



THE UNIVERSITY
of EDINBURGH

International Exchange 2016-2017

www.ed.ac.uk



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Key facts

- The University of Edinburgh is an ancient university, founded in 1583, located in the heart of Edinburgh, Scotland's vibrant capital city.
- Ranked 6th in the UK (Times Higher Education World University Rankings 2015-16) and consistently ranked as one of the top 50 Universities in the world.
- The University has approximately 35,000 students, with over 14,000 international students from more than 150 countries.
- Famous alumni include Charles Darwin (Naturalist), David Hume (Philosopher), Joseph Lister (Surgeon), Piers Sellers (NASA Astronaut), and writers Robert Louis Stevenson, Ian Rankin and J K Rowling.

International Office

Contacts

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Contact us: www.ed.ac.uk/study-abroad/contacts

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www.ed.ac.uk/study-abroad

Chat to us online

Students can register for one of our online information sessions:

www.ed.ac.uk/study-abroad/chat-to-us-online

University campuses

George Square (GS)

This is the central University campus, teaching the majority of subjects within the College of Humanities & Social Science. The School of Informatics and parts of the School of GeoSciences are also based there. GS is also home to the Main Library, Career service, Students' Association, and a range of other student services.

The King's Buildings (KB)

This is the main campus of the College of Science and Engineering housing the majority of our seven Schools, 2 km south of GS.

For campus maps please see our website:

www.ed.ac.uk/maps

The University provides a free shuttle bus service for students to travel between the Central campus and the King's Buildings. For more information on our free shuttle service please see the website:

www.ed.ac.uk/schools-departments/transport/public-transport/buses/shuttle-bus



Academic year 2016-17

Semester 1

Accommodation Move-in	10 Sept 2016
International Day	11 Sept 2016
Welcome week	10 – 18 Sept 2016
Teaching	19 Sept – 02 Dec 2016
Exams	08 – 21 Dec 2016

Semester 2

Accommodation Move-in	11 Jan 2017
January Welcome	11 – 15 Jan 2017
Teaching	16 Jan – 07 April 2017
Spring break	10 – 21 April 2017
Exams	01 – 26 May 2017

Please check with the University website nearer the start of the year in case of unforeseen changes:
www.ed.ac.uk/news/semester-dates

Welcome Week is not obligatory but it is a useful time for students to settle in, meet their Personal Tutor and finalise their courses etc.

Academic information

Academic entry requirements

To apply to study on exchange you must:

- Be nominated by your home university to study on an exchange agreement
- Have achieved a GPA of 3.0 or over on a 4.0 scale or equivalent (B average)

For more information on entry requirements:

www.ed.ac.uk/study-abroad/how-to-apply/academic-entry-requirements

Looking for courses

Please refer to the Course Finder for a list of the available courses. You will find a link on the following web page:

www.ed.ac.uk/study-abroad/course

If you need additional information about any particular course, please fill in our online enquiry form:

www.ed.ac.uk/study-abroad/contacts

Programmes & courses not open to exchange students

- Medicine
- Veterinary Medicine and studio based classes such as Architecture, Art and Design are not available to exchange students unless they are coming under an exchange agreement in that subject area.
- Parliamentary programme



Academic information

Courses with high demand

The below courses are high-demand, with many qualified students seeking entry to a limited number of places:

- Art and Design elective courses
- English Literature*
- History
- History of Art
- Philosophy
- Politics & International Relations

You will find that courses in the above subject areas are popular, in particular third year (honours) courses, therefore please be aware that if you need these classes to meet your degree requirements, we cannot guarantee places on these courses.

*There is a lot of competition for the available places in English Literature honours courses so we recommend that you consider our first and second year English Literature courses - which students have, in the past, found to be interesting and sufficiently academically rigorous.

The below courses are also rarely available to students who are not on a direct exchange in the subject area:

- Education
- Law
- Nursing
- Sport

Credit system

Under the semester system the majority of our courses will be 20 credit (Semester) or 40 credit (Year) courses. Students are expected to take the normal academic load of 60 credits per semester.

Students are not permitted to take more than 60 credits per semester and cannot normally take less credits:

www.ed.ac.uk/study-abroad/courses-credits/credits-grading-transcripts

Making changes to your course list

If you would like to make changes to your course list after you have submitted your application then please contact us by filling in our online enquiry form:

www.ed.ac.uk/study-abroad/contacts

Please note that the last opportunity to add or drop courses will be the end of the 2nd teaching week and no changes will be allowed after that.

Transcripts

An academic transcript will normally be issued by the end of the following February (for semester one students) and by the end of the following August (for semester two and full-year students). One hard copy transcript will be automatically sent to your home university address you give us in your application.

If you or a third party require a copy of your transcript you can order an electronic transcript via the Electronic Document Service:

www.ed.ac.uk/student-administration/electronic-document-service

You can also request a hard copy of your transcript be sent to you by selecting "Request an academic transcript" at the following link:

www.ed.ac.uk/student-administration/order-documents/transcripts

Student Administration do not automatically send transcripts after re-sits. In this instance an updated transcript must be requested by the student/home institution to:

infopoint@ed.ac.uk

Application process

Your home university will need to nominate you.

Your university will receive instructions on how to nominate you in February.

When we receive your nomination we will send you an email inviting you to apply online to the University of Edinburgh.

Please read the application guide which will take you through the online application step-by-step:

www.ed.ac.uk/study-abroad/how-to-apply

To apply you will create an online account with us.

You will get a username and a password, which will allow you to track your application through its various stages.

You will need to upload copies of an official transcript, an academic reference and a personal statement.

Please note students applying to do courses in Art, Design, Architecture or Landscape Architecture do not normally need to submit a portfolio.

* If you are from a U21 university then you do not need to submit an academic reference.

Application deadlines

It is important that you apply by the deadline as we cannot accept late applications.

Applications must be submitted by the following deadlines:

- 31 May for students starting in September
- 31 October for students starting in January

Late applications will not be considered.

English language requirements Visa requirements

If English is not your first language you must provide evidence of your written and spoken English skills.

Please refer to our English requirements:
www.ed.ac.uk/study-abroad/how-to-apply/english-language-requirements

Tests & certificates

Your English language certificate must be no more than two years old at the beginning of your course here.

If you have taken or plan to take an English language test that does not appear on our list, please contact us to check if we will accept it.

In-session language assistance

A range of academic language skills tuition, intensive credit courses and independent study materials are open to exchange students who require English language support whilst studying for their degree.

Please refer to the English Language Teaching Centre for more information: www.ed.ac.uk/schools-departments/english-language-teaching

If you are coming to the UK to study for more than 6 months, you should apply for a Tier 4 General visa in your home country before travelling:

www.ed.ac.uk/international-office/immigration/new-students/tier-4-general-visa

If you are studying here for less than 6 months and you do not wish to work, extend your studies in the UK or bring dependents, then you can apply to come to the UK as a short term student

www.ed.ac.uk/international-office/immigration/new-students/short-term-student

Nationals of some countries can travel to the UK for up to six months without needing to apply for a visa before travelling. These are called 'non-visa nationals'. If you are a non-visa national, you can ask for permission to be admitted to the UK when you arrive at immigration control.

For more information check our visa pages:
www.ed.ac.uk/study-abroad/help-for-you/visa-requirements

If you are planning to apply for the short-term student visa upon arrival at the UK port, you must **not** travel via the Republic of Ireland.



Living costs

(Basic living costs based on 2015/16 prices)

For each month students are resident in Edinburgh they should allow themselves the following sums of money to cover their expenses in the academic session.

Estimated monthly costs

	Lower range	Upper range
Rent	£360	£700
Food	£140	£250
Gas/electricity*	£40	£80
Internet	£20	£60
Mobile phone	£10	£50
Laundry/toiletries	£10	£40
Printing, stationery, photocopying, text books	£25	£50
Total per month	£605	£1,230

*Most University accommodation includes gas and electricity costs

Further expenses

Exchange Students who are here for only one semester and who stay in private (non-University) accommodation may be required to pay Council Tax. Information about Council Tax is available from The Advice Place:

www.eusa.ed.ac.uk/adviceplace/moneyandfunding/counciltax

In the unfortunate circumstance of a student failing an exam, the student will be liable to pay the charge for a resit examination.

A more detailed break down of living costs is available on our website:

www.ed.ac.uk/studying/international/finance/cost-of-living

Travel

Most students live near the University and can easily walk to classes. If students find accommodation further away from the university, but still within the city boundary, they may need to budget for bus travel, around £45 for a 4-week travel card.

Accommodation

Students should submit their accommodation application on-line: www.ed.ac.uk/study-abroad/help-for-you/accommodation

Exchange students are guaranteed accommodation, providing their application is submitted in good time. The final deadline for receipt of accommodation applications for September is 30 August and 30 November for January starts. Please note that we cannot guarantee that you will be offered the accommodation you ask for.

Search the range of university accommodation available on the Accommodation website:
www.accom.ed.ac.uk

Our Res Life team are there to help students get the most out of their experience in University accommodation:
www.accom.ed.ac.uk/residence-life

Early arrivals

Please check details with Accommodation Services.
accom.allocations@ed.ac.uk



Health & personal insurance

If you are coming to the UK for more than 6 months then you will need to pay an immigration health surcharge when making your visa application. This charge will allow you equal access to the National Health Service (NHS). You may have to pay for dentistry and some more specialised services on the NHS. More information on the health surcharge can be found here: www.ed.ac.uk/international-office/immigration/new-students/health-surcharge

We recommend that short term students get normal travel insurance that includes medical insurance. While students will usually receive NHS treatment free of charge, you may be asked to pay for certain medical appointments and medication, therefore we would usually advise for students to purchase insurance.

For further information please refer to:
www.ed.ac.uk/staff-students/students/new-students/health-insurance

You should register with a Doctor soon after your arrival in case you need medical advice/treatment whilst you are here.

Students should also ensure that they take out adequate insurance protection to cover personal items, such as baggage, books, personal computers etc. Insurance is included in the rent for students who are in university accommodation.

Computing facilities

The University has a number of open-access labs and there is an extensive network of wireless points throughout the University sites.

The University's residential networking system provides a telephone, data and internet service to around 85% of students in our residential accommodation. For more detailed information please refer to:

www.accom.ed.ac.uk/services/it-facilities

Student services

University Leisure Activities

- **The Centre for Sport and Exercise (CSE)** - The sport and exercise facilities are ranked among the very best in the UK.
www.ed.ac.uk/sport-exercise
- **Student Union** - Teviot, the oldest purpose built Student Union in the world, opened in 1889.
www.eusa.ed.ac.uk/eatdrink/teviot/bars-and-cafes
- **Student societies** - Students can choose from a variety of over 240 societies (65 sport clubs).
www.eusa.ed.ac.uk/activities/societies/findasociety
- **Edinburgh Buddies** - Exchange students can have a buddy to help them adjust to life here in Edinburgh.
www.eusa.ed.ac.uk/activities/eusaglobal/buddies

University Services available to visiting students

- **Main Library** – Newly refurbished and the largest of Edinburgh University's Libraries
www.ed.ac.uk/schools-departments/information-services/library-museum-gallery
- **Advice Place** – Professional, free, impartial and confidential advice offered to all students
www.eusa.ed.ac.uk/adviceplace
- **Nightline** – a confidential phone and online support service run by students for students.
ednightline.com
- **Student Disability Office** – Guidance and support offered for disabled students
www.ed.ac.uk/student-disability-service
- **Career Services** – Advisers specialised in providing career support to students in particular schools.
www.ed.ac.uk/careers

New student guide

The 'New students' website, which is updated for each semester is a source of useful information.

www.ed.ac.uk/new-students

Useful links

Study Abroad Website	www.ed.ac.uk/study-abroad
Accommodation Services	www.accom.ed.ac.uk
English Language Teaching Centre	www.ed.ac.uk/english-language-teaching
International Student Centre	www.ed.ac.uk/studying/international/student-life/isc
Student Association	www.eusa.ed.ac.uk
Course Finder	www.ed.ac.uk/study-abroad/course
Tourist Information	www.visitscotland.com
University Computing Services	www.ed.ac.uk/information-services