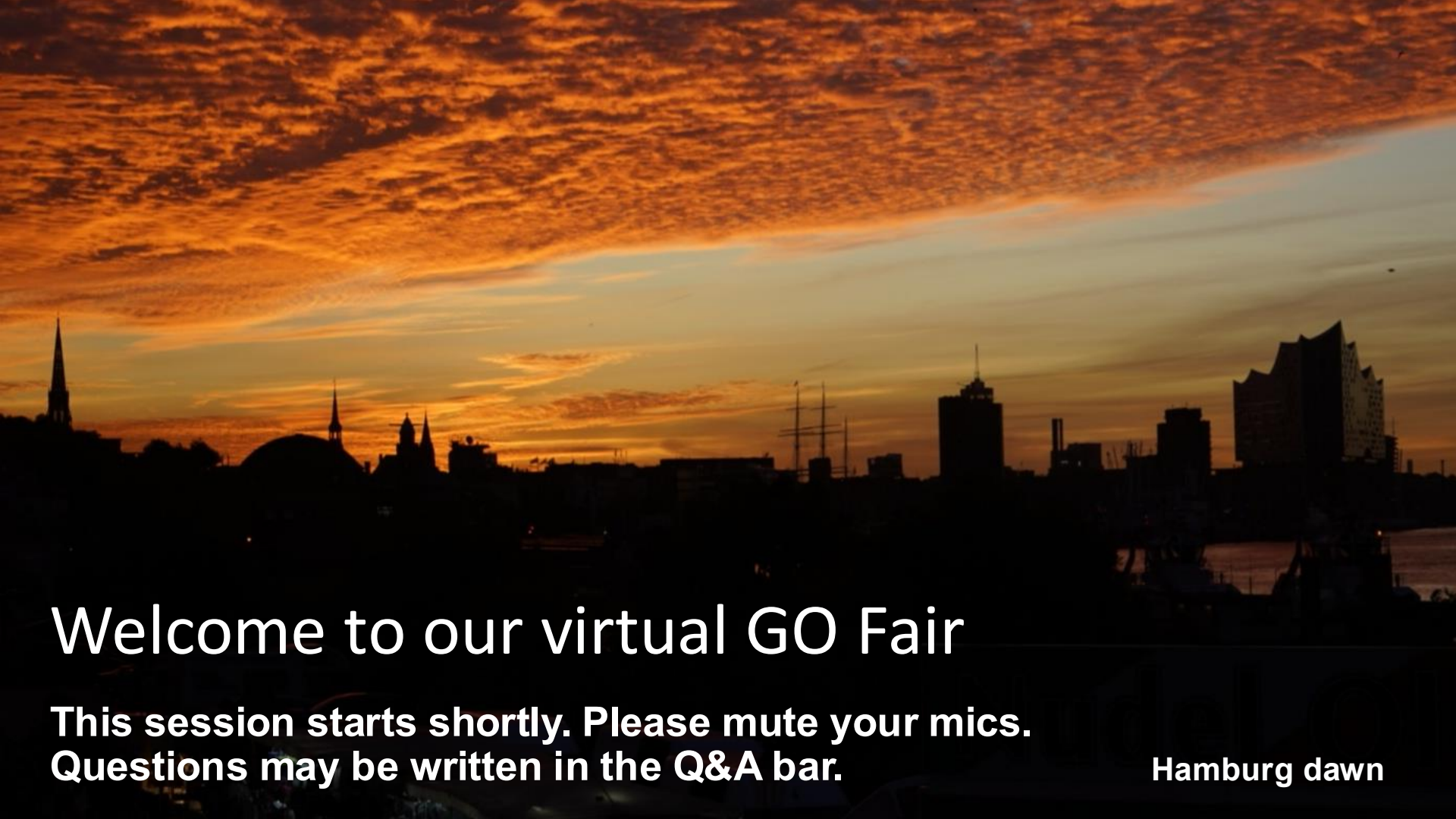


A silhouette of the Hamburg skyline at dawn, featuring various buildings and a large ship in the harbor, set against a dramatic, orange-hued sky with scattered clouds.

Welcome to our virtual GO Fair

**This session starts shortly. Please mute your mics.
Questions may be written in the Q&A bar.**

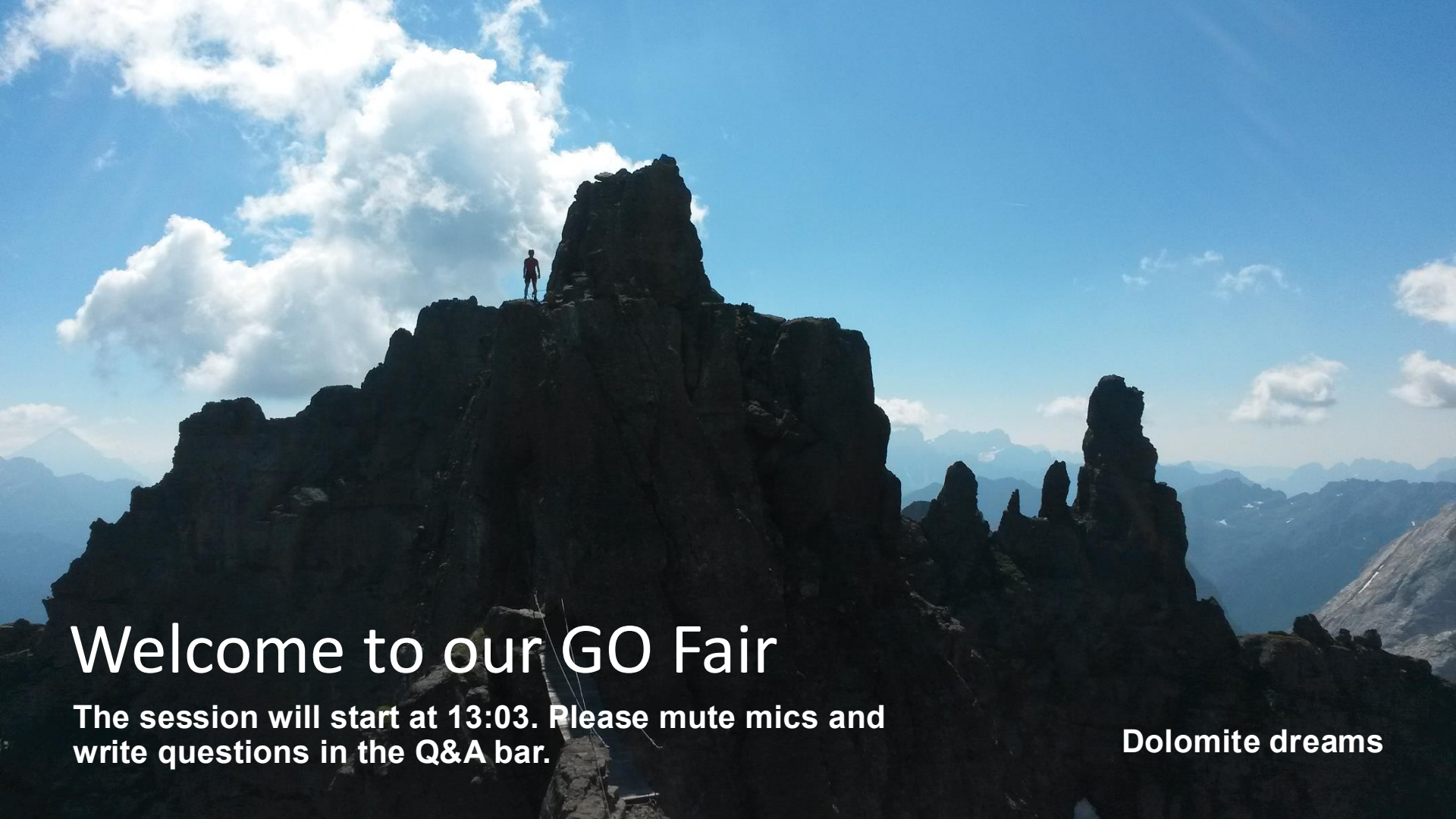
Hamburg dawn

Welcome to our GO Fair

**The session will start at
13:03. Please mute mics and
write questions in the Q&A
bar.**



Himeji Castle blue skies

A person is standing on a dark, jagged rock peak. The sky is bright blue with scattered white clouds. In the background, there are more mountain ranges under a hazy sky.

Welcome to our GO Fair

The session will start at 13:03. Please mute mics and write questions in the Q&A bar.

Dolomite dreams

Welcome to our GO Fair

The session will start at
13:03. Please mute mics
and write questions in the
Q&A bar.



Nikko warriors



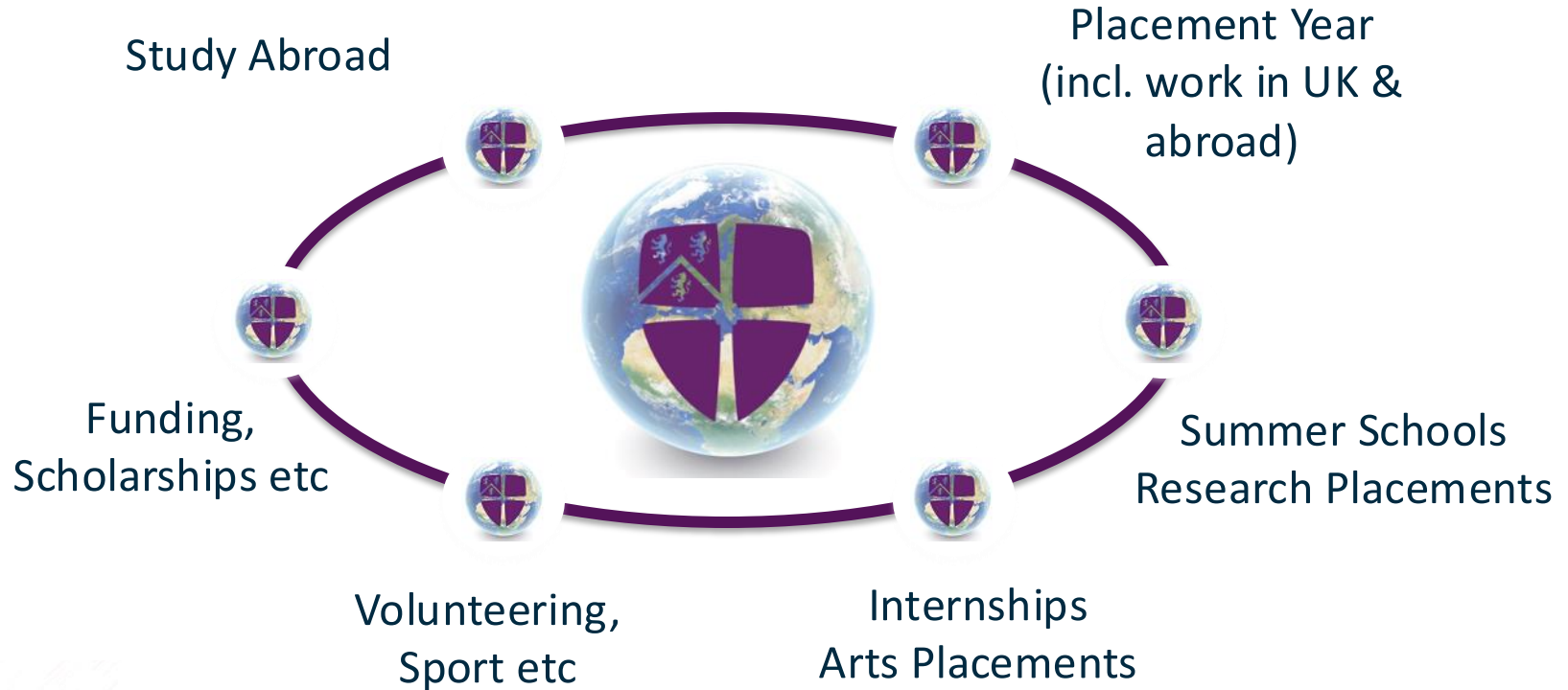
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Global Opportunities Fair

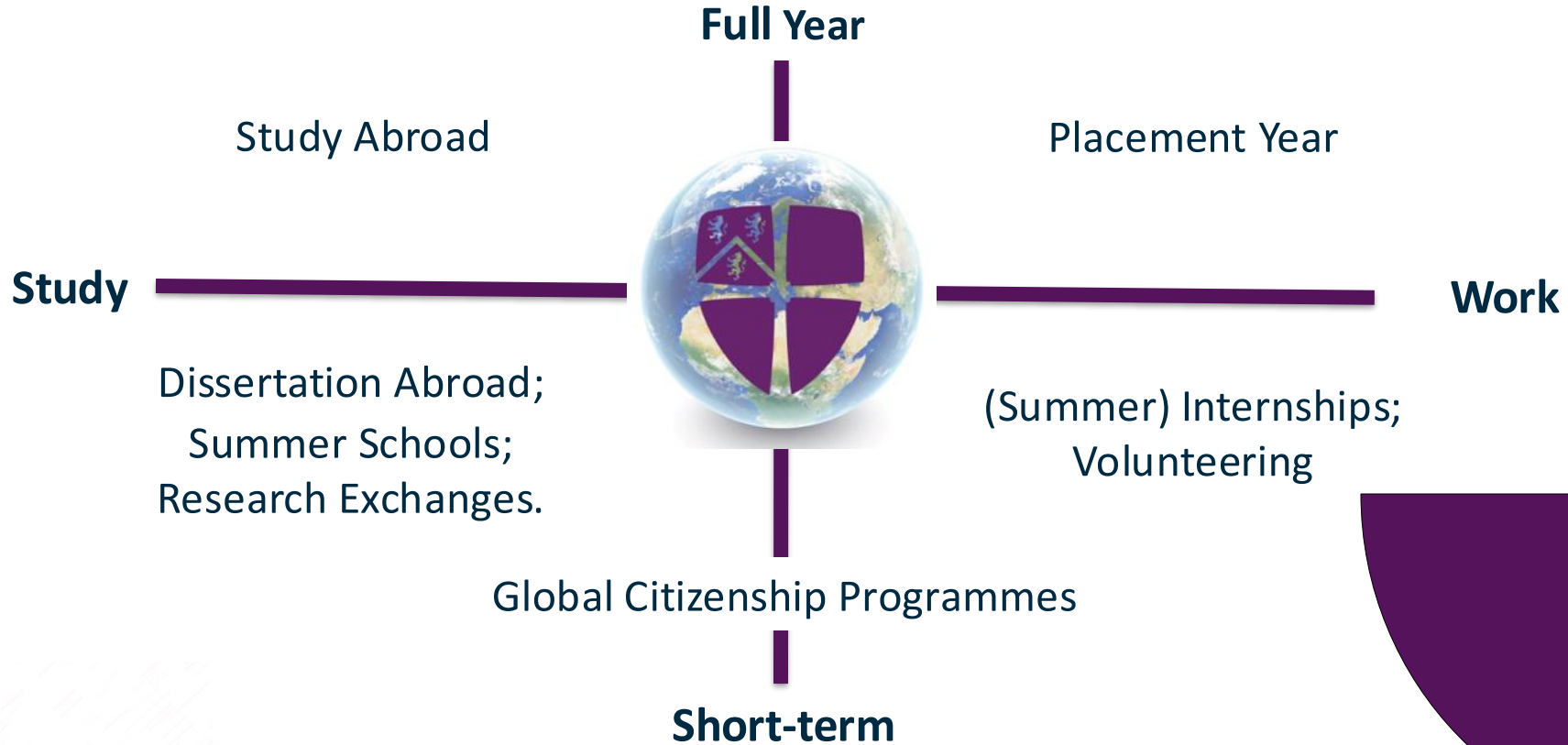
Welcome

Simon Litchfield
Global Opportunities Team

What are Global Opportunities?



Structure



Global Opportunities

- Study Abroad (full 'Year Abroad' at a university)
- Work placements in UK and abroad
 - Careers & Enterprise Centre
 - Faculty Placement Managers
 - Classified as a 'Placement Year' rather than a 'Year Abroad'.
- Global Internships
- Summer Schools
- Volunteering Abroad
- Venice Biennale Fellowship
- Global Citizenship Programmes
- Virtual Programmes
- www.durham.ac.uk/global-durham/global-opportunities/
- www.instagram.com/DUglobalopportunities/

Placement Years

A Complete Guide for Students





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Why should I consider a (study) Year Abroad?

300+

Exchange Agreements
at leading universities
in 35+ countries
worldwide



See the world & develop yourself!



A year abroad is a great way to see the world, have adventures and make international friends. Placements are available across the globe.

At the same time you will develop important personal skills: both for academic performance and for thriving in an increasingly connected world.

- Intercultural awareness
- Language skills
- Knowledge of other countries
- Confidence
- Tolerance
- Self-awareness
- Sociability
- Problem solving
- Decisiveness
- Adaptability
- Curiosity



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Learning and Research

Students who take a year abroad:

- Are more likely to gain a better degree mark
- Get inspired for final year dissertation projects and often conduct preliminary research
- Have their Year Abroad recognised on their degree transcript.

9%

Students who take a year abroad are 9% **more likely to get a 1st or 2:1**

UUKi (2017) Gone International: Mobility Works.
Report on the 2014–15 graduating cohort

Stand Out From The Crowd



Santa Teclà Festival - Tarragona

Career Prospects

A year abroad enhances job prospects. Compared to their peers year abroad graduates are:

- 24% LESS likely to be unemployed
- 9% MORE likely to be in 'graduate' jobs six months after graduation
- 5% HIGHER wage earners 6 months after graduation
- HALF AS LIKELY to be long-term unemployed as their non-mobile peers
- SIGNIFICANTLY MORE LIKELY to hold managerial positions 10 years after graduation
- MORE likely to start their own company than their graduate peers.

39%

of **Employers** want graduates to have **more international cultural understanding**

In 2017, 39% of employers were dissatisfied with graduates' international cultural awareness and 47% were dissatisfied with graduates' language skills. CBI/Pearson Education and Skills Survey (2017).

Connections

Students who go abroad build both friendships as well as new international long-term social, academic and professional networks that can increase global job prospects further down the line.



Meet international students in
Durham with the Erasmus
Student Network
[instagram.com/esn_durham](https://www.instagram.com/esn_durham)





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Study Abroad Options

Three pathways

Non-European Exchange

- Non-European placements
 - Arguably more exotic locations
-
- Fewer opportunities = less success

Applications open:
24 October

European Exchange

- European placements
 - Previously known as “Erasmus+” but the UK is not part of this.
-
- More opportunities = more success

Applications open:
After Christmas

Global Opportunities

- Work placement (UK and Abroad) (Placement Year (administered by Careers))
- Summer schools
- Internships

Applications open:
Depends on which GO

Study Abroad: Open to all degrees – incl. CH / joint honours

Additional Year

- Increase from 3 to 4 years;
- Pass/fail year and the grades do not affect the final degree classification;
- The final degree programme will be Your Degree (BA, MA etc) XXXX with Year Abroad and will receive a transcript from your host university to prove what you did whilst abroad;
- **95+% of exchanges are additional year.**

Replacement Year

- Abroad in year 3;
- Grades count towards final Durham degree;
- Offered by some 4 year Masters courses in the Science Faculty - please check with your [Departmental Coordinator](#) for details;
- Not an option for students on a 3 year course.

MLAC:

- Compulsory 3rd year abroad;
- Up to 3 placements for a max 12 months. E.g. could 3 months summer work in France, then a 6 month study placement in Spain.

Non-European Exchange

- For exchanges with universities outside the EU. Including: Australia, Canada, Chile, China & Hong Kong, Colombia, Japan, New Zealand, Singapore, South Korea, Taiwan, Thailand, USA.
- Institution-wide links (with some Dept. links) as long as you can find modules in your subject.
- Select up to 3 preferences.
- Limited opportunities = more competition (40% chance of being placed).

Increase your chances going abroad:
if unsuccessful for a non-European exchange place
you may apply for a European place.



European Exchanges

- For exchanges with European partners only.
- Select up to three preferences.
- Hundreds of departmental links (open to your Department only) (joint honours must choose a leading department).
- c.30 institution-wide links (open to all departments – if you can find modules in your subject).
- Lots of opportunities = less competition = increased chance of success!





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Study Abroad Mechanics & Support

What will you study

You shape the academic course of your year. You may:

- add depth to a subject you have already started studying;
- add breadth by learning about new areas in your field.

You propose modules when applying, which will be subject to your Dept approving them (as 'academically relevant').

Languages: some non-anglophone universities (and most Departmental Exchange Coordinators) will allow a (beginners) language module to be taken.

Do your research! Check course catalogues multiple universities to compare courses appropriate to you. Hint search: '[Name of University] Incoming Exchange'.

Be prepared to be flexible on arrival - modules may clash.



Languages

- Most non-European partners teach in English
- Many European partner universities teach in English, but some teach in the language of that country.
 - If knowledge of a foreign language is required, the typical level is B1.
 - We would normally recommend an A-Level (or equivalent qualification) for students learning entirely in the host language.

D ULM01	Universität ULM	Germany	German BA/English
I PARMA01	Università degli Studi di Parma	Italy	A2 Italian
N BERGEN01	Universiteit i Bergen	Norway	English
E MADRID04	Universidad Autónoma de Madrid	Spain	B2 Spanish
S LUND01	Lund University	Sweden	English
TR DIYARBA01	Dicle University	Turkey	English

The **Centre for Foreign Language Study** offers language courses for Durham students.

From Beginners to Higher Advanced level, courses are flexible, in a variety of formats and lengths, with start dates throughout the year.

www.durham.ac.uk/cfls/



Fees & Funding

- Study abroad tuition fee reduction: only 15% of the full tuition fees to Durham University
- No tuition fees are paid to the host university
- Student Finance Maintenance Loan and Travel Grant
- BUT! Think about additional costs: living costs, travel, visas, health insurance



Turing Funding

- UK Govt. yet to announce funding for 2026/27;
- DU will bid for funding when permitted;
- We have been successful in each previous funding round;
- Worldwide funding.

TURING

SCHEME

- Students may be eligible to receive a grant – it is not guaranteed.
- Insufficient funding to fund all students, priority given to Widening Participation students via means testing.
- Students cannot bid directly to Turing – must be on a DU registered activity.
- Students must complete all paperwork to be eligible.

Welfare and Support



College – pastoral and wellbeing support staff



Durham University Counselling Service



Your host university's support services



Departmental Exchange Coordinator



Disability Support



Durham University Global Opportunities Team

A few FAQs

- I'm not sure if I would prefer to work or study abroad?
 - You may apply for both and see what offers you receive.
- Is accommodation guaranteed with the partner university?
 - No. Many non-EU will (if you apply in time). In Europe it is a mix. Check each partner's incoming exchange website for details of their offer.
- How hard is it to make friends abroad?
 - Most universities hold an international welcome. Attending lectures, continuing hobbies and saying "yes" is a good way to meet people.
- What is it like coming back?
 - Another transition. Support is available. Most students super focussed on final year.





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Applying to Study Abroad

Preparation and application

Year 1

- Read the website for ideas on programmes offered by the University
- Check external links and resources;
- Speak to your Dept Exchange Coordinator about exchanges and other opportunities available during your degree in your department;
- Discuss plans with family and friends;
- Learn or maintain a language with the Centre for Foreign Language Study.

Year 2 (Michaelmas Term)

- Attend the Global Opportunities Fair
- Visit the How to Apply page:
www.durham.ac.uk/global-durham/global-opportunities/go-study-abroad/apply/
- Speak to your Dept Exchange Coordinator.
- Non-European Exchange – read the full application guide;
- Apply for an exchange.

Submit applications in the Michaelmas Term of your second year.

Application and Allocation

	Non-European Exchange	European
Application	1) Students apply online (deadline 21 Nov). 2) After deadline students receive 5 anonymous personal statements for peer-to-peer scoring. Students submit peer scores (deadline 8 Dec).	1) Students apply after Christmas
Moderation / Allocation	3) Scores heavily moderated by International / Academic staff. 4) Allocation of places based on a score: - 25% academic marks - 75% mean moderated average scores you receive from your peers for your personal statement.	2a) Departmental places allocated by Departments 2b) Institution-wide places allocated by International office based on academic marks

Non-European Exchange Personal Statement

Section A: Please describe in no more than 500 words how the proposed study placement(s) will benefit you academically personally and professionally, how you will maximise the benefits of your placement, and how it will enhance your long term career goals (75% weighting)

Section B: Please outline in no more than 200 words what qualities, skills and experience you can bring to the proposed placement(s) and how you would act as an ambassador for Durham University (25% weighting)

Supporting documents available:

1) [Full Application Guide](#) 2) [Practice Application Proforma](#)

<https://www.durham.ac.uk/global-durham/global-opportunities/go-study-abroad/apply/non-european-exchange-application/>

Tips for application (also applies to ...jobs, exams, career, life etc)

There is no magic one-size-fits-all trick, but there are things you can do to help:

- Read the [Non European Exchange Application Guide](#);
- Pass your exams! Minimum required is 55% pass (60% in Law);
- Answer the questions asked in the application;
- Show you have done your research;
- **Run a narrative thread through your personal statement.** We already know that you want to go, but what we want to know is:
 - why you want to go; what the experience will give to you; what you can give to the experience; what have you done to prepare.
- Do activities that set you apart (e.g. keen to go to Japan? Join the Anglo-Japanese Society).
- Keep to the word limit and be concise.

Good luck!

Further Information

Visit our website:

- Global Opportunities: www.durham.ac.uk/global-durham/global-opportunities/
- Study Abroad: www.durham.ac.uk/global-durham/global-opportunities/go-study-abroad/hub/

Check out our social media:

- www.instagram.com/DUGlobalopportunities

Get in touch!

- exchanges.studyabroad@durham.ac.uk





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Questions?

Please write any questions
in the Q&A bar