

AU

American University
Washington DC



American University (AU):

American University's mission is to create a meaningful change in the world. AU has highly ranked schools and colleges, and internationally recognized faculty. AU offers a fair balance between classes and career-advancing experiences in Washington, D.C. Its students, among the country's most politically active, distinguish themselves for their service, leadership, and ability to rethink global and domestic challenges and opportunities.

Location:

Washington, D.C., United States

Requirements/Eligibility:

1. Sophomores encouraged to apply; must have at least 60 credits by program start date
2. Must not go during your graduating semester (last semester).
3. Must have at least a cumulative GPA of 3.0 or above.
4. No TOEFL needed.

Program Fees and Costs:

Exchange students pay AUS tuition fees for the full course load (12 credits). Any additional costs including housing, lab fees, meal plans, books and insurance will be paid directly to the host university. View living costs here:

<https://www.american.edu/ocl/housing/housing-rates.cfm>

Financial Grant:

AUS students on grants/scholarships must obtain approval from the Office of Financial Grants and Scholarships before starting a semester abroad at a host university. In cases where the AUS student pays tuition directly to AUS for study abroad, the student will continue to use their AUS grants and AUS-funded scholarships for that semester abroad. These students should speak with the Financial Grants and Scholarship Manager for more information. Students sponsored

by an organization outside of AUS are responsible for making arrangements with their sponsor.

Visa:

Students must apply to the US Embassy/Consulate to obtain their J1 Exchange Visitor Visa. They must make an appointment and follow up with the required documentation, such as the letter of acceptance and bank statement. See

<https://travel.state.gov/content/travel/en/us-visas/visa-information-resources/forms/ds-160-online-non-immigrant-visa-application.html> and <https://ceac.state.gov/ceac/> for complete information on Visa application process.

Internships:

Abroad at AU students may apply and look for unpaid and non credited internships at various business or organizations in their free time. If interested, see <http://www.american.edu/abroadatau/internships.cfm> for more details.

Courses:

All students are required to take a course load of 12 credit hours, which means 4 classes, in a semester. They can choose courses from any of the five university's schools: School of International Service, College of Arts and Sciences, School of Public Affairs, Kogod School of Business, and School of Communication

In general, here are some course restrictions:

1. Students cannot not take Graduate level course work (600 and above). They can only enroll in undergraduate level courses (100-500 level).
2. Enrollment in courses which require admission to special program is not permitted.
3. Furthermore, there are some school restrictions that students must pay attention towards.

CAAD: There are no CAAD courses for AUS students available at AU.

CAS: *Mass Communications majors will be offered very limited courses.* Students may only select from the list here of "**allowable courses**" from the School of Communication.

CEN: There are no CEN courses for AUS students available at AU.

SBA: The School of Business at AU is AACSB-approved. Students can take their general education (humanities,

etc.), free electives and Business electives (MJR or MIN electives). They can also take major or required courses during their study abroad semester after getting the approval from SBA at AUS. Please note: in the Kogod School of Business, abroad students are not allowed to register into these specific class sections:

- KSB 255: Strategic Business Communication
- Any 500 level accounting courses
- MGMT 458: Business Policy and Strategy
- FIN 465: Derivative Securities
- FIN 575: CFA Level I Intensive Review
- MKTG 412: Advertising & Promotion Campaigns

AUS Course Approval:

Upon getting the placement from IXO, students should plan on working on their [AUS Course Permission Form](#) and get their classes approved by the department's designated approver for the courses that will be taken abroad. Upon approval, students would be provided with the grades required to transfer credits. Students must achieve the minimum grade as indicated on the form to receive course credit (requirements for credit transfer vary by program).

Each study abroad case is subject to approval.

Study Abroad Experience

Salman's experience at AU



Salman on the right with his friends.

"I do not know where to start. The US thus far has been a once in a lifetime opportunity. It's truly amazing to see how many people are willing to meet and know one another. No kidding, with all the friends I have made, together we have travelled to New York, Philadelphia and around Washington, DC. Who says it takes more than a semester to get settled in? Don't be afraid; take this great opportunity today."

Shahd's semester at AU



Shahd in the AU Stadium (Upper Far Right)

Shahd Abdulghani, a finance student, studied abroad for a semester at the American University Washington DC in Fall 2015.

Abdulghani said, "My semester at AU was one of my most active semesters in my university life. I took two finance courses and two electives. I also managed to participate in various different extracurricular activities, such as: canoeing and other water sports." By far the most important thing I experienced was snow! I actually had to delay my flight back home because of a record breaking snowstorm. It was so much fun especially since I've never seen snow before."

When asked about Abdulghani's experience, she said, "I was expecting to meet a lot of new people and make so many wonderful friendships. This experience surpassed all of my expectations! Whatever was positive was a hundred times better and whatever scared me proved me wrong. I excelled in different areas, both academically and socially."

Abdulghani advised, "You may feel scared at the beginning and the application process may feel hectic. However, don't give up. Studying abroad is one of the best experiences you may ever have. If I could sum up this entire experience in just one sentence I would say, Studying abroad was an extremely unique and wonderfully enriching experience which made me change to become a better version of myself. A version that is more independent, confident, and accepting."

Omar's semester at AU



Omar in the middle with his friends

"I went to American University Washington DC to study for one semester as an exchange student. I had a good time from both perspectives academic and socializing. The university atmosphere was amazing. The professors were friendly and always ready to help. Moreover, in terms of socializing I have met friends from all over the world. We were having activities every weekend as Washington, DC has lots of attractive places to visit. We have visited lots of places in DC such as the White House, the Capital Building, the monuments, and much more places. In addition to that I have visited places outside Washington, DC. I have visited Pennsylvania state and New York state. All in all, my experience was amazing, and I would love to do it again and advise each student to try it."