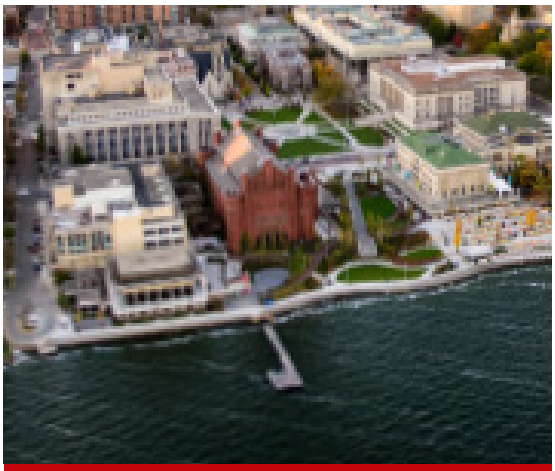




University of Wisconsin - Madison

Exchange Students

UW-Madison has long been recognized as one of the greatest universities in the United States, regularly ranked as one of the top public research universities in the United States.

Many of UW-Madison's academic programs are ranked among the best in the nation with 9000+ courses and 500+ degree programs. A public, land-grant institution, UW-Madison offers a complete spectrum of humanities, social science, business, science, and engineering courses.

Madison, Wisconsin

A place to call home

Madison is the capital of Wisconsin and one of the hubs of education, business, and culture in our state, known also for its vibrant entertainment and performing arts scene.

Madison residents are active, and spend time in parks, hiking and on bike paths, and in and around Madison's four lakes. Madison has frequently been ranked as one of the best places to live in the United States.

Madison is connected to many large cities by bus:

- Milwaukee (1.5 hours)
- Chicago (3 hours)
- Minneapolis (5 hours)





Study Abroad
UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-MADISON

A National Leader:

#4: Best Public University in the US (Time magazine, 2026)

#12 America's Best Colleges among public universities (U.S. News & World Report, 2025-2026)

Top 10 "New Ivy" among public universities in the US (Forbes magazine, 2026)

9000+ courses offered in over **160** academic departments

1100+ student organizations

378 hectares of campus between **2** beautiful lakes







Resources

UW-Madison
wisc.edu

UW-Madison Incoming Exchange
studyabroad.wisc.edu/exchange

UW-Madison Course Search
public.enroll.wisc.edu

Campus Involvement
soli.wisc.edu

City of Madison
madison.wisc.edu



Academics at UW-Madison

As an exchange student, you select from over 9,000 course offered each year and enroll in courses with degree-seeking UW-Madison students. This will give you the opportunity to experience what it is like to be a student at a US university. You can meet students, in your classes and through campus organizations, and build friendships and connections. UW-Madison does not offer any courses exclusively for exchange students.

UW-Madison offers courses in many different fields of study. In addition to taking courses towards degree progress, students frequently take courses outside of their subject/department of choice (known as a major). As an exchange student, you are required to be a full-time student and can enroll in courses in a variety of departments. Most academic areas at UW-Madison are open to exchange students. Depending on your exchange agreement, course access by department may vary. Undergraduate exchange students are expected to enroll in a full time load of 12-18 credits each semester while graduate exchange students are expected to enroll in a full time load of 8-15 credits.

Please note that exchange students are rarely, if ever, allowed to enroll in courses from UW-Madison professional schools (Medicine, Veterinary Medicine, Pharmacy, Nursing, Law, Education, etc).

Academic Year	September - May
Fall Semester	September - December
Spring Semester	January - May







Housing

On-campus housing through UW-Madison's Division of University Housing is in high demand and cannot be guaranteed. You should be prepared to live off-campus, and there are many private apartments, houses, and co-ops that are close to campus.

You can take advantage of on-campus dining services, a wide variety of local restaurants, and can purchase food at many local grocery and convenience stores.

Campus Life

UW-Madison has numerous opportunities for getting involved on campus and in the community. There are approximately over 1100 registered student organizations that you can join.

UW-Madison is home to 23 Division I varsity teams which compete at the highest level in collegiate sports. Exchange students can attend games in our iconic stadium and arenas throughout the year.

If you love sports, fitness and recreation, or the outdoors, there are plenty of opportunities that you can participate in with your peers.

Madison has a large variety of things to do, including museums, arts & music venues and festivals, unique local shopping, award-winning restaurants, sporting events, bike and walking trails, and so much more.

Activities near Campus

- Olbrich Botanical Gardens (outdoor, indoor and special events)
- Overture Center for the Arts (Broadway and local shows and events)
- Madison Opera (frequent and varied performances)
- Unique annual events (Madison is famous for its festivals and events)
- Henry Vilas Zoo (free admission)
- UW-Madison Arboretum (almost 700 hectares of forest, prairies and wetlands)
- More than 270 parks
- More than 300 km of bike trails (buy or rent a bike during your stay)
- Nation's largest producers-only farmer's market (hundreds of weekly vendors)
- 100+ restaurants and cafes in downtown Madison

52,000+ students representing

50 states and

125+ countries







Becoming an Exchange Student

Does UW-Madison seem like a good fit for you?

Your first step in the application process is to apply, be selected, and then be nominated by your home university as an exchange student. Contact your home university's international office to learn more about this process.

You will apply online for exchange at UW-Madison. We are available to answer questions application and pre-departure questions, as well as to provide support and resources for you while you are in Madison.



Contact Us

Contact information as well as more detailed information related to exchange at UW-Madison can be found at **studyabroad.wisc.edu/exchange**

Your home institution will have an agreement with one or more of the following exchange offices within UW Study Abroad:

International Academic Programs (IAP General Exchange)
Wisconsin School of Business (WSB Business Exchange)
International Engineering Studies & Programs (ENGR Engineering Exchange)
College of Agricultural and Life Sciences (CALS Exchange)

Please contact our Incoming Exchange Team with any questions.