EXCHANGE / STUDY ABROAD
ADVISING GUIDE
WELCOME TO THE AUSTRALIAN NATIONAL UNIVERSITY

The Australian National University has a distinct national and global mission. Founded in 1946 to apply the best minds to the biggest questions and advance Australia’s international standing, ANU has grown to become one of the world’s most respected centres of higher learning.

At ANU, students become part of a global network of thought leaders and innovators. Consistently ranked among the top universities in the world, they will have access state-of-the-art facilities, the best resources in the nation and some of the world’s leading academics.

ANU has the smartest students in the country

ANU is one of the largest residential campuses in Australia and houses about 5,000 students
WHY EXCHANGE OR STUDY ABROAD AT ANU?

> A stellar academic experience

ANU promotes an independent and interactive learning environment that encourages initiative and is driven by our fundamental objective to impart a superior, research-led education to our students.

The unique physical and intellectual environment at ANU allows students to study alongside world-leading researchers. During their studies at ANU, students will explore intricate ideas, gain skills to critically analyse and solve complex problems, and discover knowledge, experience and skills to become leaders.

> A research-led education has given real meaning to the creation of an active community of scholars at ANU.

Our students are taught by, and work with, active researchers at all levels of achievement. Highly research-active staff means that students are exposed to the latest scholarly developments in their respective fields.

> The strong focus on residential living enables our high calibre students to study and socialise with like-minded peers, helping them establish lifelong friends and valuable networks. There’s always something happening within the campus community to encourage collaborative pursuits beyond study. This has helped to create a community of engaged, creative and inspired minds.

Returning exchange and study abroad students mention their residential hall as the thing they miss the most.

ANU is ranked 1st in Australia and 19th in the world*  
QS World University Rankings 2015/2016

ANU has produced 6 Nobel Laureate Alumni, the highest of any Australian university

ANU has the highest percentage of staff with a PhD in Australia and the country’s lowest student-to-staff ratio

ANU is ranked 7th in Politics/International Relations, 9th in History & 7th in Forestry*  
QS World University Rankings 2015/2016

ANU is ranked 7th in the 7th most international university in the world*  
Times Higher Education ranking ’17

95% of ANU research is rated ‘above world standard’**  
Study Assist, 2015
WHY EXCHANGE OR STUDY ABROAD AT ANU?

> A tempered student size

ANU has over 20,000 students which ensures students have equal access to resources and no student gets left behind. Non-award students get just five months to have a great international study experience. ANU Global Programs guarantees personal attention and care to make sure students are well prepared before they arrive and well integrated in the first few weeks of getting here.

> Guaranteed accommodation

Our unique tertiary institution provides a comprehensive range of academic, pastoral and spiritual support together with an extensive social, sporting and cultural program. Nothing beats the convenience of living on campus and provides you with easy access to all University health, counselling, sports, the library, academic and social facilities. ANU is a community where young people of all faiths live and study together, in a spirit of diversity, individual growth and mutual respect. Students get the opportunity to choose between 11 accommodation halls/residences that best suit their needs. http://www.anu.edu.au/study/accommodation

> A cross-disciplinary approach to education

We encourage students to take up different subjects in different colleges/faculties; there are generally no restrictions to be doing a select number of courses at one college and the rest at another. As long as the student meets pre-requisites, the student could be doing all four courses (a full semester workload) at different academic colleges.

Cassandra Frankel
Bachelor of Politics and Spanish, McGill University, Canada

“ANU has been a really great place to meet people with entirely different backgrounds from me. It has been so easy to get involved in campus life here and everyone is so friendly.”

ANU academic colleges:

> ANU College of Arts and Social Sciences
> ANU College of Asia and the Pacific
> ANU College of Business and Economics
> ANU College of Engineering and Computer Science
> ANU College of Law
> ANU College of Medicine, Biology and Environment
> ANU College of Physical and Mathematical Sciences

Accommodation is guaranteed for exchange and study abroad students.

Students are assured they can contact us whenever they want and our office is open for them every day of the working week.

No additional charge for unlimited internet, printing and counselling services.
> Academic breadth
The seven academic colleges together teach approx. **200 majors and over 5,000 courses**. A bit more detail is given in the following pages.

ANU has **17 language majors** including Japanese, Korean, Indonesian, German and French. We encourage students to take up beginners’ courses in a new language or further their knowledge by taking intermediary or advanced language lessons if they meet the pre-requisites.

Students can apply to intern with a range of public and private sector organisations, while engaging in a research project, as part of the **Australian National Internship Program (ANIP)**.

> Academic dynamic
Classes never get full and therefore there is **no rush to sign up for a class**.

Also, course approvals are communicated a month before students actually arrive at ANU. If, for whatever reason, they want to add or drop a course, they can do so within three weeks of classes commencing and throughout orientation week.

Therefore, incoming exchange and study abroad students get a month to decide the four courses they want to take at ANU for a semester. Also, all lectures are recorded and hosted online for students to refer to later.

> Strong STEM focus
ANU plays an important national role in the fields of **science, technology, engineering and mathematics**.

Our world renowned researchers are working at the forefront of global challenges and specialise in everything from addressing climate change and predicting tsunamis, to developing the world’s highest efficiency solar cell and leading major advances in stem cell science for a new era of regenerative medicine. ANU ranks 1 in Australia and 28 in the world for physical sciences.

> A vibrant international student population helps our incoming students feel right at home at ANU
ANU will not just be a **window to Australian people and culture** but an incoming study abroad student will be exposed to numerous other cultural influences from the Asia Pacific region.

ANU and Canberra offer a diversity that is reflected in cuisine, dress, language, art, and the various clubs and societies that have sprung up to bring people together and impart a strong and unique sense of community.

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**Rebecca Houske**
**Bachelor of International Relations, University of Minnesota, USA**

“Spending the past five months 9,000 miles (14,500 km) away from home studying at ANU was the best decision I have made while at university. I was able to study at a top university and live in Canberra where I was immersed in the heart of Australian politics. In additions to my academic experience, I learned to play netball and rugby through participating in interhall sport and made many lifelong friends from within my college and in courses. Leaving my comfort zone in the United States and studying at ANU added another level to my university experience, and I would recommend this university to any student looking for academic rigor, global perspectives, touristy adventures, funny accents, and the world’s best coffee.”

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**WHY EXCHANGE OR STUDY ABROAD AT ANU?**

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+35 shops, restaurants and cafes on or around campus

+100 students societies

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100 steps to Canberra CBD
WHY CANBERRA?

> Canberra is a **young, energetic and safe city**, with students making up around 25 per cent of the city’s population. Canberra ranks 22nd on the QS World University Rankings for student cities.

The Organisation of Economic Cooperation and Development rated Canberra as **the best city in the world for well-being in 2014**, meaning our residents have the highest quality of life across income, jobs, health, and access to services, environment, education, safety, civic engagement and housing.

> Combine the calibre of students that choose to study in Canberra with the fact that it offers a range of world class education opportunities and it’s easy to see how Canberra has earned its reputation as **the most educated city in Australia**. Our economy is based on the service industries, across public administration, professional services and education and training, meaning close to 50% of our residents have a Bachelor degree, well above the national average.

> Canberra is the **meeting place** for Australia’s biggest ideas and is **the hub of national pride** and collective spirit. Students in Canberra have abundant opportunities to learn, live, discover and grow. Students get an opportunity to engage with Australia’s seat of national government and enjoy easy access to our national cultural organisations.

> With all study abroad students living on campus, most enjoy **very little commute time** which frees up their day for other activities and interests. Canberra is also a biker’s city with extensive bike paths and most of our students rent bicycles (from the shop on campus) through their time at ANU. Also, international students are offered the **same discounts as domestic students** on public transport.

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**Nicolas Rios**  
Master of Business and Economics, Universidad de Chile, Chile  
“ANU isn’t just a prestigious university. Here, I’ve been given the chance to find and explore my passions and interests within an unbelievably wide range of opportunities.”

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**Enjoy a getaway to a region of mountains, snow and sand**

Canberra offers many cultural events throughout the year such as **gallery exhibitions, concerts and food festivals**

**Wide open spaces, park and national reserves**

Canberra enjoys **4 distinct seasons** and boasts long sunny days
One academic year at ANU is broken into two semesters.
Semester 1 (mid February - end June)
Semester 2  (mid July - end November)

Application timelines
> For Semester 1 of any year - apply by 1 November of the previous year
> For Semester 2 - apply by 1 April
These are only guidelines and can be adjusted as required. The foremost objective of our office is to help facilitate an international experience for an incoming student with as much flexibility and support as possible. Therefore, if a student is interested to study with us, we'll do our best to work with them and make the process as smooth as possible.

Documents required
> Most recent official transcript
> A passport copy
> The application is entirely online; no hard copies required.

Course approval process
Students submit an online application to ANU wherein they are asked to list six course preferences. They are required to take only four courses per semester. The other two courses must be regarded as the ‘fall-back’ options.

Each course at ANU is worth 6 units and therefore 24 units is one semester load.

Students can browse through our course catalogue and pick six course preferences http://programsandcourses.anu.edu.au/Catalogue

Courses for the next year are mapped out and detailed information on learning outcomes, course workload and indicative assessment are provided for each of the available courses.

Academic workload
Six units or one course usually involves three academic contact hours per week and a total of 130 contact and workload hours per semester.

24 ANU units is equivalent to 15 US credit hours.

Orientation Week
ANU O-week is a great opportunity to get a taste of what university life can offer incoming study abroad students and help them prepare for their studies, explore the ANU campus and connect with other new students. The large range of social and academic events in the O-week program can help set them up to succeed in the early stages of their program.

O-week precedes the week when classes commence. ANU Global Programs hosts an exclusive event for incoming exchange and study abroad students which is a combination of conveying important information as well as introducing these students to each other and helping them feel at home at ANU.
Any questions?
ANU Global Programs
E inbound.global@anu.edu.au
W anu.edu.au/study
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anu_globalprograms