

Education ABROAD



THE GLOBAL PASSPORT

RMIT's learning and teaching are informed by international best practice, producing graduates who are ready to take their place on the world stage—opening up possibilities for work and professional acceptance across the globe.

While RMIT's original campuses are based in Melbourne, through academic links with more than 100 institutions world-wide—and especially through our two campuses in Vietnam—RMIT connects students into an international network of research and learning.

RMIT students do not wait until after graduation to engage with the world academically, culturally and professionally. The opportunity for international travel and learning is a part of many programs. Mobility options include international exchange programs, study tours and overseas work placements. At any level, most RMIT students have the opportunity to build an international component into their program.

Just how and when, what it will cost, who is eligible, what credits are possible, which partner institutions are most appropriate and other details vary from person to person and program to program. What is certain is that RMIT provides a world of choice.



THE RMIT GLOBAL PASSPORT:

4 CONTINENTS, 26 COUNTRIES AND MORE THAN 100 PARTNER UNIVERSITIES

SPEND A SEMESTER OR TWO IN:

AUSTRIA, CANADA, CHINA, DENMARK, ENGLAND, ESTONIA, FINLAND, FRANCE, GERMANY, IRELAND, ITALY, JAPAN, KOREA, MALAYSIA, MEXICO, NETHERLANDS, NEW ZEALAND, NORWAY, PHILIPPINES, SPAIN, SWEDEN, SWITZERLAND, TAIWAN, TURKEY, USA OR VIETNAM.

For a complete list of our partners, visit:

www.rmit.edu.au/international/educationabroad

EXCHANGE PROGRAMS

Student exchange involves studying for one or two semesters at an overseas institution that RMIT has a reciprocal agreement with (that is, we send students to them, they send students to us). There are over 100 RMIT student exchange partner institutions spread across the world.

DO I NEED TO KNOW ANOTHER LANGUAGE?

It depends. Some partner institutions provide instruction in English, many in a combination of English and the local language and some in the local language only.

WHAT CAN I STUDY?

Some offer places only in certain disciplines. Certain partners offer exchange places only to undergraduates. Others include places for Vocational Education and Training (VET), postgraduate and research students.

CAN I OBTAIN CREDIT FOR STUDY I COMPLETE WHILE ON EXCHANGE?

The courses you successfully complete overseas are credited to your RMIT program (provided you have sought approval in advance from your school).

IS THERE ANYTHING ELSE?

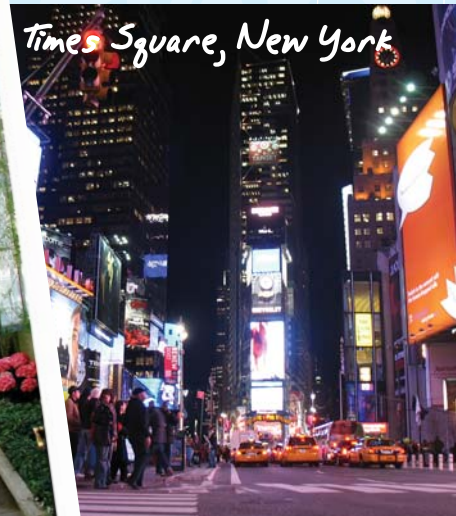
Student exchange has a host of advantages. You get to live 24/7 in another environment—and perhaps a very different culture—while studying. You will make friends and develop a different perspective on the world.

SOUNDS GREAT!

WHAT DO YOU NEED FROM ME?

You can only be selected for an exchange if you:

- Have completed at least one year of academic study at RMIT at the time of the exchange—you can apply in first year and commence your exchange program in second year. Some VET students can apply after one full semester of study, depending on the length of their program
- Have an overall grade average of credit or better
- Have approval for your study plan from your school
- Have sufficient funds to finance your exchange (read on for further details)



WHAT DO I DO TO GET THE BALL ROLLING?

- Attend an information session. These are held frequently (details are on the Education Abroad website).
- Do some research on the partner university you are interested in studying with.
- Discuss your proposal with your program leader.
- Make an appointment to see an Education Abroad advisor. At this meeting you can collect application forms, discuss visa requirements, accommodation options, work possibilities, scholarship opportunities and more.
- Complete the forms and have them signed by your program leader.
- Submit your application to the Education Abroad Unit (EAU).
- Complete any forms required by the host institution.
- Submit applications for a scholarship or other grant.

HOW DO I APPLY?

Submit your application to:
Education Abroad Unit
City Campus
Building 9, Level 1

Please ensure your application includes the following:

- A completed Student Exchange Application Form (collect at the EAU, or refer to the website). This is more than a formality: The thoroughness of your application is an important consideration in the selection process
- Up-to-date original copies of your transcript of results
- Folio (if required)
- Academic references (if required)

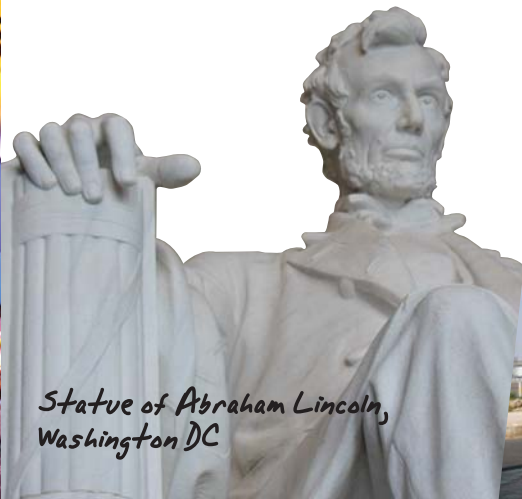
THE FRIENDLY STAFF AT THE RMIT EDUCATION ABROAD UNIT CAN GUIDE YOU THROUGH ANY QUESTIONS ABOUT STUDYING OVERSEAS, YOUR FIRST RESOURCE IS THE EAU WEBSITE;

www.rmit.edu.au/international/educationabroad



Travel

PLANNING A SUCCESSFUL EDUCATION ABROAD EXPERIENCE TAKES TIME. IT CAN'T BE LEFT TO THE LAST MINUTE. ALLOW 6 TO 12 MONTHS TO GET ALL THE PIECES IN PLACE.



Statue of Abraham Lincoln,
Washington DC



New Delhi



Sumo Stadium, Tokyo

STUDY TOURS

STUDY TOUR DESTINATIONS INCLUDE:

- CANADA
- UNITED STATES
- VIETNAM
- CHINA
- EUROPE (INCLUDING SEPARATE TOURS TO DENMARK, FRANCE, ITALY AND GERMANY)

Study tours of two to four weeks are an affordable and interesting way of combining new experiences with credit towards your program.

Tours generally take place during the summer holidays or the mid-year break.

For example, the Business portfolio offers tours to Vietnam, Canada, the United States and China. As undergraduate or postgraduate electives, these tours give students the opportunity to undertake a 24-point course (two general business electives). Before departure there are a number of intensive weekend workshops exploring the cross-cultural issues associated with engaging in business across the globe.

All study tours are accompanied by an RMIT staff member. Often they are the result of years of relationship building between RMIT and overseas companies, institutions and governments. As a result, study tours can open doors that are closed to the everyday tourist. They provide an unusual opportunity to rapidly get to know the cultural and business environment of other countries.

Visit: www.rmit.edu.au/international/studytourdetails or contact your school.

An annual **Accounting Study Tour** is held each June–July to North America and Europe. Students have the opportunity to see presentations from prominent executives from global corporations such as Nestlé in Switzerland, Siemens, BMW and Axel Springer in Germany and Tesco Ltd in the UK. They visit professional offices of KPMG in Zurich and accounting regulators in Paris, Berlin and the International Accounting Standards Board (IASB) in London, Control Risks in London and Films Paramount in Paris. North American destinations include Walt Disney Pictures and TV, CBS TV, University of Southern California (Los Angeles), IBM (New York) and Honeywell (Toronto). For more information please contact the School of Accounting and Law.

INTERNATIONAL WORK PLACEMENT

Work integrated learning (WIL) is an important part of RMIT's approach to education. By bringing together the theory learnt in the classroom with experience of the realities of the workplace, RMIT graduates develop a 'can-do' edge. Many programs offer a co-operative year (usually referred to as a co-op year) of hands-on work placement. Clinical placements are a major element of many programs in the medical sciences. Other disciplines also offer industry placements of varying lengths.

In many instances, your workplace learning is not restricted to Australia. Discuss with your program leader the options for international work placements, internships and clinical experience. Most industry placements pay a trainee salary that can help you support yourself overseas.

RIIERP

Since 1992, the RMIT International Industry Experience and Research Program (RIIERP) has provided outstanding opportunities for more than 1,000 RMIT students from all disciplines to work overseas with some of the world's leading companies while gaining program credits.

These opportunities are available to undergraduate and postgraduate students pursuing programs by coursework or research. They usually involve placements of six to twelve months with major industrial enterprises, mostly in Europe and the United States. Participating companies include such respected names as Airbus, EADS, Bentley Motors, Fujitsu-Siemens, IBM, Nestlé, Robert Bosch, Siemens, Volkswagen and the Rolls-Royce Group in both North America and Europe.

Each year about 150 participants are able to undertake industry work experience, graduate industry traineeships, postgraduate research and postdoctoral research fellowships.

Visit: www.rmit.edu.au/riierp

CONFERENCES

Seen an overseas conference tackling issues in your area of expertise? Would you like to attend but need assistance with costs? It may be possible to apply for financial assistance. If funding is available speak to your school or program leader.

HOW MUCH DOES AN EDUCATION ABROAD ADVENTURE COST?

While international travel and the cost of living away from home on an exchange, study tour or international work placement (including RIIERP) is not cheap (it can cost from AU\$10–12,000 per semester, depending on the location) there are a number of ways RMIT, the Federal Government and others can provide assistance. These include:

RMIT

- Travel grants up to AU\$2,000 are available to students considering their first Education Abroad experience. Applications are considered on the basis of a statement from the applicant, a reference and academic results.
- John Storey Junior Memorial Fund offers Education Abroad scholarships of up to AU\$2,500 to applicants. Scholarships are awarded on: academic merit; community service; extra-curricular interests; successful placement at an RMIT partner institution; and previous international experiences.
- In some instances, portfolios or schools will provide assistance for certain opportunities. Please check with your program coordinator if any additional support is available for the placement you are considering.

Federal Government

- Endeavour Awards. The Endeavour Programme sends high achieving students, researchers and professionals around the world to undertake short- or long-term study, research and professional development in a broad range of disciplines.
- OS-Help. The Federal Government offers OS-Help, a loan scheme that assists students with additional funds to study overseas. While only available for full-time undergraduate students, these loans of approximately AU\$5,000 can be paid off as part of your HECS debt.
- Youth Allowance and Austudy. Most students who currently receive Youth Allowance or Austudy will continue to do so while studying abroad.

Visit: www.centrelink.gov.au

Host International Institutions

- Some countries and institutions offer scholarships to attract Australian students. Check the Education Abroad website to see the latest opportunities.

WHAT HAPPENS TO MY HECS DEBT?

The good news is there is no change. While on an exchange you continue to be enrolled as an RMIT student, paying any fees and accruing HECS as usual.



**GAIN AN INTERNATIONAL ADVANTAGE
AND ENHANCE YOUR FUTURE
EMPLOYMENT PROSPECTS**



EXCHANGE

Student: Matt Moran

Location: Pennsylvania State University, USA

'Exchange immerses you in another culture, far from the hassles of home. The scale of a US college campus is hard to describe—with 40,000 people living on campus, it's a city in itself.'



INTERNSHIP

Student: Emily Collins

Location: Amnesty International, Rome, Italy

'I never realised that environmental rights are also human rights. That was until yesterday, the second day of my Internship with Amnesty International in Rome, where I met Felipe, whose story I shall not forget.'



RIIERP

Student: Pakawut Amarinrat

Location: Wettstetten, Germany

After working with car designer Fa. am surf Martin Gabler as part of his Bachelor of Engineering (Aerospace Engineering), Pakawut Amarinrat was asked to open an office for the company in Thailand, which he will do after completing his MBA.

'It gave me an opportunity to find what I'd like to do and to work in a multicultural environment. It widened my vision.'



Melbourne–Vietnam: The 'twin hub'

RMIT International University Vietnam has campuses in Ho Chi Minh City and in Hanoi. These campuses complement RMIT's Melbourne campuses, the facilities in the two countries acting as twin hubs of the University.

The Vietnam campuses are growing rapidly. Academic staff from Melbourne regularly teach in Vietnam (where all instruction is in English) and the possibilities are increasing all the time for Melbourne students to see Vietnam as a home away from home.

Programs in Vietnam focus on design, business, commerce and applied science and follow the same curriculum as delivered on the Melbourne campuses. Vietnam is relatively close and many students find the cost of living quite affordable.

Vietnam should be high on your list if you are thinking about adding an international flavour to your studies.

MBA Intensive in Vietnam

The Graduate School of Business (GSB) offers a five-day intensive course in Vietnam which is part of the MBA program but is open as a university-wide elective for any postgraduate student. Students enrol in BUSM 3229, Contemporary Issues in International Business. Before departure two evening classes are held: Introduction to Vietnam, Culture and Etiquette; and The Vietnamese Economy and Trading Relations with Australia. This is a unique opportunity to engage with the students and staff of RMIT Vietnam. The course will be taught by GSB and MBA Vietnam staff with site visits and guest speakers from emerging industries. Visit: www.rmit.edu.au/bus/gradschool/intensive-vietnam



EXCHANGE

Student: Rebecca Hedland
Location: Seoul, South Korea

'The experience I had on exchange to Kyung Hee University completely changed my perspective of nursing and health care. We experienced the use and benefits of Oriental and Western medicine working together and how it gave the patients choices and control with their health care. Being immersed in an amazing culture and language 24 hours a day is an experience I would never change because of the perspectives on nursing it gave me and how that has made me a better nurse in our multicultural city.'



GLOBAL CITIZEN

Student: Michael Baird
Location: China

'Studying under the University Mobility in the Asia Pacific (UMAP) scholarship brought about a sense of pride to be an Australian and to act in an ambassadorial role. This is an experience that can only be appreciated after you leave your home country for an extended period of time.'

FOR MORE INFORMATION

RMIT University
Education Abroad Unit
City Campus, Building 9, Level 1, Bowen Lane
Tel: 9925 3947 | Fax: 9925 5235
Email: EAU@rmit.edu.au
www.rmit.edu.au/international/educationabroad

This publication is an information document for students of RMIT. Every effort was made to ensure that the information in this document was correct at the time of publication. However, RMIT University reserves the right to alter any program, fee, admission requirement, administrative or other arrangement without prior notice.

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