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inspired

KNOW AU

AMERICAN UNIVERSITY

International
Admissions

2012-2013

PASSIONATE

Global

International and U.S. Global Nomad
Transfer Applicants



WELCOME

As a global university, American University (AU) has a long tradition of welcoming students from across the United States and the world to our campus.

AU is home to more than 1,300 international students representing diverse cultures and viewpoints from 146 countries. This diversity is also reflected in our faculty, academic programs and exchanges. AU is also home to an increasing number of U.S. citizen “Global Nomads” who have grown up outside the United States.

AU offers a broad choice of majors and minors as well as preprofessional advising programs in law and medicine. You may also double major or construct your own interdisciplinary major. AU’s flexibility also allows you to have your major in one AU school and a minor in another AU school or college. We understand that tomorrow’s careers require an understanding of a wide variety of fields, and we encourage students to transcend the traditional boundaries of academic disciplines.

At AU, “access” and “engagement” are not merely catchphrases; the spirit of these words permeate the campus environment. Students who share a desire to understand and shape tomorrow’s world are attracted to AU because of its culture of engagement and service.

We appreciate your interest and hope to welcome you to the American University community soon!



Evelyn Levinson
Director, International Admissions



Fanta Aw
Assistant Vice President, Campus Life

RANKINGS

Among 4,000 institutions, American University is ranked in the top 100 in *U.S. News & World Report's* 2010 edition of "America's Best Colleges."

For 2011, *BusinessWeek* ranked our Kogod School of Business as the 37th best undergraduate business program in the United States. AU's School of International Service—the largest school of international affairs in the United States—was recently ranked 17th for top undergraduate program and 8th for outstanding Master's program by *Foreign Policy* magazine. *U.S. News & World Report* ranks our School of Public Affairs as one of the top 10 programs in the United States. AU's Washington College of Law's specializations in clinical training and international law rank second and sixth, respectively.

In 2011, Princeton Review ranked AU's Career Center 18th in the nation for "Best Career Services." *U.S. World & News Report* ranks AU in the top ten for national universities producing the most interns among their undergraduate students.

ACCREDITATION

American University is regionally accredited by the Middle States Association of Colleges and Secondary Schools. In addition, AU holds professional accreditations in several disciplines, including:

- AACSB International (business)
- APA - American Psychological Association (psychology)
- ABA - American Bar Association (law)
- International Association of Film and Television Schools
- NCATE (education)

AU maintains membership with the following professional organizations: the Association of Professional Schools of International Affairs (APSIA), the National Association of Schools of Music, the National Association of Schools of Public Affairs and Administration, the Academy of Criminal Justice Sciences, the Association of American Law Schools and CILECT, the International Association of Film and Television Schools.

INTERNATIONAL ALUMNI

AU is proud to have among its alumni the former Prime Minister of Mali, Panama's former Vice Prime Minister and other dedicated leaders, diplomats, CEOs and directors who are carrying on AU's vision of turning ideas into action and action into service. The AU Office of Alumni Programs provides career mentoring and networking by keeping its graduates connected through regional chapters throughout the United States and with international chapters located in Beijing, Brussels, Istanbul, Amman, London, Paris, Seoul and Tokyo. Visit www.american.edu/alumni for more information on alumni networks worldwide.

ACADEMIC SUPPORT

The Academic Support Center (ASC) provides a variety of sessions, services and programs to assist international students in all areas of study. ASC offers ESL tutoring referrals, a writing lab with counselors who are specially trained in working with international students, study skills workshops and other helpful services. AU's Writing Center is available throughout the year to assist students with writing assignments. Experienced counselors can provide individualized attention to a specific project or they can also offer advice on time management techniques, brainstorming, outlining and other writing techniques.

RENOWNED FACULTY

At AU, personal attention and access to faculty are a reality. Our faculty represents a rich mix of academic and professional training. Of its 750 members, 95 percent have the highest degree in their field. Students have the opportunity to learn from professionals from organizations such as the World Bank, Discovery Communications, the Associated Press, the National Endowment for the Arts, the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts, AOL, NASA and other institutions, both public and private. These faculty members bring a real-world perspective to the classroom experience. The student-faculty ratio is 13 to 1. The average undergraduate class size is 23 students.

ACADEMICS

AU's goal is to prepare a generation of leaders who are broadly educated, passionately engaged and capable of translating the lasting values that are hallmarks of a human, humane and civilized world to a complex environment.

UNDERGRADUATE PROGRAMS

American Studies (BA)
Anthropology (BA)
Art History (BA)
Audio Production (BA)
Audio Technology (BS)
Biochemistry (BS)
Biology (BS)
Business Administration (BSBA)
Business, Language and Culture Studies (BS)
Business and Music (BS)
Chemistry (BS)
Communication Studies (BA)
Computer Science (BS)
Economics (BA) (BS)
Elementary Education (BA)
Environmental Studies (BA)
Film and Media Arts (BA)
Fine Arts (BFA)
Foreign Language and Communication Media (BA)
French Studies (BA)
German Studies (BA)
Graphic Design (BA)
Health Promotion (BS)
History (BA)
Interdisciplinary Studies
Communication, Legal Institutions, Economics and Government (BA)
International Studies (BA)
Jewish Studies (BA)
Justice (BA)
Language and Area Studies
French/Europe (BA)
German/Europe (BA)
Russian/Area Studies (BA)
Spanish/Latin America (BA)
Law and Society (BA)
Liberal Studies (BA)
Literature (BA)
Marine Science (BS)
Mathematics (BS)
Mathematics, Applied (BS)
Music (BA)
Performing Arts

Musical Theatre (BA)
Theatre (BA)
Philosophy (BA)
Physics (BS)
Political Science (BA)
Print/Broadcast Journalism (BA)
Psychology (BA)
Public Communication (BA)
Public Health (BA) - New!
Religious Studies (BA)
Russian Studies (BA)
Secondary Education (Secondary major only)
Sociology (BA)
Spanish Studies (BA)
Statistics (BS)
Studio Art (BA)
Women's and Gender Studies (BA)

PREPROFESSIONAL PROGRAMS

Prelaw Program
Premed Program

FIVE-YEAR BACHELOR'S/ MASTER'S PROGRAMS

Anthropology
Biology
Chemistry
Computer Science
Economics
Education
Environmental Science
Health Promotion and Health Fitness Management
History
International Studies
Mathematics and Applied Mathematics
Mathematics and Computer Science
Mathematics and Statistics
Philosophy
Physics and Computer Science
Psychology
Sociology
Statistics
TESOL

Visit www.american.edu/degrees.cfm for a complete list of programs, majors and minors.

AU ABROAD

Students who don't study abroad are now in the minority at AU. From Argentina to the United Arab Emirates—and everywhere in between—more than 60 percent of AU students will study abroad before they graduate. AU Abroad offers more than 150 programs in over 40 countries on six continents. Where would you like to go? Kenya, India and Turkey are just a few of the destinations in AU's study abroad program, ranked 5th in the nation by "Open Doors 2010," and by *U.S. News & World Report* as one of the best in the United States. To learn more, visit the AU Abroad Web site at www.auabroad.american.edu.



"Studying abroad in Madrid, Spain was definitely one of the best decisions I made. I learned so much more about Spain, traveled all over the country and met some of my best friends during this time. It was also so much easier to learn Spanish because I was hearing it at restaurants and on the street, and practicing with my host mom every day. It was very eye-opening to be exposed to an entirely different culture and people, and the experience changed my life!"

NAME: SHANIKA YAPA
CITIZENSHIP: SRI LANKA
SCHOOL AND MAJOR: SOC, PUBLIC COMMUNICATION

UNIVERSITY HONORS PROGRAM

The top 15 percent of admitted students are invited to join the University Honors Program. The Honors experience is designed to promote a continuous learning environment, making optimum use of our outstanding faculty, campus facilities and the numerous resources available in the Washington, D.C., area and abroad. The program offers special courses, residence in Honors housing, individualized Honors advisement, preparation and support for national scholarship competitions, cultural opportunities and events and an environment designed to motivate talented students and to foster a life-long dedication to learning. To learn more, visit www.american.edu/honors.

ACADEMIC FACILITIES

University Library: The Bender Library and Learning Resources Center serves AU's informational needs with more than one million volumes, including more than 700,000 print books, 20,000 e-books, 250,000 digitized primary source materials, 45,000 online periodical subscriptions, 41,000 media and sound recordings and 14,000 musical scores. The library is part of the eight-member Washington Research Library Consortium, featuring a shared online catalog.

Technology and Computing Resources: Computing resources are delivered via a fiber optic network as well as through a wireless network. Wireless access for laptop computers and other devices is available throughout campus. High-speed wireless Internet access is available in locations such as the library, residence halls, classrooms and the quad.

CAREER SERVICES

AU's Career Center is dedicated to teaching students how to develop educational and career goals and the job search strategies needed to manage their professional and academic pursuits. Career advisers are available to work individually with students to identify the major and career that are best suited for their skills and interests. Internship advisors are also available to help students find meaningful work opportunities to complement their academic coursework.

The Career Center also offers workshops covering resume writing, networking techniques and interviewing skills to help prepare students for internships. Students also benefit from annual on-campus job and internship fairs, networking opportunities with AU alumni and on-campus recruiting by a wide range of companies and organizations.

INTERNSHIPS

At AU, you can combine academics and experiential learning to gain training, professional experience and explore possible careers, **all within your four years** as an undergraduate student. No extra time is needed!

The AU Career Center is ranked 18th in the United States for best career services. Internships geared toward all majors are available to students in Washington, D.C., and around the world. In fact, more than 80 percent of AU undergraduate students complete at least one internship before graduating.



“I had an incredible internship at *USA Today* Brand Marketing. I was able to get real experience by working on real projects. One of the advertisements I helped to develop was printed nationwide!”

NAME: CHRISTIAN KINGSTON

CITIZENSHIP: UNITED KINGDOM, ARGENTINA AND CANADA

SCHOOL AND MAJOR: KSB, MARKETING AND REAL ESTATE



TRANSFER APPLICANTS

Applicants are strongly encouraged to apply online using the Common Application. The Common Application is available at www.commonapp.org. There is a U.S.\$65 fee for all applications.

APPLICATION DEADLINES

Please be sure to submit your application and ALL supporting documents by the appropriate deadline.

If you plan to begin your studies in August (fall semester):
Students seeking merit award consideration.....March 1 (priority)
Students living outside the United States.....May 1
Students living within the United States.....July 1

If you plan to begin your studies in January (spring semester):
Students living outside the United States.....September 1
Students living within the United States.....November 1

IMPORTANT: Transfer applicants who wish to be considered for merit awards should plan to apply for the fall semester. Pending availability of funding, merit awards may be available for those students planning to begin study in the spring.

HOW TO APPLY

IMPORTANT CHECKLIST

To be considered for admission to AU, your application and **all** supporting documents listed below must be received by the appropriate deadline. Your file will not be reviewed otherwise.

- Completed application form, including essay, CV/resume**
- Academic records with official transcripts and certified English translations, if applicable**
- One or two letters of recommendation (optional)**
- Demonstrated English proficiency**
- Completed AU Certification of Finances (CFIS) form, available at www.american.edu/admissions/international***
- Bank letter showing at least US \$55,289 for first year of study and living expenses***
- Application fee of U.S.\$65**

***Non-U.S. citizens who will need a student visa (F or J) only.**

IMPORTANT: A completed application means that the application form and **all** supporting documents listed above, including the AU Certification of Finances for International Students (CFIS) and bank letter, must be submitted on time by the indicated deadline. Late applications will significantly reduce your chances of being admitted, as well as disqualify you from merit scholarship consideration.

SUBMITTING YOUR APPLICATION

IMPORTANT: Please use a **courier service** (and keep your tracking number) to send your complete application packet and supporting documents to:

Undergraduate Admissions
Office of Enrollment
3201 NEW MEXICO AVENUE, NW
STE-B1
Washington, DC 20016-8001
USA
Tel: +1-202-885-6000

If you have any questions regarding your application, please contact the International Admissions Office directly at intadm@american.edu.

THE APPLICATION FORM

Complete the application carefully. Please make sure to include your full name (as it is spelled in your passport), complete educational history, country of birth, citizenship, current mailing address and a permanent address outside of the United States, even if you are currently living or studying in the United States.

APPLICATION ESSAY

Address one of the essay topics suggested in the application. Be sure to take the time to prepare a strong essay that reflects your ability to organize and express your thoughts clearly.

YOUR ACADEMIC RECORDS

If you have completed less than one year of full-time academic study at a postsecondary institution in the United States or overseas at the time of application (i.e. you have fewer than 24 semester credits per the U.S. system of higher education), please submit all of the following:

1. Your secondary school diploma and academic credentials (examination results and certificates, transcripts, etc)
2. Your postsecondary academic credentials or transcripts
3. SAT I scores (only if you completed high school in the United States)

Include any examination results such as IB, GCSE, GCE, Bagrut, Tawjihi, French Baccalaureate, CAPE, Abitur, Attestat or Secondary School Leaving Certificates.

Certain exam results such as, but not limited to, IB, WAEC, GCE, GCSE and CAPE must come directly to our office from the examination board or authority.

If you have completed at least one year of fulltime postsecondary academic study at the time of application, submit only your postsecondary academic credentials. No SAT scores or secondary school academic records are required.

In either case, please have your academic records from each secondary and/or postsecondary school you attended sent directly from those schools to American University in sealed envelopes. These records should be submitted in their original language and accompanied by notarized English translations if applicable. You may submit certified or notarized copies of your original official transcripts if your country issues only one copy of your academic documents.

Contact the International Admissions Office (intadm@american.edu) with any questions regarding submission of documents.

LETTERS OF RECOMMENDATION (OPTIONAL)

Transfer applicants may submit one or two letters of recommendation. At least one letter should be from a postsecondary academic or professional source.

These letters are confidential. Each letter must be in English. Please have your reference sign or stamp across the sealed flap of the envelope.

ENGLISH PROFICIENCY

Course work at AU requires strong skills in the English language. All applicants (regardless of citizenship) whose first language is not English are required to take one of the following examinations and achieve the indicated scores to demonstrate a satisfactory level of English proficiency.

PLEASE SUBMIT ONE OF THE FOLLOWING:

1. TOEFL (Test of English as a Foreign Language)
 - Internet-based test score of 80 or higher; or
 - Paper-based test score of 550 or higher
2. IELTS (International English Language Testing System)
 - Composite score of 6.5 or higher
3. Pearson Test of English (PTE)
 - Score of 53 or higher

4. Completion of English composition I and II at a US college/ university with grades of “C” or better.

Arrange for scores to be sent directly from the testing agency. (TOEFL Code: 5007)

Please note: International applicants transferring from postsecondary institutions in the United States who have completed two university-level English writing courses (non ESL) with grades of C or better at an AG-rated, U.S. regionally accredited college or university, or with grades of B or better at an AP-rated U.S. college, are exempt from submitting scores from these examinations.

CERTIFICATION OF FINANCES FOR INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS (CFIS)

IMPORTANT: Total costs for the 2011-2012 academic year are estimated at U.S. \$55,289. Please note that AU does NOT provide need-based financial aid to non-U.S. citizens and does NOT offer scholarships to cover 100 percent of all expenses. AU merit awards for transfer students are extremely competitive partial scholarships available for two years of study only. They are based on outstanding academic achievement, excellent communication skills in English, leadership and community service. (See “AU Merit Awards.”)

Applicants who require a student or exchange visitor visa (F or J) must submit to the International Admissions Office the AU CFIS form and a bank letter showing U.S. \$55,289 for your first year of study and living expenses. These and all other supporting documents must be received by the application deadline. Application packets without the AU CFIS form and bank letter will be considered incomplete and will not be reviewed.

IMPORTANT: International transfer applicants who wish to be considered for AU merit awards (partial scholarships) must also submit the AU CFIS form and bank letter by the appropriate deadlines.

TRANSFER-IN FORM: If you are currently studying in the United States on an F or J visa and decide to attend AU, you will be required to submit the “Immigration and Transfer-In Form” before your AU I-20 or DS-2019 can be issued.

Visit www.american.edu/ocl/iss/Financial-Proof.cfm for the AU Cost Guide, sample bank letters, the AU Certification of Finances

for International Students (CFIS) form and the Immigration and Transfer-In form.

ADVANCED CREDIT FOR POSTSECONDARY COURSEWORK

Courses completed at accredited postsecondary institutions within or outside the United States may be eligible to receive transfer credit.

If you are transferring from a two-year postsecondary institution, the maximum number of credits that may be transferred is 60. If you are transferring from a four-year postsecondary institution or university, the maximum number of credits that may be transferred is 75.

AU MERIT AWARDS

No separate application form or process is required for AU merit scholarships.

American University’s merit awards for international transfer students are partial, not full, scholarships. They are based on outstanding academic achievement, excellent communication skills in English, leadership and community service. No need-based financial aid is available to international students (non-U.S. citizens).

Merit award consideration is highly competitive and the number of scholarships available is limited. For the 2011–2012 academic year, merit awards for transfer students ranged from U.S. \$6,000 to U.S. \$12,000 per academic year. These funds are only renewable for two years of study and are based on successful continued academic performance. Similar scholarship award amounts are predicted for 2012–2013.

Important for international transfer applicants who wish to be considered for AU’s partial scholarships:

1. Apply for fall (August) semester. Pending availability of funding, spring (January) semester may also be an option.
2. Make sure your application packet is complete and submitted by the appropriate deadline. Your packet must contain all supporting documents, including the completed AU CFIS form and bank letter. Your CFIS and letter must demonstrate that you have at least U.S. \$55,289 available for the first year of study, even if you hope to qualify and receive one of AU’s competitive merit awards. Plan to have similar funding available for each additional year of undergraduate study until you complete your degree.
3. Fall transfer applicants will be notified of any merit awards in April; spring applicants will be notified in December.

4. Due to the very competitive nature of AU transfer awards, priority will be given to qualified applicants who have successfully completed at least 45 or more credits of postsecondary education at the time of application.
5. Merit awards are offered only at the time of admission. There are no further opportunities for AU partial scholarships once you have begun your studies.
6. No increases in scholarship amounts are available from year to year. The initial amount of your AU merit award remains constant for two years of study at AU.
7. Costs for the 2011–2012 academic year are estimated at U.S. \$55,289. This includes tuition, mandatory fees, room, board, insurance and personal expenses. For all subsequent years, expect a 4–6 percent increase per year.

OTHER SOURCES OF FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

You may wish to contact the following institutions to seek information on additional sources of financial assistance:

- Your Embassy in Washington, D.C.
www.embassy.org/embassies
- EducationUSA Advising Center in your country
www.educationusa.info/centers.php
- International Student Organization
www.isoa.org/list_scholarships.aspx
- International Student Loans
www.internationalstudentloan.com
- Rowe Fund for Students from Caribbean/Latin America (no-interest loan)—for third and fourth year of undergraduate study
www.oas.org/rowe

IMPORTANT ADDITIONAL COSTS FOR INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS

In addition to the regular undergraduate costs for tuition, room and board and fees, international students must be able to pay the following costs if they are applicable to their particular situation:

- Travel expenses from their home country to the United States during vacation periods
- Large purchases (such as computers or furniture if the student will not be living in campus housing)
- Medical expenses not covered by health insurance (such as eye care, dental care and medical problems developed before arriving at the university)
- Food and housing during school holidays
- Tuition and living expenses for the summer session (May through

August) should the student decide to take classes during that term

APPLYING FOR A STUDENT VISA

If accepted to American University, students will need immigration documents to present at the U.S. Embassy or Consulate for the application for an F-1 or J-1 student visa. Study on an F-1 student visa requires an I-20 form, which is issued by AU. Study on a J-1 student visa requires a DS-2019 form, which is issued by the student's financial sponsor. If the sponsor does not issue the DS-2019, AU will issue it.

All students must be able to demonstrate financial ability to pay for at least one year of academic and living expenses before being issued an I-20 or DS-2019. For the 2011–12 academic year, total costs are estimated to be U.S. \$55,289. For all subsequent years, expect a 4–6 percent increase per year.

If you are currently studying in the United States on an F or J visa and decide to attend AU, you must also submit the “Immigration and Transfer-In Form” before your AU I-20 or DS-2019 can be issued.

Visit www.american.edu/ocl/iss/Financial-Proof.cfm for the AU Cost Guide, sample bank letters, the AU Certification of Finances for International Students (CFIS) form and the Immigration and Transfer-In form.

All financial documents must be dated within the past three months to be considered valid.



EDUCATION USA

For further assistance with the application process, visa and predeparture orientation sessions and information specific to your country, please contact your local U.S. Embassy, U.S. Consulate or Office of Public Affairs for referral to an overseas educational advising center near you. You may also wish to consult the U.S. Department of State's Web site, www.educationusa.info/centers.php, to locate an EducationUSA Advising Center in your region.

Tip: For answers to many questions and further helpful information, be sure to check out “If You Want to Study in the United States,” Book One (Undergraduate Study) and Book Four (Predeparture), available in PDF format in six languages on educationusa.state.gov.

CHARACTER

Private, urban, coeducational research university founded in 1983 by an act of Congress and located in one of Washington, DC's safest residential neighborhoods near "Embassy Row."

CALENDAR

2 semesters plus summer sessions

STUDENTS

TOTAL ENROLLMENT OF 13,047, with 6,827 undergraduates and 5,725 graduate and law students from across the United States and 146 countries

FACULTY

From world-renowned academic experts to former ambassadors, 95 percent of the faculty has the highest degree in their field.

ACADEMIC DIVISIONS

College of ARTS AND SCIENCES
KOGOD School of BUSINESS
School of COMMUNICATION
School of INTERNATIONAL SERVICE
School of PUBLIC AFFAIRS
WASHINGTON College of LAW

DIVERSITY

COUNTRIES REPRESENTED: **146**

STATES REPRESENTED: **50**

INTER NATIONAL: **12%**

AVERAGE CLASS SIZE

23

STUDENT-FACULTY RATIO

13:1

AT A GLANCE

AMERICAN UNIVERSITY

ESTIMATED COSTS

2011-2012* (BASED ON 9 MONTHS):

TUITION	FEES
\$37,544	\$517
ROOM (DOUBLE OCCUPANCY)	BOARD (MEAL PLAN)
\$9,018	\$4,540
BOOKS	HEALTH INSURANCE
\$800	\$1,670
PERSONAL (CLOTHING, TELEPHONE, TRANSPORTATION, MISC.)	
\$1,100	
TOTAL: \$55,289	

* EXPECT A 4-6% INCREASE IN COSTS FOR EACH ACADEMIC YEAR

AU DIPLOMATS

AU Diplomats are international student and U.S. Global Nomad volunteers who represent American University to the global community. For more information, visit WWW.AMERICAN.EDU/OCL/ISSS/AU-DIPLOMATS.CFM or write to AUDIPLDMATS@AMERICAN.EDU.

CAMPUS RESOURCES

State-of-the-art labs and studios, performing arts spaces, museums, fitness center and newly renovated residence halls

HOUSING and DINING

University housing guaranteed for first-year students, optional for continuing students. Main campus offers traditional residence halls, plus suite-style and apartment-style buildings, and varied dining options.

CAREER CENTER

OUR AWARD-WINNING CAREER CENTER offers career preparation and planning, an alumni network, internships and national merit award mentoring.

ATHLETICS

NCAA DIVISION I PATRIOT LEAGUE CHAMPIONSHIP TEAMS, club and intramural sports, state-of-the-art fitness center

TECHNOLOGY

WIRELESS CAMPUS, with 24-hour computer labs and Internet access in classrooms and residence halls

