**School of the Art Institute of Chicago (SAIC)**

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| About partner | About partner | The School of the Art Institute of Chicago (SAIC) is one of the most significant independent schools of art and design in the US.  SAIC’s creative student body and award-winning faculty of artists, scholars, and leading practitioners work in close proximity, sharing exceptional resources and engaging in a vigorous exchange of ideas.  SAIS is distinct in that it provides students with an interdisciplinary curriculum and the necessary freedom to develop as artists, designers, and scholars. Students are encouraged to translate complex ideas into tangible forms—paintings, sculptures, films, performances, books, installations, inventions, buildings and community projects.  The new Modern Wing of the Art Institute provides an incredible resource for inspiration and study. Other unique SAIC resources include cutting-edge facilities like the Gene Siskel Film Center, the Visiting Artists Program and the Sullivan Galleries that exhibit work to a wide audience. |
|  | About Chicago | Chicago, the third largest city in the US, is one of the world’s most creatively vibrant, culturally fascinating and architecturally rich cities. Multiculturalism is at the heart of Chicago; colourful neighbourhoods offer an ever-expanding range of food, music and art.  Residents remark that there is a lot on offer in the city, whether you are sports mad, a festival-lover or a museum-goer—Chicago has something for you. |
|  | Did you know? | The Columbia University’s National Arts Journalism survey recognised SAIC as “the most influential art college in the United States”. |
| Academic information | Main areas of study | * Architecture * Art * Design * Drawing * Fashion Design * Film * Painting * Photography * Print Media * Visual Communication   **Note:**   * The listed areas of study are not necessarily exhaustive and other fields of study might also be available at the partner institution. Moreover, names for fields of study may be different overseas. * A discipline being listed does not in indicate the suitability of the program, nor does it indicate that the discipline is taught in English. * Approval to study particular subjects at any institution is always at the discretion of the departmental/discipline and faculty advisors at RMIT University and subject to available places at the host institution. |
|  | Language requirements | Programs are taught in English. |
|  | Full time load [Equivalent to 96 RMIT Credit Points] | 12 -15 US credits is considered the full-time load per semester. Exchange students must take at least 12 credits (4 classes) to be considered full-time. Studio classes are usually 6 hours of contact time per week; academic and art history classes are usually 3 hours of contact time per week. |
|  | Link to courses | [www.saic.edu/coursesearch/](http://www.saic.edu/coursesearch/) |
| Living | Accommodation | There is no on-campus accommodation available for exchange students.  For information about off-campus accommodation go to: <http://www.saic.edu/lifeatsaic/housingandresidencelife/off-campushousing/> |
|  | Health insurance | Health insurance is compulsory for exchange students. This requirement may be waived for students who have their own health insurance coverage by:   1. Completing a waiver form 2. Providing proof that such coverage meets SAIC’s minimum standards 3. Granting SAIC or its designee permission to verify coverage   For more information go to: <http://www.saic.edu/lifeatsaic/wellnesscenter/healthservices/insurance/> |
|  | Living cost | SAIC estimates that you will need approximately AU$2000 per month during your exchange semester.  A number of external services provide comprehensive overviews of global living costs, for example:   * [www.expatistan.com](http://www.expatistan.com) * [www.numbeo.com](http://www.numbeo.com)   **Note:**  RMIT University is not affiliated with any of these page |
| Funding Opportunities | OS-HELP information | [OS-HELP Information page](http://www.rmit.edu.au/scholarships/os-help)  <http://www.rmit.edu.au/scholarships/os-help> |
|  | Link to scholarships page? | [All travel scholarships](http://www.rmit.edu.au/scholarships/travel)  <<http://www.rmit.edu.au/scholarships/travel>> |
| Useful information | Link to partner exchange page | <http://www.saic.edu/academics/studyabroadoff-campus/semesteratsaic/> |
|  | Visa | Exchange students need a J-1 visa to study in the US.  For more information go to: <http://www.saic.edu/academics/studyabroadoff-campus/semesteratsaic/afteracceptance/>  Please note that immigration requirements are subject to change. Please visit <http://www.state.gov/> for the most updated information. |