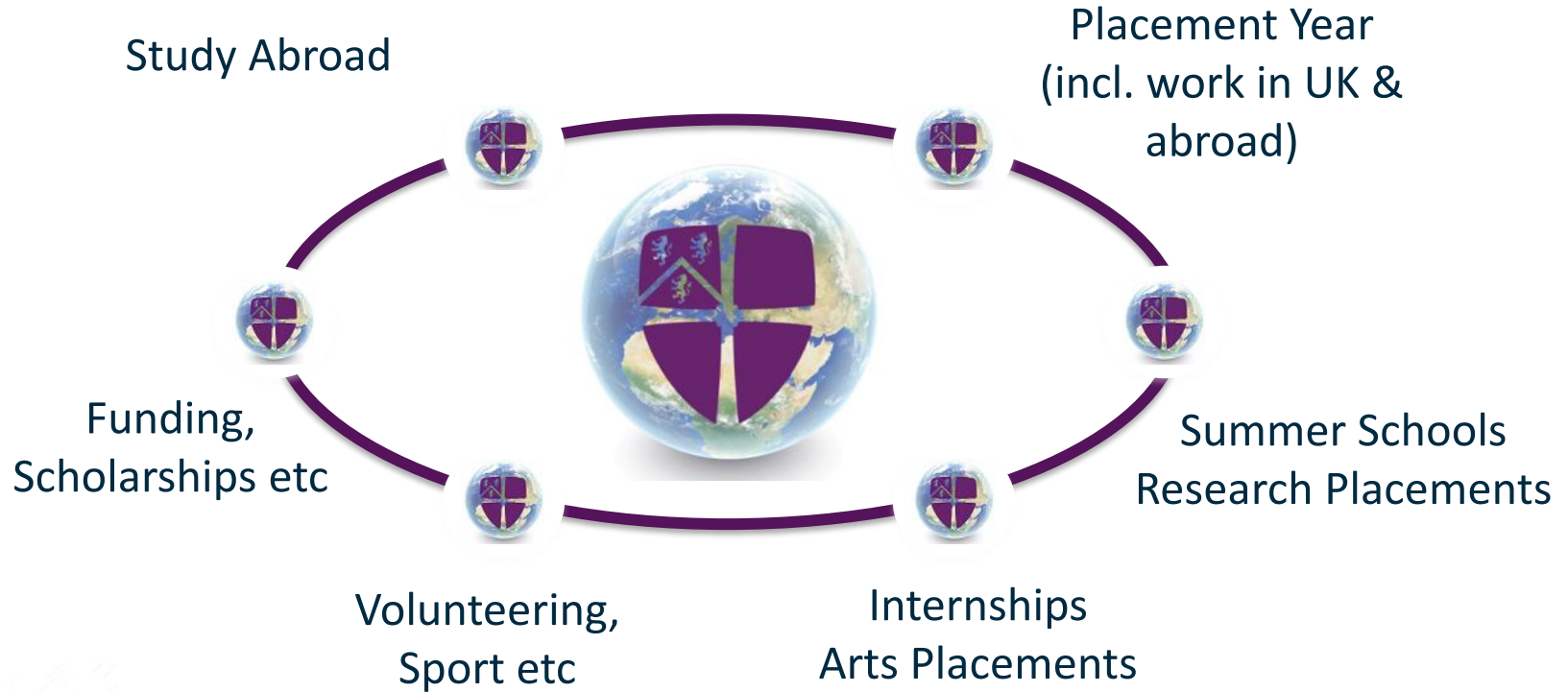


Global Opportunities Fair

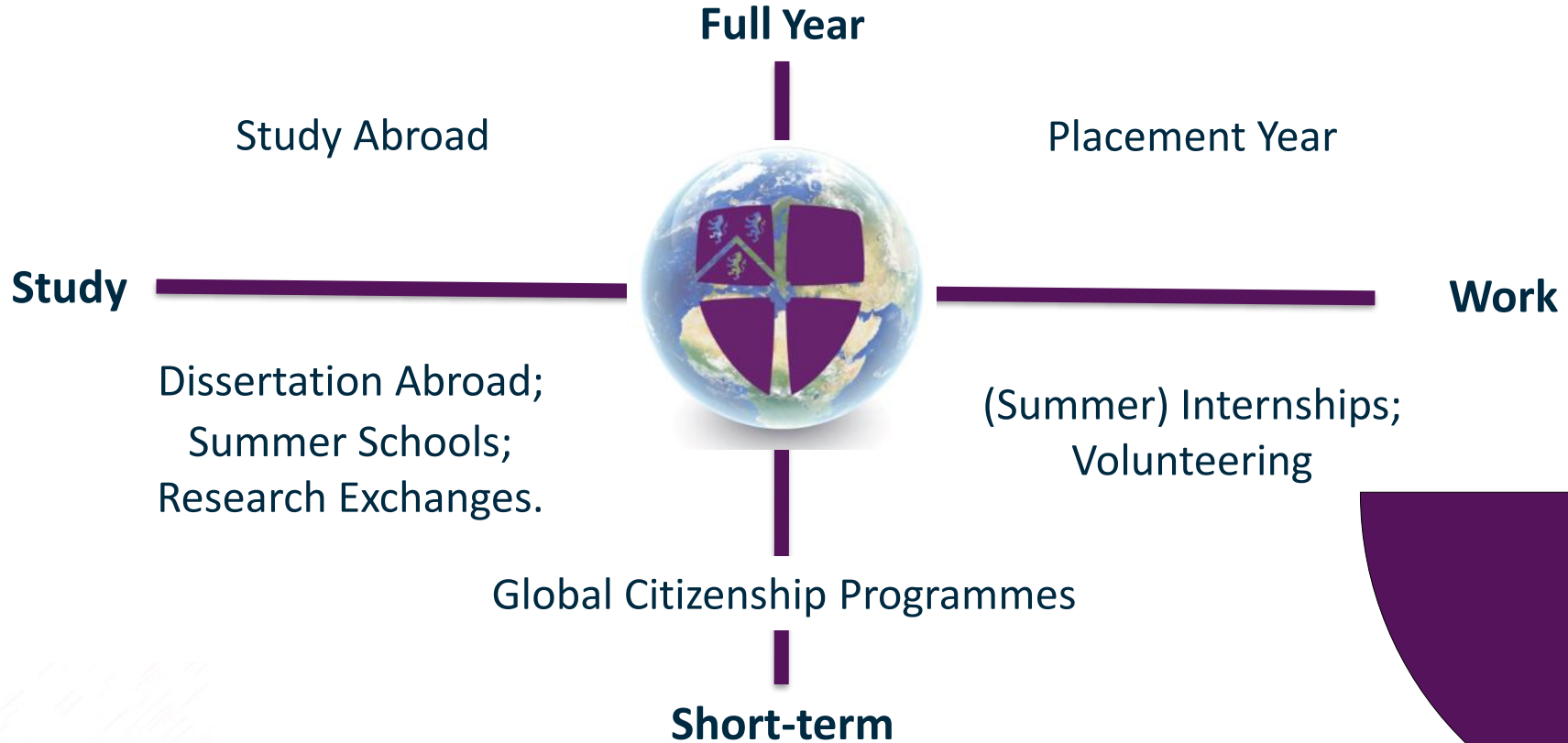
Study Abroad

Simon Litchfield
Global Opportunities Team

What are Global Opportunities?



Structure



Global Opportunities

- Study Abroad (full 'Year Abroad' at a university)
- Work placements in UK and abroad
 - Careers & Enterprise Centre
 - Faculty Placement Managers
 - Classified as a 'Placement Year' rather than a 'Year Abroad'.
- Global Internships
- Summer Schools
- Volunteering Abroad
- Venice Biennale Fellowship
- Global Citizenship Programmes
- Virtual Programmes
- www.durham.ac.uk/global-durham/global-opportunities/
- www.instagram.com/DUglobalopportunities/

Placement Years

A Complete Guide for Students



durham.ac.uk/careers

Global Opportunities Website & Mailing List



All Global Opportunities

www.durham.ac.uk/global-durham/global-opportunities/



Global Opportunities Mailing List

MS Form – DU students only





Durham
University

Why should I consider a (study) Year Abroad?

300+

Exchange Agreements
at leading universities
in 35+ countries
worldwide



See the world & develop yourself!



A year abroad is a great way to see the world, have adventures and make international friends. Placements are available across the globe.

At the same time, you will develop important personal skills: both for academic performance and for thriving in an increasingly connected world.

- Intercultural awareness
- Language skills
- Knowledge of other countries
- Confidence
- Tolerance
- Self-awareness
- Sociability
- Problem solving
- Decisiveness
- Adaptability
- Curiosity



Durham
University

Learning and Research

Students who take a year abroad:

- Are more likely to gain a better degree mark
- Get inspired for final year dissertation projects and often conduct preliminary research
- Have their Year Abroad recognised on their degree transcript.

9%

Students who take a year abroad are 9% **more likely to get a 1st or 2:1**

UUKi (2017) Gone International: Mobility Works.
Report on the 2014–15 graduating cohort

Stand Out From The Crowd



Santa Teclā Festival - Tarragona

Career Prospects

A year abroad enhances job prospects. Compared to their peers year abroad graduates are:

- 24% LESS likely to be unemployed
- 9% MORE likely to be in 'graduate' jobs six months after graduation
- 5% HIGHER wage earners 6 months after graduation
- HALF AS LIKELY to be long-term unemployed as their non-mobile peers
- SIGNIFICANTLY MORE LIKELY to hold managerial positions 10 years after graduation
- MORE likely to start their own company than their graduate peers.

39%

of **Employers** want graduates to have **more international cultural understanding**

In 2017, 39% of employers were dissatisfied with graduates' international cultural awareness and 47% were dissatisfied with graduates' language skills. CBI/Pearson Education and Skills Survey (2017).

Connections

Students who go abroad build both friendships as well as new international long-term social, academic and professional networks that can increase global job prospects further down the line.



Meet international students in
Durham with the Erasmus
Student Network
[instagram.com/esn_durham](https://www.instagram.com/esn_durham)





Durham
University

Study Abroad Options

Three pathways

Non-European Exchange

- Non-European placements
 - Arguably more exotic locations
-
- Fewer opportunities = less success

Applications open:
23 October

European Exchange

- European placements
 - May also be known as “Erasmus+”
-
- More opportunities = more success

Applications open:
After Christmas

Global Opportunities

- Work placement (UK and Abroad) (Placement Year (administered by Careers))
- Summer schools
- Internships

Applications open:
Depends on which GO

Study Abroad: Open to all degrees – incl. CH / joint honours

Additional Year

- Increase from 3 to 4 years;
- Pass/fail year and the grades do not affect the final degree classification;
- The final degree programme will be Your Degree (BA, MA etc) XXXX with Year Abroad and will receive a transcript from your host university to prove what you did whilst abroad;
- **95+% of exchanges are additional year.**

Replacement Year

- Abroad in year 3;
- Grades count towards final Durham degree;
- Offered by some 4 year Masters courses in the Science Faculty - please check with your [Departmental Coordinator](#) for details;
- Not an option for students on a 3 year course.

MLAC:

- Compulsory 3rd year abroad;
- Up to 3 placements for a max 12 months. E.g. could 3 months summer work in France, then a 6-month study placement in Spain.

Non-European Exchange

- For exchanges with universities outside the EU. Including: Australia, Canada, Chile, China & Hong Kong, Colombia, India, Japan, New Zealand, Singapore, South Korea, Taiwan, Thailand, USA.
- Institution-wide links (with some Dept. links) as long as you can find modules in your subject.
- Select up to 3 preferences.
- Limited opportunities = more competition (40% chance of being placed).

Increase your chances going abroad:
if unsuccessful for a non-European exchange place
you may apply for a European place.



Non-European Exchange – Where can I GO

<https://www.durham.ac.uk/global-durham/global-opportunities/go-study-abroad/where/>

Where can I GO?

There are two main exchange programmes available: Non European Exchange and European. Most non-European partners teach in English, however, places are more competitive. The teaching language of European partners varies from partner to partner. The number of European placements means most (90+%) of students receive an offer of a place and the number of department to department exchange links means that there is a page dedicated to European placements.

Things to consider when thinking about where to GO →



Check the 'Where can I GO' pages for a full list of non-EU destinations

List of all non-European exchange partners

Asia

China (Mainland)

- [Chinese University Hong Kong, Shenzhen](#) - Shenzhen
- [East China Normal University](#) (ECNU) - Shanghai
- [East China University of Political Sciences and Law](#) (ECUPL) - Shanghai
- [Nanjing University](#) (NJU) - Nanjing
- [Peking University](#) (PKU) - Beijing
- [Tsinghua University](#) - Beijing
- [Zhejiang University](#) - Hangzhou

Hong Kong & Macau

- [Chinese University Hong Kong](#) (CUHK)
- [City University Hong Kong](#) (CityU)
- [Hong Kong Polytechnic University](#) (PolyU)
- [Hong Kong University](#) (HKU)
- [Lingnan University](#)
- [University of Macau](#)

India

- [Ashoka University](#)

Japan

- [Chiba University](#)
- [Hitotsubashi University](#) - Tokyo
- [International Christian University](#) (ICU) - Tokyo
- [Keio University](#) - Tokyo
- [Kumamoto University](#)
- [Kyoto University](#)
- [Kyushu University](#) - Fukuoka
- [Nagoya University](#)
- [Osaka University](#)
- [University of Tokyo](#)
- [Tohoku University](#) - Sendai
- [Waseda University](#) - Tokyo

Korea

- [Korea University](#) - Seoul
- [Seoul National University](#) (SNU)
- [Yonsei University](#) - Seoul
- [Pohang University of Science and Technology](#) (POSTECH) - Pohang
- [Sungkyunkwan University](#) - Seoul

Malaysia



University of Calgary

With an excellent campus that occupies 213 hectares, the University of Calgary is a leading Canadian research university.

Find out more at Calgary's exchange webpages →



Number of places available: 1 full year place

- [Calgary University website](#)
- [Exchanges website](#)
- [UCalgary Factsheet 2025-26](#)
- **Important Visa Information:** Students applying for Canadian study permits will be required to travel to London to complete a bio metrics register. The High Commission in London has advised that the minimum time for turn around of visa's is two months. For more information click [here](#).
- **Videos:** [Calgary Your City of Choice](#) and [We Are UCalgary](#)

Dates

Term dates:

← The DU pages are there to help as a guide. We have hundreds of partners, so you still need to check out the partner pages for final details of what they offer.

European/Erasmus+ Exchanges

- For exchanges with European partners only.
- Select up to three preferences.
- Hundreds of departmental links (open to your Department only) (joint honours must choose a leading department).
- c.30 institution-wide links (open to all departments – if you can find modules in your subject).
- Lots of opportunities = less competition = increased chance of success!
- Greater likelihood of funding



European Exchange – Where can I GO

<https://www.durham.ac.uk/global-durham/global-opportunities/go-study-abroad/europe/>

GO Study Abroad: Europe

With over 200+ exchange agreements, there is a wide range of European GO options. Many of these agreements are departmental specific. If you are interested in a Non European exchange, please visit our Non European page by clicking on the yellow link below.

[Find out about Non European study abroad →](#)



Select your department for a full list of European destinations

Where can I go?

Each academic Department has a different set of partners. Please click on your relevant Department to find the agreements available to you. If you are a combined or joint honours student, you are able to choose any department from your subject areas. Students are required to seek approval from all departments including the Combined Honours exchange coordinators.

Anthropology	Archaeology	Biosciences	Business School
Chemistry	Classics	Computer Science	Earth Sciences
Education	Engineering	English Studies	Geography
Govt. & Int. Affairs	History	Law	Mathematics
Modern Languages	Music	Physics	Philosophy
Psychology	Sociology	Sports & Exercise	Theology & Religion



When applying for a European exchange place, students may apply select up to three universities. The three choices may be a mix of: specific department to department partners; and institution-wide partners listed below.

Anthropology Specific Partners

These are departmental links only available to students studying anthropology as part of their degree. Students studying joint/combined honours that include anthropology may also apply for these universities, but must select a majority of modules in anthropology at these partners.

Partner Code	Partner Name	Country	Language	Number of Places	UG	PGT	PGR
CZ PRAHA07	University of West Bohemia	Czechia	English	5	X	X	
CZ PRAHA07	Charles University in Prague	Czechia	English	2	X	X	X
D KOLN01	University of Cologne	Germany	German	2	X		X
D MUNCHEN01	Ludwig Maximilian University of Munich	Germany	German	5	X	X	X
EE TALLINN05	Tallinna Ulikool	Estonia	English	5	X		X
F PARIS010	Paris West University Nanterre La Défense	France	B1 French	5	X	X	X

We don't have individual DU pages (as we have 250+ partners). To find out more click the link to go onto the partner's webpage.

At the top of the page we list the partners specific to your department

Scroll down for institution-wide places open to all students

Institution-wide Partners

These university partners are open to students from any academic Department - except any departments listed in the "Restrictions" column listed below. If your department is listed as a restriction you must not apply for a place at that partner. Before making an application, you must check that sufficient modules for a full workload are available in your subject at these partners. To do this you will need to visit the partner university's incoming exchange website. These university partnerships are supported by our membership of the [Coimbra Group](#) (CG) Student Exchange Network (SEN) and [Arqus on the Move Network](#).

Partner Code	Partner Name	Country	Language*	Number of Places	Agreement Type	Restrictions (courses to which students cannot apply)
A GRAZ01**	Karl-Franzens-Universität Graz	Austria	German B2 English B2 (search for classes taught in English)	4	Institution-wide	Applications for subjects with restricted admission will be considered upon prior consultation with the departments concerned. Pharmacy lab placements are generally difficult and cannot be guaranteed.
CZ PRAHA07	Charles University in Prague	Czechia	English	1	Coimbra SEN	Psychology, Political Science, Pre-primary Education, Medicine
F LYON01	Université Claude Bernard Lyon 1	France	French B2 English B2	Unlimited***	Arqus	Medicine: Applications approved within a limited number of places and after prior

These partners are found towards the bottom of each departmental page for European exchanges. Scroll up for the specific agreements in your department.

If your department is listed as a restriction, it means that the partner will not allow you to apply.

Institution-wide partners are open to all students, but you must check that you can find modules in your subject.



Durham
University

Study Abroad Mechanics & Support

What will you study

You shape the academic course of your year. You may:

- add depth to a subject you have already started studying;
- add breadth by learning about new areas in your field.

You propose modules when applying, which will be subject to your Dept approving them (as 'academically relevant').

Languages: some non-anglophone universities (and most Departmental Exchange Coordinators) will allow a (beginners) language module to be taken.

Do your research! Check course catalogues multiple universities to compare courses appropriate to you. Hint search: '[Name of University] Incoming Exchange'.

Be prepared to be flexible on arrival - modules may clash.



Languages

- Most non-European partners teach in English
- Many European partner universities teach in English, but some teach in the language of that country.
 - If knowledge of a foreign language is required, the typical level is B1.
 - We would normally recommend an A-Level (or equivalent qualification) for students learning entirely in the host language.

D ULM01	Universität ULM	Germany	German BA/English
I PARMA01	Università degli Studi di Parma	Italy	A2 Italian
N BERGEN01	Universiteit i Bergen	Norway	English
E MADRID04	Universidad Autónoma de Madrid	Spain	B2 Spanish
S LUND01	Lund University	Sweden	English
TR DIYARBA01	Dicle University	Turkey	English

The **Centre for Foreign Language Study** offers language courses for Durham students.

From Beginners to Higher Advanced level, courses are flexible, in a variety of formats and lengths, with start dates throughout the year.

www.durham.ac.uk/cfls/



Fees & Funding

- Study abroad tuition fee reduction: only 15% of the full tuition fees to Durham University
- No tuition fees are paid to the host university
- Student Finance Maintenance Loan and Travel Grant
- BUT! Think about additional costs: living costs, travel, visas, health insurance



Erasmus+ Funding

- For 2027/28 we will be part of Erasmus+.
 - Amount of funding currently unknown;
 - DU will bid for funding when permitted;
- We have been successful in each previous funding bid



Warning for non-EU exchange students:

- Only 20% of Erasmus+ funding can be spent outside of the EU. This will limit how much non-EU funding we have.
- Likely to be insufficient funding to fund non-EU exchange all students. Priority will be given to Widening Participation students via means testing.

Notes for all exchange students:

- Students may be eligible to receive a grant – it is not guaranteed.
- Students cannot bid directly to Erasmus+ – must be on a DU registered activity.
- Students must complete all paperwork to be eligible.

Welfare and Support



College – pastoral and wellbeing support staff



Durham University Counselling Service



Your host university's support services



Departmental Exchange Coordinator



Disability Support



Durham University Global Opportunities Team



SEND Support



Widening Access

A few FAQs

- I'm not sure if I would prefer to work or study abroad?
 - You may apply for both and see what offers you receive.
- Is accommodation guaranteed with the partner university?
 - No. Many non-EU will (if you apply in time). In Europe it is a mix. Check each partner's incoming exchange website for details of their offer.
- How hard is it to make friends abroad?
 - Most universities hold an international welcome. Attending lectures, continuing hobbies and saying "yes" is a good way to meet people.
- What is it like coming back?
 - Another transition. Support is available. Most students super focussed on final year.



Applying to Study Abroad

Preparation and application

Year 1

- Read the website for ideas on programmes offered by the University
- Check external links and resources;
- Speak to your Dept Exchange Coordinator about exchanges and other opportunities available during your degree in your department;
- Discuss plans with family and friends;
- Learn or maintain a language with the Centre for Foreign Language Study.

Year 2 (Michaelmas Term)

- Attend the Global Opportunities Fair
- Visit the How to Apply page:
www.durham.ac.uk/global-durham/global-opportunities/go-study-abroad/apply/
- Speak to your Dept Exchange Coordinator.
- Non-European Exchange – read the full application guide;
- Apply for an exchange.

Submit applications in the Michaelmas Term of your second year.

Application and Allocation

Apply by the deadline. Applications are only processed after the deadline, therefore, NOT on a first-come first-allocated basis

Non-European Exchange

Application

- 1) Students apply online (deadline 20 Nov).
- 2) After deadline students receive 5 anonymous personal statements for peer-to-peer scoring. Students submit peer scores (deadline 7 Dec).

Moderation / Allocation

- 3) Scores heavily moderated by International / Academic staff.
- 4) Allocation of places based on a score:
 - 25% academic marks
 - 75% mean moderated average scores you receive from your peers for your personal statement.

European

- 1) Students apply after Christmas

2a) Departmental places allocated by Departments

2b) Institution-wide places allocated by International office based on academic marks

Non-European Exchange Personal Statement

Section A: Please describe in no more than 500 words how the proposed study placement(s) will benefit you academically personally and professionally, how you will maximise the benefits of your placement, and how it will enhance your long term career goals (75% weighting)

Section B: Please outline in no more than 200 words what qualities, skills and experience you can bring to the proposed placement(s) and how you would act as an ambassador for Durham University (25% weighting)

Supporting documents available:

- 1) [Full Application Guide](#)
- 2) [Practice Application Proforma](#)

<https://www.durham.ac.uk/global-durham/global-opportunities/go-study-abroad/apply/non-european-exchange-application/>

Tips for application (also applies to ...jobs, exams, career, life etc)

There is no magic one-size-fits-all trick, but there are things you can do to help:

- Read the [Non European Exchange Application Guide](#);
- Pass your exams! Minimum required is 55% pass (60% in Law);
- Answer the questions asked in the application;
- Show you have done your research;
- **Run a narrative thread through your personal statement.** We already know that you want to go, but what we want to know is:
 - why you want to go; what the experience will give to you; what you can give to the experience; what have you done to prepare.
- Do activities that set you apart (e.g. keen to go to Japan? Join the Anglo-Japanese Society).
- Keep to the word limit, read our AI guide and be concise.

Good luck!

Further Information

Visit our website:

- Global Opportunities: www.durham.ac.uk/global-durham/global-opportunities/
- Study Abroad: www.durham.ac.uk/global-durham/global-opportunities/go-study-abroad/hub/

Check out our social media:

- www.instagram.com/DUGlobalopportunities

Get in touch!

- exchanges.studyabroad@durham.ac.uk

