How to Apply to Canada, the UK and Europe

Huron Room
July 26, 2015
9:00am-10:15am
Session Panelists

- **Andrew Arida**, Associate Registrar, Undergraduate Admissions, The University of British Columbia

- **Pam Joos**, University Counselor, Washington International School

- **Marie Vivas**, University Relations Manager, IB Americas
Why should IB students look abroad?

- Education in a diverse community
- continued international education
- Cost
- academically focused right away
- More straightforward application process
- They love the IB!
Studying in Canada

- International Experience
- World Class Education
- Incomparable Value
10 provinces and 3 territories
Population of 34 million
Largest cities: Toronto, Montreal, Vancouver
Shares a 9,000 km border with the US
Multicultural, bilingual
90+ universities
Primarily public system
Range of sizes: 2,000 - 40,000+
International students: 200,000 full-time; 7500+ from US
Universities differ from colleges
Big Destination for IB students

- University of Toronto (1st)
- University of British Columbia (2nd)
- McGill University (5th)
- University of Alberta (6th)
- University of Waterloo (7th)
- University of Western Ontario (8th)
- Simon Fraser University (10th)
Fourteen Canadian universities are in the *Times Higher Education* ranking of the **250 best research universities in the world** (3 in top 50)
70+ public universities - Strong financial support from govn’t
Diverse and flexible academic curricula; breadth, selection and interdisciplinary
Undergrad experience: *paid* internships, research positions, study abroad, and **three-year work permit** in Canada after graduation.
Canadian university degrees will take you anywhere you want to go.
Undergraduate Admissions Process

• Focused on academic performance in secondary school
• Straightforward application process
• IB students: admission and scholarships based solely on anticipated IB Diploma scores
• Can apply to more than one faculty at many universities
• Up to a full year of credit for IB coursework
• US secondary school
  • Focus on academics: “Senior level” grades
  • Supplementary info & SATs may also be required
Benefits of studying in England

**Academic**
- UK education highly regarded worldwide
- New viewpoints and perspectives with global focus

**Financial**
- Shorter completion time = lower tuition cost
- Work permission
- NHS health coverage
- FAFSA accepted

**Career**
- US employers value UK degrees and international experience
- Tier 2 Work visa (exempt from Labour market test)
UG Study

- 3 year degrees (except Medicine & Scotland)
- Law and medicine can be a first degree
- Subject focused and more independent study
- Possible to double major & growth of liberal arts courses
- Lectures and seminars taught by full professors
How to research universities

- UCAS (www.ucas.com)
- University websites – search should be course specific – IB course and grade requirements listed
- University rankings (Times Higher Ed & QS World University rankings)
- Contact universities with specific questions
- Make sure that student has correct IB subjects for their course
Filters

Availability
☑ Courses open to new applicants
☐ Single/Combined subjects
☐ Single subject (9)
☐ Joint subjects (1)
☐ Combined (0)
☐ Major with a minor subject (1)
☐ Major with more than one minor (0)
☐ Triple subjects (2)
☐ Other type of combination (0)

Provider types
☐ Universities and colleges (13)
☐ Conservatoires (0)

How you study
☐ Full-time (12)
☐ Full-time with a placement (sandwich) (1)
☐ Full-time with study abroad (0)
☐ Flexible/Part-time study (0)
☐ Flexible study (evenings only) (0)
☐ Flexible study (daytime only) (0)
☐ Flexible and full-time study (0)

Qualification level

< Back to results

Durham University

13 courses found

Single subjects

Marketing (N501) : Taught at 4 locations
Undergraduate Degree
Qualification BA (Hons) 
Duration 3 Years
Study mode Full-time

Marketing (N501) : Taught at 4 locations
Undergraduate Degree
Qualification BA (Hons) 
Duration 4 Years
Study mode Full-time with a placement (sandwich)

Marketing with Business Placement (N505) : Taught at 4 locations
Undergraduate Degree
Qualification BA (Hons) 
Duration 4 Years
Study mode Full-time

Marketing with Study Abroad (N507) : Taught at 4 locations
Undergraduate Degree
Qualification BA (Hons) 
Duration 4 Years
Study mode Full-time

Psychology (C800) : Taught at 14 locations
Undergraduate Degree
Qualification BSc (Hons) 
Duration 3 Years
Study mode Full-time

Psychology (Applied) (C817) : Taught at 3 locations
Undergraduate Degree
Qualification BSc (Hons) 
Duration 3 Years
Study mode Full-time

Psychology (Applied) with Foundation (C818) : Taught at 3 locations
Undergraduate Degree
Qualification BSc (Hons) 
Duration 4 Years
Study mode Full-time

Sport, Exercise and Physical Activity (C603) : Taught at 14 locations
Undergraduate Degree
Qualification BA (Hons) 
Duration 3 Years
Study mode Full-time
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Qualification level</th>
<th>BA (Hons)</th>
<th>Duration</th>
<th>Study mode</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sport, Exercise and Physical Activity with Foundation (C604)</td>
<td>3 Years</td>
<td>Full-time</td>
<td>Taught at 14 locations</td>
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<tr>
<td>Undergraduate Degree</td>
<td>Qualification BA (Hons)</td>
<td>4 Years</td>
<td>Study mode</td>
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</tbody>
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**Combined subjects**

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<tr>
<th>BA (Hons)</th>
<th>3 Years</th>
<th>Full-time</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Education Studies (Psychology) (X1C8)</td>
<td>Taught at 14 locations</td>
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<tr>
<td>Undergraduate Degree</td>
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<tr>
<td>Qualification BA (Hons)</td>
<td>Duration</td>
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<tr>
<td>Natural Sciences (CFG0)</td>
<td>Taught at 14 locations</td>
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<td>Undergraduate Degree</td>
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<tr>
<td>Qualification BSc (Hons)</td>
<td>Duration</td>
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<tr>
<td>Natural Sciences - Psychology (CFG0)</td>
<td>Taught at 14 locations</td>
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<td>Undergraduate Degree</td>
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<tr>
<td>Qualification BSc (Hons)</td>
<td>Duration</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Philosophy and Psychology (CV85)</td>
<td>Taught at 14 locations</td>
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<tr>
<td>Undergraduate Degree</td>
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<tr>
<td>Qualification BA (Hons)</td>
<td>Duration</td>
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How to apply

• Online application – UCAS or Common App
• Up to 5 choices – choose wisely based on IB predictions – need to pick courses that are related – ONE essay only
• 15th January deadline
• 15th October for Oxbridge, Medicine, Dentistry
• Conditional & unconditional
• Firm & Insurance (UCAS)
Advice on predictions

• Check in with IB teacher - encourage dialog between student and teacher
• Base it on work so far – IAs, orals, etc
• Optimistic score is okay – student has to achieve the result
• Take into account potential and desire – WIS students who need the IB score +4 more than those who don’t
Applying to highly selective universities

- Predicted grades – IB
- Can submit SAT, AP scores, but not required
- Some unis ask for a HS transcript, but most don’t
- Additional tests where applicable - BMAT, UKCAT, LNAT, MAT
- Interviews where applicable
Application advice – personal statement

• Why have you chosen the course?
• Interest through IB classes or outside the classroom? Be specific about papers – EE, TOK, IAs that relate to chosen course
• Relevant courses, summer schools, work experience
• Career aspirations
• Volunteering & mentoring, social, sporting & musical interest and achievements
• Potential to contribute to academic course & university life
Application advice – reference letter

• Much like the personal statement, reference should focus on the student’s interest in the course
• At WIS - counselor writes the letter – drawing from subjects that relate to chosen course
• Example – engineering – focus on math, physics, chemistry
• Extracurricular interests of student – focus on ones that support their course
FAQ

• I have a British passport do I qualify for home tuition?
• Will my UK degree be recognised in the US?
• Can I transfer?
Applying in Europe

- Many more programs taught in English – increasing every year
- Varied curricular offering – some very focused universities and some more like a US model where students take lots of subjects
- Can be useful to have SAT scores on top of the IB
- Use IB high school in the country of interest as a resource
- IBO website has recognition policies, general info on IB requirements by country
Why study in Europe?

• **Quality**
  - Excellence - Quality assured - Value for money - Lasting legacy

• **Diversity**
  - Choice - Tradition and innovation - Multicultural

• **Opportunity**
  - World-renowned - Opening doors - Portable skills - Springboard for your travels

• **Global Focus**
The Bologna Process

Towards the European Higher Education Area

- Creating the European Higher Education Area (EHEA)
- Based on cooperation between ministries, higher education institutions, students and staff from 46 countries
- Participation of international organisations.

The three priorities of the Bologna process are:

- Introduction of the three cycle system (bachelor/master/doctorate)
- Quality assurance
- Recognition of qualifications and periods of study
### Participating countries

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<tr>
<th>Albania</th>
<th>Germany</th>
<th>Poland</th>
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<tr>
<td>Andorra</td>
<td>Greece</td>
<td>Portugal</td>
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<td>Armenia</td>
<td>Holy See</td>
<td>Romania</td>
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<td>Austria</td>
<td>Hungary</td>
<td>Russian Federation</td>
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<td>Azerbaijan</td>
<td>Iceland</td>
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<td>Belgium</td>
<td>Ireland</td>
<td>Slovak Republic</td>
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<td>Bosnia-Herzegovina</td>
<td>Italy</td>
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<td>Bulgaria</td>
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<td>Czech Republic</td>
<td>Luxembourg</td>
<td>Former Yugoslavia</td>
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<td>Denmark</td>
<td>Malta</td>
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<td>Estonia</td>
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<td>Ukraine</td>
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<td>Finland</td>
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<td>United Kingdom</td>
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<td>France</td>
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<td>Norway</td>
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European Higher Education

- 4,000 higher education institutions
- over 19 million students
- 1.5 million staff
Characteristics
European higher education

- Long tradition in education
- Intellectually exciting learning environment
- 3- or 4-year Bachelor’s programmes
- 1- or 2-year Master’s
- Research (classical) Universities ↔ Universities of Applied Sciences
- European experience well beyond classroom to incorporate campus life and activities.
- Many variations in schools from location to size to academic format
Structure European Higher Education

- Entrance to a particular course of study
- Major right from the start
- Attendance classes; class discussions; group assignments, and substantial amounts of reading, writing and other work
- Grades: a combination of assignments and class participation, as well as final examination
- ECTS system (European grading system)
- Close relationship with faculty
- In Europe, campuses are quite small compared to US campuses
- Sports not a main issue in Europe
Admission requirements

- Admission requirements may differ per institution

- In most cases: proof of academic qualifications and language proficiency. IELTS and TOEFL commonly accepted

- Most countries have their own education website
Academic Calendar / payment

• 9-month academic year, from September to May/June in either:
  • Two semesters of equal length
  • Three trimesters of equal length

• During the summer, June through August, most students are on break and not taking classes. However, re-sits usually take place in summer

• Tuition fee is usually much lower than in the US

• Student bills are to be paid at the beginning of each academic term

• Payment option in instalments
Interesting websites

• Study in Europe: www.study-in-europe.org

• European University Association: http://www.eua.be/

• Bologna process: http://www.ond.vlaanderen.be/hogeronderwijs/bologna/
Germany – University Education

THE NEW GERMAN SYSTEM

• Bachelor’s (3 years)
• Master’s (1 or 2 years)
• Doctorate (3 to 5 years / research-based)

CHANGES HAVE BEEN MADE DUE TO THE BOLOGNA AGREEMENT
Admission Criteria

ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

• Secondary school leaving certificate
• Higher Education Entrance Qualification (EU vs non-EU)

ADMISSION DATA BASE – www.daad.de
Admission Criteria

INTERNATIONAL BACCALAUREATE

- First language
- Second language
- Mathematics – no math studies
- Natural sciences – no environmental systems
- Social sciences
- Optional (must be a natural science or a social science)

Final score minimum 32 from 42
Three higher levels with one in either Math or Science
Admission Criteria – Other Systems

FESTELLUNGSPRÜFUNG

• Studienkolleg
• University studies in home country
• Proof of German proficiency test DSH or DAF
The Italian Education System

- **SCHOOL**
  - 3-YEAR BACHELOR DEGREE
  - 2-YEAR MASTER OF SCIENCE DEGREE
  - Doctorate & PhD
  - 1-yr 1° level Specialized Master
  - 1-yr 2° level Specialized Master

- **JOB MARKET**
  - MASTER POST-EXP & LIFE-LONG LEARNING
Italy – Admissions Requirements

- 12 Years Education
- IB Diploma fully accepted
- US Diploma:
  Bocconi: + 5APs + SAT/ACT;
  Italian unis: + 1 year College + 4APs

www.study-in-italy.it
Dutch Universities

Master’s programme at Dutch Universities

Master’s programme outside the Netherlands

Master’s in Research

Bachelor’s programme

PhD

IB CONFERENCE OF THE AMERICAS 2015
Chicago, IL • 23–26 July
General Admission Requirements

- International Baccalaureate (IB) diploma
- European Baccalaureate (EB) diploma
- (Western European) secondary school diploma that equals the Dutch VWO diploma such as Abitur, Lycée Français, etc.
- 4 Advanced Placement subjects
- A + O levels (3 A-levels)
- Any other secondary or high school diploma plus one or two years of university education

In addition, specific admission requirements may apply per different program.

www.studyin.nl
Spanish Higher Education System

240 ECTS

BACHELOR DEGREE

60 – 120 ECTS

UNIVERSITY MASTER DEGREE

DOCTORAL PROGRAM

60 ECTS

3-4 ACADEMIC YEARS

DOCTORAL THESIS

PROFESSIONAL WORLD
Spanish Ministry of Education requires:

Spanish HSD and university access exams
Equivalent within the EU: Abitur, A-Levels, Bac etc.
IB Diploma
Bi-lateral agreement with Switzerland, China, Liechtenstein and Norway

Transfer in 30 university credits
Study in Spain – Useful Links

- MEC: www.educacion.es
- Fundación Universidades: www.universidad.es
- Universia: www.universia.es
- Eduespaña: www.eduespa.org
Swiss Education System

The Swiss Higher Education System

- Doctorate
- Master (90-120 ECTS)
- Bachelor (180 ECTS)
- Maturity Certificate (12 years)
- Professional Maturity Certificate

Universities + Federal Institutes of Technology

Universities of Applied Sciences
Schools for Teacher Education

Academic
Upper Secondary Schools

Apprenticeship + Preparation for the Professional Maturity Certificate
Diploma Intermediate

Primary and Lower Secondary Education

Source: Rectors’ Conference of the Swiss Universities CRUS
General Conditions for Entrance to Swiss Universities

1.) First Language (mother tongue)
2.) Second Language (must take German, French or Italian entry test)
3.) Mathematics - higher level/standard level (NO Math Studies)
4.) Natural Sciences (Biology, Chemistry, Physics, NO Environmental Systems)
5.) Social Sciences (Geography, History, Economics)
6.) Additional Subject within the Social Sciences, Natural Sciences or Languages

- Majority require final score of 32 out of 42 without bonus points
- Three subjects must be at the HL, one of which must be Math or Natural Science
- Requirements can vary from university to university
Important Websites / Resources

• Conférence des Recteurs des Universités Suisses (CRUS)
  - www.crus.ch
    German, French with Italian and English

• The Swiss Education Server
  - www.educa.ch
    Available in German, French, Italian, Romansch and English