

LEL Year-Abroad Information: studying while abroad

Categories of student with different regulations:

- (1) Modern European Language and LEL (except for Russian and LEL)
- (2) Russian or Chinese or Japanese and LEL
- (3) optional Erasmus exchange**
- (4) optional International exchange**

Sources of information (not all of these are relevant to all students)

- LEL Honours handbook — **READ THIS!** — [+ LEL year abroad information]
 - <https://www.ed.ac.uk/ppls/linguistics-and-english-language/current/undergraduate/handbooks/honours>
- University of Edinburgh 'Go Abroad' office ('Edinburgh Global')
 - <https://www.ed.ac.uk/global/go-abroad>
- PPLS Student Support Officers
- Personal Tutor
- me! [the LEL International Coordinator] — patrick.honeybone@ed.ac.uk
- a planned LEL year-abroad Learn site

Remember:

- while abroad you are still a student of LEL
- you must check your University of Edinburgh email account every week

Sources of help

The Go Abroad Office ('Edinburgh Global') should be able to give some advice on:

- visas, travel, insurance — but they may tell you to use your own intelligence...

I can help you with:

- any academic problems that crop up while you're abroad
- NB: **stay in touch** with us in LEL/PPLS (and your other department if you have one)
- **let us know** if you have any **problems**

Course choice

You **must** confirm your course selection with **me**

- you do not have completely free choice of courses
- you will need to have this confirmed on a **Learning Agreement**, stored with the Go Abroad Office — you may well **also** need to submit a Learning Agreement to your host university

As soon as you have access to information about courses, check to see what you would like to take and consider whether it fits with your degree

- check the number of courses/credits that you need to take during the year
- then propose a set of courses in an email or on a draft Learning Agreement which you send to me
- do not leave this to the last minute before any deadline! I may not be able to reply quickly

It is not unusual to have to revise your set of courses when you arrive or during the year — always check with me and revise your Learning Agreement if so.

Course credits

If you are on an optional Erasmus exchange you need to take:

- 60 ECTS credits

If you are on the International exchange, you need to:

- check the number of courses and that you need to take through information provided by the Go Abroad Office

NB: you **cannot count courses that do not have assessment attached** (ie, which will not give you a mark) without explicit approval from me.

You should try to take broadly equivalent courses to an Edinburgh third year, but may take advantage of specialities of the university you are visiting

- check the Honours requirements for your degree (you can fulfil these while abroad through taking courses equivalent to something that would fulfil the requirements at Edinburgh)
- if you would like to check if a course is equivalent to something that would fulfil an Honours requirement, set out the equivalence that you would like to propose in an email to me and Graeme Trousdale, the LEL Honours Convenor

Course issues

Some relevant issues:

- any list of courses that you fix before you go may need to be **provisional**
- you may need to be **flexible** in course choice
- you may take one '**outside**' course (ie, not relevant to LEL) — this may be a course teaching the language of the country that you are in, for example
 - 'one course' = equivalent to around 20 Edinburgh credits
- you may need/want to take **Masters**-level courses
 - you do not need to take courses that a third-year student would be taking at the university you are visiting
 - it is crucial that you do not take basic, introductory courses which substantially cover material that you have already studied at pre-Honours
- NB: if you are told that you cannot take a course that you would like to take let me know — very often in the past we have been able to negotiate a change of mind with the university

Things to prepare while abroad for year 4

Course choices for year 4

- all of you will need to make course choices for year 4 while abroad
- NB: any courses studied abroad can count as **Honours requirements for LEL**, if your degree has any (eg, an advanced phonology course can count as the equivalent of *Phonological Theory* or *Phonological Theory and English Phonology*)
 - check the LEL Honours Handbook for the Honours requirements for your degree

Dissertation?

- most of you will be **required** to do a dissertation in year 4
- if you do a LEL dissertation, you will need to propose a topic while abroad, but you will work on it mainly after your return, during your 4th year