

EXCHANGE PROGRAMME INFORMATION SHEET / 2016-2017

Graduate Institute of International and Development Studies

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CONTACTS

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APPLICATION PROCEDURE

Application Deadlines

Autumn Semester 2016: 1 April 2016
Spring Semester 2017: 1 November 2016

Candidates are nominated directly by partner institutions. Nominations should be communicated 2 weeks prior to the application deadline, further to which nominees receive a link to the online application form. In addition, applicants should send the required supporting documents by email to exchanges@graduateinstitute.ch. More details on the Institute's admission process and conditions are available on our [website](#).

LANGUAGE REQUIREMENTS

English

The minimum requirements for admission are:

TOEFL IBT: 100

IELTS: 7

CPE (Certificate of Proficiency in English of the University of Cambridge): A-B-C

CAE (Certificate of Advanced English of the University of Cambridge): A-B

The Graduate Institute has a bilingual policy which gives students the right to express themselves in class, and submit written work, in either English or French, regardless of the language through which the course is taught. While knowledge of the French language will offer students a more extensive range of course choices, it is not a requirement for admission.

ACADEMIC CALENDAR

Autumn Semester: 19 September 2016 to 23 December 2016

Spring Semester: 20 February 2017 to 2 June 2017

[Click here](#) to access the full academic calendar.

COURSE OFFERINGS & ENROLMENT

Full details of our programmes and courses are available on the [online course catalogue](#).

All courses are open to exchange students subject to places available. Please note that it is generally speaking more difficult to gain access to courses in the “compulsory” category as opposed to courses in the “elective” category. Students will be requested to submit a course registration form prior to the beginning of the semester. Changes to course registrations can be made during the first two weeks of classes subject to availability.

WORKLOAD

Exchange students should determine the number of courses they will follow in consultation with the academic advisers of their home institutions. While there are no restrictions in this regard at the Institute, it should be noted that an average workload for the Institute’s masters students is 5 weekly courses, corresponding to 30 ECTS credits.

STUDENT VISA

Most non-EU citizens require a visa to enter and study in Switzerland. A visa request should be filed with the local Swiss embassy further to receipt of the confirmation of admission. **Please note that it can take up to 3 months to process visa applications.** Additionally, all non-Swiss students must apply for a residence permit on their arrival in Geneva. Residence permits are issued by the Office Cantonal de la Population (OCP). Details of the visa and residence permit procedures will be provided to admitted students.

HOUSING

Securing suitable accommodation in Geneva can be challenging and students are advised to deal with this issue well in advance of their arrival. Our student residence has very limited space and consequently only accepts one year rental contracts. It is therefore not accessible to students staying for one semester. Detailed housing information is available on our [Students Portal](#).

LIVING EXPENSES

1’800CHF – 2’000CHF per month will allow for a modest student lifestyle in Geneva. A [Monthly Student Budget](#) estimate compiled by the Graduate Institute’s Students Association (GISA) provides an overview of living costs in Geneva. Please note that exchange students are not required to pay tuition fees at the Graduate Institute.

HEALTH INSURANCE

Health and accident insurance are compulsory in Switzerland. Details of requirements and regulations are available on our [Students Portal](#).