



CENTRE FOR ASIAN AND  
TRANSCULTURAL STUDIES

## Study Abroad

**Open to Transcultural Studies and East Asian Studies in particular (B.A., M.A., Ph.D.)**

—  
**Student from other departments (especially South Asian Studies, History and Social Sciences) are most welcome to apply!**

### HOW TO APPLY

To apply for any of the study abroad programs, please send your application documents to the following email address:

**[studentexchange@hcts.uni-heidelberg.de](mailto:studentexchange@hcts.uni-heidelberg.de)**

### HCTS APPLICATION DEADLINE: **31 JANUARY**

(Once selected by the selection committee, applicants will be nominated to our partner universities)

#### Required documents:

1. **HCTS study abroad application form**
2. **CV** including extracurricular activities
3. **letter of motivation**, including the reason for choosing the partner university and a ranking of alternative choices, the classes you expect to take abroad and your career goals; we expect that you want to go abroad for the next winter semester but please explain in more detail if you want to stay for two semesters at your chosen university or go for other times
4. university **certificates and transcripts** of records
5. proof of **English proficiency** (TOEFL/IELTS) if you did not obtain a B.A. in an English-language program. Yale requires a TOEFL iBT min. 100, check whether necessary for your chosen destination
6. list your level of knowledge in other languages
7. for Yale University: name a potential academic supervisor at Yale suitable to your study plans
8. for Yale and SNU: name a teacher at Heidelberg willing to provide you with a letter of recommendation – you don't need to submit one yet, as they have special forms for the submission, but you have to find someone willing to write such a letter even on short notice once you've been selected

**All documents have to be in English** (transcripts in English or German translation)

#### MATS Applicants Requirements

1. All MATS students should **PASS** the Introduction Class to Transcultural Studies
2. ALL MATS students should **COMPLETE 58 ECTS** before leaving Heidelberg for study abroad (and should be registered for courses with an amount of at least 58 ECTS (=the first 4 modules of MATS-study, see description of modules)



3. All MATS students should obtain the **REGULAR MINIMUM OF 28 ECTS** during the study abroad semester
4. For MATS students all credits taken at another institution will count towards Mobility and Research 1 or 2, not for other modules (e.g. Skills)
5. Please identify a potential theme and supervisor for **your M.A. thesis** in the fourth semester and explain your choice in the application
6. Please be aware that all recipient of DAAD exchange scholarships (see below) have to complete their M.A. degree in the regular two years and **submit their M.A. Thesis by September 30**
7. Please be aware that students applying for the International Variant in Transcultural Studies with Kyoto University need to submit additional forms
8. Please be aware that all students in the International Variant with Kyoto University have to **submit their M.A. Thesis by July 15**

### Applicants from OTHER Departments

- *Statement of your academic advisor that the planned exchange will be recognized by your degree program (counts towards your degree). Students in general are expected to obtain 30 ECTS during the semester abroad unless otherwise discussed beforehand.*

## Cooperation with Partner Universities

### Exchange in Asian and Transcultural Studies

#### WITHIN EUROPE

##### **ERASMUS/ERASMUS+:**

***Study without tuition fee (with scholarship\*)***

**Eötvös Loránd Tudományegyetem** (Hungary)

**Institut National des Langues et Civilisations**

**Orientales | INALCO** (France)

**Katholieke Universiteit Leuven** (Belgium)

**Károli Gáspár University of the Reformed Church** (Hungary)

**Latvijas Universitāte** (Latvia)

**Universidad Autónoma de Madrid** (Spain)

**Università degli Studi 'Ca' Foscari' di Venezia** (Italy)

**Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona** (Spain)

**Universität Basel** (Switzerland)

**Universität Zürich** (Switzerland)

#### OUTSIDE OF EUROPE

##### ***Study without tuition fees:***

**Yale University**, Graduate School of Arts and Sciences (3 slots), one or two semesters (**DAAD Scholarship pending**)

**Kyoto University**, Graduate School of Letters and Graduate School of Economics (5 slots), one semester (potentially longer)

**University of Tokyo**, Graduate School of Public Policy (2 slots), one semester  
--- recommendation: students should apply for JASSO



## CENTRE FOR ASIAN AND TRANSCULTURAL STUDIES

**Université Paris Cité – Paris 7 (France)**

**Universiteit Gent (Belgium)**

**Universiteit Leiden (Netherlands)**

**Universitetet i Oslo (Norway)**

**University of Cambridge (UK)**

**Uniwersytet Jagielloński (Poland)**

**University of Sheffield (UK)**

**EHESS (France)**

**Seoul National University**, Graduate  
School of International Studies (3 slots)  
---(DAAD scholarship 6 months)

**Jiao Tong University SJTU** in Shanghai (5  
slots) **(open to all majors!)**

---tuition waiver, recommendation:  
students are welcome to apply for a  
scholarship provided by the Confucius  
Institute

*\*ERASMUS/ERASMUS+ partnerships have a  
variety of restrictions, please make sure to  
enquire at [erasmus@hcts.uni-heidelberg.de](mailto:erasmus@hcts.uni-heidelberg.de)  
before applying whether there are any  
restrictions at the partner institute, such as the  
level or field of study for eligible applicants.*

~~**Yonsei University**~~ (contract in the  
making) Application no longer possible  
for this round

## JOINT PROGRAMMES

**M.A. in Transcultural Studies – International Variant (Joint Degree)** with **Kyoto University** Graduate  
School of Letters. **Currently five DAAD Scholarships for 10 months pending**  
-> make sure to check the additionally required application documents for this program

**Ph.D. in Asian and Transcultural Studies** with **Venice Ca' Foscari University**, Faculty of Asian and  
North African Studies. Several Doctoral Fellowships for 36 months from the Venice side, ERASMUS  
funding from Heidelberg side

**Ph.D. in International Studies** **Ph.D. with Tohoku University Graduate School of Law** (One-year  
fellowship for stay in Sendai) and with **Tohoku University Graduate School of Letters** (Three-year  
fellowship entry via Tohoku University Japanese entrance exam)

## FURTHER

### Heidelberg University Exchange Cooperations with Universities in Asia

Check the university level exchange options:

[https://www.uni-heidelberg.de/en/study/international-studies/study-abroad/exchange-  
programmes-of-heidelberg-university](https://www.uni-heidelberg.de/en/study/international-studies/study-abroad/exchange-programmes-of-heidelberg-university)

Other CATS departments:

[https://www.zo.uni-heidelberg.de/partners\\_en.html](https://www.zo.uni-heidelberg.de/partners_en.html)



## Frequently asked questions regarding the study abroad programs (FAQ)

**Can I choose a university that is not listed as a partner in the list above?**

**Option One:** Heidelberg University: International Office (IRO) (Akademisches Auslandsamt) general university exchange program:

<https://www.uni-heidelberg.de/en/study/international-studies/study-abroad/exchange-programmes-of-heidelberg-university>

**Option Two:** ask at another institute at Heidelberg University that already has an exchange agreement with the university that you are interested in

**Option Three:** organize your own stay. You are free to study at any other university in Europe or overseas upon approval of your academic advisor, but please be aware that you may have to pay full tuition fees, unless you can obtain an individual tuition waiver

Where can I read about former participants' experiences?

In the info-room of the ERASMUS office and here:

<https://www.uni-heidelberg.de/international/erasmus/berichte/> (German only)

**Which requirements do I have to meet?**

You have to be a student of Heidelberg University and you need to meet the necessary language and research skills, set as condition by either the partner university or your study degree program, in order to participate in the exchange. Some of the exchange co-operations are based on a specific level or field of study (for example: exchange is open to all study levels, but limited to the field of Japanese Studies at Zurich University via ERASMUS).

**What happens after I sent in my application?**

Usually, the applicants are informed by mid-February, whether they have been chosen as proper candidates for the exchange. Sometimes they are invited to an interview to verify their language and research skills. Please keep in mind - once you officially accepted the offer, you are no longer able to change or withdraw without damaging the overall program. Candidates will be officially nominated and have to complete an additional application/enrollment process at the partner university. **Ultimately, the partner university is deciding whether or not someone's accepted to the exchange.**

**What is the value of the ERASMUS scholarship and what are the criteria by which people are chosen?**

All accepted candidates to study within the ERASMUS/ERASMUS+ framework are expected to receive the ERASMUS student mobility funding, as long as all necessary documents are handed in in time and the candidates meet all pre-set conditions (such as language skills, level and field of study).

Please check: <https://www.uni-heidelberg.de/en/international-affairs/erasmus/studying-abroad-outgoing-erasmus/terms-and-conditions>

Amount/country:



<https://www.uni-heidelberg.de/en/international-affairs/erasmus/studying-abroad-outgoing-erasmus/mobility-grant-amounts>

### **Are there other/additional possibilities to get a scholarship?**

You are free to apply to any other public or private funding opportunity. Please note, that some scholarships are not compatible with additional sources of funding.

We recommend you consider applying to public funding sources such as the DAAD or the Baden-Württemberg Foundation first.

Other options: [www.mystipendium.de/](http://www.mystipendium.de/) (German only); <https://www.stipendiumplus.de/en/dein-plus/stipendiumplus-who-we-are.html>;

[https://www.deutschlandstipendium.de/deutschlandstipendium/de/services/english/english\\_node.html](https://www.deutschlandstipendium.de/deutschlandstipendium/de/services/english/english_node.html)

### **Do I have to pay tuition fees to the university abroad?**

All study abroad partnerships have a tuition waiver – Heidelberg students are therefore exempted from paying tuition fees at the partner university (a small administrative fee may apply). Please note, students receiving full credits at the partner university during their exchange are usually expected to stay fully enrolled (without leave of absence or “Urlaubssemester”) at Heidelberg University and therefore will have to pay the regular tuition fee and administrative costs in Heidelberg.

### **What do I need to prepare PRIOR to leaving to study abroad?**

All students need to conclude a learning agreement with their academic advisors. International students should check the regulations of their German study visa before leaving the country – staying abroad longer than 6 months needs to be approved by the immigration authority “Ausländerbehörde”. **All students need to apply for a respective visa on their own and as soon as possible.**



## Current Partner Universities

At East Asian Studies/Transcultural Studies\* (**October 2024**)

ERASMUS/ERASMUS+

Partner University	country	slot	duration	study level	focus	staff mobility explicitly agreed upon
Universiteit Gent	Belgium	1x	10 months	BA/MA/PhD	Humanities/ Foreign Languages	yes
Katholieke Universiteit Leuven	Belgium	2x	10 months	BA/MA/PhD	Asian Studies	
Institut National des Langues et Civilisations Orientales (INALCO)	France	2x	5 months	BA/MA/PhD	Asian and Transcultural Studies	
Université de Paris – Paris 7	France	1x	5 months	BA/MA	Asian Studies	yes (Teaching & Training)
Università degli Studi Ca'Foscari di Venezia	Italy	2x	6 months	MA	Political sciences and civics – Asian and Transcultural Studies	yes (Teaching & Training)
		4x	10 months	PhD	Faculty of Philosophy – Double Degree	yes (Teaching & Training)
		1x	10 months	BA/MA/PhD	Centre for East Asian Studies	yes (Teaching & Training)
Latvijas Universitāte	Latvia	1x	5 months	MA/PhD	Asian Studies (limited MA courses)	
Universiteit Leiden	Netherlands	1x	10 months	BA/MA/PhD	Chinese Studies	
Universitetet i Oslo	Norway	2x	5 months	BA/MA/PhD	Chinese Studies	yes (Teaching & Training)
		2x	6 months	BA/MA/PhD	Japanese Studies	yes (Teaching & Training)



<b>Uniwersytet Jagielloński</b>	Poland	2x	12 months	BA/MA/ PhD	Foreign Languages	yes (only Teaching)
<b>Universität Basel</b>	Swiss	1x	10 months	BA/MA/ PhD	Global Studies and History	
<b>Universität Zürich</b>	Swiss	1x	10 months	BA/MA/ PhD	Japanese Studies	
<b>Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona</b>	Spain	1x	10 months	BA	Translation/Interpretation /East Asian Studies	yes (Teaching & Training)
		1x	10 months	MA		
		1x	10 months	PhD		
<b>Universidad Autónoma de Madrid</b>	Spain	2x	12 months	BA/MA/ PhD	Translation/Interpretation /East Asian Studies	
<b>Eötvös Loránd Tudományegyetem</b>	Hungary	8x	5 months	BA/MA/ PhD	Languages and Cultures (Asian Studies)	
<b>Károli Gáspár University of the Reformed Church in Hungary</b>	Hungary	2x	10 months	BA/MA/ PhD	Asian Studies / Japanese Studies (Chinese Studies)	yes (only Teaching)
<b>University of Cambridge</b>	UK	1x	9 months	BA	Modern & Medieval Languages and Literature	
<b>University of Sheffield</b>	UK	2x	10 months	BA/(MA) (some course restrictions apply)	East Asian Studies	

*\*Depending on availability there may be further partner universities available at other departments.  
If you are interested, please contact the responsible departmental coordinator.*

In general, the ERASMUS program includes financial support via the ERASMUS office. (Amount varies depending on the country of destination, means of travel and duration – please check information provided on the website for ERASMUS Outgoings)