

Whilst we hope your Year Abroad will be an enjoyable and transformative experience, we know students can face a number of challenges. One of the most important things to do to mitigate these risks is to fully research your Year Abroad destinations.

Here's a non-exhaustive list of things to consider for your Year Abroad placement(s).

With so many options as to where you can spend your Year Abroad, it's important that you research the location well to ensure it is somewhere you feel happy and safe for the duration of your placement.

Things to Consider	My Research Results
<b>Where is the placement located (city centre or suburbs)?</b>	
<b>How will you travel to your placement (walk, public transport, hire car)?</b>	
<b>What is the climate like? Does it vary throughout the year? Will you need to buy new attire for certain weather conditions?</b>	
<b>Are there leisure activities nearby? What will you do with your social time?</b>	
<b>Do you need a visa for your destination? How much will this cost? What is the application process? Contact your local embassy.</b>	
<b>What is the first language of the destination you are considering? Are you familiar with this language? Will you undertake language classes before or on arrival to build your confidence?</b>	

Whilst at Warwick you'll have lots of support in ensuring your accommodation is safe and easily accessible. Depending on where you travel abroad, you may have to source your own private accommodation, or accommodation facilities may differ when compared to the facilities available in the UK.

Things to Consider	My Research Results
<b>How will you source accommodation? Host university, friends and family, Facebook?</b>	
<b>Does the host university offer accommodation to inbound exchange students (if applicable)?</b>	
<b>How much will accommodation cost? Does this include local taxes, electricity, water &amp; internet charges?</b>	
<b>What are the deadlines/timeframes to apply for accommodation? Consider waiting lists, or host university deadlines.</b>	

**Do you have specific accommodation requirements as a result of a disability/condition? Can you find accommodation with facilities to support this? Is accommodation traditionally shared with others?**

### Finance

A Year Abroad can pose a number of different financial demands that you don't face in your day-to-day life at Warwick. Ensure your location is affordable for you, based on your circumstances and social activities.

Things to Consider	My Research Results
<b>What bursaries or additional funding might you be eligible for from Warwick or grant schemes? Are you eligible for current funding from student loans companies?</b>	
<b>What is the average cost of living in your destination? For example, how much is a cup of coffee?</b>	
<b>Will you need to purchase book supplies and pay for printing?</b>	
<b>How much will it cost to call your home country from a mobile phone? Would you need to get a new contract?</b>	
<b>How much does it cost to travel to your location? If you need to return home in an emergency, can you afford this?</b>	
<b>Can you budget to travel during your free time? Is it cheap to travel to local destinations or nearby countries?</b>	
<b>Will you undertake additional social activities? How much is a gym membership, joining a society or a glass of wine?</b>	
<b>Can you open a bank account in your destination country? Research the requirements to open an account or if you can continue to use your UK bank account.</b>	
<b>What will your tuition fees to Warwick be for your year?</b>	
<b>Do you need to obtain private healthcare or compulsory health insurance? How much will this cost?</b>	
<b>Does your host university have registration fees? (if applicable)</b>	

### Health and Wellbeing

A Year Abroad can pose a number of challenges, so it's important that you can keep yourself safe during your year, and research the local laws and customs that will apply to. You also need to have considered the health and wellbeing services available to you for both your physical and mental health during your time away from Warwick

### Things to Consider

### My Research Results

Have you checked the Foreign Commonwealth Office travel guide for your intended destination?

Have you read information on local laws & customs? (Attitudes towards appropriate dress, traditional gender roles, alcohol consumption and diet, religion and beliefs, current affairs and other politically sensitive issues)

Do you need to obtain private healthcare? How much will this cost?

What are crime rates like? Are personal attacks common, or are foreigners a target for scams and frauds?

Do you require particular support or special arrangements for your assignments? Can your host university provide support for this (if applicable)?

Will there be access to student support/mental health services at your host university, or through your healthcare provider? Is mental illness culturally accepted?

Can you obtain any medications you require in your host country? Have you spoken to your GP about how you may manage any current medications?

If you have a disability, are there facilities in place to help with accessibility in buildings or when travelling?

Have you researched LGBTUA+ rights? Is LGBTUA+ culturally accepted?

What is the cultural attitude towards protected characteristics? This includes, but is not limited to:

- Age
- Disability
- Gender Identity
- Sexual Orientation
- Race
- Religion or belief

### Things to Consider

### My Research Results

Research your module options – does the host university have subject specialisms or focus on specific areas eg) industrial relations or finance?

How will you be assessed for your modules?

Is there a mandatory language class?

Do you meet the entry requirements?

If you're going to split your year, what are the semester dates? Will these clash with your work placement plans?

