

Dalhousie University Schulich School of Law

International Exchanges Information Booklet

2012 - 2013

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INTRODUCTION

The purpose of this information booklet is to provide assistance to Dalhousie law students in making their decisions regarding international exchanges in third year. The following information has been gathered from the websites of schools offering exchange opportunities to Dalhousie law students.

The International Linkages Committee does not guarantee the accuracy of this information. It is the responsibility of each student to verify the relevant information needed for attending the school(s) of their choice. Additional information on each school is available at the Law Library Reference Desk.

GENERAL INFORMATION ABOUT EXCHANGES

The Schulich School of Law is committed to promoting student opportunities to study in other countries and in civil law traditions. Exchanges are normally for one term and open to third year students. Home tuition arrangements generally apply which allows Dalhousie students to study at partner institutions without additional tuition fees.

The law exchange program at Dalhousie currently includes approximately 25 spaces. Last year, the committee received approximately 50 applications.

Students interested in applying for exchange are invited to submit applications to the International Linkages Committee with the following information:

1. Current transcript
2. Curriculum vitae
3. A letter of interest for each exchange opportunity (two-page, 500 word limit).

Applications are assessed holistically with consideration given to the following criteria:

- Interest in a particular field of law offered by the school;
- Reasons for studying abroad;
- Demonstrated interest in the region;
- How participating in an exchange will enhance career prospects/plans; and,
- Academic performance (students must have a minimum B average in law school – first year and first semester of second year marks considered).

Applications are due to front reception of the law building by 4:00PM, February 27, 2012.

Please note:

- ❖ Students will only be given credit for participating in one exchange program.
- ❖ Students may apply to a **maximum of three exchanges**.

VRIJE UNIVERSITEIT

Location

Amsterdam, Netherlands

Website

www.vu.nl/en/current-students/index.asp

Academic Calendar

The academic year starts in the first week of September and is divided into two semesters. Each semester consists of three periods: two of eight weeks and one of four. The second semester starts in February. Students are generally required to be in Amsterdam one week before the lectures start and some faculties hold their introduction program during this week. There are no classes in July and August. Examinations are held at the end of each semesters (January and June), or at the end of a given eight of four week period. Re-sits usually take place in the last two weeks of August.

Visa/Permit Requirements

Students from Canada are required to apply for a residence permit after arrival. The university must apply for the permit on behalf of the exchange student (passport and birth certificate required). Every foreign student staying longer than 4 months in the Netherlands must register with the municipality in the two or city in which they are staying.

For more information, see www.nuffic.nl

Cost of Living

To live and study in the Netherlands costs approximately \$1000/month, depending on each student's spending habits.

Monthly expenses:

- Rent for housing: €450
- Food: €350
- Insurance: €40
- Public transport: €50
- Books €50
- Other expenses: €60
- Total: €1000

Accommodation

The international office of VU University Amsterdam is able to provide accommodation for short-stay foreign exchange students at the university. The minimum period of rent is one month, up to a maximum of 12 months. Accommodation consists of furnished rooms with private or shared facilities. In most cases, bathroom, kitchen and living room must be shared with other students.

It is common that male and female students live together in the same student house. The standard furnishings include a bed, desk and cupboard, and in most cases kitchen utilities are available. The prices vary between €1450 and €3300 per semester, per person.

Language Requirements

Classes in the Faculty of Law are offered in English.

Courses Offered

The College of Law provides an exceptional general legal education, focusing on traditional areas of legal study as well as providing students with a rich variety of elective offerings. Among the courses offered are: Internet Governance, Human Rights and the Border, Public International Law, Danger Risk and Law in International Society; Human Rights and Citizenship of Aliens; Historical Introduction to European Legal Science; EU Law; International Intellectual Property Law; International Labour Law.

Grades

The Dutch grading system is generally based on a mark between 1 (minimum) and 10 (maximum). A grade of 5.5 or more is considered to be a “pass”, a grade of less than 5.5 is a “fail”. After successful completion of the course components, a transcript of records is drawn up and a university certificate is awarded.

Insurance

International students are required to have appropriate health insurance for the duration of their stay in the Netherlands.

Assistance for Exchange Students

ESN-VUuniverse is the organization for Dutch and international students at VU University Amsterdam. The Dutch members are students from a range of disciplines and their task is to introduce international students to both the university and the city of Amsterdam. At the beginning of each semester, ESN-VUuniverse organizes the International Student Introduction Days. ESN-VUuniverse also runs a mentorship program in which small groups of international students are assigned to a Dutch mentor who takes part in social activities or helps answer practical questions. Students can also apply for the free airport pick-up service; a Dutch student (or your mentor) will arrange to meet you when you arrive at the airport and will take you to your first address in the Netherlands.

UNIVERSITY OF MAINE LAW SCHOOL

Location

Portland, USA

Website

<http://mainelaw.maine.edu/>

Academic Calendar

Fall semester classes run from late August to early December. The examination period usually runs for a couple of weeks, from the middle to the end of December.

Winter semester classes commence in mid January and finish in late April. Spring break usually runs for a week in the middle of March. Students should be prepared for the examination period running from the beginning to the end of May.

Visa / Permit Requirements

Students must obtain an Exchange Visitor Visa. More information can be found at:

http://travel.state.gov/visa/temp/types_1267.html

Cost of Living

Nine-month student budget:

\$12,500 (fees, books, housing, travel, and other living expenses as estimated by the USM Financial Aid Office)

Accommodation

Most law students obtain off-campus apartments in the greater Portland area. Some housing is available at a privately owned and operated residence hall located within walking distance of the Law School. For more information on housing, contact the Law School Admissions Office.

Language Requirements

Classes are taught in English

Classes

The Maine Law curriculum is intensive and challenging. It is both broad and general in nature, offering courses in subjects as diverse as international business transactions and environmental law, as well as traditional core courses. The underlying purpose of the curriculum is to give students a solid foundation in legal analysis and practical lawyering skills that will serve them well in any field they choose to pursue.

Students choose from a wide array of elective courses, in subjects diverse as admiralty law, intellectual property, international business transactions, and marine and environmental law.

The law school is particularly known for its Center for Law and Innovation, Marine Law Institute, and Patent Law Program. The Marine Law Institute is the research and public service component of the Ocean and Coastal law Program and is the only law school-affiliated marine policy research program in the Northeast. MLI had dedicated its program of legal and policy research to the analysis of ocean and coastal resource issues for the express purpose of improving management practices and public understanding.

Additional Information

This opportunity is to live in the United States and study at an American Law School should interest both students who contemplate graduate work in the United States and those who would find background in American law helpful.

NATIONAL UNIVERSITY OF SINGAPORE (NUS)

Location

Singapore

Website

<http://law.nus.edu.sg/>

Academic Calendar

NUS Semester 1
(August-December)

NUS Semester 2
(January-May)

Orientation week commences on the first Monday of August of each year. In the first semester, the instructional period starts in the week immediately following Orientation week. For the second semester, the instructional period starts on the second Monday of January. After 6 weeks of class, following the recess week. The second part of each semester is of 7 weeks duration, after which students are given a reading week. The 2 week examination period starts on the Saturday immediately following the reading week.

Visa / Permit Requirements

For incoming international students, the University will apply for a Student's pass Application Number on your behalf once you are offered admission to NUS. You will then be given this Application Checkpoints Authority [ICA] web-based Student's Pass Online Application and registration [SOLAR] system to verify the accuracy of your information and submit eForm 16 online as part of your Student's Pass application procedure.

Cost of Living

Below is a list of estimated expenditure a single student may likely incur during your stay in Singapore. These amounts may vary accordingly depending on the student's personal needs and lifestyle pattern. You are advised to refer to the sample data as a rough guide for planning your expected individual costs.

Please note that this schedule only includes expenses for your daily essentials and does not account for non-essentials and major items such as shopping, entertainment, computers, electronic/communication devices, travel plans, etc.

Item	Estimated Costs (per month)
Accommodation - On campus single; or - On campus double - Alternative Housing (outside campus)	S\$387-710* S\$258 S\$350-1,000* on average
Food - University canteen/food court - Halls of residence meal plans	S\$250-350 S\$90-112
Public Transport	S\$150-200
Books and Stationary	S\$100-200
Miscellaneous	S\$150-200
Total	S\$1,000-S\$2,000

**Actual cost depends on type of residence and type of room.*

** See www.nus.edu.sg/oam/scholarships-financialaid/financialaid-tuition-fees-coaup.html

Accommodation

NUS believes that accommodation plays a big part in the overall exchange experience and wants to provide incoming exchange students with a wonderful learning and living environment. NUS will try to accommodate the exchange students either in University owned or leased housing

Language Requirements

Classes are taught in English

Classes

NUS provides wide offerings in Commercial Law, IP and Technology, Asian Legal Studies, and Comparative Law, Law and Society, Environmental Law, Maritime Law, and International Law. Some students in the past have expressed some difficulty with registration.

Insurance

Every international student must take up the compulsory NUS Group Medical Insurance Scheme.

LUND UNIVERSITY

Location

Lund, Sweden

Website

www.lunduniversity.lu.se

Academic Calendar

The International Desj at Lund University runs “Arrival Day” around the middle of January (Spring semester) and mid-end of August (Fall semester), followed by the orientation program in the weeks that follow. The semester at the Faculty of Law is divided into two parts, Study Periods 1 and 2, each lasting 10 weeks.

Semester dates at Lund:

- ❖ Autumn semester 2012: Monday, September 3 – Sunday, January 20.
- ❖ Spring semester 2013: Monday, January 21 – Sunday, June 9.

Visa/Permit Requirements

You will need a visa to enter the Schengen zone. The visa is usually valid in all Schengen countries and entitles the bearer to travel freely between them until the visa expires. However, since rules may vary from country to country, please obtain relevant information from the Swedish embassy/Consulate in Canada prior to departure. You will need to apply for the visa in good time before your departure to Sweden. Non-EU residents also require a study permit which can be obtained from the Swedish Embassy. You will need a valid passport, Letter of Acceptance, certificate of financial support and health insurance in order to apply.

Cost of Living

To live and study in the Netherlands costs approximately \$1140/month, depending on each student’s spending habits. Students who rent accommodation from the International Housing Office can expect rents in the range of SEK 2700 – 4500 per month, depending on the type of accommodation.

Accommodation

The International Housing Office helps exchange students with accommodation but the University cannot guarantee accommodation since the housing situation in Lund is very strained. The Housing Office recommends that students consider the following housing alternatives:

1. BoPoolen: <http://bopollen.nu> - is a local housing swap.
2. CasaSwap – www.casaswap.com - is an international housing network
3. AF Bostader – www.afb.se - is Lund University Student Society’s Accommodation Agency

Language Requirements

Classes in the Faculty of Law are offered in English.

Courses Offered

A wide variety of courses are offered, including: EU Law, Commercial Law, Law and Development, International Law, Criminal Law and IP Law.

Lund University uses a credit system – higher education credits (HEC). 60 HECs each year are considered full-time. Students are allowed to take one course per study period (i.e. 2 courses per semester – 30 HECs in total). If you take other courses at Lund University you can be admitted to 45 HECs in total each semester.

BUCERIUS LAW SCHOOL

Location

Hamburg, Germany

Website

www.law-school.de/exchangeprogram.html

Academic Calendar

Fall semester exchange only, from early September to late December.

Visa/Permit Requirements

A student visa must be obtained by all non-German citizens and for any stay exceeding 3 months. If you are a citizen of Canada, Australia, Israel, Japan, New Zealand, South Korea, Switzerland or the US, you can travel to Germany as a tourist and you do not need to apply for an entrance visa ahead of time. However, students still require a student visa, which can be applied for within Germany during the Orientation Program. In order to ease the application process, the International Office will assist their students by distributing the appropriate forms, offering guidance and submitting the necessary documents to the Immigration Office.

Cost of Living

Students should budget at least €5200 for their time at Bucerius Law School, depending on their individual spending habits.

- Books and course materials - € 200
- German course (optional) - €150
- Study trip to Berlin (optional) - €250
- Health Insurance - €130
- Liability Insurance - €50
- German Residency Permit - €100
- City Registration - €10
- Housing - €1800
- Food, toiletries, etc - €1100
- Travel and other expenses - €1400
- TOTAL - €5190

Accommodation €

Bucerius Law School does not offer on-campus housing. While the International Office will assist students in finding suitable accommodation, it cannot guarantee housing for every student. A limited number of apartments will be available on a sublet basis from Bucerius students who leave for semesters abroad in the Fall. Once students have been accepted to the program, further housing information is available online.

Language Requirements

Classes in the Faculty of Law are offered in English.

Courses Offered

Visiting students participate in the “Program in International and Comparative Business Law”, which is principally offered to exchange students from partner universities. This specially designed program takes place each Fall from September to December and is taught by Bucerius professors, distinguished guest professors and practitioners from around the world. Up to 16 law courses are offered and students earn ABA/ECTS credits for successful participation in the program. The program is designed primarily for law students wishing to broaden and extend their understanding of the forces shaping international business law. In addition, they will gain insights into the day-to-day practice of international business law from experienced professionals working in the field. The program offers a unique opportunity to acquire first-hand knowledge of German, European and International law.

The academic program is complemented by interesting extracurricular activities and German language courses (all optional).

Insurance

For visa purposes, proof of health insurance whilst in Germany is required. Students can purchase travel health insurance in their home country or ask whether their current policy covers their time abroad. Additionally, Bucerius University can assist students in obtaining coverage under an affordable German insurance policy, which satisfies the German requirement for a student visa. Coverage costs approximately €30 per month.

UNIVERSITY OF ARIZONA

Location

Tuscon, Arizona

Website

www.law.arizona.edu

Academic Calendar

The academic year consist of two semesters. The Fall semester starts in late August and ends in mid to late December. The Winter semester starts in mid-January and ends in mid May.

Visa/Permit Requirements

Students must obtain an Exchange Vistor Visa. More information can be found at <http://studyabroad.arizona.edu>

Cost of Living

Single students should budget approximately US\$1200 - \$1500 per month for accommodation, food, books and supplies and incidentals.

Accommodation €

Accommodation is available on-campus but it must be arranged prior to arrival. Off-campus accommodation does not need to be arranged prior to arrival, however it is possible to do so. More information on off-campus housing is available at: http://studyabroad.arizona.edu/housing_off-campus

Courses Offered

Students are offered a range of courses to chose from, including: International Trade and Business Law, Criminal Law, Environmental Law, Science and Policy, Tax, Business and Corporate, International and Comparative Law.

Insurance

The UA Student Insurance Plan is mandatory for all exchange students and must be paid for on the first day of classes.

UNIVERSITY OF HOUSTON LAW CENTER

Location

Houston, Texas.

Website

www.law.uh.edu

Academic Calendar

The Fall semester runs from the end of August to the end of December. Classes are not offered in the Winter.

Visa/Permit Requirements

Students must obtain an Exchange Visitor Visa. More information can be found at http://travel.gov/visa/temp/types/types_1267.html

Cost of Living

The following table should assist students in planning (costs are estimates in US Dollars)

- Books - \$450
- Room and board (off campus) - \$3000
- Personal expenses - \$1000
- Transportation - \$500
- TOTAL - \$4950

Accommodation

The Housing Office is available to assist students who wish to live on campus. More information is available at: www.housing.uh.edu

Classes

Specialties at the law school include Health Law, IP and International Law.

Insurance

Students on non-immigration visas are required to pay the foreign student medical insurance fee (approx. \$315 per semester) and are fully covered under the student health insurance. Applicants may apply for a waiver of this fee by providing the University Health Center with proof of insurance before the twentieth day of classes.

UNIVERSIDAD PANAMERICANA

Location

Mexico City, Mexico

Website

www.up.mx

Academic Calendar

The University's courses are divided into two semesters. Fall term run from the second week of August through to the second week of December. The Spring term runs from the second week of January through to the second week of June.

Visa/Permit Requirements

Students studying in Mexico must be able to prove that they are admitted to and financially able to support themselves in their endeavours as a student at a Mexican university. There are often specific requirements depending on country of origin, so it is important to consult the INM or the Mexican Embassy prior to departure.

Canadian citizens and permanent residents who wish to enroll at a Mexican university for more than six months must obtain a student visa. For more information, please refer to the Embassy of Mexico website: http://embamex.sre.gob.mx/canada_eng/

Health Insurance

Visiting students are covered under the student health insurance provided by Universidad Panamericana and could have immediate medical attention in the case of an accident. They also have assistance to get medical attention in case of sickness.

Cost of Living

The following table should assist foreign students in planning their expenses for a one-semester visit to the university Panamericana School of Law (costs are estimates and in Canadian dollars):

- Books - \$100
- Room and board (off campus) - \$2400
- Personal expenses - \$500
- Transportation costs - \$300
- TOTAL - \$6500

Accommodation

No information is currently available

Language Requirements

Fluent Spanish is required.

Courses

The University has the best academic law plan in Mexico which allows students to receive a world-class legal education. Some of the university's most recognized fields include: Tax Law, Civil Law, Ethics and Human Rights Law, International Law, Roman Law, History Law, Constitutional Law & State, Administrative Law, Company Law and IP.

INSTITUTO TECNOLOGIO DE ESTUDIOS SUPERIORES DE MONTERREY,
ESCUA DE DERECHO (ITESM)

Location

Monterrey, Mexico

Website

www.itesm.edu

Academic Calendar

Information is unavailable at this time.

Visa/Permit Requirements

Students studying in Mexico must be able to prove that they are admitted to and financially able to support themselves in their endeavours as a student at a Mexican university. There are often specific requirements depending on country of origin, so it is important to consult the INM or the Mexican Embassy prior to departure.

Canadian citizens and permanent residents who wish to enroll at a Mexican university for more than six months must obtain a student visa. For more information, please refer to the Embassy of Mexico website: http://embamex.sre.gob.mx/canada_eng/

Cost of Living

No information is available at this time.

Accommodation

Choose one of three options for your living situation at Campus Monterrey.

1. Living with a host family. Immerse yourself in the Mexican lifestyle and language when you share a home with a local family.
2. Live in a residence hall. Enjoy a global experience interacting with and living amongst students from Mexico and many other different countries.
3. Live off campus. There is an abundance of homes and apartments for rent around the campus.

Language Requirements

Spanish is highly recommended.

QUEENSLAND UNIVERSITY OF TECHNOLOGY

Location

Brisbane, Australia

Website

www.law.qut.edu.au

Academic Calendar

The first semester of classes runs from February to early June. Orientation week is the first week of the semester. There is a week-long vacation at the end of April. The 2-3 week exam period finishes at the end of June.

The second semester of classes start in mid July and finish in late October. Orientation week is the first week of the semester (classes commence during this week). There is a week of vacation at the end of September. Exams run for 2-3 weeks in November.

Visa / Permit Requirements

Once the student has returned his/her acceptance offer and pays the required fees, the University will issue them an electronic confirmation of enrolment (eCOE). This is to be used to arrange student visas through an Australian embassy or consulate. If the student's application is successful, he/she will be issued a Multiple Entry Visa allowing them to travel to and from Australia within the period for which the student visa is valid.

The applicant's eligibility for a student visa will be assessed against five levels by the Department of Immigration and Citizenship (www.immi.gov.au)

Every applicant must satisfy the criteria in order to be granted a visa. Criteria include, but are not limited to:

- Financial resources
- English proficiency
- Intention to comply with visa conditions

DIAC has provided information about assessment levels so that students can determine the visa type that they will require.

Students must also undergo a medical examination by a doctor nominated by the Australian Embassy and provide evidence of Overseas Student Health Cover. More information is available at www.studyabroad.qut.au/predeparture/healthcover.jsp

Cost of Living

The University estimates that students will need a minimum of \$16,500 for essential living expenses, per year. This is only a guide to the cost of living in Brisbane. For a

detailed estimate of a student budget, please visit <http://cms.qut.edu.au/corpsite/international>

Accommodation

Brisbane offers a wide range of accommodation options, including homestay, student hostels, student apartment complexes, boarding houses and private apartments and houses.

With assistance from International Student Services (ISS), most students find accommodation within a week or two of arriving in Brisbane. ISS also assists students with temporary accommodation while they search for permanent accommodation. For more information, please visit: www.qut.edu.au/international/study-abroad-and-exchange/qut-and-brisbane/accommodation

Language Requirements

Courses are taught in English

Classes

The school's strengths include Business Law, IT, Environmental Law and Property Law. Regarding available units (subjects), as long as students meet the prerequisites and have permission from their home institution, they can take more or less any unit. Themes include:

- Criminology
- Foundations of Law
- Policing
- Social Justice

CHINA UNIVERSITY OF POLITICAL SCIENCE AND LAW

Location

Beijing, PRC

Website

<http://www.cupl.edu.cn/sites/en/index.html>

Academic Calendar

Fall classes commence at the beginning of September and grades are generally available in early to mid-January.

Visa/Permit Requirements

Students must obtain a visa before beginning their studies in China. For more information,

please visit the Embassy of China in Canada website: <http://ca.china-embassy.org/eng/>

Cost of Living

The cost of living in Beijing is considered moderate. Below is a previous exchange student's monthly cost estimate:

Books - per term \$0

Accommodation - per month - \$800

Local transportation - per month - \$50

Health insurance - per term - \$50

Communications (phone, etc) - per term - \$20

Other university related fees - per term - \$0

Accommodation

The university has very good facilities, such as library, stadium, swimming pool, basketball ground, and tennis court. Dormitories for international students have been furnished with public kitchen, laundry, gym facilities, and etc. Room materials include telephone, TV and air conditioner as well as internet, desks, bookcases, private bathroom, etc.

Students may also choose to live in an apartment off campus during their term on exchange.

Language Requirements

Classes are taught in English. However, some Mandarin is recommended.

Classes

There is a set curriculum for all students. Typical classes that a student would take in the fall semester include: Introduction to Chinese Law; International Law; Private International Air Law; Chinese Contract Law; and International Trade Law.

Additional Information

There are no computer facilities or internet access, and international students do not have access to the library. Unfortunately, previous students have encountered difficulties in obtaining assistance in finding accommodation and travel documents from the host university.

VICTORIA UNIVERSITY OF WELLINGTON

Location

Wellington, New Zealand

Website

<http://www.victoria.ac.nz/law/>

Academic Calendar

The Victoria University of Wellington academic year is divided into three trimesters:

1. First trimester (1/3): March - June
2. Second trimester (2/3): July - October (exams continue into November)
3. Third or summer trimester (3/3): November - February

Visa/Insurance Requirements

International students must obtain a student visa. Additionally, all international students must have current and appropriate medical and travel insurance while studying in New Zealand. Insurance must comply with the guidelines set out in the *Code of Practice for the Pastoral Care of International Students (The Code)*.

Cost of Living

For an idea on the cost of living in Wellington, please refer to: <http://www.victoria.ac.nz/international/planning/costs.aspx>

Accommodation

Your Offer of Admission for Study sent to you by VicInternational will state that (for visa purposes) you are guaranteed accommodation. It does not guarantee you a place in your first choice of hall. Your accommodation could be in a hall of residence, a homestay or private accommodation. You do not need to wait until you have your visa before applying for hall accommodation. For more information, please visit: <http://www.victoria.ac.nz/accommodation/international.aspx>

Language Requirements

Classes are taught in English.

Studying at Victoria University

The Victoria Law School is located in the historic Government Buildings, in the heart of Wellington's legal and political district. Next door to the Courts, Executive Government and Parliament, this is an ideal environment for the study of law. The exceptional calibre of the teaching staff combines with this unique situation to make Victoria University one of the leading providers of legal education in New Zealand.

The programme of study at Vic is carefully structured to teach the essence of the legal perspective - how to think legally - as well as to provide a good grounding in the

important core subject areas of law. The Victoria Law School has long held a reputation for high standards in teaching and research, and the stimulating environment it provides attracts highly qualified students, researchers and staff.

Research centres at the law school include the New Zealand Centre of International Economic Law & the New Zealand Centre for Public Law.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION FOR WINTER EXCHANGES

Please be aware that some of the partner exchange schools' terms end after the term ends at Dalhousie and that various consequences could flow from having to defer graduation, including issues with bar admission courses, articles, clerkships, graduate school, and other employment issues.

Who to contact:

- Associate Dean Michael Deturbide, michael.deturbide@dal.ca
- Judy Kavanagh, Administrative Secretary to the Assistant Dean, Academic, judy.kavanagh@dal.ca
- The appropriate contact people at the specific exchange institution