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*Verina Cristie*  
PhD Student  
*Architecture and Sustainable Design*

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**Design of a Broadband Transimpedance Amplifier Module for Visible Light Communication.**

“My research aims to design, fabricate and test key integrated circuit blocks that are vital for visible light communication (VLC). VLC is rapidly gaining research interest due to its significantly increased speed of wireless transmission beyond that of current WiFi technology.”

*Samuel Lee*  
PhD Student  
*Engineering Product Development*

---

**Radiofrequency System Design for Imaging at Ultra-High Field Strength MRI**

“My research aims to overcome the existing engineering challenges of magnetic resonance imaging (MRI) technology by improving its spatial and temporal resolution, enhancing its effectiveness as a medical imaging technique. This will greatly aid the study of the human body and is the key to unravelling more mysteries about the human brain.”

*Motovilova Elizaveta*  
PhD Student  
*Engineering Product Development*
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Hello and welcome to this year’s edition of the QS Top Grad School Guide, packed as ever with in-depth articles designed to answer every question you might possibly have about the next stage of your academic journey. Whether you’re reading this online or at one of our World Grad School Tour events, we hope you’ll find plenty of useful information within these pages, as we cover everything from admissions tests to PhD funding and take a closer look at some of the most popular academic options at postgraduate level.

With an increasing proportion of today’s graduates going on to work in the technology sector, both for large multinationals and fast-moving start-ups, on page 30 we look at the different career options available in technology and how you can maximize your chances of getting a job in this field. We’ve also taken a closer look at some potentially world-changing career paths if you’re feeling particularly ambitious. See page 34 for insight into how you could end up tackling global warming and other urgent issues.

Of course, not everyone reading this will be quite ready to start thinking about their career just yet. Fortunately, we’ve got plenty of information about how you can secure funding, get into top US grad schools and pass any admissions tests you’ll need to take. Next year, when you’re sat studying at your dream university, don’t forget to thank us (donations of cake will be gratefully appreciated by all of the editorial team!).

All of this comes on top of in-depth profiles of some of the most popular study destinations and university courses in the world. If there’s ever anything you wanted to know about studying in the US or the various specializations available to anyone studying law, you’ve come to the right place. We also spoke to the winners of this year’s QS Scholarships and asked them to pass on advice to this year’s applicants. If you’re considering applying for any scholarship, be sure to read page 12 first.

Although this guide is jam-packed with tips and advice, we sadly couldn’t include everything or this guide would be so heavy you wouldn’t be able to lift it. (I realize this doesn’t really make sense if you’re reading it online, but you get the idea.) Fortunately, you’ll find even more useful information on our website TopUniversities.com. If you haven’t already, sign up for a free account and join one of the biggest online communities for students from around the world. You’ll be able to ask for advice from thousands of other students, share your experiences and potentially even write an article for us!

Whatever your plans for grad school and your career, we wish you the very best of luck, and look forward to hearing all about it.

Craig O’Callaghan
Editor, QS Top Grad School Guide
HOW TO MAKE THE MOST OF YOUR QS WORLD GRAD SCHOOL TOUR EXPERIENCE

Get a head-start in the battle for grad school places by attending the QS World Grad School Tour, writes Craig O’Callaghan
Chances are that, if you’re reading this, you’re more than a little bit interested in the possibility of studying at masters or PhD level. Firstly, if that is the case, congratulations: you’re in the right place for invaluable advice that will help you pick a course and study destination. Secondly, you could guarantee yourself an even brighter future by attending the QS World Grad School Tour.

What is the QS World Grad School Tour, you ask? Well, QSWGST (an acronym that somehow still hasn’t caught on) is a series of events in more than 70 cities, bringing together representatives from hundreds of the best universities and graduate schools in the world. At it, you’ll have the opportunity to meet admissions staff from different universities and get first-hand advice and support to prepare you for your grad school application.

Think that sounds like something which you’ll find useful? Of course you do. So, make the most of your tour experience by following these simple tips.

**Come with a plan**

If you’re going to walk away from the QS World Grad School Tour one step closer to a place at your dream grad school, you’re going to need to have done your homework before the big day. Make sure you’ve researched the institutions you want to speak to and come up with a list of questions you need answering. These could be anything from more information about a particular course that’s caught your eye, to inquiring what the sports facilities at the university are like.

Aim to have no more than five things you want to learn from each conversation you have with each admissions staff member or university representative. Having that focus will ensure you don’t waste time talking about issues which actually aren’t that important to you.

**Buddy up**

There’s a lot to get through at any event, so cover more ground by bringing along a friend or family member. The QS World Grad School Tour is free to attend, so try to persuade at least one person to come with you. If you do, you’ll benefit from having a second opinion on anything you learn at the event, and they’ll also be able to help ensure you stay focused and get all the information you require.

**Take notes**

This should be obvious, but it’s so important we can’t not say it. Bring paper and a pen and write the things you learn down. Even if you’ve got a friend with you to help, there’s no way you’ll be able to remember everything when you’re sat down applying to universities weeks later.

**Don’t just talk to admissions staff**

Obviously, the chance to speak face-to-face with admissions staff from hundreds of universities is the event’s biggest selling point, but that doesn’t mean you should ignore the other people at the QS World Grad School Tour. Try talking to other prospective students that are attending the event, especially if it seems you have overlapping interests. They might be able to share information and insights you wouldn’t otherwise have learned, which could inspire you to take a different academic path than the one you had initially expected.

**Make a good impression**

Unfortunately, you can’t treat your QS World Grad School Tour visit solely as a fact-finding mission. Many of the people you meet and speak to will be the same people assessing your application to their university, so it’s vital you make a positive impression. Be smartly dressed, polite and friendly, and make sure you take a note of people’s names. If you’re able to write in your application that you met a particular person at the QS World Grad School Tour in your city, it’s likely to jog their memory and improve your chances of being accepted.

**Don’t panic**

I know a lot of the points above might make the QS World Grad School Tour sound really daunting, but relax: it’s actually a lot of fun. Embrace the opportunity and enjoy being in a room with so many brilliant universities and like-minded students. Don’t rush around in a blind panic, worried you’ll miss meeting somebody important. Take your time, make the most of the day by planning to see any presentations or panel discussions which sound interesting (times for these will be available beforehand) and remember that if a particular university are really busy, you can always come back later to speak to them.

**Get lucky**

By attending the QS World Grad School Tour, you’ll be automatically eligible to apply for one of our exclusive scholarships, which are worth a combined total of US$1.7 million each year. Sound too good to be true? Head to our website’s Scholarships section for more information.
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University isn’t cheap, but that doesn’t mean you need to be rich to fulfil your postgrad dreams. *Mathilde Frot* provides a rundown of alternative sources for grad school funding.

8 WAYS TO FUND GRAD SCHOOL

Are you worried that a lack of money is going to stop you from joining the postgraduate course of your dreams? Don’t worry. Despite rising tuition fees doing their best to discourage you, universities and governments are providing more ways than ever before for you to fund your studies. In fact, most graduates these days finance their way through grad school by relying upon a mix of different sources.
1. Become your own secret agent

Scour for every tidbit of intelligence about funding opportunities and fees related to your chosen course. Read the small print and make sure you understand all the conditions and provisions of every source of funding you encounter. You don’t want to find yourself in crippling debt or sleeping on your friend’s couch for the final six months of your degree because, trust us, that existence is grim.

2. Learn to differentiate between scholarships, bursaries and grants

Used interchangeably, the terms scholarships, bursaries, and grants are all used to describe money awards which you don’t need to pay back. Bursaries are awarded based on financial need, scholarships on academic performance and grants for both or either. It’s also worth knowing the difference between certain types of scholarship. Entrance scholarships, for example, are lumped into your account in one lot upon admission when you enroll in a school for the first time, while renewable scholarships are renewed every year if you maintain your high grades, which is a tad scarier.

3. Your university might be able to help

Sometimes staying put is best. Some universities offer scholarships or small discounts to their own undergraduates to convince them to stay and pursue a postgraduate degree. In a similar vein, you might find universities offer similar incentives to relatives of their alumni. Another option worth considering is applying for an assistantship, known as a studentship in the US. If your application is successful, your university would grant you a salary and/or a tuition fee waiver in exchange for a specific number of hours spent each week in a teaching or a research role. Often a requirement in PhD programs and very common in STEM subjects, assistantships are, however, relatively rare in MBAs, MDs and JDs.
4. Ask the government for some money

If you're studying abroad, you could be eligible for funding from both your home and host country. The first places to look are the websites of both countries’ Ministries and/or Departments of Education. Typically, governmental aid will come in the form of a loan, which you will have to repay, or a grant, scholarship, sponsorship or bursary, each with its own set of rules regarding application, deadline and eligibility.

5. Sweet-talk your boss into helping you

Some employers have a tuition assistance program to support staff in their professional development, so investigate whether this applies to where you work. If not, you may be able to convince them if it’s a relatively flexible company, providing you do some preliminary research before making your case. Set up a meeting with the HR team within your organization, sending them an email beforehand to let them know what you wish to discuss.

6. Become the letter-writing type

Try applying for different funding sources by sending out personalized letters to a wide range of different individuals, societies and companies, explaining who you are, what you wish to study, why, and what you will give back in exchange for their financial support. The goal is to secure small amounts of money from as many different sources as you can. Consider appealing to charities, trusts and interest groups.

7. Divide your time between academia and a real job

Fairly common in master’s programs, part-time study splits your fees across several years giving you more time to earn a living while also meeting your course commitments. Having a job while you’re in grad school allows you to supplement your finances, build work experience and meet people outside of your course.

Your university probably offers term-time and on-campus retail, admin and events jobs, but you should also consider finding work as a brand ambassador or a freelance tutor. Depending on your country of residence and degree level, you could charge between £15 and £30 per hour for private lessons.

8. Take out a loan.

Dedicated loans typically feature lower repayment rates than regular loans and are fairly common in the US among grad school applicants. Unfortunately, they’re much harder to come by in other countries, including the UK. However, some UK banks extend Professional and Career Development Loans (PCDLs) to students who intend to work in the UK, EU, Norway, Liechtenstein or Iceland upon graduation. A PCDL will cover up to two years of study, course fees and some living costs.
Every year, the QS Scholarships scheme offers exclusive scholarships for study at master’s and PhD level. Craig O’Callaghan caught up with this year’s winners to find out what advice they would offer this year’s applicants.
Would you like to have most or all of your university costs covered by a QS scholarship? By attending any QS World Grad School Tour or QS World MBA Tour event, you’re automatically eligible for a range of scholarships worth a total of $1.7 million.

The QS Scholarships scheme includes awards offered by particular universities and business schools, as well as scholarships that can be used towards tuition at any institution, so there’s no reason not to apply. To give you a head-start, here's some advice from this year’s winners.

**QS Academic Excellence Scholarship**

**Value:** $10,000  
**Winner:** Juliette Perche

Juliette Perche is the winner of this year’s QS Academic Excellence Scholarship, awarded to support one master’s or PhD student anywhere in the world. Currently studying in Paris, Juliette plans to specialize in environmental economics at master’s level at the London School of Economics next year.

Although she’s visited London a few times, Juliette says she doesn’t know the UK capital that well and is looking forward to the wide range of cultural activities on offer. She says: “I’m really looking forward to meeting people from all backgrounds who share my interests and desire to work for a sustainable future. Being at LSE will give me the opportunity to attend numerous fascinating conferences and meet great scholars in my study area.”

Juliette had initially planned to rely upon a student loan and a part-time job to fund her MSc in London but can now afford to take out a smaller loan and dedicate more time to her studies and getting involved in LSE’s academic circles, attending conferences and participating in student groups.

**Advice for other applicants:**

“Always try your best and never lose hope. If you’re clear about what got you this far and what your career and academic motivations are then all should go well. Even if you don’t think you have a chance, it’s worth applying and seeing what happens. I honestly didn’t believe I would be accepted into LSE or this scholarship.”
**QS Leadership Scholarship**

**Value: $10,000**

**Winner: Neelofar Rahimi**

Awarded to outstanding candidates who demonstrated strong leadership skills, this year the QS Leadership Scholarship was given to Afghan student Neelofar Rahimi. Neelofar is currently studying at Norasonde Adult Learning Center for Norwegian Language in Norway, where she lives with her parents and four siblings, and plans to study a master’s in International Business at Hult International Business School in the US.

Neelofar’s extraordinary life story makes her an extremely fitting recipient of this particular scholarship. Born in a country where education for women is a challenge due to religious, cultural and governmental issues, Neelofar has overcome a series of obstacles, from being shot to experiencing depression and losing her big brother, and speaks of her determination to positively impact the lives of other women through her own work ethic. Fittingly, her thesis is on Women Empowerment and Employment.

Neelofar learned of this scholarship after attending the QS World Grad School Tour in Oslo. She says: “I believe this scholarship was one that gave everyone a chance despite their nationality or race. Having been rejected elsewhere many times for these reasons, I appreciated the chance QS Scholarships was willing to give me and this scholarship will have a significant impact on my ability to continue my graduate degree. By lightening the financial burden, this scholarship enables me to shift my focus toward making progress in my studies.”

After finishing her studies in the US, Neelofar hopes to continue working to empower women around the world through business, entrepreneurship and employment.

**Advice for other applicants:**

“Take your time searching for scholarships and read carefully through the requirements for each one. When writing application essays, be true to who you are as what you write should reflect your personality. Nothing comes easy, so make the effort to have someone experienced check your essays before you submit them. It will definitely pay off in the end!”
QS Connect Masters 1-2-1 Scholarship

Value: $2,000  
Winner: Sambhav Golechha

Part of the QS World Grad School Tour, Connect Masters 1-2-1 is a free service which allows prospective postgraduates to meet face-to-face with university representatives and discuss next steps for their studies and career. Every year, one participant is selected to receive this scholarship, and this year’s lucky student is Sambhav Golechha.

Having worked at one of the world’s biggest data analytics firms, Sambhav has decided to return to education to learn more about the financial side of business and will be studying a master’s in finance at IE Business School in Spain. The internationally renowned school attracts the brightest minds from all over the world and Sambhav is looking forward to being one of them.

He says: “The master’s course at IE is one of the most practical programs out there. Coming from a society where theoretical learning is over-emphasized, this will be a very different experience for me. It will be interesting to learn from the diversity of backgrounds of my peers and expand my boundaries.”

Advice for other applicants: “This scholarship is a humbling honor and has really encouraged me to work harder and smarter from this point onwards. If you’re thinking of applying, don’t be put off by the fact lots of students across the world will probably also be applying. You have to believe in yourself and give it your best shot. Trying is the only way to win.”
QS-EDHEC Business School Scholarship

Value: 50% of tuition fees
Winner: Violetta Grimani

This scholarship, offered in partnership with EDHEC Business School and open to any attendees of the QS World Grad School Tour, was awarded this year to Italian student Violetta Grimani. Having studied a bachelor’s in economics and finance at the University of Bologna, Violetta was attracted to EDHEC’s MSc in Corporate Finance & Banking and the way the course integrates theory with real business cases and applications.

Violetta hopes the course will provide the perfect foundation for a career in investment banking and, eventually, work at a venture capital firm. She says: “I have a short-term and long-term career objective. First, I’d like to work in mergers and acquisitions at an investment bank as I’m attracted to the role’s challenges. However, in the long run, I would like to return to Italy and work for a venture capital firm. I believe innovation and entrepreneurship are key factors in every developed economy and deserve greater attention.”

Until then, Violetta will live in France where EDHEC is based. She says she’s looking forward to studying and living in an international environment.

Advice for other applicants:
“You don’t need to perform a cost-benefit analysis to understand you have nothing to lose when applying for a scholarship (apart from some sleep time). The most important thing when applying is to be genuine. Your story, your goals and also your failures make you who you are and it’s important to show all of these things. Talk about the obstacles you had to face, the path you decided to take and the motivations that make you unique. Don’t be arrogant, and instead recognize your limits and try to turn them into strengths.”
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EVERYTHING YOU NEED TO KNOW ABOUT ADMISSIONS TESTS

Need to take a graduate admissions test as part of your application? Sabrina Collier guides you through all you need to know to ace it.

GMAT (Graduate Management Admissions Test)

Who and what is it for?
Business school applicants, to assess their suitability for business school by evaluating their verbal, mathematical and analytical skills.

How long is it?
Three hours and 30 minutes, or four hours if you take the optional breaks.

How much does it cost?
US$250. This is the same wherever in the world you take the test.

How is it structured?
The GMAT is divided into four sections:

Analytical writing assessment: In this section, which lasts 30 minutes, you'll write an essay analyzing an argument.

Integrated reasoning: This section, consisting of 12 multiple-choice questions in 30 minutes, will measure your ability to evaluate information presented in different formats and from multiple sources.

Quantitative: These questions will test your ability to solve problems and understand data (37 questions in 75 minutes).

Verbal: This section consists of multiple choice questions testing your ability to understand written material, evaluate arguments and correct written material to conform to standard English (41 questions in 75 minutes).

How is it scored?
The verbal and quantitative sections of the GMAT are both scored from 0-60; the analytical writing assignment is scored on a scale of 0-6 (in half-point increments); the integrated reasoning section is marked on a scale of 1-8 (increments of one). You also receive a percentile rating for each of the four parts, indicating the percentage of test takers you outperformed, and a ‘Total’ score which is calculated based on the verbal and quantitative sections. This is given on a scale of 200-800.

You may choose up to five schools to send your score report to, with additional reports available for an extra fee. You can retake the test if you are unsatisfied with your score (a maximum of five times over a 12-month period), but be aware that all scores from the previous five years will be included on the scorecard sent to the business schools to which you're applying. Results can be cancelled immediately on completing the test, and your scores will be valid for five years.

What results do I need?
The score you need will vary depending on the business schools you're applying to. There are no straightforward passes or fails, and most students receive a score between 400 and 600 – extremely high and low scores are rare. Anything above 700 is considered to be in the top 1% percentile.

Useful tips and things to note:
» Multiple choice sections will begin with an intermediate-level question – a correct answer will lead to a more difficult question, while an incorrect answer does the opposite.

» Make sure to keep an eye on the time, as there’s a penalty for not finishing in the given time.

» The official test site (www.mba.com) offers free prep software to registered users, including the same software as the test itself. Other free online resources for test prep include QS Leap (www.qsleap.com).

GRE (Graduate Record Examination)

Who and what is it for?
The GRE is aimed at prospective graduate students across all disciplines, and is required by graduate schools and university departments across the world, to assess your suitability for graduate programs. Some departments may require you to take one of the GRE Subject Tests, which assess your knowledge in a particular field, while
the General Test assesses verbal reasoning, quantitative reasoning and analytical writing.

**How long is it?**
The test is around three hours and 45 minutes long. You’ll receive a 10-minute break halfway through.

**How much does it cost?**
The GRE currently costs US$205 everywhere in the world except China, where it is $220.

**How is it structured?**
The GRE is comprised of three main sections:

**Verbal reasoning:** This section, which is mostly multiple-choice, measures your ability to analyze and evaluate written material; analyze relationships among component parts of sentences; and recognize relationships between words and concepts. It’s formed by two sets of 20 questions, with each set lasting 30 minutes.

**Quantitative Reasoning:** Also mostly multiple-choice, this section has a few questions requiring you to enter a number or conduct a quantitative comparison. You’ll be tested on your ability to understand basic concepts of arithmetic, algebra, geometry and data analysis, as well as how well you can solve problems using mathematical models. It’s formed by two sets of 20 questions, with each set lasting 35 minutes.

**Analytical Writing:** In this section, you’ll complete two separately timed essays in one hour. The first asks you to put forward a perspective on an issue; the second requires you to analyze an argument. This section tests your ability to articulate ideas, present supporting evidence and use the English language correctly.

**How is it scored?**
You’ll receive a score for each section. Verbal and Quantitative Reasoning are measured on a scale of 130-170, in one-point increments. Your scores will be valid for five years.

When sending score cards to admissions departments, you can use the ScoreSelect option to choose whether to include only your most recent score, or all scores from the previous five years. You can choose up to four institutions to send score reports to, or more for an extra fee. Your scores will be valid for five years.

**What results do I need?**
You can’t pass or fail the GRE, but universities and departments may require specific scores. In general, a score of 158/159 or above is considered a strong score. TOEFL results are also accepted as proof of English language proficiency in countries where this is needed to obtain a visa.

**TOEFL (Test of English as a Foreign Language)**

**Who and what is it for?**
TOEFL is for students wishing to study a program in the English language, and is required by institutions offering English-taught programs (including English-taught degrees in non-English countries). TOEFL results are also accepted as proof of English language proficiency in countries where this is needed to obtain a visa.

**How long is it?**
The test takes about four hours and 30 minutes to complete, with a 10-minute break halfway through.

**How much does it cost?**
The test fee varies depending on location. Here are some example prices: Berlin, US$245; Sofia, US$245; Seoul, US$490; Hyderabad, US$770; Bogota, US$220.

**How is it structured?**
The test is divided into four parts:

**Reading:** In this section you’ll answer 36-56 questions based on three or four passages from academic texts (this section lasts 60-80 minutes).

**Listening:** Here you’ll answer 34-51 questions based on audio recordings of lectures, classroom discussions and conversations (This takes 60-90 minutes).

**Speaking:** This section consists of six tasks, requiring you to talk about a familiar topic, as well as issues relating to the material in the reading and listening tasks (20 minutes).

**Writing:** Here you’ll write two essays, the first based on topics introduced during the reading and listening tasks, the second requiring you to express and support an opinion (30 minutes).

**How is it scored?**
Each section is scored out of 30 to give an overall score out of 120, and you’ll also receive feedback on your performance. The cost of the test includes free score reports that can be sent to up to four institutions, and additional reports for an extra fee.

**What results do I need?**
Guidance on the score you need should be given by your chosen institutions, and you can’t pass or fail the TOEFL. Any score from 94 or above is considered a strong score.
IELTS is widely recognised by over 10,000 organisations worldwide.

Passport to a bright future

📍 As the most recognised English language proficiency test in the world, IELTS is the ideal choice for multi-destination application.

✅ 99% of the top 200 US universities accept IELTS as part of their postgraduate programme application.

IELTS

www.ieltsasia.org
Useful tips and things to note:

» Before taking an English proficiency exam, be sure to check which tests are accepted by the institution you are applying to, and what scores are required.

» A paper-based test is offered at some centers where the standard internet-based test cannot be provided. This lasts about four hours, with four sections: Listening Comprehension, Structure and Written Expression, Reading Comprehension and the Test of Written English (TWE). You will receive a total score out of 677, and a separate score on a scale of 1-6 for the written section.

» Various study resources, including free sample questions, can be found on TOEFL’s official website: www.ets.org/toefl.

How I found the TOEFL

“I sat the computer-based TOEFL and found managing my stress level and maintaining focus and concentration for four hours straight particularly challenging. It’s not necessarily a difficult paper to sit, but it certainly takes a lot out of you. Looking back, I reckon I would have benefited a lot from trying past papers to get used to the format and feel more confident.”

Other admissions tests

IELTS

» The IELTS (International English Language Testing System) is another English proficiency test accepted by institutions offering programs taught in English and as proof of English language proficiency in countries where this is required to obtain a visa

» The IELTS test is more widely applicable for non-academic purposes than other English language proficiency tests.

» IELTS takes a total of two hours and 45 minutes to complete.

» The test fee varies depending on location.

» There are two versions of the test: IELTS Academic and IELTS General Training. Both are divided into four sections, with the same content for the Listening and Speaking sections, but different Reading and Writing sections.

» Each of the four sections is marked on scale from one to nine, with band one indicating a non-user and nine an expert user. You’ll also receive an averaged overall score.

» There is no limit on the number of times the test can be retaken, and your score will be valid for two years.

» The official website (www.ielts.org) offers practice materials and free sample questions.

LSAT

» The LSAT (Law School Admission Test) is taken by students who wish to enroll in law school at JD level, and is required by law schools in the US and Canada, as well as an increasing number of schools elsewhere in the world.

» The LSAT can be taken at test centers around the world, on up to four dates during the year. Many law schools require applicants to take a test in December at the latest for admission the following academic year.

» The LSAT is designed to measure skills considered necessary for success at law school, including comprehending and analyzing complex texts, organizing information and evaluating arguments.

» The test takes three hours and 30 minutes to complete, excluding breaks. The test fee is US$180.

» The LSAT is delivered in five sections lasting 35 minutes each, with three different types of multiple choice question: reading comprehension, analytical reasoning and logical reasoning.

» You’ll receive a score on a scale of 120-180. Your score will be valid for five years.

» Past papers and sample questions are available free of charge at www.lsac.org.
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What makes the perfect grad school application? How can you get a head-start on the competition for places on your preferred course? What should you include in a personal statement?

The process of applying to university is full of questions like these, but who can you rely upon to give you the answers? We decided to skip the middle man and go straight to the people responsible for deciding which applications are successful at a top US university.

Brittany Wright, director of graduate admissions at George Washington University’s school of engineering and science revealed what she looks for in an application and how budding students can beat the admissions scramble.

**Don’t expect an interview at master’s level**

“The only time a student would typically receive an interview with a faculty member is if they are a PhD candidate and the faculty is interested in funding the student, bringing them on, having them join the research team. That’s typical more of a discussion about research and not typically a normal interview.”

**Mention the university, program, and any faculty members you know or actual courses that you want to take in your personal statement**

“We read a lot of personal statements that are very generic. They don’t list the school or the institution the student is applying to — and that is a big red flag for us that the student hasn’t taken a look at the information or actually doesn’t know that we’re a good fit for them. It’s also another indicator that the student didn’t actually write their statement of purpose themselves.”

**What’s your 5-year plan?**

“We want to know what it is they’re looking to do post-graduation. We can see your resume has all the information on what you’ve done up until this point, but what is it you want to do after you graduate and how will having this degree and attending this institution allow you to achieve those goals?”

**Try to write in an approachable way**

“We like personal statements to be a little more personal. It’s really the one opportunity to build that human connection. Everything else we’ll have seen in an application are grades, and this is the one opportunity to really make us relate to them on a human level. So, we want them to be a little bit more personal and explain how they got into this field, whether they did work experience or research, and then how this program will provide them with the resources they need.”
Ideally write one full page, single-spaced, and definitely not more than a page and a half

“Some institutions will only have about a minute or two to read the statement of purpose. We take a little bit more time, but, generally speaking, it needs to be very clear and concise. The person reading it won’t have time to read all of it and will have to skim-read.”

Don’t skip your standardized testing revisions

“Students don’t allow themselves enough time to prepare for standardized tests and that’s why they don’t do as well as they anticipated. So, take your time and prepare for them because they’re expensive.”

Impress on the right section of your standardized test

“Since we’re working with engineering and computer science students, we weigh the quantitative scores a little bit more than the qualitative score because those math skills are more related to the work they would be doing. We look at the percentile because that gives us a better idea of the applicant compared to everyone else taking the GRE. We do look at every part of the GRE but it varies because we know students coming from certain parts of the world are going to have lower GRE scores.”

Location is everything

“I encourage students to look at institutions where they can afford to go without a scholarship, where they’ll be provided with the resources they need in the location where they want to be. If you’re looking to stay in the US and want to gain some work experience, make sure the university you’re going to is going to provide you with the network and resources to allow you to stay on and do that.”
A CLOSER LOOK AT THE QS WORLD UNIVERSITY RANKINGS BY SUBJECT 2017

Trying to decide which university is best for you? The QS subject rankings are an essential resource and are now bigger than ever before. Sabrina Collier explores the latest edition...

Published annually, the QS World University Rankings by Subject is arguably the most useful ranking when you’re trying to decide where to study. The largest and most comprehensive ranking of its kind, this year’s includes four new subjects to take the total number featured to 46, as well as rankings for five broad subject areas - arts and humanities, social sciences and management, life sciences and medicine, engineering and technology and natural sciences.

In total, 1,127 institutions from 74 countries are included in this year’s ranking, providing you with vital information about the best universities in your chosen study area. For some subjects, as many as 500 institutions are included in the ranking, and, in each case, rankings are calculated based upon major surveys of thousands of employers and academics, alongside an analysis of a university’s research impact in each subject.

Engineering and technology

A total of six engineering and technology subjects are included in this year’s ranking: computer science and information systems, chemical engineering, civil and structural engineering, electrical and electronic engineering, mechanical engineering and mineral and mining engineering.

Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) has the distinction of being the world’s leading university in all but one of these subjects, with the Colorado School of Mines continuing to rank first in the world for mineral and mining engineering. In that ranking, Australia’s Curtin University climbs an impressive 17 positions to rank second this year.

The chemical engineering ranking, extended to feature 100 more institutions this year, includes typical higher education heavyweights such as Stanford University and the University of Cambridge in the top five, with 73 positions claimed by the US, while Chinese institutions make up 27 of the 300 featured this year.

The chemical engineering ranking, extended to feature 100 more institutions this year, includes typical higher education heavyweights such as Stanford University and the University of Cambridge in the top five, with 73 positions claimed by the US, while Chinese institutions make up 27 of the 300 featured this year.

The electrical engineering ranking, also extended, sees four US universities lead uninterrupted in the top five, with Stanford, the University of California, Berkeley (UCB) and the University of California, Los Angeles (UCLA) all ranked beneath MIT, while the UK’s University of Cambridge comes fifth. The electrical engineering ranking also saw strong results in Asia, with several Chinese universities improving their positions from last year, including Tsinghua University, which jumped from 15th to seventh.

Beneath MIT in the civil engineering ranking are UC Berkeley and the University of Cambridge in joint second place, while Imperial College London is fourth and National University of Singapore (NUS) and Tsinghua University share fifth place. Across the globe, other strong universities for this subject include the Delft University of Technology (ranked joint seventh) in the Netherlands, the University of Hong Kong (ninth), the Australian University of New South Wales (16th), the Canadian University of British Columbia (30th) and the Indian Institute of Technology Bombay (51-100).

The mechanical, aeronautical and manufacturing engineering ranking sees Stanford and Cambridge at second and
third respectively after MIT, while Harvard University and UC Berkeley share fourth place. Joining them in the top 10 are Japan’s University of Tokyo, up from 12th to eighth, and Tsinghua University, up from 15th to 10th.

Finally, the computer science and information systems ranking, extended from 400 to 500 this year, sees MIT and Stanford once again at first and second place, followed by Carnegie Mellon University at third, UC Berkeley at fourth and the University of Cambridge at fifth – with all three improving their positions this year. Outside the UK and the US, high-ranking universities across the world for computer science include ETH Zurich (ranked ninth), National University of Singapore and the University of Toronto (both joint 10th), the University of Melbourne (14th) and Tsinghua University (15th).

**Art and design**

The QS World University Rankings by Subject also features a ranking of the world’s top art and design schools, extended to now feature 200 institutions. This ranking gives more specialized institutions a chance to shine, with the UK’s Royal College of Art ranked first for art and design for the third successive year. The rest of the top five is dominated by the US, with the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) retaining its position at second, Parsons School of Design ranked third, the Rhode Island School of Design fourth and the Pratt Institute fifth.

Outside of the US and the UK, other top art schools around the world include Italy’s Politecnico di Milano (joint seventh), Australia’s RMIT University (17th), Mexico’s Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México (24th), China’s Tsinghua University (25th) and Indonesia’s Bandung Institute of Technology (53-100).

Alternatively, students interested in using their art skills to study and work in architecture might be interested in the latest ranking of the world’s top architecture schools. MIT leads the way here, with the UK’s Bartlett School of Architecture (a faculty of University College London) at second, the Delft University of Technology based in the Netherlands in third, University of California, Berkeley fourth and ETH Zurich (Swiss Federal Institute of Technology) now ranked fifth, up two places from last year.

Or, if you’re interested in taking to the stage and studying performing arts, the ranking for this subject features many specialized institutions, with the Julliard School in the US first and the UK’s Royal College of Music second. Fellow UK institutions Royal Academy of Music and Royal Conservatoire of Scotland share third place.

Seven other arts and humanities subjects are featured in the rankings, including a new addition this year: theology, divinity and religious studies. One of four new subjects to be added this year, the inaugural theology ranking is topped by Harvard University. The other subjects featured in the arts and humanities area are English language and literature, history, linguistics, modern languages, philosophy and archaeology.

**Maths and sciences**

The mathematics ranking, one of seven included in the broad subject area of natural sciences, includes 400 institutions and is again led by Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT), up from third last year. The other institutions in the top five are Harvard University at second place, Stanford University at third, the University of Oxford at fourth and the University of Cambridge at fifth.
Other universities across the world boasting high positions for this subject include Switzerland’s ETH Zurich (Swiss Federal Institute of Technology) at eighth, the National University of Singapore at joint 14th, Japan’s University of Tokyo at 18th and China’s Peking University at 20th.

Another popular subject in this area is physics and astronomy, a subject which again sees MIT take the top spot, with other higher education heavyweights joining it in the top five: Harvard University is second, Stanford third, Cambridge fourth and UC Berkeley fifth.

Also included in the top 10 are the University of Tokyo (ninth) and ETH Zurich (10th).

Other high-ranking universities include Ludwig-Maximilians-Universität München (joint 16th), China’s Peking University (18th), Canada’s University of Toronto (joint 25th) and France’s École Polytechnique (28th).

The other subjects featured in the natural sciences subject area are chemistry (MIT is the leader), earth and marine sciences (ETH Zurich), environmental sciences (University of California, Berkeley), geography (University of Oxford), and finally materials sciences (MIT, again).

**Medicine**

Nine subjects fall under the life sciences and medicine subject area in this year’s ranking, including, of course, a ranking of the world’s top medical schools. This continues to be led for the fourth year running by Harvard University. Following Harvard are the University of Oxford and the University of Cambridge in second and third places, with fellow US institutions Johns Hopkins University and Stanford University rounding off the top five, both ranked joint fourth.

Also included in the top 10 are the University of Tokyo (ninth) and ETH Zurich (10th).

Other high-ranking universities include Ludwig-Maximilians-Universität München (joint 16th), China’s Peking University (18th), Canada’s University of Toronto (joint 25th) and France’s École Polytechnique (28th).

The other subjects featured in the natural sciences subject area are chemistry (in which MIT is the leader), earth and marine sciences (ETH Zurich), environmental sciences (University of California, Berkeley), geography (University of Oxford), and finally materials sciences (MIT, again).

**Medicine**

Nine subjects fall under the life sciences and medicine subject area in this year’s ranking, including, of course, a ranking of the world’s top medical schools. This continues to be led for the fourth year running by Harvard University. Following Harvard are the University of Oxford and the University of Cambridge in second and third places, with fellow US institutions Johns Hopkins University and Stanford University rounding off the top five, both ranked joint fourth.

Elsewhere in the world, Brazil’s Universidade de São Paulo is the highest-ranked Latin American institution for medicine at 51-100, while the University of Tokyo is the leading Asian university at 26th. The University of Sydney is the leading Australian university for medicine in 51st place, and Sweden’s Karolinska Institutet is the highest-ranked European institution after Oxford for medicine, in sixth place.

Harvard again takes the lead in the biological sciences ranking, which also sees Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) and the University of Cambridge swapping places from last year to now rank second and third respectively.

Alternatively, students interested in studying a medical-related specialization may be interested in the new anatomy and physiology ranking, which sees Oxbridge in first and second place (Oxford first, followed by Cambridge) and the Canadian McGill University in third place.

There are also dedicated rankings for dentistry, veterinary science and nursing, again featuring many specialized institutions, which might normally not be eligible for the overall QS World University Rankings. The nursing ranking, new last year, continues to be led by the University of Pennsylvania. The University of California, Davis leads the way for veterinary science, while the University of Hong Kong is the world leader for dentistry.
The other subjects featured in the life sciences and medicine subject area are agriculture and forestry, pharmacy and pharmacology and psychology. The Netherlands’ Wageningen University is the world leader for agriculture, while Harvard is considered the best in the world for both pharmacy and psychology.

### Social sciences and management

The social sciences and management subject area includes 13 subjects, with two new fields for 2017: hospitality and leisure management and sports-related subjects. For hospitality, the University of Nevada - Las Vegas has achieved first place, followed by École hôtelière de Lausanne at second, while the UK’s Loughborough University and Australia’s University of Sydney share first place in the sports-related subjects ranking, followed by the University of Queensland (also based in Australia) in third place.

One of the most popular social sciences continues to be law, and Harvard University is the best place to study this subject, followed by Oxford and Cambridge in second and third, then Yale University at fourth and Stanford at fifth. Of the 300 law schools in the ranking, 52 are in the US, while 138 are in Europe. Australian universities also perform well, with the University of Melbourne the country’s highest-ranked for law at 11th.

Other institutions across the world to feature in the global top 40 for law include National University of Singapore (15th), Canada’s University of Toronto (17th), the University of Hong Kong (joint 18th), Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México (UNAM) (31st) and the Netherlands’ Leiden University (32nd).

The business and management ranking, first published in 2015, is led by Harvard University for the second year running, with London Business School in second place. The top five continues with France’s INSEAD, Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) and the University of Pennsylvania at third, fourth and fifth places respectively.

Strong business and management schools in Europe (outside the UK) include Italy’s Università Commerciale Luigi Bocconi at 11th, HEC Paris at 12th, Copenhagen Business School at 15th and the ESADE Business School at Universitat Ramon Llull in Spain, ranked 21st (up from 51-100 last year).

National University of Singapore (NUS) is the highest-ranked in Asia for business, with a ranking of 15th in the world, while Hong Kong boasts the Hong Kong University of Science and Technology at 20th and the University of Hong Kong at 28th. Also in the global top 50 for this subject are South Korea’s Seoul National University (33rd) and China’s Peking University (joint 36th).

If you’re interested in studying business in Australia, strong universities for this subject include the University of Melbourne at 22nd, the University of New South Wales at joint 23rd and Monash University at 31st.

Moving on to the ranking of the world’s top universities for economics and econometrics, MIT is once again the world leader, followed by Harvard, Stanford, UC Berkeley and the London School of Economics and Political Science (LSE).

Over in Europe, Italy’s Università Commerciale Luigi Bocconi is ranked 16th for economics, while Spain’s Universitat Pompeu Fabra is 34th, the Swiss ETH Zurich is 35th and the Swedish Stockholm School of Economics is 43st.

Top Asian universities for economics include National University of Singapore (ranked 20th), the Hong Kong University of Science and Technology at 24th, the University of Tokyo at joint 30th and China’s Peking University at joint 32nd.

The social sciences and management subject area also includes a ranking of the world’s top universities for development studies, led this year by the UK’s University of Sussex (overtaking Harvard, which is now second). South African institutions perform particularly well for this subject, with two in the global top 20: the University of Cape Town (ranked 10th) and the University of The Witwatersrand (joint 18th). Other strong universities for this subject include India’s University of Delhi (16th) and Uganda’s Makerere University (36th).

To explore the latest edition of the QS World University Rankings by Subject, and compare universities worldwide, visit www.topuniversities.com/subject-rankings
Forget the traditional career paths of doctor, lawyer or banker, right now everybody wants to work in tech. Whether it’s a young, exciting start-up with a ball-pit in the conference room and free beer on a Friday or an industry-leading multinational responsible for the next wave of life-changing gadgets, the technology sector is the hottest place to work.

It’s also the sector where more and more graduate opportunities are becoming available. According to the Bureau of Labor, there’s expected to be a 22% growth in software engineering roles between 2012 and 2022. That’s twice the average growth of other roles.

How can you make sure one of these jobs becomes yours? Here are some sure-fire ways to impress technology employers and secure that dream graduate role.

Know how to talk about your successes (and your failures)

The strongest job applications offer real-life examples of occasions where you’ve successfully used your skills and attributes. Do this and you avoid falling into the trap of trotting out cliched statements about how “hard-working” you are, and instead provide the person reading your CV with a clear idea of how you might tackle problems and challenges in their company. Be specific, offer detail and don’t worry that your extended anecdote will seem self-indulgent.

This type of writing is useful for when you need to discuss things you’ve got wrong as well. Don’t be afraid to go into detail, but make sure you mostly focus on what you learned from your failures. Being able to demonstrate your adaptability and desire to constantly learn and improve will be seen as extremely impressive.

Don’t limit your talents to only one thing

This is especially important if you’re aiming to work at a start-up or similarly-sized company. In these situations, the more versatile a potential employee is, the more likely it is they’ll be hired. These companies don’t have the manpower to have people only specialize in one particular area, so will be looking for graduates who can work on multiple types of project. If possible, demonstrate in your application that you have a broad base of knowledge and experience. If you don’t have that broad base, work on this weakness in your CV. Consider signing up for hackathons, coding boot camps or other extra-curricular events that will push you out of your comfort zone.

Similarly, you’ll need to show a blend of both technical knowledge and soft skills, such as communication and decisiveness. It’s all very well being extremely talented, but if you’re not able to communicate your ideas and lead a team then your knowledge is wasted. Companies know this and will always favor applications that are more well-rounded.

Be passionate about the company and the industry they operate in

It’s not enough to just research the company you’re applying for anymore; you need to show an active interest and passion in what they’re doing. If you’re enthusiastic, it demonstrates you’ve already bought in to their goals and objectives and will potentially adapt to working there quicker than other candidates. Don’t be afraid to be passionate about your life outside of work either. It’s important to show that you’re enjoying yourself and having a good time, particularly if you’re applying to a start-up where the average age is quite young and the culture is a bit more relaxed.

Take the time to look at the wider industry the company operates in too. Whether they’re a start-up or an established multinational, you should be able to spot trends in their sector and identify what your potential employers are doing compared to the competition. This information may even enable you to suggest improvements you would like to make if the company hired you.

You don’t need to prove you can be the next Zuckerberg

The biggest names in technology may be driven, single-minded geniuses like Mark Zuckerberg and Evan Spiegel but that doesn’t mean you need to have an entrepreneurial mind to succeed in the technology sector. Many companies say there’s a misconception...
that they’re looking for someone with the next big idea, but the truth is that it’s far more important that graduates can operate as part of a team. Some tech companies even include a team-working challenge in their interview process.

Can’t find a job anywhere? Take the initiative

If you really want to work in the fast-paced environment of a tech start-up, you might struggle to find job vacancies on conventional listing sites. Instead, keep an eye on the industry news for stories about startups that have recently raised money. If a company has had an influx of cash, they’ll almost certainly be looking to hire, so get in touch with your CV. The Twitter account @vcddeals is a brilliant place to start for information about start-ups attracting interest from venture capitalists.

Finally, don’t be afraid to say you don’t know something

The tech industry is big, complicated and often confusing. It’s OK if something comes up in an interview or conversation and you’ve got no experience or knowledge of it. Don’t try and pretend you know what they mean as you’ll quickly get found out and there’s no faster way to have your application rejected.
National University of Singapore
Graduate School for Integrative Sciences and Engineering [NGS]

About NGS Scholarship PhD [ngs.nus.edu.sg/NGSS.html]
- Cross-disciplinary research at the forefront of science, engineering, computing & related aspects of medicine
- 4-year direct-PhD award
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- Opportunities for PhD research based both in Singapore, and in USA/Europe/Japan/China/Australia/South Korea etc

About Our Programmes
- PhD at NGS (NUS) in across sciences, engineering, computing & bio-medicine
- Joint National University of Singapore - Karolinska Institute PhD in bio-medicine & bioengineering
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About Our Research [ngs.nus.edu.sg/research_areas.html]

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- Information Technology
- Bioinformatics, Computational Biology, Data Mining, Infocommunications, Interactive & Digital Media
- Life Sciences
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- Physical Sciences
- Biological Physics, Chemistry, Soft-condensed Matter Physics, Nonlinear Dynamics & Complex Systems, Nano- & Molecular Electronics, Photonics, Phononics, Thermoelectrics, Quantum Information & Quantum Computation
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WHAT OUR STUDENTS & GRADUATES SAID...

➢ Although Singapore is a small country, it is highly developed, technologically advanced, and prolific in churning out scientific discoveries. In fact, it boasts one of the world’s top universities, namely National University of Singapore, which is highly ranked in innumerable international rankings … I witnessed and experienced first-hand the stimulating and knowledge-expanding opportunities and exposure Singapore’s multi-cultural and multi-national milieu offered me.

➢ Although the flagship NGS Scholarship scheme is indisputably attractive, I was personally drawn to the allowances for books (i.e., literature and periodicals relevant to and related to research), conferences, expositions, etc. as this feature is a concrete testament of NGS’ commitment and priority to develop its PhD students to the fullest potential.

➢ Very importantly, NGS’ research coverage demonstrates its uniquely inter- and multi-disciplinary approaches in pushing the boundaries of sciences and technologies. This may sound too ‘airy-fairy’, but believe me, you’ll come to appreciate this sooner, than later.

➢ Now my research is so much richer and more expansive than I could possibly imagine. I have learnt how to lead research, present my thoughts, and defend my convictions, instead of merely performing the experiments and tackling the questions. PhD gives a student the freedom to make mistakes, learn from them, and be stretched to become an independent scientist.

“Doing research in a different cultural setting taught me many lessons in interpersonal communication. Furthermore, the international and interdisciplinary character of NGS exposed me to, and provided me with, the necessary skills to be able to pursue research at any place in the world.”

Dr Lukas Bahati Tanner (NGS Ph.D. 2013)

“NGS’ broad-base, multidisciplinary education has equipped me with vast scientific knowledge and a good understanding of the research landscape … NGS supervisors too have imparted scientific techniques that could be applied in extension to interpret and analyze market trends for business and product strategy formulation.”

Dr Candy Haley Lim (NGS Ph.D. 2014)

Talent alone does not make a great scientist but also requires an insatiable appetite for success and a unquenchable thirst for science … In the highly competitive world that we live in today, NGS truly stands out among many other elite graduate schools in this particular aspect where her rigorous graduate program is perhaps best epitomized by alumni who have moved forward to take on prestigious challenges worldwide as competitive, talented young scientists.

Dr Chen Zhixiong (NGS Ph.D. 2010)

SEIZE THE OPPORTUNITY, CHALLENGE YOURSELF, AND ACHIEVE RESEARCH EXCELLENCE AMONG THE WORLD’S BEST; SCAN THE QR CODE TO FIND OUT MORE NOW!
There was a time when the overwhelming majority of graduate career decisions were ruthlessly made based on one, single factor: which job will earn me the most money?

Of course, the lure of jobs in finance, law and other high-powered, high-paying careers hasn’t gone away entirely, and there are still thousands of graduates every year who imagine the working world to be like something out of The Wolf of Wall Street. However, their numbers are getting smaller.

In 2018 and beyond, it’s going to be more important to be selfless than selfish. According to a recent survey, 64% of current US students want a job which enables them to make the world a better place. Increasingly aware of the fragility of our planet and the devastating living conditions in some of the world’s communities, we want to make a difference and not just make money.

If this sounds like the kind of future you want, here are some ideas to get you started.

Work on world-changing technology

Now is a really exciting time to work in technology, with the next few years expected to bring us all manner of exciting technological developments. Artificial intelligence, augmented reality, driverless cars: all of this and more will be a regular part of life soon enough.

As cool as some of these developments are, arguably the most exciting work is being done elsewhere. Synthetic food, for example, could be a massive step forwards in the battle against famine. Currently, the nutritional powder Soylent is pretty unappetizing, but companies like Beyond Meat and Impossible Foods are proving it’s not impossible to make something tasty.

As well as developments in artificial food, advances in biotechnology are also making it easier to grow crops that can survive in difficult conditions such as drought.

If growing meat in a lab doesn’t sound appealing, there are plenty of other world-changing technologies to work on. Computer science graduates could find themselves working on Microelectromechanical Systems (MEMs for short), micro-computers which are set to revolutionize the medical industry. These tiny, powerful chips could be used to make noninvasive body monitors, insulin micropumps for diabetics, smart contact lenses and so much more. These developments won’t just help save lives, they’ll also help improve the quality of life for millions of people.

Work for a non-profit

Of course, there are ways to give back to the wider world and make a better tomorrow that don’t require sophisticated scientific knowledge. Perhaps the most obvious route for altruistic graduates is to look for work at a non-profit.

There are literally thousands of non-profits, charities and non-governmental organizations (NGOs) which hire talented graduates every year, in roles ranging from logistical and administrative to highly specialized and skilled. As an example of the latter, graduate lawyers could look for work at the American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU), an organization which made headlines when it leapt to the defense of travelers affected by President Donald Trump’s travel ban. Whatever type of role you’re interested in, non-profits will want to see evidence of previous charitable work in your application, not just good grades.

If the world of non-profits sounds appealing, but you’re unsure about joining a large, global organization, there is always an alternative…

Start your own non-profit

This would be an extremely big project, but there’s no reason why you shouldn’t be considering forging your own path and launching a non-profit. Be aware that it will take years to establish relationships, identify the area you can make an impact in, but there are organizations which can help. Groups such as GiveWell and Charity Entrepreneurship are worth approaching for guidance and support.
Even with external support, starting your own non-profit is a risky career path that will require you to work very long hours and be extremely self-motivated, but, conversely, the rewards are tremendous. The work is highly satisfying and you’ll get to see the direct impact of all of your hard work.

**Run for a political position**

This might seem like an odd career path, but stop for a moment and take a look at the leading politicians in your country. Don’t you think you could do better? Now, it’s unlikely anyone is going to be voting to make you their president/prime minister/ fearless leader any time soon, but that doesn’t mean you can’t make a difference at a lower level down the political ladder.

A good place to start is by getting work in a politician’s office. This will give you first-hand experience of how national politics works, and allow you to make those all-important connections with other professionals in this field. It’s likely to be a bit of a slog, requiring long hours and an ability to work under pressure, but the rewards of working on actual policy which affects hundreds of thousands of people can be immensely satisfying.

**Become a journalist**

This might sound odd, given the most-read news articles online are just funny cat pictures, but journalism can (occasionally) change the world. Investigative journalism has been responsible for uncovering political scandals, corruption and crime, as well as shining a light on previously overlooked issues and communities, and even lower-profile writers are capable of making a difference to their town or city.

To get started, you’ll probably need some additional qualifications, unless you’re already studying Journalism. This will ensure you pick up skills such as shorthand which can be a real asset. Journalism is an extremely competitive area, so you’ll probably need to use work experience to get your foot in the door, so start building a portfolio by writing for your student paper.

**If you can’t resist the corporate world...**

It might be that, for whatever reason, none of these potential career paths sound as appealing to you as something more traditional. Maybe you’ve always wanted to work in a high-powered city environment, or you’re really passionate about finance or law. If that’s the case, you maybe wouldn’t expect it to be possible to find a corporate career that still provides you with an opportunity to give back, but you’d be wrong.

Many global companies now have corporate social responsibility (CSR) schemes, which see employees spend some time every year working on charitable projects. This could be anything from travelling abroad to help build a village to growing and maintaining a community garden. These schemes are normally promoted heavily to graduate applicants, so it shouldn’t be hard to find out more information. For example, General Electric employees supposedly volunteer over 1 million hours every year, supporting senior centers, literacy programs and neglected urban spaces.

Ultimately, there are plenty of career paths you can follow if it’s important to you that your job helps to make the world a better place, from jobs where that’s the sole focus (running a non-profit) to jobs where it’s just an additional feature alongside your daily job. Whichever you choose, you’re guaranteed to be making a difference, so what are you waiting for? It’s time to go out there and change the world.
Studying for a PhD abroad is a great opportunity to broaden your horizons both academically and culturally, giving you an insight into a new research environment and maybe even some fresh perspectives in your field. You’ll also internationalize your CV, grow your academic network, and enhance your career prospects – many employers view international experience very favorably.

Usually, PhDs are either open or structured. Open PhDs, more common in arts and humanities subjects, mean you will suggest and outline your own research project, whereas the majority of science PhDs are likely to be structured, which means the scope of the research will be decided by the university, and you will apply to take on the project.

But just how do you go about finding the right program? Read on for some general advice, followed by information on studying a PhD in some of the world’s most popular study destinations.

**Choose a PhD topic**

Your PhD should address an issue which has not yet been covered, adding to the body of research produced in your field. If you haven’t chosen a topic yet, it may help to look back on your master’s degree and investigate ideas and topics that particularly fascinate you. PhDs are a big commitment, so it’s important to be sure you can stay motivated and interested in your topic of study. It may also help to talk to your past or current professors, as they will often be able to recommend other academics who are experts in your subject and who could become your PhD supervisor.

If you’re applying for an open PhD, consider how original, viable and significant your proposed idea is, and make sure it can be turned into a manageable research question with a clear goal.

**Decide where to study**

With so many study destinations to choose from, this may not be easy, but try to consider whether you want to experience a particular language, culture or location, and make sure you’ll feel happy in the local environment. You’ll also need to research the typical living costs and funding opportunities of your proposed study destination.

Your decision is also likely to be strongly influenced by the type of research you want to do, and the departments which are working in this space. Try asking professors and PhD students at your current university if they know of any particularly reputable supervisors, research teams or departments in your chosen field. The QS World University Rankings by Subject can also be a useful way to identify institutions with a strong global reputation in your discipline (see page 26 for an overview of the 2017 rankings).

Another factor you may consider is the length of time it will take to gain your doctorate qualification, which will vary between countries and programs.

**Find a supervisor**

Once you’ve decided on your PhD topic and study destination of choice, the next step is to research universities and possible supervisors. Websites such as FindaPhD.com can be useful here, allowing you to search for PhD opportunities in various subjects and countries, and providing full details on the structured PhD openings advertised. You should then email the professor in charge of supervising the project, explaining your interest in the research, attaching your CV, and asking for more information.

If you’re thinking of studying an unstructured program, you’ll still need to contact prospective supervisors, informally discussing your idea and its feasibility, as well as ensuring a mutual interest in the topic. You’ll then need to send through a research proposal, following the guidelines set by the university in question. The format for this will vary between universities, but you will generally need to articulate what you want to research, and why this is a worthwhile project.

Your choice of supervisor should not be taken lightly. Make sure they’re both academically and personally compatible with you, to ensure you have a good working relationship during your doctorate.
**PhDs in popular study destinations**

**United States**

Though studying a PhD in the US can be expensive, there are many funding opportunities available, including scholarships, fellowships and assistantships – your first port of call for finding these should be your US university of choice.

To apply for a PhD in the US, you’ll often need to take the GRE General Test and/or the GRE Subject Test relevant to your field, as well as an English language exam if you’re not a native speaker (you can read more on admissions tests on page 18). As well as the usual application documents such as your statement of purpose and letters of recommendation, you should be prepared for an interview (often by phone) in which you’ll discuss your research interests and aims.

PhDs in the US tend to require the completion of coursework as well as research, culminating in the production of a dissertation of publishable quality. To complete the qualification, you’ll discuss and defend your dissertation in an oral exam, sometimes referred to as a “defense”.

**United Kingdom**

As well as the usual structured or open PhDs mentioned above, the UK offers professional or practice-based doctorates (EdD, DBA, DSecSci, DProf, etc.), which you may choose to undertake if you’re a mid-career professional seeking progress to a higher level. These doctorates are usually completed in a work environment, commencing with a structured period of initial research training. Assessment is likely to be closely connected to your professional practice, alongside a written commentary or thesis.

Self-funded home and EU students will pay £3,000-6,000 annually (about US$3,750-7,500), while international students pay £18,000 (~US$22,500) for the first three years. You’ll also need to budget for the UK’s relatively high living costs, allowing more if your PhD is based in London.

Funding for PhDs is provided by the UK’s research councils, usually in the form of a tax-free bursary which consists of tuition fees together with a stipend of around £14,500 (US$18,500) per year for three years (this is higher in London). Scientific studentships are also offered by organizations or charities such as Cancer Research UK, and the Wellcome Trust provides stipends which start at around £19,919 (US$25,500) and rise each year. Another major scholarship provider is the British Council, which offers funding for PhD students from various countries – visit their website for information on current opportunities. UK nationals living in England are also eligible to apply for the government’s new PhD loans of up to £25,000, available from the 2018/19 academic year.

**Germany**

Most PhD students in Germany complete an individual doctorate, in which you’ll produce a thesis or dissertation under the supervision of a professor, working independently for the most part. The length of these PhDs varies, generally lasting three to five years.

The second option available in Germany is the structured PhD pathway, which in this case means joining a group of doctoral candidates who are jointly overseen by a team of supervisors. These programs typically offer a structured curriculum of courses, and a slightly shorter time to completion – usually three to four years.

Many students can study a PhD for free in Germany for at least the first six semesters (three years), meaning you will simply need to pay for your living costs (around €8,700 (~US$9,200 per year) and a semester contribution of around €50-200 (US$60-210) to cover administration and other costs. However, tuition fees for non-EU students will be reintroduced in the state of Baden-Württemberg from Autumn 2017, and it’s possible other states will soon follow suit.

Most doctoral students work on a paid research project or receive a scholarship. If you want to apply for a scholarship to help with your expenses, search for opportunities via the websites of the universities you’re considering.

**Canada**

Tuition costs for PhDs in Canada vary, as universities set their own fees. In general, international students pay around double the tuition fee for Canadian nationals. As an example, the University of British Columbia charges PhD fees of around CA$7,541 (~US$5,600) per year. However, you may be able to gain a tuition deferral or waiver, which is equivalent to part of or the entire tuition amount for the first four years. You may also be able to find funding through a teaching and research assistantship. The Canadian government runs a scholarships website (www.scholarships-bourses.gc.ca), which you can use to explore available funding opportunities such as the Vanier Canada Graduate Scholarships, available to Canadian and international PhD students.

PhD students can work on or off campus, but some programs specify students must not work for more than 10 hours per week, particularly if they’ve been granted PhD funding. It’s not recommended to rely too heavily on part-time work in any case, as your PhD research is likely to take up most of your time and energy.
If you’re looking to study somewhere steeped in culture, full of vibrant cities and some of the most prestigious universities in the world, Asia is a pretty good place to start. An increasingly popular destination for students, Asia is home to a wide variety of cultures and learning environments so you’re bound to find somewhere that suits you.

Asian universities offer a growing number of opportunities to study in English, while many students are attracted to the prospect of improving their employability by gaining new language skills. Spending time in one of the region’s many burgeoning economies is also likely to add significant value to your CV, as well as giving you many unforgettable experiences.

South Korea
Offering an exciting fusion of traditional and modern elements, South Korea is emerging as one of Asia’s most attractive study destinations. The South Korean government has invested significantly in the country’s education and research, and aims to attract 200,000 international students by 2020.

South Korea has 29 top universities featured in the QS World University Rankings® 2018, including seven in the top 200. Seoul National University is the highest-ranked of these in joint 36th place, while other high-ranking universities include KAIST – Korea Advanced Institute of Science and Technology in joint 41st place and Pohang University of Science and Technology (POSTECH), ranked joint 71st.

Applications & visas
You can usually apply for South Korean universities online or by post, and will need to apply between September and November for courses starting in March, and around May or June for September admission.

30% of classes in South Korea are taught in English, and you’ll need to prove your proficiency in your language of study, whether this is English or Korean.

Once you’ve gained admission, you should apply for your D-2 visa, which can be gained from a South Korean embassy or consulate in your home country. You’ll need to pay a processing fee for this.

Tuition fees & living costs
Tuition fees in South Korea vary between courses and institutions and are relatively affordable, averaging US$5,000-12,500 per year for both master’s and PhD courses at public universities. Science and medical degrees will be at the higher end of this estimate and fees will be higher at private institutions.

In terms of living costs, as part of the visa requirements you’ll need to prove you have access to at least US$10,000 to support yourself during each year of your studies. However, you’ll need to budget more to live in the capital, Seoul, where prices can be much higher than elsewhere in the country.

Singapore
Although small, this vibrant, diverse and highly developed city state is one of the major players in Asia’s economy. It’s also increasingly recognized as a country with a strong emphasis on higher education.

Although Singapore has only three representatives in the QS World University Rankings, two of these are very highly ranked – Nanyang Technological University (NTU) and National University of Singapore (NUS) are currently placed 11th and 17th respectively. While the prestigious
Singapore Management University is too specialized to feature in the main rankings, it features in the QS World University Rankings by Subject among the top 100 for business and management.

Applications & visas
You should apply directly to your chosen institution, following the application guidelines stated on the official website. The language of instruction at Singaporean universities is English, so you’ll need to prove your proficiency if you’re not a native speaker.

International students wishing to study in Singapore will need a student visa. This will be issued along with your letter of approval (also known as your in-principal approval or IPA) once your application has been accepted by a recognized university.

Your application is subject to previous recognized qualifications, evidence of the required paperwork, and proof of sufficient English language skills.

You’ll also need a Student Pass, which you should apply for no later than a month before commencing your studies.

You should apply for this online using the Student’s Pass Online Application & Registration System (SOLAR), which the university will register you with.

Tuition fees & living costs
Singapore's strong economy and high quality of living is accompanied by correspondingly high living costs and some of the highest tuition fees in Asia. However, it can still be a relatively inexpensive option when comparing internationally, averaging US$14,400-38,800 per year for master’s degrees and US$18,800-22,500 for PhDs. You will need at least US$10,000 each year you study in Singapore to cover living costs.

Japan
Known for its innovative technologies, the land of the rising sun is currently home to around 239,000 international students, drawn to the country by its distinctive culture, appealing landscapes and prestigious universities. It’s also a very safe and welcoming country, with a fascinating mix of elements to explore during your studies – from anime to sushi, and historic temples to the latest high-tech gadgets.

A total of 43 Japanese universities are featured in the QS World University Rankings, including eight in the top 150. The highest-ranking university in Japan is Kyoto University (38th), followed immediately by the University of Tokyo (39th), and the Tokyo Institute of Technology (56th).

Applications & visas
Most Japanese universities require applicants to take the Examination for Japanese University Admission for International Students, which tests your academic knowledge of mathematics, science and “Japan and the world”. You may also be required to take a different entrance exam, which will mean travelling to Japan.

As well as these completed exams, you’ll need to fill in an application form and provide documents such as academic transcripts, references and proof of finances.

To gain a student visa you will first need a Certificate of Eligibility, which will be applied for on your behalf by the Japanese institution where you have been accepted. Once this has been issued, you will need to apply for your visa through your local
Japanese embassy or consulate, providing documents such as your passport.

**Tuition fees & living costs**
Although tuition fees and living costs are among the most expensive in Asia, Japan is still more affordable than many other destinations. A master's or PhD degree will set you back around US$7,440-8,430 per year in both tuition and admission fees.

You’ll need about US$15,000 per year for living costs including your accommodation, but should budget more to live in Tokyo, which is unsurprisingly the most expensive city. Here, you’ll need to budget at least US$17,760 a year to cover rent, food, insurance, entertainment, travel and other living costs.

**Hong Kong**
Distinguished by its blend of Eastern and Western cultures, traditional elements and modern competitiveness, Hong Kong has established itself as one of Asia’s dominant economic powers – and is also emerging as one of the region’s leading study destinations.

Hong Kong has seven universities ranked among the top 600 in the QS World University Rankings, including five in the top 100. Of these, the best performers are the University of Hong Kong in 26th place and Hong Kong University of Science and Technology (HKUST) in 30th.

**Applications & visas**
The language of instruction at universities in Hong Kong is English, so you’ll need to prove your proficiency with a test such as IELTS or TOEFL if you’re not a native speaker.

You should submit your application directly to your chosen university, providing all the requested documents and fulfilling the entry requirements.

Once you've been offered a place, the university should arrange a local sponsor for your visa application. As well as filling in an application form, you’ll need to provide documents such as proof of your identity, evidence of academic qualifications and a financial statement. The latter can show your own finances, or those of someone who is supporting you.
The Immigration Department will also request details of where you intend to live while you study in Hong Kong, so it’s best to arrange this well in advance, either through the university or independently.

**Tuition fees & living costs**

Tuition fees vary depending on your course and level of study, but average about HK$90,000-265,000 (US$11,600-34,155) per year. Unfortunately living costs are quite high in Hong Kong, especially accommodation, with university-owned residences likely to be the cheapest option. Your living costs are likely to come to at least US$7,000 a year, excluding accommodation, which will start at roughly US$700 a semester if you share a room in university accommodation.

**Malaysia**

Straddling the South China Sea and home to an array of cultures, a diverse geography and a futuristic-looking capital city, Malaysia is a truly unique country, with plenty to attract international students. It’s already the world’s ninth most popular study destination according to UNESCO, and is aiming to host 250,000 foreign students by 2025.

Although home to several prestigious international branch campuses, Malaysia’s home-grown universities are not to be overlooked, with nine featuring in the QS World University Rankings 2018. The highest-ranked of these are Universiti Malaya (joint 114th) and Universiti Putra Malaysia (239th).

**Applications & visas**

The language of instruction at Malaysian universities is English, so you’ll need to prove your proficiency with a test such as IELTS or TOEFL if it’s not your first language.

You’ll need to apply directly to your chosen university. You can find detailed guidance on this on the Education Malaysia Global Services (EMGS) website.

All students need a Student Pass. Once you’ve been accepted at a Malaysian university, the institution will apply for a Student Pass on your behalf. You’ll need to pay a processing fee.

Once you have your visa approval letter (VAL), you must bring this with you when you arrive in Malaysia, as you will then be issued your visa. Students from China will need to apply for their visa prior to arrival through their nearest Malaysian embassy.

You’ll need a medical check-up prior to arrival, and you should also inform your chosen institution of your travel plans.

**Tuition fees & living costs**

Tuition fees vary between universities, study areas and study levels, but, in general, they are very affordable, starting at as little as MYR 3,000 (US$700) per year for a master’s degree in a humanities subject at a public university, going up to MYR 13,000-25,000 (US$3,000-5,800) for MBA programs. Branch campuses also offer the opportunity to gain accreditation from an internationally famed university for lower fees than would be charged at the institution’s home campus.

The cost of living for international students in Malaysia is very low, as you only need to budget about US$5,000 per year, including food, travel and accommodation. Capital Kuala Lumpur was ranked the most affordable of the world’s top 100 cities for students in the QS Best Student Cities 2017.

**China**

Home to the world’s largest population, China has been investing heavily in higher education, and aims to have 500,000 international students enrolled at its universities by 2020. So far, it seems to be on track for this target, as it hosted a record 440,000 international students in 2016. Officially the People’s Republic of China, this country is packed full of culture and history, as well as being one of the most significant players in today’s global economy.

China is increasingly proving its universities deserve a place alongside the world’s best. It has 39 entries in the QS World University Rankings, including seven in the top 150. The highest-ranked Chinese university is Tsinghua University (25th), while other leading institutions include Peking University (joint 38th) and Fudan University (40th).

**Applications & visas**

To apply for a place at a Chinese university, international students can use the centralized CUCAS (China’s University and College Admission System) website, or apply directly to each institution.

After being accepted by a university, you should go to your nearest Chinese embassy to apply for the most suitable visa for your length of stay. To study in China for longer than six months, you’ll need a study visa (or Xi-visa), or a X-2 visa for stays of less than six months.

Students who wish to study in Mandarin will need to prove their proficiency in the language with the Chinese Proficiency Test (HSK), while non-native English speakers who want to study in English will need a test such as IELTS or TOEFL.

The usual language of instruction is Mandarin but an increasing number of universities are offering English-taught Masters degrees aimed at international students.

Chinese government requirements state you must be a genuine student with a visa, have no criminal records (applicants from certain countries need to prove this with a certificate approved by the Chinese Embassy) and have the appropriate qualifications to meet all the requirements for your course.

**Tuition fees & living costs**

Another factor drawing in students is China’s affordability. Tuition fees average around US$3,300-10,000 per year, and can be a little more expensive at international branch campuses at around $13,500 a year for a master’s degree. However, this is still likely to be less than you would pay if you studied at the home campus of the institution.

While economic growth means prices are on the rise, living costs in China are still relatively affordable – you will need about US$6,000 per year, but more (at least US$8,700) for major cities such as Beijing and Shanghai.
A DUKE EDUCATION IN CHINA

Duke Kunshan University is a Sino-American partnership of Duke University and Wuhan University to create a world-class liberal arts and research university offering a range of academic programs for students from China and throughout the world.

A dynamic, innovative and global institution, Duke Kunshan University offers rigorous academic programs that require students to master academic material, generate new ideas, and develop creative solutions to the world’s challenges.

Master’s Programs:

Environmental Policy
Global Health
Management Studies
Medical Physics

OUR GRADUATE PROGRAMS
AWARD DUKE DEGREES
Be among your nation’s elite at the forefront of your profession, equipped with an exceptional education and your advanced degree from Duke University, one of the world’s most preeminent educational institutions.

83%* OF OUR STUDENTS RECEIVE SCHOLARSHIPS

Duke Kunshan University is committed to enrolling a highly talented, diverse and international student body. Scholarship support is available to help achieve these goals and we are dedicated to providing full or partial scholarships to students who need financial support.

*Figure based on scholarships awarded in 2014-15, 2015-16 and 2016-17 academic years. Find out more about scholarships at www.dukekunshan.edu.cn/scholarships

ACQUIRE DEEP INSIGHTS ABOUT CHINA

Live and learn among an international student body at the beautiful Duke Kunshan campus, and gain an understanding of Chinese culture through real immersion in the world’s fastest growing economic power.

SUCCED IN THE WORLDWIDE MARKETPLACE

Prepare for a globally minded career by expanding your point of view through interdisciplinary inquiry, collaboration and engagement with real-world ideas.
Here are a few more of Asia’s leading study hubs, to add to your list…

Taiwan

» Of the 16 Taiwanese universities in the QS World University Rankings, National Taiwan University (NTU) is the highest-ranked at joint 76th

» Tuition fees vary and will be more expensive at private institutions. To give you an idea, in the 2016/2017 academic year, National Taiwan University charged NTD 91,860-62,360 (US$3,000-2,060) per semester for most graduate programs. You’ll need to budget at least US$6,650 a year for living costs.

» Once you’ve been accepted, you’ll need to apply for your student visa – the university may help you with this process. You’ll also need to obtain a resident visa after arriving, and students who want to work part-time during their studies will need a work permit.

» Taiwan currently offers around 165 English-taught master’s programs, spread across over 40 universities

India

» Indian Institute of Technology Delhi (IITD) is the highest-ranked Indian university in the QS World University Rankings, at 172nd

» You should apply through your chosen Indian university’s official website. Alternatively, if you’re studying engineering, architecture or planning, you can apply to public universities using the centralized Direct Admission of Students Abroad (DASA) admissions service.

» Once you’ve gained a place at an Indian university, you should apply for your student visa through your nearest Indian embassy or High Commission.

» The cost of living in India is remarkably cheap, at as little as US$4,500 per year, while tuition fees vary considerably and are usually between US$3,250-7,800.

United Arab Emirates (UAE)

» The highest-ranked university is the United Arab Emirates University, ranked 390th in the world

» Universities set their own application requirements, but in general you should apply directly to your university’s official website by the May/June before the start of your chosen program, providing all of the requested documents

» A one-year student visa is compulsory and costs up to AED 3,000 (US$820), plus an AED 1,000 (US$270) deposit. Your university will act as your sponsor and you should apply online.

» Both tuition fees and living costs are relatively low – you can study a two-year master’s degree for as little as AED 48,000 (US$13,070) to AED 120,000 (US$32,670) for some specialized graduate programs.

Israel

» The Hebrew University of Jerusalem is the highest-ranking university in Israel in 145th place. Tel Aviv University and Technion – Israel Institute of Technology are both just outside of the top 200.

» You should apply directly to your chosen university, usually online. You may be asked to take a psychometric entrance test as part of the admissions procedure.

» Once you’ve gained a place at an Israeli university, you can apply for your student visa, completing the application form and paying the processing fee.

» Both tuition fees and living costs are relatively low – you can study a two-year master’s degree for as little as US$8,000 per year and you’ll need around US$10,560 per year for living costs including accommodation.

Thailand

» Chulalongkorn University is the highest-ranked university in Thailand, at joint 245th in the QS World University Rankings

» You apply directly to your chosen university, including all the requested documents. Once you’ve been accepted and received an acceptance letter, you can start your visa application. Your first student visa will be valid for only 90 days, and can be renewed and extended after your arrival and registration.

» The cost of living is very low in Thailand – you can live comfortably on as little as US$5,200 a year. Tuition fees vary, but a master’s degree can cost as little as US$1,000-2,000 at a public institution.
Let’s be honest, who wouldn’t want to live and study in Australia or New Zealand? As two countries of outstanding natural beauty, exciting cities, friendly people and high-quality universities, it’s no surprise they’re among the most popular study destinations in the world. Of course, there are differences between the two, as any Aussie or Kiwi will proudly tell you, but both countries have a similar culture and lifestyle.

Whichever one you decide to visit, you’re unlikely to go wrong – nine out of 10 international students are satisfied by their experience of studying in Australia (according to the country’s Department of Education and Trade) and similar stats have been reported from New Zealand in recent years, with 90% of students satisfied in 2015.

Australia

From the bright lights of Sydney to the café culture of Melbourne and the natural beauty of Perth, Australia has a diverse terrain, character and appeal that keeps international students returning year after year. Studying here offers the chance to learn at an internationally renowned higher education institution, while exploring the nation’s natural wonders and the buzz of its cosmopolitan cities, each one a lively flurry of nightlife, sports teams and outdoor pursuits. There’s also the small matter of the nation’s 10,685 beaches, some of which are the most beautiful in the world.

More than 24 million people live in Australia, around 7 million tourists visit every year and, in 2016, the country hosted a new record number of international students: 554,179. The number of international students in the country continues to grow year on year, and Australian universities are keen to continue increasing overseas enrolments. Support for international students is well established, from excellent university support services to a generous annual offering in government-funded scholarships and grants.

The country’s most famous universities are the elite “Group of Eight” – a kind of equivalent to the US Ivy League or UK Russell Group – which comprises the Australian National University (ANU), University of Melbourne, University of Sydney, University of Queensland, University of New South Wales, Monash University, the University of Western Australia and the University of Adelaide. All eight of these hold strong positions in the QS World University Rankings® 2018, with a further 29 Australian universities featured in the ranking.

The majority of Australian universities are public, self-accrediting institutions running under legislation set either by the state or territory. Three levels of degree are offered: bachelor’s (three to five years), master’s (one or two years) and doctorate (three to four years). There are also over 1,100 accredited vocational and technical higher education institutions in Australia. These offer technical and further education (TAFE) and vocational education and training (VET). Here you can study short courses, certificates I through IV, diplomas, and advanced diplomas in industry training designed to prepare you for a specific job.

As in many countries, pursuing an internship alongside study is encouraged in Australia. For some courses, such as education, nursing, engineering, IT, accounting and communication, completing work experience may be a requirement. Internships can be competitive, so get your applications in early to ensure you get a good place.
Applications & visas
Each higher education institution is unique in the programs offered, entry requirements, cost and lifestyle. Do your research thoroughly, and then apply to each of your chosen universities by following the information provided on the official website. In addition to submitting your academic record to date, you may also need to provide proof of proficiency in the English language, as well as completing any set tests or interviews.

The beginning of the academic year in Australia is February, although it may be possible to commence studies in July, at the start of the second semester. You can usually apply between three and 18 months before a course starts, but the earlier the better.

All international students will need to apply for a student visa (subclass 500) to study at a university in Australia. To gain this visa, you’ll need to have applied for and been accepted to study in a registered full-time course at an educational institution in Australia. This course must be registered on the Commonwealth Register of Institutions and Courses for Overseas Students (CRICOS).

To apply for your student visa, you’ll need a full offer letter from your chosen institution, evidence of sufficient funds, including travel costs, your course fees and enough to cover the cost of living. Alternatively, you can show evidence that your spouse or parents are willing to support you and that they earn at least AU$60,000 (~US$44,900) a year.

Depending on your nationality, you may also need to prove your English language proficiency with a test such as the IELTS. All applicants are also “character checked”, which includes a criminal record check, and some students may have to undergo a health check. Your visa will take about four weeks to be processed.

Tuition fees, living costs & funding
The cost of study varies significantly depending on the institution, study level and subject. Programs in fields such as engineering and medicine are typically at the higher end of the scale. As a rough guideline, you can expect master’s degrees to be generally in the range of AU$20,000-37,000 (~US$14,900-27,600) per year, and doctoral degrees in the region of AU$14,000-37,000 (~US$10,400-27,600).

Living expenses will vary depending on where you’re based and the type of lifestyle you indulge in, with most Australian universities providing guidelines for incoming students to help with budgeting. The Department of Immigration and Border Protection requires international students to have at least AU$19,830 (~US$14,800) per year to cover living expenses, with additional funds required if accompanied by a partner and/or children.

You could also help supplement your finances by taking a part-time job – your student visa allows you to work up to 40 hours per fortnight while your course is in session, and for unlimited hours during semester breaks. If you’re completing a master’s by research or a PhD, you don’t have any work restrictions.

MY VIEW

SHABNAM AHMED
Master of Accounting (Professional)
Macquarie University, Australia

Indian student Shabnam Ahmed was keen to experience Australia’s “unique system of education and healthy mix of international and local students”, and chose to apply to Macquarie University, where she knew she’d be studying in a department with a strong international reputation and “learning from the best minds in the industry”.

Shabnam has been able to gain work experience alongside her studies, having taken on a part-time job as a student assistant on campus, a role based on interaction with other international students. Thoroughly enjoying this position, she says working alongside her studies has boosted her independence, providing a new focus and drive.

Like many international students, Shabnam is keen to encourage others to embrace the experience and take on new challenges. She says: “Don’t be afraid to get out of your comfort zone and explore the world around you. If you truly want to be a part of the global collaborative economy that we are currently in, broaden your horizons and do not be satisfied with doing only what is required.”
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The Australian government is active in supporting international students, offering a selection of scholarships, grants and other financial aid. Major government-funded schemes include the Australia Awards and the Research Training Program (RTP), which awards scholarships for domestic and international students studying research doctorate and research master’s degrees at eligible Australian universities. Many other organizations and individual universities also offer scholarships for international students, with a searchable database available on the government website www.studyinaustralia.gov.au.

Post-graduation careers
If you want to stay in Australia after you’ve graduated, you’ll need to get a work visa. If you’re under 50 years old, hold an eligible visa, and you have an eligible qualification and/or skills relating to an occupation on the list of eligible skilled occupations, you can apply for a Temporary Graduate Visa (subclass 485). This allows you to stay in Australia for another two years after graduating. This visa has two streams:

Graduate work stream: This is for international students who graduate with an eligible qualification which relates to an in-demand role in the Australian labor market. For this stream, you’ll therefore need to nominate an occupation in the Medium and Long-term Strategic Skills List (MLTSSL), which your qualification should be closely related to. A visa in this stream is granted for 18 months.

Post-study work stream: This is for graduates of all other disciplines. The length of this visa depends on your qualification. If you have a master’s by coursework, bachelor’s degree or master’s (extended) degree, your visa is valid for two years. If you have a master’s by research, the visa length is three years, while visas for PhD graduates are valid for four years.

The list of skilled occupations currently in high demand includes accountants, architects, engineers, dentists, lawyers, neurologists, teachers, veterinarians and a range of medical practitioners. Visit the Australian Department of Immigration and Citizenship website (www.border.gov.au) for the current list of in-demand roles.
New Zealand

Unsurprisingly for the home of some of Hollywood’s most breath-taking scenery, New Zealand is a haven for wildlife and adventure lovers, while also offering plenty for fun-loving city dwellers. Recent years have seen New Zealand attract a growing number of students from around the world, and there are now more than 110,000 international students in the country. National agency Education New Zealand aims to increase this by more than 40,000 by 2025.

Those with a taste for outdoor adventure will certainly find plenty to explore here, while the nation’s culture is strongly influenced both by its native Maori population and by its modern-day multicultural make-up. As well as having remarkably low crime rates, New Zealand ranks among the world’s most peaceful nations, coming fourth in the Global Peace Index 2016.

With a strong emphasis on research and personal development, New Zealand’s higher education system knows how to produce talented graduates. Tertiary qualifications run from certificate to doctorate level, progressing through diploma, bachelor’s and master’s levels along the way. Typically, a bachelor’s degree will take three or four years to complete and a master’s degree one or two years, while a PhD program takes two to four years. The option of a fast-track master’s degree, which takes less than one calendar year to complete, is also growing in availability and popularity.

As well as a selection of public and private universities, New Zealand also offers around 600 private training schools, for specialized foundation and diploma qualifications. Other options include studying at a Wānanga – Maori-led tertiary institutions unique to New Zealand – or at one of the 18 Institutes of Technology and Polytechnics (ITPs), which offer vocational degrees and diplomas.

The highest-ranked university in New Zealand in the QS World University Rankings® 2018 is the University of Auckland, at joint 82nd in the world. A further seven New Zealand universities feature, with the University of Otago, University of Canterbury, Victoria University of Wellington and the University of Waikato all ranked among the world’s top 300.

Applications & visas

The process of applying to study in New Zealand varies, with specific guidelines provided by each university. In most cases, you can submit your application online, but some institutions require hard copies of documents to be sent by post.

Generally, you will be asked to submit relevant academic documentation, providing proof of qualifications completed. While qualifications and credit transfers are widely accepted from New Zealand, Australian and UK institutions, some international qualifications must be assessed by the New Zealand Qualifications Authority (NZQA), which will take 35 working days and costs NZ$746 (~US$500). If your documents are not in English, you will need to provide a translation.

If you are not a native English speaker, you will be asked to provide proof of proficiency in English, either by submitting language test results (e.g. TOEFL or IELTS), or demonstrating that you’ve studied in English previously.

Student visas are required for all full-time students from outside of New Zealand or Australia who wish to study in the country for longer than three months. Part-time students should apply for a visitor visa. To apply for your student visa, you must submit the official application form to Immigration New Zealand (INZ), along with proof of acceptance to an NZQA-approved university, a valid passport, proof of medical and travel insurance, evidence of sufficient funds to cover living costs, a police certificate, a medical check (if applicable) and a return flight ticket (or proof of sufficient funds for this). Your student visa will last for a maximum of four years, depending on the length of your course, after which you will need to apply for a graduate visa to stay in the country.

You can work while studying with a student visa - those pursuing a master’s by research or a PhD are granted unlimited work rights, while others can work up to 20 hours per week during term-time, and full-time during official holidays, as long as their course meets certain criteria.
Tuition fees, living costs & funding

International fees at master’s level are typically in the range of NZ$26,000-37,000 (~US$18,250-26,000), depending on the subject and the university. Subjects such as medicine and veterinary science will be more expensive. International PhD students pay the same fees as home students, which are comparatively low, at an average of NZ$6,500-$9,000 (~US$4,500-6,300) for most subjects.

Living costs in New Zealand will depend on where you’re based, with the highest costs found in largest city Auckland and capital city Wellington. While these are the costliest places to live within New Zealand, both cities are nonetheless relatively affordable from a global perspective, ranking 98th and 123rd respectively in Mercer’s Cost of Living Survey (first is the most expensive).

To apply for a student visa, you’ll need to prove you have access to at least NZ$15,000 (~US$10,500) per year to cover living expenses, or NZ$1,250 (~US$900) per month if your course lasts less than nine months. Bear in mind, however, that you may need to budget more than this to comfortably cover all your costs, especially if you intend to stay in New Zealand during university vacations.

Funding is available from a range of sources, including the government’s New Zealand Aid Programme, which offers scholarships for students from a variety of countries. Many individual universities also offer international scholarships. Visit the website of your chosen institution for details of current opportunities.

Post-graduation careers

To stay in New Zealand after graduation to seek work, you’ll need to apply for a Post Study Work Visa (Open) or a Post Study Work Visa (Employer Assisted). The first option allows you to stay in the country for up to one year while searching for a job, with eligibility to apply for an additional visa of two to three years once you get hired.

You must apply for this visa within three months of completing your studies, or within six months for PhD graduates. To qualify, you’ll need to have completed a qualification that meets the country’s skilled migrant criteria – visit www.immigration.govt.nz for the full list of skilled occupations. You’ll also need to show you have sufficient funds to support yourself during the 12-month job-seeking period (a minimum of NZ$4,200/~US$2,950).

The other visa option is the Post Study Work Visa (Employer Assisted), which lets you stay in New Zealand to gain work experience for a further two years (or three years if work experience is required as part of an occupational registration).

Areas in which skilled graduates are in immediate high demand include accountancy, construction, engineering, dentistry, oil and gas. There is also long-term demand anticipated for a range of medical professionals, veterinarians, ICT professionals, environmental research scientists, spatial scientists and statisticians.
Europe has so much to offer potential students, with dozens of countries and hundreds of universities. Here’s a rundown of some of the most popular destinations.

Home to many of the world’s oldest and most prestigious universities, Europe offers a wide variety of countries, cultures, languages and lifestyles for potential students. European countries, and their universities, are of course all very different, but under the Bologna Process’ European Higher Education Area (EHEA), European universities are developing increasingly compatible systems. Because of this, choosing to study in another European country is relatively straightforward for EU students. You’ll pay the same tuition fees as local students, and will not need to apply for a student visa.

There are also many opportunities to study in English across Europe. Not including native speakers, 38% of EU citizens speak English at a conversational level, and many countries offer a large selection of English-taught programs, particularly at postgraduate level.

**United Kingdom**

Consistently one of the world’s top destinations for international students, the UK is home to many internationally famous universities, as well as some of the most internationally diverse student communities.

A total of 76 UK universities are featured in the QS World University Rankings® 2018, including four in the top 10. The leading institutions, as you may expect, include the prestigious Oxbridge duo of Oxford and Cambridge, which are ranked sixth and fifth respectively. Also ranked among the global top 10, a further 12 UK universities are ranked among the world’s top 100.

**Applications & visas**

To study a taught master’s degree you will need a qualification equivalent to a UK undergraduate degree, generally to 2:1 standard or above. Requirements may be higher for research-based programs. For PhDs, you will usually need a master’s degree, and may be asked to submit a research proposal.

Non-native English speakers will need to prove their English language proficiency with a test such as IELTS or TOEFL. You may be able to bypass this if you’ve previously studied your undergraduate degree in English.

**Tuition fees & living costs**

The cost of tuition fees in the UK will vary depending on whether you’re a home, EU or international student, as well as where you’d like to study. International students from outside of the EU can expect to pay higher fees than those for UK and EU students. For postgraduate qualifications, most courses cost between £9,700 (~US$12,500) and £32,000 (~US$41,150) for all students, with fees even higher for some clinical postgraduate courses or MBA degrees.

Average living costs in the UK come to about UK£12,000 (~US$15,500) per year, but you should budget much more for life in the capital. If applying for a visa, you’ll need to meet the financial requirements set by the UK Border Agency (UKBA).

You may be able to receive financial aid in the form of a scholarship, grant or bursary from your university, a government agency or another organization. EU master’s students can also apply for a loan of up to £10,000 from the UK government – at the time of writing, this has not been affected by the UK’s Brexit vote and will continue for the 2017/2018 academic year. PhD students may be able to undertake paid teaching or research assistant positions within their university.
Germany

Germany is one of the world’s most popular study destinations, with respected universities, a large and robust economy, and a growing reputation for being on the affordable side.

A total of 45 German universities are featured within the QS World University Rankings® 2018, including 14 in the top 250. The three highest-ranked universities in Germany are Technische Universität München (ranked 64th in the world), followed by Ludwig-Maximilians-Universität München (66th) and Ruprecht-Karls-Universität Heidelberg (68th).

Applications & visas
Most courses are taught in German, requiring international applicants to submit proof of proficiency in the language, through an exam such as the TestDaF or DSH. You might also need a visa if you’re from outside the EU.

A growing selection of English-taught programs are also available – particularly at master’s level and for students participating in short-term exchange programs. A searchable database of English-taught courses is available at www.study-in.de/en.

At master’s level, you will need to have completed (or be about to complete) an undergraduate degree. Academic entry requirements for postgraduate courses in Germany will vary, so check each university’s official website to view their requirements for international students.

To apply for a master’s degree, you may be able to use the centralized application system www.uni-assist.de. Otherwise, you can apply directly to the university. You should generally complete your application for a course beginning in the winter semester by mid-July, or mid-January if your course starts in the summer semester.

For PhDs, applications may be made directly to potential supervisors, by submitting a project proposal. Structured PhDs, in which a team of supervisors collaborate to guide a group of students, should be applied for by following the process detailed by the university.

Tuition fees & living costs
At undergraduate level, the majority of students in Germany simply pay a small semester fee, typically no more than €250 (~US$280) per semester.

Those who have completed an undergraduate degree in Germany can also progress to a master’s degree free of charge. However, if you completed your undergraduate degree in another country, you will be classed as a non-consecutive student, and may be charged tuition fees starting from €5,000 (~US$5,600). PhDs in Germany are free for at least the first six semesters (three years).

Tuition fees for non-EU students studying in the south-west state of Baden-Württemberg have been reintroduced, starting from autumn 2017. This means non-EU students will pay fees of €1,500 (~US$1,700) per semester. This is lowered to €650 (~US$730) for students studying a second degree.

Living costs vary depending on which part of Germany you study in. If you need a student visa, you’ll be required to show you have access to at least €8,700 (~US$9,700) a year to cover living costs. Overall, Germany offers remarkably excellent value for money, with both Berlin and Munich listed among the top 20 most affordable student cities in the Best Student Cities 2017.

France

The most popular tourist destination in the world, France is also highly attractive to international students. A total of 39 French universities are included in the QS World University Rankings® 2018, of which 11 are within the global top 300. The nation’s two leading universities, Ecole Normale Supérieure, Paris and Ecole Polytechnique, both make the world’s top 100, cementing their reputations as two of Europe’s and the world’s leading institutions.

Applications & visas
If you’re from the EU, simply apply directly to your institution/s of choice. If you need a visa, you can apply for one via CampusFrance’s CEF procedure if you’re from one of the 36 countries (listed on the website) in which the procedure is run, and apply for university at the same time. Otherwise, you should submit a preliminary
application at your local French embassy before applying directly to one or more French universities.

Both EU and non-EU students may be asked to provide academic transcripts. If your course is in French, as is likely, you will need to prove you are sufficiently fluent. You can do this by taking an exam such as the TCF DAP.

**Tuition fees & living costs**

Tuition fees in France are the same for both domestic and international students, at only around €260 (~US$290) for most master’s programs, and €396 (~US$440) for doctoral programs. Private universities, such as the highly selective grandes écoles and grands établissements (great schools and establishments) will charge considerably more.

In terms of living costs, you will need around €8,000-10,000 (~US$8,900-11,200) for most of the country, but you should budget more to live in Paris. Don’t let that put you off the city though, many would argue it’s worth the extra expense.

**Ireland**

Ireland is a friendly, attractive and welcoming country, with rich cultural heritage and a wide range of prestigious universities to choose from. It has eight universities ranked within the QS World University Rankings® 2018, half of which are within the top 300. The country’s highest-ranked (and oldest) university is Trinity College Dublin, considered to be the 88th best university in the world.

**Applications & visas**

As well as EU nations, there are other countries whose citizens do not need a visa to study in Ireland – a full list is provided by the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade. If you don’t need a visa and you’re from outside the EU, you’ll need to apply for permission to stay in Ireland and register with immigration. Those who need to apply for a visa should do so online, via the Irish Naturalisation and Immigration Service.

Several Irish universities conduct their applications process through a separate organization, known as the Postgraduate Applications Centre (PAC). If your university of choice doesn’t use this service, you should apply directly instead. You may need to submit a personal statement, outlining your reasons for choosing your course. If your native language is not English and/or your undergraduate education was not in English, you’ll need to prove your proficiency in the language with a test such as IELTS.

**Tuition fees & living costs**

Tuition fees vary depending on your status as an EU or non-EU student, and your field of study. As elsewhere in the world, medicine and business courses are typically the most expensive. Postgraduate fees for EU students start at around €4,000-6,000 (~US$4,450-6,700) per year and go up to €30,000 (~US$33,540), while non-EU students can expect to pay between €4,000-€34,500 for most courses (~US$4,450-38,600).

The average living costs for students in Ireland are about €7,000-12,000 (~US$7,800-13,400) per year.
The Netherlands

Known for its tolerant and liberal ethos, the Netherlands boasts a wealth of great student cities, as well as a renowned higher education system and many English-taught master’s degrees. The QS World University Rankings® 2018 includes 13 universities in the Netherlands, all ranked within the world’s top 400, with an impressive eight of these ranked within the global top 150. The nation’s highest-ranking institution is the Delft University of Technology, at 54th.

Applications & visas

You don’t need a student visa if you come from the EU, and non-EU students will usually need to acquire an entry visa (MVV) and a residence permit (VVR) for the duration of their studies in the Netherlands. Your university will usually apply for these for you, and you may be able to collect them from a Dutch Embassy or Consulate in your home country before you travel. Some non-EU students will only require the VVR.

Courses are usually taught in English or Dutch, and you’ll need to prove your proficiency in the language if you’re not a native speaker and/or haven’t previously studied in it. You may be asked to submit an application directly to the university, while some institutions will ask you to apply through the centralized application system, Studielink.

Tuition fees & living costs

Tuition fees vary between courses, and depending on whether you’re an EU national. EU student fees start at approximately €1,950 (~US$2,200), while non-EU students will pay between €8,000-20,000 (~US$8,950-22,370). The average cost of living is €9,500-13,200 (~US$10,700-14,800) each year.

Spain

Consistently one of the world’s most popular tourist destinations, Spain offers you a winning combination of good universities, attractive lifestyle, and the fact that Spanish is one of the world’s most spoken languages.

If you’d prefer to study in English, there are around 370 master’s programs taught in the language, as well as bilingual programs taught in English and Spanish. Many universities also offer Spanish language courses for foreign students who are keen to improve their proficiency.

A total of 23 universities in Spain are featured in the QS World University Rankings® 2018, of which nine are in the global top 400. The highest ranked of these is the University of Barcelona at 156th.

Applications & visas

Non-EU students will need to apply for a Type D student visa after being accepted to study at a Spanish university. You may need to prove proficiency in Spanish or English (depending on your course) if you’re not a native speaker. You should apply directly to your chosen institution/s.

Tuition fees & living costs

Tuition fees vary depending on the university, with private universities charging higher fees. Tuition fees for master’s and doctoral degrees are charged on a pay-per-credit format, with credits usually costing €22-€36 each (a master’s course is worth 60-120 credits per year, meaning you will probably pay no more than €4,320 (~US$4,800) per year. Living costs average about €10,800-13,200 (~US$12,070-14,760) per year.

Italy

Italy is another popular European destination, renowned for its cuisine, historic buildings, chic fashion and strong universities. Higher education in Italy is often referred to in terms of cycles; the second cycle is for master’s degrees while the third cycle refers to doctorate studies.

30 universities in Italy feature in the QS World University Rankings® 2018, of which 14 make it into the world’s top 500. The highest-ranked of these is the Politecnico di Milano, at 170th in the world.

Applications & visas

After confirming your eligibility for your preferred course, submit a pre-application request form to the Italian embassy at your home country. Get the required documents translated into Italian by an approved translator – the documents you need will vary depending on whether you’re an EU or non-EU student, and also on what subject you’re studying.

If you are a non-EU student, the Italian embassy or consulate will find out if your application meets the criteria for a visa to study in Italy.

Tuition fees & living costs

The average annual tuition fees in Italy are €1,500 (~US$1,670), and you will need to budget about €13,000-18,000 (~US$14,000-20,000) for your costs of living in each year of your studies.

Nordic countries

Given the style, high living standards and world-class higher education found in the Nordic countries (Denmark, Finland, Iceland, Norway and Sweden), it’s no surprise they’re prime destinations for international students. These destinations tend to come with high living costs to match the high standard of living – but this can be offset by low or no tuition fees.

In Denmark and Sweden, EU/EEA students can study for free at all study levels, while in Norway and Finland tuition is currently free for everyone at all study levels. However, non-EU students in Finland will begin paying tuition fees of at least €4,500 (~US$4,900) a year from August 2017.

In Iceland, there is only an annual registration fee to pay at public universities, which varies – as an example, the University of Iceland, the country’s largest and oldest university, charges ISK 75,000 (~US$750) per year.

Top universities in the region include the University of Copenhagen in Denmark, which is ranked joint 73rd in the QS World University Rankings® 2018, Sweden’s Lund University (joint 78th), Finland’s University of Helsinki (joint 102nd) and Norway’s University of Oslo (joint 142nd).
Austria

» The University of Vienna is the highest-ranked Austrian university, placed 154th in the QS World University Rankings.

» Tuition in Austria is free for EU citizens, and €216.72 (~US$240) per semester for non-EU students. Living costs are €1,400 (~US$1,700) per year on average.

» As in neighboring Germany, universities in Austria are a mix of public, private, and Universities of Applied Sciences or Fachhochschule, with the latter offering vocationally orientated degrees.

Belgium

» Belgium’s highest-ranked university is Katholieke Universiteit Leuven (KU Leuven) at joint 71st in the QS World University Rankings.

» Higher education in Belgium is organized by the country’s two main language communities, Flemish and French, but you can also study in English.

» Tuition fees vary and go up to €835 (~US$930) per year for EU students and a maximum of €4,175 (~US$4,700) per year for non-EU students. Average living costs per year are €1,400 (~US$1,700).

Russia

» The highest-ranking Russian university is Lomonosov Moscow State University, at joint 95th in the QS World University Rankings.

» Average annual tuition fees for master's degrees in Russia are RUB 160,000-180,000 (~US$2,800-3,200), varying between subjects. PhDs cost a maximum of RUB 250,000 (~US$4,400) per year. Average costs of living are very low, with most students needing only US$4,800 per year – although this will vary depending on your lifestyle, spending habits and location.

» Most teaching is conducted in Russian but there are an increasing number of English-taught programs available.

» Admission for postgraduate courses is assessed using entrance exams, interviews and academic certificates. You should apply directly to your institutions of choice.

Switzerland

» Switzerland is the only country in continental Europe to have a university which ranks among the top 10 in the QS World University Rankings – ETH Zurich is ranked 10th.

» Average tuition fees are on the low side, at around €1,600 (~US$1,800) per year for master’s degrees and €200 (~US$225) per year for PhDs. However, living costs are high, especially in cities such as Geneva or Zurich – you will need around €6,800 (~US$8,000) per year.

» There are four official languages in this European melting pot (German, French, Italian and Romansh), but many postgraduate programs are available in English.

OTHER POPULAR EUROPEAN STUDY DESTINATIONS
MY VIEW

ARSH HAQUE

Master of Public Policy
Sciences Po, France

US student Arsh chose Sciences Po after being impressed by the university’s history and prestige. Of course, studying in the French capital was an added bonus, especially when contrasted to his hometown of Louisville, Kentucky.

“I come from rolling hills, tobacco farms and suburban metropolitans – the idea of studying here would be a plunge into a new aesthetic… a place where I could be swept across centuries of artistic movements with a stroll along the Seine.”

So far, the experience has lived up to Arsh’s expectations, especially the sense of adventure that comes from being part of a student community which is both incredibly diverse and closely united in purpose. He’s also greatly enjoyed the high quality of teaching. He said: “Back home when I thought of a new approach… I would spend two-thirds of my energy just trying to convince administrators to entertain the idea. Here the academic advisers and professors help me dive straight into the mechanics of how to make it happen. Here I can traverse the entirety of a cosmopolitan metropolis on a public transit bike.”

There have been challenges to overcome too, particularly since Arsh speaks little French. He’s seeing the positives in his situation though: “There is growth in the struggle, a grace of relying on the kindness and abilities of others, of simplifying my words and eventually my thoughts – but it’s been difficult, for sure.”

For others considering studying abroad in Paris, Arsh’s main recommendation is to dedicate more time to the city than just a year or two. “Give yourself space to breathe, to get swept away by the city, country, program, and people. However you get here, just make sure you get here.”
North America is one of the most popular study destinations in the world. Whether it’s the prestigious institutions in the US, or the thriving student-friendly cities in Canada, you’ll surely find somewhere that’s perfect for you.

Between Canada and the United States, prospective students are spoilt for choice when it comes to top countries to study in. The US may host more international students than any other country, but the jaw-dropping scenery and culturally liberal cities of Canada are becoming an increasingly attractive option for young people concerned by the political instability in the US.

In 2017, Montreal replaced Paris as the top student city according to the QS Best Student Cities ranking, cementing Canada’s burgeoning reputation as a desirable destination for students. The US shouldn’t be written off just yet though, as many of the best universities in the world can be found south of the border with Canada.

The size of the US also means international students have a generously diverse range of universities and colleges to choose from – from colleges in the bustling city of New York to the sun-bathed shores of California.

United States

More than 1 million international students currently study in the US on bachelor’s, master’s and doctoral degree programs, spread across 50 states and one federal district. Unsurprisingly for a nation of its size, the US dominates the QS World University Rankings® 18, with over 150 universities featured on the list. Top of the pile are the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT), Stanford University, Harvard University and the California Institute of Technology. Not only are these institutions the top four universities in the US, they’re also the top four in the world.

The sheer range of programs available, and the thousands of funding opportunities for outstanding candidates, are two of the biggest attractions. The US can also offer you the chance to be taught by well-known researchers in your chosen field and provide you with first-hand experience of a college life that’s been mythologised over the years in American pop culture.

A particularly high proportion of overseas students in the US are enrolled on STEM (science, technology, engineering, mathematics) programs. According to recent figures, approximately 20% of all engineering students in the US are from abroad. The figure is similar for life sciences, mathematics, computer science and business.

There are two main types of higher education institution in the US: private universities and public universities. Although there are key differences which affect domestic students (e.g. costs), these are less applicable to international students, so your experience is unlikely to differ between the two.

Applications & visas

To be eligible for graduate study in the US, you should have completed a bachelor’s degree or equivalent qualification from an internationally recognized institution. Along with your degree certificate, you will also typically need to provide:

» One or more letters of recommendation
» Statement of purpose, outlining your aspirations and demonstrating your suitability for the course
» Research proposal (if applying for a PhD or post-doctorate)
» Graduate admissions test result, if required (e.g. GRE/GMAT)
» Proof of proficiency in English if you are not a native speaker (e.g. TOEFL/IELTS)
While some institutions accept applications on an ongoing basis, most colleges offer an early deadline (December/January) as well as a regular deadline (March/April). Where possible, try to get your application in for the earliest deadline. You can apply to as many US universities as you like, although most students choose a shortlist of six. Applications often cost money, with universities charging between $50 and $100 per application. In some cases, applying online is cheaper or even free.

International students will need to obtain an F-1 non-immigrant visa. You can only apply for this after securing a place at an approved university (most universities are approved but it’s worth double-checking before applying, particularly if it’s a lesser-known or smaller institution). You’ll also need to provide proof of sufficient funds to cover your costs over the course’s duration and a confirmation that you’ll leave the country once your studies are over. You will probably also have to attend an interview at your local US embassy.

If you’re Canadian or Bermudan, then good news: you won’t need a visa to study in the US. However, you will need to obtain an I-20 Certificate of Eligibility form and pay for SEVIS (the student database and tracking system) registration. The combined costs of these two are currently $400.

Tuition fees, living costs & funding
The one downside of studying in the US is it isn’t cheap. While domestic students can normally find a cheaper option by choosing to study in-state or at a public university, rates don’t tend to differ as much for international students. Professional degrees, such as MBAs and LLMs, also cost considerably more than other master’s and PhD programs.

Fortunately, it’s not all bad news. All US universities are legally required to include a fees and financial aid calculator on their website, and almost all students will find they are eligible to receive some form of financial assistance. Some of the biggest universities in the US, including Harvard, Yale and MIT, also assess applications on a “need-blind” basis, meaning students are selected for admission based on the strength of their application, not their financial situation.

International students are unable to benefit from many government aid schemes, so you’ll mostly be reliant upon scholarship programs and aid offered by your university or other external organizations. While the largest funding packages are often found at the top end of the private sector, many public universities offer alternative support. For example, the Curricular Practical Training (CPT) scheme allows students with F-1 visas to gain paid, off-campus internships to support their studies.

Depending on where you choose to study, the cost of living is likely to vary greatly. Suburban and rural areas in the south and Midwest are generally less expensive, while big cities will cost considerably more. If you’re interested in working alongside your studies in order to earn additional money, be aware that off-campus work is restricted by visa regulations.

Post-graduation careers
Over the last six months, there have been several optimistic reports about growth in the US jobs market and falling unemployment, with the latter hitting a 10-year low in May 2017. After graduation, V-1 visa holders are currently entitled to stay in the country for up to one year of post-graduation practical training. To do so, you’ll need to apply for a change in visa status within 60 days of graduating or you’ll risk a visit from immigration officials and a swift deportation.

There are two types of practical training – optional (OFT) and curricular (CPT). Both can be completed either during your degree or after graduation, but must not exceed 12 months and must be in a role directly related to your field of study. If you studied a STEM subject, you may be eligible to extend this practical training period for an additional 17 months, depending upon your circumstances.

There are a number of schemes to help make the transition into employment easier. The Fulbright Commission, for example, offers short-term work opportunities for internationals, including internships and trainee programs lasting up to one year. Volunteer work may also boost your graduate profile, with providers such as BUNAC, Real Gap and Gap 360 providing
work experience on ranches, national parks, construction sites, summer camps and more.

Canada

The second-largest country in the world by area, Canada is home to over 90 universities. 26 of these are included in the QS World University Rankings® 2018, with the University of Toronto and McGill University both ranked in the top 50 in the world.

Around 350,000 international students are based in Canada, studying at either bachelor’s, master’s or doctorate level. Bachelor’s degrees in Canada typically last four years while master’s degrees require an additional year or two. Doctorates are usually three years in length.

Applications & visas

The application process varies between Canadian provinces, and also between individual institutions. You’re recommended to research the entry requirements for any course you’d specifically like to apply to. Applications can be made from one year before the start date of a course, with deadlines typically in March. If you’re applying for a course that is likely to be over-subscribed, it’s best to apply as early as possible to increase your chances of success. If you don’t make the September intake in a year, there’s a second intake at most universities in January or February, so consider applying for that too.

International students applying to study in Canada will need to demonstrate language proficiency. Both English and French are spoken in Canada and universities offer courses in both languages. If you’re not a native speaker of the language for your chosen degree, you may need to submit proof of proficiency. Applicants must also be able to prove they can fund their living expenses while in the country. This is currently set at CA$10,000 for each year of your stay (~US$7,400), or CA$11,000 (~US$8,200) if you’re applying to study in Quebec.
If you’re only planning to study in Canada for a semester, you’ll be glad to hear it’s possible to study for up to six months without a visa. Any longer than that, however, and you’ll need a study permit. Depending on your nationality, you may also need to obtain a temporary residence permit, which can be processed at the same time as your study permit application. Apply through the Citizenship and Immigration Canada (CIC) website well in advance of your departure date to ensure you receive the documentation in time, as it can take up to 10 weeks depending upon your nationality.

To apply for your study permit, you’ll first need a letter of acceptance from a recognized higher education provider. If studying in Quebec, you’ll also need a certificate of acceptance (known as a CAQ) from the government before you can apply for a study permit. Next, you should obtain a Canadian student visa application package from the CIC website, your local visa office or the Canadian embassy or consulate in your home country.

To submit your application online, you’ll need to create a MyCIC account, where you fill in your details, pay fees and upload all required documents. This includes showing you have a travel ticket home and a valid passport. Some applicants may also need to interview at their local visa office, and those from certain countries may need to provide biometrics, a medical exam or a police report.

Once your application has been approved, you’ll receive a letter of introduction. If you’re from a country which requires an Electronic Travel Authorization (eTA) and/or a temporary residence visa, you’ll be issued with these as well. Bring these along with your passport, proof of your finances and your letter of acceptance to the border control agency in Canada, where you’ll receive your study permit.

Tuition fees, living costs & funding
Fees are higher for international students than domestic students, and, as in the US, institutions set their prices separately. This means your course might cost anything between CA$6,500 (~US$4,800) and CA$31,000 (~US$24,500) per year.

As mentioned previously, living expenses are estimated at CA$10,000 or CA$11,000 if you’re living in Quebec. In reality, you may find you spend slightly more so be aware these figures are slightly frugal. When budgeting, make sure you include the cost of compulsory health insurance.

If you’re fortunate and have performed well academically, you may be able to obtain scholarship funding. This is available both from the Canadian government and individual universities. Examples include the Canadian Commonwealth Scholarship Program and the International Tuition Award. The latter, offered by many universities in Canada, aims to assist international graduate students registered full-time in research-oriented master’s and doctoral programs. International students are automatically considered for this award if they meet certain criteria.

When searching for funding, check the website of each university you’re considering applying to in case they provide any details of available scholarships, grants, assistantships, fellowships or bursary opportunities. You may also find it useful to consult the information provided by the Canadian Information Centre for International Credentials website, or the Canadian government’s dedicated website for international scholarship programs (www.scholarships-bourses.gc.ca).

Should you require some extra money while you study, your permit entitles you to work up to 20 hours a week alongside your studies, and full-time during semester breaks.
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Post-graduation careers
Should you decide to stay in the land of maple syrup and ice hockey after you've graduated, you'll need to apply for a post-graduation work permit. This allows you to stay in the Great White North for up to three years after finishing university. Skilled graduates are highly coveted in several sectors in Canada, including engineering, finance, information technology and healthcare.

MY VIEW
NIDA HUSSAIN
Master of Management of Innovation
University of Toronto, Canada

Pakistani student Nida Hussain was drawn to studying in Canada because of the country’s multicultural society and the strong reputation enjoyed by the University of Toronto. Although the course has been more challenging than she anticipated, Nida says she appreciates the teaching style of the tutors on her course.

Although the low temperatures of a Canadian winter have been a shock to the system, Nida has relished the experience of living independently in such a diverse and culturally rich society. It's probably helped that she's also found Canadians to be extremely friendly.

Studying in Canada has also provided Nida with the opportunity to start planning for her career after graduation. She has secured an internship at BlackBerry and hopes to add more skills and attributes to her CV while still abroad.
ACCOUNTING & FINANCE

Are you a born number-cruncher with a burning desire to study a master’s degree in accounting or finance? Here’s everything you need to know.

Believe it or not, the subject you choose to study in grad school will have a much bigger impact on your future salary than the university’s name or reputation. So, if being able to live a rich and comfortable life’s your biggest concern, perhaps give some thought to pursuing a master’s degree in accounting or finance.

According to PayScale, accounting and finance master’s degrees rank among the highest paying master’s degrees in the US, with grads enjoying average early career salaries of US$56,100 - figures that rise to up to US$90,900 later in their careers.

If corporate strategy is what you get up for in the morning, you’ll be glad to learn that accounting and finance specialists are asked to play increasingly larger roles within organizational C-suites. Today’s Chief Financial Officers (CFOs) are expected to combine financial and commercial perspectives and advise on top-level business decisions and strategy.

Course types & requirements

Master of Science degrees (MSc) in accounting and finance are usually designed to either prepare qualified undergraduates for mid-level roles or accelerate the careers of established professionals.

Some institutions offer a MSc in Accounting and Finance, covering management and international studies, while other universities offer accounting and finance each as a separate program.

If you’re unsure whether to study accounting or finance, it’s worth noting that Master of Accountancy degrees (MAcc, MAc, or MAcy) focus on managing and processing financial reports and records, while Master of Finance degrees (M.Fin or MiF) will also teach you how to use this information to strategize and influence financial decisions.

The length and structure of your course will depend on the institution, but master’s programs typically last one or two years and are taught through a combination of lectures, seminars, case studies and project work, culminating in an independent research project.

Entry requirements for either subject usually specify a good undergraduate degree in a related field, such as finance, accounting, economics, mathematics or business, though some universities will also accept candidates with bachelor’s degrees in engineering and the sciences. You’ll probably have to sit the Graduate Management Admissions Test (GMAT) or Graduate Record Examinations (GRE) test to prove you’re numerically literate, and, if you’re an international student, you’ll probably need to pass a language proficiency test in the language of study.

During your course, you’ll probably sit professional examinations with a relevant professional body, such as the Chartered Institute of Management Accountants (CIMA) in the UK, the Chartered Financial Analyst program (CFA) in the US, or the Institute of Certified Practising Accountants (ICPA) in Australia. Many master’s degrees integrate components of these examinations to make it easier for you to qualify for Chartered Accountant or Chartered Financial Analyst status before you graduate.

Specializations

The specializations available to you may differ somewhat depending on whether you’ve chosen to study finance or accounting as separate degrees or opted for a combined MSc in Accounting and Finance. Whatever your choice, you’ll usually be able to integrate aspects of both subjects, and add other topics of interest to create a highly personalized degree. You can also opt for a master’s program focused solely on one key specialization within finance or accounting.

Within the wide range of available specializations, common topics include tax accounting (which can be further
specialized towards particular regions, cultures or countries), management accounting (creating and providing accounting information for stakeholders within an organization), financial management (managing the finances of an organization) and financial accounting (combines numerical expertise with financial and accounting theory).

Sustainability accounting is another field that’s popular at the moment, a form of financial accounting that discloses non-financial information about an organization – mainly activities that have a direct impact on society, environment and the organization’s economic performance – to its stakeholders with a view to becoming more sustainable.

Also growing in popularity and demand is the field of forensic accounting – accounting suitable for use in a court of law. This integrates accounting, auditing, taxation and information technology to create a multifaceted approach to detective work with the aim of targeting fraud and white-collar crime. With the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants (AICPA) and the Association of Certified Fraud Examiners (ACFE) emphasizing the increased need for specialized professionals to become involved in the prevention, detection and prosecution of fraud, the field of forensic accounting has become both an essential consideration for organizations and a popular option for graduates.

You may also choose to specialize in international accounting and finance, which means taking account of different social, political and cultural considerations to reflect on the broader implications of accounting practices and financial markets. You may choose to specialize further by choosing topics that focus on particular regions, developing economies, accounting and finance in multinational firms, or trading in the international financial market.

Finally, one last specialization worth highlighting is Islamic finance. More than US$3.4 trillion is expected to be invested in Islamic finance by 2018, and an increasing number of universities are offering courses in this area. One notable example is the MSc in Islamic Finance provided by the UK’s Durham University, the first university to offer this specialization as a separate degree.
Career prospects

As well as a high earning potential, the range of careers in this sector is growing. In the US, the Bureau of Labor Statistics forecasts good growth for many accounting and finance roles. Between 2014 and 2024, the Bureau predicts an 11% increase in employment for accountants and auditors, 18% for actuaries, 12% for financial analysts, and 7% for financial managers. Popular jobs in the sector include:

Financial consultancy: This involves working with complex financial information to provide clients with advice and solutions to financial issues. Within the US, PayScale figures show that accounting consultants can expect to earn an average of US$68,064 per year, rising to $99,562 as more experience is gained.

Financial examiner: Responsible for the analysis of financial records in an organization, the financial examiner ensures compliance with federal, state or local laws. In the US, they can earn an average annual salary of $60,365, rising to $90,213 for the more experienced.

Financial analyst: Providing financial analysis and recommendations for companies and individuals, financial analysts can expect an annual salary averaging $58,343, with salary highs of $78,798. The average salary of financial analysts in the UK is £30,782 per year.

Certified public accountant (CPA): Completing further studies can allow progression to CPA status, where in the US average salary is about $62,410, rising up to $101,767 with experience. Working in this role means becoming involved in managing and maintaining the financial and accounting practices of your organization.

Forensic accountant: Investigating a company’s finances after a fraud claim, forensic accountants can expect their income to rise with experience, with an average annual salary of $63,645 in the US. However, there is potential to earn up to $93,482. In the UK, the average salary is £36,583.

Auditor: Auditing involves looking at the financial practices of a business or organization in order to ensure the validity and legality of financial records. The average salary of auditors is $54,426 in the US and £28,128 in the UK, and again this increases with more experience.
Get out the paintbrushes and develop your creative side with a postgraduate degree in art and design.

Stretching back to the beginnings of human culture, art and design is a field which continues to evolve and affect the world around us. As the modern world gets even more technologically advanced, so too does art and design, with ever-expanding opportunities for art and design projects to be explored in increasingly high-tech ways. The internet, for example, has created a wealth of opportunities for digital designers and multimedia artists.

Undertaking a postgraduate degree in art and design can enable you to study traditional art forms while also exploring new creative techniques and ideas. You’ll be encouraged to find your own artistic style and voice, and may choose to specialize in a particular branch of the subject to focus on cultivating your skills in that area, to aim for a certain career. You will hone your creative skills while gaining relevant professional and theoretical knowledge and utilizing your university’s art and design materials and studios.

Course types & requirements

At postgraduate level, art and design are usually approached through entirely separate degrees, although programs combining the two are available and there is always an element of overlap. For example, graphic design is offered as a specialization within many Master of Fine Arts (MFA) degrees, while also being available in a Master of Design (MDes). Art and design degrees can also overlap with other subjects, such as performing arts, theater and film studies, media studies and history. Students who have not previously studied art, design or a related subject may prefer to opt for a broader postgraduate program, which will give you a good foundation on the subject’s skills and sectors.

In the US, most MFA degrees are considered terminal degrees. This means the MFA is the highest academic degree available in this field of study, and considered a suitable standard of qualification for those intending to teach the subject at university level.

You’ll typically gain a technical background in your chosen specialization and move on to more advanced techniques. Many art or design degrees combine the theory behind your studies with practical application, enabling you to build up a portfolio of work to show to prospective employers. However, you could also study an entirely theoretical program, such as art history, or an entirely practice-based program, such as animation. This means the methods of assessment will vary, with essays likely to be required in theoretical programs, while practice-based courses are likely to end with an art or design project, exhibition or performance. The length of programs varies between countries, but most master’s-level degrees will be either one or two years.

To gain admission, you usually need to have gained a good bachelor’s degree in a related arts or humanities subject, although some universities will accept applicants with any bachelor’s degree. Alternatively, those who have not completed an undergraduate degree may be able to gain entry if they have relevant work experience which demonstrates their ability to study at postgraduate level.

You’re also highly likely to need to submit a portfolio showing examples of your work and the relevant art and design skills for your course, which will give admission officers an idea of your creativity, skills and potential to succeed in the course. You might also be asked to attend an interview, in which you’ll discuss your portfolio and be asked about your motivations, career aspirations and inspirations. If you apply for an MFA degree in a performance-related specialization you are likely to be asked to attend an audition interview, which could be conducted solo, in a group, or a combination of the two.

Specializations

With specializations available in practically every area of art and design you can think of, many students will find their degree enables them to pursue a subject they are passionate about. This includes newer specializations introduced in response to recent technological developments, with
an increasing number of specializations available in the digital arts, such as animation and computer arts.

MFA specializations range from comics and comic art to theater management and dramaturgy (the study of dramatic composition and the representation of the main elements of drama on the stage). On the design side, you may choose to take a more strategy-focused pathway, focusing on areas such as service design innovation or strategic foresight. Some of the most common art and design specializations include:

**Interior design:** Often with a strong emphasis on research, a specialization in interior design will focus on the history and recent innovations in the subject, providing an in-depth view of the influence of interior spaces on our environments. You'll study a range of interior design concepts, acquiring relevant technical skills and methodological approaches.

**Photography:** A specialization in photography allows you to improve your technical skills, covering lighting, camera optics and computer programs such as Adobe Photoshop, while also gaining more conceptual awareness to develop your work. The course will combine practical projects with theoretical study, culminating in a major project which may be presented to the public in an exhibition.

**Graphic design:** Graphic design degrees will again enable you to enhance your technical skills and conceptual awareness with a combination of theory and practice. You'll be trained in current graphics technology and explore new insights in the field, looking at graphic design history and research, while building your skills in areas such as web design and brand design.

**History of art:** This specialization focuses on the cultural impacts of art throughout history, exploring the importance of artworks from a range of historical periods and cultures—anything from French impressionism to Native American art. Students will enhance their specialized knowledge and independent research skills, becoming experts in their chosen field.

**Architecture:** Combining art, science and technology, architecture concerns the art and science of designing and engineering safe, reliable and attractive structures and buildings. This could therefore be an ideal choice for students with enthusiasm and aptitude spanning both the arts and sciences. You can also specialize further in an area of architecture, for example in landscape architecture.

**Illustration:** A specialization in illustration will focus on improving and developing your skills in illustration techniques, drawing, digital/computer illustration and illustration for publications. Illustration careers are often freelance, so many programs will also encourage you to learn how to market yourself, for example by creating a website to showcase your portfolio.

Other specializations you may like to consider include printmaking, ceramics, drawing, painting, sculpting, animation, art therapy, computer arts and digital imaging. For those with a strong interest in the design sector, other options include industrial design, fashion design, product design and urban design.

### Career prospects

On graduating, your art and design degree will enable you to pursue a diverse range of career options and provide you with several highly valued practical and creative skills. Some art and design degrees may prepare students for a specific career path, while others are more general, but nonetheless provide a strong blend of skills to offer employers. Your portfolio should be well developed, showcasing a variety of pieces produced both during and outside of your degree. The theoretical side of your degree should give you the knowledge required to put this work into context, explaining your influences, the thought behind your choice of themes, and why you used certain materials or techniques. You should also take part in as many competitions and exhibitions as possible to help get your work known.

Your art and design career may be freelance, particularly if you work as a fine artist, photographer or illustrator, so you'll need to be able to self-promote to clients and stay motivated and determined. Many of the following career paths are very competitive, so it's even more important to network and build contacts, as well as taking part in voluntary work experience during your degree.

**Fine artist:** Although a competitive and somewhat uncertain option, there is no reason why you cannot pursue a career as a professional artist if you are talented and dedicated. You will need plenty of self-belief, resilience and the ability to promote and manage yourself as your own boss. Relevant work experience in the creative sector, such as working as a studio assistant, would be useful, and you should be resourceful in finding new and interesting places to showcase and sell your work to get yourself known. Some fine artists also decide to continue developing their creative portfolio alongside a relevant full- or part-time job, such as that of an art teacher or tutor. Craft and fine artists earned an average of $48,780 in the US in 2016 according to the Bureau of Labor Statistics.
Illustrator: Illustrators use their creative skills to communicate stories, messages or ideas to an intended audience. They usually work on a freelance basis for multiple clients, and are likely to specialize in a specific medium, such as drawing, photography or digital illustration. In this case, your portfolio should demonstrate that you can work to a clear brief, such as creating designs for a book cover. You should also show that you can work in a variety of formats, particularly with computer-aided design (CAD) techniques.

Photographer: Photographers use a range of equipment to capture images in the style and brief set by a client or employer. There are a wide range of sectors and specializations in photography—from weddings to advertising, fashion, photojournalism and more. As well as working on your portfolio, you should look for opportunities to make contacts, get work circulated and generally gain new skills and experience through opportunities like volunteering, work shadowing, or taking part in work experience and project work with photographers or relevant employers. Photographers earn an average of $34,070 in the US.

Animator: Animators sequence frames together to create the illusion of movement known as animation. They may even work in the visual effects team on a film. This is another competitive area and in this case, your portfolio would be in the form of a short but effective showreel—a DVD or online portfolio video. To become an animator, you need to combine artistic talent with strong technical skills with an attention to detail. Multimedia artists and animators earn an average of $65,300 per year in the US.

Graphic designer: A graphic designer is responsible for creating design solutions that have a strong visual impact. The role involves working to a brief agreed with the client, creative director or account manager. Graphic designers develop creative ideas and concepts, choosing the appropriate media and style to meet the client’s objectives. Graphic designers in the US earn an average of $47,640 per year.

Arts administrator: As an arts administrator, you would plan and organize arts activities and ensure they are successful. If you’re passionate about the arts and enjoy managing and organizing events, this career could be for you, enabling you to gain new perspectives on art and its various community and social roles. You will need strong administration and computer skills for this role. With experience, arts administrators earn around £20,000-30,000 per year in the UK.

Other careers you could explore with your degree include: art therapist, advertising art director, teacher/university lecturer, photojournalist, architect, printmaker, multimedia programmer, interior designer and many more.

Top 10 Universities for Art & Design
Based on the QS World University Rankings by Subject 2017

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<tr>
<th>RANK</th>
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<th>Academic Reputation</th>
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アールシーコア(BESSの株)／RPAテクノロジーズ／アイディーエイ／APA HOTELS&RESORTS
アイビースタートウェアサービスジャパン／アマエ・テクノロジー／三菱／一社工房／ソルト／エイムネクスト
ANAエアポートサービス／エクスクレ／SRA／S Express／エンターノー・ジャパン／東京三菱自動車販売
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田中商事(東京一宮本)／千代田工業／テイ・エヌ・マラ／ディバーティ／ディアンド／東京応化工業／DaCLASSE
巴商会／トロリホールディングス／Terrecid Japan／トムダ／ソルル／日本テクノセレクト／東京マザーズ上場
日本のシナジー／新ART／ネオキャリア／フルタイム／NEXTAGE GROUP (メディアコミュニケーションズ)
林田環境／京田環境／ビジネスコンサルタント／ホシザキ／茂和田商／モリテクス／ヤマダ
UTグループ／JASDAQ上場／ユニバーサルコンサルターサービス／ロケットソフトウェアジャパン
など

【参加資格】
・日本国内の大学、大学院卒業者(予定)の方
・日本国外の大学、大学院入学者(予定)の方
・大学卒(予定)以上の高学歴者(3年以上ある方
・大学卒(予定)以上2年間以上

・各業種ビジネスレベル以上の履歴書をお持ちの方
・海外経験や留学を希望している方

【参加方法】
マイナビ国際進出祭
(https://global.mynavi.jp/)
から参加申込をしてください。
イベント詳細については
マイナビ国際進出祭を
ご覧ください。
BUSINESS & MANAGEMENT

There’s been a rise in study options on the business and management scene in recent years, testament to demand from students and recruiters alike.

Business and management programs are among the most popular at graduate level, appealing to students from a range of academic and professional backgrounds who are looking to take their careers to the next level. While those with significant workplace experience may opt for an MBA (Masters in Business Administration), a growing number are opting for alternative specialized master’s programs. These often require little or no work experience, and are usually less expensive than the MBA route, while providing comparable career benefits.

Course types & requirements

Master’s degrees in business and management come in all manner of names and titles, depending on where in the world you wish to study and the individual universities or business schools you’re considering. They could be advertised as an MSc in Management or an MSc in Business and Economics, for instance. Then there are the fun-sounding acronyms of the MiM (Master’s in Management) and MiB (Master’s in International Business). By whichever name they’re known, these degrees have been booming in popularity around the world in recent years.

This is especially true in the US – a country where the format has essentially had to fight its way into a market traditionally dominated by the MBA. With more now expected of workforces at an earlier age, the value of taking a master’s in business and management early on in your career is increasingly gaining recognition among those mindful of the level of competition that awaits them in the job market.

Gaining admission to a reputable master’s in management or business program will invariably involve taking either GMAC’s GMAT (Graduate Management Admission Test), or the GRE (Graduate Record Examinations). More information on these tests can be found on page 18.

Prior work experience is not always required for these degree programs, with many master’s aiming to help new or recent graduates to further develop their skillsets before they are unleashed into a business world full of ever-increasing expectations and demands.

With that in mind, many programs will make provisions for students to take an internship at a company or organization through which they can gain valuable first-hand experience. Indeed, recent research has emphasized the importance employers attach to graduates being job-ready when they complete their degrees. This, combined with growing demand from students, has led many institutions to step up their focus on forming industry partnerships. Such partnerships often provide internship opportunities for students, while also ensuring business schools stay up to date with the qualities, skills and knowledge most valued by employers.

Specializations

Specialized degrees in the field of business and management are increasingly common, with new options being added to the selection available at the world’s leading institutions each year. A principal reason for this is the demand for job-ready graduates alluded to above. Alongside the more traditional course modules – such as finance, for instance – there are a full range of different options for those looking to enter particular industries or functions, many of which tap into emerging and growing areas. These options, which can be found either by degree name or as focus options within a more generalized degree, include management disciplines within real estate, fashion and luxury goods, health, energy, public policy and governance, sport, data analytics and information systems.

Although almost all master’s degrees in management will emphasize the importance of acquiring an international outlook and understanding of business across multiple countries, for those who wish to make this a firm focus there are also options to take a joint or dual degree offered between two or more institutions.
In 2015, for example, London Business School and Shanghai’s Fudan School of Management launched this kind of collaboration for their Global Masters in Management, which allows its students to attain two degree accreditations over two years. More recently, the Global Entrepreneurship Program – a one-year master’s degree launched by France’s emlyon Business School and China’s Zhejiang University – became even more global in 2016, when New York City’s Pace University joined the partnership.

Elsewhere, a well-established international management education alliance known as CEMS, originally founded in 1988, now offers a master’s in management program across an alliance of 30 schools which span five continents. This option allows students to gain a CEMS MIM as well as a related master’s from the partner institution at which they enroll. No prior work experience is required to gain entry to this program.

**Career prospects**

The principal aim of a pre-experience or early-career master’s in business and management is to support graduates in gaining a strong foothold in the job market, irrespective of the specific industry or function in which they are looking to progress.

It’s important to note that taking an intensive master’s degree at an early stage in your career by no means rules out the option of enrolling in an MBA degree further down the line. Owing to the differing experiences and outcomes these qualifications offer, students might use a MiM to kick-start their careers before returning to the educational fold to enhance their progression options at senior level, or to open new avenues of employment altogether.

Salaries earned by graduates, as you might expect, will differ widely across countries and industries. As an example of US earnings, a 2015 report from Georgetown University shows that postgraduate degrees in business result in an average rise in median salary of about 33% (or US$22,000), taking alumni in the 25-59 age range up to figures approaching US$90,000 – with higher salaries achieved within particular business specialization areas.

Here are some examples of careers you may like to pursue following your master’s degree:

**Business consultant:** Business or management consultants provide specialist business advice based on the application of business theory and knowledge of all areas of business such as marketing, human resources, management and accounting. You’ll work to help improve companies and businesses through assessing weaknesses in business practices and recommending improvements and solutions. According to PayScale, business consultants earn an average of $71,254 annually in the US and £37,438 in the UK.

**Business analyst:** This is a similar role to a business consultant, but instead of working on a consultancy basis for a client, you’re more likely to work in a permanent position as an employee of the business or organization. You will still need to be able to identify areas within the business that need updating or improving, and use an understanding of the target market’s needs to suggest ways to improve the performance of the business and provide competitive commercial solutions for this purpose. The average annual salary of business analysts is $67,527 in the US and £35,543 in the UK.

**General manager:** A general manager is a key member of the company hierarchy, responsible for overseeing operations. Depending on the size of the company and its structure, you’ll either oversee a certain department or set of departments alongside other general managers, or oversee the entire organization. You’ll need to ensure company targets are met on schedule, that staff members are working effectively and efficiently, and be able to manage personnel and resources to further your organization’s goals. You’ll need to have excellent multi-tasking and interpersonal skills, possess leadership skills, be able to keep abreast of contemporary management practices, knowledge of your industry and take decisions about resource allocation and company finances. This is another career in which your salary will increase with more experience, but you can expect to earn an average of $50,151 in the US and £38,470 in the UK.

Other possible careers you could pursue with a business and management degree include management accountant, corporate investment banker, forensic accountant, insurance underwriter, project manager, risk manager, social media manager, stockbroker and more.
MY VIEW

SAMUEL SIRRELL
MSc in International Management
Trinity College Dublin, Ireland

After completing his undergraduate studies at the University of California, Los Angeles (UCLA), American Samuel Sirrell had no doubts about where he wanted to apply for his master’s degree. He told us: “I have family just north of Dublin and I came here on a rugby tour in high school. Since then, I always wanted to study at Trinity College in Dublin.”

This long sought-after experience has been worth the wait. Samuel is especially appreciative of the school’s central location within Dublin: “Walking to and from campus, you feel truly apart of the city and its lively culture.” And he’s been impressed by how quickly his diverse class – in which around 85% of students are international – has formed close bonds. “As a result of being a part of the international management course, you get to work with a group of like-minded, interesting individuals, which yields a truly unforgettable experience. Perhaps the lively social life on campus is also to blame.”

For others considering studying abroad in Dublin, Samuel’s advice is simply to make the most of local life: “There are three pubs for every block and plenty of nice places to eat. The energetic, social vibe of the city is unmatched.

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Top 10 Universities for Business & Management Studies
Based on the QS World University Rankings by Subject 2017

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<tr>
<th>RANK</th>
<th>Country/Territory</th>
<th>Academic Reputation</th>
<th>Employer Reputation</th>
<th>OVERALL SCORE</th>
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<td>Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT)</td>
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<td>Stanford University</td>
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<td>London School of Economics and Political Science (LSE)</td>
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<td>University of California at Berkeley (UCB)</td>
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View the full results at www.TopUniversities.com/Subject-Rankings
Imagine working on a technology that has the power to change the world. There has arguably never been a more exciting time to be a computer science graduate, with life-changing, world-altering technological developments happening one after the other. There’s a very real chance that, in your lifetime, robots will replace manual laborers entirely, cars will drive themselves and every person on the planet will be able to connect to the internet using only their brain. Mad, huh?

Computer science stands to transform almost every aspect of our lives, from communication, travel, trade and politics to entertainment, employment, healthcare and so much more. Of course, for all this to happen, there needs to be a constant stream of talented computer science graduates who are capable of bringing to life the latest concepts for innovative hardware, software and applications. Fortunately, that’s where you come in.

Course types & requirements

Graduate-level computer science courses are typically designed for students with some prior training and experience in programming, and aim to develop the specialized skills and knowledge needed for professional computer-based roles. Most courses combine theoretical and practical approaches, featuring lectures, seminars, individual projects, case studies and workshops.

Alongside common computer science topics – such as operating systems, networking, programming languages, data types and algorithms, the software lifecycle, relational theory, relational algebra, query languages and data design – some courses will also include modules designed to develop your management skills, through teamwork and proper management. Courses are likely to be assessed by a combination of written papers and practical work. This will then probably culminate in a research project or dissertation, usually in a specialized subject of your choice.

You will be expected to have achieved strong grades at undergraduate level in a subject related to mathematics and/or computing, with those from science and engineering disciplines also considered. If you feel your application may need a boost, it helps to have had some work experience in programming. If you’re not sure you can adequately prove you possess a high level of mathematical knowledge and basic computer programming skills, try looking for a university which offers a conversion course. These are aimed at students who have an unrelated initial degree.

Specializations

Computer science crosses discipline boundaries, drawing on mathematics, science, engineering and business. While the field is constantly developing, with more specializations emerging almost by the week, there are certain well-established and popular strains, including:

**Computer programming**: This is the study of how to program computers to perform certain tasks, and how to write detailed instructions of the steps a computer must follow in order to solve a problem. You’ll study and analyze various computer languages such as Java, Javascript, C++, C#, Python, PHP, SQL, Swift and others. The study of computer programming also involves testing computer programs for problems, otherwise known as debugging.

**Computer graphics**: This specialization is closely related to graphic design and the visual arts. It’s based on the study of video and computer technologies to produce two-, three- and four-dimensional graphic images using computers. Interactivity is also key here, so you’ll be introduced to various interactive tools.

**Artificial intelligence**: Artificial intelligence (AI) is a complex, highly interdisciplinary branch of computer science that incorporates the principles of human intelligence and reasoning into computing systems. AI students are involved in creating computer systems that have the ability to plan, adapt to different situations, acquire human-like senses, and effect changes to the environment. Core topics include machine learning, probabilistic reasoning, robotics, computer vision and natural language processing.
At master's level, the study of AI can expand to include related modules on how games can be used for research on AI. You may even get to play games as part of your degree. This specialization will be very useful if you're interested in becoming a computer games producer.

Robotics: This specialization uses artificial intelligence and engineering concepts to create and program mechanical devices that perform a variety of tasks. You won't be making anything as complex as the Terminator, but robotics students will become familiar with theories of intelligent robot control and the software tools required to implement standard algorithms in mobile robots and robot manipulators. Many universities offer separate programs dedicated to robotics technology, but it could also be a specialized track within a more general course.

Software engineering: This interdisciplinary specialization combines computer science, computer technology, management and engineering economics. You'll learn about designing and creating complex software systems to solve real-life problems; evaluating and using advanced software engineering environments; design methods and programming languages. Topics covered may include computer vision, critical systems, design patterns, software architecture, requirement analysis, e-business, intelligent agents, model checking and multimedia.

Computer security: As anyone with a computer will know, this discipline aims to protect programs against various threats through the identification and mediation of risks, preserving the confidentiality and integrity of a user's interaction with their data, services and devices. With cyber-terrorism an increasingly prominent threat, this is becoming a highly important field, and specialists are in particularly high demand within the telecommunications, banking and commerce sectors, as well as within governments. Through your studies, you'll obtain knowledge and expertise that will enable you to evaluate, design and build secure computer systems.

Telecommunications engineering: This specialization combines computer technology with information processing and distribution. It covers the design, installation and maintenance of the networks and equipment which allow people to use phones and the internet. Telecommunications engineering involves the analysis and design of all systems that receive, transmit and deliver information. You will learn all about digital transmission systems - their design, construction, testing, management, programming and usability, as well as threats to security and protective measures.

Data processing: Data processing is the study of how data is stored in computers and how it can be processed to solve accounting and management problems. Most courses include training in data entry and computer operations. You will learn how data is captured, aggregated, stored and analyzed. This specialization usually combines elements of management and computer science, with the aim of training future electronic data processing (EDP) managers, who run complex computer centers.

Other popular specializations include cognitive science, computer networks, management information systems, neural networks, system analysis and others.

Career prospects

By the time you've graduated from your master's program, there's a very good chance the possible career paths for IT graduates will have altered drastically. In such a fast-moving industry, it's impossible to know for sure what roles might open up in the next year or two. That said, the following key roles are likely to remain among the sector's biggest recruiters.

Systems developer: Systems developers are responsible for maintaining, auditing and improving organizational support systems using existing systems or incorporating new technologies to meet particular needs. They test both hardware and software systems, diagnose and resolve system faults, and write codes for operating systems and software to ensure efficiency. Systems developers can also write and develop new software programs or improve and test already existing programs.

Front-end developer: Front-end developers design and develop websites and applications using web technologies like HTML, CSS and JavaScript. They are responsible for those elements of a website that the user sees and interacts with directly. The job is a combination of programming skills and creativity, as front-end developers need to understand element arrangements on the screen and make color and font choices. The main goal is to create user-friendly apps and websites, while continually improving design and user experience.

MY VIEW

ABEER FATHI
Master's in Information Security
National Research Nuclear University MEPhI, Russia

Palestinian student Abeer Fathi is completing a master’s in information security, with a focus on financial monitoring. This two-year program covers topics such as smart data analysis, protected information systems, cryptography, software protection, e-commerce security and innovation management.

Abeer says that when she first arrived in Russia, everything was very surprising as the culture is so different to her own. However, she’s enjoyed the chance to immerse herself in a new language and get to know new people. There’s even been an entirely new type of weather to get used to, as she’d never experienced snow before.

Although it took time to adapt to her new environment, Abeer is full of praise for the university staff who supported her through the transition, and says the preparatory Russian language course was especially useful. She recommends anyone planning to study abroad stay patient and have lots of courage, as with effort and perseverance you’ll soon have a new group of best friends and a town or city which feels like home.
Software engineer: As a software engineer, you’ll be responsible for developing and maintaining effective software systems that satisfy user requirements. They deal with everything concerning a software product, from research and design to implementation, training and support. Typical responsibilities include maintaining current applications, writing new software and operating manuals, testing products and training users.

Games developer: Careers in games development center on the creation of games for personal computers, games consoles, online games, arcade games, tablets, mobile phones and other devices. You may be involved in designing how games look and play out, animating characters and objects, creating audio features, programming, localization, testing and producing.

Information systems manager: An information systems manager is responsible for the computer systems of a company. In this role, you’ll oversee the installation of new systems and ensure they operate effectively, purchase new hardware and software, and help improve quality standards and strategic planning. Before reaching managerial level, you’ll usually need to acquire experience in other areas, such as technical support or operations, and will also need both technical expertise and an understanding of business and management principles.

IT consultant: IT consultants advise clients on how to use information technology in order to meet their business objectives or overcome problems. You’ll work in various companies and organizations, with the aim of improving the structure and efficiency of their IT systems, and providing guidance on a range of matters connected to technology and IT infrastructures. You may also be involved in employee training and business development, identifying potential clients and maintaining good business contacts. There’s often fierce competition for consultancy roles, so try to gain work experience in a commercial environment to help you stand out.

Quality assurance (QA) manager: QA managers determine and establish procedures and quality standards and monitor these against established targets. You may be involved in providing customer service, as well as testing and improving products and systems. Typical job activities include writing technical reports and customers’ charters, determining training needs and implementing processes to improve performance quality.

Multimedia programmer: If you choose to pursue a career as a multimedia programmer, you’ll deal with various multimedia features including text, sound, graphics, digital photography, 2D/3D modeling, animation and video, implementing them to create products such as websites or new computer programs. Your job will commonly revolve around internet products, but may also include projects for interactive televisions, computer games consoles or mobile phones. This role demands a strong combination of both creative and technical skills, and you’ll need to work well with the designer to ensure they understand the concept and how it can be technically implemented. You may also provide technical support after the product is completed, and will need to keep up-to-date on any industry news and developments which could suggest possible enhancements for you to introduce.
ECONOMICS

As financial fortunes rise and fall around the world, economic experts will always be in demand. Find out which career path suits you best.

Economics is everywhere. It spans everything at every level of society, from an individual’s spending habits to the rising debt of a nation. At its heart is the exchange of resources and the examination of financial and asset-related activities of individuals, communities, governments, businesses and industries. This includes the study of labor, land, investments, money, income, production, taxes and government expenditure, and supports the creation and application of new tools and theories to make the complex economic picture at least partly predictable.

Studying economics at an advanced level is perhaps one of the strongest foundations from which you’ll be able to access a wide range of challenging and fulfilling careers. In each case, you’ll be making a real impact on the futures of individuals, organizations and nations around the world, whether you’re working at a think tank, independent consultancy, central bank, private corporation or government. Think you’ve got what it takes to change the world? If so, you’ve come to the right place.

Course types & requirements

At master’s level, economics will either be offered as a Master of Arts (MA) or Master of Science (MSc), and either as a research-based or taught course. Course titles may vary depending on the country, or may reflect the particular focus of a program, but the main distinction will be whether the course follows a science-based or humanities-based approach.

Economics may also be offered as a joint degree alongside a related subject (e.g. business studies). A wide range of specialized courses are also available, including master’s degrees dedicated to policy economics, environmental economics, health economics or behavioral economics.

All graduate-level economics programs will require a strong level of mathematical knowledge and ability, with some courses requiring a particularly advanced level. Some institutions will ask applicants to show they’ve completed specific modules in mathematics, statistics or econometrics. If you’re lacking the required background, you may be able to take a preparatory course. Some programs also require applicants to take a graduate-level entrance exam, such as the GMAT or the GRE.

Specializations

A broad and interdisciplinary subject, economics offers a wide variety in specializations and opportunities. The most common fields of study include:

- **Advanced microeconomics**: This will draw upon your knowledge of classical and modern microeconomic theory and introduce the analytical tools of graduate-level microeconomics. You’ll cover topics such as supply and demand, the operation of markets, consumer and enterprise behavior, competition and monopoly, income distribution, discrimination and consumer demand. You’ll learn how to use mathematical techniques to explore relevant theorems, theories and approaches, learn about perfect and imperfect competition, and explore topics involving the consumer, the firm and the market.

- **Advanced macroeconomics**: Here you’ll expand your familiarity with the tools and theories of macroeconomics and learn to carry out forecasting and how to analyze public policy. You’ll also develop an understanding of the relationship between key macroeconomic terms such as output, inflation, employment and interest rates. You’ll learn about a range of economic issues that affect society, such as national income, unemployment, economic growth, depression, prosperity and economic development, and also gain an understanding of how the interaction and dynamics of economic agents generate outcomes in the short, medium and long term. You’ll study a range of macroeconomic models, explore traditional and modern theories of economic growth, and discuss economic policy alternatives. You’ll also explore current issues and controversies in macroeconomics, and alternative approaches.
Financial economics: This involves studying domestic and international financial markets, learning about the principles of financial decision-making in banking and financial management, and critically assessing the controversies surrounding financial policies. You’ll learn how to critically assess issues such as bankruptcy, debt-equity holder conflicts, taxes, dividends and shares, costs and benefits of mergers and when to buy and sell options. You may also study international financial economics in more detail, looking at the world monetary system, foreign exchange markets and international capital markets. Or you may focus on banking, studying monetary policy, capital formation, properties of various financial instruments and impacts on savings and investment.

International economics: In this field, you’ll cover topics and theories relating to international trade and finance, such as commercial trade policies and their effects, foreign exchange markets, exchange rate determination, open economies, sovereign debt and international monetary integration, organization and reform. You’ll address policy problems in the design of monetary policy, issues concerning the volatility of exchange rates, compare fixed vs flexible exchange rates and explore the empirical strengths and weaknesses of the inter-temporal approach to the balance of payments. You may also look at multinational corporations, theories of trade (classic, modern and alternative) and welfare implications of trade policies.

Environmental economics: You’ll explore the intersections between environmental and economic issues if you choose this specialization. Most courses will cover topics such as negative externalities, property rights, incentive design, emission taxes and tradable emission permits, as well as focusing on innovation incentives and regulations. You’ll also explore the problems caused by carbon dioxide and sulfur dioxide emissions within and across nations, international environmental agreements (such as the Paris Agreement), and the impacts of globalization on the environment.

Industrial organization: This involves the study of individual markets, the nature of competition, and the application of economic theory of the management of modern business. This includes comprehensive economic analysis of the firm, its structure, its markets and competitors, as well as external economic environments. Courses in this specialization may also cover issues in anti-trust policy, the role of advertising, pricing policies, and how costs vary with the scale of operations.

Advanced econometrics: Drawing upon your foundation knowledge in theoretical and applied econometrics, you’ll combine economic theory, econometric techniques and statistical methods to develop a deeper understanding of the data. You’ll learn to use relevant software and standard econometrics packages and to interpret their output. You’ll also be taught how to derive and understand standard econometric estimators (such as OLS, ML and GMM) and how to develop, analyze and choose between univariate and multivariate models. Alongside your studies, you’ll be expected to read, understand and explain empirical articles relating to econometrics. By the end of your course, you may also have had the opportunity to conduct an independent piece of empirical research using advanced econometric techniques.

Other popular specializations include development economics, game theory, business strategy, market analysis and monetary economics.
Career prospects

A graduate-level degree in economics will open a whole lot of doors for you. One of the advantages of studying such a versatile subject is there’s practically no limit to the type of role or sector you could end up working in. You may find a position in a research agency or consultancy firm, bank or university, government or multilateral organization. Listing all your options here wouldn’t be feasible, but below are some of the most popular specialized career paths.

Economist: Professional economists provide specialist financial advice based on the application of economic theory. In order to work as an economist, you need expert knowledge in several areas, alongside aptitude in specialist software and advanced methods in statistical analysis. You’ll use your understanding of economic relationships to identify trends and produce economic forecasts, and be involved in analyzing data, determining its implications and making recommendations to your client. This could be anyone, from an individual or government agency to a multinational firm or bank.

Financial risk analyst: In this role, also known in some places as risk manager, risk technician or risk surveyor, you’ll identify and analyze potential risks to assets. You’ll be responsible for predicting change and future trends in order to help your company. You may work in sales, origination, trading, marketing, financial services or private banking, and may further specialize in fields such as credit, risk, market, operational or regulatory risk analysis.

Actuary: Working in a similar sphere to risk analysts, actuaries are likewise involved in the evaluation of financial risks, and the provision of strategic, commercial or financial advice. Actuaries are most commonly found working within pensions and insurance, but are also employed in fields such as investment, healthcare and banking. Key skills include the application of mathematical, economic and statistical awareness to real-world financial situations, and being able to explain findings to a range of audiences.

Financial consultant: As a financial consultant, you’ll provide financial advice to clients, who may be individuals, families or businesses. Working as a consultant, you’ll use your financial knowledge to provide recommendations on financial products (such as stocks, bonds, pensions and mutual funds), basing advice on your client’s goals, financial assets and risk tolerance. You’ll need to be able to present financial and economic information in an easy-to-understand manner to your client who, in most cases, will have a much lower level of expertise.
Statistician: A statistician works on the collection, analysis, interpretation and presentation of quantitative information. Choosing this career path enables you to work in a very wide range of sectors, including health, education, government, finance, forensics, transportation, market research and others. You’ll design and manage surveys and polls, collecting and analyzing data so you can look for meaningful trends. Based on your findings, you’ll make recommendations, which could influence the policies and strategies followed by your organization.

Investment analyst: In this role, you’ll undertake research to provide information and investment ideas to assist fund managers, helping the latter make decisions related to the investment portfolios you manage. Your employer is likely to be an investment management company, stockbroker or investment bank. You’ll likely be involved in a broad range of activities, including providing insights on economic trends and evaluating investment potential. You need to have a good understanding of financial statements, company accounts and sector-specific data. Depending on the company you work for, you might also be required to have a good knowledge of current political affairs.

Other roles in which you will find your skills valued include financial control, securities trading, pricing analysis and accountancy. Alternatively, you could pursue a PhD and stay within a research-focused position, either within academia or in a governmental or independent think tank. Whichever path you choose to take, your postgraduate economics degree will provide a fantastic foundation from which to understand, and have an impact on, the modern world.
Cast your mind back just a few years and the world looks comparatively alien compared to the technological, scientific, medical and commercial changes and innovations we enjoy today. From BMW’s i3 electric car, personal drones, Google Glass and the Apple watch to genomics-based cancer testing, bionic eyes, genetic engineering and the vast potential of 3D printing, the force behind many of the world’s greatest advances is often a team of engineers.

With engineers forming an integral part of any organization looking to increase efficiency or create a better product through a creative, innovative solution, engineering graduates are likely to find themselves in high demand across a wide range of sectors. Your interest in engineering at the graduate level may lead you to careers in fields as far-ranging as space exploration and advanced medical treatments to cyber security and entrepreneurship.

So, it’s no wonder that the US’s National Association of Colleges and Employers (NACE) found that engineering graduates command the highest salaries within the STEM (science, technology, engineering and mathematics) subjects. Plus, in a collaborative study exploring bachelor’s and master’s degrees held by the world’s millionaires, business magazine Spear’s and data research company WealthInsight found that the majority of the millionaires they surveyed held degrees in engineering. These are both promising verdicts if your desire to pursue a graduate degree in engineering is driven by an expectation of a high starting salary and an extensive range of career prospects.

**Course types & requirements**

A Master of Engineering (MEng) or Master of Science in Engineering (MSE) can take one of two forms: an academic degree with a focus on research, or a professional degree emphasizing skills and practical analysis. The types of degree available to you will partly be determined by the country and the institution in which you have chosen to study.

For example, the Master of Engineering degree in Australia is a two- to three-year research degree with an end-of-year thesis, while in the US and Canada a Master of Engineering is a two-year professional degree taken after a four-year bachelor’s degree in engineering.

In the UK, the four-year Master of Engineering is actually an integrated undergraduate and postgraduate program which is designed to prepare students to become chartered engineers, and may extend to five years for students to spend a year in industry. Many UK universities also offer Doctor of Engineering (EngD) programs, which lead to a qualification equivalent to a PhD. In these, you’ll conduct research and take part in taught business and technical courses while working closely with an industrial sponsor.

There is vast variety in postgraduate courses within engineering, with each institution offering a range of highly specialized courses designed to create experts in the field in question. For example, Australia’s University of Melbourne offers a master’s program which explores innovative, sustainable solutions to environmental problems in engineering sectors, while the Netherlands’ Eindhoven University of Technology offers an architectural engineering degree incorporating economic, legal, political and environmental perspectives. Alternatively, the UK’s Imperial College London offers an MSc in Biological Engineering with four separate streams: biomechanics, biomaterials, medical physics and neurotechnology.

Whatever engineering discipline you choose, entry requirements will depend on the type of program, with some emphasizing grades and others emphasizing professional experience. Most master’s degrees require strong grades in an undergraduate degree, preferably in a relevant science, mathematics, computer science or engineering discipline.
You may also be assessed on the basis of individual courses you have studied, with a particularly high value placed on mathematics, physical science and engineering modules. You may need to provide Graduate Record Examinations (GRE) results to prove you are ready for postgraduate-level study. Of course, if you’re studying abroad, you’ll need to prove your competency in the language of study if it’s not your first language.

Some master’s degrees with a more professional focus may require candidates to have been employed in the relevant engineering field, while many offer opportunities to undertake workplace projects as part of the program.

**Specializations**

When it comes to specializations, engineering presents no end of variety. At undergraduate level, you’ve probably already chosen to follow one of the main subdivisions, and at postgraduate level, even more specializations become available, with opportunities to work across all kinds of industries and technologies. Below are some of the major categories you may work within.

**Mechanical engineering:** The oldest and broadest of engineering specializations, mechanical engineering is concerned with the design, manufacturing and maintenance of mechanical systems. It overlaps with many other branches of engineering, and combines aspects of a wide range of engineering topics to create degrees such as the MSc ETH in Mechanical Engineering at Switzerland’s ETH Zurich.

**Aerospace engineering:** This field is related to the design, development, construction, testing, science and technology of aircraft and spacecraft. Within the aerospace arena, aeronautical engineering focuses on aircraft and aerodynamics, while astronautical engineering focuses on spacecraft and the extreme conditions of space.

**Chemical engineering:** Combining natural and experimental sciences with biology, microbiology and biochemistry, chemical engineering focuses on the industrial processes which turn raw materials into products. Chemical engineers can be roughly divided into two groups: those who work on established chemical or biological processes, and those who focus on developing new or adapted substances. Within chemical engineering, nanotechnology concerns the manipulation of matter on an atomic and molecular scale – an increasingly high-profile sector, as society looks to develop smaller but better versions of existing products.

**Civil engineering:** Concerned with building, constructing and maintaining a range of physical structures, civil engineering has seen a shortage of incoming graduates in recent years. The field divides into structural engineering, architectural engineering, transportation engineering, geotechnical engineering (specializing in soil, rock, mining and petroleum) and hydraulic engineering (concerned with large bodies of liquid).

**Environmental engineering:** Dedicated to developing strategies to help the environment, environmental has grown in demand and recognition in recent years as organizations and governments prioritize their environmental policies. Areas of focus include sustainable construction, waste management, air pollution control and water treatment, with knowledge of relevant laws, regulations and global issues being essential.

**Electrical engineering:** Drawing on elements of mechanical and civil engineering, as well as computer science and physics, this dynamic field relates to the applications of electricity, electronics and electromagnetism. Key challenges in this space range from the sustainable generation and maintenance of electrical power supplies, to the development of ever smaller and more powerful microelectronic components.

**Engineering management:** An increasingly popular option, engineering management courses typically integrate industrial engineering skills and business acumen, with engineering and business schools often developing the program on a joint basis. For example, MIT’s System Design & Management (SDM) graduate program was jointly developed by the School of Engineering and Sloan School of Management.

**Biomedical engineering:** This growing multidisciplinary field applies engineering principles to develop solutions to biological, clinical and medical problems. Lots of research and development work is being conducted in this relatively new area, spanning a range of diagnostic and therapeutic technologies, including various implants and prosthetics, imaging equipment, tissue engineering and pharmaceutical engineering.

**Mining engineering:** Concerned with the science, theory and technology behind the practical application of extracting and processing minerals, mining engineering draws on aspects of geology, metallurgy and surveying, as well as environmental engineering.
Career prospects

With forecast demand of 100,000 new STEM professionals per year until 2020, the primary message of a recent report from the UK’s Royal Academy of Engineering was quite simply: “Demand for graduate engineers exceeds supply.” According to HR firm Randstad US, while engineering graduates in general are highly sought-after, there is particular demand for manufacturing, mechanical and electrical engineers in the US.

In addition to high demand, recent reports have confirmed that completing a master’s in engineering can mean strong salary prospects. According to Georgetown University’s 2015 report, The Economic Value of College Majors, engineering graduates in the US earn an average of US$83,000 per year, while PayScale reports that those with a graduate engineering and technology degree can earn an average of $90,000 per year. There are significant differences depending on the field. Electrical engineering graduates typically earn the most, with an average salary of $121,000 per year.

In the UK, the Engineering Council’s Survey of Registered Engineers says chartered engineers can expect to earn £63,000 (~US$81,080) per year, with around 14% earning more than £100,000 (~US$128,700). Now you know what you stand to earn, let’s take a closer look at some common career paths pursued by engineering graduates:

**Chemical engineer:** Whether designing, manufacturing and operating industrial processes in a factory or developing new and adapted substances and materials in a laboratory, a chemical engineer can earn around $98,340 a year according to the US Bureau of Labor Statistics. In the UK, chartered chemical engineers can earn around £70,000 (~US$90,000) annually, according to the Institution of Chemical Engineers.

**Mechanical engineer:** A diverse field encompassing a wide range of engineering disciplines, mechanical engineers can earn an average of $84,190, with senior-level engineers earning over $131,350. In the UK, mechanical engineers earn around £70,000 (~US$90,000) with experience.

View the full results at www.TopUniversities.com/Subject-Rankings
**Computer software engineer**: Using expert knowledge of computer science, engineering and mathematics, computer software engineers design, develop, test and evaluate the software and systems of computers. The average salary is $102,280, with Google paying its software engineers an average of $111,572 according to PayScale. Software engineers earn an average of £34,442 (~US$43,900) in the UK.

**Electrical engineer**: Designing, developing and maintaining electrical control systems and components through a mixture of technical knowledge and commercial awareness, electrical engineers in the US earn an average of $96,270. In the UK, experienced electrical engineers earn £28,000-40,000 (~US$36,000-51,500) a year.

**Management positions in engineering firms**: Excellent communication skills, commercial acumen and technical expertise are all essential for management roles in the sector. Many engineering master’s programs now include a strong focus on preparing students for managerial positions, which mean taking a broader view of the strategic direction of engineering-based organizations, as well as ensuring projects are completed on time and on budget.
INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

From security to environmental policy, there’s no shortage of challenges for the next generation of international relations graduates to take on.

As international connections, communication and collaboration become increasingly vital across all areas of life, it’s not surprising that there’s a corresponding increase in demand for graduates specialized in international relations (IR). The most-coveted positions – in high-profile international organizations – are hotly contested, and studying a specialized master’s is a definite advantage, especially if you combine it with international experience through studying abroad.

IR is often associated with a clearly defined set of activities, for example diplomatic missions, trade agreements and conflict mediation. These certainly remain dominant areas, but in fact the discipline’s scope extends further than you may think. It now encompasses a diverse array of channels through which nations, governments, economies, societies and various international organizations interact – and the field is continually evolving to keep pace with global developments.

For as long as distinct human communities have sought ways to influence one another, trade or collaborate, there has been a demand for IR. However, the field was only formally established as part of the higher education portfolio within the last century. The first dedicated department for international relations was founded in the UK at the London School of Economics and Political Science in 1924.

Today, common topics and specializations include conflict and peace-making, comparative foreign policy, environmental policy, human rights, trade and financial regulation, international law, diplomatic tools and processes, migration and refugees, international security, and the role of international organizations such as the European Union.

Course types & entry requirements

As a wide-reaching and interdisciplinary field, IR is explored through a variety of different program types. At master’s level, it may be offered as either a Master of Science (MSc) or Master of Arts (MA), and the subject may be referred to as international relations, international affairs or global affairs (to name just a few variations). Often, course titles couple international relations with a related field or specialization, such as diplomacy, governance, politics, business, law, security, conflict resolution or development. A rising number of even more highly specialized programs are also available.

In accord with the subject’s broad range of specializations, international relations programs tend to attract students from a diverse range of academic backgrounds. However – while it is possible to cross over from the sciences or technology – it’s fair to say that most IR applicants are from the arts, humanities and social sciences. Some courses have more specific requirements. For instance, you may be required to have completed at least some basic courses in economics before enrolling. For some master’s programs, standardized tests such as the GRE are required. If this is the case, you should be able to check the median scores of accepted applicants, to get an idea of whether your scores are high enough. Professional experience may also be considered, especially if acquired in a relevant role. However, many master’s programs focus mostly on assessing applicants’ academic background, considering both grades attained and relevant skills and knowledge acquired. The exact set of criteria will depend on the individual institution, as well as the norms in the country you’re applying to study in.

One key point to consider when choosing a program is how specialized you want it to be. Some master’s courses offer a broad overview of international relations, while others are clearly focused on a particular area from the start. Courses also vary in terms of teaching style and the type of work students are expected to complete. Some offer internships as part of the course, while most will include project work and independent research. A particularly intensive focus on the latter is not unusual, and is designed to prepare students for research-based careers. This is typically reflected in a course title such as MSc International Relations (Research).
As you may expect, this is a discipline in which a sizeable proportion of students are keen to study abroad, gaining first-hand international experience to enhance their studies and future career prospects. As a result, many IR programs are particularly internationally diverse, offering the chance to study as part of a truly multicultural and multilingual community.

**Specializations**

Those entering IR from another subject area may opt for a program providing a broad foundation in the field. In this instance, common core topics are likely to include comparative politics, international organizations, international finance, micro- and macro-economics, quantitative methods, economic development and international security. You may also have the chance to take course modules focused on developing professional skills in areas such as leadership and project management.

For those keen to specialize in an area of international relations, a growing number of highly focused master’s degrees are available. For example, the UK’s Kingston University offers an MSc in Terrorism and Political Violence, the Netherlands’ Utrecht University has an MSc in Migration, Ethnic Relations and Multiculturalism, Finland’s University of Jyväskylä teaches an MSc in Cultural Policy, and Turkey’s Sabancı University offers an MA in Conflict Analysis & Resolution. These are just a few examples of the many specialized programs on offer.

Other related subjects commonly offered at master’s level include courses in public policy, public administration, comparative or regional politics, national and international security, and cross-cultural communication. Alternatively, you may choose to focus on environmental politics, corporate social responsibility, conflict resolution and mediation, international law, sustainable development, health policy, human rights and social justice, intercultural communication, social enterprises or trade. It’s also possible to specialize in a particular set of countries or world region, or even in a specific international organization or system, such as the EU.

**Career prospects**

As the broad scope of the subject should imply, international relations career paths are as wide and varied as they come. Common employers of IR graduates include national bodies (such as governmental ministries and departments, civil services, think tanks and policy advisory groups), embassies, consulates, international organizations (such as UN agencies, EU departments, the World Health Organization and the World Economic Forum), charities, campaign groups, aid agencies and other non-governmental organizations (NGOs).

The private sector is also a major employer of international relations graduates, particularly within companies which operate internationally. Some graduates will pursue communications-based careers in media roles such as journalism or PR.

You might instead choose to utilize your analytical skills to pursue a career in banking, financial services or corporate consultancy. This could partly be determined by the specializations chosen throughout your studies, and the corresponding skillsets gained - but generally it’s fair to say an international relations degree will leave multiple options open. IR graduates will also find emerging roles in the energy and sustainability sectors, with various positions relating to international regulations, policy, negotiation and security.

Of those graduating from graduate international relations programs offered by members of the Association of Professional Schools of International Relations (APSIA), around 29% go on to work in the public sector, 42% in the private sector, 22% in NGOs and the rest elsewhere.
If you have an interest in international communications, you’ll be particularly well-positioned to meet the growing demand for graduates who can combine multilingualism and digital expertise, and who possess an understanding of cross-cultural communication in the modern media landscape. IR graduates who have an interest in graphic design, online content and social media will find a wide range of employers seeking their skillset.

More broadly, technological and scientific developments offer opportunities for IR graduates to contribute to developing policies and strategies designed to help nations keep pace with the rate of change, as well as identifying and resolving potential conflicts. Technological change also underlies many careers in the field of intelligence and security – another sector which is high on the global agenda at present, following recent high-profile terrorist attacks. Here, IR graduates will find new challenges for their analytical skills, with the opportunity to contribute to potentially planet-changing recommendations taken on board by governments, business leaders and the military.

Finally, there’s demand from within the higher education sector itself, as universities increasingly prioritize internationalization in its various forms. Positions here could focus on specific goals such as international marketing, recruitment and student support, or on high-level strategy and vision. For the most-coveted roles – particularly those in well-known international organizations and non-profits – relevant work experience is often essential. This can be attained through formal internships, as well as through participation in student organizations, campaign groups and voluntary work. For research-focused and highly specialized roles, a PhD may be required, or a significant asset.
MY VIEW
AASHLEY C. PILIPISZYN
Masters in International Relations and Political Science
University of Geneva, Switzerland

Originally from Chicago, US student Ashley Pilipiszyn was attracted to Geneva due to its location in the heart of Europe and its international character. She says: “The city of Geneva and its university offer a wide array of opportunities for young professionals to network, collaborate and gain quality exposure to key players in a global setting, such as with the World Economic Forum, United Nations and private corporations.”

Having focused on environmental security, energy diplomacy and policy entrepreneurship in global cities during her master’s degree, Ashley intends to stay on for a PhD at the university’s Institute of Environmental Sciences. As you’ve probably guessed by now, she would definitely recommend both the city and the university to others, especially those seeking “true international exposure at the highest level”.

Top 10 Universities for Politics & International Studies
Based on the QS World University Rankings by Subject 2017

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<th>2017 RANK</th>
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<th>Academic Reputation</th>
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View the full results at www.TopUniversities.com/Subject-Rankings
LAW

With legal careers as competitive as ever, find out how a specialized postgraduate degree will strengthen your chances of securing a lucrative training contract.

While graduate-level qualifications in the other subjects included in this guide are normally just an added bonus, law is one field in which study beyond undergraduate level is nearly always required if you plan to practice the subject professionally. Even in countries where law is studied widely at bachelor’s level, the competitive and challenging nature of the subject and graduate job market are enough to convince a considerable number of students that extra study is necessary.

Although many law firms have stepped up recruitment in the years since the global financial crisis, competition for training contracts and entry-level positions remains fierce. An increase in the number of law graduates in recent years has raised concerns about graduate opportunities, but according to the American Bar Association, the percentage of graduates who held full-time, long-term Bar Passage Required or J.D. Advantage jobs roughly 10 months after graduation actually increased to 73% for the class of 2016, up 3% from the year before. However, a graduate degree is still the surest way to ensure you stand out as a candidate, particularly if you’re interested in a specialized role.

Current trends have seen much furor within the world of law, with global legislative changes impacting on the study and training process as well as the overall market. Demand for cost-effective legal services worldwide is greater than ever, for both customers and the sector. While UK legislation now allows organizations as diverse as supermarket retail chains and haulage companies to sell legal services to the public, established law firms continue to merge and evolve. Improved regulation and increasing pressure for transparency have also had a significant impact on the market, making room for commercially aware graduates with a good understanding of corporate social responsibility.

Historically slow to adapt to global trends, the legal sector is still in the process of embracing technology. Alongside ever-expanding opportunities for tech-savvy trainees, there’s the emergence of new legal models such as virtual law firms, e-discovery, and marketing and consultancy via social media – all of which means that entrepreneurial and innovative graduates have more scope than ever to change the legal landscape.

Course types & requirements

In the US, the graduate-level Juris Doctor (JD) is the first professional law qualification offered, taking three years of full-time study to complete. Applying to law school in the US is a lengthy process, and advance planning (ideally 18 months ahead) is a must.

In other English-speaking countries (Australia, New Zealand, Canada, Ireland, the UK), the most common graduate law program is the LLM (Master of Laws). This is internationally recognized and usually takes one year of full-time study to complete, although some programs last two years. Although this qualification isn’t compulsory for anyone wanting to undertake legal practice training, it’s often chosen by students wishing to improve their knowledge and employability within a certain area of law. The LLM is also an alternative option for US students looking to build their international credentials.

While it’s possible to apply to JD programs after studying a broad range of undergraduate subjects, most LLM candidates at top universities are required to hold a bachelor’s degree in law, such as the LLB (Bachelor of Laws). However, some other backgrounds may be considered, particularly if you have relevant work experience. Applicants without a suitable undergraduate degree or any work experience can take a one-year law conversion program such as the GDL (Graduate Diploma in Law) or CPE (Common Professional Examination).

Upon leaving university, JD holders should note that in order to practice in the US, it’s necessary to pass the bar exam, which varies from state-to-state. In the UK, LLM/LLB holders who wish to become solicitors or barristers must undertake the LPC (Legal Practice Course) and a two-year training contract with a law firm.
Specializations

Working in law has long been an exciting career path and the rapid pace of technological development and wider changes in society are opening up interesting new opportunities for law graduates. Legal experts are increasingly needed in areas such as internet security, international politics and environmental policy, while other areas of specialism which continue to be promising for graduates include human rights, banking and finance, intellectual property and statutory law.

The rising demand for specialized lawyers has caused many universities to offer joint degree and specialized LLM programs, particularly in Europe. These programs offer both the chance to become highly specialized in a certain field and the opportunity to gain an advanced understanding of emerging issues and markets, staying one step ahead of the rest of the legal sector. For example, the University of Oxford offers specialized master’s degrees in dual subjects such as law and finance, criminology and criminal justice and international human rights law. Other universities, such as the Hollywood-based UCLA, offer specializations appropriate to their locality. UCLA offer an LLM specializing in entertainment, media and intellectual property law.

Other schools are focusing on the growing demand for specialized environmental lawyers, with courses such as the University of Oregon’s environmental and natural resources law concentration. This covers topics such as environment and pollution, wildlife and animal law, hazardous waste law, land use law and coastal law – providing a highly specialized training which can enable students to get ahead of the competition.

Career prospects

In order to become a practicing lawyer, you’ll be required to gain formal vocational experience within the sector, for example through the LPC in the UK. This takes one year of full-time study to complete (or two years if you decide to do it part-time), after which you’ll have to undertake a professional training contract, spanning a period of two years full-time work within a law firm. While the LPC is a significant expense (it can cost approximately £15,000/US$19,500), many training contracts are salaried positions, and it’s possible to have a law firm sponsor you and cover some or all of your LPC costs.

Unfortunately, even if you graduate with an impressive degree there’s no guarantee you’ll secure a training contract, and there are only so many places to go around. Ultimately, your career prospects will depend upon both your grades and your motivation and ability to market yourself to firms. This is where having an in-demand specialization can be an asset. Once you’ve entered the sector, the good news is it won’t take long for your salary to reward you for the hard work it has taken to get there. According to a High Flyers report on the UK graduate market in 2017, the median starting salary for graduates at law firms is £43,000 (~US$55,400). If you study at a top law school in the US, your prospects are even better. According to Forbes, median starting salaries for graduates of the top 25 US law schools are between US$100,000 and US$160,000.

Top 10 Universities for Law

Based on the QS World University Rankings by Subject 2017

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View the full results at www.TopUniversities.com/Subject-Rankings
Of course, what your job actually entails will depend upon the type of lawyer you aim to be. Lawyer, as a term, can apply to several distinct roles, with the exact terminology varying depending upon the country. The most visible lawyers are barristers, best known for standing up to defend and prosecute in court. Other legal experts, including solicitors and legal executives, are less visible but play vital roles in putting a case together and advising clients on a wide range of issues. This means that, while interpersonal skills are more readily needed in client-facing solicitor roles, confidence in public speaking and debating are essential for aspiring barristers.

Barristers are typically self-employed, though often sharing some administrative and operating costs by forming a shared chambers with other professionals. Solicitors and legal executives may also work solo, but are more likely to be found working within a team as part of a law firm. While salary levels favor the barristers, quick progress to partner and private-practice roles mean other legal professionals also have high earning potential.

Before you pin all your hopes on one career path, however, consider the alternative options available. To name a few, you could also become a paralegal, an outdoor clerk or legal assistant, a barrister’s clerk, a researcher for a law reformation body, a caseworker, a chartered legal executive, a licensed conveyancer, a costs lawyer, a PA or legal secretary, or a trademark attorney.

Outside of the legal sector, law graduates are also highly valued within marketing, business, finance, consultancy, HR management, accountancy, insurance, publishing, journalism, teaching and social welfare. Within the public sector, you’ll also find your skills are needed within the police service and government police advisory boards in the areas of law enforcement and criminal justice.

To improve your career prospects, take advantage of your institution’s careers service and any affiliations with external law societies and organizations. More often than not, leading law schools will have numerous partnerships with high-profile law firms, leading to placements and networking opportunities during your degree and often enhanced graduate prospects.
MEDICINE

Don’t be put off by rumors of robot surgeons taking over our hospitals, there’s still plenty of need for talented medicine graduates, whether they’re working in medical practice, research or management.

No matter how good technology gets, we’ll always need medical professionals. One of the most challenging and competitive career paths you can choose, medicine requires an extremely high level of skill and commitment. On the flip side, it offers the opportunity to have a deep and lasting impact on the world and can be one of the most rewarding jobs imaginable.

If you want to study medicine at graduate level, you’ll naturally need a strong interest in the sciences, combined with a passion for providing medical care. These two factors should keep you motivated no matter how demanding your studies and training become.

Course types & requirements

Postgraduate degrees in medicine are split between highly specialized degrees, like the master’s of surgery, which imparts students with in-depth knowledge of an area of medical science, and much broader professional development programs, such as the MRes and MPhil, which train students for careers as qualified medical practitioners.

The requirements for medical degrees vary depending on the location. In Canada and the US, you can only study medicine at graduate level, and must first complete four years of pre-med undergraduate study and sit the MCAT (Medical College Admissions Test). In Australia, international students can sit either the MCAT or the Graduate Australian Medical School Admissions Test (GAMSAT).

The MCAT is offered 28 times per year at test locations around the world and tests your critical reasoning and problem-solving skills, as well as your knowledge of scientific concepts and principles. Since medical schools generally won’t review applications until they receive MCAT scores, it’s a good idea to take this test before deciding where to apply.

As well as the MCAT, you’ll likely need to have previously studied and obtained a good grade in a related medical or science subject at undergraduate level. If you have not previously studied such a subject, you may be able to take a conversion course. In the UK, for example, it’s possible for graduates of other subjects to take a four-year fast track program to study medicine, though they typically need some experience in a healthcare setting before they apply.

Specializations

These are some of the most common specialized postgraduate medical degrees you could undertake if you have an interest in a particular medical field.

Health management/health administration: Are you interested in how healthcare systems are managed? Degrees in health management and administration apply business management theory to improve efficiency in the healthcare sector.

Public health: Study the protection and promotion of the health of entire populations around the world. You can even specialize further in epidemiology, biostatistics, health services management, public security or health promotion.

Neurology/neuroscience: Learn about diseases affecting the nervous system, such as Parkinson’s Disease, epilepsy or multiple sclerosis, and study theoretical and practical neurology, the higher functions of the brain, the peripheral nerve, neurology, neuro-ophthalmology and more.

Radiology: Explore imaging technology, including radiography, ultrasound and magnetic resonance imaging (MRI), and get a chance to specialize in the imaging of different types of the body. Modules are likely to focus on clinical roles in this field, such as management, supervisory and assessment roles. You’ll also further your understanding of medical ethics, quality issues and research methods in radiology.

Pediatrics: Gain detailed understanding of research methods and statistics applied to children’s health. Broaden and combine your current knowledge to conduct methodologically strong research projects and propose ways of improving healthcare services for children.
Genetics: Understand the ways in which the study of genes can be applied to increase awareness of the causes, prevention and treatment of genetic diseases. Learn about immunogenetics, statistics, molecular biology, immunology and genome-enabled medicine. Specialize further in genetic counseling and genetics with genomics.

Obstetrics and gynaecology: Care for pregnant women and their unborn children and treat diseases specific to women, such as endometriosis. At postgraduate level, a specialized degree in this field is likely to be research-focused but courses with practical application through clinical training are also available. Subspecialties include reproductive endocrinology and infertility – the study of the causes of and treatment for infertility.

Of course, this isn’t every possible path your studying could follow. There’s practically a specialism for every health concern under the sun. Other popular options include anesthesiology, audiology, emergency medicine, geriatrics, ophthalmology, speech pathology, psychiatry and general practice.

Career prospects

Your career prospects as a medical graduate are relatively secure, though you’re often able to earn more from specializing in an area of medicine. Medical graduates earn an average starting salary of £23,883 (~US$30,800). However, doctors who train for a specialty earn between £30,002 and £47,175 (US$38,800-61,000).

There’s more good news for medical graduates: postgraduate education is highly valued by employers, as you will be able to offer strong technical research skills as well as other transferable skills. Although the vocational aspect of medical degrees means the most obvious career path for graduates is to become a doctor, there are many other medical careers you may like to consider.

Careers in medical research: Contribute to the body of existing medical knowledge, study the causes of illness, evaluate the effectiveness of new drugs, or work on advancing medical technologies such as those involved in developing artificial limbs, fertility treatments and gene therapy. Although a career in medical research will mean fewer opportunities to interact directly with patients, it’s nonetheless likely to be highly rewarding, as you will be at the forefront of new medical developments. You may find roles with pharmaceutical companies, universities, charities or in hospitals. A research-based master’s degree may be sufficient to enter this career path, but to progress further and earn a higher salary, you may find it useful to obtain a PhD.

Clinical scientist in genetics: Work in a lab diagnosing and examining DNA samples to identify whether or not they have any genetic abnormalities which could cause inherited diseases. Screen patients both before and after the onset of symptoms, helping to predict whether any abnormal genes could be passed on to the next generation. You’ll work as part of a multidisciplinary team of healthcare professionals, writing reports for clinicians and overseeing the work of genetic technologists and junior staff. You might specialize in a particular area of genetics, such as developmental genetics, and you may also teach and train others.

Genetic counselor: If you have an interest in genetics but would prefer to work directly with patients, you may prefer a role as a genetic counselor. In this role, you’ll inform and advise patients and relatives of the possible risks and consequences of inherited disorders. You’ll need to have a specialized master’s degree in genetic counseling for this, and be able to sensitively explain complex genomic medicine in clear and easily understood terms.

International aid worker: If you aspire to treat patients around the world in areas in need of emergency aid or improved access to healthcare, this role could be for you. Tasks could include establishing medical infrastructures, running clinics and managing medical education programs. You’ll need to be able to relate to and communicate with a broad range of people (knowledge of other languages is often required), and be able to work efficiently in often challenging circumstances. There’s a high demand in this field for professionals with specialized knowledge in accident and emergency care, public health, obstetrics and gynecology, and infectious diseases.

Healthcare management: All healthcare systems need strong managers, and this could be the perfect job role if you complete a postgraduate degree with a focus on the managerial and administrative aspects of healthcare. There is demand for specialized executives within hospitals, clinics, nursing homes, mental health organizations, health insurance companies, medical charities, pharmaceuticals and government departments. Depending on your skillset and specializations, you could focus on the financial aspects, delivery of patient care, planning and development, purchasing and supply management, or human resources.

Higher education lecturer: This is the perfect job for anyone interesting in passing the torch. As well as teaching, you’re likely to be involved in contributing to the university’s research output. For this career path, you’ll usually need to complete a PhD. University lecturers in the UK can earn a starting salary of around £33,000 (~US$42,700).

MY VIEW

ERHIE OGHENEKEWWE ENOH
General Medicine
Peoples’ Friendship University of Russia (RUDN)

Nigerian student Erhie chose her university on the recommendation of her cousin, who also trained as a doctor there. Like most trainee medical professionals, she’s motivated by the desire to help others, and intends to specialize in emergency care.

Although she initially only knew how to say hello in Russian, she’s adapted to her new country well, and can now communicate well enough that she’s been able to pass spoken – rather than just written – exams. She particularly enjoys RUDN’s internationally diverse student body, and says the chance to meet students from around the world has been a real highlight.

Erhie recommends choosing a medical school which offers ample opportunities for practical experience in a range of specializations. Most importantly, be prepared to work hard!
### Top 10 Universities for Medicine

*Based on the QS World University Rankings by Subject 2017*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Rank</th>
<th>University</th>
<th>Academic Reputation</th>
<th>Employer Reputation</th>
<th>Overall Score</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Harvard University</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>99</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>University of Oxford</td>
<td>95.8</td>
<td>97.8</td>
<td>95.8</td>
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<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>University of Cambridge</td>
<td>96.1</td>
<td>97.3</td>
<td>95.2</td>
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<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Johns Hopkins University</td>
<td>92</td>
<td>75.7</td>
<td>93</td>
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<td>4</td>
<td>Stanford University</td>
<td>92.4</td>
<td>92.7</td>
<td>93</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Karolinska Institutet</td>
<td>97.7</td>
<td>79.9</td>
<td>92.8</td>
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<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>University of California, Los Angeles (UCLA)</td>
<td>88.9</td>
<td>84.5</td>
<td>91.2</td>
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<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Yale University</td>
<td>89</td>
<td>88.2</td>
<td>90</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>University College London (UCL)</td>
<td>85.9</td>
<td>82.7</td>
<td>89.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>University of California, San Francisco</td>
<td>88</td>
<td>62.9</td>
<td>89.5</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

View the full results at [www.TopUniversities.com/Subject-Rankings](http://www.TopUniversities.com/Subject-Rankings)
Central Asia has untapped potential. With vast reserves of energy and minerals, rapidly improving infrastructure, growing foreign direct investments and trade deals with major economies like China, India and Russia, the region is gaining popularity as a study abroad destination for talented students and graduates.

It’s not just the promise of an impressive degree luring students here though, as there’s plenty to see and do, especially if you like to keep active and chase the next adrenaline high. Here’s a look at what you could get up to while here.

**Discover the Silk Road on horseback**

Camels and horses have been domesticated for thousands of years in Central Asia, and the four-legged animals continue to form a huge part of everyday life. Centuries ago, the Silk Road would cut through large chunks of Central Asia, and bring with it horses, cuisines and art. Indeed, many of the courses offered at the University of Kazakhstan, for example, discuss the impact of domesticated animals on human development. So, whether you’re interested in economics, transportation, history or cultural studies, you’ll probably get a chance to ride on horseback, or even a camel!

**Visit the world’s largest spaceport**

Baikonur spaceport in southern Kazakhstan is the world’s largest spaceport. Its launchpad has borne witness to men’s and women’s first forays into space and continues to this day to send enormous rockets and satellites into orbit. Where else could you expect to study alongside such a lovely tribute to mankind’s spaceflight ambitions?

**Explore the world’s highest peaks**

Kazakhstan is home to some of the highest mountains in the world, including Khan Tengri, which reaches 22,999 feet above sea level and is known locally as “the Lord of the Skies”.

**Learn in Central Asia’s emerging answer to Silicon Valley**

Over recent years, universities in the region have been allocating more and more resources to building techno parks, business incubators and techno lofts, and talented foreign speakers are often invited to come and share their expertise on a number of issues.

**Surprise your tastebuds in a Kazakh tea house**

From Chinese stir-fries to Uzbekistani plov, not to mention Kazakhstan’s chaykhanas (tea houses), Central Asian cuisine blends together the aromas of centuries of various culinary traditions from around the world, due to its own very rich history as an ancient trade route connecting Europe and Asia. Be prepared to find your new favorite dish.

**What are you waiting for?**

In the last decade, higher education in Central Asia has undergone a significant upheaval and introduced English as a language of instruction across the board, as well as a number of new joint and double-degree programs.

Based in Almaty, Al-Farabi Kazakh National University has been awarded three QS stars for its facilities, teaching and student employability, and runs a number of programs in English, French, Russian and Chinese. Not just the best university in Kazakhstan but also the best university in emerging Europe and Central Asia, Al-Farabi KazNU has links with several international and regional organizations and offers scholarships to students with a GPA of at least 3.0 and a TOEFL score of at least 500 (or an IELTS of at least 6.0).

Conducting engineering research is like a marriage: you have to be committed, keep trying new things (or it becomes stale) and understand that there will be plenty of ups and downs.

Most of all, you have to be truly passionate in what you do for the future and never give up, even when it seems that things won’t work out.

And when your research work aims to help shape the technology of tomorrow for the betterment of mankind, few understand this better than SUTD PhD student Abdul Halim, who is currently enrolled in the SUTD-NUS Joint PhD Programme. We got in touch to find out more about how he’s building the future.

A research career by design

“If you’d told me a few years ago that I’d be embarking on a quest help Singapore expand its sustainable energy generation, I wouldn’t have taken you seriously,” said Halim.

“Nevertheless, I never underestimate life’s twists and turns (to be fair, I was always interested in science and technology), and it’s a great privilege for me to help my country Singapore achieve its goal.”

One way to achieve energy self-reliance is through space-based solar power. This involves launching a swarm of small satellites into outer space, where they convert sunlight into electrical energy and beam it back to receiving stations on Earth via microwaves.

Halim elaborated: “Space-based solar power has the potential to be really groundbreaking as it can generate considerably more energy than terrestrial solar panels, which are only 40% as efficient due to absorption of sunlight by the Earth’s atmosphere.

“I envision a formation of small satellites that can achieve this aim of solar power generation. These satellites will require their own propulsion systems to orbit and manoeuvre together in formation. In a nutshell, my research explores the feasibility of monolayer (one atom in thickness) graphene to serve both as a propulsion system (eliminating the need for on-board fuel) and as an energy emitter to help beam energy back to Earth.”

As a PhD student under the SUTD-NUS Joint PhD Programme, which combines SUTD’s innovative, flexible curriculum and Big-Design perspective with NUS’s established graduate program and research track record, Halim is currently supervised by faculty members from SUTD and the National University of Singapore.

He said: “I have access to research facilities and exposure to staff and researchers from both institutions, which means I get to learn from multiple different perspectives.”

Not all work and no play

Halim, who is also the Academic Director of SUTD’s Graduate Student Association (GSA), is quick to dismiss the cliché of PhD students who spend all day cooped up in a research lab or in front of a computer screen.

“My GSA colleagues and I plan events and activities for SUTD graduate students. These include cultural exchanges and cultural tours around Singapore (which help the international students quickly acclimatise to Singapore) and more informal activities like football and get-together BBQs.

“Together, these help build a sense of belonging and camaraderie among the graduate students, which is great especially for the international students. This also helps in our interdisciplinary approach to conducting research, where we frequently collaborate to pool our expertise and integrate multiple specialities to devise the best solution to a problem or challenge.

“The staff and faculty here have been nothing but kind, supportive and open to new and unorthodox ideas. I’ve heard how PhD students can feel disconnected from their peers and from the industry, but here at SUTD, we are trained in concepts such as intellectual property, entrepreneurship, equity funding, leadership, scientific and grant writing – we are even encouraged to explore our entrepreneurial side and SUTD is very supportive if any of us want to found a start-up. It’s hard to believe other universities aren’t offering the same kind of career training and support.”
Duke Kunshan University

Profile

Duke Kunshan University is a Sino-American partnership between Duke University and Wuhan University, creating a world-class liberal arts and research university offering a range of academic programs for students from China and throughout the world. A dynamic, innovative and global institution, Duke Kunshan University offers rigorous academic programs that require students to master academic material, generate new ideas, and develop creative solutions to the world’s most complex challenges.

Graduate Programs

All programs are taught in English by faculty members from Duke University and Duke Kunshan’s globally hired faculty. Language instruction will be available for students who wish to learn Chinese. Upon graduation, students are awarded a Duke University degree.

Opportunities to study in China and U.S.

Building on the strong relationship with Duke University, a top-10-ranked U.S. university, most students have the opportunity to study at the Duke campus in Durham, North Carolina, USA, where they will interact with the broader Duke faculty and community, gain additional English language experience, and expand their networks with US-based contacts.

Classroom and Beyond

Not all learning takes place in the classroom at Duke Kunshan University. Students will be inspired by our collaborative approach in a cutting-edge educational environment that takes place inside AND outside the classroom. Classroom learning is only the beginning of students’ educational experience at Duke Kunshan. Working with faculty mentors to develop research questions and field-based projects, they will gain from hands-on, experiential learning opportunities throughout their graduate experience.

Research

Research is a core component of our programs and is greatly enjoyed and valued by students. At Duke Kunshan, there are plenty of opportunities to work closely with faculty and peers on research projects. As students gain expertise in the topic area of their choice, they will develop and strengthen skills in critical thinking, problem solving, intellectual confidence, presentation, writing, collaboration and project management.

Professional and Career Development

At Duke Kunshan University, a student’s professional and career development is just as important, rigorous and immersive, as their academic grounding. The career services staff will provide students with professional development support through workshops and one-on-one coaching, and guide them with job search planning, resume writing, interview skills and networking. Faculty are also an important cog in this process, leveraging their networks and experience, and providing insight and guidance as students explore careers. These resources will help students develop and refine their plans for academic and career success.

Living in Kunshan

The city of Kunshan lies in the heart of the Yangtze River Delta Region, one of the most developed areas in China. Its superior natural and urban living environment has attracted people from all over the world to live and work in Kunshan. Widely considered as a successful model for China’s social and economic development, Kunshan has attracted a number of Fortune 500 companies and other leading enterprises. The city also enjoys close proximity to Shanghai and Suzhou, two of the country’s largest metropolitan cities.

Contact

Russell Davis
Director of Global Student Recruitment
No.8 Duke Avenue, Kunshan, Jiangsu, 215316, China
Tel: (+86) 512 5777 9988
Email: russell.davis@dukekunshan.edu.cn
Web: www.dukekunshan.edu.cn

Data

Main claims to international academic or non-academic excellence: Duke University is consistently ranked among the top 10 universities in the U.S. (U.S News & World Report)

Total number of students: 325 - 400
Percentage of graduate students: 30% - 40%

Range of tuition fees: $38,000 - $51,980 USD/year. Scholarships available.

Accommodation facilities: Single & double rooms in modern, state-of-the-art residence halls.

Price range of accommodation: $1,230 USD/semester

Main subject areas:
Master of Environmental Policy
Master of Science in Global Health
Master of Science in Medical Physics
Master of Management Studies
emlyon business school, created in 1872, stands out among the few business schools worldwide awarded three international accreditations (AACSB, EQUIS, AMBA). Choosing to study at emlyon business school is choosing to study in a resolutely international environment, fully connected to today’s business world.

Join in the programme that suits your career goals at best!

Looking for a focus on General Management
» MSc in Management
A 2-to-3 year graduate programme taught in English and/or French, offering students the possibility to tailor the programme to their needs. www.em-lyon.com/master-master@em-lyon.com
» MSc in Management – European Triple Degree – A triple advantage to start your career in global management
2-year triple degree run jointly by Lancaster School of Management, LMU Munich and emlyon business school allowing students to specialise either in Corporate Finance or Organisation, Change & Strategy. www.european-triple-masters-degree.com–etd@em-lyon.com
Looking for a focus on Entrepreneurship
» Global Entrepreneurship Program – 3 Continents | 3 Business Schools | 1 Focus
1-year program specialised in entrepreneurship and jointly run by emlyon business school (Europe), Zhejiang University (Asia) and Pace University (USA). www.msc-entrepreneurship.com–gep@em-lyon.com
» MSc in Luxury Management & Marketing – Become the expert companies want to recruit
A 16-month programme specialised in luxury management and marketing in which students experience the specifics of the luxury industry in Lyon, London or New York, Shanghai. www.em-lyon.com/luxury–luxury@em-lyon.com
» MSc in International Hospitality Management – Join the Next Generation of Global Hospitality Leaders
A 16-month master programme, delivered by emlyon business school and Institut Paul Bocuse during which the students focus on the specifics of the global hospitality industry in both France and China. www.em-lyon.com/hospitality–hospitality@em-lyon.com
» Specialised Programme in Quantitative Finance – Become a specialist in finance
1-year Specialised Master in quantitative finance, taught fully in English. www.em-lyon.com/quantitative-finance–msinfo@em-lyon.com

Your Career at the Heart of the Programme
The Careers Services Department supports you in numerous ways to help you define your career. A full range of opportunities throughout the year includes events to meet companies on campus, round tables, workshops etc...

Facts & Figures
» 5,100 students, 40% non-French students, representing 80 nationalities
» 130 permanent faculty members
» 156 foreign partners
» International network of more than 586 experts and visiting faculty
» Campuses in Lyon, Paris St Etienne, Shanghai, Casablanca
» A network near of 29,000 alumni in 118 countries
» Programmes taught fully in English

Contact
emlyon business school
Nathalie Seux
Programme Coordinator
23 avenue Guy de Collongue
69134 ECULLY, France
Tel: +33 (0)4 78 33 70 27
Email: seux@em-lyon.com
Web: graduate.em-lyon.com

Data
Main claims to international academic or non-academic excellence:
#2 Business School in France
#26 in the world
Global Employability University Ranking 2016–The Times Higher Education

Institution’s main international achievements in innovation:
emlyon business school stands out among the few business schools worldwide awarded three international accreditations AMBA, AACSB and EQUIS

Total number of students: 5,100
Percentage of international postgraduate students: 40% representing 80 nationalities
Range of tuition fees: From 17,500€ to 40,000€ (For 2016/2017 academic year–may be subject to change)

Language entry requirements: TOEIC or TOEFL or IELTS or Cambridge CPE or PTE

Language tuition facilities: Free access to the language centre. French classes available

Accommodation facilities: Both on-campus residential halls and off-campus housing options are available. Check website for more info
HEC Paris School of Management

Profile

HEC Paris School of Management is a world-leading business school, renowned for the quality of its degrees, faculty and research. Throughout its 135 years of history, HEC Paris has been attracting highly talented individuals and has been continuously helping them transform their exceptional potential into exceptional success. Today 4,400 top-level students from all backgrounds live on one of the most beautiful campuses in France, a 340 acre campus close to Paris, 130 student clubs, 1, Rue de la Libération, 78350 Jouy-en-Josas, France. You will benefit from its unparalleled diversity, with more than 95 nationalities on site.

A perfect balance between theory and practice

HEC academic approach aims at helping students develop both a strategic mindset and the practical skills to implement solutions and innovations. Students benefit both from the HEC world-class faculty (138 research Professors of 29 nationalities) and a hands-on approach delivered by inspiring professionals from all sectors (Consulting, Finance, Marketing, Entrepreneurship, etc.).

Close ties with the Business world—HEC students receive full support from the Corporate Relations Department which offers its extensive expertise to both recruiters and students: 250 companies recruit on campus every year, 17 consulting firms such as PwC, EY, Bain, Deloitte, 45 corporate members of the HEC Foundation.

A global Community—52,300 alumni of more than 100 nationalities, 132 countries, 75 international chapters.

The Master in Management—Grande Ecole Program (MiM) Since 1881, a perfect combination of academic and practical knowledge in management for an international career. All in English (or both in French and in English). Designed for students holding a Bachelor Degree in any field with little or no professional experience.

Year 1: Generalist phase (Core Management Courses), Year 2: Specialization phase (International Finance, Strategic Management, Marketing, Economics, Sustainability, International Business …) and Certificate.

Exchange opportunities with CEMS Dual Degree (28 partners worldwide) and prestigious partner universities such as UCLA, Babson, Cornell, Duke, PUC, AIM, Fudan, Tsinghua, IIM, Tokyo University.

Double Degrees: MIT, Yale, Georgetown, Krion, Tsinghua, HKUST, MGIMO, Fu Berlin, NUS, TUM, ESADE, St Gallen, Bocconi, GSOM, IIM, Ecole Polytechnique (MiM Data Science for Business in two years)…

5 One-Year MSc—All in English, designed for students at postgraduate level who want to acquire high-level expertise and professional know-how in their chosen specialization: International Finance, Managerial & Financial Economics, Marketing, Sustainability and Social Innovation and Strategic Management.

4 One-Year MS—taught in French, also designed for students at postgraduate level willing to acquire expertise in a specific field of management: “Droit et Management International”, “Management de Grands Projets”, “Entrepreneurs”, “Médias, Art et Création”.

The HEC Certificates—A set of short professionalizing programs sponsored by companies, in order to acquire a sectorial expertise: Energy & Finance (Deloitte, SG), Digital Entrepreneurship, Digital Transformation (AXA), Luxury (Kering), Social Business (Danone, Schneider Electric), Excellence in Client Experience (LVMHI), and Leadership (Pernod Ricard).

City University of Hong Kong

Profile

City University of Hong Kong (CityU), one of the eight government-funded institutions in the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region of China, is a leading global university excelling in research and professional education. CityU offers professional education that prepares students for the challenges and exciting opportunities opening up in Hong Kong, the Asia-Pacific region and throughout the world in business, creative media, energy and environment, law, liberal arts and social science, science and engineering, as well as veterinary medicine and life sciences. Our faculty is recruited from around the world, and all faculty members are experts in their respective professions. Employing interactive, IT-based teaching methodologies, students acquire a first-rate grounding in their chosen subjects and life-long learning skills needed for the real world.

CityU offers state-of-the-art learning, teaching and research facilities in a high-technology environment to create an ambiance that encourages intellectual curiosity, social interaction, self-expression and mutual support.

At CityU, students are encouraged to become original thinkers and to discover for themselves solutions to the myriad problems we face today. Creativity, intellectual curiosity and the sheer excitement of discovery are emphasised among the students.

CityU has achieved phenomenal growth since its establishment in 1984. The current student population is over 20,000, of which more than 6,500 are postgraduates. The University offers more than 130 programmes at the associate degree, undergraduate and postgraduate levels.

For more information about the University and its academic and supporting units, please visit our website at www.cityu.edu.hk.

Chow Yei Ching School of Graduate Studies

Postgraduate education facilitates the advancement of knowledge and provides high-level academic education and professional training to cater for society’s needs. To provide a better focus for the further development of its postgraduate programmes, the University established the School of Graduate Studies in 1994. The School offers a wide spectrum of high quality programmes and student activities. Both taught and research programmes are favourably received by students and have earned high acclaim from the community.

MPhil and PhD programmes are offered in all Colleges and Schools® covering a wide range of strategic areas to reflect the University’s strengths and to suit individuals’ research interests. The School offers studentships, scholarships, conference grants and other financial assistance so that students can engage in more academic exchange activities which are beneficial and related to their research studies. Through collaboration with scholars in different regions, students can bring their research skills to new levels.

The School received a generous donation from Dr Chow Yei Ching and was named the Chow Yei Ching School of Graduate Studies in 2006. For more information about the School, please visit our website at www.cityu.edu.hk/sgs/.

Chow Yei Ching School of Graduate Studies

* College of Business, College of Liberal Arts & Sciences, College of Science & Engineering, College of Veterinary Medicine and Life Sciences, School of Creative Media, School of Law and School of Energy & Environment.

Data

Main claims to international academic or non-academic excellence:

- 49th in QS World University Rankings 2018; 7th in QS University Rankings: Asia 2016; 4th in QS Top 50 Under 50 2018

Total number of students: around 20,000

Percentage of graduate students: 32%

Percentage of international postgraduate students: 60%

Range of tuition fees:

- USD2,698-USD10,794 per year

Language entry requirements:

- TOELF 550 (PBT) / 79 (IBT) OR IELTS 6.5

Language tuition facilities:

- Not applicable as English is the medium of instruction

Accommodation facilities:

- Please refer to www.cityu.edu.hk/sro

Price range of accommodation:

- US$346-US$436 per month

Modes of study:

- Full-time, Locally taught, Joint degrees

Levels of study:

- Masters, Doctorate, Graduate Certificates, Advanced Professional Qualifications

Main subject areas:

- Please visit www.cityu.edu.hk/sgs
Bocconi University

Profile

Bocconi University is one of Europe’s leading economics and business universities. Its modern urban campus is located in the centre of Milan, the country’s commercial, financial and fashion capital, and also its most cosmopolitan city. Always a standout among Italian schools for its international outlook, Bocconi offers a range of undergraduate, graduate and postgraduate programs taught in English by an international faculty. Bocconi aims to provide selected students—from Italy, Europe and the rest of the world—with a truly international education that leads to professional growth and superior access to the job market.

Bocconi has a strong commitment to providing merit and financial-need based scholarships for talented international students admitted to its academic programs.

Bocconi’s offer features flexibility, paving the way either for further studies (towards a PhD or in research) or for a high-level entry into employment, with a range of three-year undergraduate programs and two-year Master of Science programs. Eleven of these are entirely taught in English: International Management, Management, Marketing Management, Accounting, Financial Management and Control, Finance, Economics and Management in Arts, Culture, Media and Entertainment, Government and International Organizations, Economic and Social Sciences, Economics and Management of Innovation and Technology. Moreover, from 2018-19 a.y. the Bocconi Graduate School has enhanced its portfolio by launching two new MSc in Data Science and Business Analytics and Politics and Policy Analysis. In addition, Bocconi offers several PhD programs in English. Its attached business school SDA Bocconi offers top-ranked MBA and post-experience masters as well as executive programs.

Classes at Bocconi present up-to-date quality content and interactive methods, supported by excellent IT and library facilities. Lessons with highly qualified faculty and distinguished visiting professors are peppered with seminars and workshops involving members of the Italian and international business community, who inject a strong dose of practical economic reality into the course curriculum. Bocconi’s well-organized program of internship and exchange opportunities give students a chance to get hands-on experience in the country of their choice, as part of their studies.

Bocconi is a member of two important international networks, the Partnership in International Management (PIM) and the Global Alliance in Management Education (CEMS). In addition to exchange agreements with many members of these organizations, Bocconi has bilateral accords for exchanges with over 260 leading universities. With the support of our International Relations service, about 5,000 students participate in incoming or outgoing exchanges with Bocconi every year, further enriching their university experience through periods of study or internships.

Bocconi also offers Double Degree programs. Graduate students have the possibility to spend the first year at Bocconi, acquiring core knowledge and skills, and to specialize in their field of interest while attending the second year at one of the foreign host institutions, selected among the most prestigious Universities in Europe and overseas. Bocconi supports its graduating students in their approach to the job market with a strong Career Services program. The University maintains an enormous network of connections with companies of all types and sizes in Italy and abroad, because it understands that when a graduate gets a good job, Bocconi has done a good job, as testified by over 100,000 Bocconi alumni employed around the world.

Contact

Graduate Services
Guidance and Recruitment Office
Piazza Sraffa 11, Milan 20136, Italy

Tel: +39 02 5836 2745
Email: graduate.services@unibocconi.it
Web: www.unibocconi.eu/graduate

Data

Main claims to international academic or non-academic excellence:
FT Masters in Finance Pre-experience 2017: 7th worldwide for MSc Finance
Masters in Management 2016: 11th worldwide for MSc International Management

Total number of students: 14,000

Percentage of graduate students: 30%
Percentage of international graduate students: 30%

Range of tuition fees:
Approx. €13,000 per year (2-year MSc programs)

Language entry requirements:
Min. B2 CEFR: TOEFL IBT min. 99, IELTS min. 6

Language tuition facilities:
The Language Center develops and coordinates foreign language courses: www.unibocconi.eu/languagecenter

Accommodation facilities:
A total of 1,800 single rooms in 7 university residences (approx. 500 at reduced rate)

Price range of accommodation:
From €3,000 min. to 8,500 max. per year (see www.unibocconi.eu/accommodation)

Modes of study:
Full-time, Joint degrees

Levels of study:
Masters, Doctorate

Main subject areas:
Business/Management, Economics, Finance/Accounting, Marketing, Public Policy, Data Science
We genuinely believe that learning languages is the best way to keep our brain fit and one of our most profitable intellectual investments.

So, we created an international lifestyle project for those of you who want to learn the English language.

Read articles, watch videos, learn grammar, get ready for IELTS, expand your vocabulary, attend webinars, visit inspiring places and meet amazing people here, on www.govori-project.com

If you really want to learn English, make it a lifestyle, not a duty

Find out more on www.govori-project.com

Follow @english.govori.project
Al-Farabi Kazakh National University

Profile

Al-Farabi KazNU is a comprehensive research oriented university. Being one of the oldest and largest higher educational institutions in Central Asia, KazNU keeps making great contribution to the development of economy, politics, culture, science and education of multinational Kazakhstan and became a stronghold of the entire system of higher education of the region. The mission is to form skilled and competitive specialists able to meet the challenges and intellectual requirements of the modern world.

The Global Hub UN program ‘Academic Impact’ on Sustainability in KazNU is the main world education platform on sustainable development that is able to generate specialists with the new way of thinking. All academic programs’ quality is recognized by European Accreditation Agencies such as FIBAA, ASIIN, and ACQUIN. A professionally accredited degree provides industry-wide recognition of students’ qualification. KazNU features fully equipped lecture halls and laboratories. It also owns the largest research library in Central Asia which is located in the biggest campus area of 100 hectares in the very heart of cultural and educational center of Kazakhstan – Almaty city.

For our international students, a degree from KazNU is a passport to a successful life and career. We are recognised throughout the world for the quality of our teaching, with international-standard research shaping our courses. International students play a huge part at Al-Farabi KazNU. Thousands of Afghan students and graduates are fuelled by key benefits of education in KazNU each year. The welcoming, accessible and multicultural environment that is the city of Almaty provides the ideal base for your time studying in Kazakhstan. We support our international students from the moment they apply to the University through to graduation and beyond. With so many cultures rubbing shoulders with one another, it’s no surprise that Almaty has an excellent reputation for food and drink. You’ll find cuisine from practically every culture and to suit any budget. KazNU has a proud tradition of graduates who achieve greatness in their chosen fields. From social leaders, innovators of industry and celebrities, KazNU alumni are making their mark across the globe. KazNU graduates have some of the best career prospects in Kazakhstan and across the world. To illustrate, Borhan Fu is the graduate of KazNU, who is the current Chairman at Association of Central Asian Studies in Taiwan, General Secretary at Taiwan and Central Asia Cultural and Economic Association, CEO at B.Happy Corporation and
KazNU collaborates closely with the UN – the Global Hub of United Nations Academic Impact with the focus on sustainability has been launched at the university in 2014.

Institution’s main international achievements in innovation:
KazNU researchers received 188 international awards in 2016-2017, 57 of them were for joint international projects; 36 were in social sciences and humanities, 21 – in natural and technical sciences.

Total number of students: 16,701
Percentage of graduate students: 20.1%
Percentage of international postgraduate students: 12.04%

Range of tuition fees:
Bachelor: $2,500, Master students: $3,600

Language entry requirements:
TOEFL ITP: 460, TOEFL IBT: 87, TOEFL: 560 score, IELTS: 6.0

Language tuition facilities:
Multilingual resource Education Center is being launched by Department of Pre-College Education.

Accommodation facilities:
65% of KazNU students live in the dormitories. A modern residence for young scholars, Master and PhD Students was built recently.

Price range of accommodation:
Undergraduate Students – $27 per month; Master Students – $50 per month
Singapore University of Technology and Design

Profile

The Singapore University of Technology and Design (SUTD) is Singapore's fourth autonomous university and one of the first universities in the world to incorporate the art and science of design and technology into a multi-disciplinary curriculum. Established in collaboration with the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT), SUTD seeks to nurture technically-grounded leaders and innovators via its core academic pillars – Architecture and Sustainable Design, Engineering Product Development, Engineering Systems and Design and Information Systems Technology and Design:

Architecture and Sustainable Design (ASD)
Focusing on sustainable architectural and urban solutions to meet the present and future needs of buildings and cities.

Engineering Product Development (EPD)
Focusing on innovative technology-intensive products that span multiple engineering disciplines.

Engineering Systems and Design (ESD)
Focusing on large-scale complex systems whose performance and function depend on their technology and socio-economic context.

Information Systems Technology and Design (ISTD)
Focusing on information systems that interact with the physical world, humans and machines.

SUTD, in collaboration with Zhejiang University (ZJU) and Singapore Management University (SMU), is distinguished by its unique East and West academic programme which incorporates elements of technology, entrepreneurship, management and design thinking.

SUTD aims to produce workforce-ready graduates to meet Singapore's 21st century manpower requirements, preparing and equipping students for industry-ready roles through an inter-disciplinary approach in education via coursework and research areas.

Graduate Programmes
Graduate opportunities at SUTD include the Master of Science in Security by Design, Master of Engineering (Research), SUTD PhD Programme, SUTD-NUS Joint PhD Programme and SUTD Engineering Doctorate.

Master of Science in Security by Design
Conduct cyber security research and training at SUTD's world-class testbeds to learn how to design, analyse and manage cyber security for critical networks and infrastructure.

Master of Engineering (Research)
Offers both fresh graduates and working professionals the opportunity to explore independent, research-oriented solutions to existing engineering challenges.

SUTD PhD Programme
Collaborate with the best minds in a fluid and stimulating setting and conduct breakthrough research that will make a difference to the world.

SUTD-NUS Joint PhD Programme
Experience the best of both world-class institutions—SUTD’s innovative and flexible curriculum and NUS’s established graduate programme and research track record.

SUTD Engineering Doctorate
Provides graduate students with industry-relevant training, which is important to translate research & development (R&D) into tangible products, systems and services.

As a research-intensive university, SUTD will bring together the best minds and ideas to seek solutions to modern-day challenges and create a better future.

Contact

Singapore University of Technology and Design
Office of Graduate Studies
8 Somapah Road, Singapore 487372

Tel: Masters: +65 6499 4525 PhD: +65 6499 4749
Email: Masters: gradoffice@sutd.edu.sg
PhD: phd@sutd.edu.sg
Web: www.sutd.edu.sg/Admissions/Graduate/

Data

Main claims to international academic or non-academic excellence:
SUTD’s engineering and architecture programmes are accredited by the Engineering Accreditation Board and the Board of Architects of Singapore respectively.

Institution’s main international achievements in innovation: SUTD’s collaboration with the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) represents MIT’s most significant collaboration on education to date. It is multifaceted and covered the following:

» Development of the undergraduate curriculum
» Co-teaching of subjects
» Student exchanges
» Recruitment and development of SUTD faculty
» Establishment of a major co-located research centre, SUTD-MIT International Design Centre (IDC)

Total number of students: Over 1,500

Percentage of graduate students: Approx 16%

Percentage of international postgraduate students: Approx. 72%

Range of tuition fees: (Annually)
Singapore Citizens (SC) S$13,600
Singapore Permanent Residents (SPR): S$19,050
International Students (IS) S$48,460

Language entry requirements:
IELTS or TOEFL is required if English is not your medium of instruction in your studies

Accommodation facilities:
On-site student hostel (please visit sutd.edu.sg/Campus-Life/Housing/Graduate)

Modes of study:
Full-Time & Part-Time

Levels of study:
Masters, PhD, Doctorate

Establishment of a major co-located research centre,
Recruitment and development of SUTD faculty
Student exchanges
Co-teaching of subjects
Development of the undergraduate curriculum
SUTD-MIT International Design Centre (IDC)

Over 1,500

Approx 16%

Approx. 72%

S$13,600
S$19,050
S$48,460

IELTS or TOEFL is required if English is not your medium of instruction in your studies

On-site student hostel (please visit sutd.edu.sg/Campus-Life/Housing/Graduate)

Full-Time & Part-Time

Masters, PhD, Doctorate
Become a talent transformer able to develop and engage people. Leverage behavior, technology and innovation to build high powered teams and organizations.

+34 91 568 96 10
hst.admissions@ie.edu
The University of St.Gallen (HSG) was founded as a “Business Academy” in 1898 – in the heyday of St.Gallen embroidery. We continue to pursue the goal of providing our more than 8,300 students with a practice-oriented education, guided by an integrative view of management, economics, law, social sciences and international affairs. With success: the University of St.Gallen has constantly been ranked among the top business schools in Europe. Accreditations by EQUIS and AACSB International underline our commitment to a holistic curriculum that meets the highest academic standards.

Corporations expect their employees not merely to be well-trained specialists. Intellectual skills, an integrative perspective, flexibility, a sense of responsibility and intercultural qualifications are more and more significant. Therefore, our students have to learn to think critically, make decisions responsibly and act flexibly. With these skills and an integrative mind-set, they will be able to assume a lasting and sustainable position of responsibility in society. To enable our students to acquire these skills, we have developed a unique degree course structure at the HSG. It creates the conditions required for our students’ academic and personal development.

International orientation
The HSG is linked up with about 200 partner universities worldwide and offers its students exchange and double degree programmes. At the same time, we are part of the CEMS, PIM, APSIA and GBSN networks. 33% of students come from foreign countries, from more than 80 nations worldwide. Thus an international atmosphere supports students while they are studying in St.Gallen.

In demand on the labour market
The HSG is Switzerland’s business university with the strongest placement results. Students usually sign job contracts before their graduation and may expect top-level starting salaries. The Career & Corporate Services (CSC) support them upon their entry into the labour market with individual consultations, career events with potential employers and a job database.

Campus and leisure facilities
The HSG offers the latest facilities and services to support individual and collaborative learning. In addition, we offer a full spectrum of sports activities. The attractive location between Lake Constance and the Swiss Alps makes St.Gallen an ideal setting for all kinds of leisure activities.

Master’s Programmes
- Business Innovation (taught in German)
- Marketing, Services and Communication Management (English and German)
- Accounting and Finance (English and German)
- Strategy and International Management (English)
- Business Management (German)
- Management, Organization Studies and Cultural Theory (German)
- Banking and Finance (English)
- Economics (English and German)
- Quantitative Economics and Finance (English)
- International Affairs and Governance (English and German)
- International Law (English)
- Law (German)
- Law and Economics (German)

Ph.D. Programmes
- Management: Accounting (English), Business Innovation (German), General Management (English), Marketing (German)
- Finance (English)
- Economics and Finance (English)
- International Affairs and Political Economy (English and German)
- Law (German)
- Organization Studies and Cultural Theory (English and German)

Contact
University of St.Gallen (HSG)
Dufourstrasse 50
9000 St.Gallen
Switzerland
Tel: +41 (0)71 224 21 11
Email: studyinfo@unisg.ch
Web: www.unisg.ch

Main claims to international academic or non-academic excellence:
Ranked 1st by the Financial Times for the Master’s in Strategy and International Management and 10th for the Master’s in Banking and Finance.

Institution’s main international achievements in innovation:
International Master’s programmes of a high academic standard which have strong ties to the practical world and are taught in an environment enhanced by Switzerland’s excellent conditions.

Total number of students: 8,300
Percentage of graduate students: 45%
Percentage of international postgraduate students: 33%

Range of tuition fees:
Per semester: International Master’s students: CHF 3,326 / International Ph.D. students: CHF 1,076

Language entry requirements:
Level C1 (CEFR)
For further information: www.admissions.ch

Language tuition facilities:
Language Center

Accommodation facilities:
Students share apartments or rent small flats.

Price range of accommodation:
From CHF 500 upwards per month

Students’ living costs (all included):
On average CHF 29,000 per year
University College London (UCL)

Profile

Consistently recognised as one of the world’s leading universities and ranked seventh in the world in the 2017 QS World University Ranking, UCL is London’s top multidisciplinary research university with an international reputation for the quality of its research and teaching. UCL’s excellence extends across all academic disciplines with subjects spanning the sciences, engineering, arts and humanities, social sciences, education and biomedicine. UCL is the top-rated university in the UK for research strength, according to the Research Excellence Framework of 2014, with outstanding results achieved across all eleven faculties. The programmes we offer reflect the very latest research and are often taught by academic staff members who are world-leaders in their fields. UCL has one of the best staff-student ratios in the UK, with a strong emphasis on small group teaching.

A cosmopolitan environment

As well as being dynamic and intellectually challenging, UCL also provides a cosmopolitan environment in which to study. Almost 41% of our students are from outside the UK representing around 155 different countries. UCL also attracts academic staff from around the globe and international staff and students are welcomed for the different perspectives and diversity they bring to teaching and learning at UCL.

The university’s location on a compact site in the heart of London offers outstanding academic, professional and social benefits. UCL is surrounded by the greatest concentration of libraries, museums, archives and professional bodies in Europe. London also has a wealth of opportunities for social and leisure activities.

Cutting-edge opportunities

Focused on the translation of research into solutions for the world’s major problems, UCL works across the disciplines and with partners from all over the world. We strive to ensure that our students can achieve their full potential at UCL and are equipped not just with academic knowledge but with other highly valued skills which are sought by some of the world’s most prestigious employers. The UCL Careers Service offers a full range of specialist support for graduate students including graduate employer forums and networking events, a PhD specific fair and employability skills development workshops, as well as individual career advice.

UCL offers a stimulating and richly rewarding experience for graduate students who want to study in one of the world’s leading centres of research and teaching.

The Graduate Environment

Around 20,000 of our students are studying at graduate level, which is the largest population of graduate students at any UK university. UCL offers an extremely diverse range of graduate qualifications, from taught Master’s and shorter programmes to MPhil, PhDs and specialist doctorates.

UCL offers a number of Research and Master’s scholarships to outstanding students. Details of the full range of UCL scholarships available for students can be found on our website at www.ucl.ac.uk/scholarships.

Data

Main claims to international academic or non-academic excellence:


Innovation:

29 of UCL’s staff and former students have been awarded the Nobel Prize.

Total number of students: 38,900

Percentage of graduate students: 52%

Percentage of international postgraduate students: 42%

Range of tuition fees: www.ucl.ac.uk/current-students/money/2017-2018_fees

Language entry requirements:

IELTS 6.5-7.5 . Depending on subject

Language tuition facilities:

The UCL Centre for Languages & International Education (CLIE). www.ucl.ac.uk/clie

Accommodation facilities:

Guaranteed for first-year overseas graduate students who firmly accept their offer and meet published deadlines and have not previously lived or studied in the London area.

Price range of accommodation:

From £102-£365 per week (please see www.ucl.ac.uk/prospective-students/accommodation).

Modes of study: Full-time, Part-time

Levels of study: Master’s, Doctorate, Graduate Certificates, Graduate Diplomas

Main subject areas: Arts & Humanities, Brain Sciences, Built Environment, Education, Engineering Sciences, Laws, Life Sciences, Mathematical & Physical Sciences, Medical Sciences, Population Health Sciences, Social & Historical Sciences

Contact

UCL Student Recruitment
Gower Street,
London: WC1E 6BT,
UK

Tel: +44 (0) 20 3108 8520
Email: international@ucl.ac.uk
Web: www.ucl.ac.uk
Cass Business School

Profile

Extraordinary Calling
London is the world’s leading commercial and financial centre. It is also one of the world’s most exciting, diverse, and creative cities. Study at Cass and you will be at the heart of it all – at the crossroads of the City of London, London’s historic financial district, and Tech-City, the world’s largest technology start-up cluster, outside of the US. We are also in easy reach of the countless cultural, entertainment and sporting opportunities that London offers.

You’ll soon feel at home, wherever you come from and whoever you are.

Cass Business School is among the global elite. We are consistently ranked amongst the best business schools and programmes in the world. Cass holds the rare gold standard of ‘triple-crown’ accreditation from the Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business (AACSB), the Association of MBAs (AMBA) and the European Quality Improvement System (EQUIS). Together with an established 50-year reputation for excellence in business research and education, Cass attracts outstanding academics, students and businesses worldwide into our energising Cass community.

A Masters degree from Cass will help you to specialise and stand out in a competitive world. Our MSc in Management and MSc in Finance courses are both highly ranked by the Financial Times. We offer over 20 Masters degrees including full-time, part-time and online study options, covering areas such as finance, marketing, management, actuarial science, real estate, shipping and entrepreneurship. All courses are delivered in an educational environment that is renowned for its commitment to innovation and research. Crucially, our London location permits high-level contacts with numerous City firms, with many Cass students moving on to positions in those firms every year.

All Masters degrees at Cass consist of core modules and a number of electives. Electives, taught in term three, allow you to tailor your studies to cover your own particular interests. Electives are often taught by Visiting Lecturers, practitioners who work in industry and teach with us on a part time basis to make sure our students are exposed to what is really going on in business today. Most Masters degrees at Cass give our students the opportunity to study at least one elective overseas, whether it is Investment Strategies in New York, Monetary Policy in Singapore, Real Estate Markets in Dubai...
Cass Masters Programme
Tim Anderson, Recruitment Manager
106 Bunhill Row,
London EC1Y 8TZ

Email: cass-masters@city.ac.uk
Web: www.cass.city.ac.uk/courses/masters

Main claims to international academic or non-academic excellence:
Cass hold ‘triple crown’ accreditation from the AACSB, EQUIS and AUBA, and is consistently highly ranked in various rankings

Language entry requirements:
IELTS 7.0 overall, with minimum of 6.5 in writing section

Accommodation facilities:
City, University of London offers a number of postgraduate housing options

Price range of accommodation:
Varies depending on type of accommodation

or Procurement in Mannheim. We also offer our students dual degree options in Germany or Canada. Outside of the classroom, Cass is not only committed to the professional development of all of our students through our Careers team, but also through a whole range of societies, clubs and sports teams. There is a wide choice of societies to choose from covering many different interests and open to everyone. Students also organise regular conferences covering areas such as Mergers & Acquisitions, Real Estate and Consulting. After our Masters students leave us they become a valued member of our international alumni network, which spans over 160 countries and enables them to continue to engage with us throughout their career. A Masters from Cass is a truly global experience.
Imperial College Business School

Profile

At Imperial College Business School, we drive global business and social transformation through the fusion of business, technology and an entrepreneurial mindset. Our programmes inspire intelligent and creative minds from a diverse range of backgrounds to be the world’s future leaders.

Our Business School in London is at the centre of a global top 10 university, and our teaching and research reflects this intersection of business and technology.

**The Imperial advantage**

**The fusion of business and technology**

Unlike other business schools, our pioneering research and expertise does not stop with business. Our intersection with Imperial College London’s outstanding faculties of engineering, medicine and natural sciences offers you a unique, multi-disciplinary experience.

**Tailored career and professional development service**

We have a dedicated Careers team for the exclusive use of Business School students. They will work with you to help identify your career and professional goals, and equip you with the tools to achieve them.

**Access to cross-disciplinary institutions**

Being a postgraduate student at Imperial gives you access to a number of cross-faculty centres and institutes throughout the College.

**Innovative learning environment**

We encourage our students to develop technical, practical and professional skills through initiatives which nurture innovation and entrepreneurship.

**A faculty of leading experts**

Our faculty members combine an understanding of current best practice in global business theory with immersion in the practical issues of today’s global corporations through their research and consultancy projects.

**Master’s programmes**

Our MSc programmes will equip you with the knowledge and skills needed to pursue your ambitions and are an excellent investment in your future.

Our range of Master’s programmes includes:

- MSc Business Analytics
- MSc Climate Change, Management & Finance
- MSc Economics & Strategy for Business
- MSc Finance
- MSc Finance & Accounting
- MSc Innovation, Entrepreneurship & Management
- MSc International Health Management
- MSc Investment & Wealth Management
- MSc Management
- MSc Risk Management & Financial Engineering
- MSc Strategic Marketing

**Doctoral programme**

Our fully-funded Doctoral programme combines highly relevant and structured training in the first year when you complete a Master’s in Research, with the freedom to explore your chosen area of research over the course of a further four years.

You will have access to a wide range of professional and personal development opportunities, including training in teaching and assessment skills, which will expand your knowledge and prepare you for a career in academia.

Contact

Imperial College Business School
South Kensington Campus,
London,
SW7 2AZ
UK

Email: business-school@imperial.ac.uk
Web: www.imperial.ac.uk/business-school/

Data

Main claims to international academic or non-academic excellence:
Imperial College London is ranked 8th in the world in the QS World University Ranking 2018 and the Times Higher Education World University ranking 2016-17

Institution’s main international achievements in innovation:
Imperial College London was ranked 2nd in Europe and 12th in the world in Reuters Top 100: The World’s Most Innovative Universities 2016.

Total number of students: 1,670 (Master’s, Doctoral and Summer School students)

Language entry requirements:
The most common ways that international applicants meet the English language requirements for Master’s programmes are:

- IELTS—minimum 7.0
- TOEFL iBT—minimum 100

Check website for full details

Modes of study: Our Master’s Programmes are one Year Full time
Imperial College London

Profile

Join a community of discovery
Imperial College London is a one-of-a-kind university in the UK, focusing solely on science, engineering, medicine and business. Consistently ranked amongst the top 10 best universities in the world, Imperial attracts postgraduate students from across the world for study in its four Faculties (Engineering, Natural Sciences, Medicine and Imperial College Business School) and range of specialist research centres and institutes.

One of the most distinctive elements of an Imperial education is that our students join a community of world-class researchers, learning alongside leading experts and actively engaging in their own research. It’s the cutting edge and globally influential nature of the work by the College’s researchers that Imperial is best known for. This environment of discovery also creates an entrepreneurial culture with enormous commercial potential. This is supported by a dedicated enterprise team and state-of-the-art facilities to help our students develop their ideas, find collaborators and get the right support to take their projects to the next level.

Get a head start on your career
Our location in the heart of London places our students at the centre of a global community of employers. Our Careers Service runs a year-round programme of employer events and activities to capitalise on our location, including seven annual careers fairs bringing hundreds of employers to campus.

This is complemented by the Graduate School’s free professional development programmes for Master’s and research students, covering a range of transferable skills required within their programme and beyond.

Contribute your cultural experience
At Imperial, you’ll be joining an inclusive and diverse community where different backgrounds and cultures are celebrated. We aim to actively embrace different cultural experiences and identities within the classroom in order to better prepare all of our students for an increasingly diverse and complex future work environment.

This diversity is also reflected in the opportunities available outside the classroom, including over 350 student-run clubs, societies and projects – one of the largest choices of any UK university – ensuring there is something for everyone.

Live in one of the world’s most exciting cities
Home to over 300 languages and people of all different faiths, cultures and backgrounds, London is a place for everyone. The city ranks as third in the world as a top recruiting ground for global graduate employers in the 2017 QS Best Student Cities rankings – and third best student city in the world overall.

The College’s main base in South Kensington is surrounded by a number of world leading cultural organisations including the Science, Natural History and Victoria and Albert museums and the Royal Colleges of Art and Music. These are not just great places for our students to spend their downtime; we also run joint postgraduate degrees with the Natural History Museum and the Royal College of Art, while neighbouring Royal Albert Hall hosts all of our graduation ceremonies.

Contact

Student Recruitment team
Imperial College London
South Kensington Campus, SW7 2AZ, UK
Tel: +44 (0)20 7589 5111
Email: international-recruitment@imperial.ac.uk

Data

Main claims to international academic or non-academic excellence:
Ranked 9th in the world (QS World University Rankings 2016/17)
Ranked number 1 in the UK (and 5th overall) in the Times Higher Education’s world’s most international universities 2017
Ranked second most innovative university in Europe in Reuters’ 2017 ranking of Europe’s Most Innovative Universities

Total number of students: 16,292
Percentage of graduate students: 49%
Percentage of international postgraduate students: 63% (non-UK)

Range of tuition fees: (Based on 2017/18 international fees)
£9,200 (part-time Postgraduate Diploma); £15,300 (Postgraduate Certificate)
Other taught courses (inc. MBAs): £15,000–£47,000
Research programmes: £20,700–£36,100

Language entry requirements: IELTS: 6.5 overall (minimum 6.0 in all elements) – 7.0 overall (minimum 6.5 in all elements) depending on programme

Language tuition facilities: Centre for Academic English www.imperial.ac.uk/academic-english

Accommodation facilities: www.imperial.ac.uk/accommodation

Price range of accommodation:
£90–£205/week (Silwood Park)
£215–£399/week (London-based GradPad)

Modes of study: Full time and part time

Levels of study: Master’s, Doctorate, Postgraduate Certificates, Postgraduate Diplomas

Main subject areas: Science, Engineering, Medicine, Business
One of the UK’s top research-intensive universities, the University of Kent offers you a superb academic environment, world-leading research, stunning study locations and a fantastic student experience.

**Academic excellence**
Awarded Gold in the UK Government’s Teaching Excellence Framework, and with 97% of research judged to be of international quality in the most recent Research Excellence Framework, Kent also has the 4th highest score for student satisfaction (National Student Survey).

We offer a wide range of postgraduate taught and research degrees across the humanities, sciences and social sciences. Because our academics are engaged in high-level research as well as teaching, you will study with some of the most influential thinkers in your field.

We have a postgraduate scholarship fund of over £9 million to support our taught and research students, including Research Council Funded Scholarships, available for Postgraduate Research projects.

If you don’t yet have the required qualifications or level of English language, we offer flexible pre-sessional courses and a Pre-Master’s Graduate Diploma to enable you to progress to your chosen degree. Free English lessons are also available during your studies.

**The UK’s European university**
We have beautiful UK campuses close to London, and specialist centres in Paris, Brussels, Athens and Rome. As a postgraduate student, you’ll benefit from the rich historic and cultural heritage of these locations and the wide range of opportunities they offer.

Our Canterbury campus is nestled in 300 acres of parkland overlooking the World Heritage city. Canterbury boasts many museums, galleries, cafes and restaurants, and the Marlowe Theatre attracts the UK’s biggest touring shows. As with the city, our campus offers you a lively and diverse student environment with great study and social facilities including a cinema, concert hall, theatre and sports centre.
Super Student Experience

A Successful Future

We are dedicated to helping you gain an advantage when the time comes to embark on a career. We prepare students for their professional future through a range of initiatives including placements and employability advice service, an employability programme and partnership working with Global Skills Award. Language learning is important for all of our students, and students receive a comprehensive service which is provided on different campuses. In 2016, 99% of our postgraduate students who graduated within six months of study had work or further study within six months.

Super Student Experience

Think Kent Lectures

For a sense of the teaching style at Kent, take a look at our ‘Think Kent’ lectures. Similar in style to TED Talks, these ten to 15-minute videos feature leading Kent academics talking about their research and the international impact of their work. See: www.youtube.com/UniversityofKent

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King’s College London

Profile

King’s College London is one of the top 25 universities in the world (2016/17 QS World Rankings) and fourth oldest university in England. King’s is a research-led university based in the very heart of London with over 27,500 students (of whom more than 11,000 are international students) from 150 countries across the globe.

With nine faculties, institutes and schools of study and five Medical Research Council centres, King’s offers world-class teaching and research. Our extensive range of subjects include the arts, humanities, law, the sciences (including a wide range of health areas such as psychology, medicine, nursing, midwifery and dentistry) and social sciences including international affairs.

King’s is famous for its distinguished contribution to arts and sciences. Some of the greatest minds have studies at King’s – from Peter Higgs, who received the Nobel Prize for discovering the Higgs Boson, to Michael Morpurgo OBE, author of the children’s book War Horse, later made into a critically acclaimed movie and West End play. Twelve Nobel Prize winners have studies or worked at King’s College London.

When you join King’s as a student, you also become part of one of the world’s most dynamic cities. With London as an extension of your campus, you will have constant opportunities to enjoy, discover and explore this vibrant setting for your studies.

Our central location, convenient transport links and established relationships across the city provide the perfect environment for you to combine your studies with your social interests.

You will have access to global opportunities during your studies at King’s College London. Our exchange partners span the globe, so you could spend part of your degree in North America, Australasia, Asia, Latin America or Europe.

King’s offers international collaborations which may include joint programmes and research with other world leading universities. Locations include: Amsterdam, Beijing, Berlin, California, Copenhagen, Hong Kong, Melbourne, Oslo, Sao Paulo, Shanghai, Singapore, Sydney, Seoul, Toronto and more!

Contact

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Strand Campus, Strand,
London, UK
WC2R 2LS

Tel: +44 (0)20 7848 5454
Email: prospective@kcl.ac.uk
Web: www.kcl.ac.uk

Key things to note:

5 campuses; Waterloo, Strand, Denmark Hill, Guy’s (London Bridge) and St Thomas
Over 150 international partnerships with universities worldwide

Data
The London School of Economics and Political Science

Profile

The London School of Economics and Political Science (LSE) offers you the opportunity to study the social sciences in an institution with a worldwide academic reputation, while enjoying the cultural, social and recreational facilities of one of the world’s greatest capital cities. The School is a place of genuine intellectual excitement and cutting-edge research. In the 2014 national Research Excellence Framework (REF) LSE had the highest percentage of world-leading research of any university in the United Kingdom. All LSE’s teaching and research is undertaken from a social science perspective, giving the institution a unique approach to otherwise common fields. LSE academics are at the forefront of developments in the social sciences and their expertise is called upon by governments, businesses and media around the globe. LSE offers over 140 different taught postgraduate programmes across 30 departments and institutes. The School’s academic profile spans a wide range of disciplines, from accounting to law, management to urbanisation. Postgraduate research degrees (MPhil/ MRes/PhD) are offered by all of LSE’s departments and institutes.

Life at LSE

The character of LSE is inseparable from its location. Situated in central London, the School is located in one of the most cosmopolitan cities in the world. Only a short distance from Europe’s financial, legal and cultural centres, LSE stands at the crossroads of international debate. This is fundamental to its identity as an outward-looking institution with an active involvement in UK and world affairs. As a result, it is a stimulating and cosmopolitan place to be. The student community at LSE is one of the most internationally diverse in the world, with students from over 150 countries registered each year. This mix encourages a truly international approach to intellectual discovery and academic life at LSE that cannot be matched elsewhere.

Scholarships and Financial Support

LSE offers generous financial support and £10.5 million of need- and merit-based financial aid is available to its graduate students each year. Awards range from a contribution toward tuition fees to scholarships covering all fees and living costs.

Your future

A degree from LSE is widely recognised throughout the world. The School has produced over 38 world leaders and heads of state, 18 Nobel Prize Winners, and a host of alumni who are well known nationally and internationally. LSE is heavily targeted by employers and its graduates are in great demand. 90% go straight into employment, further study or other activity, and the average graduate starting salary is in excess of £30,000.

Join the global debate at LSE.

Data

Main claims to international academic or non-academic excellence:

LSE is the world’s leading dedicated social science institution

Institution’s main international achievements in innovation:

In the 2014 national Research Excellence Framework (REF) LSE had the highest percentage of world-leading research of any university in the United Kingdom

Total number of students: 10,500

Percentage of graduate students: 53%

Percentage of international postgraduate students: 82%

Range of tuition fees: £17,208-£32,880 depending on programme.

Language entry requirements: IELTS. Scores vary by programme

Language tuition facilities: Support and courses for English and other modern languages

Accommodation facilities: LSE and Intercollegiate Halls with self-catering, or catered, twin, single, and double room options

Price range of accommodation: £91.70–£382.90 per week for Halls of Residence

Modes of study: Full-time, Part-time, Double Degrees, Joint Degrees

Levels of study: Taught and Research Masters, Doctorate, Graduate Diplomas

Main subject areas:

Social Sciences
At Lancaster University Management School (LUMS) we help you to take your career to new heights. Whatever you aspire to, whether it is making your mark in business or conducting innovative research in academia, we help you develop the knowledge and know-how to achieve your dreams.

Set in 560 acres of beautiful parkland in the northwest of England, in the ideal location from which to explore the UK, we offer a proven academic reputation and are recognised by the most influential business school accreditation bodies:

- quadruple accreditation by the AACSB, EQUIS, the Association of MBAs and the Small Business Charter in recognition of our work with SMEs
- TEF Gold award for outstanding teaching, an outstanding learning environment and delivering excellent employment outcomes
- consistent excellence in research ratings over the past 20 years, including the latest Research Excellence Framework (REF 2014), in which we were ranked top business school in the UK for ‘research’ power
- world-ranked MBA, MSc Management, and MSc Finance programmes

You will be taught by some of the world’s leading business academics and have access to cutting edge tools and learning resources. Our teaching is informed by the latest research and is designed to offer a powerful mix of contemporary theory and practical elements to test your knowledge in the real world. You will be encouraged to question, challenge and reflect on current practices in business and management to help you develop the knowledge and confidence to express your ideas effectively.

Throughout your studies, you can find learning support through your academic department along with a range of resources, workshops and advice through our Learning Development Team to help you achieve your full potential.

We attract top students from all over the world. We help you, as a future leader, understand the world around you more profoundly, respond to and anticipate change, and gain the confidence and expertise to lead others effectively. You will develop critical thinking abilities and business skills to prepare you for your future career.

Our campus in Lancaster is vibrant and multicultural, with students and staff from across the world. Students have the opportunity to engage in a range of exciting global study abroad and work placement options in order to enhance your employability and gain international experience.

Our students say that studying at LUMS is a genuinely life-changing experience. What really stands out for them is our collaborative approach and our truly international focus. Our graduates will tell you how friendly, approachable and supportive our staff are.

From the moment you arrive, our dedicated Careers
Team work with you to help you take a strategic approach to your future career. Your Postgraduate Careers Adviser provides you with personalised advice, guidance and coaching sessions to help you take advantage of the career opportunities that come your way.

Our alumni are realising their career ambitions with top employers across the world, and many return to campus to share their success stories and advice with current students. When you graduate, you’ll be joining a community of nearly 40,000 LUMS alumni worldwide. What better way to strengthen your international network?

We offer a range of scholarships. See our website for full details.

Contact

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Lancaster University Management School
Lancaster, LA1 4YX

Tel: +44 (0)1524 595094
Email: lumspgadmissions@lancaster.ac.uk
Web: www.lancaster.ac.uk/lums

Data

Main claims to international academic or non-academic excellence:
Lancaster University Management School is typically ranked in the UK’s top ten and among the world’s top business schools.

Institution’s main international achievements in innovation:
We have a vibrant multicultural campus in Lancaster with students and staff from all over the world. In addition to our Lancaster campus, we offer a range of Lancaster degrees at our overseas campus in Ghana and at our partners, Sunway University in Malaysia.

Total number of students: 4,513 (2016/17)
Percentage of graduate students: 24%
Percentage of international postgraduate students: 80.5% (Overseas and EU)
Range of tuition fees: £9,250- £29,000 (2017)
Language entry requirements: IELTS 7.0, with at least 6.0 in each element for most Masters programmes

Accommodation facilities: All postgraduate students are a member of Graduate College whether they live on or off campus. The College provides accommodation, as well as giving you the chance to interact with other postgraduate students. In addition to normal student halls, we also have a number of flats suitable for families or couples.

Price range of accommodation: Graduate College £99.75 per week- £173.04 per week (based on 2017 prices)

Modes of study: Masters, Doctorate, Graduate Diplomas, Research Studentships

Main subject areas: Business/Management, Business Analytics, Economics, Entrepreneurship, Finance/Accounting, Human Resources, Logistics, Marketing, Project Management
Hult International Business School

Profile

Hult is a new kind of business school for the global generation. Only Hult allows you to complete your one-year Master degree while immersing yourself in up to three of the world’s most influential cities, including Boston, San Francisco, London, Dubai, New York, and Shanghai. Graduate with a global network in place by studying alongside students from over 150 nationalities, and networking with leading employers from around the world.

Uniquely global

Our pioneering approach allows you to complete your one-year Masters degree while studying in up to three of the world’s most influential cities. Experience firsthand the business and cultural practices of the world’s biggest economies, and internationalize your resume while developing a broad network of contacts across multiple continents.

Specialists in helping international students find international jobs

Each year, we help thousands of students achieve their global career potential. Working one-on-one with our dedicated career development teams, last year graduates secured employment at 825 companies in over 60 countries. You’ll benefit from coaching on crafting a personalized job search, high-stakes interview preparation, and workshops on salary negotiations and developing a personal brand.

Dual Degree program

Time is your most valuable asset. That’s why our ambitious curriculum allows you to earn a Masters in International Business degree (MIB) in just one year, and then have the option to specialize and earn a second Master degree in a further six to eight months of accelerated study. That means you can earn two degrees in the time it would take to complete just one at many traditional business schools.

Put theory into practice

You can’t learn business by just sitting in a classroom. That’s why Hult’s unique MIB curriculum teaches you theory and gives you opportunities to practice new business thinking by tackling issues facing some of the world’s most innovative companies through the Hult Business Challenge. Choose either the Corporate Track, where you’ll solve a current problem facing a leading corporation, or the Entrepreneurial Track, where you’ll develop a startup idea of your own.

Masters in International Business

Hult’s one-year Master of International Business will help you gain a global perspective of finance, marketing, operations, economics, and strategy. You will develop a deep understanding of the fundamental concepts of global business. In addition, specializations allow you to tailor the program to your individual goals.

Masters in International Marketing

As companies look to differentiate their offerings in a global marketplace, Hult’s one-year Master of International Marketing equips you with the strategic and executional marketing skills needed to stand out. Learn how to leverage digital marketing, social media, marketing analytics, and customer engagement strategies to break through the noise and make a measurable impact on business objectives.

Masters in International Finance

Hult’s one-year Master of Finance equips you with the foundation necessary to tackle the complex world of corporate financial management. Learn both the language of business and the tactical financial skills needed to make an impact in international accounting and corporate finance.

Contact

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Web:
hult.edu

Data

Main claims to international academic or non-academic excellence:
Hult has campuses in Boston, San Francisco, London, Dubai, Shanghai, and New York. Students can study in three locations in one year, gaining unparalleled international exposure.

Institution’s main international achievements in innovation:
Hult’s innovative curriculum blends core business knowledge with leadership skills development. Hult won the Association of MBAs’ 2014 Innovation Award for this approach to learning.

Range of tuition fees:
USD 44,000 (Boston)
USD 46,000 (San Francisco)
GBP 32,000 (London)
AED 162,000 (Dubai)
Scholarships available.

Language entry requirements:
IELTS score of 6.5 or equivalent on a standardized approved test.

Accommodation facilities:
Support for students seeking accommodation available in each location.

Price range of accommodation:
Cost of living varies by city and type of housing. Please speak directly to Hult for additional guidance.

Modes of study: Full-time

Levels of study: Masters

Main subject areas:
Masters in International Business
Masters in International Marketing
Masters in Finance
Masters in Business Analytics
Masters in Disruptive Innovation
MSc Programmes in Management

ESADE’s Masters in Science are designed for talented young people looking to embark on a successful professional career, creating the basis for great things to come in the future. The combination of the prestige of ESADE, the unparalleled experience on our multicultural campus and in the bustling Mediterranean business city that is Barcelona, makes ESADE the perfect atmosphere to develop your potential.

Our MSc Programmes

Marketing Management
International Management
Finance
Innovation & Entrepreneurship
CEMS MIM
Global Strategic Management with Lingnan (China) and McIntire (USA)

www.esade.edu/management

Why an ESADE MSc?

Among the World’s best
2nd in Finance, 5th CEMS MIM and 6th in International Management (Financial Times)

Diversity
51 nationalities represented across our MSc programmes.

Hands-on learning
Test out all that you learn by doing.

Career-oriented
94% of our MSc students secure job offers within 3 months of graduation.

Barcelona
One of the world’s most innovative business cities.
Don’t just come to GW for our graduate programs.

Join us for the people and ideas.

Students come to the George Washington University because it is a place where ideas are exchanged, diversity is valued, and leaders are made.

Located in the heart of the U.S. capital since 1821, GW attracts students from 130 countries who want to pursue graduate study in one of the world’s most dynamic and influential cities. With over 200 doctoral, master’s, and graduate certificate programs that blend theory and practice, GW helps tomorrow’s leaders address social, economic, technological, and political issues - to transform ambition into action.

Graduate Areas of Study

- Arts & Humanities
- Business & Management
- Computer Science
- Education
- Engineering
- Health Sciences
- International Affairs
- Law
- Medicine
- Nursing
- Professional Studies
- Public Health
- Public Policy & Administration
- Science & Technology
- Social Sciences

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