



INFORMATION SHEET FOR INCOMING VISITING UNDERGRADUATE STUDENTS FALL SEMESTER 2024/SPRING SEMESTER 2025

ABOUT DKU

Duke Kunshan University (DKU) is a partnership of Duke University and Wuhan University to create a world-class university offering a range of academic programs for students from China and throughout the world.

DKU welcomed the inaugural class in its undergraduate degree program in August 2018. The four-year bachelor's degree program is based in the liberal arts and sciences tradition that emphasizes critical thinking, creativity, collaboration, and exploration.

DKU Website: <https://www.dukekunshan.edu.cn/>

Address:

Duke Kunshan University
No. 8 Duke Avenue
Kunshan, Jiangsu Province,
China 215316

CONTACT FOR EXCHANGE OPPORTUNITIES

The DKU Office of Global Education oversees all incoming visiting/exchange programs at DKU. Check the OGE official website: <https://globaled.dukekunshan.edu.cn/visiting/> for more. Email OGE at DKU-globaledu@dukekunshan.edu.cn.

TYPES OF INCOMING VISITING UNDERGRADUATE STUDENTS

- Exchange Students: students nominated by DKU exchange partners.
- Duke University Visiting Students
- Individual Visiting Students: students from institutions that are not DKU exchange partners.

PROGRAM FACTS

Location: Kunshan, China

Academic Calendar: The [DKU academic calendar AY23-24](#) is available online for reference.

Information for AY 2024-2025 will be updated soon.

Program Type: Non-Degree, Undergraduate, Visiting

Nomination Deadline for Exchange Partners: DKU OGE will contact the exchange partners regarding nomination process.

Application Deadline for Duke and Individual Applicants:

Fall 2024/AY24-25:

- **Priority deadline: 11:59am, February 6, 2024 (China Time).** Students apply by this date will be able to register for DKU classes alongside DKU students according to class seniority if accepted and committed to the program.
- **Normal deadline: 11:59am, April 12, 2024 (China Time).** Students apply by this date will register for DKU courses shortly after DKU students; applications received by this deadline will still have ample time to apply for their Chinese student visa.

Spring 2025: **11:59am, September 9, 2024 (China Time)**

Commitment Deadline:

Fall 2024/AY24-25:

- Priority: 11:59am, February 20, 2024 (China Time)
- Normal: 11:59am, April 24, 2024 (China Time)

Spring 2025: September 21, 2024 (China Time)

To commit, accepted students must pay a non-refundable deposit (USD 1,000 or RMB 7,000) to DKU and submit the signed DKU Participation Agreement for the accepted term(s). Details will be elaborated in the acceptance notification email.

Credit Type: DKU credit. Pre-matriculation/transfer credit will be at the discretion of the institution at which the student enrolls for a degree program.

Eligibility: In order to be eligible to apply, you must:

- Register as a full-time undergraduate student of the Home Institution; AND
- Must complete two semesters of undergraduate study prior to enrollment at the Host Institution, which means the visiting student must be a sophomore student while studying at DKU; AND
- be able to legally enter or stay in China for the purposes of taking classes, AND
- show good standing in the home institution with
 - Minimum Grade Points of Average in 3.0/4.0; OR

- Ranking in the top one-third of the class; OR
- A minimum “B” average grade or 70% average marks; AND
- be able to study at DKU in-person for the whole semester
- be nominated by your home institution (exchange partner) OR signed the [“Home Institution Approval Form”](#)

English Proficiency Requirements:

Students from exchange partners: DKU OGE will contact the exchange partners regarding the English proficiency requirements.

Other applicants:

- Students must meet the following minimum requirements:
 - TOEFL 90 (iBT) (min. 21 in any skill); OR
 - IELTS 6.5 or above (min. 6.0 in all sections)
 - * Other English proficiency is accepted but will be evaluated case by case
- The English Language Requirements will be exempted if:
 - The Home Institution locates in one of the following countries: Australia, New Zealand, Canada, USA and UK; OR
 - The language of instruction is English at Home Institution

Move-in Date and Housing:

All visiting students live in on-campus Residence Halls (double occupancy, dormitory-style rooms) with fellow visiting students and full-time DKU students. Students may have the ability to request roommate preferences with either DKU students or other visiting/exchange students. Students will be assigned housing and roommates according to availability. Students with specific needs may request single rooms; accommodations requests are not guaranteed and should be requested early. DKU Residence Life oversees the campus Residence Hall and student housing. Committed visiting students will be contacted regarding housing arrangement in summer for Fall semester 2024 and October/November for Spring semester 2025.

ACADEMICS

Academic Policies

Duke Kunshan University semesters are offered in two 7-week sessions. The standard course load per session is two DKU courses. Students must enroll in a minimum of 4 full DKU courses (16 credits) or a maximum of 5 courses (20 credits) per semester, with an upper limit of 2.5 courses (10 credits) per session. No underloads and no overloads are permitted. All courses must be taken for graded credit. **Students should NOT be taking online courses or project at their home institution or any other college or university while enrolled in a full-time course load at DKU.**

All DKU students and incoming exchange students are responsible for adhering to the [DKU Community Standards and Academic Integrity](#).

Course Registration

Non-degree students will be assigned an academic advisor and register for courses in Fall. Prepare to be flexible with your schedule expectations. DKU students will register for Fall 2024 courses in March/April. Some classes may have limited or no capacity. There is no guarantee that there will be space in the courses you want or that they will fit into your schedule. Course information for DKU Fall 2024 will be available after shopping-cart is open in March/April.

It is possible that not all DKU courses will be offered with in-person instruction, although the vast majority of offered courses meet in-person (those that do not offer hybrid modalities).

Students should note that the decision to accept coursework transferred from any institution is made by the institution considering the acceptance of credits or course work. It is the applicant's responsibility to check whether their intended university places any restrictions on students taking coursework or enrolling in another university while deferring enrollment, taking a leave of absence, or studying away.

All DKU 100-level courses should be suitable for a majority of students. 200-level Social Science and Arts and Humanities courses with no pre-requisites should also be appropriate. Sophomore students should not enroll in 400-level courses. Upper class students should discuss their course selection with both their DKU and their home institution academic advisor to ensure that they have met appropriate pre-requisites. Questions regarding course eligibility should be directed to the DKU [Office of Registrar](#) and [Academic Advising](#).

ACTIVITIES

Kunshan city is an emerging, modern metropolis with a history dating back more than 2,000 years. Located at the heart of the Yangtze River Delta region in eastern China's Jiangsu province, Kunshan neighbors both Shanghai and Suzhou, two dynamic cities. It also boasts a rich collection of cultural heritage, as well as picturesque rivers, lakes, and forests.

Student Activities at DKU encourage co-curricular learning and community involvement, provide personal and leadership development, and support and enhance the student experience throughout a student's time on campus. DKU offers a wide range of fitness classes and activities. Students may join student organizations and different sports clubs for leisure and recreational purposes, or participate all other student groups and programs, such as the DKU Philharmonic Orchestra and DKU Chorus.

A series of arts and culture programs aim to promote culture and diversity at DKU. Events and workshops in areas such as painting, design, music, film, crafts, photography, entertainment, and performance are regularly offered. They are also exciting learning opportunities for students to have face-to-face conversations with artists and experts from all over the world.

HOUSING AND MEALS

On-campus housing in dormitory-style accommodations, typically in double-occupancy rooms. Students will be placed in housing according to availability.

On-campus dining halls are open for three meals a day, seven days a week, but periodically close for major holidays and when the university campus is closed. Email notices will inform students of closures. Halal options are available, but Kosher options are not available at this time. Students with special dietary needs can meet with DKU food services to make arrangements. All meals must be paid for using a pre-loaded DKU ID card or WeChat. The DKU ID Card allows for a 10% discount.

Students are not required to purchase a meal plan at DKU. Students may opt to eat off campus when schedules permit or have food delivered to DKU. The Dayu Bay shopping area, located 10 minutes from campus, offers some additional restaurant options.

HEALTH INSURANCE

DKU Campus Clinic provides visiting students health insurance. Visiting students pay the health insurance fee to DKU that covers any possible injuries and illnesses sustained while participating in the programs in DKU. All participating students additionally have free access the DKU Clinic for basic medical needs and evaluation, and as necessary for more substantial treatment of medical conditions, may receive assistance from the clinic for referrals to medical care in local international or local hospitals. For details, please check the Campus Health Clinic [website](#).

VISA & PASSPORT

VISA

Non-Chinese citizens should pay special attention to the visa requirements for their specific citizenship by contacting their country embassy to find out if any visa or travel restrictions are in effect. It will be the student's responsibility to follow their country's requirements for procuring the proper visa for the Duke Kunshan program. To locate the closest Chinese consulate office to you, please consult the map on the [Chinese Embassy website](#).

DKU International Students Services (ISS) provides support on advising Chinese visa application for all non-Chinese incoming visiting students.

Identification Card

All participants must have a valid passport and visa to be eligible for the visiting student program.

All China Mainland applicants must have a valid Chinese National ID Card (身份证).

All China Hong Kong/Macau/Taiwan applicants must have a valid Travel Permit.

Passport Validity:

- Applicants who apply for DKU Fall 2024 Term need to hold a passport with an expiration date

later than June 30, 2025;

- Applicants who apply for DKU AY 24-25 or Spring 2025 Term need to hold a passport with an expiration date later than November 30, 2025.

ESTIMATED COSTS

Please visit [DKU OGE Website](#) for an estimated cost for study at DKU in Fall 2024 and Spring 2025.

MOVE-IN & ORIENTATION

DKU OGE coordinates with other campus offices to provide special support to visiting students on move-in arrangements and offers a variety of orientation events (mandatory) to help students academic life at DKU and living in China as a student.

APPLICATION PORTAL

For Duke and other individual applicants, please visit the Duke Kunshan Office of Global Education official website: <https://globaled.dukekunshan.edu.cn/visiting/>.

Click on the 'Menu' button at the top → Apply through the Application Portal

**Updated on January 11, 2024*