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**THE UNIVERSITY OF BRITISH COLUMBIA**

**Go Global: International Learning Programs**

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**Information Sheet 2016-2017**

[General facts and figures about UBC](#)

[Images of UBC that you can download and use](#)

**Last Updated Date and Name**

December 4<sup>th</sup>, 2015  
Modi Jiao, Coordinator, UBC Go Global

**The University of British Columbia**

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<http://students.ok.ubc.ca/global/incoming/about-us.html>  
<http://www.ubc.ca/okanagan/welcome.html>

#### Academic Calendar

**Term 1** Classes: early September – early December, 2016  
Exams: early to late December, 2016  
Holidays: late December, 2016 – early January, 2017  
<http://senate.ubc.ca/vancouver/termdates>

**Term 2** Classes: early January – early April, 2017  
Exams: late April – early May, 2017  
Midterm break: one week in February, 2017

<http://senate.ubc.ca/vancouver/termdates>

## Exchange Information

For complete details, please visit <http://students.ubc.ca/about/go-global/coming-ubc-exchange>.

<b>Level</b>	Undergraduate/Graduate
<b>Number of exchange students admitted per semester/year</b>	For current numbers, please contact Wendy Kang Email: <a href="mailto:wendy.kang@ubc.ca">wendy.kang@ubc.ca</a> Phone: +1-604-827-6110
<b>Programs and courses not open to exchange students</b>	<p><b>Vancouver:</b> Audiology and Speech Sciences, Dentistry, Journalism, Medicine, Nursing, Pharmaceutical Sciences, and Rehabilitation Sciences are not open to exchange students. Theatre and Film have most courses not open to exchange students. For further detailed information, please see the Course Information section of our website: <a href="http://students.ubc.ca/about/go-global/coming-ubc-exchange/register-courses-ubc-exchange">http://students.ubc.ca/about/go-global/coming-ubc-exchange/register-courses-ubc-exchange</a></p> <p><b>Okanagan:</b> Nursing, Education and Social Work are not open to exchange students. For further information on course options see: <a href="http://students.ok.ubc.ca/global/incoming/academics/course-program-availability.html">http://students.ok.ubc.ca/global/incoming/academics/course-program-availability.html</a></p>
<b>Faculty of Applied Sciences (Engineering) exchange students</b>	<p><b>Vancouver:</b> Only those students applying to be admitted to the Faculty of Applied Science (Engineering) will be permitted to register in Engineering courses. Also, only those students pursuing a degree in Engineering at their home university will be admitted into this faculty for exchange. While UBC will make every effort to register Engineering students in their requested courses, registration in requested courses is <b>not guaranteed</b>. Exchange Students are subject to course registration restrictions and pre-requisites as noted in the Course Schedule, as well as restrictions noted on the Go Global website: <a href="http://students.ubc.ca/about/go-global/coming-ubc-exchange/register-courses-ubc-exchange">http://students.ubc.ca/about/go-global/coming-ubc-exchange/register-courses-ubc-exchange</a>.</p> <p>Admissions and registration for exchange students in the Faculty of Applied Science may not follow the same timelines as for exchange students in other UBC faculties.</p> <p><b>Okanagan:</b> Availability in Engineering courses at this campus is greater. If you wish for more information about our program, please see: <a href="http://engineering.ok.ubc.ca/welcome.html">http://engineering.ok.ubc.ca/welcome.html</a></p>
<b>Language of instruction</b>	English
<b>Language courses</b>	Students may take academic language courses in the Faculty of Arts.  In addition, students may take any of the language courses offered by UBC Continuing

Studies or the English Language Institute at their own expense (Vancouver campus).  
For details please see: <https://www.cstudies.ubc.ca/> and <http://www.eli.ubc.ca/>

Students may access additional resources and coaching to improve their academic oral and written English through the **Academic English Support Program**: <http://aes.ubc.ca>.

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**Services available to exchange students**

**Go Global** assists students with registration and liaises with faculties and departments on academic matters. **International Student Development** ([isa@students.ubc.ca](mailto:isa@students.ubc.ca)) provides international student advising and support.

Other campus resources include **Global Lounge, First Nations House of Learning, Disability Resource Centre, Career Services, and Counselling Services**. For more information: [www.students.ubc.ca](http://www.students.ubc.ca).

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**Online nomination periods**

Round 1: January 15, 2016 – March 15, 2016 (nominate students for Term 1, Term 2, Full Year, and Split Year)

Round 2: July 1, 2016 – August 31, 2016 (nominate students for Term 2 and Split Year ONLY)

**\*Note 1\***: UBC has one course registration period for both Term 1 and Term 2 courses, and popular courses get filled up quickly. To ensure exchange students have the full range of courses to select, nomination in Round 1 is strongly encouraged. **Students who are nominated in Round 2 are advised that they will have limited selection of courses.**

**\*Note 2\***: Nomination tool will be closed outside the aforementioned periods and nominations made outside these two periods should be directly submitted to UBC Go Global via email, and will be reviewed on a case by case basis.

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**Exchange documents deadline**

April 1, 2016 – For students nominated in Round 1

September 15, 2016 – For students nominated in Round 2

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**Housing placement**

**All students who intend to live on campus need to submit an online application to UBC Housing during the same time they submit the exchange documents**

**\*Note\***: **Due to high demand for campus residence at UBC, we cannot guarantee residence space for every exchange student who will study at UBC in Term 1. The following two factors will be used for the allocation of limited spots:**

- Semester distribution: students from partner schools that evenly distribute Term 1 and Term 2 nomination spots will have priority access to housing
- Date of nomination: students whose nomination is submitted during the nomination periods will have priority access to housing

We will provide students with information on other housing options off campus. For more information on UBC Housing: [www.housing.ubc.ca](http://www.housing.ubc.ca)

**Okanagan**: Currently, the housing office in the Okanagan will prioritize all exchange applicants if they apply by the deadline. This includes Term 2 nominations as well.

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<b>Are application materials available online?</b>	Yes. The exchange and housing applications are both available online. <b>Go Global will email the exchange online application URL</b> directly to nominated students. The link is not available on our website. Only nominated students should complete the exchange application.
<b>Are nominations made online?</b>	Yes. <a href="https://secure.students.ubc.ca/global/nominate.cfm">https://secure.students.ubc.ca/global/nominate.cfm</a> . This form will be open for 2016/2017 nomination on January 15 <sup>th</sup> , 2016.
<b>Supporting documents required with exchange application</b>	<a href="http://students.ubc.ca/about/go-global/coming-ubc-exchange/apply-ubc-exchange">http://students.ubc.ca/about/go-global/coming-ubc-exchange/apply-ubc-exchange</a> As of 2016/17, UBC Go Global only accepts supporting documents in electronic format submitted to our office by the partner university via email. One complete application in .pdf format per individual student. Each required document for an individual student must be compiled in the order as shown on the Document Checklist.

### Orientation & Arrival

<b>International Student Orientation</b>	Exchange students receive orientation provided in collaboration with UBC Housing, Go Global and International Student Development. Students will receive an email with detailed information and schedule in late August (for September start) or early December (for January start).
<b>Recommended arrival dates</b>	Term 1: first week of September (class usually starts in the first week or the second week of September, depending on the date Labour Day holiday falls; request for early arrival into residence may be accommodated with additional charge and if space permits) Term 2: first week of January

### Academic Information & Transcripts

<b>Credit system and course load</b>	A regular course load at UBC is 30 credits per academic year or 15 credits per semester. Most single-semester courses are a 3-credit course (equivalent to 3 hours of lectures per week for 13 weeks, with an additional 2-week examination period).  Most single-semester courses at UBC are worth 3 credits. The average UBC student takes 15 credits (5 courses) each term. Exchange students typically take between 9 and 15 credits per semester, depending on their degree requirements at their home university. Students must maintain registration of a minimum of 9 credits unless they are on an approved research exchange.
<b>Do different programs differ in what constitutes a regular course load?</b>	Applied Science students may take more than 30 credits per year as a regular course load.

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**Transcripts and additional transcript ordering**

We will automatically send the official transcripts to the exchange office of the partner institution approximately four weeks after the end of term. Students can order extra transcripts online at: [www.students.ubc.ca/current/transcripts.cfm](http://www.students.ubc.ca/current/transcripts.cfm).

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**Accommodations**

**On-campus housing**

Housing is available but spaces are limited. There is a \$50 non-refundable application fee. Once housing has been assigned, UBC Housing will contact the student via email for full payment and housing assignment.

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**Applying for housing**

Housing applications can be done online. The online exchange application must be completed prior to completing the housing application at: [www.housing.ubc.ca/](http://www.housing.ubc.ca/).

**UBC-Okanagan:** Exchange students at the Okanagan campus have prioritized housing if application is completed by the deadline. Please see: <http://www.housing.ubc.ca/okanagan>.

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**Residence during scheduled term breaks**

**Vancouver:** Accommodation is available during semester breaks between Term 1 and Term 2, except for students living in Totem Park and Place Vanier. These two residences close for the holidays due to safety concerns that very few residents are staying alone in large empty residence buildings. While UBC Housing may be able to assist students affected by this closure to find alternative housing for this period of time, students are encouraged to find suitable accommodations.

**Okanagan:** Accommodations are available during semester breaks between Term 1 and Term 2.

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**Assistance in finding private housing**

**Vancouver:** There are resources available at International House and through the UBC Housing website to help students find housing on their own: <http://vancouver.housing.ubc.ca/other-housing/off-campus-housing/>.

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**Immigration Requirements**

**Canadian Entry Visa or Electronic Travel Authorization (eTA)**

**A Temporary Resident Visa (TRV, “entry visa” or “visitor visa”)** is required for students with certain citizenships to enter Canada. **Electronic Travel Authorization (eTA)** is required for foreign nationals from some visa-exempt countries. To find out if an Electronic Travel Authorization (eTA) or an entry visa is required, please check <http://www.cic.gc.ca/english/visit/visas.asp> or contact the nearest Canadian visa office.

Additional information can be found at: <http://students.ubc.ca/enrolment/courses-registration/course-registration/required-immigration-documents>.

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**Study Permit**

A study permit is **required** for all students who will be studying at UBC for more than 6 months. Single-term students need to obtain a study permit if they intend to work on campus or want to extend their study to full-year.

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<b>Are exchange students allowed to work?</b>	Exchange students can normally work <b>on campus</b> with a valid study permit. Exchange students may be able to work <b>off campus</b> with a Working Holiday Visa or a work permit under International Experience Canada (IEC). For more information, visit <a href="http://www.international.gc.ca/experience/intro_incoming-intro_entrant.asp">http://www.international.gc.ca/experience/intro_incoming-intro_entrant.asp</a> .
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## Health & Medical Insurance

<b>Medical Insurance (Mandatory Plan)</b>	All new exchange students are required by UBC to be enrolled in a <b>mandatory</b> health insurance plan (iMED) for the first three months if they will study in UBC for a year, or for the entire time of studies if they study for one term only. Students pay for iMED online on the Student Service Centre. For more information about dates of iMED coverage and what are covered, please visit: <a href="http://students.ubc.ca/livewell/health-insurance/imed">http://students.ubc.ca/livewell/health-insurance/imed</a> .
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Please be advised that, unless students have a mandatory medical health coverage purchased by a third party sponsor as part of their scholarship and the sponsor is recognized by and has agreement with UBC, students cannot cancel or opt out iMED.

**Students staying less than 6 months (one term only):**

Single-term students are automatically covered under iMED for the duration of their exchange at UBC. The cost of iMED for one term students is \$252 CDN. For specific coverage dates, please visit the websites mentioned above.

**Students staying for more than 6 months (full year or split-year students):**

Full year students are automatically covered by iMED for the first three months before they can be enrolled in BC Medical Services Plan (MSP). The cost of iMED for full year students is \$180 CDN. The iMED plan will ensure that students have adequate medical coverage from the time they leave home (up to ten days prior to arrival if within the coverage dates) and while they are waiting for BC MSP to be effective.

An additional \$9 CDN administrative fee is charged to all students under iMED which provides direct billing service at Vancouver Coastal Health emergency rooms.

Full year and split-year students must apply for BC's provincial Medical Services Plan (MSP) as soon as they arrive in BC, Canada. There is a three-month waiting period before students can be enrolled in MSP, during which time the students are covered under iMED. MSP is the basic medical insurance provided by BC government for anyone who will reside in BC for more than six months. This covers the cost of most services provided by physicians and supplementary health care practitioners, laboratory services and diagnostic procedures. The fee is \$72.00 CDN per month for one person. MSP does not cover dental care, vision care, and travel and prescription medicines.

## Expenses

<b>Estimated expenses per semester/term</b>	CDN \$6,000 – 8,000/term
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<b>University administered accommodation</b>	<b>Vancouver:</b> Apartment/Townhouse Style (Walter Gage, Fairview Crescent, Rits-UBC House, marine Drive): average CDN \$2700/term
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**Okanagan:** Apartment/Townhouse/Dorms: average CDN \$2700/term  
Please check for details at: [www.housing.ubc.ca](http://www.housing.ubc.ca).

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<b>Private accommodation</b>	Approximately CDN \$600-800 for shared housing, \$900+ for private
<b>Food/Meals</b>	CDN \$1,500 Estimated/term
<b>Local transportation</b>	<b>Vancouver:</b> CDN \$152/term for student bus pass (mandatory) <b>Okanagan:</b> CDN \$54/term for student bus pass (mandatory)
<b>Academic expenses (books and supplies)</b>	CDN \$500-700/term
<b>Personal expenses (estimate)</b>	CDN \$1500/term
<b>Insurance</b>	See insurance section for costs.

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## UBC Okanagan Campus

UBC Okanagan is a young, exciting, and rapidly growing campus nestled in the middle of the stunning Okanagan Valley, a five hour drive from Vancouver. Its small but diverse campus community is active, with many clubs, societies, and opportunities to get involved. At UBCO, it is easy to connect with professors, who are often on a first name basis with students. UBCO has lots of opportunity for student involvement in research and hands-on experience in our abundant fields of study.

UBCO is located within a five minute bus ride from Kelowna's central area, a growing city with a population of about 100,000 – large enough to be diverse and interesting, but small enough to have a strong community of friendly people. It is British Columbia's "four-season playground" where you can explore the Okanagan Lake, Big White Ski Resort and wineries any time of the year. The city itself is a cultural hub and a popular tourist destination.

Situated in one of the most scenic regions in Canada, this campus offers students a fantastic learning environment, opportunities for region-centred research (such as Wine Studies), extensive research in Human Kinetics, international perspectives, and more. We have programs in Management, Engineering, Arts, Science and Human Kinetics. We have guaranteed housing for international students and an excellent variety of sports on campus. Visit our website to learn more about UBC Okanagan. Watch this video of past exchange students to the Okanagan campus: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IQ4a2DnXO1c>.

Visit our website to learn more about UBC Okanagan: <http://students.ok.ubc.ca/global/incoming/about-us.html>.