

UC-Brunel Exchange programme, 2019-20: Information for Brunel Psychology students

First application deadline: 17:00, Wednesday 05 December 2018

General info:

Brunel hopes to send one or more Psychology students to commence studies at the University of California (UC) in January 2020. The nine participating campuses are Santa Barbara (UCSB), Berkeley (UCB), Los Angeles (UCLA), Merced (UCM), Davis (UCD), San Diego (UCSD), Santa Cruz (UCSC), Irvine (UCI), and Riverside (UCR).

UC is the most prestigious public university system in the USA, and according to the authoritative ranking system (US News & World Report), UCB and UCLA are both among the country's top three psychology programmes. Applicants can nominate the UC campuses they'd most prefer to attend, but spaces are limited and UC can't guarantee they'll attend their first choice.

This programme is also open to students from some other Brunel divisions besides Psychology, and we expect a competitive application process. However, that should not discourage eligible students from applying!



Eligibility:

Brunel single-honours Psychology students who currently plan to start Level 2, Term 2 Brunel modules in Jan. 2020 (this includes most current Level 1 Psychology students, both full-time and work placement). **Please note that UC requires all students to have a B average.**

Duration:

About 4-5 months: start month is Jan. 2020, end month is May for campuses on the semester system (UCB and UCM only) and June for campuses on the quarter system (the other seven campuses).

Module requirements:

Brunel students will choose which Psychology classes (modules) they would like to take at UC, although UC imposes some restrictions (prerequisites, etc.) about which classes they can take. Students who spend Brunel's term 2 level 2 at UC will miss some BPS-required modules at Brunel during this term, and so must make these up

at level 3, after they've returned to Brunel. Consequently, they will be able to take only one (instead of four) level 3 options at Brunel.

More information about Psychology study options at different UC campuses is here: <http://eap.ucop.edu/ReciprocalExchanges/Pages/Majors.aspx>

Fees and other costs:

During the period at UC, exchange students will continue to pay tuition fees to Brunel: home/EU students will pay 50% of their Brunel fees plus £1,000 for the term at UC, and overseas students will pay full tuition fees.

UC exchange students will also be responsible for living expenses. These will vary (from about \$6,000 - \$16,000) depending on campus and duration, as indicated in the table below. These are the minimum amounts needed for the host UC campus to issue a certificate of eligibility (DS-2019) for a visa application; the student will be asked to provide evidence (e.g. a bank statement) that they have access to these funds.

Undergraduate Student Estimated Living Expenses, 2018 - 2019

UC Campus	1 Quarter / 1 Semester	2 Quarters
Berkeley†	\$9,450	N/A
Davis	\$6,000	\$11,000
Irvine*	\$6,667	\$13,334
Los Angeles*	\$6,287	\$12,574
Merced†	\$6,920‡	N/A
Riverside	\$5,554	\$11,108
Santa Barbara*	\$6,600	\$13,200
Santa Cruz	\$7,522	\$15,044
San Diego	\$6,250	\$12,400

* UC Irvine, UC Los Angeles and UC Santa Barbara amounts do not include the cost of UC mandatory student health insurance.

† Semester campus

‡ Amount is for Fall semester. Amount for Spring semester is \$7,294.

NOTE: All amounts are in U.S. Dollars. Amounts shown are based upon estimates currently available and are subject to change. These are the minimum amounts needed for the host UC campus to issue a certificate of eligibility (DS-2019) for visa application. It is important to remember that these amounts are estimates. Actual expenses may vary depending on the student's lifestyle and extra activities. The cost of travel is not included in these estimates. Students should document the highest amount for their campus choices. If possible, we also recommend that students document funds allowing for a ten to fifteen percent increase in the figures provided, as amounts are subject to re-evaluation and may change before the issue of the certificate of eligibility (updated 19th Sept. 2018).

Cost will also include:

- Airfare (student to arrange; we hope to arrange for successful Psychology applicants to receive financial support from Brunel for UK-USA return flights, but cannot currently guarantee such support)
- Visa (student to arrange in conjunction with UC)
- Travel and medical insurance¹
- Personal expenses

More information about housing and other expenses is here:

<http://eap.ucop.edu/guides/reciprocity/Pages/default.aspx>

How to apply

To apply, email the completed 'registration of interest' form (along with transcript, CV and personal statement) to Michael Price (Michael.Price@brunel.ac.uk) by **17:00, Wednesday 05 December 2018** for review by the Psychology Division.

Interviews with recommended applicants (from Psychology and other Brunel divisions) will occur on **18 January 2019**. The interview panel will consist of staff from Psychology and other divisions, and will consider applicant attributes such as academic motivation, maturity, adaptability, and self-discipline. Please note that you should not attempt to make direct contact with the University of California until you have been interviewed and authorised to apply by Brunel.

Questions?

For any questions about the programme not covered in this document, please email Dr Michael Price (michael.price@brunel.ac.uk) for questions related more to academic aspects, or the Exchanges Office (exchanges@brunel.ac.uk) for questions related more to administrative aspects (e.g., the visa application process).



**Thanks for
your attention
and good luck
with your
application!**

¹ Brunel's Travel Insurance covers students for the duration of the approved period of exchange. Students do not need to have additional Medical Insurance, unless they wish to. The University of California requires the students to pay for their institutional medical insurance. This means students are covered by both insurances at the same time, with priority given to the insurance provided by UoC. Brunel will cover students on holiday for up to two weeks before or after the study period in the same country with no limitations other than the ones in the Insurance Policy (excluding dangerous activities).