



**INTRA-ACP
MOBILITY**



HAAGRIM INTRA ACP MOBILITY PROGRAMME

Harmonisation et Amélioration des Programmes de Master et de Doctorat en Agribusiness par la Mobilité entre l'Afrique de l'Ouest, de l'Est et du Centre pour un Développement Socio-économique Durable



STUDENT GUIDE FOR HAAGRIM MOBILITY

UNIVERSITY OF MAURITIUS (MAURITIUS)



Disclaimer:

This booklet is meant solely for foreign students sponsored under the HAAGRIM project to study in Mauritius. It is only a guide for which information is taken from various relevant websites as referenced at the end of the guide. It aims to answer some common questions. The prospective students are recommended to contact the relevant office for the most recently updated information.

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WELCOME ADDRESS BY DEAN, FACULTY OF AGRICULTURE

Dear Haagrim Students,

A very warm welcome to the University of Mauritius!

Our institution is pleased to host your stay as part of the Haagrim project and we also wish you a pleasant stay on the island of Mauritius which you can discover at leisure.

We trust your stay will be a very enriching experience not only from an academic perspective but that you will also benefit from the diversity of cultures and religions in Mauritius.

This booklet is meant to help you make a good start at the University of Mauritius. You will get acquainted very quickly to the different services and facilities and soon find your way around the institution and the country.

We wish you all the best in your studies and industry placement and all staff members concerned remain at your disposal to make your stay the most enjoyable experience.

Professor Yasmina Jaufeerally-Fakim

Dean, Faculty of Agriculture

HAAGRIM STUDENT CHARTER

The University of Mauritius (UoM) is committed to ensure that students and academic staff under the HAAGRIM mobility program are provided with all the necessary facilities and help during their stay. This guide will help to facilitate their administrative procedures within the UoM and its partners. They will be supervised by the programme coordinator and the HAAGRIM local coordinator, and other academic staff.

THE UNIVERSITY OF MAURITIUS- A brief history

The University of Mauritius was set up in July 1968. It has 6 Faculties: Faculty of Agriculture, Faculty of Engineering, Faculty of Law & Management, Faculty of Science Faculty of Social Studies & Humanities, Faculty of Ocean Studies and 5 centres. All of them are located on the Reduit campus which is about 20 minutes drive from the capital city, Port-Louis. The student population for 2013-2014 stood at 11,000. All the programmes at the University are modularised and creditised, with a modular weighting system.

THE FACULTY OF AGRICULTURE

The Faculty of Agriculture was originally founded as the College of Agriculture of the Ministry of Agriculture in 1914. It became the School of Agriculture and part of the University of Mauritius as from 1967. In 2014, the Faculty has celebrated a century of teaching and training in the agricultural and food sectors in Mauritius and Rodrigues. The Faculty strives to mount programmes of studies of direct relevance to the Mauritian context, both at undergraduate and postgraduate levels. Our aim is to produce graduates who have the personal and intellectual qualities necessary to meet the needs of the Mauritian agriculture and food sector. **In achieving its mission, the Faculty of Agriculture is committed to:**

- Advance and disseminate knowledge in basic and applied sciences relevant to agriculture and food through quality Teaching and Learning (T&L), and Research and Innovation;
- Place strong emphasis on serving our student body by enhancing our teaching

methods and supporting our students in their learning process;

- Increase research productivity through a Faculty strategy that encompasses the needs of the Republic;
- Meet the needs of prospective employers through collaborative provisions;
- Contribute to the advancement of the economic, social and environmental development of the Republic of Mauritius by engaging in national and regional initiatives that address agricultural and food issues;
- Collaborate with regional/international scholars and research institutions to enhance quality of our T&L and our research productivity;
- Engage in management practices and services that are characterised by principles of transparency, responsiveness and accountability.

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTION AND SYSTEMS

The Faculty of Agriculture consists of two departments: the Department of Agricultural Production and Systems (APS Department) and the Department of Agricultural and Food Science (AFS Department).

The Department of Agricultural Production and Systems (APS) of the Faculty of Agriculture has the following units: Crop Production Unit, Animal Science and Production Unit, Agricultural Economics and Management, Agricultural Engineering Unit and the Biometry Unit. The Department offers a variety of undergraduate and postgraduate programmes. Our staff are also involved in regional activities such as FANRPAN activities as National Node Coordinator and in ANAFE and member of the SA-RAFT (Southern Africa Regional Agro- forestry Training Team) and in an EU funded project on Tuning Agricultural degree programmes.

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURAL AND FOOD SCIENCE

The Department of Agricultural and Food Science (AFS Department) is one of the two departments of the Faculty. The department is composed of the Soil Science Unit, Crop Protection Unit, Biotechnology Unit, and Food Science and Technology Unit.

LABORATORIES

The Faculty has seven (7) laboratories for the teaching of our academic areas namely (i) Biotechnology (Molecular Biology and Tissue Culture), (ii) Food Science and Technology, (iii) Microbiology, (iv) Zoology, (v) Botany, (vi) Soil Science, (vii) Agricultural Chemistry (viii) Animal Science and Production and (ix) Crop Science and Production. These laboratories have the facilities to meet the minimum standards expected for both teaching and research activities of the academic areas.

THE FARM

The UoM Farm covers an acreage of 21-acre (8.5ha), and includes a nursery with more than 5000 plants available for propagation, a crop museum, a hydroponic unit, composting unit, animal production units (chicken, cattle, ducks, quails) and land for crop cultivation.

LIBRARY and COMPUTER FACILITIES

The UoM Library has a wide collection of books related to agriculture and related subject areas. The library is subscribed to Science Direct of Elsevier and other online open access databases to support our teaching and research activities. On campus computer facilities are available. The University has a wireless network which is easy to use.

VISA INFORMATION

Eligibility for a Student Visa

The following categories of persons are eligible for Student Visa:

- ♦ A non-citizen enrolled on one or more programmes in a recognised tertiary educational institution or TVET institution to follow on a full-time basis specific modules for one semester or two, a course leading to a certificate or diploma for a duration of a least one academic year.
- ♦ A non-citizen enrolled in a recognised tertiary educational institution to follow full-time or part-time degree course at under-graduate level.

- ♦ A non-citizen enrolled in a recognised tertiary educational institution to follow full-time or part-time course at postgraduate levels (including Masters, MPhil or Doctoral level).
- ♦ A non-citizen carrying out post Doctoral research.
- ♦ A non-citizen coming to Mauritius on an exchange programme not exceeding one year with a recognised tertiary educational institution.

Application for Student Visa (<http://passport.gov.mu>)

The University will make the necessary arrangements with the Passport and Immigration Office in Mauritius for entry visa and residence permit during the duration of their studies. The University does not take the responsibility of prospective students' families. For visa application, you should submit all required information related thereto, namely

- Form "Application to enter Mauritius" duly filled in and signed by the applicant;
- Two recent passport size photographs of the applicant;
- Photocopy of the bio-data pages of the passport of the applicant;
- Original letter of admission in a recognized educational establishment
- Details of duration of the course and confirmation from the TEC
- Documentary evidence of availability of funds or financial capacity to meet costs of study and stay in Mauritius
- A medical certificate to confirm that the applicant is not suffering from any contagious or infectious disease. A test for HIV, Hepatitis B and a Chest X-ray should be done at any private medical laboratory/clinic /hospital in Mauritius and the tests results and Chest X-ray report should be submitted to the Passport and Immigration Office not later than one month after arrival in Mauritius.

Arrival Reception

There is only one international airport in Mauritius, the SSR international airport. You will be met at the airport, and transported to your chosen accommodation.

Accommodation

The University is non-residential. There are a variety of apartments, guesthouses, bedrooms and houses available to accommodate students with different price ranges. The Admission office provides foreign students with a list of accommodation and the contact details of the rent providers.

Cost of Living

Estimated cost of living (including accommodation, food and pocket money) - US \$275 per month.

Banking Facilities

There are several banks and branches around the country. ATM services are also available in different parts of the island. Most supermarkets have electronic funds transfer at point of sale (EFTPOS) terminals where you can pay directly from your bank account. The most commonly accepted credit cards are MasterCard, Visa, American Express.

Transport Facilities

There are good public transport facilities as well as private taxis in Mauritius through buses to all parts of the island.

Campus Life

The Students' Union

The Students Union is the official organisation of the students of the University. It is the centre of the students' non-academic activities. In addition to acting as representative body in all matters of the students, the Students' Union, with the support of a wide variety of affiliated students' clubs/societies, also promotes and provides for the welfare of all students throughout the academic year by organizing a series of leisure, social, cultural and educational activities, such as career fairs, debates, cultural shows, end of academic year parties amongst others.

Sports Unit

Most of the sports and game facilities are carried out at the University Multipurpose Gymnasium, the Students' Centre and the Maryse Justin Multipurpose Stadium. Sports equipment put at the disposal of students are renewed and purchased each year.

Catering Facilities

The University has a fully functional canteen serving various kinds of dishes. There are also other food outlets in the vicinity of the campus. Off campus food outlets are also available and are about 2-3 kms away. A variety of food is also available, including Mauritian cuisine, Indian, Chinese and continental food in many restaurants around the island.

MAURITIUS AT A GLANCE

Location	Mauritius is located in the Indian Ocean (Latitude 20° south of the equator, Longitude 57.5° east)
Capital City	Port-Louis
Population	1.2 million
Time	+4 hours Greenwich Mean Time +3 hours Mid-European Time
Climate	Winter (April to October; Between 18 ⁰ C and 24 ⁰ C) & Summer (October to March; Between 25 ⁰ C and 33 ⁰ C)
Language	The Mauritian population is multilingual; most Mauritians are equally fluent in English and French.
Currency	Mauritian Rupee (MUR)
Electricity	The normal current is 220-230 volts AC. The three pin power outlet is squared. We recommend that you bring an adaptor socket.
Leisure activities	A diverse range of leisure and recreational activities is available in Mauritius. From beach activities such as water sports, snorkeling and sailing, to nature-based activities such as hiking, quad biking and green strolls, to night clubs and pubs.

CONTACT DETAILS

1. Dean, Faculty of Agriculture: Prof. Yasmina Jaufeerally-Fakim
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2. Head of Department (Agricultural Production & Systems): Mr Navindra Boodia
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3. Programme Coordinator/Local Haagrims Coordinator: Dr Brinda Ramasawmy
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4. Alternate Local Haagrims Coordinator: Mr Kamlesh Boodhoo
Tel: + 230 403 7671 Email: k.boodhoo@uom.ac.mu
5. Administrative Officer, Faculty of Agriculture: Mrs Tina Mahadeo-Gopaul
Tel: + 230 403 7658 Email: t.mgopaul@uom.ac.mu
6. Senior Executive Assistant, Faculty of Agriculture: Mr Premchand Toree
Tel: + 230 403 7659 Email: p.toree@uom.ac.mu

EMERGENCY PHONE CALLS

Police station: 999 or 112

SAMU Ambulances: 114

Fire Services: 995 or 115

National Directory: 150

Weather: 171 and 96 for cyclone reports

Tourist Info: 152

Airline Data: 6033030

Sources of Information

University of Mauritius: <http://www.uom.ac.mu>

Faculty of Agriculture: <http://www.uom.ac.mu/Faculties/FOA/index.htm>

University of Mauritius Haagrims Website: <http://sitesuom.ac.mu/haagrimsmauritiu>

Campus Facilities: <http://www.UoM.ac.mu/Campus/index.htm>

Students Regulations: <http://www.UoM.ac.mu/ABOUTUS/REGULATIONS/regulations.htm>

Calendar of Activities: <http://www.UoM.ac.mu/STUDENTS/ACADEMICCALENDAR/calendar.htm>

Conduct of Students and University Discipline: <http://www.UoM.ac.mu/ABOUTUS/REGULATIONS/Chap2.pdf>

Public Relations Office: <http://www.UoM.ac.mu/PRO/index.htm>

First Aid Post: <http://www.UoM.ac.mu/Campus/firstaid.htm>

Gymnasium: <http://www.UoM.ac.mu/Campus/ATHLETICSFITNESS/SPORTS/facilities.html>

Students Union: <http://www.UoM.ac.mu/STUDENTS/Unnion/index.htm>

Other Websites:

Ministry of Tertiary Education, Science, Research and Technology: <http://tertiary.gov.mu>

Study Mauritius Office: <http://www.studymauritius.info/AboutUs.aspx>

Passport and Immigration office: <http://passport.gov.mu>

Ministry of Health and Quality of Life: <http://health.gov.mu>

Mauritius Tourism Promotion Authority: <http://www.tourism-mauritius.mu>

