

THE UNIVERSITY OF VERMONT (UVM)

INSTITUTIONAL INFORMATION SHEET 2017-2018

The **University of Vermont** combines faculty-student relationships most commonly found in a small liberal arts college with the resources of a major research institution. The university is home to 10,459 undergraduates, 1,530 graduate students, 449 medical students and 1,065 full- and 239 part-time faculty. Located in Burlington, Vermont (consistently voted one of the USA's healthiest and most exciting small cities), UVM's setting in a valley on the shores of Lake Champlain, between the Adirondack and the Green mountain ranges, inspires visitors and residents.

Exchange At-a-Glance – Important Dates

Academic Calendar

Below are the dates of the academic calendar for the 2017-2018 school year at UVM. Specific dates are provided where available; otherwise the general timeline is provided. Students must plan to be present at UVM from the beginning of orientation until the end of the exam period.

First term/semester

Move-in Dates:	August 21-22, 2017
Orientation:	August 23-25, 2017
Registration:	Provided to Accepted Students
Classes Begin:	August 28, 2017
Classes End:	December 8, 2017
Examination Period:	December 11-15, 2017
Move-out dates:	December 15, 2016. Year-long students return on January 15, 2018.
Vacation Period(s):	Thanksgiving Recess: November 20-24, 2017

Second term/semester

Move-in Dates:	January 8-9, 2018
Orientation:	January 10-12, 2018
Registration:	Dates will be provided to accepted students
Classes begin:	January 16, 2018
Classes end:	May 4, 2018
Examination period:	May 7-11, 2018
Move-out Dates:	May 11, 2018
Vacation period(s):	Spring Recess: March 12-16, 2018

International Student Orientation

Attendance at orientation is **REQUIRED**. The program covers cultural and academic adjustment to UVM as well as social opportunities to connect with other students and UVM staff. Housing is covered for this period, but there may be additional meal plan costs for students. Our [International Student Orientation webpage](#) has additional details.



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Living/Learning B-101
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UVM Academic Information

APPLICATION AND ACCEPTANCE

UVM looks forward to welcoming exchange students each semester. Exchange application deadlines are provided to partner institutions annually, and institutions must nominate their students to UVM. UVM makes a review based on: academic major/fit, English language proficiency (minimum TOEFL iBT: 79 or IELTS: 6.5), and information provided in personal statement. Students fill out an online application upon nomination by home institution. UVM can accept limited graduate-level students pending approval from the UVM graduate department. Please contact the OIE for more information.

PRE-ARRIVAL – COURSE REGISTRATION AND RESTRICTIONS

Course descriptions and information is [here](#). Not all courses are offered every semester, and students must be flexible in selection of UVM coursework. Students will have the opportunity to register for courses once accepted to UVM. Due to the current UVM enrollment, exchange students are unlikely to be able to enroll in any Theater or Art/Art Studio courses. Courses in psychology are also limited, and upper-level undergraduate courses may be restricted to exchange students. Students are responsible for the payment of lab fees, late book fees for the library, housing damage fees, physical education/PEAC fees, music fees, physical therapy services, etc.

ENGLISH LANGUAGE REQUIREMENTS AND SUPPORT

Incoming exchange students must meet language proficiency as described in application section. Students providing a TOEFL iBT 79-89 and other students not meeting UVM's standard requirements for any reason will be required to take an English placement test during international student orientation. Depending on test performance, students may be required to enroll in an ESOL course for UVM credit, in addition to other coursework. Some English language courses are offered at UVM. These courses are available for varying skill levels and amounts of credit. Students enroll in these classes by following registration procedures. These courses are included in exchange tuition benefits.

DURING EXCHANGE

Students typically take 4-5 classes per 15-week semester. Each semester finishes with a one-week exam period. Students can expect to spend about 3 hours per week in a lecture/discussion for each class. Additional time is spent studying. Grades at UVM are calculated on a 4.0 scale, with 4.0=A, 3.0=B, 2.0=C, 1.0=D. Academic support is available to exchange students in several formats.

POST EXCHANGE (CREDIT TRANSFER AND TRANSCRIPTS)

Home institutions set all policy regarding credits for coursework completed on a UVM exchange. It is the responsibility of students to be aware of these policies. Transcripts are available to be requested one week after exams end in a given term. Students MUST request their transcripts by filling out the online transcript request form. Transcript request forms CANNOT be completed by others on behalf of the student. Students must make sure they have paid all remaining debts to the university, or transcripts will not be issued. Transcript requests should be made [online prior to](#) the student departing from UVM.



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Housing, Dining, and Expenses

Exchange students are expected to live in UVM residence halls. Costs vary by exchange agreement, and students should consult their home institutions to understand what is covered at UVM. If you have any special housing or meal needs, you should notify the OIE when you accept your placement.

HOUSING

Exchange students are housed in suite double, traditional double, or within a special housing community for exchange students. Single rooms are available on a limited basis, and students should not expect this format of housing. All rooms are single-sex, but suites may be mixed-sex. Students must supply bedding, linens, and towels. Bathrooms are shared, and cooking and laundry facilities are available for shared use. After acceptance, The Office of Residential Life will send you an on-line housing application. Students may register for break housing at an additional cost of around \$150 per week. Students from “All-inclusive” exchange programs have these costs covered. Only full year exchange students are eligible for winter break housing. You may find information about UVM housing at: <http://reslife.uvm.edu>

DINING

All students are required to have a meal plan. For more information, including fees, visit the [Meal Plan Office website](#). Meal plans do not cover break periods, and many dining locations are closed. However, students can save the “points” and eat on campus at some locations during break.

PERSONAL EXPENSES

Students are responsible for personal expenses including: specific course fees, books, transportation, entertainment, etc. We recommend \$300-\$500 per month in living expenses and recommend that students budget \$300-500 per semester for books/materials. The actual amount will vary by student.

Medical Requirements and Health Services

HEALTH INSURANCE REQUIREMENTS

J-1 students must meet US Department of State insurance standards. Exchange students are required to provide proof of a verifiable insurance plan comparable to UVM’s or will be enrolled in UVM’s health insurance. ISEP’s insurance plan is appropriate to be used in place of UVM student insurance. For insurance questions please contact studentinsurance@uvm.edu. See pre-arrival information for details.

IMMUNIZATION REQUIREMENTS

Proof of certain immunizations is required by Vermont State law prior to arrival at UVM. Visit UVM’s [Center for Health and Wellbeing website](#) more information. **Paper Immunization documentation** must be in English, or accompanied by a translation of each immunization and date administered. Scanned doctor’s forms are accepted. **Online forms** must also be completed. These are available about three weeks prior to arrival online, and only once students are registered for classes (at least 6 credits).

MEDICAL CARE DURING EXCHANGE

During business hours students should go to the Center for Health and Well-Being (+1-802-656-3350). For after-hours/emergency care, students should go to the UVM Medical center (hospital).



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Travel and Transportation

Students are eligible to enter the USA on a J-1 visa up to 30 days before the program start date listed on their J-1 DS-2019. Students will be eligible to remain in USA up to 30 days after program end date (last day of benefits) if he/she wishes to independently travel in the USA.

In making travel plans, you should allow enough time for both air travel and ground transportation in order to arrive at the university during regular office hours. Some extended check-in hours may be available and will be distributed in pre-arrival materials.

Students can directly to Burlington International Airport (BTV). Students may also take a bus or train to Burlington from another point of arrival in the USA. New York City, Boston, and Montreal are all within a distance that travel can occur in a day. For busses, check out: [Megabus](#), and [Greyhound](#) Trains: [Amtrak](#).

Burlington International Airport (BTV) is a 10 minute taxi ride from the UVM campus (around \$15 including tip), or a 30-minute city bus ride. Students are responsible to make their own way to campus.

If you will be arriving earlier than the arrival date provided in pre-arrival information, you must make arrangements for temporary accommodation. Within a 20 minute walk of the University there are several options, including local hotels, a hostel, and Airbnb locations. We recommend reading reviews and comparing prices before making a booking. No early accommodation is available at the University.

About the University of Vermont and Burlington, Vermont

UNIVERSITY OF VERMONT

The University of Vermont was founded in 1791 and is the fifth oldest university in New England. It is called "UVM" for Universitas Viridis Montis, Latin for "University of the Green Mountains." UVM is the largest university in the state, with about 12,000 students, of whom 1500 are graduate students. The University has seven undergraduate colleges, offering undergraduate majors/minors and many master's and PhD programs. In fact, many of our exchange students have returned to UVM for graduate research.

UVM is well-known for its education, and boasts small student-faculty ratios (17-1) which will make even a large institution feel smaller. More than 90% of UVM's faculty hold PhDs or the highest degree in their field, and many undergraduate students work with these faculty on research projects.

Our students enjoy ample study space in libraries, residence halls, and academic buildings. Students enjoy a campus recreation center and local transportation free of charge as well as free support services such as a writing center, tutoring services, counseling and psychological services, and educational and cultural events. UVM has over 100 student organizations in which we encourage students to participate.

The Office of International Education (OIE) supports exchange students through immigration advising, course advising, orientation, "buddy" programs to connect with other UVM students, programs to explore Vermont (such as hiking trips or going apple picking), and personal support. Each student will connect with an advisor at the OIE several times during his or her exchange.



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BURLINGTON, VERMONT

Burlington is Vermont's educational, financial, and medical center with a population of 40,000, plus 150,000 people in the greater Burlington area. Located on Lake Champlain and between the Green Mountains (VT) and Adirondack Mountains (NY), Burlington is a visually stunning place to live.

Within walking distance from UVM you will find many benefits to this small town. Burlington has an active local arts, theatre, and music scene. Burlington also has many locally-owned restaurants and shops in addition to some of the national stores you might expect. Each weekend, there is a farmer's market to sell local products and produce, and the sense of community in Burlington helps this town consistently rank as one of the best places to live in the USA.

Burlington's average high temperature in August is 25 Celsius and in January, -3.8 Celsius. The city gets an average of 223cm of snow each year. But even cold winters do not keep people from enjoying the outdoors. Multiple ski resorts are 25-60 minutes from campus, and in the summer and autumn there is wonderful hiking. Lake Champlain is just down the hill from UVM, and offers beautiful biking with plenty of stops to take a swim in the lake.

We suspect that once you come, you won't want to leave. Burlington is a special town tucked into a progressive and beautiful state. And as a University in a great town, UVM is hard to beat!

Contact Information

Application & Pre-arrival Communication:	Parvin Pothiwala (exchange@uvm.edu) Office Support Program Generalist
Student Advising/Exchange Coordination:	Emma Swift (exchange@uvm.edu) Assistant Director for International Student Services
In case of emergency:	UVM Police Services at +001 (802) 656-3473
Address: Office of International Education Living/Learning Center, B-101 633 Main Street Burlington, VT 05405, USA	Website: http://www.uvm.edu/oie Telephone: +001 (802) 656-4296 Fax: +001 (802) 656-8553 Office hours: 8:30-4:30, U.S. EST



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