

Yonsei University Exchange Program Summer 2011 IAP Program Handbook

The exchange program with Yonsei University is offered by International Academic Programs (IAP) at the University of Wisconsin-Madison in conjunction with the Yonsei University (Yonsei). This IAP Program Handbook supplements handbook(s) or materials you receive from Yonsei as well as the IAP Study Abroad Handbook and provides you with the most up-to-date information and advice available at the time of printing. Changes may occur before your departure or while you are abroad.

Questions about your program abroad (housing options, facilities abroad, etc.) as well as questions relating to your relationship with your host university or academics (e.g. course credit and equivalents, registration deadlines, etc.) should be directed to International Academic Programs at UW-Madison.

This program handbook contains the following information:

Contact Information	1
Program Dates	2
Preparation Before Leaving.....	2
Travel and Arrival Information	4
The Academic Program.....	4
Living Abroad	5

Contact Information

On-Site Program Information

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UW-Madison Information

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University of Wisconsin-Madison
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Madison, WI 53706
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IAP Study Abroad Advisor

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Emergency Contact Information

In case of an emergency, call the main IAP number **(608) 265-6329** between 8:00 a.m.-4:30 p.m. Monday-Friday; after-hours or on weekends call the IAP staff on call at **(608) 516-9440**.

Embassy Registration

All program participants who are U.S. citizens must register at the U.S. Embassy before departure as this will help in case of a lost passport or other mishap. You can register on-line at <https://travelregistration.state.gov>. If you are not a U.S. citizen, register at your home country's embassy or consulate.

United States Embassy in Seoul, South Korea
32 Sejong-ro, Jungno-gu
Seoul 110-710
Korea
+82 (0)2 700 2510
+82 (0)2 397 4101 fax
seoul_acs@state.gov
<http://usembassy.state.gov/seoul>

Program Dates

Summer 2011

Dorm Check-in	June 23, 2011
Orientation	June 24
Classes	June 28 – August 4
Mid-term Exam	July 14
Final Exam	August 4
Commencement	TBD

Preparation Before Leaving

IMMIGRATION DOCUMENTS

Passport: A passport is needed to travel to South Korea and to obtain your visa. Apply immediately for a passport if you do not already have one. Passport information and application forms can be found on the U.S. State Department website <http://travel.state.gov/passport/>. If you already have your passport, make sure it will be valid for at least 6 months beyond the length of your stay abroad.

Visa: A valid short-term visa (C-3) is required for all international students. To apply for a visa, you will need a letter of acceptance from Yonsei University, which will be mailed to IAP after you complete and submit the Yonsei University application. Once IAP has received your Yonsei University letter of acceptance letter, you will need to submit the following items to the South Korean Consulate:

- Visa application form

- Valid passport
- Passport-size photograph
- Admissions letter from Yonsei University
- Application fee (\$45 for U.S. citizens)

Processing time is normally 2 to 3 business days. If you are requesting a visa by mail, be sure to enclose a self-addressed stamped envelope marked with the proper postage to receive your visa. For the secure arrival of your visa, express mailing services, such as the U.S. Postal Service Express Mail, Federal Express, UPS, DHL, or Air Borne, are recommended.

Korean Consulate General in Chicago www.chicagoconsulate.org.

HANDLING MONEY ABROAD

The official currency of South Korea is the Won (KRW). As of 01/15/10, the exchange rate was \$1 USD to KRW1121.45.

Generally it is very difficult to cash U.S. personal checks in Korea. It can take up to two months for such a check to clear. While credit cards are accepted by many restaurants and stores, they cannot be used to pay school costs, nor for travel expenses for the International Division program. It is recommended that students bring either traveler's checks or a lump-sum amount in a secure instrument such as a cashier's check / bank check, or international money order. Traveler's checks can be exchanged to Korean currency quickly and easily at any bank, and at a more favorable rate than cash. A bank account in Korean currency can be quite easily opened at the campus branch of Woori Bank, located in the Student Center (See campus map #51). Telegraphic transfers can be made to such an account. Some ATMs in the downtown areas are linked to worldwide cash networks such as Plus and Cirrus, but there is none on campus.

Traveler's checks: Students are advised to carry traveler's checks, which are cashable all over Korea. Traveler's checks can be purchased at most banks in Korea with Korean won, American dollars, or with a U.S. personal check. Be advised that personal checks usually take about 20 days to process and are difficult to cash (\$2,000 limit), as they are not used amongst Koreans.

ATM/Debit cards: To avoid fees, you will want to withdraw money from your bank. A service fee will be charged if you use an ATM of a bank different from the one you have a debit card, and if you use an ATM outside of bank business hours (usually around W 1,500).

Credit Cards: Students may use credit cards in Korea, but they are not as prevalent as in the United States (for example, many smaller restaurants only take cash). Cash machines (e.g. Han-Net or Sam-Sung) are available for use with credit cards with the Visa, Master Card or Cirrus logos in order to withdraw funds in Won.

Note: Be sure to set aside W 10,000 for the airport departure tax when leaving Korea.

PACKING

Korea is a well-developed country and many of the same or similar everyday items you have back home can easily be purchased here. However, you may wish to bring a supply of personal toiletries, as the brands may differ than those found in the United States.

Korea has four distinct seasons and depending on your length of stay, you will need to pack accordingly. Koreans tend to dress very fashionable, more conservatively than most western

cultures, and will wear the same, nice, outfit often. Therefore, don't bring too much when it comes to clothing. When considering shoes to bring, keep in mind that you will repeatedly take them on and off when entering Korean homes, restaurants, temples, and other public places. Therefore, bring shoes that are easy to take on and off.

Travel and Arrival Information

You are responsible for arranging your transportation to Seoul. The major airport in Seoul is Incheon International Airport (ICN) www.airport.or.kr.

Airport Pickup: Yonsei University has contracted with a company, AIRHELP Center Int'l to provide an airport pick-up service for students. There is an online reservation system at the company website: <http://www.airhelp.co.kr/english/index.html>. The fare is 70,000 won (limited to 4 people, price is subject to change).

ICY Pickup Service: International Yonsei Community (IYC) is a student's organization that interacts with the exchange students of Yonsei and the foreign students of the Korean Language Institute. They provide pick up service for exchange students during the spring and fall semesters only. Two or three members of the IYC will go the airport and pick you up and take you to campus. The fare is US \$50 in cash that can be paid at the airport upon arrival. If interested, send an email that gives your name, picture, flight number and arrival time to: mailto:icycian@gmail.com. You can also look at their website: <http://www.icycian.com>.

The Academic Program

Yonsei University

Yonsei University has been in the forefront of higher education in Korea since it was founded in 1885, and its mission today is to train the future leaders of Korea by providing its students with a top-rate, interdisciplinary and international education program. The institution's purpose is to provide higher education commensurate with Christian doctrine and national educational ideals, in order to train Christian leaders in the principles of Truth and Freedom. Today's Yonsei seeks new challenges in the pursuit of academic excellence. Building on its origins in a Western missionary tradition and its reputation as Korea's premier private university, Yonsei University sets the nation's standards for higher education in the twenty-first century.

Yonsei is recognized not only in Korea, but also in the Asia-Pacific region and the global community, as the most forward-looking, internationalized, and comprehensive university in Korea. For an institution whose history has so closely paralleled Korea's own modern historical journey, the "Yonsei Legacy" is a unique and a powerful one - at once the most traditional, but also the most modern, outward looking, and liberal university in Korea. Founded based on strong Christian values, Yonsei University has played a crucial role among Korean studies, language, and culture, and conversely as Korea's window to the world. Thus for well over a hundred and twenty years, Yonsei has served as the principal conduit of knowledge, flowing into and out of Korea. Yonsei University continues to expand into the twenty-first century.

Yonsei University is fortunate in having a large, quiet, and well-wooded campus in the middle of a metropolis of 12 million inhabitants, only 15 minutes away from the centers of government, business and culture. Yonsei University has grown from small beginnings to its present diversity,

with 17 colleges, 83 departments, and 13 professional graduates. The Yonsei family now boasts approximately 47,000 students.

Ewha Woman's University is just across street from the east gate of the Yonsei campus and two other colleges are nearby. Therefore, Sinchon-Dong area has become the gathering place for young hip college crowds. There are many trendy restaurants, shops, and cafe's. An upscale department store is within walking distance of the campus and connected to the Sinchon subway station. Yonsei University is located in the heart of Seoul, Korea, an energetic metropolis that offers an eclectic mix of traditional heritage and modern cosmopolitanism.

Course Information

Course Equivalent Requests and My Study Abroad

Each course you take abroad must be assigned a UW-Madison "equivalent" course in order for your grades and credits to be recorded on your UW-Madison transcript. In order to establish UW-Madison course equivalents for your study abroad courses, you will submit a Course Equivalent Requests through your My Study Abroad account. Detailed information on the UW course equivalent process that you will use through your My Study Abroad account is available in the IAP Study Abroad Handbook.

Credits Conversions

One course is usually three credits with three classroom hours per week. Credits will be converted on a one-to-one basis. For example, a 3-credit course at Yonsei will receive 3 credits at UW-Madison.

Limits and Load

UW-Madison students are required to take a minimum of 6 UW-Madison equivalent credits.

Pass/Fail/Drop/Audit

Please refer to the IAP Study Abroad Handbook for academic policies.

Grades and Grade Conversions

Yonsei	UW-Madison
	A
	AB
	B
	BC
	C
	D
	F

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Living Abroad

KOREA

Sandwiched between Japan and China, South Korea has been a bridge for both peaceful and militant cultural movements between these two countries. Nonetheless, Korea has preserved its unique character and cultural identity throughout these times. Korea is rich in art, culture and history that dates back some 5000 years, having been influenced by Confucianism, Buddhism, Christianity and Shamanism. Excellence in architecture and sculpture of the Shilla Dynasty (57 B.C.-935 A.D.) was unrivalled. The later Koryo Dynasty (918-1392 A.D.) excelled in ceramics and handicrafts that are even today highly recognized and sought for their exalting beauty. Ancient cities sparsely spread throughout the southern part of the peninsula fortunately still retain their treasures. Contemporary Korea is yet another very exciting chapter in understanding Korea. After the Korean War in the early 1950s, the peninsula was divided into North Korea and South Korea. While North Korea still remains mostly closed, South Korea underwent rapid economic industrialization in the 1960s that has made it one of the fastest growing nations in the world.

SEOUL

Located just below the 38th parallel sits Seoul, the capital of the Republic of Korea (ROK). With a population of approximately 11 million people, Seoul continues to expand outward. As the nation's cultural, educational, and political center, all eyes seem to be fixed on its latest happenings and developments. As one author wrote, "No matter where you are in the country, you always go up to Seoul." A particularly distinguishing factor about Seoul is the fine blend between past and present. Amongst tall modern buildings sit ancient palaces, temples, and shrines. Walking down the same street one can find a businessman talking on his cell phone next to an older woman wearing more traditional clothing and selling vegetables. Over 600 years old, today's Seoul is congested and more crowded than ever. Traffic jams and lines are a common sight. However, an advanced subway system and other modes of public transportation continue to help. From the crowded markets, to the peaceful Han River that runs through the center, Seoul is amongst the best and has some of the most striking settings of any large city in Asia.

Housing

Students can apply to live in the International House (I-House) on campus. The International House can accommodate up to 240 students in double rooms. The house is available to undergraduate students and graduate students with separate wings for men and women. A mixture of Korean and non-Korean students live in the house providing an international atmosphere. Every room is equipped with LAN connections for Internet use.

The house has shared refrigerators for student use, lounge areas, study areas, a recreation area, a lecture room, a computer room and laundry facilities. The rooms have twin beds, closets, desks, and a small bookcase.

Students are responsible for their own meals as there is no meal plan in the house. Students may but their meals in one of the college cafeterias or in the university area's many restaurants. For

more information on the Ihouse, refer to <http://oia.yonsei.ac.kr> and click on Ihouse.

Homestay

Students can also choose to participate in the homestay program for their time abroad. Meals are not necessarily guaranteed for this option. For more information on the homestay program, refer to <http://oia.yonsei.ac.kr> and click on Cultural Exchange.

Off-campus housing: Students can also choose to live off-campus at DMC Ville. **DMC Ville:** <http://www.dmcville.co.kr>

Meals: Students are responsible for purchasing their own meals. There is no meal plan, but there are many alternatives. Students may buy their meals in one of the college cafeterias, or in the university area's many restaurants. There is also a shared-refrigerator space for storing milk, break, or other perishables. Nearby bakeries have coffee and rolls for breakfast, and both pizza and Chinese food can be delivered to the dorm. Many means cost as little as the equivalent of US \$3. Most students can eat adequately with a food budget of US \$400 per month.

Student Life

The Ko- Yon Games: A sporting event that has inspired the nation is held every year between KU and Yonsei University, longstanding rivals and the nation's two leading universities. Each fall the Ko-Yon Games build friendship between the universities and serve to develop Korean university culture and competitive excellence one step further. A total of five games are played: football (soccer), baseball, basketball, ice hockey, and rugby. Restoring the tradition of anti-Japanese determination during the colonial rule, the Ko-Yon Games is sublimed as a national ceremony. Recently, in addition to these main sporting events, internet games, board games, and interchange in culture and arts have been included as a way of promoting a positive university culture and passion for achievement.

International Buddy Program

Yonsei University has organized the International Buddy Program for the purpose of promoting interaction between the international students and regular Yonsei students. Its aim is to help international students adjust to the new environment, as well as minimize feelings of loneliness or isolation that students might feel when they first arrive in a foreign country. International students can learn and experience the real Korean way first hand from their Yonsei buddies. Likewise, they can reciprocate to Yonsei students by introducing their own culture and lifestyle, thereby broadening the worldview of both students.

We will receive applications from both international students and Yonsei students, and try to match two students considering their interests. The Office of International Affairs will organize a few activities for them, but each buddy pair is free to organize their own meetings or activities. All international students are encouraged to participate in the Buddy Program. If you would like to participate in our Buddy Program, just check Yes on your application form.

Yonsei Global Language Exchange: Language Exchange is a program which we arrange for a student of Yonsei University and an international student from another country to meet together and learn each other's languages. Also you can understand the different cultural backgrounds of each other and make a foreign friend. It will be a great experience.

Through the 1st orientation held on the beginning of the school term, you will be matched with a partner. You will meet your partner more than once a week to learn each other's languages, and

we will give you guidelines in doing it efficiently. Of course, it is not compulsory, but if you follow the guideline, you will be able to learn each other's languages with more interest. Also under applicants, you can participate in the GA program and volunteer to help children once a month with your partner.

LE(Language Exchange) is a program which is accomplished by the positiveness of both Yonsei students and foreign students. Regardless of your nationality or age, anyone who is interested in learning languages is welcome. Don't miss your chance of learning the local language from friends.

Global Lounge: Global Lounge (GL) has been established in November 2002 to foster international awareness for Yonsei University students and to offer various one-stop, convenient services to international students.

GL is located right across the Central Libray (Map#59) and is conveniently located in the annex of the Student Union Building (Map#72).

GL is currently managed by the International Scholars and Student Services Team of the Office of International Affairs (OIA), and provides various services not only for students but also for international faculty members' services range from immigration affairs to mobile phone information.

From 2007, the Study Abroad Center under the OIA has been moved to the GL, and provides information about bilateral exchange programs, global internships, and study abroad programs.

In the GL, students can watch major international news channels, such as BBC, CNN, NHK, Bloomberg, Arirang, and CCTV with wireless headsets, and read international newspapers and magazines. Plus, free internet service and wireless internet service are available for visitors.

Students can also receive information about the Language Exchange program, Buddy program, Homestay program, Field trips, sports events, etc.

Student Clubs: Korean students tend to take most of their courses only with other students from their own department. They have relatively few chances to meet students from other departments. One function of student clubs is to provide a method for cross-departmental networking. Thus there are a large number of student clubs on campus that involve activities such as mountain climbing, calligraphy and so on. Each club has an office or meeting room (see following section). Most of the club offices remain open in the summer, but not many students participate during that time.

Usually, it is not easy for an international student to join a club, because of language and cultural barriers, but if you have a special skill, such as playing American football, you are usually welcome. Just don't be discouraged if the "discussion" clubs don't seem so enthused to have you. Try another one. For a list of clubs, refer to <http://oia.yonsei.ac.kr> Click on Student Info>General Info>Student Organizations

TRANSPORTATION

Subway: The subway is the easiest and quickest way to get to your destination in Seoul as the lines run throughout the city. There are 8 subway lines in Seoul with more lines currently under

construction. You can either buy a one-way ticket, which is KRW700 or a pass (jung-aek-kwon), which is sold in KRW10,000 denominations. A pre-paid card is also useful and convenient if you use the subway often. All signs and most announcements are in Korean and English. In addition, you can distinguish lines by their colors and the stops are numbered as well.

You can look up relevant information at the official website of the Seoul Metropolitan Subway Corporation at www.seoulsubway.co.kr. In addition, if you get lost or need information related to the subway system, you can contact 735-5678 for help in English.

Bus: There are two types of buses in Korea: “regular city bus” and “seat bus”. The differences, in principle, between the two buses are that on “seat buses,” you are guaranteed seats and a faster arrival to your destination with fewer stops, while seats are not guaranteed on “regular city buses.” The fare for “regular city buses” is 700 won while the “seat buses” cost 1,300 won for one-way. For your convenience, it is possible to use a bus card to pay the fare instead of paying by cash. Since bus lines are very complicated even for Seoul residents, we recommend you to use the subway unless you are certain about bus number and the stop. If you want to go on a bus trip to other provinces, you can take an express bus at Express Bus Terminal in Banpo-Dong. Take subway line number 3 or line number 7 and get off at the Express Bus Terminal Stop.

Train: If you want to take a railway trip to other provinces more distant from Seoul, you have to take a train from Seoul Train Station or Chung-ryang-ri Train Station. You can look up relevant travel information at the website of the Korea National Railroad www.korail.go.kr.

Taxi: Taxis can be very expensive if you are traveling a long distance. The basic fare is KRW1,600 for a regular taxi, and the black luxury taxis (called “deluxe taxis”) will cost more starting at the basic fare of KRW4,000. Taxi fares increase 20% after midnight.

SAFETY

Upon arriving at Yonsei, each student will receive an emergency contact card that lists the phone numbers of the Office of International Affairs staff. In case an emergency arises there is a contact protocol that is clearly explained on the card.

Emergency Numbers

- Police 112
- Fire and Ambulance 119
- Local Directory Assistance 114

HEALTH

In case of a medical emergency, students may go to Severance Hospital for service. Severance Hospital maintains an International Health Care Center where foreign patients may be seen on an outpatient basis during normal working hours by a foreign doctor and, if needed, referred to the appropriate department of the hospital.

The student will have to pay the full fee up front, and then apply for some form of reimbursement from their home insurance company.

Excellent dental and orthodontic care is available in Seoul. Once again, the student is required to pay the full treatment fee, at the time of their treatment.

COMMUNICATION

Telephone: When making calls, keep in mind time zone differences www.timeanddate.com/worldclock. To make an international call to the United States, dial the access code for the country from which you are calling plus the United States country code (always “1”) followed by the appropriate U.S. area code and local number. To call internationally from the United States, dial “011”, the country code, city access code (if necessary) and the phone number. Country and city codes can be found online www.timeanddate.com/worldclock/dialing.html. Some of above steps can vary if you are using a calling card.

Mail: Korean postal services generally take a week for shipments made out of country and a few days within Korea. Be sure that you check in advance about any goods that are un-shippable by law. For more information about Korean postal services available visit www.koreapost.go.kr. DHL service is also available on campus in the lobby of the student union building.

It will be the easiest to use the university post office in the Communication Building on Main Campus. Fast mail services such as EMS and DHL, as well as money transfers, are also available. The opening hours are from 9am to 6pm. Postage stamps can also be bought at any stationary shop.

Email: KU has many computer labs that are available for your needs. In Korea, IBM is more commonly used than Macintosh. Students can use computer facilities in most of the buildings on campus. Students have access to the Internet and word processing programs including Microsoft Word.

Skype: Skype is a free, downloadable software application that allows users to make live video and voice calls over the internet. Skype users can also add money to their account and can then use the service to call land lines and cell phones internationally at very low rates. Additionally, Skype also provides an instant messaging function as well as file sharing.

To create a Skype account, users must download the application from www.skype.com and create a user name and password. Once the application is installed onto their computer, they can search for friends either by first and last name or using their friends' Skype usernames. Once a friend is added to a users contact list, they will be able to see whether that person is available to chat. If two users both have web-enabled video cameras for their computers, they will be able to chat face to face. For users without a web cam, a microphone is all that's required for calls to another computer.

ADDITIONAL RELEVANT INFORMATION/WEBSITES OF INTEREST

Korea University
<http://www.korea.edu/>

U.S. State Department Students Abroad site:
<http://www.studentsabroad.state.gov/>

UW-Madison International Academic Programs
<http://www.studyabroad.wisc.edu>

U.S. State Department:
<http://travel.state.gov>

U.S. State Department Students Abroad site:
<http://www.studentsabroad.state.gov/>

Center for Disease Control
<http://www.cdc.gov/travel/>

Current exchange rates
<http://www.oanda.com>

Lonely Planet
<http://www.lonelyplanet.com>

