



郑州西亚斯学院  
SIAS UNIVERSITY

## School of Continuing Education 2+2 Program FAQs

### 1. What kind of educational institution is Sias University?

Sias University is a private undergraduate university approved by the Ministry of Education to grant undergraduate degrees. The university code is 4141014654. It is the first educational institution in the province of Henan to be approved by the Degree Office of the State Council to implement overseas bachelor's degrees through cooperative projects. It is a national-level private university with several Chinese and foreign partner universities.

---

### 2. What kind of organization is China's Ministry of Education's Overseas Study Center? What is the relationship between the program at Sias University and China's Ministry of Education's Overseas Study Center?

The Overseas Study Service Center is an institution directly under the Ministry of Education and is engaged in services concerning studying abroad, returning to China, and studying in China in international educational cooperative exchanges. It has established cooperative relationships with foreign educational institutions as well as Chinese colleges and universities. The Overseas Study Service Center's work covers public overseas study, overseas study training, the resettlement of returned students, foreign academic degree certification, innovation and entrepreneurship for overseas students, international education exhibitions, overseas study in China, the recruitment of overseas students, funding for scientific research, and personnel file management.

In May 2019, the Overseas Study Service Center officially approved Sias University as a 'Training Base' for overseas study. All students enrolled in the program at Sias are registered with the Overseas Study Service Center, and after the completion of their studies, the university assists them with the certification of their foreign degrees.

---

### **3. What is the relationship between Sias University and the foreign cooperative universities?**

With the background of academic discussions and scientific research, Sias University and its foreign cooperative universities have integrated each other's curriculum into courses. Sias has signed academic exchange agreements with each cooperative university and has defined the specific curriculum schedule and mutual credit recognition scheme. When Sias sends Chinese students to foreign universities, these universities may also send their students to Sias. This two-way curriculum integration and mutual recognition have a far-reaching impact on promoting cooperation, exchange, and internationalization on both sides.

---

### **4. What is the difference between the students in this program and other students at Sias University?**

During their time studying at Sias University, the students of this program enjoy the same quality of teachers and educational resources. The self-study rooms, library, reference rooms, gymnasium, and various sports facilities are equally open to all. They are all provided with on-campus accommodation. The main difference is that for other students at Sias, all their credits are completed in China; whereas the students of this program only complete a part of their credits in China, and also get an overseas degree from a cooperative university.

---

### **5. What kind of education can students in this program get? Is the degree recognized by the Ministry of Education?**

Students studying in this program can obtain a bachelor's degree or master's degree from foreign cooperative universities. As the program is a 'Base Training Program' of China's Ministry of Education's Overseas Study Center, the graduation certificate obtained by students studying in this program can be recognized by the Ministry of Education. Sias University can assist students in obtaining this certification.

---

### **6. What are the advantages of this program when compared to similar programs in other universities?**

The project has many unique advantages:

- as an exclusive 'Base Training Program' of China's Ministry of Education's Overseas Study Center in the province of Henan, it provides a guarantee for students with regard to studies, life, visa applications, and academic certifications;
- Sias University has more than 20 years of international educational administration and management experience as well as teaching management. Students can get the most professional guidance from enrollment to going to study, and even when returning to China to work;

- the program is in both English and Chinese and introduces foreign teaching methods which help students prepare for studying at foreign universities;
- Sias University and its foreign partner universities cooperate academically, after the legal representatives of both universities sign cooperation agreements involving several spheres of cooperation.
- there are over 100 foreign teachers at Sias, and international students from over 20 countries, which helps create an international learning environment that enables students to connect with an international community before living abroad. While broadening their horizons, it also gives students opportunities to practice their English and improve their communication skills. This is a resource that other institutions cannot provide.

---

## **7. What are the advantages of this program when compared to studying abroad directly through an intermediary?**

In terms of protecting students' rights and interests, Sias University, as a pioneer and advocate for the internationalization of colleges and universities in Henan, ensures that the selection and operations of each official project are based on academic considerations, practical verification, and historical precipitation. Students should have no doubts about the program's reliability. In addition to this, its status as a 'Base Training Program' of China's Ministry of Education's Overseas Study Center makes its authenticity beyond doubt.

From the perspective of students' mental health: With over 100 foreign teachers and international students from over 20 countries, students at Sias are gradually adapting to a very international environment. The university prioritizes the nurturing of students' independence, teamwork, and dialectical thinking, which are basic abilities that foreign universities advocate and encourage.

From the perspective of students' learning ability: During their study at Sias, the textbooks used by students are all international, and the classrooms also adopt guided teaching and are either in English or are bilingual. This helps students connect with the courses in foreign universities. Students can overcome several hurdles when studying in foreign cooperative universities.

Sias University has over 20 years of experience in Sino-foreign cooperation, and its holistic internationalized educational philosophy has been widely recognized in China. It provides students with a unique preparation for studying abroad. At the same time, Sias has a variety of educational resources and facilities that provide students with unparalleled learning and living conditions.

---

## **8. At what level are the foreign cooperative universities of the program?**

The cooperation with foreign universities maintains a certain grade right from the highest level (equivalent to China's "Double First-Class", 211/985 universities), and students can choose institutions that match their academic pursuits in line with their achievements. Due to the gap between the overall level of higher education in China and Western countries, it is often the case that mid-level universities in the U.S. are better than ordinary undergraduate universities in China because of the facilities, academic level, and student services. Moreover, the ranking of a university in its own country does not always represent the academic level of particular disciplines at that university. When students choose an institution, they need to consider the ranking but also need to make an objective choice based on their academic pursuits.

---

## **9. How can students go about applying for admission to an overseas cooperative university? How long does an applicant who does not meet the language requirements of a foreign university need to study a (mandatory) language course in the foreign university?**

Students applying to foreign universities are assisted by teachers. Students only need to submit materials according to the requirements presented by the instructor.

If the students do not meet the language requirements of a foreign cooperative university, the foreign university will provide appropriate language courses. The course length depends on each student's specific language level and the requirements of each university. For example, Australian universities require students to take an extra 10 weeks of language courses for over 0.5 points difference between their IELTS scores and those students who are accepted unconditionally, while in the U.K., they only need to take 6-8 weeks of language courses. For the specific requirements of a university, students can refer to the official website of the particular university in question.

---

## **10. What do teachers teach students during their time at Sias University?**

The courses studied by students at Sias University are mainly taught by Chinese teachers, but also by foreign teachers. Most teachers have an overseas study background.

---

### **11. What is student management like at Sias University? What kind of activities are organized for students?**

During their period of study at Sias University, students must abide by the student management regulations of Sias University. For the students of international cooperative programs, the student management is stricter than for regular undergraduate students. Each teaching class is equipped with a special headteacher who is responsible for daily supervision and student management. Professional consultants also guide and support students. During their time at Sias, students of international cooperative programs can join the Student Union, various associations, and sports and entertainment clubs. In addition to the International Culture Week, Homecoming Day, and other annual traditions at Sias, students have the opportunity to participate in a wide range of activities such as the Track & Field Games, Christmas Party, Spring Festival Gala, basketball games, speech contests, the Calligraphy Competition, the Overseas Study Tour, and a variety of volunteer services. Students can choose to participate in any activities according to their interests.

---

### **12. How many courses do undergraduate students need to complete upon entering a foreign cooperative university? Can a student finish all their credits in 2 or 3 years?**

The courses for students in foreign cooperative universities will be different according to their majors and the credit system of each university. This cannot be generalized. Students will be able to complete their credits within the set time of the program, however, those students who fail to pass the examination and need to make up credits will have their time extended.

---

### **13. What are the conditions to be met after the completion of the courses at Sias University for students to be able to apply to foreign cooperative universities?**

There are 2 conditions for admission to foreign universities. The first is the English language score. At present, higher-ranked institutions require an IELTS score of at least 6.5, while mid-level institutions require an IELTS score of 6. Each university has different requirements. The second is the average score of all subjects during their time at Sias University. The higher-ranked universities require an average score over 80, while other institutions generally require an average score over 70.

---

#### **14. Will the "2+2" undergraduate students have problems with academic accreditation after they complete their studies and return to China?**

At present, many universities and institutions are operating such programs, and there are only 2 types of officially recognized programs. The first type is the "cooperative education program", which has to introduce the resources of foreign universities, where students are recruited through the College Entrance Examination, and the program needs to be filed with the Ministry of Education. The second type is the 'Training Base' Overseas Study Program, which is jointly created by the Ministry of Education's Overseas Study Service Center and universities. In these types, the university develops the course independently, with the quality and content of the course recognized by foreign universities. Students' professional basic courses can be exempt from credit in foreign universities.

The program at Sias University belongs to the second category. Students can get a degree as long as they graduate from the foreign cooperative institution. The degree certification is then guaranteed.

