

2017 Chemical Engineering International Course Offerings

Reactor Design – CHE 354

Process Controls – CHE 493

Unit Operations Lab - CHE 323

Frequently Asked Questions

1. What locations will be offered in 2017?

- a. SUMMER I: Reactor Design (CHE 354) + Process Controls (CHE 493):
 - i. Ireland (Dublin, Ireland) at University College-Dublin (UC-D)
- b. SUMMER II: Unit Operations Lab (CHE 323):
 - i. Denmark (Lyngby, Denmark) at the Technical University of Denmark (DTU)
 - ii. Austria (Vienna, Austria) at the Vienna Technical University (TU-Wien)

2. How many students can participate at each location?

These are estimates:

- a. UC-D: 18 students
- b. DTU: 20-25 students
- c. TU-Wien: 8-10 students

3. How much does the course cost?

The prices will not be finalized until late fall semester. The prices fluctuate, due to changes in the exchange rate and the prices of the host institutions. Historical prices for these courses range from about \$5,000 to \$6,000 each year. These prices include living accommodations, lab supplies, and fees. A few meals are included, as well as some visits to local museums. However, you will have to pay for most meals, airfare to/from the program, and any other miscellaneous travel expenses. More complete financial details will be provided through the study-abroad website (<http://studyabroad.ua.edu>), once the applications are made available (usually late fall semester).

4. What are the exact dates of the different programs?

The exact dates are usually not set until late in the fall semester. Once determined, these dates will be posted on the study-abroad website (<http://studyabroad.ua.edu>). The Ireland course will last approximately 5 weeks (late May – end of June), and the Denmark/Austria courses will last for approximately 4 weeks (beginning of July until the end of the month). Typically, this

schedule allows for students to also take a Summer I or Summer II course at UA or take BOTH Summer I and Summer II courses in Europe.

5. I am confident that I want to participate in one of the programs, so how do I guarantee my spot?

The spots in the programs are never guaranteed. You must first complete an application (through the study-abroad website), get accepted by the program, pay an initial deposit, and then pay in full. Due to the typical timeline, spots start filling up in January/February. Also, we do not know the capacity of the individual programs until the beginning of the year (late January or early February), since this is determined by the host institutions. Therefore, if cuts have to be made, the *priority will be based on GPA*. In the past, any students with a GPA > 3.0 have been able to participate, but each year is a little different.

6. How many students get cut every year (based on capacity)?

In the past, all students that have met the deadlines and paid in full have been able to participate. There is no guarantee that this will continue, but so far, we have been able to accommodate all of the eligible students. As spots begin to fill up, we let the other interested students know their current status in line.

7. I know that I want to participate in one of the programs, but I am not sure which. Can I just put a deposit down on two or more programs and decide later?

NO. A deposit commits you to participate in the program (and pay in full).

8. What if I pay in full for the program, but then a really good summer internship becomes available to me? How much of my money do I get back?

Don't count on getting any of your money back. Once you pay in full and secure your spot, we send the money to the host institutions (usually within 1-2 weeks after your full payment). After that point, we no longer have your money, and it is not likely that we will be able to provide any refund. However, if there are still students on the waiting list or if you can find another student to take your place, then we can usually make an internal adjustment and provide a refund.

9. What are the differences between the different programs?

We will have an information session in October/November to try to answer some of these types of questions and provide a better feel for the courses. In general, the courses are similar, other than the location, weather, and logistical connections to neighboring cities. For instance, from TU-Wien there are several other exciting cities to visit during the weekends that can be reached within a 4-5 hour train ride. From DTU or UC-D, you have similar weekend travel possibilities

(but you will be taking a short flight instead of a train ride). Also, the weather at DTU and UC-D tends to be 10-15 degrees cooler than at TU-Wien.

10. Are the weekends free, so that I can tour around or travel to other cities?

Yes, the weekends are free. Also, in the TU-Wien course Fridays are “make-up” days, which means that they are free (unless you need to make up an experiment). At DTU, you put together individual lab schedules (and must complete a total of 7 labs), which means that you can often arrange your schedule to have some 3-4 day weekends. Students often use the 3-4 day weekends to travel to other European cities. At the Ireland program, we will meet for lectures 4 days a week, so there will be many opportunities for travel. Students usually wait until after they arrive at the course, confirm their schedules, and then coordinate their weekend travel plans.

11. Can I use my scholarship to pay for the course?

Maybe. Unfortunately, we cannot provide guidance on scholarships, since the rules and terms often vary. However, students in previous years have used scholarships and other financial aid to help pay for the course. It is best to check directly with your scholarship office to confirm.

12. Do I have to fly with the group, or can I visit some other European cities before/after the course?

You are encouraged to visit other places before/after the course! You just need to arrange your travel plans, so that you are present on the first day (you cannot arrive late), and you must stay until the end of the course (you cannot depart before the course ends).

13. I have never been to Europe before, and I would like to travel along with someone else. Will someone be able to help me?

Probably. We do our best to help coordinate travel schedules. As students make their travel plans, we collect their itineraries and share them with the rest of the students. This way, students can try to schedule identical flights, if they desire. Traveling with other students can make the journey much easier, even if you do not already know the other students participants.

14. Will there be other announcements about these courses, or how do I get additional information? When or where will the orientation sessions be?

- a. Near the beginning of fall semester, Prof. Turner (hturner@eng.ua.edu) will send out a bulk email to all CHE students, asking for any students that want to be included on the “international summer courses” email list. This will be used to send out any updates or notices about the courses.

- b. Around late-October/early-November, there will be an information session about these courses. This session is not required, but it is an excellent opportunity to learn more and ask any questions. This session will be announced to any students on the email list.
- c. Near the very end of the fall semester, the formal applications will open up (<http://studyabroad.ua.edu>). You can go to the website and simply search for the specific country or city, and the program should pop up. This application will contain the exact dates, exact price, and other details. Until then, we cannot provide any other guidance on these items.

15. Are there other study-abroad classes that are offered by the ChBE Department?

Currently, there are no other specific international classes organized by the UA ChBE Department. However, we are in the planning stages of offering some other sophomore/junior-level course in 2018 in Cape Town, South Africa.

There are many other study-abroad opportunities available that can be found through Capstone International (<http://studyabroad.ua.edu>). Also, there is an excellent full semester program available at University College Dublin (Dublin, Ireland). Students can take several pre-approved CHE courses while enrolled at UC-D, as well as other elective classes. For more information about the UC-D semester abroad program see the UC-D FAQ page or contact Prof. Heath Turner (hturner@eng.ua.edu).

If you have any other urgent items not addressed here, you can contact Prof. Heath Turner (hturner@eng.ua.edu). Otherwise, please save any other miscellaneous questions for the information session.