BNU STUDENT OVERSEAS PROGRAMS BROCHURE

- Exchange Student Program
- Degree Program
- Visiting Student Program
- Short-term program
1. Introduction to the Program Scope

Drawing on the principle of student-based learning, Beijing Normal University has established a variety of long and short term exchange and visiting programs, with the goals of facilitating student innovation and their ability to compete globally, while broadening students’ horizons and cultivating people of global talent.

BNU has established intercollegiate cooperation programs with over one hundred renowned overseas institutions, including the US, Great Britain, Australia, Canada, Germany, Japan and South Korea, etc. The types of programs available include our Exchange Student Program, Visiting Student Program, Degree Program and Short-term Program.

2. Introduction to the Types of Programs

A. Exchange Student Program

Within a valid time period as stipulated by the exchange program contract, both institutions cooperating programs send an equal number of students to the partner institution. Participating exchange students do not pursue academic degrees, but rather undertake advanced studies for a year or semester. At the overseas institution, exchange students may select classes related to their major, and any others they may be interested in. After the exchange student returns to his/her home school, the student’s home institution will then evaluate the exchange student’s performance according to his/her grades at the exchange university, awarding full or partial course credits. In most cases, the participating exchange institutions waive student tuition.

Participating institution-level exchange institutions include: Albany State University of New York (USA), the University of Oklahoma (USA), the University of Calgary (Canada), the University of New South Wales (Australia), Cardiff University (UK), the University of Munich (Germany), the University of Toulouse (France), the University of Zurich (Switzerland), Waseda University (Japan), Hokkaido University (Japan), Seoul National University (Korea), Taiwan University, the Chinese University of Hong Kong, etc.

Participating department-level exchange institutions include: the University of Delaware (USA), York University (Canada), the University of Aberdeen (UK), Goethe University Frankfurt (Germany), the University of Gothenburg (Sweden), Aalborg University (Denmark), Kanagawa University (Japan), etc.
B. Visiting Student Program

BNU also sends fee-paying visiting students to study at overseas universities. Such participants do not pursue academic degrees, but rather complete a semester or a year of advanced studies abroad. At the overseas institution, exchange students may select classes related to their major, and any others they may be interested in. After the visiting student returns to his/her home school, the student’s home institution will then evaluate the visiting student’s performance according to his/her grades and course selection, awarding full course credits. In most cases, students will be responsible for paying their own tuition at the overseas institution. The Visiting Student Program’s participating institutions include: the University of California, Los Angeles (USA), Barnard College (USA), Emporia State University (USA), the University of Auckland (New Zealand), etc.

C. Degree Program

The degree programs BNU currently offers include the 2+2 Dual Bachelor’s Degree Program, the 1+2+1 Dual Bachelor’s Degree Program, 1+1+1 Dual Master’s Degree Program, as well as the 3+2 Bachelor’s and Master’s Accelerated Degree Program.

▲ 2+2 Dual Bachelor’s Program with Colorado State University (Colorado, USA)
Participating Colleges include: College of Chemistry, College of Information Science and Technology, College of Environmental Science, College of Resource Sciences, School of Economics and Business Administration

▲ 1+2+1 Dual Bachelor’s Program with George Mason University (Virginia, USA)
Participating Colleges include: College of Information Science and Technology, College of Geographic Sciences and Remote Sensing

▲ 1+1+1 Dual Master’s Program with the University of ITC College, Twente (Holland)
Participating Colleges include: College of Geographic Sciences and Remote Sensing, College of Environmental Science, the Global Change and Earth System Science Research Institute, and the College of Resource Sciences

▲ 1+1+1 Dual Master’s Program with Kanazawa University (Japan)
This is a student exchange program, and both institutions waive tuition. Participating Colleges include: College of Chinese Language and Culture, Japanese Department within the School of Foreign Languages and Literatures

▲ 3+2 Bachelor’s and Master’s Accelerated Degree Program with Arizona State University (USA)
Participating Colleges include: College of Geographic Sciences and Remote Sensing, College of Environmental Science, College of Resource Sciences, School of Life Science, School of Economics and Business Administration, Faculty of Education, School of Law
D. Short-term program

BNU and its foreign institution partners have especially designed short-term programs for international students so that these students may participate in short-term study and visitation. Most of these programs have been designed with the purpose of giving students the opportunity to engage in study and communication abroad, while enabling students to experience different cultures and broaden their horizons. Select institutions have also arranged specialized academic courses of study as part of their short-term programs. Students usually participate in short-term programs at their own expenses.

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4. Students’ Reflections and Comments

1). As a fourth-year undergraduate physics major, I no longer felt academic pressure from my coursework, and thus spent most of my time abroad doing research in the lab. During the five months I spent in Germany, I spent a lot of time assisting in scientific research in the lab, finishing all the preparatory work for my undergraduate thesis.

——Tian Haozhan, Department of Physics, Class of 2010, exchange student to the University of Munich (Germany)

2). My English improved by leaps and bounds, and I made lots of European friends. I especially remember my Legal Theory class; my professor broke away from traditional educational methods, blending legal studies with theories in the field of neuroscience, exploring his subject through the union of science and law. This is so interesting!

——Zheng Zhiyan, School of Law, Class of 2010, Exchange Student to the University of Zurich (Switzerland)

3) students’ learning depends entirely on individual motivation. The university’s study facilities were incredible, with a bright, spacious library open 24 hours a day, enabling students to fully enjoy the joy of studying. In fact, students not only can check out books at the library, but also peruse all kinds of audiovisual materials.

—— Wang Yiming, School of Chinese language and Literature, Class of 2011, exchange student to Emporia State University (U.S.A)

4). There were only about a dozen students per class, and students held discussions on a daily basis, giving me a change to learn to express myself and learn from my classmates; such goal-oriented practice was invaluable in cultivating my communication skills.

—— Shi Yida, Business School, Class of 2011, Exchange Student to the University of Manchester (U.K.)

5). I took four classes during my first semester; Marketing, Global Finances and Economic Mathematics were taught exclusively in Japanese, while Global Trade was taught in English. My Marketing professor noticed that I had trouble getting used to the Japanese computer system and thus couldn’t keep up with the rest of the class, so he checked on my progress every day, constantly asking whether I had understood the class material. In the end, I did very well in this course.

——Wei Yuqiu, Business School, Class of 2011, Exchange Student to the University of Tsukuba (Japan)
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