

# Thomas More University of Applied Sciences Info Sheet

<b>Webpage for Exchange Students</b>	<a href="#">Exchange programmes   Thomas More</a>	
<b>Term Dates</b>	<b>Arrival</b>	Within the week before the semester commences
	<b>Fall Semester (Semester 1)</b>	September to January
	<b>Winter/Spring (Semester 2)</b>	February to June
<b>Quick-Facts</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Thomas More is the largest university of applied sciences in Flanders, offering more than 30 Dutch-taught and a range of English-taught bachelor degree programmes in the province of Antwerp.</li> <li>• You will study on one of their 10 campuses, along with 19 000 fellow students.</li> <li>• Thomas More is a pioneer in the practice of 'learning by doing.' They put their students in the driver's seat, with an emphasis on innovative labs, internships and real-world projects executed in close collaboration with our partner companies.</li> <li>• Thomas More is part of the KU Leuven association. KU Leuven is ranked in the QS top 100 universities in the world and 45th place in the Times Higher Education University Rankings.</li> <li>• Belgium is home to the headquarters of the European Union - with easy train connections to Amsterdam, Paris, London and Berlin - making it a true international hub.</li> </ul>	
<b>Language of Instruction</b>	English	
<b>Courses</b>	<p>Exchange students are expected to learn the equivalent of 60 BU credits for their exchange semester which translates to 30 ECTS. Students can only choose units from one specific programme at a time and cannot mix courses.</p> <p><b>Guidelines for the selection of courses:</b> <a href="#">Exchange programmes   Thomas More</a></p> <p><b>Academic schedule:</b> <a href="#">Exchange programmes   Thomas More</a></p> <p><b>Course selection forms must be approved and signed by the home university, partner university, <a href="#">Study Abroad Academic Coordinator</a> (or equivalent) and the student.</b></p>	
<b>Housing</b>	<p>Housing is rented on the private market. Thomas More assists students in the process upon request.</p> <p>Remember to start your research on time! Please consult their <a href="#">database</a> to start looking for accommodation: indicate the campus of your choice and change the search date. You will receive an overview of the available student rooms as for that date and the information and contact details of the landlord. You need to contact the landlord and arrange the contract yourself.</p>	

	<p>More information about accommodation is available: <a href="#">Student housing   Thomas More</a></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Please remember to do your own research and read the small prints and reviews before booking any accommodation.</b></li> <li>• <b>Also ensure that you are only booking accommodation in Bournemouth for the semester that you will be studying at BU.</b></li> </ul>
<p><b>Health Insurance</b></p>	<p>Exchange students are obliged to arrange for sufficient health insurance coverage during their study period.</p> <p>You can apply for an <a href="#">EHIC/GHIC card</a> which enables you to obtain medical assistance for free when abroad. If you are an EU passport holder you will be able to use your EHIC card when travelling to an EU country. If you are a UK passport holder and/or do not have an EU passport, please read the information about how to apply for a <a href="#">UK GHIC card</a>. As a BU student, you can apply for your EHIC/GHIC card using the <a href="#">BU Letter Request Form</a>.</p> <p>Please note that some partners may request that incoming students purchase additional health insurance to comply with their immigration and institutional requirements.</p> <p>You can find further information on the BU <a href="#">practical arrangements</a> webpage.</p>
<p><b>Travel Insurance</b></p>	<p>BU offers a comprehensive <a href="#">BU travel cover</a> to all outgoing students. after reviewing BU's travel cover, and depending on personal considerations or specific health issues, some students might decide to purchase an additional insurance policy to top-up what is available.</p> <p><b>Please note that BU Travel Cover is updated every August.</b></p>
<p><b>Visas &amp; Permits</b></p>	<p>When travelling to Belgium you must consider what document(s) you will need to enter the country and commence your studies or research at Thomas More. This will depend on the country you are travelling from, your home citizenship, the length of your stay in Belgium, and the purpose of your stay in Belgium amongst other criteria.</p> <p><b>Please make sure to understand what is needed and secure this in time before you travel and that you have an up-to-date passport that expires no earlier than 6 months after you intend to return.</b></p> <p>Incoming exchange students with a non-EEA nationality receive a letter of acceptance automatically from the International Office after the application deadlines to start their application through the Belgium Embassy. If you have any questions regarding your visa application, please send an email to <a href="mailto:incoming@thomasmore.be">incoming@thomasmore.be</a></p> <p>Useful webpages:  <a href="#">Immigration Office   IBZ</a>  <a href="#">Belgium Visa Application Centre - London   TLScontact</a>  <a href="#">Visa documents - (tlscontact.com)</a></p> <p>You should also refer to UK <a href="#">Foreign Travel Advice on Belgium</a> and can find further information on the <a href="#">GoingGlobal</a> webpage.</p>

	<p><b>It is your responsibility to obtain the correct visa. Immigration laws are complex and subject to frequent changes and the Study Abroad Team is not qualified to offer consultations or detailed advice regarding visa applications. So, if you do have any visa-related questions you will need to contact the appropriate Embassy directly.</b></p>	
<p><b>Approximate Costs</b></p>	<p><b>Tuition fees:</b> Exchange students continue to pay their tuition and academic fees to Bournemouth University with no additional cost at the partner university.</p> <p><b>Costs to keep in mind:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Return ticket</li> <li>• Accommodation</li> <li>• VISA application fees if applicable</li> <li>• Insurance if applicable</li> <li>• Daily expenses (food, laundry, etc.)</li> <li>• Textbooks and stationery</li> </ul> <p><b>Estimated living expenses:</b> Most students spend between €800 and €1000 per month. Please see and estimate breakdown of costs: <a href="#">Financial information</a> <a href="#">Cost of living - Belgium</a></p>	
<p><b>Funding</b></p>	<p><b>Turing Scheme Funding</b> Student can apply for funding to help with study abroad costs. This is a grant and not a loan, so student do not have to repay it back. Please visit <a href="#">Turing Scheme   Bournemouth University</a> for more details.</p> <p><b>Student Maintenance Loan</b> If you are in receipt of a maintenance loan, you will continue to receive this as usual when you are abroad but may also be eligible for a higher amount of, depending on your circumstances.</p> <p><b>Student Finance England Travel Grant</b> You may be able to claim back some travel expenses from your period abroad. The amount of grant depends on your household income, and covers reasonable costs incurred on travel expenses during an academic year. Please visit the <a href="#">Student Finance England Travel Grant website</a>, or contact <a href="#">Student Finance</a>.</p>	
<p><b>Campus Facilities</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Library</li> <li>• IT services</li> <li>• Sports and culture</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Buddy programme</li> <li>• Coaching and support</li> <li>• Student associations</li> </ul>