THE UNIVERSITY OF HONG KONG
School of Future Media

SFM Exchange Programme 2027–2028

The SFM Exchange Programme is an academic exchange programme organized by the School of Future Media (SFM), aimed at providing an opportunity for students to study abroad at leading journalism and media schools. Successful candidates will attend one of the following institutions: **Danish School of Media and Journalism** in Denmark, **Institut d'Etudes Politiques de Paris (Sciences Po)** in France, **The University of North Carolina** at Chapel Hill or **University of Navarra, Spain** for one semester in the academic year 2027-2028.

Application procedures

- Interested students, regardless of whether they have applied for the HKU Worldwide Undergraduate Student Exchange or the Faculty Level Exchange Programmes 2027–2028 should submit the online application form for the SFM Exchange Programme directly to the SFM by 12:00 noon on December 11, 2026 (Friday). Late or incomplete applications will **NOT** be accepted.
- Appropriate candidates will be invited to attend an interview in January 2027 with notification by email in due course.

Notes to application

1. Student eligibility

- Year 2 to 4 BJ students are eligible to apply. Applications that are submitted by students who have previously been or are going to be on exchange under the HKU Worldwide Undergraduate Student Exchange Programmes or any other student exchange programmes organized by other faculties or department **will NOT** be considered.
- Students can apply for the SFM Exchange Programme, the Faculty Level Exchange Programme and the HKU Worldwide Undergraduate Exchange Programme, but only **one offer** can be made.
- Students who are required to fulfill the Global citizenship requirement are advised to apply.

2. Host institution / Course selection

Visit the website of the host institution of your choice to find out about that particular institution. Discuss with your teacher(s) and/or family about your choice or concerns (e.g. financial, academic, etc.), if any.

Once you have decided on a host institution, you should proceed to choose the subject area/courses that you wish to study. Course details/syllabuses are usually available at the homepage of the host institution. Make sure that exchange students are not restricted from taking the courses of your choice at that host institution.

Host institutions reserve the right to accept or reject students from enrolling in certain courses. Reasons may include limited quota, pre-requisite not met, course restrictions, etc. You should be prepared to add or drop courses when you pursue your study at the host institution.

Details on the partner institutions are available at:

- Danish School of Media and Journalism, Denmark
- Institut d'Etudes Politiques de Paris (Sciences Po), France
- The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, USA
- University of Navarra, Spain

* Students should take note of the different academic calendar below:

Danish School of Media and Journalism	Fall semester: Aug-Dec	Spring semester: Jan-Jun
Sciences Po	Fall semester: Aug-Dec	Spring semester: Jan-Jun
The University of North Carolina	Fall semester: Aug-Dec	Spring semester: Jan-May
University of Navarra	Fall semester: Sep-Dec	Spring semester: Jan-Jun

3. Credit transfer

Students are strongly advised to transfer credits, in full or in part, gained from the host institution back to HKU as fulfillment of their degree requirements. Students pursuing double-degrees should note the restrictions on their curriculum structure and be prepared that full credit transfer may not be possible.

4. Tuition fee

Students are required to pay full tuition fees to HKU, while exempted from paying tuition fees to the host institution, regardless of whether the students transfer credits, or the number of credits the students plan to transfer back to the University.

5. English proficiency test

All selected candidates are required to submit proof of English proficiency (e.g. TOEFL or IELTS) to the host institutions with their exchange applications. If you have not taken any English language proficiency test, you must register in one of the tests immediately once you are short-listed for interview and report the test date to the SFM. You should have your TOFEL or IELTS result ready by the end of February 2027 for the fall 2027-28 out-going exchange, and the end of September 2027 for the spring 2027-28 out-going exchange. The offer may be withdrawn if it is reasonably believed that the test result cannot be provided with the application to the host institution. (Please refer to Appendix A)

6. Financial support

There are a limited number of scholarships and sponsorship opportunities to provide financial assistance to students. The International Affairs Office (IAO) will assign an appropriate scholarship to students according to your financial needs and academic standing once the application to the host institution becomes successful. For details, please check here.

7. Selection criteria:

- academic standing;
- participation in extra-curricular activities and community services;
- personality, outlook and perspective;
- knowledge of Hong Kong's history and culture;
- communication skills;
- performance at the interview;
- a good ambassador of The University and of Hong Kong as a whole.

8. If your application is successful, you are required to:

- submit your *online application for admission* as an exchange student to the host institution before the deadline specified (*The online application link will be provided by the host institution*);
- apply for *leave of absence* and *credit transfer via* the Social Sciences Outgoing Exchange Study Credit Transfer Application System here; Please refer to the "Important Notes for Outgoing Exchange Students" for more details.
- proceed to secure your own *accommodation* either on-campus or off-campus (if not taken care of by the programme) by contacting your host institution;
- check if you need a *visa* for the country in which you intend to study and obtain a visa if necessary;

- purchase *air-ticket* and other personal necessities for life abroad;
- purchase *travel and medical insurances* (note: all the three institutions offer mandatory insurance packages);
- prepare all *other costs* incurred from your exchange studies, e.g. airfares, accommodation at host institution, local transportation, medical insurance, etc.;
- inform your teacher(s), hall warden, departmental office and Faculty Office again of your *exchange activity* before you leave Hong Kong.

November 2026 (amended)

University	TOEFL	IELTS	Others
Sciences Po (can only go for exchange in Year 2, sem 2) Sciences Po only offer J-courses in Spring and our students have to complete at least 3 semesters before going exchange			**French** If the native language and/or the language of instruction at the home university is not French, undergraduate exchange students who intend to follow classes taught in French will require a French level of : TCF 400 or DELF B2. **English** If the native language and/or the language of instruction at the home university is not English, undergraduate exchange students who intend to follow classes taught in English will require an English level of : TOEFL IBT 80 or IELTS 6.
Danish School of Media and Journalism	Computer-based: 80	Min. score 6.5	If English is not your first language, you need to pass an English language test: Erasmus students can use the OLS TOEFL (you have to obtain at least 80 in the computer based TOEFL test) Cambridge (you have to obtain at least C1 in the Cambridge test) IELTS (you have to obtain at least 6.5 in the IELTS test) If you have studied at least one year in an English language environment, the language test may be waived.
The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill	▪ For exams taken on or after January 21, 2026: 5 or higher ▪ For exams taken before January 21, 2026: 100 or higher	Min. score 6	If English is not your native language, you will need to provide copies of your scores on the TOEFL, IELTS, Cambridge English First test B2 on the CEFR, or Duolingo tests. ○ Duolingo 130 or higher ○ Cambridge English First Test B2 on the CEFR
University of Navarra, Spain	A language evaluation will be arranged by the University of Navarra		Applicants should have successfully completed a minimum of 60 credit hours and have a minimum GPA of 3.0. In addition, students must have successfully completed (or have credit by examination) for SPN 327G (Advanced Grammar and Composition), or equivalent, by the semester of participation.