

**Academic Course and Credit Information**  
**University of Kent-Canterbury**  
Updated September 2011

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### Choosing the Right Subjects

- The University of Kent study abroad course catalog is accessed through the EuroLearn website via <http://www.eurolearn.org/Subject/ProgramID473/>
- Select the school of Humanities, Social Sciences, or Sciences and then the subject area most similar to your current major or minor to see what subjects are available in each area.
- Then click on “Module Catalogue” in the blue box on the right side of the screen.
- Click on “Humanities,” “Sciences,” or “Social Sciences” on the left or right hand side of the screen to see a list of all the classes available in that subject area.
- The classes that first appear will be in “Stage 1.” You can click on the tab at the top of the screen to move to “Stage 2 and 3” classes. The Stage indicates the level of the course. Stage 1 classes are generally equivalent to Sophomore level classes in the United States. Stages 2 and 3 correspond to upper level (Junior and Senior) classes in the United States.
- Be sure to only select classes that are offered in the semester you will be abroad (Fall, Spring, or Full Year). Each class description will include this information where it says “Term”:
  - “Autumn” = Fall Semester only
  - “Spring” = Spring Semester only
  - “Autumn and Spring” = Full Year only (cannot be taken for a single semester)
- There are a few restrictions that apply to subject selection/availability:
  - Students studying sciences must enroll for an academic year as early assessment is not always available.
  - Drama and film students may have difficulty finding available classes as they fill up quickly by local, full-degree students.
  - Due to the different requirements of the curriculum within the Faculty of Science, Technology and Medical Studies (STMA), students taking courses within the STMS Faculty are asked to list their MAJOR course interests only and to select a full range of modules from areas outside of your major. Individual programs for such students will be arranged during discussions with the relevant advisor.
- All EuroLearn students are required to take 60 University of Kent credit points per semester equivalent to 15 U.S. semester credits. The Kent credit system is very different from that of the U.S. or Canada. Courses or modules have varying values, typically 15, 30 and 45. The general North American semester equivalencies are:

- Kent 15 credits = 3.75 U.S. semester credits
- Kent 30 credits = 7.5 U.S. semester credits
- Kent 45 credits = 11.25 U.S. semester credits

## Prerequisites and Course Approval

- Where a prerequisite is listed, you are not expected to have taken exactly the same course at your own institution, but you are expected to have studied the same subject area at the same level as the Kent prerequisite.
- Be sure that you have submitted updated transcripts to EuroLearn so that your prerequisites can be properly evaluated. If your current course registration is not listed on the transcript you will need to provide a list of courses underway as one may represent the prerequisite.
- It is important to apply for modules for which you have the appropriate academic background. For example, don't plan to take a Stage 2 or Stage 3 biology course if you have only taken one biology course prior to study abroad at Kent.
- When you have been accepted to the EuroLearn program you will be asked to submit an Intended Subject Plan listing 8-10 modules that you would be interested in taking at Kent in order of priority. The total credit value should be at least 120 Kent credits.
- The Academic Schools at Kent then review the registration requests in light of class scheduling and availability at the time of submission and a tentative registration for 60 credits is returned to you approximately one month after you have received your Kent Letter of Acceptance. You will have an opportunity to make new selections if a full 60 credits is not confirmed.

## Course Scheduling and Enrollment

- You will be pre-registered in your courses prior to arrival at Kent. Limited adjustments to your courses may be available during orientation upon arrival although it is important that students (and Study Abroad advisors) understand that there is no guarantee on the availability of modules. This is why it is crucial that students submit multiple choices.
- There is no guarantee that all courses will be available every year and timetable conflicts can also arise, so list your selection in order of preference. Please make it clear if you have specific alternatives should your first choice not be available.

## Academic Differences between the U.K. and the U.S./Canada

Students in England typically attend university for three years, beginning courses in their major during their first semester since there is not a "general studies" requirement like most U.S. and Canadian four-year institutions. First level classes are at least equivalent to sophomore level classes in the U.S. as British students often begin specializing in their subject area one to two years prior to university.

The academic year at Kent-Canterbury runs from September to June and is divided into three terms. This includes a Fall Term from September to December, a Spring Term from January to April/May, and Summer Term which is a 6 week exam period running until early June. To accommodate international students on the

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Semester system, alternate assessment has been arranged for students studying ONLY for the Fall Term (with some restrictions as noted above). Year-Abroad and Spring Term students will be assessed during the normal exam period in the Summer Term, mid-May to mid-June.

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## Grading Conversion Guide

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### University of Kent-Canterbury

UK % Mark	US Grade
70+	A+
67-69	A
64-66	A-
61-63	B+
58-60	B
55-57	B-
52-54	C+
48-51	C
44-47	C-
40-43	D
39 or less	F

A full time credit load for an Academic Year is 120 Kent Credits or 60 Kent Credits for one semester of study. Fifteen credits at Kent typically equal four U.S. semester credit hours and involve approximately the same amount of work.