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# AMERICAN UNIVERSITY



WASHINGTON, DC

PROFESSIONAL

COMPETITIVE

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SCHOLARLY

**International & U.S. Global Nomad  
First-Year (Freshman) Applicants  
2013-2014**

# Application Checklist

Applicants apply online using the Common Application. The Common Application is available at [www.commonapp.org](http://www.commonapp.org).

To be considered for admission to AU, your application and **all** supporting documents listed below must be received by the appropriate deadline.

- Completed Common Application, including supplement, essay and CV/resume
- Academic records with official transcripts and certified English translations if applicable
- Two academic letters of recommendation
- Demonstrated English proficiency
- Completed AU Certification of Finances (CFIS) form, available at [www.american.edu/admissions/international](http://www.american.edu/admissions/international), showing at least U.S.\$57,039 for first year of study and living expenses
- Bank letter showing at least U.S.\$57,039 for first year of study and living expenses\*
- Application fee of U.S.\$65

\* **Only for non-U.S. citizens who will need a student visa (F or J).**

**NO SAT NEEDED! AU does not evaluate SAT or ACT scores for students (including U.S. citizens) graduating from secondary schools outside the United States. Please DO NOT submit your SAT/ACT scores to our office.**

**Important:** Late applications will significantly reduce your chances of being admitted, as well as disqualify you from merit scholarship consideration.

# Application Deadlines

If you plan to begin your studies in **August (fall semester)**:

Early Decision I.....November 15

Early Decision II.....January 15

Regular Decision.....January 15

If you plan to begin your studies in **January (spring semester)**:

Students living outside the U.S.....October 1

Students living within the U.S.....December 1

**Tip:** First-year “freshmen” applicants who wish to be considered for AU merit awards (partial scholarships) should apply for the fall

# Submitting Your Application

**Important:** Please use a **courier service** (and keep your tracking number) to send your complete application packet to:

Undergraduate Admissions  
Office of Enrollment  
3201 New Mexico Avenue, NW  
STE-B1  
Washington, DC 20016-8001  
USA  
Tel: +1-202-885-6000

If you have any questions regarding your application, please contact the International Admissions Office directly at [intadm@american.edu](mailto:intadm@american.edu).

# Early Decision I and II

The Early Decision (ED) Plan at American University is an application option for first-year students for whom AU is their first choice. The benefits of applying Early Decision are early notification of the admission decision, on-campus housing priority and early course registration. If you sign an ED agreement, you are agreeing to enroll at AU if admitted. ED is a binding commitment. You may initiate applications to other schools before notification of admission to AU. However, if admitted to AU, you must submit a tuition deposit and withdraw you're applications to others colleges and universities. The ED Plan at AU does not provide students with additional merit scholarships beyond what the Regular Decision Plan offers. Questions regarding Early Decision should be directed to the International Admissions Office at [intadm@american.edu](mailto:intadm@american.edu).

## English Proficiency

Course work at AU requires strong skills in the English language and academic preparedness. All applicants (including US citizens) whose first language is not English are required to take one of the following exams and achieve the indicated scores to demonstrate a satisfactory level of English proficiency.

Please submit **one** of the following:

1. TOEFL (Test of English as a Foreign Language)
  - Internet-based test score of 80 or higher \*
  - Paper-based test score of 550 or higher
2. IELTS (International English Language Testing System)
  - Composite score of 6.5 or higher
3. Pearson Test of English (PTE)
  - Score of 53 or higher

**\*To be considered competitive, a 90 TOEFL iBT score or above is recommended. Each TOEFL sub-score should be 20 or higher. IELTS sub-scores should be 6.0 or above.**

Please arrange for scores to be sent directly from the testing agency. (TOEFL Code: 5007)

## Certification of Finances for International Students (AU CFIS)

**Important: Please note that AU does NOT provide need-based financial aid to non-U.S. citizens.**

Applicants who require a student or exchange visitor visa (F or J) **must** submit to the International Admissions Office the AU CFIS form and a bank letter showing proof of at least U.S.\$57,039 for your first year of studies and living expenses by the appropriate deadline.

**Transfer-In Form:** If you are currently studying in the United States on an F or J visa and decide to attend AU, you will be required to submit the “Immigration Transfer-In Form” before your AU I-20 or DS-2019 can be issued.

Visit [www.american.edu/ocl/isss/Financial-Proof.cfm](http://www.american.edu/ocl/isss/Financial-Proof.cfm) for the AU Cost Guide, sample bank letters and the AU CFIS and Transfer-In forms.

## New! International Gateway Program (IGP) for Conditionally Admitted First-Year Students

The IGP is a 12-credit, semester-long residential program designed specifically for freshman applicants who have strong academic achievements but who could benefit from more support in academic writing, reading, and oral communication skills in English in order to be successful in their undergraduate degree program at AU. You cannot apply for IGP. Instead, the Office of Admissions will identify you once your AU application (including proof of English proficiency) is complete and reviewed, and extend a conditional offer of admission for fall or spring semester.

Conditionally admitted IGP students must successfully complete the IGP by earning a C or better in each of the four IGP courses to be fully admitted and enrolled in their AU program the following semester. For more information, visit [www.american.edu/Spexs/igp](http://www.american.edu/Spexs/igp) or contact [intadm@american.edu](mailto:intadm@american.edu).

## AU Merit Scholarships

American University's merit awards for international students are partial, not full, scholarships. They are highly competitive and based on a combination of outstanding academic achievement, excellent communication skills in English, leadership, volunteerism and community service.

No need-based financial aid is available to international students (non-U.S. citizens).

**No separate application form or process is required to qualify for AU merit scholarships.**

For the 2012-2013 academic year, scholarships ranged from U.S.\$6,000 to U.S.\$27,000 per year. These funds are renewable for all four years of study based on successful continued academic performance.

## Advanced Credit for Exams

Students may be eligible to receive advanced credit for exams passed during secondary school. The number of credits awarded is dependent upon the exams and academic subject. A sample list of the exams that are most frequently taken is below:

1. International Baccalaureate (IB): Credit will be awarded for most IB HL exam results of 4 or higher.
2. A-Level: Credit will be awarded for most A-level exam results. To be considered competitive, we strongly recommend no scores below "C". Credit will not be awarded for AS-level exam results.
3. Advanced Placement (AP): Credit will be awarded for most AP exam results of 4 or 5.

Other leaving exams such as French Baccalaureate, Abitur and CAPE may be eligible for advanced credit and will be evaluated on a case-by-case basis.

Visit [www.american.edu/admissions/examcredit.cfm](http://www.american.edu/admissions/examcredit.cfm) for full details on AU exam policies.

## The American University Emerging Global Leader Scholarship (AU EGLS)

The AU Emerging Global Leader Scholarship provides full tuition, room and board and fees for **one** international student who is dedicated to positive civic and social change, and to returning home to improve under-resourced, underserved communities in their home country. It is renewable for a total of four years of undergraduate study, based on continued satisfactory academic performance. Only students who will need a visa (F or J preferred) to study in the United States are eligible to apply. U.S. citizens, U.S. permanent residents or dual citizens of the United States and another country are not eligible.

Applicants must be first-year (freshmen) for fall (August) 2013, and must submit the AU EGLS application, the Common Application and all supporting documents by January 15, 2013. The most competitive applicants should have:

1. A minimum 3.8 GPA equivalent (or in the top 10 percent of graduating class)
2. A demonstrated commitment to service and advancing the needs of people in their home country
3. Excellent oral and written communication skills in English, with a minimum 6.5 IELTS (with no sub-score lower than 6.0) or 90 TOEFL iBT (with no sub-score lower than 20).
4. Demonstrated leadership, volunteerism and community service

For more information, please contact [intadm@american.edu](mailto:intadm@american.edu) or visit [www.american.edu/admissions/international/EGLS.cfm](http://www.american.edu/admissions/international/EGLS.cfm)

For more information:

[AMERICAN.EDU/ADMISSIONS/INTERNATIONAL](http://AMERICAN.EDU/ADMISSIONS/INTERNATIONAL)  
[INTADM@AMERICAN.EDU](mailto:INTADM@AMERICAN.EDU)

# THE UNIVERSITY HONORS PROGRAM

American University's Honors Program is a highly selective option for students prepared to engage in scholarly and creative work of an advanced nature as part of their AU experience. The program encourages intellectual distinction and fosters academic excellence through selected courses and a senior Capstone project that allow students to develop extended relationships with internationally recognized faculty. Students may choose to participate in the larger Honors community by living on an Honors floor in Hughes Hall and by participating in events on campus, in the nation's capital, or abroad. Members of the Honors community can major in any discipline offered at the university and can enroll in the Senior Honors multidisciplinary colloquia courses.

**There is no separate application for admission to the University Honors Program.**

## THE UNIVERSITY HONORS PROGRAM AT A GLANCE

### Freshmen:

GPA, high school academic strength, and standardized test scores (if applicable) are weighed in the selection process.

### Transfers:

Academically outstanding transfer students are also invited to join the University Honors Program. No separate application is required.

### Self-Nomination:

AU students not initially invited to join the program may self-nominate and be admitted at the discretion of the University Honors Program director if they have achieved a cumulative GPA of 3.60 or higher, typically after one academic year.

### Honors Courses and Honors Capstone:

Typically, students invited into the Honors Program as incoming freshmen will complete 30 Honors course credits, which includes a Capstone project—a significant research or creative project. The Capstone is the culmination of students' academic careers at AU and allows them to work in close

collaboration with Honors faculty to focus on a particular field of study. Students must achieve a 3.50 GPA and earn a B or better in all Honors courses to graduate with University Honors. Honors courses, which are open to Honors students only, are limited to 20 students.

**AU Named an Honor Institution**  
In 2006, the Harry S. Truman Scholarship Foundation designated AU as an Honor Institution. The award recognizes AU's "active encouragement of young people to pursue careers in public service" and its "sustained success in helping its students win Truman Scholarships."

### Scholarships:

Generally, freshmen admitted to the Honors Program receive academic scholarships. In awarding the scholarships, the university looks closely at high school GPA, the competitiveness of the high school's academic programs, and standardized test scores. The Honors Program does not award these scholarships. The Admissions Office makes all scholarship decisions.

### Activities and Special Opportunities:

In addition to academic privileges, Honors students are offered a variety of extracurricular activities that include:

- community service
- student Honors Board leadership opportunities
- on-campus Honors activities, including Tea Talks, debates, the Capstone Research Conference, the annual Thanksgiving dinner and the Student Honors Board Charity Varsity Show
- overseas Honors activities, such as the annual Study/Travel Abroad program
- living on Honors floors in Hughes Hall

## University Honors Program

Hughes Hall 105 · 4400 Massachusetts Avenue, NW · Washington, DC 20016  
Phone: 202-885-6194 · Email: [honors@american.edu](mailto:honors@american.edu) · [www.american.edu/honors](http://www.american.edu/honors)

# UNIVERSITY COLLEGE

**AU's University College (UC)** is a unique and challenging academic experience, open only to first-year students, that combines class work with a select residential setting and exciting opportunities for supervised learning activities in Washington, D.C. The program combines the best elements of college life with the vast opportunities for learning and discovery that the city has to offer.



## Your Seminar

The UC first-year seminar creates a stimulating, small-group learning experience (limited to about 20 students) where you will have the opportunity to engage in lively interaction with your professor and classmates. All UC seminars are taught by outstanding AU faculty who are respected scholars in their fields. Additionally, your professor is assisted by a program associate (PA)—an upper-class student who lives in your residential neighborhood, attends your seminar, acts as a mentor, and helps implement the cocurricular components of the course.

## Residential Neighborhood

As part of the UC community, you'll live in one of the on-campus residence halls with other AU students. However, each UC seminar is linked to a particular residence hall and may even be taught in the hall. Your roommate will be a classmate from your seminar, and your other classmates will live on the same floor. This residential "neighborhood" allows you to more easily build relationships with other talented students, share academic interests and experiences, and adjust to college life in D.C. together.

## Your Experience

The UC's out-of-class activities link your specific course to the unrivaled resources of Washington, D.C. You will start your

first semester by participating the week before classes officially begin in either the Freshman Service Experience or Discover DC program as selected by your professor in order to link with your UC course. These programs are open to all incoming freshmen, but participating with your UC will allow you to bond with your classmates and bring your experiences back into the classroom.

## Seminar Options

UC seminars fulfill AU-wide requirements, so any seminar will take you one step closer to graduation, regardless of your intended course of study, and may also fulfill major requirements. There are two program options for UC students: Fall Only or Year-Long. Seminar offerings change each year.

### *Fall Only*

Choose from seven seminars for your fall semester. In the spring, the residential and social experience will continue since most students stay in the same room all year, but there is no academic component.

### *Year-Long*

The year-long option combines our signature academic experience with student-designed individual projects. In the spring semester, students in these seminars will build on the academic

experience from the fall through a supervised research, creative or community service project.

## The Washington Lab

Many AU students choose to come here because of our location, and we want to help you take advantage of the city right from the start. Not only is DC the nation's capital, it also boasts a vibrant visual and performing arts scene and is a real city where people live, work and raise families. Through the UC Washington Lab, you will discover both "official Washington" and "the real DC." Your PA and your professor will serve as your insider tour guides, filling you in on where to go—and not go—and what to do, as well as the behind-the-scenes story of what really goes on in Washington. The UC's out-of-class activities seamlessly link your specific course to the unrivaled resources of Washington, D.C.

## How to Join

UC is open to all admitted AU freshmen; however, space is limited to approximately 375 students. More information is provided upon your admission to the university.

## Find Out More!

[www.american.edu/universitycollege](http://www.american.edu/universitycollege)  
Become a fan on Facebook!



## A SAMPLE OF WHERE YOU CAN STUDY ABROAD

### MIDDLE EAST & NORTH AFRICA

Israel: Tel Aviv University  
Jordan: Language + Culture or Advanced Arabic Language Programs (CIEE)  
Morocco: AMIDEAST in Rabat  
United Arab Emirates: American University Sharjah

### ASIA

China: Chinese University of Hong Kong  
India: Manipal University  
Japan: Waseda University  
Korea: Yonsei University  
Taiwan: National Chengchi University

### OCEANIA

Australia: The Australian National University  
Australia: University of Melbourne

New Zealand: University of Auckland  
New Zealand: Victoria University of Wellington

### UNITED KINGDOM/IRELAND

England: London Internship Program (FIE)  
England: London School of Economics  
Ireland: University College Dublin  
Ireland: University of Limerick  
Scotland: University of Edinburgh  
Scotland: University of Glasgow

### AFRICA

Ghana: Ashesi University and University of Ghana (CIEE)  
Kenya: Issues in Sustainable Development in Nairobi  
Senegal: Language and Culture (CIEE)  
South Africa: University of Cape Town

### CENTRAL/SOUTH AMERICA

Argentina: Universidad Torcuato di Tella  
Brazil: Pontificia Universidade Católica do Rio do Janeiro  
Chile: Santiago Program  
Costa Rica: Universidad Nacional Autónoma (IFSA - Butler)  
Cuba: Havana Program

### NORTH AMERICA

Canada: University of Toronto  
Mexico: Centro de Investigaciones y Docencia Económicas  
Mexico: Universidad de las Américas, Puebla

### EUROPE

Belgium: European Union in Action  
Czech Republic: Prague Programs (CET)  
Denmark: Copenhagen (DIS)  
Finland: Aalto University School of Economics  
France: Rouen Business School  
France: Intensive French in Paris  
Germany: Freie Universität Berlin (FU-BEST)  
Germany: Junior Year in Munich at LMU  
Germany: University of Osnabrueck  
Italy: Intensive Italian at the University of Modena  
Italy: Studio Art Centers International  
Netherlands: University of Leiden  
Norway: BI Norwegian School of Management  
Poland: Jagiellonian University, Centre for European Studies  
Russia: Russian Language and Area Studies (ACTR)  
Spain: Universidad Pontificia Comillas  
Sweden: University of Gothenburg  
Tajikistan: Eurasian Regional Language Program (ACTR)  
Turkey: Koc University

# AU ABROAD

With more than 165 offerings in 45 locations, from Kenya to Cuba, across 6 continents, 60 percent of our students participate in one of our one- or two-semester, alternative spring break or language immersion programs before they graduate.

Where in the world will you go with AU?

## It's not just about the sights; it's also about the insights.

A wide variety of study abroad programming is available at AU, each organized upon different principles. Individual interests and academic needs mean that the right choice of study abroad program will be different for each and every student. In order to narrow the selection, there are four considerations to think about before you begin to search for the best study abroad program for you:

### ACADEMICS

It is important to consider the parameters for study abroad of each major and minor. You will meet with your academic advisor at several points in the study abroad process to discuss what courses you should or must take while abroad and how your study abroad coursework will fit into your overall academic program at AU.

### COST

Before you begin the application process, it is vital for you to consider how you pay for your education at AU and what additional expenses may or may not be incurred because you are studying abroad. It is also important to discuss your finances with your parents and/or those who finance your education at AU.

### LANGUAGE

It is important to consider whether you wish to study language and/or study in a foreign language while abroad. Many programs, especially those where you will enroll directly in a foreign university, will require you to take regular university classes instructed in the host country language. Others will offer classes instructed in English for visiting students, while others will offer courses instructed in English for all students.

### RISK

This is the hardest factor to define. In the context of study abroad, risk is your willingness to cope with ambiguity in the study abroad experience. Some programs offer you the opportunity to take a set schedule of classes that are designed for the students that sign up for the program. Room and board are frequently arranged in advance, and sometimes organized excursions and activities are included. On other programs, you will travel as an individual student directly enrolling in a foreign university. In these programs, you are largely responsible to manage your experience and sort out your arrangements on your own. You may have to take the initiative to connect with students and faculty at your host institution. You also may be responsible for your own housing arrangements. Further, there are many programs that offer a mix of study options. In addition some primarily direct enrollment programs, may have additional support services specifically for study abroad students. In thinking about differences in risk, consider what you find exciting and what you find frightening.

# AU CAREER CENTER

Our Career Center is an excellent resource dedicated to assisting undergraduates, graduate students and alumni develop educational and career goals, decision-making skills and job search strategies needed to achieve their academic and professional aspirations.

## SEEK EXPERT ADVICE

Soak in all that AU has to offer, and apply what you learn in school to your life beyond our campus. Leverage the knowledge and expertise of Career Center advisors for the College of Arts and Sciences, the School of Communication, the School of International Service and the School of Public Affairs. (The Kogod School of Business offers career services through their Center for Career Development.)

## IDENTIFY YOUR PASSION

Work with us to assess your interests and skills, identify your passion and pursue the path that's right for you. Advisors guide you every step of the way, from choosing a major and securing internships to considering an advanced degree and launching a career.

## CAPITALIZE ON INTERNSHIPS

Enhance your coursework with substantive, hands-on experience. Work with a Career Center advisor to find meaningful credit or noncredit internships. Develop and improve your skills, strengthen your résumé and start building a professional network.

## CONNECT WITH EMPLOYERS

Meet representatives from leading public, private and nonprofit organizations on campus, online and throughout the area. Build relationships with alumni and employers through Career Center events, including fall and spring job and internship fairs, on-campus interviews, receptions and workshops. Also network online and apply for positions listed by alumni and employers on AU CareerWeb.

## COMPETE FOR NATIONAL SCHOLARSHIPS

Excel academically and compete for merit-based awards and scholarships that fund study abroad, graduate education and prestigious internships. Merit award advisors and faculty provide intensive training and mentoring. In the process, you'll sharpen your academic and career goals, master techniques for applying to graduate school and perfect your skills in writing, researching and interviewing.

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Butler Pavilion, 5th Floor  
American University  
4400 Massachusetts Avenue, NW  
Washington, DC 20016-8011

Phone: 202-885-1804  
Fax: 202-885-1861  
E-mail: [careercenter@american.edu](mailto:careercenter@american.edu)  
[www.american.edu/careercenter](http://www.american.edu/careercenter)

### By the Numbers:

1

2011 ranking by  
*U.S. News and World Report*  
of undergraduates'  
participation in internships

18

2012 national ranking of the  
AU Career Center by  
*The Princeton Review*

85

Percentage of undergraduates  
who complete at least one  
internship

8,000

Internships and jobs listed  
annually on AU CareerWeb

40

Fulbright Scholars  
2005-2010

10

Udall Scholars 2007-2011

12

Truman Scholars 2004-2010

36

2010 Presidential  
Management Fellows

5

2010 national ranking for  
Presidential Management  
Fellows