THE BEST POSSIBLE
YOU
Welcome to the 2020 Study UK Guide edition for College and University Guidance Professionals in the US.

Inside you will find helpful information that will enable you to advise your students on some of the practical considerations of studying for a bachelor’s degree in the UK, and how to get the most out of the educational and cultural experience that awaits. This handbook will guide you through their application and enrollment process, and aims to provide you and your students with useful information and tips.

We look forward to welcoming them to the UK!

The UK has 162 higher education institutions, and 28 are on the World’s Top 200 List.

(QS World University Rankings 2018)

Figures correct at time of printing. Visit universities website for up to date information.
ABOUT THE UK
The United Kingdom (UK) consists of England, Wales, Scotland (which together make up Great Britain) and Northern Ireland.

**Capital Cities**
The capital city of the UK is London, which is also the capital of England. For Wales the capital is Cardiff, for Scotland it is Edinburgh, and for Northern Ireland it is Belfast.

**Population**
The population of the UK is estimated to be around 65 million.

**Land Area**
The UK is close to 150,000 square miles.

**Money**
The currency of the UK is pounds sterling (£).

**Economy**
The UK is one of the world’s leading business locations. The UK is one of the top ten manufacturers in the world and has the largest industries in Europe for Life Sciences, ICT and the Creative Industries.

**Heritage**
The UK has a fascinating history dating back to 6500 BC. All over the UK you’ll find monuments marking its history, from Stonehenge to Buckingham Palace.

The UK is also home to 31 cultural and natural UNESCO World Heritage Sites.
EXPLORE THE UK
Central England and East Anglia are packed full of exciting attractions, both traditional and modern, perfect for student's looking for culture, tradition and a scholarly charm. Full of friendly people, this regions have a lot of undiscovered areas and that’s a big part of its charm.

Central England, also known as The Midlands, stretches east from the border of Wales to include Nottingham and the industrial cities of Stoke-on-Trent and Stafford. It is home to England's second biggest city, Birmingham and too many well-love destinations of outstanding natural beauty, cities, villages and William Shakespeare's birthplace, Stratford-upon-Avon.

East Anglia is located in the East of England, originally it consisted of the modern counties of Norfolk and Suffolk, Essex and part of Cambridgeshire. It is bordered to the north and east by the North Sea and to the south by the estuary of the River Thames. Its major urban areas include the cities of Norwich, Cambridge and Peterborough.
Quick Facts:
- Essex is home to Britain’s oldest recorded town, Colchester. It was the first Roman capital in Britain.
- Birmingham is home to a vast selection of vibrant local breweries, each with a unique flavor of their own.
- The name Oxford comes from “Oxanforda”, an old term that means: a ford (shallow crossing) in the river where the cattle (oxen) could cross safely.

Main Cities:
- Birmingham
- Cambridge
- Nottingham

Places You Can’t Miss:
- Built in 1831, the Bridge of Sighs in Cambridge is said to have been loved more than any other spot by Queen Victoria.
- Visit Victoria Square in Birmingham and walk around its Town Hall, Churches and city museums.
- Take a walk through Hartsholme Country Park’s lakes in Lincoln, and enjoy Victorian landscaped gardens, wildlife watching and campsite within an area of more than 200 acres.
LONDON

London is a global and vibrant city that hosts some of the best universities in the world. Offering over 30,000 courses to choose from and renowned academics from across the globe, London is a centre for academic excellence that welcomes students from over 200 different nations every year. Seize your chance to experience its history, iconic buildings, cutting-edge fashion and food.

If you looking to be part of a global community, London offers on of the most exciting and visited cities in the planet. It is the biggest city in the UK, and one of the most culturally and ethnically diverse cities in the world. There are over 45 universities in London, the capital of England. It's ideal for students for a culturally enriching study experience, with over 1,000 museums and galleries in London, most of them for free. It is ranked as the best English language speaking city in the world in which to be a student.
Quick Facts:
• London’s most famous landmark is ‘The Clock Tower’, while ‘Big Ben’ is the name of the bell.
• Over 70 Nobel Prize laureates have studied or worked at a London university.
• London smallest statue is located on Philpot Lane: a statue of two tiny mice eating cheese.

Places You Can’t Miss:
• Get an exclusive view to the city’s skyline from The Shard’s observation deck, which stands 244 meters up Western Europe’s tallest building.
• Get a glimpse into the lives of Queen’s Victoria and Princess Diana’s at Kensington Palace, London’s royal exhibition.
• Ride London’s most famous landmark, The London Eye with your friends, one full rotation takes only 30 minutes!
Sponsored by Leeds Beckett University

The North of England is home to some of the most stunning countryside in the country, rich with lakes, mountains and rolling green fields. If you love the great outdoors, the quintessential English countryside is always on your doorstep.

If you are more drawn to the buzz of city life, the North is home to the most vibrant culture, with an abundance of world-class shopping, dining, sports, and local history. Plus, the cost of living in the North is lower compared to London, so you can experience the best of the UK on a budget. Whether you love nature or nightlife, the North has it all!

Once at the heart of the global Industrial Revolution, Northern cities like Leeds, Manchester, Liverpool and Newcastle are today known for their distinct cultural identities, cosmopolitan city life and world-famous soccer (better known as football!) teams.

Students in the North have the chance to experience the best of what England has to offer – the country’s fabled past is embodied in the many ancient castles, stately homes, and museums which attract history buffs from around the world. The North is also home to the most breath-taking National Parks in the UK – from the Yorkshire Dales to the Lake District, these sweeping Northern landscapes have inspired generations of artists, poets and authors.
Quick Facts:
• As the largest county in the UK, Yorkshire spans 2.9 million acres across the North.
• Rock bands from the North include Oasis, Kaiser Chiefs, Arctic Monkeys, The Smiths, Joy Division.
• Yorkshire is home to five Michelin-starred restaurants, more than any other region outside London.
• Yorkshire has three National Parks: the North York Moors, Yorkshire Dales, and the Peak District.

Main Cities:
• Leeds
• Manchester
• Newcastle
• Liverpool
• Sheffield

Places You Can’t Miss:
• Stroll along the Shambles in York, which resembles a real-life Diagon Alley from Harry Potter.
• Take a literature lover’s tour of Haworth, home of the Bronte sisters.
• Explore the scenery of the Lake District and walk up the tallest mountain in England.
• Go to a gig and enjoy the vibrant live music scene of the North.
• Visit a pub for a traditional Sunday roast, complete with a Yorkshire pudding and gravy.
• Indulge in a quintessentially English afternoon tea at Bettys Tea Room.
• Shop at the unique independent boutiques in the Leeds Corn Exchange.

Study Options:

Leeds Beckett University

Studying at Leeds Beckett University, you will be in the centre of an exhilarating community and a social and economic environment that is shaping the city of Leeds for the future.

We are proud of our teaching excellence and with our recent TEF Silver status you can be sure that our teaching will help you be the best you can be. International students can receive a Leeds Beckett scholarship of up to £3,000. Whether you want to study business, sports, or creative arts, our world-class facilities will help you reach your ambitions.

Our five-star rating from QS World University Rankings is proof that we are committed to giving you a top-quality learning environment. QS has also given us five out of five stars for internationalisation and employability and with 96.7% of our graduates in work and further study, we offer the best teaching environment to prepare you for your future.

www.leedsbeckett.ac.uk
Small enough to feel like home, big enough for adventure and exploration – Northern Ireland’s world-famous mixture of breath-taking landscapes, contemporary cities and friendly people makes it the perfect student destination.

Our universities are in the buzzing coastal hubs of Belfast and Derry, but there’s plenty to see outside the cities, including the filming locations for HBO’s Game of Thrones, the awe-inspiring Giant’s Causeway and the Mourne Mountains – the inspiration for C.S. Lewis’ Narnia.

The Six Counties that make up Northern Ireland cover less than 5,500 square miles — the country is about half the size of Delaware and less than one-fifth the size of the Republic of Ireland, its neighbour to the south. But within Northern Ireland’s boundaries are some of the most unspoiled scenery you could ever hope to find on this earth: the granite Mountains of Mourne; the Giant’s Causeway, made of extraordinary volcanic rock; more than 200 miles of coastline beaches and hidden coves; and rivers and leaf-sheltered lakes, including Europe’s largest freshwater lake, Lough Neagh.

Ancient castles and Palladian-perfect 18th-century houses are as numerous here as almost anywhere else in Europe, and each has its own tale of heroic feats, dastardly deeds, and lovelorn ghosts.
Quick Facts:
• Most affordable UK region for students
  - £5,000 per year cheaper than living in London
• Northern Ireland is the UK’s safest region
  (British Crime Survey)
• Northern Ireland is the UK’s happiest region! (Office of National Statistics)

Main Cities:
• Belfast
• Derry/Londonderry
• Armagh

Places You Can’t Miss:
• Carrick-A-Rede rope bridge – a heart-stopping experience on the North Coast, also a Dark Sky Discovery Site
• Marble Arch Caves – a subterranean world packed with caves, waterfalls, rivers and secret passages
• St. George’s Market – the thriving hub of Northern Ireland’s art and food scene

Study Options:
Queen’s University Belfast
A member of the UK’s elite Russell Group, QUB is a world-class international university, built in 1845 on a foundation of exceptional teaching, cutting-edge research, innovation, collaboration and engagement.
Based in Belfast, we’re at the heart of a modern capital city known for its welcome, accessibility and affordability, as well as its vibrant creative and tech sectors.

www.qub.ac.uk

Ulster University
A University that places ambition at the heart of everything to create the most rewarding student experience. We are renowned for our teaching excellence underpinned by world-leading research.
We are one University with four distinct campuses across Northern Ireland – Belfast, Coleraine, Jordanstown and Magee (Derry/Londonderry) with a total student population of 24,000. Whichever campus you choose to study, you can be sure of a first-class student experience.

www.ulster.ac.uk
SCOTLAND

Sponsored by University of Stirling

Scotland has been voted the world’s most beautiful country (Rough Guides 2019), and Stirling is its beating heart. Under an hour from Glasgow, Edinburgh and some of the world’s most stunning landscapes, Stirling is your gateway to the highlands.

Walk in the footsteps of heroes like Mary Queen of Scots, Robert the Bruce and William Wallace, dive into our arts scene and discover why Stirling’s location, culture and atmosphere make for an unforgettable university experience.

Stirling is a modern city seeped in history – and 20 percent of its residents are students. That means there’s always something happening, no matter what you enjoy. Getting to Stirling is easy, as the city is under an hour from two international airports, has direct rail links to London and benefits from a wide range of reliable bus and transport services.

The city itself features a wide range of bars and restaurants, nightclubs, quirky arts venues, cinemas, sports centres, amazing shopping, accommodation, ancient ruins and more. Stirling’s not only beautiful, but it’s also a perfect base to explore the highlands – offering plenty of amazing outdoor experiences including trekking, climbing, skiing and everything in between.
Quick Facts:
• Scotland has been voted the world’s most beautiful country (Rough Guides 2019).
• Stirling has been voted safest city in the UK (The Complete University Guide 2019).
• Outlander, Game of Thrones and The Outlaw King were all filmed in and around Stirling.

Main Cities:
• Stirling
• Edinburgh
• Glasgow

Places You Can’t Miss:
• Visit the medieval Stirling Castle, one of Scotland’s top visitor attractions and most important royal castles.
• The Edinburgh Fringe is the world’s largest arts festival, and it’s right on Stirling’s doorstep.
• Get lost in the Enchanted Forest, Scotland’s top immersive sound and light event.

Study Options:
The University of Stirling
The University of Stirling has been voted 1st in the UK and 5th in the world for campus environment (UK ISB Benchmark and Global ISB Benchmark 2018), and it’s not hard to see why. Our beautiful 330-acre campus has acted as the backdrop to major films and TV series, with its own loch, 18th-century castle and more.

All our facilities have been rated five-star (QS World University Rankings 2020), and everything from accommodation to restaurants and our on-campus arts centre are within a few minutes’ walk. We’ve also recently invested £40m to make our sports, learning and social spaces even better.

If you have a passion for sport, choose Stirling. We’re the UK’s Sports University of the Year (The Times and Sunday Times Good University Guide 2020), Scotland’s University for Sporting Excellence and home to GB National Tennis Academy and National Swimming Academy.

www.stir.ac.uk
Home to the county of Kent, known as the ‘Garden of England’, the Southeast portrays an extraordinary countryside and it’s also rich in cultural attractions such as the Windsor Castle.

On its seaside, Brighton welcomes you with a city famous for its vintage shopping and nightlife on the UK’s biggest gay scene. Southeast England is one of the largest and most populated regions of England and one with the largest economy outside the capital. It is known as the UK’s sunniest region and hosts different music, arts and sports event and festivals to keep you busy.

It is also the perfect choice for students looking for a beach/outdoors destination. Here you can find the perfect balance between a big city and small towns, to have fun and enjoy plenty of peaceful spaces.
Main Cities:
- Brighton
- Canterbury

Things To Do:
- Admire a view as you have never seen it before, from a futuristic glass viewing pod at British Airways i360 in Brighton.
- Walk around and have a taste, free of charge, at Biddenden Vineyards in Kent.
- Experience Tarzan swings, zip wires and crossings at Go Ape's Adventure at Alice Holt Forest in Surrey.

Places You Can’t Miss:
- Royal Pavilion in Brighton, guards one of the finest collections of chinoiserie and hosts different events throughout the year.
- Take a cliff-top walk at White Cliff of Dover and enjoy stunning views, flora and fauna found across this chalk grassland.
- Swim, enjoy the sun and practice a water sport at Hayling Island, Hampshire.
SOUTHWEST ENGLAND

Sponsored by the University of Plymouth

The South West of the UK is home to exciting cities, sandy beaches, rolling countryside, and rugged moors. In this part of the country you can see how the Romans bathed in Bath, discover the delights of a Devonshire cream tea and venture to the wild western reaches of Cornwall to seek out subtropical gardens and seafood. Discover why the South West is one of the UK’s most popular holiday destinations.

Living and studying in the South West gives you the opportunity to explore the most beautiful moorland and stunning beaches the UK has to offer. Views of deep-wooded valleys, sparkling blue sea and picturesque fishing villages make for the perfect photo opportunities.

The South West is the mildest region in the UK, and has long been one of the most desirable to live in. Devon’s coast enjoys more hours of sunshine than anywhere else on the British mainland, inspiring the nickname the ‘English Riviera’.

Throughout the region, you can enjoy the fresh air of the tranquil and peaceful countryside, as well as visit vibrant cities, full of nightlife, art galleries, restaurants and shopping centres.
Main Cities:
- Plymouth
- Bristol
- Exeter

Things To Do:
- Discover our beaches, try activities including surfing, kayaking and fossil hunting on the Jurassic Coast.
- Taste local delicacies like cream teas, Cornish pasties, freshly caught crab, and local cider.
- Explore the rugged trails on Dartmoor or walk along the beautiful South West Coast Path.

Places You Can’t Miss:
- Visit the Eden Project, explore the biomes and the largest indoor rainforest in the world.
- Immerse yourself in history, discover where the legends of King Arthur were born in Cornwall.
- See Stonehenge, a World Heritage Site and the best-known prehistoric monument in Europe.
- Visit the historic city of Bath and explore the ancient Roman Baths.

Study Options:

University of Plymouth
The University of Plymouth has a mission to advance knowledge and transform lives through education and research. We are distinguished by our approach to combining world-class research and teaching with a commitment to widening participation and social inclusion.

Currently ranked as one of the top ten UK modern universities, our campus is at the centre of a thriving, oceanfront city in one of the UK’s most beautiful regions. Plymouth has major high street stores, theatres, cinemas and a wealth of restaurants, clubs and venues, while also enjoying easy access to the fine beaches and beautiful countryside of the South West.

Condé Nast Traveller magazine described Plymouth as one of their top holiday destinations for 2020, saying the Mayflower commemorations mean it’s a “landmark year” for the city. Recently named as the friendliest city in the UK, there’s nowhere more welcoming than Plymouth to live and study.

www.plymouth.ac.uk
Stunning coast, medieval castles and landscapes are waiting for you in Wales. With a big welcome for 172,000 International Students each year, Wales it’s perfect for all sorts of sports activities, from walking and climbing, surfing and kayaking, to cycling.

You’ll discover why Wales prides itself on its strong sense of cultural identity, from its Celtic roots to its distinctive Welsh language.

Wales is part of the United Kingdom and the island of Great Britain. It shares a border with England to the east, the Irish Sea to the north and west and the Bristol Channel to the south. With sea surrounding the country on three sides, Wales is the only country in the world to have a complete coastal path of 870 miles.

In Wales, both English and Welsh are considered official languages that means that they’re treated on a basis of equality. It’s also regarded as one of the modern Celtic nations with stunning landscapes, three Welsh National Parks, and over 600 castles.
Main Cities:
- Cardiff
- Aberystwyth
- Caernarfon

Things To Do:
- If you love outdoor activities, Wales has your back, pick between climbing, surfing, sailing or cycling and enjoy a fun weekend.
- Eat a freshly made Welsh cake from Cardiff Market, a Victorian indoor market.
- If you are a Doctor Who fan, enjoy world’s most extensive collection and interactive experience at Cardiff Bay.

Places You Can’t Miss:
- Experience Welsh nation’s history through great halls, chapels and a royal chamber inside a medieval marvel, Conwy Castle.
- Take pictures of precious landscapes and heritage sites in one of the three Welsh National Parks: Snowdonia, Pembrokshire Coast or Brecon Beacons.
- Ride the Vale of Rheidol stream train to Devil’s Bridge Falls, you will find unique waterfalls and spectacular views of the countryside.
WHY STUDY IN THE UK?
A UK education enables students to become the most confident, most promising, most prepared version of themselves as they set about entering the world of work.

Our students learn in a supportive environment at their institutions, benefitting from teaching methods that encourage independent thought.

The combination of rich cultural experiences that are unique to the UK and outstanding academic standards makes the UK the best choice for international students.

**Excellent standards of education**

The UK's academic reputation is world-renowned. UK universities have featured strongly in world rankings ever since they began.

According to the 2019 Times Higher Education World Rankings, the UK is home to three of the world's top ten universities, including the top two. This high quality can be found right across the country, with 29 of the world's top 200 universities found here in the UK.

The UK’s 169 universities (or 679 higher education institutions) are all held to strict standards by the government, so students know they are getting the best teaching, support and resources available.

**Teaching that will inspire you**

The UK is known for producing successful, versatile graduates and one of the reasons for this is our use of innovative teaching methods.

The UK has a long history of pioneering approaches to teaching that expand and build on the traditional, so students get the most from their studies – and themselves.

One of these innovative techniques is problem-based learning, in which students are asked to solve real-life problems, just like those they'll will face in their future careers. This kind of learning is often combined with field trips and experiences that place students in simulated or real-world settings. Through these techniques students will learn how to apply theory to practice and to collaborate with others, often under time pressure. This will accelerate their learning and give them a significant edge over the competition when they graduate.
Preparing for a successful career

A UK education opens doors, wherever you go in the world.

For graduates keen to make an impression on new employers, there’s nowhere better to develop the skills that will make them stand out as they start their career and rise to their potential in the years to come.

UK graduates are among the most employable in the world (QS Graduate Employability Ranking). The UK is also among the top countries for university-industry collaboration, meaning students can access practical workplacements designed to help them hit the ground running in the real world.

Access world-leading research

The UK is a global powerhouse of science and research. With so many universities at the cutting edge of global discoveries and emerging technology, our students graduate with insights and experience that are in high demand around the world.

The UK is ranked second in the world for science and research, with 54 per cent of our output considered world-leading. That’s more than the US, Canada, Germany, Japan and Brazil. Despite representing just 0.9 per cent of the global population, the UK produces 15.2 per cent of the world’s most highly cited research (Elsevier and the Department for Business, Energy & Industrial Strategy, 2016).
Short, flexible courses and diverse subject offerings

It’s not just our world-recognised universities that make us a top choice with international students. Courses in the UK are tailored to support students in getting the most from their studies as quickly as possible. There are more than 50,000 courses to choose from – no matter what a student is passionate about, the UK is a fantastic place to pursue their interest.

In the UK, flexibility is built into the majority of our courses. Many universities allow students to choose from different subject ‘modules’, so they can build a course programme that suits, specialising as they go for a perfectly tailored experience.

A caring environment

International students sometimes have to face different cultural as well as academic challenges, and UK institutions have developed a supportive environment for international students through dedicated international student support officers and tutors.

Most universities will also host a welcome event for international students and “Freshers’ week” to welcome new students. Students are encouraged to join clubs and societies to make this transition easier.

The UK is home to over 400,000 international higher education students each year.
Biography: I had an interest in dance teaching from a young age and so my dance teachers recommended I take a look at the Royal Academy of Dance. After considering a number of the distance learning programmes on offer, I decided to apply for the onsite BA (Hons) Ballet Education, as I really wanted to experience living and studying in a new country and city.

The programme itself was a huge appeal as it provided opportunities to learn about and discover areas of dance that I was unable to find at a Canadian university. However, I still had a connection to Canada through the RAD’s global network.

Alumni story: Upon graduating and moving back to Canada, I set about searching for a job. Because the RAD represented the very highest of standards in dance teacher training, my qualifications are recognised all over the world and were an excellent asset during my job hunt.

For the past two years, I have been the sole ballet teacher at a rapidly growing dance studio and I am constantly drawing on the knowledge and skills that I had the opportunities to develop while on the BA (Hons) Ballet Education programme.

I continue to be an active member of the wider RAD community, which is an excellent resource that I often call upon if I ever have questions or need teaching advice and ideas. We all share a passion for dance and teaching and having that network is extremely valuable.

Through my career as a dance teacher, I get so much joy from seeing my students grow and gain knowledge and new perspectives of dance. It is my mission to ignite a passion for ballet in the younger generation. To anybody considering studying in the UK I would say ‘trust yourself and go all in!’ There are so many learning opportunities involved with living in a different country to your own and taking advantage of them enriched my experience at the Royal Academy of Dance, London.

Find out more about The Royal Academy of Dance: www.royalacademyofdance.org/study
UK Higher Education at a glance

This comparison chart explains some of the key differences between US and UK undergraduate education.

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<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>USA</th>
<th>UK</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Award Title</strong></td>
<td>Bachelor’s Degree (e.g. BA, BS)</td>
<td>Bachelor’s Degree (BA, BSc, BEng)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Duration</strong></td>
<td>Four years</td>
<td>Three* or four years (Scotland)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>General Education</strong></td>
<td>Common</td>
<td>No General Education requirements</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Major</strong></td>
<td>Commonly declared during study</td>
<td>Declared at admissions (called a course)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Honors Track</strong></td>
<td>Restricted</td>
<td>All students</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Admissions Philosophy</strong></td>
<td>Fit for institution and course of study</td>
<td>Fit for course or degree program</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Application Process</strong></td>
<td>Direct to institution, or via the Common Application or the Coalition Application</td>
<td>Via Universities and Colleges Admissions Service (UCAS) at undergraduate level (UK universities are also increasingly on the Common Application)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Changing Major</strong></td>
<td>Common</td>
<td>Not common amongst students, but institutions usually allow this</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Transfering Institution</strong></td>
<td>Common</td>
<td>Rare – Typically only happens for students studying externally accredited professional programs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Tutor</strong></td>
<td>Additional help with a class subject</td>
<td>Member of academic staff - teaches and in some cases is student’s academic advisor</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* England, Northern Ireland and Wales
Join a world top 100 university*

Be part of a prestigious, research-intensive Russell Group university and discover why we’re one of the most popular destinations in the UK for international students.

For information on our courses, entry requirements, fees, funding and how to apply, visit our website.

www.leeds.ac.uk/internationalschools

*QS World University Rankings, 2020

UNIVERSITY OF PLYMOUTH

A WORLD-CLASS LEARNING EXPERIENCE IN THE HEART OF BRITAIN’S OCEAN CITY

#PlymouthPioneers
Undergraduate Program Structure

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Program Type</th>
<th>Explanation</th>
<th>Example</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Single honors</td>
<td>One subject major</td>
<td>BA (Hons) in English Literature</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Interdisciplinary degrees</td>
<td>Broad-based major</td>
<td>BA (Hons) in Humanities</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Combined and joint honors</td>
<td>Double major or major/minor</td>
<td>BSc (Hons) in Computer Science and English</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>BSc (Hons) in Economics with Biology</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Extra year</td>
<td>Non-credit programs</td>
<td>Work placement year (also known as a sandwich year)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Year abroad</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Professional degrees</td>
<td>Professional accredited programs</td>
<td>LLB in Law</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>aught at the undergraduate level</td>
<td>BArch in Architecture</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>MB BS in Medicine</td>
</tr>
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</table>

Grades

<table>
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<tr>
<th>UK Classification</th>
<th>UK Percentage</th>
<th>US Grade</th>
<th>US GPA</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>First</td>
<td>70-100</td>
<td>A</td>
<td>4.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Upper Second</td>
<td>60-69</td>
<td>B+/B</td>
<td>3.0 – 3.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lower Second</td>
<td>50-59</td>
<td>B/B-</td>
<td>2.7 – 3.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Third</td>
<td>40-49</td>
<td>C</td>
<td>2.0</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fail</td>
<td>0-39</td>
<td>F</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

7,390 US students were studying an undergraduate degree in the UK in 2018/19!
WHAT TO STUDY IN THE UK?
In the next section of this guide, you’ll find information about popular subject areas, the benefits of studying in the UK and the entry requirements.

**Science and Technology**

The UK is a world leader in science and technology, nowhere more so than our universities. From the leading minds who teach here, to the state-of-the-art laboratories and our astonishing legacy of discoveries, few other places in the world offer the range of possibilities for a student’s future as the UK.

Our universities have been cultivating the world’s brightest talent for centuries, and we currently boast three of the world’s top ten universities for Technology and Science. Since 1901, 91 Nobel Prize-winners have been British and an extraordinary 38% of the others who chose to study abroad, chose to do it right here in the UK.

**What can students choose?**

There are many undergraduate degrees in the Pure and Applied Sciences - Biology, Chemistry and Physics can all be studied alone or combined with other theoretical sciences to form “joint honors” degrees – for example, Physics and Astrophysics, or Chemistry with Environmental Studies.

Students can also choose to specialize in specific areas – in Biology, for example, one might focus on biochemistry, zoology, marine biology or genetics.

Most undergraduate programs in the pure sciences last for three years and lead to a Bachelor of Science (BSc) qualification. There are a growing number of four-year programs, however, which lead to an undergraduate Master of Science qualification (MSci, which is different from the postgraduate MSc).

**Entry requirements**

To apply to most Science courses at higher education level, good grades will be needed in the particular field of study. For some institutions, students should also study at least one other Science, and/or Mathematics. If your students are interested in a Pure Science degree and their high school coursework is in applied science, they may have to take a foundation year.

study-uk.britishcouncil.org/find/subject-areas/science-technology

It’s important to check with the chosen institution for details, as entry requirements vary.
Creative Arts & Design

Thanks to our progressive approach to learning your students will find the perfect balance of academic rigour and freedom, helping them to think differently and find the path they want.

The UK is also at the forefront of digital applications for creativity, and we are among the top five countries in the world for university-industry collaboration. Well-established links with industry practitioners will make sure they acquire real-world experiences, meaning they can hit the ground running when they graduate.

What can students choose?

Whether your students have a growing passion for fashion, or want to make it big in film, animation, photography, art, design, advertising, music, literature, dance or theatre, they’ll find a wealth of talent and expertise to inspire them in the UK and hundreds of exciting courses to choose from.

At undergraduate level there are degrees covering a wide range of subjects, from Fine Art to the performing arts, textiles to screenwriting, animation and graphic design. Courses are usually assessed on the basis of their portfolio (their collection of work).

Entry requirements

When applying for a creative course, the tutors may ask to see a portfolio (this might include “works in progress” as well as completed work) and want to see evidence of your student’s ability and passion for their chosen subject. Some institutions hold interviews as part of the application process.

At undergraduate level, most courses expect students to have studied Art, Design, or a similar subject at further education level.

Many undergraduate courses also ask that students do a one-year Art and Design Foundation course (or equivalent) before progressing to the degree program.

study-uk.britishcouncil.org/find/subject-areas/creative-arts
MEET: EMMA BELL

FROM: UK - Oxfordshire

DEGREE: BA Fashion Communication

CAMPUS/LOCATION: Condé Nast College of Fashion & Design

YEAR OF GRADUATION: 2019

1. What do you like the most about your degree?
I love how intense and stimulating the course is: it has provided me with a complete overview of the fashion industry by teaching me a range of core skills that are applicable to whatever I decide to do.

The college is small and has given me a close and supportive network of friends and have been able to grow my own interests within the structure of the course. Its developed my own personal voice and opinion and given me the knowledge and confidence to create the content that I want.

2. How did you decide Condé Nast College of Fashion & Design was best for you?
Condé Nast College was one of the only options for me when it came to deciding where I wanted to go as it provided me with industry expertise in an intense and condensed format.

3. What advice would you give to other students who are thinking about studying in the UK?
The majority of my friends are international and we definitely all helped each other out when moving so don’t worry about being on your own! Try to get out as much as possible and see different things as it will definitely help you to get to know your surroundings a lot quicker!

4. What do you consider the most valuable about getting a degree abroad?
Having a group of friends who are from all over the world gives me a great network of future contacts that I can reach out to!

5. Describe your student life in Conde Nast College of Fashion & Design in 3 words:
Intense, engaging and a family.

6. What was your favourite experience about studying at Condé Nast College of Fashion & Design?
My favourite aspect of the college has always been the level of industry access that we get on a weekly basis which meant that we were always in tune with the industry and stayed up to date. It gave us context to what we were learning as well as giving us a goal/motivation to work towards.

7. What was your favourite class? Why?
My favourite classes have always been those where our briefs have been more self-directed as this has given me the opportunity to develop my own creative voice whilst also still having the support from lecturers who were passionate about us becoming independent individuals.

Find out more about Condé Nast College of Fashion and Design: www.condenastcollege.ac.uk
MEET: DANIELA KRONING

DEGREE: BA (Hons) Interior Architecture and Design

CAMPUS/LOCATION: Holloway Road, London

YEAR OF GRADUATION: 2020

1. Where are you from?
Hawaii (I’m a military child, so I’ve moved a lot: Utah, Georgia, Kansas, Panamá, Hawaii, Italy, Spain – but lived the longest in Hawaii).

2. What do you like the most about your degree?
I love how creative and hands-on my degree at London Met is and how invested my lecturers are in supporting our success.

3. How did you decide London Metropolitan University was best for you?
I decided that university was best for me as interior design isn’t taught in high school, so I wanted to be more prepared for my career.

4. What advice would you give to other students who are thinking about studying in the UK?
If you know what degree you want to study, then definitely go to the UK; it’s more affordable, it takes less time and you don’t have to take general classes as it’s very specific to what you want to study.

5. What do you consider the most valuable about getting a degree abroad?
Studying for my degree abroad at London Met has exposed me to so many different cultures and ways of life, and I’ve found it to be very enriching on my outlook on life.

6. Describe your student life at London Metropolitan University in 3 words:
Adventurous, fulfilling, wholehearted.

7. What is your favorite experience about studying at London Metropolitan?
My favorite part is all the connections you make with people from all over the world. You end up learning, not only things related to your degree, but a little bit of everything.

8. What is your favorite class? Why?
My favorite class at London Met is my studio time where I get to work on our project for the year. It’s the most creative class and it really lets me test the limits of my designs.

Find out more about London Metropolitan University: www.londonmet.ac.uk/international/
Business, Management & Humanities

The UK’s location between the American and Asian time zones has helped it to become a global hub for industries including Finance, Trading, Management Consultancy, Marketing, and Accountancy.

We have a long history of building international businesses and we’ve become one of the most sought after destinations for international students to learn what it takes to succeed.

For centuries we’ve cultivated expertise in every imaginable sector, and there are over 100 dedicated business schools – four of them ranked among the top ten in the world.

Up and down the country they’ll find a huge array of courses set up to give them the creative business insights and world-class administration skills they need to succeed.

They’ll get to learn from some of the smartest brains in business too, hearing from a range of leading industry voices, who will help them develop a global versatile approach to business challenges.

They’ll be tackling real world problems in a flexible way, alongside fellow international students with a wide range of perspectives.

No matter what sector they’re most interested in, they’ll leave with the deep understanding of the core business principles and emerging technological possibilities that they need to make their mark.

What can students choose?

UK universities offer internationally recognized qualifications in a wide range of subjects, including Business, Economics, Finance, Marketing, Strategy and Information systems.

There are general courses or specialist programs for any chosen career, such as Sports Management or Hotel Management.

Courses may be assessed through exams, essays, case studies, and group work. Most courses lead to a Bachelor of Arts (BA) or Bachelor of Science (BSc) qualification, although you can also gain a Bachelor of Business Administration (BBA) or an undergraduate Master of Management Science (MManSci).

Entry requirements

Many courses look for a good academic record with evidence of interest in the subject, such as high school coursework in Economics or Business Administration.

It’s important to check with the chosen institution for details, as entry requirements vary.
Social Sciences and Humanities

The UK has a strong heritage in the Social Sciences and Humanities – both in education and research – with some of the oldest universities in the world and a huge amount of public funding.

What can students choose?
Social Sciences and Humanities are very broad – within these disciplines, students can study many different subjects, across both undergraduate and postgraduate levels.
At undergraduate level students will find many degree programs that combine two or more subjects.

Social Studies: focus on human society and social relationships. Subjects include Political Science, Anthropology, Economics, International Relations, Sociology, Social Work and Human Geography.

Humanities: these include a broad range of subjects to do with the study of human culture – for example, Archaeology, Religious Studies (Theology), History, Philosophy, Literature and Languages.

Communication and Media: subjects can include Media, Marketing, advertising, Public Relations (PR), Publicity, Publishing and Journalism – which can focus on broadcast, radio or newspaper journalism.

History and Classics: whether interested in ancient or modern History, your student will find the right course in the UK, with subjects such as Political or Social History, 20th century European, American, East Mediterranean, Irish, or Jewish History, alongside subjects such as Archaeology or Theology.

Philosophy, Religious Studies or Theology, and Literature: students can choose English Literature or any area of World Literature, as well as Comparative Literature. These courses often focus on academic theory, analysis and criticism.

Cultural Studies and Languages: in the UK your student can study almost any combination of modern languages and cultures. There are interdisciplinary courses that focus on particular geographic regions, such as European Studies, African Studies or Latin American Studies.

Entry requirements
Many courses look for a good academic record with some Social Sciences or Humanities experience, rather than a specific qualification in your chosen subject. There are exceptions, however – courses with a language element might require high school coursework in that language.

It’s important to check with the chosen institution for details, as entry requirements vary.
1. What do you like the most about your degree?
Coming from Southern California, USA, I like how I have been able to explore all aspects of music production. I consider myself a jack-of-all-trades so I enjoy learning a variety of different skills. I have been able to explore the how and why of music production.

2. How did you decide City, University of London was best for you?
In the summer before my last year of high school, I took a trip to the UK to visit five different universities which I thought I wanted to apply to. I ended up applying to four of the five universities I visited.

As I could apply to only five universities, I looked for another university that would better fit my revised requirements – City was that university. For one, it is in London, an entertainment hub, where I could develop all kinds of connections.

Next, the Music, Sound and Technology BSc (Hons) course was the oldest degree that I applied to. It also provides a very hands-on approach that explores many aspects of music production.

3. What advice would you give to other students who are thinking about studying in the UK?
I would say have an idea what you want to do and be prepared to work hard. University is a lot of work no matter where you go, but it is a stepping stone to getting that job you want.

4. What do you consider the most valuable about getting a degree abroad?
The most valuable aspect is that I am able to develop global connections with all kinds of people. The interconnectedness of the world cannot be ignored and getting a degree abroad is a way to inform myself of different cultures. New from a multicultural background, I have learned to communicate will all kinds of cultures and studying in the UK is a way for me to expand that communication further.

5. Describe your student life at City in 3 words:
Music, representative, busy.

6. What is your favorite experience about studying at City?
Being part of Civitas, an ancient chant choir ensemble at City, has been one of my favorite experiences. In this ensemble, I get to sing in a very different style and a variety of different languages. I have been able to sing at two City concerts, which were very fun.

7. What is your favorite class? Why?
My favorite class would be the one I am taking in my second year, which is Interactivity of Music and Sound. I have been learning how to do musical programming with a language called MAX/MSP. It is very practical and the lecturer truley has a passion for this subject.

Find out more about City, University of London: www.city.ac.uk/international
1. Where are you from?
Fremont, California

2. What do you like the most about your degree?
I love the sheer scope of international development. On any given day, I find myself hopping from a lecture on climate change to a seminar on social anthropology, or from a workshop on documentary filmmaking to another on GIS mapping. My degree is as wide-ranging as it is deeply-probing, and as challenging as it is invigorating.

3. How did you decide UEA was best for you?
First, among all the universities I considered, UEA’s School of International Development outshone the rest; it is ranked among the best in the world and consistently on the frontlines of research and action in the field. But beyond my studies, UEA felt like home in so many other ways.

Though I grew up in the Bay Area, I’m a small-town girl at heart, and Norwich has stolen mine. From hidden gem cafes and bookshops, to big events like the Norwich Film Festival, I feel I’ll never stop discovering my university town.

4. Describe your student life at UEA in 3 words:
Unpredictable, jam-packed, fulfilling.

5. What advice would you give to other students who are thinking about studying in the UK?
Go for it! It can be intimidating to step out of your comfort zone, and once you do it can still be challenging at times. But in the end, I promise there is nothing more enriching or rewarding. Wherever you go, go with all your heart, and you will not regret it.

6. What do you consider the most valuable about getting a degree abroad?
I love the freedom of being in a completely new place. Nobody can discover the world for you, and in my time across the pond, I have found that adventure is the best way to learn. For me, studying abroad has made the world feel endlessly rich with possibility.

7. What is your favorite experience about studying at University of East Anglia?
From learning to climb at the UEA rock wall to competing with the gymnastics team around England, I owe my happiest memories and closest friends to the clubs and societies I’ve joined at university.

Now in my second year, I find myself doing crazy things I never even imagined, like playing gigs with a folk band around Norwich, running a 5K almost every weekend and herding cows on an organic farm in Scotland.

Studying abroad doesn’t mean leaving behind what you love, and for me, rediscovering my passions in new community and place has been incredible.
8. What is your favorite class? Why?
My favorite class so far has been Education and International Development. The module was taught by professors with the most fascinating specializations, whose own stories of fieldwork ensured the theories we learned grounded in real world practice.

Find out more about University of East Anglia:
www.uea.ac.uk/study/international-students/country-map/usa

Law and Legal Studies
The UK is home to the world’s top three law schools, and right across the country you’ll find hundreds of courses waiting to help your students sharpen your mind for the unique challenges of a legal career.

All law programs in the UK are structured to give students a comprehensive and critical understanding of the principles and practical skills they will need. As well as the essentials of law and analysis, they’ll be able to build your skills in arguing and mooting, with mock courtrooms to help increase the levels of realism.

The compact, modular courses on offer allow international students to graduate more quickly than many other countries, whilst developing specialisms in the areas they feel are most relevant to them.

What can students choose?
There are three legal systems in the UK – one for England and Wales, one for Northern Ireland and another for Scotland – though elements such as Commercial Law and Taxation Law are similar.

The content and structure of Law courses is therefore slightly different, depending on where students study. Your students should get more information before they enroll.

In higher education there are many different types of Law qualifications. Most undergraduate degree courses start with a general introduction to the law, with electable modules to allow for specialization in any given field.

So if they have a passion for human rights – or discover a new passion as they progress with their course – they’ll be able to tailor their degree to help them plan their future career.
To qualify as a lawyer in the UK, it is necessary to complete modules in seven areas known as the Foundations of Legal Knowledge – including subjects such as Public, Criminal and Property Law.

Once completed, students are awarded an LLB or BA (Hons) in Law. They can then progress straight to the Legal Practice Course (LPC) or the Bar Professional Training Course (BPTC), to qualify as a solicitor or barrister.

US students should keep in mind that each state has different requirements for lawyers with a foreign law degree. The requirements for each state will be listed on the state-specific bar exam website and are summarized by the National Conference of Bar Examiners’ Bar Admission Guide:

www.ncbex.org/publications/bar-admissions-guide/

**Entry requirements**

There can be a lot of competition for places on law degree programs, and higher education institutions usually ask for a strong academic record. These should be academic subjects, but not necessarily a subject related to law. English and Mathematics are particularly important.

To apply to some undergraduate law courses students may need to take the preuniversity LNAT (National Admissions Test for Law) – to tests their ability to think critically and argue effectively.
1. What do you like the most about your degree?
I love the flexibility it allows! My degree is able to be applied to a wide range of careers. Politics remains a topical subject across almost all sectors. It also brings to light a never-ending passion of impacting the world that is truly infectious from my lecturers and tutors.

2. How did you decide the University of Portsmouth was best for you?
A few reasons! I’ve never lived near a beach, I couldn’t see myself living anywhere (too) cold, but most importantly, the course description was exactly what I envisioned myself doing. I had communicated with my course leaders before I even applied to ensure it was what was right for me.
Moving so far away is a heavy commitment. For this reason, the support that Portsmouth provides is excellent. As I moved to the UK practically on my own and not knowing anyone, it was essential for there to be some form of support.

3. What advice would you give to other students who are thinking about studying in the UK?
I would recommend looking into the different opportunities each university offers as well as the different transport opportunities in different areas. Being away from home can be hard, but exploring other areas of the country is an amazing opportunity that you shouldn’t pass up.

4. What do you consider the most valuable about getting a degree abroad?
I am from Austin, Texas, so I know the opportunity of living and studying abroad sets you apart from other candidates in any prospective career. You can also meet people you’d never have had the chance to otherwise.

5. Describe your student life in Portsmouth in 3 words:
Opportunity, social, beautiful.

6. What is your favorite experience about studying in Portsmouth?
My favorite experience has been joining all the different societies. My favorites are archery and esports, both of which were things I would never have felt comfortable nor would have had the opportunity to participate in if I had stayed in Texas.

7. What is your favorite class? Why?
My favorite class was Rethinking Aid and Development, which I took in my third year. The module was extremely interesting and ignited my passion for working in the development sector. It gave me the motivation to study MSc International Development, Social Justice and Sustainability after graduation, also in the UK.

Find out more about University of Portsmouth: www.port.ac.uk/global
Engineering

Engineers are in high demand around the world. From robotics to computer science, sustainable energies and intelligent buildings – an engineering degree opens up a wide range of specialist career paths in developed and developing countries.

If your students want the skills, knowledge and attitude to travel and work anywhere, the UK will give them the preparation they need. Three of the world’s top ten universities for engineering are in the UK, but wherever they choose to study, they’ll benefit from outstanding teaching. Thanks to our world-class links with research and industry, our undergraduate students are exposed to the cutting edge of technology and ideas.

What can students choose?
The range of Engineering courses in the UK is very broad, across the different levels of education and different areas of Engineering. At undergraduate level, most students choose to specialize in a field such as Chemical, Civil, Computer or Mechanical Engineering.

There also courses in Music Technology, Sound Engineering, Metals Technology, Motor Vehicle Technology and Industrial Design.

Most undergraduate engineering degree programs are three-year courses leading to a bachelor’s degree (BEng or BSc), although there are an increasing number of four-year courses leading to a Master’s degree (MEng).

Entry requirements

To study engineering at undergraduate level, most courses expect students to have studied a relevant subject at school or further education level – many require you to have studied Mathematics, but other supporting subjects are Physics, Computing, Electronics, Technology or Science subjects.

There are also engineering courses with an emphasis on Design – such as Automotive or Technology Design – which might require academic experience in Art or Design. Similarly, for Audio or Music Technology, students might need to show that they have practical music experience.

If your students lack the qualifications or academic experience required for a university course, there are many undergraduate programs which include a “Foundation Year” – a one-year foundation course designed to teach the skills required for the full program.
Healthcare and Medicine

The UK has been at the forefront of medical teaching for centuries and our innovations have helped save millions of lives. Our discoveries include the world’s first vaccine, to ultrasound technology and genetic sequencing. Together they’ve helped us win the second-highest number of Nobel Prizes for medicine.

The UK is home to two of the top three medical schools in the world, but right across the country you’ll find a large number of excellent universities providing world-class medical tuition.

What can students choose?
UK universities and colleges offer training in a wide range of fields. Teaching methods are varied – students might take part in small group practice, laboratory practicals, ward rounds at hospitals, computer aided learning and lectures.

Undergraduate medical courses lead to a Bachelor of Medicine and Surgery qualification (this might be abbreviated as MBBS, MBBS/BSc, MB ChB, MB BCh or BMBS, depending on the institution).

Medicine degrees usually last five years, but courses vary in length. Students who already have an undergraduate degree in another subject can join medicine by taking a four-year Graduate Entry Program (GEP).

After completing an undergraduate degree, students can move on to a two-year foundation program (this is a general medical training program, which combines work experience with training), and then register with the General Medical Council (GMC), which permits you to work in medicine in the UK.

US students who are planning to practice in the US should thoroughly research the additional requirements for international medical graduates. The American Medical Association’s website contains information on these additional requirements.

Entry requirements
To join an undergraduate degree, they should have a good academic record and high school coursework in relevant science subjects such as Chemistry and Biology.

If applying for a degree in Medicine or Dentistry, some institutions require students to take the BMAT (BioMedical Admissions Test) or UKCAT (UK Clinical Aptitude Test) before submitting their university application.

It’s important to check with the chosen institution for details, as entry requirements vary.
**MEET: CONALL HIRSCH**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DEGREE:</th>
<th>Joint Honours English and Philosophy</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CAMPUS/LOCATION:</td>
<td>University of Leeds</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>YEAR OF GRADUATION:</td>
<td>2022</td>
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</tbody>
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1. **Where are you from?**

Los Angeles, California, USA.

2. **What do you like the most about your degree?**

I enjoy that I am able to combine both of my passionate interests (English and Philosophy) into one degree, and study them both at length.

3. **How did you decide University of Leeds was best for you?**

I chose Leeds because the reputation of my course at the university, and because Leeds is a fantastic place to be a student. When I was considering my university choices, I personally found touring university campuses to be very helpful.

I was already keen on Leeds, but the tour of the campus gave me a feel for how the university functioned and a glimpse into what being a student here would be like.

4. **What advice would you give to other students who are thinking about studying in the UK?**

I think American students should consider studying here because the degree is much more rigorous but also more affordable than domestic universities, and culturally it is an ideal place to study because the United States and UK are particularly similar.

5. **What do you consider the most valuable about getting a degree abroad?**

I now feel extremely comfortable meeting new people and immersing myself in a new culture.

6. **Describe your student life in University of Leeds in 3 words:**

Stimulating, challenging and formative.

7. **What is your favorite experience about studying in University of Leeds?**

I particularly my course because my lecturers are constantly challenging me, but are also very accessible.

8. **What was your favorite class? Why?**

My favourite class was called “Great Philosophical Thinkers” because it dealt with epistemology and fundamentally changed the way I see the world.

Find out more about University of Leeds: [www.leeds.ac.uk](http://www.leeds.ac.uk)
EXPLORE THE UK AS PART OF YOUR UNIVERSITY DEGREE

UNIVERSITY OF PORTSMOUTH

Choose to study abroad in Portsmouth for a half or full year and you can:

- Gain transferable credits towards your degree
- Grow in confidence
- Make new friends
- Experience UK lifestyle and education

Popular subjects include:

- Architecture
- Art and design
- Computer science
- Creative technologies
- Criminology and forensic studies
- Education and sociology
- Engineering
- English literature and modern languages
- Geography, earth and environmental sciences
- International business, marketing and economics
- International relations and politics

Prefer to study your full degree overseas? We have a range of three-year undergraduate and one-year postgraduate programmes available.

Experience Portsmouth once. Remember it forever.

To discover more and find out how to apply
Visit: port.ac.uk/studyabroad
Email: studyabroad@port.ac.uk
INFORMATION FOR COUNSELORS
UNDERGRADUATE APPLICATION PROCESS

There is a lot to consider before students travel to the UK for study and this section will help you understand students’ program and university choices.

Applying to study in the UK is a straightforward process and we will guide you through it step by step.

In the UK, students enter into a focused program of study and the majority of their classes will be directly relevant to their chosen major, and the admissions process reflects the focused nature of the UK’s education model.

1. Decide on a university and course

To ensure your students choose the course and university that is right for them and for what they want to achieve, it is best to read as much as they can about the range of courses, colleges and universities available and compare them.

It is also important to check the course entry requirements. You can do this using the course profiles on the institutions’ websites. If you or your students have any questions, you can contact the university directly, who will be very happy to help you find the information you need.

Some helpful resources in the university search:

1. Study UK

The Study UK website is administered by the British Council and is a resource hub for international students when interested in studying in the UK.

study-uk.britishcouncil.org/

2. UCAS

UCAS is responsible for managing applications to higher education programs in the UK. It provides comprehensive information and tools helping students and advisers navigate the admissions process in the UK.

www.ucas.com

3. DISCOVERUNI

A good place to start is DiscoverUni, the official website for comparing UK higher education course data. On this website you can select and compare subjects, modes of study, teaching outcomes and location to help you learn more about the courses on offer.

www.discoveruni.gov.uk
Choosing a major

When considering the specific degree program they want to pursue, it is important that students take a considered and well-researched approach. They can understand some of these factors asking themselves:

About them...
- What high school qualifications do you have?
- Which subjects are you interested in? What are you most passionate about?
- What careers are you interested in and what skills are needed?

About their career...
- What career would you like to enter when you graduate?
- Is it a competitive area and do you have the right subject mix from high school?
- Do you need any special, or industry qualifications?

About their university interests...
- Are there any specialist institutions that you have heard about?
- What are the modules like? Which are the most interesting or relevant to your career direction?
- Who are the lecturers? Are they experts in areas you are interested in?
- Are there more opportunities that you are interested in? (Internships, work placements, etc.)

2. Register on UCAS and apply

Applying for an undergraduate degree in the UK is very simple.

Your students will not need to get in touch with lots of universities – they can apply for up to five courses at once through UCAS for a small administration fee, and UCAS handles everything else.

Summary of application process:
1) First, go to the UCAS website (www.ucas.com/) where your students can fill in their application form.
2) Then they will need to write their personal statement. This is their chance to stand out from the crowd by explaining why they are interested in the course, the skills they have that make them suitable, and their life experiences and achievements.
3) They also need to include a written reference from someone who can confirm their ability to do the course. This could be completed by you, or by a teacher or tutor.

STUDENTS have five sections to complete:
1. Personal details,
2. Choices: 5 courses maximum. No order of preference. Universities and colleges do not see the other choices.
3. Education: list current and pending qualifications.
4. Employment: include relevant paid work experience.
5. Personal statement: academic focus, shown enthusiasm for subject matter.
COUNSELORS have one section to complete:

1. Reference: discuss academic ability and interests of student, tailor reference to reflect intended course and predict grades.

While students will be able to apply after the January deadline right up until 30 June, it is better to apply early. They will still need to arrange their visa if they need one, as well as things like accommodation and flights.

Completing and Tracking
Once all six sections are complete and the student has paid the onetime application fee, it can be submitted to UCAS.

- Nominated access
  Recommended that each student nominates a teacher, parent or both as an alternative contact. The nominated person(s) can contact UCAS on the student’s behalf to discuss the application. UCAS advisers will not discuss an application with anyone other than the student or their nominated contact.

- Student/adviser track
  Online system offered by UCAS – Grants access to status updates of the student’s application through decisions, offers, replies and results stages.
Deadlines to Consider:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>September 1st</td>
<td>UCAS application system opens.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>October 15th</td>
<td>Deadline for applications for Medicine, Dentistry and Veterinary Science, and applications to the universities of Oxford and Cambridge.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>January 15th</td>
<td>Recommended deadline for equal consideration.</td>
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<tr>
<td>March</td>
<td>Art and design courses deadline.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>June 30th</td>
<td>Late deadline for most undergraduate courses. Applications received after this deadline will automatically go into “clearing”. See more information on UCAS Clearing on page XX.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>September</td>
<td>UK University starts</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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Tuition Fees in USD:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Annual Fees (£)</th>
<th>Annual Fees (USD)</th>
<th>Years</th>
<th>Total (£)</th>
<th>Total (USD)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>England, Northern Ireland and Wales</td>
<td>From £11,000 to £40,000 (for Medical Degrees)</td>
<td>From $14,410 to $52,402</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>From £33,000 to £120,000</td>
<td>From $43,231 to $157,205</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Scotland</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>4</td>
<td>From £44,000 to £160,000</td>
<td>From $57,642 to $209,606</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Additional Application Routes

UCAS Extra
Students who have not been accepted on a course or have declined all their offers can use UCAS Extra to make one more application. This service is open between February and July.

Clearing
Clearing is a service that opens through UCAS at the end of the application cycle. It matches students who do not hold an offer with any unfilled university places.

Clearing places typically fill up in the last two weeks of August as this is when most UK applicants receive their exam results. Clearing opens in July and closes on 30 September.

Students can apply to up to a maximum of five choices.
- Application fee for up to five choices is £24.
- Application fee for one choice is £13.
*Figures correct at time of printing.

Common App
A number of UK Universities accept applications through the Common App, although if your student is planning to apply to more than one university in the UK, we would recommend that they make their applications using UCAS.

3. Receiving an offer

The university or college will contact your student (usually via email) to tell them whether or not they have received an offer to study. If they applied via UCAS it’s easy to track the status of their application at any time.

If they are accepted with an unconditional offer, then congratulations! They have a place and they can accept straightaway.

If they are accepted with a conditional offer, the place is theirs as long as you meet a few extra requirements. This could be achieving certain exam grades.

For some courses students may be asked for an interview before they receive an offer, either on the phone or sometimes in person. Check the course information before they apply to find out whether this is required.

Once your student has decided to accept an offer then they can respond to it through the UCAS website – then they’re on their way to becoming a UK student.
4. Arranging funding

Now is the time to arrange funding. You may be eligible for one of the many scholarships available to help with the cost of your studies.

study-uk.britishcouncil.org/scholarships

US Federal Loans

A US citizen or US National may apply for US Federal Student Loans or Private Loans for educational related costs to study at undergraduate level at many UK universities.

Students should check the requirements and eligibility with each university they are applying to for more information.

Check www.fafsa.gov to find out which universities are registered.

Tuition fees

- International students pay different tuition fees than home students.
- International students tuition fees vary significantly between university, course and academic level.
- Tuition fee status is classified based on permanent residence, not citizenship.

5. Apply for your visa

Most US students need a student visa to study in the UK. Finding out whether you need a visa to study is easy - simply check here on www.gov.uk/check-uk-visa

Your student visa will allow you to live and study in the UK throughout your course.
Applying to a university in the UK
Sponsored by NCUK

Applying to a university in the UK might seem like quite a task, but with the right support and by following a few simple steps, students will be able to progress to their dream degree course.

A bachelor’s degree in the UK typically takes three years to complete and the standard term dates are from September to June. Some universities also offer ‘sandwich degrees’, meaning that students can work in their relevant industry for the third year of their undergraduate course, gaining valuable real-life work experience, and then come back to university to complete their fourth and final year.

After researching their options, students should have a clear idea of what university and course they wish to apply for. All university applications in the UK are done through UCAS, the UK’s University and Colleges Admissions Service, a central application system to which all UK universities are connected to. Once the application is submitted to UCAS, the student receives a confirmation email and can sign in to UCAS Track to check the status of their application.

Each university will take a different amount of time to respond to applications, but this is usually resolved within days or weeks.

Once the reply comes through, students have to let the universities know their preferences. The first-choice university is the conditional firm choice, and the second-choice university is the conditional insurance choice. The conditional insurance choice should always have lower entry requirements than the conditional firm choice as the insurance acts as a ‘back-up’ on results day.

On results day, UCAS will send the student’s exam results to their university choices. If they have met the requirements of their conditional firm, the student will receive an unconditional place. If they have missed the grades for their conditional firm choice but meet the grades for their insurance choice, they will be going to their insurance university. If students don’t meet either, then they enter a process called ‘clearing’ where universities provide alternative options for them.

At NCUK we help international students progress to UK universities by offering pre-university and undergraduate pathway qualifications and by managing their university applications through our Student Support services. We work with a wide range of leading UK partner universities and UCAS to ensure that our qualifications meet and exceed the highest academic standards and that our students succeed in their journey towards university. For more information about NCUK, visit www.ncuk.ac.uk
Tips for Admissions

Students are admitted via a holistic application process that reviews students’ readiness for their chosen major and university life.

Student applications are typically assessed in the following areas:
- Academic proficiency based on their qualification and credentials to date,
- Demonstrated interest through the personal statement, and
- Academic reference.

Depending on institution or program, additional requirements may include:
- Interviews,
- Portfolio of work or audition, and
- Additional testing.

Academic requirements typically include:
- Advanced Placement (AP)
- International Baccalaureate (IB) or college credits preferred
- SATs and ACTs considered
- High school diploma.

Academic references should include:
- Student’s qualities
- School information, particularly on curriculum
- Provide context to results and students
- Chosen classes
- Grade predictions
- School profile (can be linked in reference).

Personal statement

When writing a personal statement, students may include:
- Why are you applying to university?
- Why are you interested in the subject?
- What do you want to do when you graduate?
- How can you demonstrate your readiness for university?
- What skills, knowledge, achievements and experience do you have that are relevant to your chosen major?
- Why are you applying to the UK?
- What can you bring to university life?

This is the only part of the application in which the student has complete control.

For more information on how to help your students write their personal statement, please visit: www.ucas.com/personalstatement

You can also find more information here: study-uk.britishcouncil.org/find/how-to-apply
Reference

When writing a reference, it may include:

- Information on the student’s academic achievements since the age of 16,
- Comment on their suitability for university and the program,
- Highlight any achievements, skills, experiences or personal qualities that are relevant,
- Provide context of the student’s high school predicted grades.

Mention any personal factors that may have influenced their academic performance as relevant to the application.

Predicted grades

Schools provide predicted grades as part of the application process. Predicted grades play a strong role in whether a student is given a conditional offer or not. School teachers should predict a grade based on their professional judgment, the student’s past performance and current progress, and the school’s historical performance. Universities understand that grade predictions are an imperfect science!
Tips on preparing a personal statement
Sponsored by London Metropolitan University

Why is this important?
The personal statement is one of the most significant elements of the application – it is a chance for you to articulate why you are suitable to study at your chosen university, and what experience and skills make you stand out compared to other applicants.

What to include?
The most important thing to remember when writing a personal statement is that you must tell the admissions staff why you'd like to study a particular subject area. You need to talk about yourself, your skills, experience and any extra curriculum activities that are relevant to your chosen subject area.

Tell them about your career aspirations and ambitions, about your interests and how studying a course within your chosen subject area will help you reach your goals.

The admissions staff are looking for a well-structured, concise and specific personal statement – you need to make a good first impression and demonstrate that this is a suitable course for you.

As an international student you need to also remember to explain why you would rather study in the UK as opposed to your own country – are you looking for international experience? Do you think that gaining intercultural skills will help you with your future career?

Personal statement DOs and DON'Ts

Do:
• Prepare a mind map – have a think what to include and create a clear structure; you need to have an introduction, main body and conclusion;
• Research the university and the courses on offer – read about the modules and the specifics of the courses you are interested in;
• Start writing your first draft early – you don't want to rush your personal statement so make sure you have enough time to write it;
• Be concise, enthusiastic and clear – use simple style and demonstrate your motivation;
• Proofread and ask a friend or family to double check the spelling, punctuation and grammar for you.

Don’t:
• Copy text off the internet – it is highly likely the admissions staff would know your personal statement isn't your own work;
• List your grades – the admissions staff already have access to your grades; use this opportunity to talk about your ambitions, relevant work experience or volunteering, activities or hobbies, and any training or achievements related to your chosen subject area;
• Leave it for the last moment – take your time to write a few drafts and have someone check them for you.
MOVING TO THE UK
Once students have finished their application process and before they start their course in the UK, they should get everything to travel.

If your students were accepted, they will need a visa, plan their finances, accommodation and so on; some of the most important are here to consider.

**Visas**

As international students, your students may need to apply for a visa to study in the UK dependent on their nationality and immigration status.

They can check if they need a UK visa or not at:

[www.gov.uk/check-uk-visa](http://www.gov.uk/check-uk-visa)

It is important that wherever in the UK your students study, they always ensure that their visa is up to date and that they contact UK Visas and Immigration (UKVI) to inform them of any changes.

**How to apply**

If your students are 16 or over and want to study at higher education level, they'll need to apply for a Tier 4 (General) student visa.*

They need to wait until they have an offer from a university or college before applying for their Tier 4 (General) student visa. Their university or college will then be able to give them a document called a Confirmation of Acceptance of Studies (CAS).

To do this, their chosen institution needs to be approved by the UK government as a ‘licenced Tier 4 sponsor’.

**Tier 4 (General) Student Visas:**

- Visas are issued by UKVI.

Visa application are made through their website at:

[visas-immigration.service.gov.uk/apply-visa-type/tier4](http://www.visas-immigration.service.gov.uk/apply-visa-type/tier4)

- The visa application cost in 2019 was £348.

To obtain a visa, many international students must demonstrate they have sufficient funds to cover their living costs, although US nationals applying from within the USA are exempt from this and do not need to provide evidence of funds.

US students also do not need to prove they have private health insurance, instead they will be asked to pay an annual healthcare surcharge upfront as part of the visa application process. Students must pay the per-year fee for the duration of the visa.
* Visa policies can change at any time. Please visit the UKVI website to check current rules and regulations. Students who have lived outside the US may have other requirements.

**Finances**

Studying in the UK is good value for money – average costs here are lower than in both the USA and Australia. Additionally, UK graduates are amongst the most employable in the world (according to the QS annual employer survey). This means a student’s investment is likely to result in a successful career.

Still, investing a considerable sum in their education can be a difficult decision. Here are some details on the type of budget they are going to need to study in the UK.

**Cost of Living**

The UK’s National Union of Students (NUS) estimates the average annual cost of living in England (outside of London) is £12,200. As the UK’s capital city, London tends to be a more expensive place to live and prices differ between regions across the UK. Some of the living costs to consider are:

- Rent (accommodation)
- Food
- Household goods
- Insurance
- Personal Items
- Travel and leisure

You can use the Student Calculator to estimate what the likely cost of living will be based on lifestyle, here: [university.which.co.uk/student-budget-calculator](university.which.co.uk/student-budget-calculator)
Discover Brunel

The whole world on one campus

14,000 students study at Brunel

2,900 international students from 150 countries

World top 28 university for international outlook (Times Higher Education 2021)

Guaranteed accommodation on our London campus

Over 150 clubs and societies

Top 100 university for sports (QS World Rankings by Subject 2020)

Contact us: americas@brunel.ac.uk

brunel.ac.uk
#DiscoverBrunel

Facebook: /bruneluniversity
Twitter: @bruneluni
Instagram: bruneluni

Brunel University London
Experience another culture. Study abroad

Sponsored by University of Portsmouth

Choosing to study abroad is one of the most rewarding decisions a student can make – the chance of a lifetime. Short-term study abroad and exchange programmes allow even more students the opportunity to take on a new challenge and experience life in a new country.

The Study Abroad programme at the University of Portsmouth allows students to spend either one term or a full academic year studying whilst experiencing British culture. Students will go to lectures, seminars and tutorials and study with other full-time students, gaining invaluable first-hand experience of an academic environment, different from that in the US.

The University has a strong international community and consistently high levels of student satisfaction by consistently investing in its facilities, with £400 million dedicated to the future development of the campus. A brand new £53 million sports facility is currently being built, which is due for completion in 2021.

Students can experience real-life learning, including a motion capture studio, a Bloomberg suite and others. The University was also the first university in the world to have the Interpreter Training Suite from Televic!

Located on England’s south coast, Portsmouth is a vibrant cosmopolitan city with some of the UK’s best weather. London is just a 90-minute train journey away. Heathrow, Gatwick and Southampton airports are also within easy reach. If you want to get to Europe, the ferry offers regular crossings to France and Spain.

Portsmouth is small enough to feel at home and you can get around quickly and easily. Most university buildings are right in the heart of the city and everything you need – entertainment, shopping, the seafront – is within easy reach.

The seafront at Southsea is a short walk from the city centre and main university campus. Here you can enjoy fantastic sea views, four miles of beach and the green spaces of Southsea Common. Ideal for meeting friends and having summer picnics. Southsea Common also hosts live music, running events and even a kite festival.

**KEY FACTS:**

Choosing to study at Portsmouth gives you:

- A friendly and supportive environment
- High quality study opportunities
- Gold rated teaching (TEF)
- Transfer academic credits to your home degree, subject to approval from home university.
- Guaranteed accommodation in halls of residence for Fall starters with extensive housing support for Spring starters.

Find out more about the University of Portsmouth’s Study Abroad programme at port.ac.uk/studyabroad
Welcome to the University of Worcester, UK

*Inspired for Life*

The University of Worcester is ranked 1st in the UK and 26th worldwide for Quality Education and Gender Equality, was shortlisted for the University of the Year and Outstanding Support for Students (Times Higher Education Awards, 2019), and is the Sustainability Institution of the Year (Green Gown Awards, 2019).

At The School of Education, we place great value on the individual, and create a friendly and supportive environment in which to work and learn. Our programmes are of high quality which prepare you for working in all areas within the field of education. The University awards scholarships to eligible undergraduate students in their first and second year of a degree course based on academic achievement.

**Contact us:**

- SoEinternational@worc.ac.uk
- www.worcester.ac.uk/about/academic-schools/school-of-education/
- University of Worcester
- University of Worcester International Students
- @worcester_uni@globalworcester

Scholarships  www.worcester.ac.uk/study/fees-and-finance/scholarships.aspx
Apply through Common App
Finding a place to live

There's a wide variety of safe and modern accommodation on offer for students in the UK and universities and colleges have dedicated accommodation teams that will help your students find the right type of living environment to suit their needs.

Many universities and colleges have halls of residence that are on-site or nearby. If they would prefer to rent their own accommodation, the university or college accommodation office can usually help them.

In the UK, even in shared living accommodation, students will almost always have a bedroom to themselves, often with an en-suite bathroom.

To help them start planning, the main options are outlined below.

University owned accommodation

Most UK universities offer places for new students in their halls of residence. Halls can vary from single rooms with shared kitchen and living areas, to self-contained studios.

Students can often choose from catered halls (with a dining room where they can buy cheap meals) or self-catered halls (with kitchens where they can cook their own food), depending on their preference.

Halls provide a safe and comfortable home-away-from-home that is good value for money, with services like wifi and contents insurance included in the cost of the rent.

Most halls welcome both female and male students, but there are usually single sex halls available too.

Private accommodation

Many students in the UK live in private, rented accommodation in the second year of their studies and onward, giving a taste of life beyond the campus.

Most private student accommodation is already furnished, but you may need to provide your own items such as kitchen utensils and bedding. You'll also need to factor in the costs for utilities.

Rented accommodation is strictly regulated in the UK, so if you do have any issues you will always be able to get them dealt with.

Luxury student accommodation

Many UK cities now have private luxury developments built for students. Accommodation ranges from private self-contained studios to apartments. Fully furnished and equipped with designer fixtures and fittings, residents can expect cinema rooms, 24 hour security, on-site gyms and round-the-clock concierge services.

Homestay accommodation

A homestay - where you live with a UK family in their home - can be a great opportunity to experience UK culture first-hand. The university may be able to help your student arrange this, or they can contact one of the homestay agencies registered with the British Council:

www.britishcouncil.org/education/accreditation/information-centres/registered-accommodation-agencies
Working while you study

International students can typically work up to 20 hours per week during term time, and full-time during vacation periods on a Tier 4 (General) Student Visa. Students can work on-campus and off-campus and they will need to apply for a National Insurance number during orientation.

Starting April 2019, the minimum wage in the UK is:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Age Group</th>
<th>Minimum Wage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>18 - 20 years old</td>
<td>£6.45 ($8.51 USD)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>21 - 24 years old</td>
<td>£8.20 ($10.82 USD)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>+ 25 years old</td>
<td>£8.72 ($11.51 USD)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Note: conversions above are based on an example exchange rate at the time of printing. You should check the current rate of exchange from pounds to US dollars to ensure accurate and up-to-date conversion.

Some degree programs offer paid internships or allow students to work a year in industry as part of their program. These are often incorporated into students' regular course load, and students are usually be paid for placements over four weeks in duration.

Most students' unions also have a Job Shop helping students find part-time jobs.

Post-study work visa – the Graduate Route

From summer 2021, international students who have successfully completed an undergraduate or master’s degree will be able to benefit from two years’ work experience in the UK upon graduation, through the new Graduate Route. Students who complete their PhD will be able to stay for three years.

Here is everything you need to know:

- The Graduate Route will be available to international students who have a valid Tier 4 visa at the time of application and have successfully completed a degree at undergraduate level or above at a Higher Education Provider with a track record of compliance.
Successful applicants on this route will be able to stay and work, or look for work, in the UK at any skill level for a maximum period of two years if they have successfully completed an undergraduate or master's degree. PhD graduates will be able to stay for three years. Graduates will be able to switch into skilled work once they have found a suitable job.

The new route will be launched in the summer of 2021, meaning that any eligible student who graduates in the summer of 2021 or after will be able to apply for the route. **This includes students who have already started their courses.**

The UK Government has confirmed that if a student begins their studies through distance learning in the 2020-2021 academic year, they will still be eligible to apply for the Graduate Route, provided they arrive in the UK by 6 April 2021.

For more info, visit:

[study-uk.britishcouncil.org/after-your-studies/post-study-work](study-uk.britishcouncil.org/after-your-studies/post-study-work)

**Pre-departure**

Once your student has been accepted to a course, ensure they have the following:

- Required documents for travel (e.g. valid passport, visa and airline ticket)
- Organized finances
- Accommodation for when they arrive
- Travel and Health insurance
- Any certificates or transcripts pertaining to qualifications stated during the admissions process.

More pre-departure, accommodation, working and other useful information can be found at:

[study-uk.britishcouncil.org/moving-uk](study-uk.britishcouncil.org/moving-uk)

Students should also check with their chosen university for further predeparture information as there may be additional university processes they need to complete to ensure a smooth enrollment.

**Medical**

Your student should have a physical exam at least four weeks prior to departure.

- If your student’s course is six months or longer, or in Scotland, they can get treatment from the NHS.
- Students will have access to free doctor’s examinations and hospital treatment under the NHS.
- Students should register as an NHS patient with their passport and enrollment letter.
- Your student’s university is likely to have its own medical center, and the student support services team can also help with the process of registering with a doctor.
Packing
Weather in the UK is famously changeable; students should pack a warm top coat, hat, scarf, gloves and an umbrella.
Like the US, the UK has strict laws on food that can be brought into the UK, so if a student wants to bring foods they need to check that they are not on the list of prohibited items. More information can be found here:

www.gov.uk/bringing-food-animals-plants-into-uk

Students will need to have the following documents for travel:
• Valid passport that will not expire while they are abroad, with a visa.
• Their airline tickets
• Letter of acceptance from university
• Evidence stating student has enough funding for his/her study and accommodation
• Insurance documents
• Some British currency
• Prescription medicine
• Address, telephone number and travel instruction to student’s final destination.

Covid-19
Covid-19 is an evolving situation and the health, wellbeing and safety of all students is a top priority for everyone.
We continue to update on current UK Government guidelines and give general guidance and support to students via the Study UK website:

study-uk.britishcouncil.org/moving-uk/coronavirus
ADDITIONAL GUIDANCE FOR STUDENTS
Sports and student athletes

For some students, sport plays a significant role in university life as it provides the opportunity to engage in inter-university tournaments and sports clubs that are run and managed by students and institutions. UK universities usually provide a nominated day per week for sport, to enable students to fit it into their studies.

Most universities have on-campus sports facilities, including gym and track-and-field spaces. As well as official sports clubs run by the institution, there are often societies that are formed by students through the students’ union representing sports from ice hockey to tae kwon do and everything in between.

If students play a sport that is not represented, they are able to start their own society during the first few weeks of term. There is usually a sports and societies week that enables students to find a society that they would like to join, and students can join more than one.

Universities have strong links with the community and across the UK are leisure and professional sports clubs who welcome new members. Local clubs are usually friendly, and small membership fees may apply depending on the sport. If students wish to join a sports club or private gym, they should always check whether there is a student discount.

British Universities and Colleges Sport (BUCS), the national governing body for Higher Education sports in the UK, covers 16 official sports. Find out more at www.bucs.org.uk

Most universities in the UK do not offer tuition scholarships on the basis of athletic ability. However, many UK universities offer scholarships for elite athletes to enable them to excel in their sport while in higher education. These scholarships vary in value and cover costs such as equipment, physiotherapy, specialist coaching and related travel.

Religious observance in UK universities

The UK has a multicultural society and British universities recruit students from around the world. As such, UK universities are home to students of multiple faiths and support students in the observance of different religions and beliefs.

The UK is officially a Christian country and observes religious holidays based on the Christian calendar. However, with a significant population who practice other faiths, there are celebrations and observance days for a wide range of religions in the UK.

Many British universities have officially designated representatives across multiple faiths and religions who are able to introduce students to their local community.

Generally, UK universities avoid scheduling compulsory activities during religious holidays for students whose commitment to the observance of their faith would otherwise cause them to miss the assessment or other activity.

University policies offer flexibility to students if observance of a religious holiday prevents a student from attending class or completing an assignment if discussed with a lecturer in advance.
Students with disabilities

British universities provide excellent support facilities for students who have disabilities and offer additional tailored support for students who need it. While all UK universities offer strong services in this area there are variations in the level of support offered to meet particular needs. Students should contact the disability support office on campus early in the application process to ensure that the university has the resources and capabilities to meet students’ needs.

The Disability Discrimination Act of 1995 prohibits education and training providers to discriminate against disabled people. Universities are required to make reasonable adjustments to serve disabled students, so they are not at a substantial disadvantage.

There is limited funding for international disabled students, but sponsors may have additional grants to cover extra expenses a student may have due to their disability. It’s useful to speak to individual institutions about services and support available for students with disabilities as it differs from every institution.

LGBTQ+ Culture in the UK

UK universities are inclusive organizations who do not discriminate on the grounds of sexual orientation or gender identity and there is a LGBTQ+ community in most UK universities. Some institutions offer support groups and host events for their LGBTQ+ communities.

There are a number of laws in the UK that prohibit discrimination on the basis of gender identity or sexual orientation and universities must comply with that law.

The UK has a thriving LGBTQ+ community and there are national and local events as well as a range of specialist publications that cover LGBTQ+ news. Some useful resources include:

- **PinkNews**, covers LGBTQ+ Events in the UK and provides a guide to the UK.
- **Stonewall** offers political and legal information about LGBTQ+ issues in the UK.
- **VisitLondon** has recommendations to help find LGBTQ+ friendly establishments in London.

The UK has been recently ranked as the second-best country in Europe to be gay, after Norway.
Important tools and links

**UK Council for International Student Affairs**
Comprehensive information and advice for international students during their studies. Includes information on tuition fee status assessments for students determining their eligibility for home or international tuition fees:

[www.ukcisa.org.uk](http://www.ukcisa.org.uk)

**Prepare for success**
Learning activities for ESL students applying to UK universities:

[www.prepareforsuccess.org.uk](http://www.prepareforsuccess.org.uk)

**UK Visas and Immigration**
- Get information on student visas at [visas-immigration.service.gov.uk/apply-visa-type/tier4](http://visas-immigration.service.gov.uk/apply-visa-type/tier4)
- Check if a visa is required at [www.gov.uk/check-uk-visa](http://www.gov.uk/check-uk-visa)
- Start your visa application at [visas-immigration.service.gov.uk/product/uk-visit-visa](http://visas-immigration.service.gov.uk/product/uk-visit-visa)

**Study UK**
One-stop-shop for information for international students interested in studying in the UK.

[study-uk.britishcouncil.org](http://study-uk.britishcouncil.org)
Rankings
Referred to as league tables, rankings are released by many newspapers.

University and subject league tables (or rankings) allow you to search for and compare data and information on universities and colleges from across the UK.

University rankings give an indication of a university’s overall strengths, while subject rankings provide an indication of the strengths of a university in a student’s chosen major. Given the focused nature of the UK system, subject rankings are the most relevant.

Official league tables are published by The Guardian, Times Higher Education, the Times and the Sunday Times, and the Complete University Guide, among others, based on comparable information. Each source calculates its rankings with different criteria and methodology that are explained on their website.

Here are some of the league tables that are popular in the UK:

- The Times Higher Education
  www.timeshighereducation.co.uk/world-university-rankings/
- Top Universities (QS)
  https://www.topuniversities.com/
- The Guardian
  www.theguardian.com/education/universityguide

League tables should not be used in isolation but are a good source to help students start researching their university options. League tables are helpful indications of what previous students thought about a course, costs, kinds of jobs or further study which students went on to do after completing their course.

Each course and university will be different for everyone.

Some information is retrospective so be careful to check which year the data refers to. When comparing data for courses, care should be taken where the differences between courses are small. Take note of the number of respondents to the survey for each course.
UNIVERSITY LISTINGS
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<tr>
<td>ANGLIA RUSKIN UNIVERSITY</td>
<td>CHELMSFORD CM1 1SQ</td>
<td><a href="http://www.anglia.ac.uk/international">www.anglia.ac.uk/international</a></td>
<td><a href="mailto:angliaruskin@enquiries.uk.com">angliaruskin@enquiries.uk.com</a></td>
<td>+44 (0)124 549 3131</td>
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<tr>
<td>ARTS UNIVERSITY BOURNEMOUTH</td>
<td>POOLE BH12 5HH</td>
<td><a href="http://www.aub.ac.uk/international">www.aub.ac.uk/international</a></td>
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<td>+44 (0)1202 363 233</td>
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<td><a href="mailto:international.advice@southwales.ac.uk">international.advice@southwales.ac.uk</a></td>
<td>+44 (0)1443 482 083</td>
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<td><strong>UNIVERSITY OF WALES TRINITY SAINT DAVID</strong> • SWANSEA SA1 6ED</td>
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<td><a href="http://www.uwtsd.ac.uk">www.uwtsd.ac.uk</a></td>
<td><a href="mailto:iru@uwtsd.ac.uk">iru@uwtsd.ac.uk</a></td>
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<td><a href="mailto:northamerica@qub.ac.uk">northamerica@qub.ac.uk</a></td>
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<td><a href="http://www.open.ac.uk/northern-ireland">www.open.ac.uk/northern-ireland</a></td>
<td>Contact via website</td>
<td>+44 (0)300 303 0266</td>
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<td><strong>ULSTER UNIVERSITY</strong> • BELFAST BT15 1ED</td>
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<td><a href="mailto:international@ulster.ac.uk">international@ulster.ac.uk</a></td>
<td>+44 (0)28 7012 4383</td>
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