# Study Abroad

Studying at the University of Aberdeen as a visiting student



The University of Aberdeen is the fifth oldest University in the UK, dating back to 1495.

Over the past 500 years, we have proudly offered our students life-changing opportunities through greater knowledge and learning. Our vast experience in teaching – along with our modern, 21st century outlook – enables us to offer the same great opportunity to you today.

Our rich heritage, world leading research and learning excellence has contributed to our associations with five Nobel Prize winners and more recently being named Scottish University of the Year 2019 by The Times and Sunday Times Good University Guide. We now warmly invite you to join our Aberdeen family and become part of the next chapter in history.

#### Can we help?

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# Ancient university //odem/results

Complete University Guide 2019 and The Times and Sunday Times Good University Guide 2019





- A truly international university —

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of our student body is from

OUTSIDE OF SCOTLAND















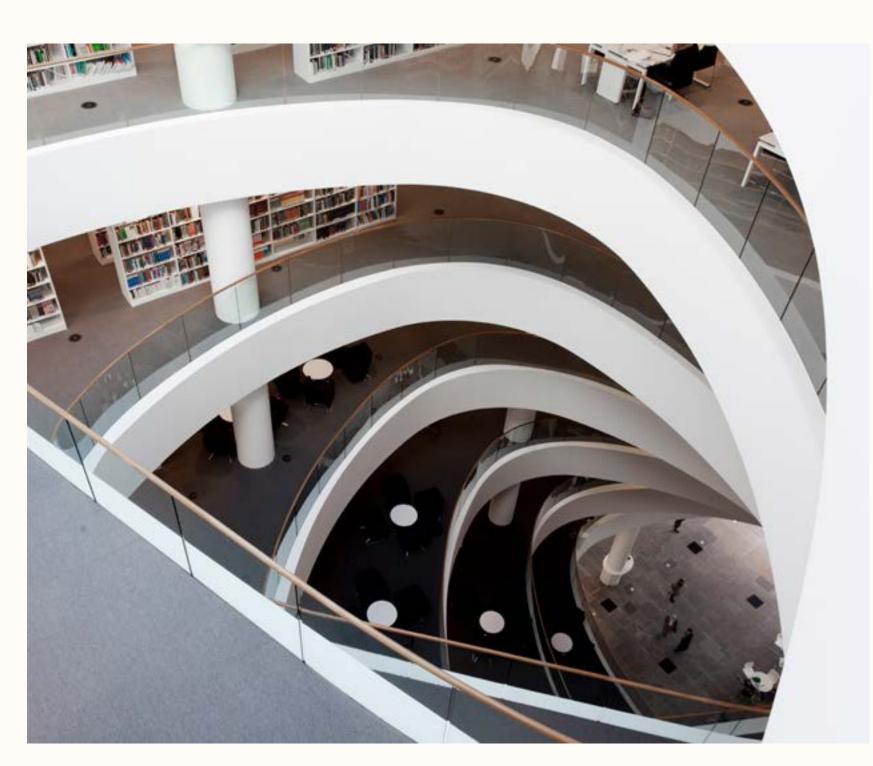








# Campus



Contrasting stunning architecture and historical charm with landmark building design, our campus epitomises both the University's impressive heritage and its modern outlook.

#### Proud history and heritage

- King's College with its crown tower and chapel: the symbolic centre of our growing campus
- Medieval St Machar's Cathedral, completed in 1530, has been a place of worship in the area since around 580 A.D.
- The Brig o' Balgownie one of Scotland's oldest bridges
- Old Townhouse The 18th Century building houses one of the University's numerous museum collections

#### **Bright future**

Complementing and contrasting the historic campus is the £57 million Danish-designed Sir Duncan Rice library, opened in 2012 by Her Majesty, Queen Elizabeth II. It houses the largest of the University's modern collections, as well as historic collections of rare books, manuscripts and archives. Another recent addition is the Aberdeen Sports Village and our new Aquatics Centre, featuring an Olympic standard swimming pool and diving facilities.

#### Other campus attractions

- Cruickshank Botanic Garden –
  with a rose garden, arboretum,
  lawns and ponds stretching over
  11 acres
- The University's Zoology
   Museum is a 'Recognised
   Collection of National
   Significance to Scotland',
   featuring displays from microscopic organisms to great whales

The £57million
Sir Duncan Rice
Library opened
in 2012



# Location guide

Aberdeen is a unique student city, characterised by a mixture of distinctive architecture, cosmopolitan spirit, northern light and its proximity to the sea. In recent years, the city has been ranked as the safest city in Scotland\*.





#### **Culture and entertainment**

With a number of art galleries and historic theatres, to museums and libraries, Aberdeen is steeped in culture.

The city's venues host hundreds of theatrical productions a year including ballet, opera and drama, as well as the popular Aberdeen Student Show, which raises significant sums for charity.

The Aberdeen Exhibition and Conference Centre holds more than 600 events annually, consistently attracting world-famous bands, singers and comedians.

#### **Eating and drinking**

From serving great local produce such as beef, fish and shellfish, to experiencing the best of international cuisine in established chains and independent eateries, the city has a huge variety of restaurants and cafes to choose from.

It also has more than 100 bars and clubs ranging from popular student hang-outs on campus and cosy traditional pubs, to wine and cocktail venues and clubs with DJs and live music.





#### **Shopping**

Whether in the city's shopping malls, numerous retail parks, or in the bustling city centre itself, shoppers can explore well-known high street and designer stores, as well as browse homes. There, alongside breath-taking quirky independent shops and international street markets.

#### Scottish history and culture

Whether you want to trace ancestors or just find out more about Scottish culture, Aberdeen is close to a number of Scotland's stunning stately architecture, views and beautiful grounds, you'll hear tales of the spirits of spurned wives, and ghostly footsteps in the dead of night.

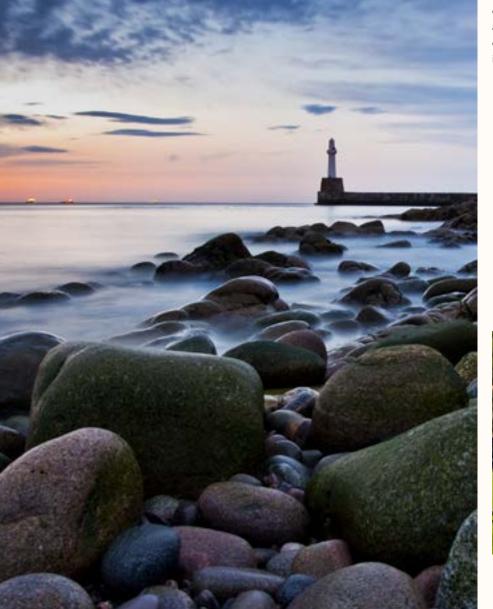
Also within easy driving distance from the city are impressive stone circles, standing stones and burial cairns, some dating back as far as the Bronze Age.

Every spring and summer throughout Scotland, visitors enjoy Highland Games that celebrate the diversity of Scottish culture. These popular events focus on competitive music, dancing and heavy athletics such as

caber tossing.











# Location guide



#### The great outdoors

The area around Aberdeen offers a great selection of outdoor pursuits including surfing and kite boarding at the beach, as well as hillwalking, skiing, snowboarding and equestrian pursuits.

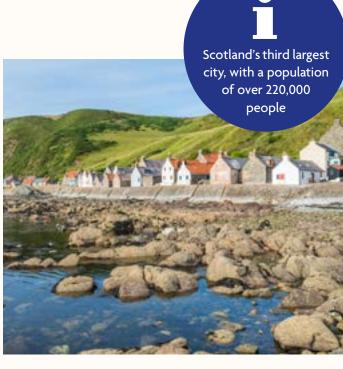
With around 52 golf courses in Scotland's castle and whisky country, there's one to play every week of the year.

Whether you're a quarterback, wide receiver, or just like cheering your team on from the bleachers, the city's American football team, the Aberdeen Roughnecks, compete in the BAFA National Leagues.

#### Malt whisky trail

Scotland is known for its whisky, no surprise then that the country is home to the world's only malt whisky trail. Take a trip round some of our finest distilleries, many within a short drive from Aberdeen, and sample a dram or two. The city is also home to the first BrewDog pub, close to Marischal College.





#### **Inspiring castles**

than anywhere else in the UK:

- Balmoral Castle in nearby Royal Deeside, was bought by Queen Victoria in 1852, and is a summer retreat for the British Royal Family
- Craigievar Castle near Alford was the inspiration for Walt Disney's fairytale castle
- Slains Castle at Cruden Bay is said to have inspired Bram Stoker's Dracula
- The spectacular ruins of Dunnottar Castle south of the city were the stunning backdrop for Franco Zeffirelli's Hamlet, starring Mel Gibson

Studying abroad at the University of Aberdeen is a great chance to experience the culture and heritage of a city spanning thousands of years.

abdn.ac.uk visitabdn.com

Aberdeen is steeped in history, yet There are more castles per acre here has a reputation as a contemporary and dynamic place to live, study and work. In a matter of minutes, you can travel from the bustling city to experience of some of the most stunning attractions, countryside and wildlife that Scotland has to offer.

> The Granite City is a great base from where to explore Scotland and the rest of the UK thanks to its great road and rail links; mainland Europe is only a short flight away from Aberdeen's International Airport.



# Meet

## Where are you from and what do you study?

I'm from Boston, Massachusetts in the United States. I study Chemical Engineering at Tufts University.

### What made you apply to the University of Aberdeen?

I applied to the University of Aberdeen because it was one of the few universities abroad that offered the engineering courses I needed during the correct semester.

## What have you enjoyed or found different about your studies in Aberdeen?

I have really enjoyed living with fulltime students at Hillhead student village. My flatmates are Scottish and Finnish and it's been really great making friends from different countries and learning about their cultures.

Academically, I really enjoy the change of pace. The academic system here puts most of the weight on final exams, so there are very few graded assignments throughout the semester. I am used to having many graded

assignments and problem sets, so it feels like I have more free time here. I'm also really loving learning about Separation Processes in Scotland, because we are learning about whiskey and gin distillation in that course. I have been able to visit local gin distilleries and it's so cool knowing the science and engineering involved.

## Do you think there are any specific benefits to studying abroad as an engineer?

Studying abroad as engineer is quite difficult to do, especially as a Chemical Engineer, so there is a lot of merit in doing it. I think studying abroad sets you apart from other engineers because it shows you care about expanding your interpersonal skills. It is really interesting learning engineering in a new place because there is a different emphasis on real-world applications depending on where you study. For example, since the oil industry is prevalent in Aberdeen, I've been learning how to apply engineering principles discussed in class to oil drilling.

### What have you enjoyed most about living in Scotland?

I have really enjoyed the beautiful scenery and architecture here. I love taking travelling around Scotland because there's always something to be impressed by, whether it's the Gothic buildings or rolling hills in the countryside. I also love how close it is to so many other amazing countries and cities.

## Are you involved in any societies or sports clubs on campus?

Yes! I am in the Chemical Engineers Society, the Gin Society, and the Exchange Aberdeen Society.

"Studying abroad sets you apart from other engineers because it shows you care about expanding your interpersonal skills."
Emma Meehan,
Chemical Engineering student

# Study Abroad Programme

Undergraduates enrolled at a recognised international college or university can spend spring or fall semester, or a full academic year, at the University of Aberdeen.

With more than 70 subjects on offer, there's a great choice of classes.

We've been welcoming students from around the world for four decades, and make sure the process is as easy as possible, from the initial application, through to registering for classes and orientation.

You'll receive a transcript of your classes for your home university. From Anthropology to Zoology, most of our undergraduate courses are available to visiting students including the cross-disciplinary Sixth Century courses.

Study abroad students are assessed alongside full time degree students. This usually comprises a combination of continuous assessment, mid-term assignments, and an end of semester examination.

Find online course listing at:

abdn.ac.uk/registry/courses

Find course selection guidance and information on prerequisites and restricted courses at:

abdn.ac.uk/studyabroad





#### **Entry requirements**

- A cumulative GPA of at least 3.0 or equivalent (on a 4.0 scale)
- An academic letter of reference from your home institution
- An official academic transcript
- An English language test if English is not your first language. Please see our website for details
- abdn.ac.uk/studyabroad

#### Tuition and costs 2020/21

Please see our website for details

abdn.ac.uk/study/ undergraduate/exchangestudy-3061.php#panel3079

#### **Additional spend**

In addition to tuition fees, you will need approximately £1,015 a month to cover additional costs including housing, food, utilities, books, transport and recreation.

#### **Application**

When you are ready to apply, please email studyabroad@abdn. ac.uk and you will be provided with a link to the online application. If you are a student from a partner university, you will be provided with the link after your home university nominates you for exchange or study abroad at the University of Aberdeen.

#### Application deadlines are:

- First semester (September - December): 1 July
- Second semester (January - May): 15 October
- Academic Year (September - May): 1 July.

#### Academic Structure

Teaching is organised across 12 schools, covering a broad range of disciplines:

- Business School
- School of Biological Sciences
- School of Divinity, History and Philosophy
- School of Education
- School of Engineering
- School of Geosciences
- School of Language, Literature, Music and Visual Culture
- School of Law
- School of Medicine, Medical Sciences and Nutrition
- School of Natural and Computing Sciences
- School of Psychology
- School of Social Sciences

#### **Key Facts**

- More than 70 subjects available
- Most semester courses are 15 credits, equating to 3-4 US credit hours
- Normal course load is 60 credits per semester, or around 15 US credit hours



# Pre-med programme for students

This programme, devised with US partner universities, gives pre-med and biological sciences students the opportunity to learn in one of Scotland's top-ranked medical schools while staying on track with their pre-med requirements.

From introductory courses in chemistry, physics, biology and mathematics covering most of the standard pre-requisites of US medical schools, or more specialist courses particularly relevant to medicine, there are plenty of options cadaveric specimens and clinical available.

You should consult your pre-med advisor to check your intended medical schools accept prerequisites taken abroad.

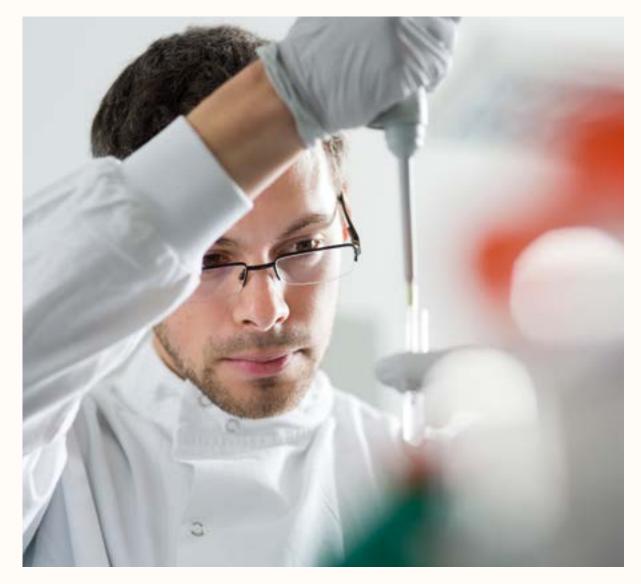
Options include:

#### **Human Anatomy A and Human Anatomy B (BM2009** and BM2509)

Practical courses that use human imagery to develop your understanding of regional anatomy, and why it is important to understanding human health and disease.

- Human Anatomy A runs in the first (fall) semester and focuses on the back, upper/lower limb, thoracic and abdominal anatomy.
- Human Anatomy B runs in the second (spring) semester and focuses on the pelvis, head, neck and brain.





#### Physiology of Human Cells and Physiology of Human Organ Systems (BI20B2 and BI25B2)

Drawing heavily on clinical case studies together with laboratory and problem solving sessions, these introductory level courses provide a thorough grounding in human cell and organ physiology.

#### **Integrative Physiology** (PY3002)

This advanced course integrates physiological knowledge of the cardiovascular, respiratory, renal and alimentary systems to explain how they interact in health and disease. It uses clinical examples, diagnostic test data and practical classes to develop a knowledgebased understanding of diagnosis and treatment.

#### **Research Skills for Medical** Sciences (SM2501)

This course cultivates literature research, team working and communication skills and allows you to work in a group with a tutor to investigate in greater depth a topic of your choice relating to human health or disease. You will learn to search for and appraise primary research articles, and you will produce a written report as well as give an oral presentation to your peers and tutors.

# Pre-law programme

The University of Aberdeen's School of Law dates back to our founding in 1495 and is widely regarded as a centre of excellence around the world.

The pre-law study abroad programme — specifically designed for North American students studying majors such as Politics, Philosophy, History and Business — is a great way to enhance your law school resume by gaining necessary analytical and argumentation skills while studying alongside undergraduate law students.

#### **Course options**

It offers a variety of courses covering a range of topics, many at an introductory level and all focusing on the international perspective.

This includes:

- Contracts
- Torts
- Criminal Law
- Constitutional Law
- Legal Method
- Jurisdiction

Sample classes with guaranteed availability for programme students include:

#### **First Semester**

- LS1020 Criminal Law
- LS1022 Foundations of Private Law
- LS1025 Legal System
- LS2028 Scottish Legal History
- LS2032 Public International Law

#### **Second Semester**

- LS1523 Alternative Methods of Dispute Resolution
- LS1528 Intro to English Legal System
- LS2527 Intro to Legal Theory
- LS3527 Jurisprudence



## Scottish, Irish and Scandinavian Studies

The University of Aberdeen is renowned for its research and teaching expertise in all areas of the history of Scottish, Irish and Scandinavian culture and society.

World-leading experts come together to offer a range of courses from the Dark Ages and the Vikings in the British Isles, to the contemporary Irish and Scottish context.

Students can sample a wide range of courses, or build a more focused curriculum, for example in History or • LS2028: Scottish Legal History Literature.

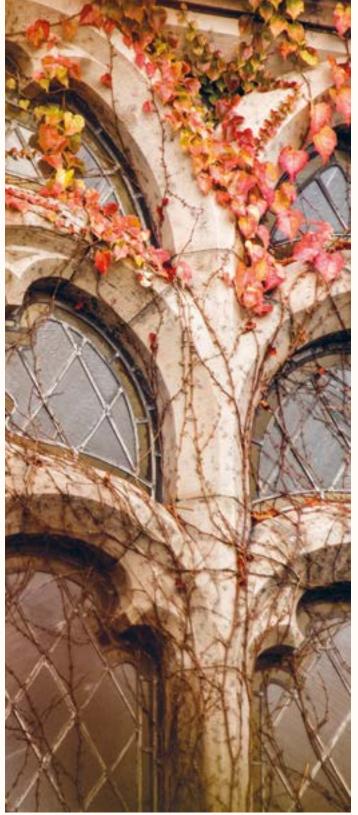
#### Our extensive curriculum in Irish and Scottish Society and **Culture includes:**

- EL30QA: Sympathy for the Devil: Scottish Short Stories
- GH2006: Gaelic Folklore
- EL3507: Union, Enlightenment and Modernity: Scottish Literature 1750-1850
- AY3009: Scottish Archaeology
- AY4013: Viking Archaeology
- HI52Q: Nations and Unions: Writing Irish and Scottish History
- GH1007 and GH1507: Gaelic for Beginners (1A and 1B)
- EF2501 Scottish Folklore and Oral **Traditions**
- HI2524: Kingship, Clearances and Conflict: Debates in Scottish History

#### **Independent research** opportunities

Many departments offer an independent research option course, where students can work with staff to devise a research project in the areas of Irish and Scottish society and culture, and use extensive research facilities at the University or elsewhere in the city.





# Sixth Century cross-disciplinary courses

In recognition of world-class teaching and learning at Aberdeen for over five hundred years, we have developed a series of cross-disciplinary courses. These are designed to reflect the University's particular research strengths and to set students' majors within a wider context.

#### **The Mind Machine**

This course explores some of the most intriguing issues regarding the complex relationships between the mind and the brain

### Global Issues / Global Religions

Religions are entangled with almost every issue of importance in the contemporary world. This course studies the many ways this phenomenon is experienced by different communities and traditions, and how this dynamic impacts on various spheres of modern culture, society, and politics.

### Mankind in the Universe: The Question of Objectivity

How do we know what we know and how do we judge what we know? How do we make sense of what is around us, and how do we make informed judgements? The course looks at some key topics in relation to objectivity, uncertainty vs realism and the philosophy of science. It also examines how our world view is shaped by values and religion and how myth and science interact and affect our knowledge of the scientific world.

#### **Fearsome Engines**

From siege engines to the steam engine and the printing press, the course covers how technological changes of the past have influenced subsequent social development and how social attitudes of the past have provided drivers and inhibitors of technological advance. The student will apply this knowledge to the analysis of modern society, identifying and addressing threats and opportunities presented by technological change.

#### **The Digital Society**

This course provides a multidisciplinary understanding of the impact of the digital society on individuals and the main issues and challenges of this society.

#### Science and the Media

This course considers the often complex and conflicting relationship between science and the media from a variety of perspectives. Themes explored, using critical analysis of contemporary case studies, include genetically modified foods, vaccination, global warming and fracking.





### Sustainable International Development

TThe course explores global sustainable development by focusing on how development is advanced in international and national protocols and policies, mainly the Global Goals, which are championed by the United Nations and various agencies and national governments. Throughout the course there will be a focus on ethical development, equity and social inclusion, peace and justice, quality health and education and climate action. Cultural, social, economic and political barriers to progress will be identified and critiqued.

#### **Oceans and Society**

Field trips and lectures provide the framework for considering ocean ecology, seafaring and ocean governance. Supervised workshops provide a diverse set of learning experiences with feedback from teaching staff and peers.

## Worlds of Food: Biological, Social, Cultural

This course enables students to develop an interdisciplinary understanding of food, in the context of science, geography and history. The course focuses on food security, comprising production, availability and access: one of today's key global policy and resource issues.

Find online course listing at:

abdn.ac.uk/registry/courses/ undergraduate



## **School of** Social Science

The School of Social Science is a thriving centre for teaching and research in the fields of Anthropology; Politics and International Relations; and Sociology. We provide an exciting research-led learning environment for both undergraduate and postgraduate students.

Sample classes with guaranteed availability for programme students include:

#### **First Semester**

- AT1003 Introduction to Anthropology: Peoples of the World
- AT2010 Key Debates in Anthropology
- PI1018 Introduction to Politics & International Relations 1: Democracy and Governance
- PI2009 Ideas and Ideologies in Politics & International **Relations**
- SO1007 Introduction to Sociology I: Self, Identity and Society
- SO2006 Sociology of Everyday Life: The Embodied Self

#### **Second Semester**

- AT1502 Introduction to Diversity
- AT2515 Reimagining Colonialism
- PI1518 Introduction to Politics & International Relations 2: Power and Conflict
- PI2508 Global Politics: Equality
- SO1509 Introduction to Sociology II: Systems and Power
- SO2509 Sociology of Everyday Life: Global Issues in the 21st



- Anthropology: Questions of

- & Inequality
- Century



Honours options, where appropriate, include:

#### TR3501 Between Conflict and **Peace: Transitions in Society** and Politics

This course utilises a range of disciplinary and theoretical approaches to analyse the concept of 'transition' as a fundamental condition of world history. Topics include the transition of states through revolutionary violence or peaceful means, and how individuals are radicalised into terrorist groups or become involved in non-violent movements. Additionally, the course will investigate transitions in global institutions, norms and technology that generate local and individual changes.

#### **TR4502 Deconstructing Peace** and Conflict: The End of Utopia

This course encourages students to engage with concepts of political and social progress, and contemporary anxieties with utopian thinking. Students will identify the intellectual, cultural, social and political roots of historical progress and their main critiques from a number of disciplinary perspectives. Various historical movements and political philosophies that advance different utopian goals – including freemarket democracy, revolutionary Marxism, and political Islam are examined.



This is a popular option for students interested in a career in museums. The course provides hands-on opportunities to work with the internationally significant collections of the University. In addition to gaining practical skills, such as researching objects and using archives, students learn about anthropological theories of the material world and recent debates in critical museology and curatorship. A particular focus of the course is on how museums and indigenous people experiment with historic collections to address contemporary challenges.

The course appeals to students in anthropology, archaeology and art history, many of whom then study for postgraduate qualifications such as the MLitt in Museum Studies offered by the University.



# **Student** life

The Aberdeen University Student Association (AUSA) runs more than 120 departmental, cultural, creative arts and general interest societies.









Study abroad students are welcome to join these student clubs, with sign-up days held at the beginning of each semester.

Find out more at:



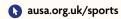
ausa.org.uk/societies

#### **Student sports**

Students can also choose from sports clubs covering indoor and outdoor sports such as volleyball, basketball, soccer, rugby, lacrosse, snow sports, sailing, hillwalking and climbing.

AUSA also organises a wide range of non-competitive clubs, intra-mural leagues and one-off sporting events.

Find out more at:



The University campus is close to Aberdeen Sports Village: one of the top sport and exercise facilities in the UK. It caters for everyone from those taking part in recreational activities to elite athletes.

#### **Student voluteering**

Even if you only have a little time to spare, it's easy to join the hundreds of other volunteers helping with activities, charities and fundraising activities. It's a great way to widen your experience and gain professional skills.

One of the most well-known is RAG (Raising And Giving) Week, featuring fundraising right across campus.

Find out more at:

ausa.org.uk/volunteering

#### International student support

The Study Abroad and Exchange team provides a range of support services for incoming study abroad students, including a comprehensive orientation session at the beginning of each semester. Each visiting student is appointed a Go Abroad Tutor: a faculty member you can meet with and discuss course selection.



Visiting students can also access the normal student support services provided by the University, including:

- International Student Advisers (Immigration)
- International Centre
- Counselling Service
- Chaplaincies
- Resident Assistants (RAs)
- AUSA Student Advice Centre

#### International centre

The international centre, a focal point for the international student community, serves as a drop-in centre, helping you make the best use of your time at the University:

- Simply Living (International Orientation)
- International celebrations including Thanksgiving, Chinese New Year and St Patrick's Day
- Day and overnight trips to Loch Ness, Isle of Skye and the Highlands
- Language groups

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- ausa.org.uk
- facebook.com/abdnunisa
- twitter.com/ausatweet
- youtube.com/TheAUSATube

## Accomodation



## Study abroad students live alongside regular degree-seeking students.

Accommodation mainly consists of apartment (suite) style living, with each student having his or her own single room. Some halls also have private en-suite bathrooms.

Hillhead Student Village has both self-catered and catered accommodation. Please note, however, that a typical catered meal plan would not be as extensive as a meal plan at a North American university. The majority of students opt for self-catered accommodation.

New students are guaranteed a place in accommodation, either University-owned or with one of our preferred partners, provided the application reaches us by the deadline.



- Located beside Seaton Park, a 20 minute walk or a five minute bus ride to King's College Campus
- All utility bills and Wi-Fi are included in the cost
- Site is covered by CCTV
- Self-catered and catered accommodation options, with the majority of apartments being single sex
- 24/7 on-site assistance

Please refer to:

♠ abdn.ac.uk/accommodation





# Student visa and immigration regulations

#### Short-term study visa

- If you are a non-visa national staying for less than six months you can apply for 'short-term student' entry clearance
- You can't extend your stay or work part-time
- It is your responsibility to ensure you have adequate health insurance

#### Term 4 visa

- All full-time international (except European Economic Area and Swiss nationals) students staying for more than six months will need to apply for a Tier 4 visa
- The mandatory immigration health surcharge entitles you to use the National Health Service (NHS)

Find out more at:

gov.uk/browse/visasimmigration/student-visas









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#### The small print

Every effort has been made to ensure the accuracy of the information provided to you but it is subject to alteration without notice. The University reserves the right to make variations to the contents or methods of delivery of programmes and courses, to discontinue programmes and courses and to merge or combine

programmes and courses. The University is constantly developing new programmes and courses, so please visit our website for the latest information. The University of Aberdeen continues to pursue best practice and high standards of service for all students. For more information visit www.abdn.ac.uk/amendments