

MANCHESTER
1824

The University of Manchester

**GO
ABROAD**

WITH THE
**UNIVERSITY OF
MANCHESTER**

Differences in academic systems, attendance and assessment



Differences in academic systems/ environment



Academic cultures and systems vary from country to country and from university to university. Do not assume that things will be the same as in Manchester. Make sure that you research and understand how the various aspects of academic life will be different. This will include:

- Teaching Styles (e.g. teacher-centred or student-centred, formal or informal)
- Staff-Student relations (e.g. open-door policy or formal appointments, use of first names vs formal titles)
- Assessment (e.g. examination paper formats, referencing styles, anonymous marking, bell-curve marking etc.)
- Access to, and quality of, IT facilities, library facilities etc



Talk to students who have studied abroad previously about the differences they have encountered, and talk to local students once you arrive abroad. Don't be afraid to ask your lecturers/tutors if you are uncertain; most faculty will be supportive of the adjustment you are making to a new academic environment (although you should not expect that to translate into making allowances!).

Don't forget that term dates and public holidays will also be different!

Attendance



You are expected to attend all of the classes associated with the courses for which you register at the partner university. If you have any extended periods of illness or there is any reason that you are unable to attend classes for a prolonged period of time, then you **MUST** inform the partner university, your Academic Exchange Adviser and the International Programmes Office at Manchester.

Students participating in the Erasmus+ Programme are required to complete a formal Certificate of Arrival and Certificate of Attendance, at the beginning and at the end of the semester/year at the partner university. These must be signed and certified by the partner university and submitted to My Placement. Copies of the certificates you will need should be downloaded from My Placement.

Assessment



In most cases you will be assessed in some way for your period abroad. Make sure that you understand how the work you do abroad, and marks you achieve, will contribute to your University of Manchester degree classification. Your Academic Exchange Adviser will be able to explain this to you.

Student Recruitment and
International Development

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