

## Exchange Programs at Georgia Institute of Technology

## **Office** of International Education





## Study Abroad at Georgia Tech

The many benefits of study abroad — personal growth, broadened perspective, competitive edge in a global economy — offer even greater value when you choose the Georgia Institute of Technology for this very important cultural and educational experience.

Georgia Tech is one of the most respected science- and technology-focused research universities in the United States. Our programs are highly ranked, our campus community is dynamic and diverse, and our traditional wooded campus is located in the heart of Atlanta, Georgia — an international city with a thriving business environment, vibrant arts and entertainment scene, temperate climate, and the world's busiest airport.

### Academic Calendar

Fall Semester Classes begin in the middle of August and end in the middle of December.

**Spring Semester** Classes begin in early January and end in early May.



## Exchange Student Excursions

The Office of International Education sponsors activities and off-campus outings that give you an opportunity to explore Atlanta, the state of Georgia, and other regional highlights. Previous excursions have included whitewater rafting in Tennessee, visits to the Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Memorial Center in Atlanta, and hiking in North Georgia.



Georgia Tech's student body includes nearly 5,000 international students representing more than 124 countries.



## Georgia Tech Quick Facts

- More than 1,000 full-time faculty.
- More than \$688 million in annual funded research.
- 450-acre campus with more than 11,000 trees.
- 21,000+ undergraduate and graduate students.

## National Rankings

- No. 7 Public University in the U.S. (the only technology-focused school to make the list).
- No. 4 Engineering School in the United States.
- No. 1 Annualized Return on Investment in Higher Education (PayScale.com).
- No. 1 Smartest College Students in the U.S. (*Business Insider 2015*).
- 12 undergraduate programs in the Top 10 (U.S. News & World Report).

Student Population

• 4.951 International Students.

• 7.859 Other U.S. Students/Residents.

10,949 Georgia Students.

# GEORGIA

## Georgia Quick Facts

- Population: Approximately 10+ million.
- Located in the Southeastern United States.
- 15 Fortune 500 companies and 26 Fortune 1000 companies are headquartered in Georgia.
- More than 1,700 international businesses representing 43 countries have locations in Georgia.
- 10th largest economy of 50 U.S. states.
- 4th largest film economy in U.S.
- Home of former U.S. President Jimmy Carter.
- Terrain includes Appalachian mountains, rolling hills, coastal plain, and beaches.

### Weather

Atlanta typically has mild winters, warm springs, hot summers, and cool autumns, with average temperatures such as:

January High 52F, 11C • Low 33F, .55C

**April** High 73F, 22C • Low 50F, 10C

**July** High 89F, 31C • Low 71F, 21C

**October** High 73F, 22C • Low 53F, 12C

## Atlanta Quick Facts

- Metro Area Population: Approximately 5.3 million.
- Largest city in Georgia and the Southeastern U.S.
- The 7th most-visited city in the U.S., hosting more than 35 million visitors a year.
- World's busiest airport with direct flights to more than 200 cities.
- Home to 49 foreign consulates, 31 foreign-American chambers of commerce, and 16 trade and tourism offices.
- Boasts more than 10,000 restaurants, featuring cuisines from around the world.





## Academics at Georgia Tech

Six World-Class Colleges

Exchange students may take classes in multiple disciplines from any of our six colleges:

#### **College of Architecture**

Offers a curriculum that brings together all facets of the design and build environment as well as visual arts, with degrees in architecture, building construction, city and regional planning, industrial design, music technology, and urban design. **www.coa.gatech.edu** 

#### Scheller College of Business

Offers a degree in business administration that gives students a broad understanding of business and management and helps them prepare for top jobs in a range of fields in today's technology-driven global economy. www.scheller.gatech.edu



## ACADEMICS

#### **College of Computing**

Teaches not only computing technology, but also how to apply it to tackle real-world problems, with customizable degrees in computer science and computational media, and a creative and supportive environment. www.cc.gatech.edu

#### **College of Engineering**

One of the nation's top five engineering schools with degrees in aerospace, biomedical, chemical and biomolecular, civil, computer, electrical, environmental, industrial, materials science, mechanical, and nuclear and radiological engineering. www.coe.gatech.edu

#### Ivan Allen College of Liberal Arts

Offers the contextual understanding that is the hallmark of the humanities and social sciences, with degrees in applied languages and intercultural studies; computational media; economics; history and sociology; international affairs; literature, media and communication; and public policy. **www.iac.gatech.edu** 

#### **College of Sciences**

Brings new discoveries to the classroom and offers research opportunities that address the challenges facing mankind. Degree programs include biology; chemistry and biochemistry; earth and atmospheric sciences; mathematics; physics; and psychology. www.cos.gatech.edu













## Campus Life & Student Activities

Students come to Georgia Tech not only for our highly ranked academic programs, but also for our traditional American campus experience.

There is always something fun or interesting going on – sports, concerts, theater, dance, indoor and outdoor recreation, lectures, social gatherings, service projects, and more. Many of these events and activities can also help you further your academic and professional goals.

Exchange students are encouraged to participate in student organizations to share diverse perspectives, learn about other cultures, and build a network of support. You're sure to find other students who share your interests and experience something new.

Our more than 400 student organizations include:

- 45+ religious organizations.
- 6 student publication and media groups, including a 100,000-watt student-run radio station, WREK, and award-winning *Technique* newspaper.
- 60+ cultural/diversity organizations.
- 35 arts-related groups.
- 85+ service/political/educational organizations.
- 17 Division I men's and women's athletics teams.
- 80+ sports and recreation clubs, including soccer (football!), ice hockey, lacrosse, badminton, tennis, rugby, volleyball, and water polo.
- 56 fraternities and sororities.

# SERVICES

### Student Services & Facilities

As a student at Georgia Tech, you'll have access to state-of-the-art facilities, conveniently located amenities, and wellmanaged services that support your success and reflect our status as one of the top-ranked public universities in the U.S.

Some of our key services and facilities include:

- Clough Undergraduate Learning Commons, a five-story, 220,000-squarefoot facility open 24/7 (except Institute holidays) to support student study, projects, communications, collaboration, and academic success.
- Campus Recreation Center with 15,000 square-foot fitness center, 50-meter pool with diving well (home of the 1996 Olympic swimming/diving competitions), leisure pool with water slide, indoor running track, climbing wall, game room, and more.
- **Health Services Building** providing primary medical care, pharmacy, specialty clinics, and more.
- Student Center with hair salon, post office, game room, meeting rooms, craft center, coffeehouse, and more.
- Dining Services with 20+ options that include popular franchises, a range of international cuisines, and residence hall dining. Meal plans offer resident and retail dining combined.



- Barnes & Noble Bookstore offering books, movies and music, computer and electronics sales and service, textbooks, school supplies, and Georgia Tech merchandise.
- On-Campus Housing with more than 40 residence halls catering to a range of graduate and undergraduate student needs.
- On-Campus Transportation includes free buses, trolleys, and shuttles that cover all hours of day and night, weekdays, and weekends. (Georgia Tech is also within walking distance of Atlanta's rapid transit system, MARTA.)



## Applying to Georgia Tech

#### **Getting Started**

Have your international office contact the Office of International Education at Georgia Tech to request a current application packet and confirm that we are able to host you.

#### Costs

The costs of attending Georgia Tech as an exchange student are determined by agreements between your university and Georgia Tech. Please check with your international office to learn what costs may be involved.

#### **Requirements**

#### All Exchange Students:

- A complete application for admission.
- Financial documents showing proof of funding for living expenses during exchange period.
- Housing application, if on-campus housing is requested. (On-campus housing is not guaranteed for students who will be at Georgia Tech fall semester only.)

#### Undergraduate Exchange Students

- All undergraduate students are required to submit TOEFL scores unless their current school's primary language of instruction is English.
- Official and original academic transcripts for all studies beyond high school in both native language and English translation.

## Graduate Exchange Students

- Official and original transcripts for all college-level study at both the graduate and undergraduate levels. All transcripts must include the grade you earned in each course.
- Proof of undergraduate degree (the equivalent of a U.S. bachelor's degree).
  If your transcript does not indicate completion of a degree, a letter or diploma is acceptable.
- GRE/GMAT scores and letters of recommendation may also be required.
- See Georgia Tech graduate admissions TOEFL requirements online.
  www.gradadmiss.gatech.edu

#### **Immigration Requirements**

Once you are accepted, a DS-2019 form (Certificate of Eligibility for J-1/Exchange Visitor Status) will be sent to you so you may obtain your J-1 student visa. Your J-1 status will require that you enroll for at least 12 credit hours per semester, typically four classes. You can enter the U.S. up to 30 days before the start date on your DS-2019 and remain in the U.S. for up to 30 days after the expiration date.

For more information regarding J-1 visa requirements, please contact the nearest U.S. embassy or consulate in your area. To find contact information, visit **www.usembassy.gov.** 

#### **Classes and Registration**

Course descriptions can be viewed on Georgia Tech's online catalog at **www.catalog. gatech.edu.** Course information for each semester is available at least 60 days before the semester is scheduled to begin. As an exchange student, you will not be able to register before you arrive on campus; however, you can consult the catalog for a range of options in advance. The registration process will be explained thoroughly during your orientation program.

#### **Application Window**

**Fall Semester** – Applications due no later than April 15.

**Spring Semester** – Applications due no later than October 1.

All application materials should be sent to the Office of International Education. We will forward your documents to the admissions office for an official acceptance decision. The application process takes six to eight weeks, so students are encouraged to apply as early as possible within the application window. www.oie.gatech.edu/exchange

#### Housing

Residence hall housing is guaranteed for all year-long or spring semester exchange students who submit their housing application and deposit on time. (Please note: Exchange students who are attending fall semester only are not guaranteed on-campus housing and may need to make other arrangements.)

The Department of Housing will send you your room assignment shortly before you arrive on campus. Most exchange students are provided with private bedrooms, with kitchen and bathroom facilities shared by three or four students. You can view housing information at **www.housing.gatech.edu.** 

#### Orientation

#### Undergraduate Exchange Students

Exchange students are required to complete International Student Check-in prior to registering for classes. There is also a mandatory orientation session, held once during FASET orientation and once during the first week of the semester.

## APPLY

Mandatory International Student Orientation starts the week before classes and is hosted by the Office of International Education. This orientation will allow you to learn about your immigration status, meet with other new international students, and learn about valuable campus resources specifically for international students.

Exchange students are also strongly encouraged to attend FASET Orientation. (FASET stands for Familiarization and Adaptation to the Surroundings and Environs of Tech.) At FASET, you will meet faculty, administrators and other students, and learn more about Tech's academic environment, campus traditions, and important support services. You will also meet your academic advisors and register for classes. For dates and registration instructions, please visit **www.faset.getech.edu.** 

#### **Graduate Exchange Students**

Graduate exchange students are strongly encouraged to attend New Graduate Student Orientation. More information is available at www.grad.gatech.edu.

Note: Application requirements are subject to change. Please review the requirements outlined on your application packet to make sure you have the most up-to-date information.

#### **Health Insurance**

All international students will be auto-enrolled in the Georgia Tech Student Health Insurance Plan (SHIP). Students who already have acceptable insurance may request a waiver for SHIP by submitting an English copy of their insurance policy.

### Important Contact Information

#### **Office of International Education**

www.oie.gatech.edu 404.894.7475 incomingexchange@oie.gatech.edu (Please note: This is the primary contact for exchange students before they arrive on campus.)

#### **Academic Advising**

www.advising.gatech.edu

#### **Office of Disability Services**

www.adapts.gatech.edu 404.894.2563 (Voice) 404.894.1664 (TDD)

#### **Dining Services**

www.gatechdining.com 404.894.2383

#### Housing

www.housing.gatech.edu 404.894.2470

#### Georgia Tech Police Department

www.police.gatech.edu 404.894.2500

#### **Health Services**

www.health.gatech.edu 404.894.1420

#### **Bursar's Office**

www.bursar.gatech.edu 404.894.4618

#### **Registrar's Office**

www.registrar.gatech.edu 404.894.4150

#### Virtual Campus Tour www.gatech.edu/tour

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