

study abroad plus Leadership and Service



The University of Manchester offers an inspiring programme for students who want more than just academic credit during their time in the UK.

Students who are undertaking a year/semester abroad at Manchester can select the 'Study Abroad plus Leadership and Service' option, which enables them to engage with British life and society in a dynamic way.

The taught leadership element of the programme helps students understand the importance of sustainable leadership that promotes environmental care, social justice and prosperity. It provides an insight into the key challenges facing 21st century leaders and the opportunity to engage with leaders and others in the local community. Participants will also gain a real insight into, and understanding of, British life and society through undertaking a period of voluntary work with a local community group/project.

The programme also seeks to equip the leaders of tomorrow with skills needed to boost their employability, including project management, presentation skills and teamwork.





“This programme made me realise that social and corporate responsibilities are going to be really important, whichever career path you take.”

Lisa Kelly, Geography



The Study Abroad plus Leadership and Service programme comprises three elements:

- 1 Up to 50 UK credits of academic study towards your home university degree
- 2 The 'Leadership in Action' unit – an accredited degree course unit (10 or 20 credits) delivered by prominent University academics and high profile external speakers, which covers topics such as:
 - Leadership for the 21st century
 - Social Entrepreneurship
 - Corporate Social Responsibility
 - Business Ethics
 - Poverty, Globalisation and Environmental Degradation
 - Sustainable Urban Development

Students studying for one semester take the 10 credit unit (identical unit available in both semesters), whilst students studying for a full academic year can opt to take a 20 credit unit. This involves undertaking an independent research project during semester 2.

Your home university will be able to confirm whether credit transfer is possible for the academic element of the course, and in which area (we would anticipate this would usually be for Business or Sociology credit, but may be possible for many other disciplines).

- 3 Service Learning activity – students undertaking the Study Abroad plus Leadership and Service programme are required to undertake 60 hours service learning - a minimum of 15 of these must be in Manchester - the rest can be completed elsewhere in the UK or in your home country. Students can undertake a wide variety of volunteering activities, including work with children, with homeless people, on environmental projects or charity fundraising. Manchester staff will provide support to students to help them source appropriate opportunities.

Students who complete 60 hours service learning plus the credit-bearing Leadership in Action unit will receive the prestigious Manchester Leadership Award.

In the last year, volunteers have been involved in developing a website for The Children's University of Manchester; working as a Student Brand Manager for Cancer Research UK; and volunteering at an AIDS/HIV charity.

There may also be opportunities to tailor your voluntary activity to your degree – for example, Art students may wish to volunteer in a gallery or The Manchester Museum.

Why take Study Abroad plus Leadership and Service?

Today's graduate job market is fiercely competitive. Employers increasingly seek students who not only have an excellent academic record, but also have 'something extra' to offer their organisations. This includes evidence of transferable skills such as teamwork and communication, developed through practical experience.

Recruiters are also looking for graduates who understand the complexity of decision making in the modern world and who can demonstrate an understanding of the moral and ethical dilemmas of leadership.

Having the Manchester Leadership Award on your résumé will give you the edge in this competitive market. Developed in conjunction with leading graduate employers, the programme provides you with a unique insight into leadership in a wide range of settings, including the business, public and voluntary sectors. It also helps you to develop invaluable skills and knowledge, from project management to entrepreneurship.

You'll also develop greater social awareness and increased understanding of the local community and British culture and society through voluntary work, which will enable you to put your learning into practice.

Applying

To apply for the Study Abroad plus Leadership and Service programme, you should:

- 1 Complete a Study Abroad application pack (available from www.manchester.ac.uk/international/studyabroad/jya/apply).
- 2 Identify the Leadership in Action unit as one of your course choices.
- 3 Download and complete an additional Study Abroad plus Leadership and Service application form (available from www.manchester.ac.uk/international/studyabroad/servicelearning).
- 4 Both sets of completed forms should then be returned to the Study Abroad Unit.

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For further information on the Study Abroad plus Leadership and Service programme, contact studyabroad@manchester.ac.uk

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