

SFU

SIMON FRASER UNIVERSITY
INTERNATIONAL SERVICES FOR STUDENTS

EXCHANGES AND STUDY ABROAD TO SIMON FRASER UNIVERSITY



AN IDEAL DESTINATION

As one of Canada's top comprehensive universities, Simon Fraser University (SFU) is an ideal destination for short-term study for both undergraduate and graduate students from other institutions. Our location in Metropolitan Vancouver offers the advantages of a large and cosmopolitan city on the beautiful west coast of Canada, and our academic programs offer a wide choice across many disciplines in eight faculties. We pride ourselves on our welcoming atmosphere for new students and the many programs and services we offer to help you adjust to life in Vancouver and make your time here unforgettable.

WHICH TYPE OF STUDENT ARE YOU?

If you wish to pursue short-term study at SFU, you will fall into one of these categories:

- Exchange student: Your home institution has a Formal Exchange Agreement with SFU and you are coming to SFU under this agreement.
- Study abroad student: Your home institution has a Formal Study Abroad Agreement with SFU and you are coming to SFU under this agreement.
- Independent visiting student (non-degree): Your home institution does not have a formal partnership with SFU.

If you will attend SFU as a formal exchange or study abroad student, you will find the information in this publication useful. Your main point of contact for admissions and administrative questions will be International Services for Students (ISS).

If you will attend SFU as an independent visiting student, most of this publication does not apply to you. You will find the information you need on SFU's admission page: students.sfu.ca/admission

SFU TERM DATES

SFU operates on a system of three academic terms each year. Each term is 15 weeks in length, including the final exam period. If you are an exchange or study abroad student you may spend one, two, or sometimes up to three terms at SFU, depending on approval from your home institution.

Fall term: early September to mid December

Spring term: early January to late April

Summer term: early May to mid August

For exact dates go to: students.sfu.ca/importantdates

ENGLISH LANGUAGE REQUIREMENTS

English is the main language of instruction at SFU. Therefore, you must meet the same English requirements as those students applying for admission to a degree program.

For details about these requirements, see: students.sfu.ca/admission/requirements/english-requirement.html

Please check with your institution's Exchange Co-ordinator for the preferred method of English language assessment for students from your school.

APPLY FOR EXCHANGE OR STUDY ABROAD

Please read about our application process at: students.sfu.ca/exchange/prospective/application.html

All applications must be completed online in full, including the following supporting documents which must be uploaded:

- verification of the application by the home institution coordinator (on-line)
- your valid email address(es)
- your most recent official transcript (in English)
- one photo (headshot, passport-style)
- statement of interest
- copy of your IELTS or TOEFL iBT score, if required

If you are a graduate exchange or study abroad student you must also submit the following documents, in addition to those listed above:

- two academic references
- curriculum vitae (academic résumé)

APPLICATION DEADLINES

For confirmed dates and additional information, see: students.sfu.ca/exchange/prospective.html

FALL TERM START	
Exchange/Study Abroad application (for those students also applying for residence on campus).	March 31
On-campus residence application for exchange and study abroad students.	March 31
Exchange/Study Abroad application (for those students finding their own housing off campus).	May 1
SPRING TERM START	
Exchange/Study Abroad application (for students wishing to live on campus or off campus).	September 30
On-campus residence application for exchange and study abroad students.	application system normally opens in early October
SUMMER TERM START	
Exchange/Study Abroad application (for students wishing to live on or off campus).	January 30
On-campus residence application for exchange and study abroad students.	January 30

ATTENDING SFU

ACCOMMODATION

On- and off-campus housing options: students.sfu.ca/exchange/prospective/housing.html

ISS will assist you whenever possible, however we cannot guarantee on-campus housing. Priority for available housing on-campus is given to students who submit their complete Exchange/Study Abroad Application (including supporting documents) and Residence Application by the required deadlines (see “Application Deadlines” in this publication).

(Note: When submitting your on-campus housing application please indicate the word “exchange” when you are asked for your SFU student number. ISS will then forward your SFU student number to housing once you are admitted to SFU.)

ORIENTATION

Before the start of each term ISS organizes a fun and informative Exchange/StudyAbroad Orientation, which all exchange and study abroad students are expected to attend. This session covers such topics as campus life, exchange/study abroad administrative details, and succeeding in the SFU academic system. We also offer some great events to help you meet people so you can begin to make friends and connections here at SFU.

In addition to the ISS Orientation, we expect you to participate in the Campus Orientation, and the Residence Orientation if you will be living on-campus.

For more information please see: students.sfu.ca/isap/new/orientation.html

ACADEMIC PROGRAMS AND COURSES

Composed of eight faculties across three campuses in Burnaby, Vancouver and Surrey, SFU supports excellence and innovation in academic programs. The majority of disciplines offered at SFU are available to exchange and study abroad students.

Details of courses offered each term, as well as course outlines and pre-requisites, are available on our Student Information System (SIS): sis.sfu.ca

Restricted courses and programs, which are not normally open to exchange/study abroad students, can be found at: students.sfu.ca/exchange/prospective/courses.html

Due to demand and space restrictions, courses offered through the Faculty of Business Administration (BUS) at SFU are only open to exchange/study abroad students who are from institutions with specific Business exchange/study abroad agreements with SFU, and who are completing a major or minor in Business at their home institution. To find out whether you may take Business courses at SFU please speak with your home institution’s exchange coordinator.

COURSE LOADS AND COURSE ENROLLMENT

Full-time status at SFU is normally a minimum of 9 units for undergraduate students and 6 units for graduate students. A full course load is normally 15 units for undergraduate students and varies for graduate students.

We recommend that as an undergraduate student you plan to take 9 to 12 units per term at SFU (about 3 or 4 courses). Graduate students are recommended to take 6 to 9 units per term.

Please note that your home institution may require you to enroll in a specific number of units or courses at SFU, which may be higher than our recommendations.

For more information, please see: students.sfu.ca/exchange/prospective/courses.html

COSTS AND FEES

If you are an exchange student, you will normally pay tuition and student fees to your home institution for each term you attend SFU, except as noted below*.

If you are a study abroad student, you will normally pay tuition and student fees* (normally at international rates) directly to SFU for each term you attend SFU.

*All SFU students pay a mandatory U-Pass fee (public transit pass), residence fees (if living on campus), as well as library, lab, and similar fees. You will also need to purchase textbooks.

For an indication of typical costs for students at SFU, please see: students.sfu.ca/financialaid/budget-estimator/costs.html



PRACTICAL DETAILS

STUDY PERMIT AND VISA REQUIREMENTS

ONE-TERM STUDENTS

If you are studying at SFU for only one term (less than 6 months), you are not required to have a study permit. However, without a study permit you will not be eligible for on-campus employment and your healthcare costs may be significantly higher. Citizens from certain countries will, however, be required to have a Temporary Resident Visa.

TWO-TERM STUDENTS

If you are studying at SFU for more than 6 months you must have a study permit. In addition to a study permit, citizens from certain countries will also be required to have a Temporary Resident Visa.

WORKING IN CANADA

If you obtain a study permit you will normally be eligible to apply for part-time on-campus work. Exchange and study abroad students are not normally eligible to work off-campus.

SFU's Co-operative Education (internship) program is normally only open to exchange/studyabroad students from institutions with a specific Co-operative Education exchange agreement with SFU.

For more information on immigration matters see:

students.sfu.ca/internationalstudentservices/handbook/immigration.html

MEDICAL INSURANCE

All SFU students must have medical insurance.

Exchange and study abroad students who are paying tuition fees to SFU are automatically enrolled in an SFU extended health plan, but will normally still require basic coverage from a private provider.

All students residing in British Columbia for more than six months are required to purchase BC provincial health insurance, which is called MSP.

For details please see: students.sfu.ca/internationalstudentservices/handbook/health.html

NEED MORE INFORMATION?

We would be pleased to answer your questions:

Email: exchange@sfu.ca

Telephone: +1 778-782-4232

Web: students.sfu.ca/exchange/

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