



## International Exchange Program

Fact Sheet  
2025/26

Western University is one of the oldest and most prestigious universities in Canada. Located in London, Ontario – just 200 km west of Toronto – Western has 40,000 students, including 6,000 international students from 130 countries.

Our 12 faculties and schools and three affiliated colleges share an outstanding academic reputation and are recognized for offering the best student experience in Canada.

We welcome more than 350 exchange students from around the world each year. We can't wait to welcome you to our beautiful campus.

### QUICK FACTS

- Founded in 1878
- High quality professors and programs
- A beautiful 1,200-acre campus with exceptional facilities and residences
- More than 400 combinations of majors, minors and specializations at the undergraduate level
- 160+ master's and doctoral programs
- More than 315,000 alumni worldwide
- Vibrant, multicultural campus alive with opportunities for involvement and leadership

# Experience Western

No other Canadian university offers Western's unique combination of exceptional academic programs, residence life, student services and extracurricular clubs and activities.

## CAMPUS FACILITIES

A mix of traditional ivy-covered buildings and modern architecture, Western offers a beautiful environment in which to study. Western's community campus includes ten residences, eight libraries, laboratories, classrooms, student space, eateries and cafeterias, and beautiful space for performing and visual arts.

Many services, including a book store, grocery store, movie theatre, computer store, wellness centre and more, are centrally located in the University Community Centre.

The impressive Western Student Recreation Centre features a fitness centre with more than 200 pieces of weight and cardio equipment, a 50 m pool, squash/racquetball courts, six gymnasiums, group fitness classes and drop-in activities.

[uwo.ca/campusrec](http://uwo.ca/campusrec)

## CLUBS AND ACTIVITIES

Western's campus is a thriving multicultural and social community with 200 student clubs, groups and advocacy organizations. Whether you are looking for academic, philanthropic, social, personal interest or political themes, you will find a club that satisfies your interest.

[westernusc.ca/clubs](http://westernusc.ca/clubs)



## About London, Canada

With a population of 423,000, London has all the amenities and diversity of a big city while still feeling like a small town.

Known as the "Forest City" for its many parks and green areas, London has an extensive trail system through the city along the Thames River. London is also close to some of the world's best freshwater beaches on Lake Huron and Lake Erie.

Travel to Toronto, Detroit and many other destinations is easy. London is accessible by air, train and bus, with the London International Airport offering international travel. Western is also well-connected to the city's public transit system.

# Academic Information

## PROGRAM CHOICE

Flexibility in program choice is a key attraction bringing some of the world's top students to Western. Our 12 faculties and schools offer more than 200 undergraduate programs. Exchange students have the opportunity to take a variety of courses within different programs, provided pre-requisite qualifications are met. With so much choice, you're bound to find courses to fit your goals.

### Arts & Humanities

Classical Studies  
English  
Film Studies  
French Studies  
Gender, Sexuality & Women's Studies  
Linguistics  
Languages and Cultures  
Philosophy  
Theory and Criticism  
Visual Arts  
Writing, Rhetoric & Professional Communication

### Music

Music Education  
Music Performance Studies  
Music Research and Composition

### Health Sciences

Health Studies  
Kinesiology \*

### Engineering

Chemical & Biochemical Engineering  
Civil & Environmental Engineering  
Electrical & Computer Engineering

\* Limited availability

### Social Science

American Studies  
Anthropology  
Economics \*  
Indigenous Studies  
Geography  
History  
Management & Organizational Studies \*  
Political Science \*  
Psychology \*  
Sociology \*  
Theory and Criticism

### Science

Applied Mathematics  
Biology  
Chemistry  
Computer Science  
Earth Sciences  
Mathematics  
Statistical and Actuarial Sciences  
Centre for Environment & Sustainability

### Information and Media Studies

Media, Information & Technoculture \*

For a detailed list of programs and course information see: [westerncalendar.uwo.ca](http://westerncalendar.uwo.ca)

## RESTRICTED PROGRAMS AND COURSES

While Western attempts to accommodate as many requests for courses as possible, certain programs at Western have limited enrolment. Exchange students are not eligible to take courses in professional programs such as Law, Medicine, Aviation, Dentistry, Business (Ivey), Education, and professional programs in the Faculty of Health Sciences. When selecting courses for enrolment, please review the [course restrictions](#) for each Faculty.

More details: [international.uwo.ca/learning/come\\_to\\_western/incoming\\_exchange\\_students/course\\_restrictions.html](http://international.uwo.ca/learning/come_to_western/incoming_exchange_students/course_restrictions.html)

## LANGUAGE REQUIREMENTS

English is the language of instruction at Western. As part of our application process, we require proof of English language proficiency. An electronic copy of the English language certificate submitted by the student will be required at the time of application.

More details: [welcome.uwo.ca/next-steps/requirements/english-language-proficiency.html](http://welcome.uwo.ca/next-steps/requirements/english-language-proficiency.html)

## SEMESTER DATES

Fall Term: Early September to late December

Winter Term: Early January to late April

Exchange students are expected to be here for the entire duration of the academic term.

For specific semester dates, please see: [westerncalendar.uwo.ca](http://westerncalendar.uwo.ca)

## UNDERGRADUATE COURSE LOAD

Length of Study	Maximum Full Time Course Load/Term	Minimum Full Time Course Load/Term
One term	5 half courses (2.5 Western credits)	4 half courses (2.0 Western credits)
Full Year	5 Western credits (combination of full and half courses)	3.5 Western credits (combination of full and half courses)

Students are not permitted to take more than the maximum course load per semester.

## COURSE TIMETABLE

[registrar.uwo.ca/academics/register\\_in\\_courses](http://registrar.uwo.ca/academics/register_in_courses)

*Please note that our course timetable is updated every June for the next academic cycle*

## APPLICATION PROCEDURE FOR UNDERGRADUATE STUDENTS

- 1) Official nomination submitted by home university with required supporting documents (official transcript).
- 2) Student completes online application.

The Academic Information listed here refers to the general Western exchange program. Details about Ivey Business School and Faculty of Law exchange programs are available from the contacts listed on the back of this brochure.

# Preparing for Your Exchange

## CANADIAN IMMIGRATION

The Government of Canada regulates international study permits and visas through Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada (IRCC)

When students arrive in Canada, a border services official will ask to see their travel documents. You should be ready to show the following documents for entry to Canada:

- Valid Passport or travel document
- Letter of Introduction confirming approval of your Study Permit (if applicable)
- Valid Temporary Resident Visa (if applicable)
- Admission letter from Western
- Proof that you have enough money to support yourself during your stay in Canada
- Any other documents recommended by the visa office where you applied (if applicable)

[canada.ca/en/immigration-refugees-citizenship/services/study-canada/study-permit/prepare-arrival.html](https://canada.ca/en/immigration-refugees-citizenship/services/study-canada/study-permit/prepare-arrival.html)

It is the student's responsibility to find out the immigration requirements and to obtain the necessary documents for travel to Canada. We recommend contacting a Canadian Consular Office: [travel.gc.ca/assistance/embassies-consulates](https://travel.gc.ca/assistance/embassies-consulates)

## STUDY PERMITS

Exchange students studying in Canada are required to have a valid Study Permit except in cases where the duration of the program of study is six months or less. If you would like to enter Canada for short-term studies with a valid Temporary Resident visa or Electronic Travel Authorization, you must also qualify as a fully vaccinated traveller under current travel restrictions.

If you have a study permit and you decide that you want to continue your studies in another program after you complete your short-term program, you can continue studying in Canada as long as you apply to extend your study permit before it expires.

International students who hold a valid Study Permit and are registered as full-time students are permitted to work on campus. International students without a valid Study Permit are not eligible to work in Canada.

[canada.ca/en/immigration-refugees-citizenship/services/study-canada/study-permit/eligibility.html](https://canada.ca/en/immigration-refugees-citizenship/services/study-canada/study-permit/eligibility.html)

## TEMPORARY RESIDENT VISAS/ ELECTRONIC TRAVEL AUTHORIZATION

Most people require a Temporary Resident Visa (TRV) or an Electronic Travel Authorization (eTA) to enter Canada. A TRV or an eTA is not the same as a Study Permit. A TRV or an eTA gives the student permission to enter Canada, whereas a Study Permit gives him/her permission to study in Canada. See the IRCC website to find out if you need a visa to travel to Canada.

[cic.gc.ca/english/visit/visas.asp](https://cic.gc.ca/english/visit/visas.asp)

Students must apply for a TRV (if required) before entering Canada. They are available only at a Canadian embassy, consulate, or high commission outside of Canada. Consult the list of Canadian visa offices to find the office responsible for your country and what requirements you must follow when you apply:

[travel.gc.ca/assistance/embassies-consulates](https://travel.gc.ca/assistance/embassies-consulates)

If you apply for a study permit, you do not need to apply for a TRV or an eTA separately. Your TRV or eTA will be issued to you if your study permit application is approved.

## DESIGNATED LEARNING INSTITUTION NUMBER

Recent changes with CIC require institutions to be approved as Designated Learning Institutions (DLI). Western's DLI number is 019375892122.

(Note: the first character is the letter 'O' for Ontario).

## LIVING ON CAMPUS

Hybrid-suite style residences and apartment-style suites are available. Most residences offer a meal plan. Residence accommodation for students on exchange depends on availability. [residence.uwo.ca](https://residence.uwo.ca)

## OFF-CAMPUS HOUSING

Western is located in a residential area with many housing options close to campus. Our Off-Campus Housing Office provides lists of available housing, advice and translation of rental agreements and terms and conditions. [offcampus.uwo.ca/international.html](https://offcampus.uwo.ca/international.html)

## HEALTH CARE

While in Canada and registered at Western, students are required to be enrolled in the University Health Insurance Plan (UHIP). For information about UHIP and what is included in the coverage please visit [iesc.uwo.ca/uhip](https://iesc.uwo.ca/uhip)

While UHIP covers most doctor visits, it does not include any supplemental coverage for items such as prescriptions. **We strongly recommend buying supplementary health insurance in addition to UHIP.**

# Services for Exchange Students

At Western, international exchange students will find the support they need to succeed to enhance their academic, social, and cultural experience. Programs and services provided by Western International include:

## **Arrival and Orientation**

Pre-arrival assistance, orientation programming

## **International Student Advising**

Assistance with study/work permits, visas, and other government regulations, cultural and academic transitions, university policies and procedures, etc.

Help with cultural adjustment or personal/social issues, including support for spouses/partners and families of students.

## **English Conversation Program**

Practice and improve your spoken English skills. Connect with friends in an informal network.

## **Global Café**

Meet international and Canadian friends during our weekly gathering.

## **Social and Cultural Programs**

Many events, workshops and social/cultural experiences offered each term.

## **Intercultural Learning and Skill Development**

Through volunteer and student leadership positions as well as workshops and events.

## **Other Services**

Emergency loan and bursary assistance, online assistance and weekly e-mail news.

[See details at iesc.uwo.ca](http://iesc.uwo.ca)

## Other Important Services on Campus

Student Experience

Sports & Recreation (competitive and intramural sports, fitness centre, pool)

Health and Wellness (health clinic, physical and mental health)

Careers & Experience (career education, job search skills, resume help, etc.)

Academic Support & Engagement (writing support, skill building, peer learning)

[studentexperience.uwo.ca](http://studentexperience.uwo.ca)

[westernmustangs.ca](http://westernmustangs.ca)

[health.uwo.ca](http://health.uwo.ca)

[career.uwo.ca](http://career.uwo.ca)

[academicsupport.uwo.ca](http://academicsupport.uwo.ca)



# Financial Information

## FEES AND EXPENSES

While exchange students do not pay tuition fees to Western, they are responsible for the following compulsory fees:

Western student card: Approximately \$40

UHIP (health insurance): Approximately \$252/term

Bus pass: Approximately \$270



## ESTIMATED LIVING EXPENSES PER TERM:

	On Campus	Off Campus
Residence & Meal Plan	<a href="#">Find current rates</a>	\$0
Rent	\$0	\$3,000-7,200
Food	\$0	\$1,400-2,400
Books & Supplies	\$750-1,500	\$750-1,800
Utilities	\$0	\$200-1,200
Internet	\$0	\$60-400
Phone	\$200-320	\$200-320
Personal	\$400	\$400
Clothing	\$400-1,000	\$400-1,000
Entertainment	\$800	\$800
Laundry	\$100	\$100
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$10,500-15,000</b>	<b>\$7,310-15,620</b>

Note: Amounts above are in Canadian dollars and are approximate estimates intended as a guide for students. Figures used may not reflect actual costs.

## CONTACT INFORMATION – WESTERN'S EXCHANGE PROGRAM

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Email: [goabroad@uwo.ca](mailto:goabroad@uwo.ca)

International & Graduate Affairs Building  
Western University  
1151 Richmond Street  
London, Ontario CANADA N6A 3K7


## OTHER CONTACTS

**Ivey Business School**  
HBA Exchange  
[international@ivey.ca](mailto:international@ivey.ca)


CEMS and MSc Exchange  
[cems@ivey.ca](mailto:cems@ivey.ca)

**Western Law**  
[lawintl@uwo.ca](mailto:lawintl@uwo.ca)

## STAY CONNECTED

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