

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)

- DELC handbook + DELC year abroad handbook
- 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 + LLC Student Support Office
- 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

If you are studying **courses** for LEL, 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

Modern European Language and LEL (except for Russian and LEL)
– courses for credit

The marks that you get while abroad **count** towards your degree classification; you need to choose one of these options **for LEL**:

- **20 ECTS** credits in LEL-related courses (we recommend around 25 ECTS)
- **10 ECTS** credits in LEL-related courses (we recommend around 15 ECTS) and a **dissertation** in LEL **during year 4**, when you return to Edinburgh

You need to make this decision now!

- your decision will be registered by the start of your third year

You need to agree your LEL-relevant courses with me and your MEL-relevant courses with your MEL department

- your choice (10 or 20 ECTS) will be registered on your course record (visible in MyEd) and may only be changed with the consent of both departments

Course issues

Some relevant issues:

- any list of courses that you fix before you go may need to be **provisional**
- you **cannot count courses that do not have assessment attached** (ie, which will not give you a mark) without explicit approval from me
- 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 for LEL
 - 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

Dissertation?

- some of you will be able to **opt** 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