



# Study abroad at Reading with Erasmus

The University of Reading has a long-established tradition of welcoming Erasmus students from universities all over Europe onto our study abroad programmes. Our expertise and care helps make the University an ever-popular destination for study abroad students.

## Study at Reading

### 25 minutes from London

**'More than just a study experience ... At Reading I found the perfect context to grow my personal interests, friendships and last but not least my self-confidence.'**

**Ilaria Fiore,**  
University of  
Genoa, Italy

We are a campus university located within an easy walk of the vibrant, cosmopolitan and friendly town. Our beautiful and lively Whiteknights campus offers contemporary study facilities, halls of residence, support services, cafés, shops and entertainment, all centrally located on one of the most attractive university campuses in the UK.

Reading has excellent access to locations throughout the UK. High-speed rail links with London make it quick and easy to take advantage of all that London has to offer, but also provide regular services to and from other major cities around the UK. London Heathrow and London Gatwick Airports are easily accessible.

Reading sits within one of the most beautiful parts of the UK, the Thames Valley, with areas of outstanding beauty and historical significance all within easy reach.

The University of Reading is ranked as one of the UK's 10 most research-intensive universities and enjoys a world-class reputation for teaching, research and enterprise. The quality and diversity of our research is recognised both nationally and internationally, with nearly 90% of the University's research rated of international standing in the 2008 Research Assessment Exercise (RAE).





We have been consistently ranked first out of the 1994 Group of UK research intensive universities for the quality of student's learning experience by the International Student Barometer. Our research and expertise enhances and informs our teaching and learning, meaning you will be taught by leading authorities in their field, but also in an innovative and supportive learning environment.

Nominated students can opt to study at Reading for either one, two or three terms, dependent on the terms and conditions of the agreement between our universities, with entry points in October and January. We can offer you a wide range of stimulating and challenging modules, set at different levels, the credit from which can transfer back to your degree programme at your home university.

### What Reading can offer

- An opportunity to study at one of the world's top universities
- On-campus accommodation
- A dedicated and experienced team who will look after all aspects of the study abroad experience
- Full online module descriptions so that students and faculty can make informed choices regarding module selection
- An easy and simple application process
- An opportunity to select some of the dedicated modules for Study Abroad students to help contextualise their experience in the UK
- Opportunities for UK travel through events organised by the Erasmus Society, a student run society specifically for Erasmus and study abroad students

# Learning at Reading

## Our expertise

**'First of all, I can say that I thoroughly enjoyed life in the UK in general and at Reading in particular. All in all, the English were what I imagined them to be like – in a positive sense: friendly, polite, helpful and relaxed.'**

**Erasmus student,  
2011–2012**

### How we teach you

What you can study at Reading will be defined by the subject area of the bilateral agreement between our universities.

However as an Erasmus student you will be taught in exactly the same way as full-time, degree-seeking students at Reading, integrated fully into the classroom environment. Modules will use a variety of teaching methods including a mixture of lectures and seminars, and, where appropriate, laboratory work. Most modules will include some teaching via our Virtual Learning Environment (VLE), Blackboard. The form of assessment will depend on the period of study and which modules selected, but will be tailored to your need.

Most schools and departments at Reading will offer you a wide range of modules for selection. All available modules are listed on our 'Module availability' [www.reading.ac.uk/studyabroad/modules](http://www.reading.ac.uk/studyabroad/modules) page on our website, including full descriptions for

each module enabling you to gain more information to help make an informed selection.

As part of your study programme you can study in our Institution-Wide Language Programme (IWLP) which offers you the opportunity to learn or develop your existing language skills in a wide range of modern European and non-European languages, for credit or non-credit.

### Modules for Erasmus students

It is also possible to select modules created specifically for Erasmus and study abroad students, including:

---

English for Erasmus Student (10 ECTS)

---

Modern Britain – Society and Culture (5 ECTS)

---

Modern Britain – History (5 ECTS)

---

**For more information please see:**

[www.reading.ac.uk/vso-studyabroadmodules.aspx](http://www.reading.ac.uk/vso-studyabroadmodules.aspx)

# Support at Reading

## Putting students first

**'Reading itself is a nice place to be offering everything one can wish for. What is more, London is only half an hour from Reading, which is definitely a plus. Studying at Reading was also very pleasant. The University is very welcoming to International Students.'**

**Erasmus student,  
2011-2012**



We will provide comprehensive administrative, academic and welfare support for the duration of your Erasmus study period. There is a full orientation programme upon arrival with specialised sessions specifically designed for incoming Erasmus and study abroad students [www.reading.ac.uk/vso-studysupport.aspx](http://www.reading.ac.uk/vso-studysupport.aspx) helping them integrate into the student community and settle into their new surroundings. Our Study Skills advisers run dedicated workshops to help Erasmus and study abroad students acclimatise to UK academic culture and learn more about the skills required in order to academically perform to

the best of their abilities. Students have access to a full range of online and face-to-face study support available whilst at Reading. Our award-winning Students' Union [www.rusu.co.uk](http://www.rusu.co.uk), located at the heart of our campus, offers further support services and facilities.

Our ongoing investment in high-quality teaching and learning facilities ensures students can achieve their full potential. We are committed to providing an intellectually stimulating and innovative learning environment where students can thrive. First-class resources support world-class teaching. Over £250 million is being invested on our main campus over the next ten years to provide world class research, teaching and learning facilities. Nearly £100 million has been recently spent on purpose-built facilities for Student Services, Henley Business School, Film & Theatre, and Biomedical and Pharmaceutical Sciences. Our campus is home to two new halls of residence, and there has been a recent major refurbishment of our catering facilities and the sporting facilities at our SportsPark.

# Life at Reading

## Part of your future



**'I was surprised by the availability of my teachers and the welcome amongst my peers. I gained great friends, experience, knowledge and memories, I only wished it could have lasted longer.'**

**Henriette Bakke Nielsen**  
Gvojjik University College, Norway

### Accommodation

A variety of student accommodation is available, including in one of the many halls of residence, all located on or around the main campus. All housing will be within close proximity of the central study facilities, but also close to shops, banks and social facilities. Each hall is a vibrant community with its own distinctive character, offering students a secure environment in which to study and relax. Every room provides unlimited high-speed internet access.

Vacation residence is also possible for those intending to stay for longer periods.

Assistance can also be provided for those students wanting to live in private accommodation, and opportunities are available to live with an approved local host family for those who want to remain in a family environment. Please visit our accommodation pages [www.reading.ac.uk/study-abroad/accommodation](http://www.reading.ac.uk/study-abroad/accommodation) for more information.

### Sports

The University of Reading is a great place for sports enthusiasts of all levels, with some of

the best-equipped facilities of any UK university. From casual participant to serious athlete, the VO2 Fitness Studio is a state of the art facility providing an extensive range of fixed and functional strength and cardiovascular equipment. SportsPark boasts the best selection of group exercises and dance classes in the area including pilates, Zumba, salsa, yoga and many, many more. The Students' Union Sports Federation runs a year-round programme of activities with University teams competing in local leagues as well as inter-university British Universities Sports Association (BUSA) events. There are excellent indoor and outdoor facilities available and over 50 sports clubs to potentially join. See [www.rusu.co.uk/activities/sports\\_home](http://www.rusu.co.uk/activities/sports_home) for more information.

### Students' Union

Reading University Students' Union (RUSU) organises a varied calendar of events for students including live bands, DJs and comedy nights. As well as bars, eating places, a games area and shops, it boasts a state-of-the-art nightclub, '3Sixty', ranked as one of the top UK university



entertainment venues. The Union produces its own newspaper, Spark, which is published fortnightly during term time, and its own radio station (Junction 11) both run by current students. It also has over 60 different student societies [www.rusu.co.uk/activities/societies\\_home](http://www.rusu.co.uk/activities/societies_home) run for students by students, with something available for everyone.

## The campus

Our main Whiteknights campus is set in 130 hectares of beautiful parkland with green open spaces, lake, rare trees and wildlife, making it an exceptional environment in which to study, live and relax. Everything you need is here or within walking distance, including cutting-edge teaching and learning facilities, extensive indoor and outdoor sports facilities, a wide choice of catering and social amenities. It has gained bronze EcoCampus status and

has been ranked the most highly rated university campus (Green Flag Award 2011). The University has Fairtrade status, has set ambitious and high recycling targets and has commitment to reduce its Carbon Foot print by 35% by 2015/16.

## Reading and surrounding area

The University is located on the edge of Reading town which is within an easy walk or bus ride of the town centre. Vibrant and cosmopolitan, Reading offers numerous cultural, sport and social opportunities to suit all tastes.

There is a 10-screen cinema, riverside restaurants and cafes offering a wide range of international cuisines, from budget through to Michelin star, as well as two major shopping centres. Reading's vibrant nightlife encompasses an eclectic mix



**‘Studying at Reading is a great opportunity to learn and enjoy.’**

**Adolfo Lozano**  
Universidad Carlos III de Madrid

offering everything from Rock nights to global music and salsa dancing, comedy nights to theatre, with different venues offering something different every night of the week. For sports fans Reading is home to Reading FC and London Irish Rugby Club, as well as successful local national ice hockey and hockey teams.

Reading is ideally placed as a hub to travel throughout the UK. The town sits within easy travelling distance of areas of outstanding natural beauty such as the Chiltern Hills and the Thames. Historical places such as Windsor, Henley-upon-Thames and Oxford are nearby and easily accessible, as well as numerous quintessentially English country villages for a chance to experi-

ence a slice of ‘English rural life’. Reading also serves as an ideal location to explore all that London has to offer without the drawbacks of living in a major city. It is also ideally placed to see the rest of the England and Wales, with direct train and road links to locations throughout the South, West and North.

### Term dates

#### Autumn term:

Sunday 1 October –  
Friday 14 December 2012

#### Spring term:

Monday 14 January –  
Friday 22 March 2013

#### Summer term:

Monday 22 April –  
Friday 28 June 2013



# Applying to Reading

## What to do next

You can only study at the University of Reading as an Erasmus student if there is a valid bilateral agreement between our universities, and the International Office (or equivalent) at your home university nominates you to participate. Please contact the relevant authorities at your home university to find out how to apply for selection. We are unable to accept any student as part of the Erasmus programme at Reading if they have not been officially nominated.

Upon nomination by your university the Erasmus & Study Abroad team (part of Reading International Office) will provide you with full details regarding the online application process and relevant documentation to be submitted in order to be offered a place on our study abroad programme. We aim to inform applicants of any decision within three working weeks of receipt

of the full application. Post application decision the Erasmus & Study Abroad team will continue to communicate and provide you with more information regarding your module selections, accommodation, registration processes and Welcome Programme in the period leading up to your arrival at Reading for your studies.

Please visit our website [www.reading.ac.uk/vso-incoming-howtoapply.aspx](http://www.reading.ac.uk/vso-incoming-howtoapply.aspx) for more information about how to apply.

## Applications

The deadline to submit full applications to Reading are:  
For October 2012 entry, 1 August 2012. For January 2013 entry, 1 November 2012.

### For more information

Contact the Erasmus & Study Abroad team at:  
[studyabroad@reading.ac.uk](mailto:studyabroad@reading.ac.uk)  
or visit [www.reading.ac.uk/studyabroad/incoming](http://www.reading.ac.uk/studyabroad/incoming)

We look forward to welcoming you at Reading.