Spending time studying abroad is an opportunity which few people have in their lives and, for those who do, that time can be the most important one for them in terms of personal development and establishing their direction for the future. As well as enjoying the experience of living overseas, you can also gain a number of key transferable skills, such as cultural awareness and adaptability. These are much sought by employers in the modern workplace, and will help to make you more employable when you make the transition from university to employment—some employer even insist on overseas experience from applicants.

Studying abroad has always been a popular option, and has become even more so in recent years. Most universities will offer an extensive range of courses on their websites, giving you a wealth of options to choose from. Once you have identified a list of locations and courses that are of interest to you, it is important to start thinking early about practical and personal aspects e.g. potential sources of funding, visa requirements, cultural differences etc. Below are a range of useful and informative sites that will provide a starting point in planning your stay abroad.

**General sites**

- **University of Stirling Study Abroad** ([stir.ac.uk/exchange](http://stir.ac.uk/exchange)) This should be your first point of call! Information about the university’s study abroad programme for current students
- **Prospects** ([prospects.ac.uk/postgraduate-study/study-abroad](http://prospects.ac.uk/postgraduate-study/study-abroad)) Information on issues to consider, timetable for application and future prospects along with information specific to each country.
- **The British Council** ([britishcouncil.org/study-work-create/opportunity/study-abroad](http://britishcouncil.org/study-work-create/opportunity/study-abroad)) co-ordinates study abroad placements, from one week to a year, worldwide and in all subject fields.
- **Erasmus+** ([erasmusplus.org.uk](http://erasmusplus.org.uk)) The Erasmus+ homepage containing a wealth of information about study (and working) abroad opportunities in the EU, including funding and key advice.
- **Find a Masters / PhD** ([findamasters.com](http://findamasters.com) / [findaphd.com](http://findaphd.com)) These websites do exactly what they say on the tin! Search for postgraduate programmes all over the world
- **International Study Abroad** ([studiesabroad.com](http://studiesabroad.com)) provides a range of study options throughout the world
- **InternationalStudent.com** ([internationalstudent.com](http://internationalstudent.com)) country-specific information for the US, Canada and Australia, plus subject-specific guides. Includes case studies and blogs from students currently studying abroad
- **Association of Commonwealth Universities** ([acu.ac.uk](http://acu.ac.uk)) information on studying at a range of universities in Commonwealth countries, including scholarships and funding.
- **StudyOverseas.com** ([studyoverseas.com](http://studyoverseas.com)) Provides information and advice for students who are considering studying abroad, plus an extensive course search function.
- **LLM Study** ([llmsstudy.com](http://llmsstudy.com)) Search for postgraduate law programmes offered by institutions worldwide.
Country-specific sites

Australia

- **Studies in Australia** ([studiesinaustralia.com](http://studiesinaustralia.com)) course, institution and scholarship information for all students who want to study in Australia; contains blogs from current students in Australia.
- **Study in Australia** ([studyinaustralia.gov.au](http://studyinaustralia.gov.au)) the official Australian government website for advice on studying in Australia
- **Department of Immigration and Border Protection** ([border.gov.au](http://border.gov.au)) government website providing information on immigration requirements for studying in Australia

Canada

- **Study in Canada** ([studyincanada.com](http://studyincanada.com)) information, resources and a course search for students considering studying in Canada.
- **Canada’s International Gateway** ([cic.gc.ca/english/study](http://cic.gc.ca/english/study)) offers a information on immigration and visa options, plus an institution search function.

New Zealand

- Study in New Zealand - ([studyinnewzealand.com/](http://studyinnewzealand.com/)) - comprehensive site for finding out about study possibilities in New Zealand

USA

- The Fulbright Commission - ([fulbright.org.uk/](http://fulbright.org.uk/)) An essential site for those considering study in the United States or with questions about any aspect of the US education system.
- Gradschools.com - ([gradschools.com](http://gradschools.com)) Comprehensive source of postgraduate study information
- GradSource.com – ([gradsource.com](http://gradsource.com)) Lists graduate programmes throughout the United States.
- College Confidential - ([htcollegeconfidetial.com](http://htcollegeconfidetial.com)) For students worldwide interested in studying in the US at undergraduate level
- Petersons - ([petersons.com](http://petersons.com)) The website contains a searchable database that allows students to find appropriate postgraduate courses by subject area and location.
- Study in the US - ([studyusa.com](http://studyusa.com)) Information about studying is the US.