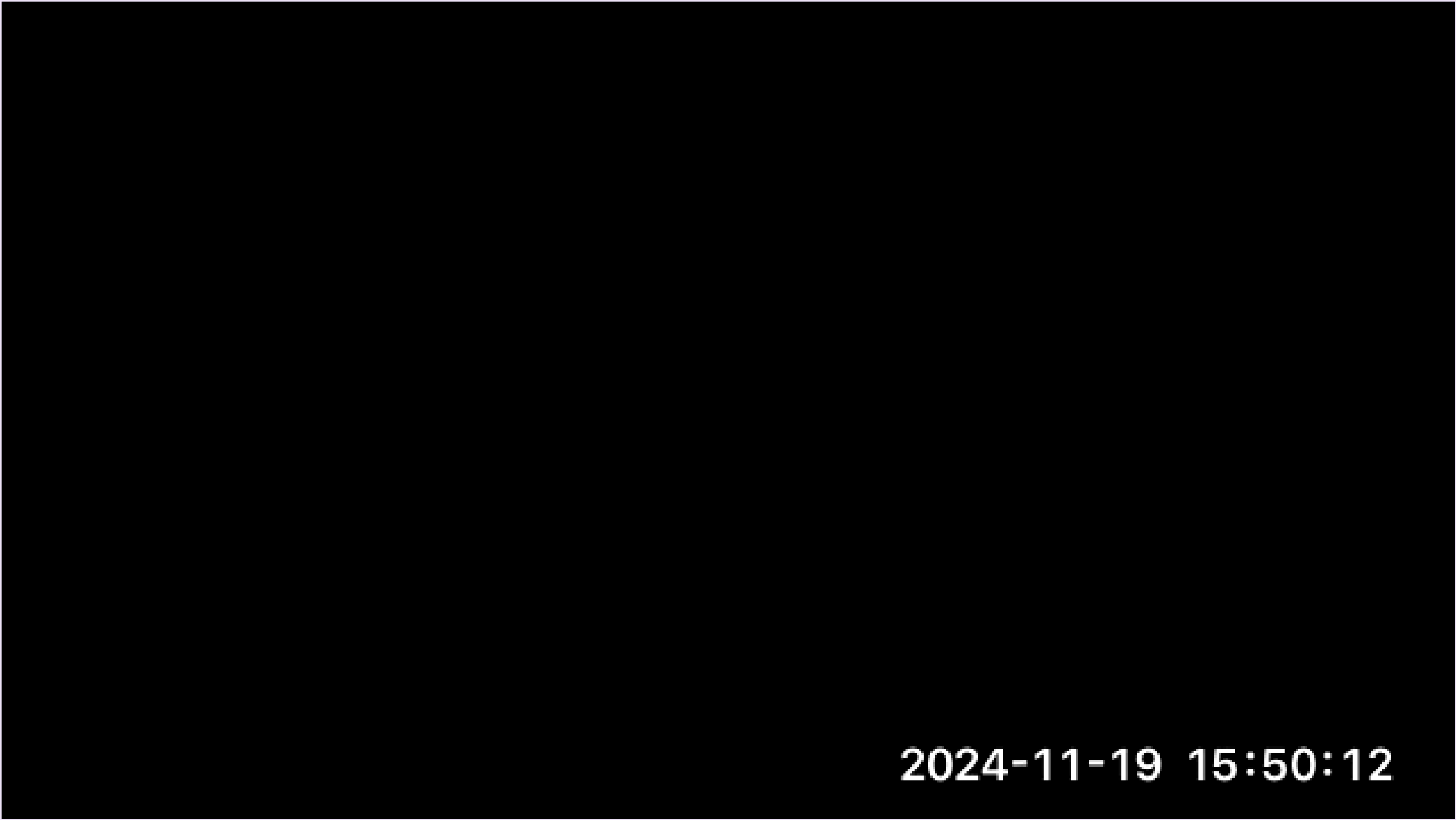




RACHANA BHARWANI'S EXCHANGE

- 4th-year Psychology, Philosophy minor,
Leadership option
- Sciences Po Lille, France
- Fall 2024 exchange





2024-11-19 15:50:12



FIND US ONLINE!



Global Engagement Website



**Instagram:
@LaurierInternational**

BROADEN YOUR HORIZONS



BUILD intercultural knowledge with the Intercultural Certificate



LEARN another language with the Tandem Language Program



STUDY ABROAD on exchange or on a faculty led field course



EMAIL & FOLLOW us on Instagram
exchange@wlu.ca
@LaurierInternational

More questions about Exchange?

BOOK a follow up appointment with **Anne-marie Henry (Brantford)** or **Sinthu Vimaladasan (Waterloo)** using the QR code below

