

INSTITUTIONAL GUIDE

MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY | 2021-2022



CONTACT INFORMATION

American Semester Program & Exchanges

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DIRECT ENROLL

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EXCHANGES

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Inquiries

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ACADEMIC CALENDAR

Spring 2021

First day of courses: January 11

Last day of courses: April 30

Exam week: May 3-7

Fall 2021

First day of courses: September 1

Last day of courses: December 17

Exam week: December 13-17

A mandatory orientation program precedes the start of classes each semester. Students will receive the orientation schedule with their acceptance letters.

NOMINATIONS AND DEADLINES

Exchange Nominations

Spring 2021 Semester

Fall & Spring 2021-2022 (Academic Year)

September 1, 2021

March 1, 2021

Application Deadlines (Exchange)

Spring 2021 Semester

Fall & Spring 2021-2022 (Academic Year)

October 15, 2020

April 1, 2021

Application Deadlines (Direct Enroll/Free-mover)

Spring 2021 Semester

Fall & Spring 2021-2022 (Academic Year)

October 1, 2020

May 1, 2021

Application Deadlines (Short Courses)

Winter 2021

Summer 2021

November 1, 2020

May 1, 2021

Our deadlines are firm. Applications need to be received with enough time for internal processing and for the student to go through the visa application process in their home country (if required).



FACTS & FIGURES

History

Founded in 1855

Statistics

5,722 faculty and academic staff

7,201 support Staff

Location

East Lansing, Michigan

Academics

17 degree-granting colleges More
than 200 academic programs

Population & Demographics

50,351

39,423 undergraduate

10,928 graduate

12.4% international

Accreditation

Higher Learning Commission



A top 100

global university
U.S. News & World Report, 2019

16:1

student-faculty ratio

576,000

Alumni Worldwide

International Powerhouse

Times Higher Education, 2017

Admissions Requirements

Academic

Applicants must be in good academic standing with their home university. Specific admission requirements and prerequisites may apply to select departments. For Exchanges, the exchange must be balanced. Some programs may not be available due to course restrictions and seat availability.

Proof of Financial Support

In order to obtain a visa to study in the US, students must provide documentation showing proof of sufficient funds for each semester of study. Please review the ASP&E website for more information.

Statement of Purpose

Students must submit an essay (approximately 300-500 words) describing their overall interests in studying at MSU, how their participation will help them personally and professionally and how they plan to use their experience after the program ends.

Application Process

ASP&E students will complete their application as well as enrollment forms on our student applicant portal, ViaTRM. The ASP&E staff will communicate directly to each student through this platform to assist with application and admission questions. As part of the application, students will be asked to submit their top 10 course choices. Course enrollment decisions are made by the respective colleges. In order to be registered, students must have fulfilled any necessary course prerequisites and there must be seats remaining in the course. MSU will make every effort to get students into their top courses preferences but specific courses are not guaranteed.

Estimated Cost of Attendance

Exchange: students must speak with their home international office for specific exchange agreement policies.

In general, exchange students pay:

- Application Fee of \$75
- Home institution tuition (varies)
- Room & board, educational supplies, MSU health insurance, fees & taxes (\$9618 undergraduate and \$8887 graduate)
- Students should also plan on additional living and travel expenses (varies)

Direct Enroll: students will pay all fees associated to their participation in the American Semester Program.

These fees include:

- Application Fee of \$75
- MSU tuition costs (LLE rate) (\$12,084 undergraduate or \$9063 graduate)
- Room & board, educational supplies, MSU health insurance, fees & taxes (\$9618 undergraduate and \$8887 graduate)
- Students also should plan on additional living and travel expenses (varies)

Proof of English Proficiency

TOEFL

IBT: 79, no subscore below 17

IELTS

Minimum band score of 6.5 or higher with no band score under 6.

We also accept various other forms of English proficiency, ranging from official tests to English waivers for students participating in English language curriculum or students coming from approved exchange partners.

Student Visas

Semester-length students will apply for a student visa for entry into the United States. Upon acceptance to the program, our office will work to prepare the paperwork needed to obtain the I-20 or DS-2019 forms.

Students participating through exchange will apply for a J-1 visa, and direct enroll students will apply for an F-1 visa.

It can take up to 4 to 6 weeks to receive the visa request forms from our Office for International Students & Scholars (OISS) once submitted by our office.

Students must schedule their own visa interviews at their country's respective US consulate or embassy once they have received their DS-2019 or I-20 from MSU.

Common Areas of Study (Direct Enrollment & Exchange)

Art & Design

Apparel and Textile Design
Arts and Letters
Design
Music
Studio Art
Theatre

Business & Entrepreneurship*

Accounting*
Agribusiness Management*
Economics*
Finance*
Hospitality Business*
Human Resources Management*
Marketing*
Supply Chain Management*

Civics & Government

Criminal Justice
International Relations
James Madison College
Law*
Political Science

Communication

Advertising
Communication
English
Film Studies
Journalism
Media & Information

Computer Sciences & Technology*

Computer Engineering*
Computer Science*

Engineering

Bio-systems Engineering
Chemical Engineering
Civil Engineering
Electrical Engineering
Environmental Engineering
Mechanical Engineering
Packaging

Health Professions

Kinesiology
Nutritional Sciences

Humanities & Languages

Arabic
Arts & Humanities
Chinese
French
Linguistics
Philosophy
Spanish
Women's & Gender Studies

Life Science

Animal Science
Biochemistry & Molecular Biology
Human Biology
Microbiology
Physiology
Zoology

Natural Resources, Agriculture, and Environmental Science

Environmental Economics and Management
Fisheries & Wildlife
Food Science
Forestry

Social Sciences

Anthropology
History
Political Science
Psychology
Social Work
Sociology

*limited or restricted coursework

Courses being offered can be accessed on the MSU course catalog system: schedule.msu.edu



Exchange Students

Half of the courses an exchange student enrolls in must be from the MSU college sponsoring the exchange program (based on current exchange agreement). Students may enroll in 12 credits each semester unless otherwise agreed upon within the exchange agreement.

Restricted coursework for exchange students includes: English Language Center and associated courses, pre-professional schools, Honors College, College of Law, Department of Nursing, College of Medicine, College of Veterinary Medicine, Eli Broad College of Business, and Department of Computer Engineering and Computer Sciences (extremely limited).

Direct Enroll Students

Students participating in the American Semester Program have a more flexible process in terms of course enrollments. Students must simply meet course prerequisites to be eligible for approval. Seat availability may be a factor for available courses.

Restricted or limited coursework for direct enrollment students includes: pre-professional schools, Honors College, Department of Nursing, College of Medicine, College of Veterinary Medicine, and the Eli Broad College of Business.

Short Course Students

Students participating in the winter or summer short course programs are not enrolled in MSU credits. Rather, they take part in short, extensive programs covering a wide range of topics and themes that change every year. A certification of completion, course syllabus and grade report is issued for each participant.

Schedules & Enrollment

Per visa regulations, students must maintain full-time enrollment to stay in compliance. Undergraduate students must be enrolled in a minimum of 12 US credits. Graduate students must be enrolled in a minimum of 9 US credits.

Students must be flexible and willing to work with academic advisers at their home institutions to identify courses they wish to take at MSU. We suggest gap year students work directly with our office. We cannot guarantee requested courses will be approved for any student.

Accommodation & Meals

Michigan State University is home to one of the largest residence hall systems in the United States. This means MSU has a largely residential campus. Living on campus is a great way to experience American culture and is an important part of every Spartan's college experience.

To meet different financial needs and personal preferences of students, Michigan State University offers a variety of residence hall accommodations. All halls are co-educational. Men and women are housed in separate suites on separate or the same floors and share dining, recreational, study and classrooms facilities. MSU also provides ample locations for students to eat on their time.

On-Campus Housing

We recommend that our incoming students live on-campus as it allows for integration with other students and a well-rounded university experience.

Within each residential neighborhood, students have access to numerous services: writing centers, academic or college advising, cafeterias, health resources, recreational activities, student organizations and leadership opportunities. Students can expect:

- Double room with a roommate
- Beds, desks, and storage units in rooms
- Shared bathroom facilities
- Study rooms on each floor
- Exercise and music practice rooms
- Great dining options nearby
- High speed internet
- On-site laundry
- Cable service

On-Campus Dining Halls & Cafeterias

Unless specified, students are automatically enrolled into the Silver Dining Plan (Owen Hall offers a different meal plan). Students enrolled in this plan have universal access to on-campus eateries, including MSU dining halls, cafeterias and Sparty's convenience stores. MSU has excellent dining facilities, which cater to many dietary needs including halal, vegan, vegetarian and gluten free.

Students also receive Spartan Cash loaded on their Spartan ID.

- Spartan Cash can be used to purchase meals in on-campus cafeterias: Brody Square and The Gallery
- It can also be used at area restaurants and Sparty's locations.

To learn more about campus dining and to see current menus, see eatatstate.msu.edu



Important Links

AMERICAN SEMESTER PROGRAM

[Click here](#)

MSU ACADEMIC CALENDAR

[Click here](#)

FEES, DATES & SCHOLARSHIPS

[Click here](#)

EXCHANGE PROGRAMS

[Click here](#)

MSU HOUSING / LiveOn

[Click here](#)

SCHEDULE OF COURSES

[Click here](#)

