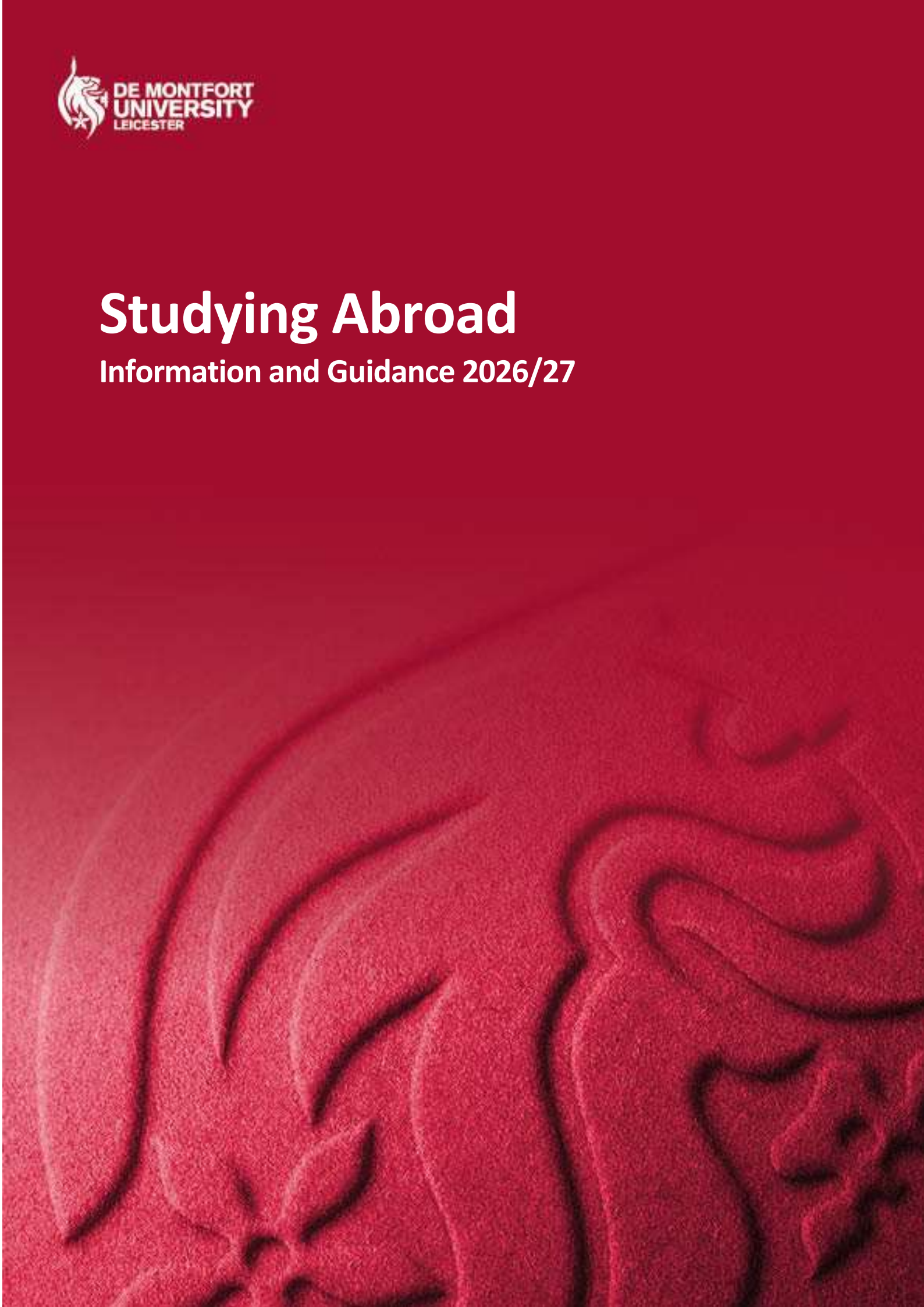
DE MONTFORT UNIVERSITY LEICESTER

Studying Abroad

Information and Guidance 2026/27



1. Introduction

1.1 Students may take the opportunity to study abroad for part of their programme and likewise students from overseas institutions may attend De Montfort University (DMU). Where such arrangements exist, there are regulations which govern how the credit earned at a different institution may be included in the student's programme.

1.2 Therefore, this information and guidance document should be read and understood alongside the university's academic regulations and programme-specific regulations. For further advice and guidance about studying abroad, please contact your programme leader.

2. Studying in Europe: European Credit Transfer and Accumulation System (ECTS)

2.1 There is a recognised credit transfer system across Europe which is called the European Credit Transfer and Accumulation System (ECTS). This is used where DMU students undertake study at a European institution.

2.2 Where a student has been awarded credit via ECTS the credit gained will be converted to the equivalent UK higher education credit. One ECTS credit is equivalent to two UK higher education credits.

2.3 The credits awarded by the European institution will replace the credits which would otherwise have been obtained through study at DMU. These arrangements must be agreed between the university and the participating institution in advance of the student undertaking study abroad.

2.4 Students studying under the ECTS system will also receive grades for the modules successfully completed. The ECTS Users' Guide provides information on how to convert institutions' grading schemes into DMU marks.

3. Studying at institutions which don't use the ECTS

3.1 Where a DMU student undertakes part of their studies at an institution which doesn't utilise ECTS, an agreement on the equivalence of credit and mark conversion should be put in place before the student studies abroad.

4. Student exchange year abroad

4.1 Students may, with the permission of their programme leader, study abroad for a full academic year as part of their degree. The year abroad will take place between level 5 and level 6 study. This will be recognised by adding 'with year abroad' to the degree certificate. A student returning from a year abroad will be subject to the regulations and programme structure which apply to the student cohort they are joining.

4.2 Students must have passed 120 level 4 credits and a minimum of 90 credits at level 5 to proceed to the student exchange year abroad. Where a student has undertaken the year abroad, the normal regulations for progressing into level 6 apply.

4.3 Students will study modules during their year abroad, as outlined on the learning agreement approved by the programme leader. The year abroad will receive an outcome of pass or fail and no module marks or credits will be brought back to DMU. There is no opportunity to repeat the year abroad and if it is not successfully completed it will not be recorded on a student's degree certificate or Higher Education Achievement Report (HEAR).

4.4 A student may withdraw from the year abroad up to the end of week two of teaching and may progress instead to level 6. A student who withdraws from the year abroad later than week two of teaching will be required to take a leave of absence.

4.5 Apprentices are not able to undertake a study abroad year or shorter period of study abroad due to the nature of apprenticeship programmes, their links to employment and the relevant apprenticeship standard.

5. Students from overseas institutions studying at DMU

5.1 Overseas students will be provided with a record of the modules they have passed while studying at the university.

5.2 Where students are returning to an institution which uses ECTS, the record provided to the student will include information about the conversion of the DMU credits and marks into ECTS credits and marks.

5.3 Where students are returning to an institution which does not use ECTS it is the responsibility of a student's home institution to undertake any conversion of credits and marks.