



Swansea University
Prifysgol Abertawe

Faculty of Science and Engineering

**School of Aerospace, Civil, Electrical, General
and Mechanical Engineering**

School of Engineering and Applied Sciences

**Semester Abroad Handbook
2022/23**



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IMPORTANT CONTACTS

PLEASE READ THIS HANDBOOK CAREFULLY AND KEEP IT SAFE SO THAT YOU CAN CONSULT IT DURING YOUR SEMESTER ABROAD.

Departmental Coordinators (queries relating to selection process, modules, academic assessment etc)

Aerospace Engineering

Dr. Shakir Jiffri

Departmental Coordinator

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Biomedical Engineering

Dr. Adesola Ademiloye

Departmental Coordinator

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Chemical Engineering

Dr. Alvin Orbaek White

Departmental Coordinator

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Zoom: <https://swanseauniversity.zoom.us/my/dr.orb>

Go Global team contact details (non-academic queries)

International Development Office

Go Global team

Swansea University

Singleton Park

Swansea SA2 8PP

Email: studyabroad@swansea.ac.uk



SECTION 1: ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE SEMESTER

1.1 INTRODUCTION

The Go Global team will coordinate the administrative preparation of your semester abroad, and your Faculty will coordinate the academic preparation of your semester abroad (see academic requirements in section 3 for further details).

1.2 ACCOMMODATION

You are responsible for your own accommodation arrangements for your semester abroad as with any other year at University. Your host University (Texas A&M University) may be able to provide you with some assistance in finding suitable accommodation before you arrive. Some students decide to travel out a couple of weeks before the start of their placement in order to find suitable accommodation. Read any contracts regarding accommodation carefully and make sure you understand them before you sign them.

1.3 STUDY PLACEMENTS

You will need to apply for your study abroad placement at Texas A&M University. Application procedures differ by host university, but you will receive information on how to apply either direct from the host university or from the Go Global team. You will be invited to a dedicated application session by the Go Global team once you have been selected to participate in the programme by your Faculty.

1.4 KEEPING IN TOUCH WITH SWANSEA UNIVERSITY

When abroad, you should be in contact with Swansea University once every 2 weeks or as required by your Departmental Coordinators. This can be via email, Zoom or any other means your Departmental Coordinator finds appropriate. You are expected to check your Swansea University email regularly (at least once per day) and should respond to emails promptly. The Departmental Coordinators are allocated per discipline as follows:

- **Biomedical Engineering:** Dr. Adesola Ademiloye
- **Aerospace Engineering:** Dr. Shakir Jiffri
- **Chemical Engineering:** Dr. Alvin Orbaek White

The Go Global Team in the International Development Office will be in touch with you throughout your semester abroad via your Swansea University student email address, as well as updates via Facebook (**swanseauniglobal**), Twitter (**swanuniglobal**) and Instagram (**SwanseaUniGlobal**). The Go Global Team are also available to assist with any queries you may have during the semester abroad.

1.5 ATTENDANCE MONITORING

In line with Academic Regulations, students should refer to the Attendance Monitoring Policy <https://myuni.swansea.ac.uk/academic-life/academic-regulations/aqs-policies/engagement-monitoring-policy-for-taught/> and ensure they follow the guidelines for Study and Work Abroad placements carefully (section 6). The onus is on students to maintain contact with their Faculty whilst abroad.

Tier 4/Student Route students are subject to additional requirements, outlined in the above policy. The Go Global team provides the International Student Compliance Unit with planned dates for placements – it is important that the confirmation of start of enrolment is returned to Go Global so that we can comply with the 10 day window to inform International Student compliance unit of any changes to the planned dates..



1.6 SWANSEA UNIVERSITY'S TRAVEL POLICY

Swansea University's Travel Policy refers to the Responsibilities of Individual Students. The Travel Policy (<https://myuni.swansea.ac.uk/international/international-travel-policy/>) states:

Individual Staff and Students: Individuals have a level of personal responsibility in complying with all international health advice and immunisation (GP advice should be sort in a timely fashion) along with personal documentation aspects of international travel. Individuals must not travel overseas on University business against medical advice. Online health information is available from NHS Fit for Travel and TravelHealthPro, further health advice is available from the University's Occupational Health Team. Individuals have a personal responsibility for their own safety and should ensure they have full situational awareness in regard of their intended destination from a security, environmental, infrastructure, medical, political and cultural perspective. Individuals must take heed of any advice, instruction and guidance given to them and act upon it.

1.7 APPROVAL FOR TRAVEL

Faculty staff are responsible for approving student travel plans. To gain approval for the planned semester abroad, students will be required to complete 2 documents as part of the planned international travel approval process:

- Covid-19 considerations document
- Travel Risk Assessment (Appendix 2 of the Travel Policy: see link in 1.6 above)

The Go Global team will run sessions to assist with completing the paperwork and students will be invited to attend. Travel approval currently needs to be given at least 6 weeks before the planned start date abroad. Once students have completed the paperwork, the Go Global team will forward completed documents to the Faculty for review and approval.

IMPORTANT: A student's placement abroad is not confirmed until both forms have been completed and travel approval given by the Faculty

PLEASE NOTE: Some partner universities may cancel exchange programmes for Swansea University students. If this happens, we will not be in a position to offer students alternative options



SECTION 2: DOCUMENTS REQUIRED FOR THE SEMESTER ABROAD

In order to monitor your progress on the semester abroad the following documents are required:

1. SEMESTER ABROAD LEARNING PLAN

The document should be completed with full details of the academic expectations which you must fulfill in order to pass the semester abroad. The completed document should be signed both by you and your Departmental Coordinator. The Go Global Team will need a copy of the completed document.

2. SEMESTER ABROAD LEARNING AGREEMENT

You will be issued with a Learning Agreement by the Go Global team prior to your departure. The document should be completed with the help of your Departmental Coordinator at Swansea University (if required) and the proposed module selection should be stated. You will be advised which modules you **must** select by your Departmental Coordinator.

The Learning Agreement will need to be signed and approved by you, Texas A&M and your Swansea University Departmental Coordinator on arrival at Texas A&M.

3. CONFIRMATION OF START OF PLACEMENT FORM

This form should be completed by staff in the Texas A&M Study Abroad Office during the first week of your semester abroad and returned to the Go Global team at Swansea University by email – studyabroad@swansea.ac.uk

4. CONFIRMATION OF END OF PLACEMENT FORM

This form should be completed by staff in the Texas A&M Study Abroad Office during the last week of your semester abroad and returned to the Go Global team at Swansea University by email - studyabroad@swansea.ac.uk

5. ACADEMIC TRANSCRIPT

You will need to request an academic transcript of marks from the Texas A&M Study Abroad Office before you finish. This is needed in order to allocate you a pass or fail mark for your year abroad and is required in order for you to be able to enrol on your subsequent year at Swansea. Students are required to pay all fees and clear all debts before leaving their host university. Failure to do so may result in your academic transcript being withheld and as a result you would not be able to progress to the next year of study and may be required to withdraw on financial grounds.



SECTION 3: ACADEMIC REQUIREMENTS AND ASSESSMENT OF THE SEMESTER ABROAD

3.1 MINIMUM THRESHOLD FOR PARTICIPATION

- **Chemical and Biomedical Engineering:**
Minimum requirement for Participation is 70+ over semester 1 and 70% over the entire first year without any resists.
- **Aerospace Engineering:**
Achieve an 80%+ average during semester 1 of year 1 of the degree programme at Swansea
Pass all first year modules at the first sit
Please note that obtaining an average of 80% doesn't guarantee being accepted onto the scheme

3.2 SELECTION PROCESS

Students should be aware that a finite number of places available and therefore they are not guaranteed a space.

- Students will usually be selected based on performance in their first year, as there are a finite number of places for the semester-abroad scheme.
- Only students studying Aerospace, Biomedical and Chemical Engineering can complete a semester abroad. This is because the semester abroad replaces a Swansea semester, and contributes towards a student's degree classification. The three subjects listed above have module options in Texas A&M which closely match Swansea University's module options.
- For students who meet the criteria outlined above, places will be allocated according to performance. Students with the highest averages will be allocated places first. Where demand exceeds places, allocations will be made based on performance and some students may not therefore receive a place at all. For students who are not successful in obtaining a semester-abroad place, they may want to consider the year-long study abroad option. This takes place after the student's second year. Contact employability-scienceengineering@swansea.ac.uk for more details about the **year abroad** scheme.
- The Faculty of Science and Engineering may also consider other relevant matters before approving a Study Abroad semester. For example, a student may not be permitted to study abroad if found guilty of academic misconduct.
- Students who are required to resit examinations in August are not able to participate as these clash with the start of term at Texas A&M
- Students are advised not to enter into any contracts or agreements, book flights or incur any expenses until their place is confirmed and they are notified of this. There may be some expenses incurred before receiving confirmation, such as deposits for accommodation. It is your responsibility to find out where you stand with regard to having these costs refunded should you not be permitted



to study abroad. Swansea University will not accept responsibility for any costs incurred by you in anticipation of your permission to participate.

3.3 SWANSEA MODULE STRUCTURE FOR STUDYING ABROAD

Whilst you are abroad you will still be required to enrol at Swansea on 6x 10 Credit Modules.

SU Module	TAMU Module
CHEMICAL	
EG-200 Separation Processes	CHEN324 Mass Transfer (SU code: EGTX29)
EG-206 Instrumentation Measurement and Control	MSEN222 Materials Science (SU code: EGTX33)
EG-211 Fluid Flow	CHEN304 Chemical Engineering Fluids Operations (SU code: EGTX16)
EG-220 Process and Pilot Plant Operations A	ENGR410 Global Engineering Design (SU code: EGTX30)
EG-210 Thermodynamics of Process Design	EG-210 Thermodynamics of Process Design (long distance)
EG-219 Statistical Methods in Engineering	EGTX06 Swansea-Texas Exchange: Final Report
BIOMEDICAL	
PM-230 Medical Diagnostic Techniques	BMEN 341: Biofluid Mechanics (Swansea code: EGTX01)
EGA219 Cell Biology and Cell Mechanics for Engineers	BIOL113 Essentials in Biology (Swansea code: EGTX25)
EG-232 Multivariable Calculus for Medical Engineers	BMEN-343 Introduction to Biomaterials (Swansea code: EGTX02)
EG-219 Statistical and Computational Methods	BMEN-350 Statistics for Biomedical Engineering (Swansea code: EGTX04)
EGA226 Physiological Systems	EGA226 Physiological Systems (long distance)
EG-236 Design for medical engineering	EGTX06 Swansea-Texas Exchange: Final Report
<p>NOTE: Students on the exchange will take</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Medical Diagnostic Techniques (PM-230) in their 3rd year instead of Biomedical flows in Physiology and Medical Devices (EGA336) • Mechanical engineering Design 2 (EGA214) in TB2 of their 2nd year instead of Fluid Mechanics (EG-160). 	
AEROSPACE	
EGA227 Structural Mechanics for Aerospace Engineers	A&M 304 Aerospace Structures 1 (SU code: EGTX18)
EG-261 Thermodynamics II	A&M 212 Intro to Aerothermodynamics (SU code: EGTX19)
EGA228 Aerospace Control	A&M 310 Aerospace Dynamics (code TBC)
EG-293 Aerodynamics	A&M301 Theoretical Aerodynamics (code TBC)
EGA220 Aerospace Systems	EGTX22 Aerospace Systems – coursework (assessed in Swansea) Report & Presentation: A comparison between of Aerospace Engineering from a UK and US perspective (assessed in Swansea)
EG-264 Computer Aided Engineering	EGTX23 Computer Aided Engineering- Texas Coursework: MATLAB assignment (assessed in Swansea)

NB. These modules are provisional and may change subject to availability or changes to the curricula on Swansea and Texas side.



3.4 MINIMUM CREDIT REQUIREMENTS

The minimum course load for studying in the US is 12 credits per semester.

You will need to agree your module plan for the semester with your Departmental Coordinator in Swansea before the start of the teaching term. You will have a pre-agreed Learning Plan before you leave Swansea. You are advised to discuss this further with your Departmental Coordinator if you have any queries.

3.5 CONVERSION OF MARKS FROM STUDY PLACEMENTS

Texas A&M will provide you with an academic transcript at the end of your studies. This will be used along with their conversion charts and Swansea University's conversion charts to allocate a mark for your year abroad. More information is available via:

<https://myuni.swansea.ac.uk/academic-life/academic-regulations/assessment-and-progress/guidelines-on-mobility-opportunities/>

3.5 REDEMPTION OF FAILURE OF THE SEMESTER ABROAD

Swansea University does not normally offer a supplementary opportunity for students who fail a module(s) during a year or semester long placement. However, since this exchange counts towards your final degree it has been decided that we will offer either a supplementary exam or supplementary coursework (marked in Swansea).

In cases where your experience was adversely affected by extenuating circumstances or other circumstances beyond your control, a supplementary opportunity may be offered. Such requests will be considered on a case by case basis by the relevant Student Cases Committee.

3.6 DEGREE CLASSIFICATION

You can check the guidelines for how your period abroad may affect your degree classification in the online academic guide:

<https://www.swan.ac.uk/academic-services/academic-guide/undergraduate-award-regulations/undergraduate-assessment-regulations/3-classification-of-honours-degrees/>



SECTION 4: FEES AND FUNDING

TUITION FEES

You will pay full standard tuition fees to Swansea University. No tuition fees are paid to your exchange institution.

FUNDING

You will typically have access to the following bursaries for your time abroad, although specific funding available will be confirmed in semester two:

- **Turing, Taith or Texas Strategic Partnership bursary** – for students studying at one of our Texas Strategic Partner universities
- **Widening Participation funding** – eligibility criteria applies

You are asked to fill in a **bursary application form** prior to your departure, where you can tick all of the funding opportunities available to you. For further information on fees and funding, please visit Go Global's Funding webpage: www.swansea.ac.uk/goglobal/funding

If you have any financial concerns, please speak to your Go Global contact in the first instance. We can direct you to the Money@CampusLife team if necessary.

Money@CampusLife can be reached at: money.campuslife@swansea.ac.uk or by calling 01792 606699.

