

Study Abroad

*Studying at the University of
Aberdeen as a visiting student*

Top20

UK University

STUDY ABROAD
GUIDE 2021/22



1495
UNIVERSITY OF
ABERDEEN

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 a Top 20 UK University by the Guardian University Guide 2021. We now warmly invite you to join our Aberdeen family and become part of the next chapter in history.

- Can we help?
-  abdn.ac.uk/study
 -  study@abdn.ac.uk
 -  +44 (0)1224 272090
 -  [@aberdeeniuni](https://twitter.com/aberdeeniuni)
 -  [@universityofaberdeen](https://facebook.com/universityofaberdeen)
 -  youtube.com/uniofaberdeen
 -  instagram.com/uniofaberdeen

Edinburgh	128 mi / 206 km
Glasgow	146 mi / 235 km
Manchester	350 mi / 563 km
London	546 mi / 879 km



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Ancient university *with impact*

In the top
180 **UNIVERSITIES**
IN THE WORLD ****

In-line with the 2014 Research Excellence Framework (REF) results | *Times Higher Education World University Rankings 2019

—Founded—
1495

——
2019
SCOTTISH
UNIVERSITY
—OF THE YEAR*—

15,000
STUDENTS

130+ 
NATIONALITIES


OLYMPIC
STANDARD
Aberdeen Sports Village

—Associated with—
FIVE 
NOBEL PRIZES

—Overall—
11th
IN THE WORLD
*for responsible consumption
and production*


INTERNATIONAL
GLOBAL NETWORKS
*Including a Campus in Qatar and
an Alliance with Curtin University in
Australia*

—Over—
150
SPORTS CLUBS
—and societies—


SIR DUNCAN
RICE LIBRARY
—named one of the—
MOST BEAUTIFUL IN THE WORLD**

75%
of research classified as
WORLD LEADING ***

—Ranked in the—
TOP 20
UNIVERSITIES
—in the UK—
The Guardian University Guide 2021

Scotland's third oldest university and the fifth oldest in the UK, founded in 1495. Today we're known as a global centre of excellence, consistently attracting national and international accolades. Located in north-east Scotland, Aberdeen is easily reached from all major cities within Europe and throughout the world.



Ancient university *Modern approach*

Campus Resources



At the University of Aberdeen you will have access to a wide range of support services and world-class teaching and learning facilities set in a stunning medieval campus.

Our resources include:

- A range of libraries and special collection including the **Sir Duncan Rice Library**, an architecturally significant, award winning library.
- **24/7 computer lab access**
- **Dedicated student learning support and services** including a range of specialist software on all classroom PCs and several individual occupancy Assistive Technology Booths.
- Language learning resources through the dedicated **Language Centre**.
- A dedicated **Careers Service** team who can help students develop skills, work experience and mentoring.
- A secure web-based **Student Portal** through which you can view and check your personal details, course enrollments, timetable, accommodation fees, library loans and exam results.
- A range of **Food outlets and cafes** offering everything from Halal to vegan options.
- Green spaces throughout campus, including the **Cruickshank Botanical Garden**, with rose garden, arboretum, lawns and ponds stretching over 11 acres.

Science Teaching Hub



Our brand new, state-of-the-art Science Teaching Hub will open in early 2022. This fully digitalised building has been designed to provide flexible laboratory spaces to accommodate interdisciplinary teaching. It will provide specialist teaching, training and learning across a number of disciplines including, chemistry, medicine, medical sciences, biological sciences and geosciences.



This modern, digitally focussed space has been created with our students in mind. The open plan concept allows flexible working space available to students at all levels of study, providing an inspiring and engaging zone in which to learn. The advanced facilities and digital interfaces will provide you with the skills and experiences to make your mark in the workplace in a safe and structured manner.

The digitalisation of this specialist building will enhance your learning and mirror real industry experience:

- Digital microscope teaching facilities demonstrated through world-leading interfaces will extend the laboratory environment to the field using innovative and proven blended technologies.
- State-of-the-art analytical tools will provide experience of real world scenarios.

- Digital screens on every workbench will allow in-depth demonstrations to be seen and annotated clearly.
- A completely paperless environment will integrate the virtual learning environment with actual data capture.
- A safe working environment to equip you with the science skills of the future.

abdn.ac.uk/sth

Welcome to one of the most prosperous and beautiful regions of the UK. Aberdeen is a vibrant, creative and ambitious city, known for its historic charm and cosmopolitan community. Aberdeen and Aberdeenshire have something for everyone: from the bustling city centre of Europe's energy capital to some of Scotland's most beautiful countryside and coastlines.

Ancient university

Inspirational city

— 3rd —
SAFEST

*university city
in the UK*

The Complete University
Guide 2020

The city of Aberdeen

Aberdeen is a unique student city, characterised by a mixture of distinctive architecture, cosmopolitan spirit, northern light and its proximity to the sea.

Cosmopolitan Spirit

The city of Aberdeen is a big player in the energy industry and is home to two well recognised universities. As such, Aberdeen has attracted people from all over the world, making it a multi-cultural city, where you can quickly feel at home.

Arts and Culture

From historical venues such as His Majesty's Theatre and the Music Hall, to smaller intimate spaces for live entertainment such as The Lemon Tree or the Blue Lamp, Aberdeen has something to offer everyone. The city also hosts international show tours and festivals across genres including art, live music, opera, theatre and comedy. Find out more at:

aberdeenperformingarts.com
aberdeenfestivals.com

Food and drink

The city offers a fantastic mix of both well-known restaurant chains and quirky independently owned bistros and eateries offering the best local produce. You will find restaurant and cafes that cater for vegan, gluten-free and halal diets across the city. You will also come across many different international themed eateries including American, Brazilian, European, Chinese, Thai, Turkish, West African and Indian.

Your city



Annual Nuart street art festival



Shopping

Whether in the city's shopping malls, numerous retail parks, or in the bustling city centre itself, shoppers can find high street and designer stores, as well as independent retailers and international street markets. The city also benefits from next day delivery services from many online sellers.

Health, style and beauty

Aberdeen has a huge choice of hairdressers, barbers and beauticians to keep you looking and feeling your best throughout your time here. You will find everything from extension and braiding salons to traditional Turkish barbershops.

abdn.ac.uk/study/city



City centre to airport in 20mins



One of the most affordable cities for students*



3rd safest university city in the UK**



Our coastline is one of the world's 20 most iconic landscapes***

***National Geographic

The countryside

and beyond



Wildlife

The city and surrounding countryside is famously known for many different types of wildlife. Spot dolphins in the North Sea, or see hundreds of seals at the Sands of Forvie National Nature Reserve – less than 20 miles from the city centre. To catch a glimpse of rare animal and plant species, visit the Cairngorms National Park, which is home to 25% of the UK's threatened birds, animal and plant species.

Proud of our history

Evidence of Aberdeenshire's past is still very prominent today, with historical attractions ranging from the Neolithic age to World War II. Stone circles, castles, ruins and other buildings can be found all over the city and surrounding countryside. One of our most well-known castles is Dunnottar Castle, a 13th century castle, beautifully situated beside the dramatic North Sea.



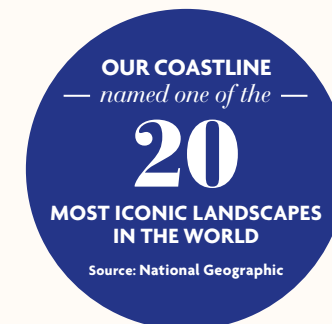
Beaches and Coastline

The North East of Scotland boasts over 150 miles of stunning coastline. As such, the region is home to some of Scotland's most beautiful sandy beaches and the most breath-taking cliffs. There are many walking trails and plenty of opportunities to take part in water sports, such as surfing.

See the Northern Lights (Aurora Borealis)

A once in a lifetime experience, the Aurora Borealis is a stunning example of natural beauty that can only be seen from certain spots in the world (we're thrilled to say we're one of them). For hundreds of years Aberdeenshire has been a famous hot spot for this magical light show, attracting visitors from across the world. Look out for Aurora forecasts online, which help you pinpoint the best time and place to see the show.

aurorawatch.lancs.ac.uk





Meet Emma

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 full-time 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.

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 2021/22

International Students:

Semester £9,000 / Full Term £18,000

EU Students:

Semester £5,000 / Full Term £10,000

Visit our website for further information

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

Additional spend

In addition to tuition fees, you will need approximately £1,024 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

Open to all

Pre-med programme *for study abroad 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 available.

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

Please see our website for details:

abdn.ac.uk/studyabroad

Options include:

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

Practical courses that use human cadaveric specimens and clinical 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.



Over 75% of our research is classed as world leading or internationally excellent*

*Source: Research Excellence Framework, 2014



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 knowledge-based 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

Sample classes with guaranteed availability for programme students include:

First Semester

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

Second Semester

- LS1528 Introduction to English Legal System
- LS1537 UK Constitutional Law
- LS2527 Introduction to Legal Theory
- LS2533 Business Law



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.

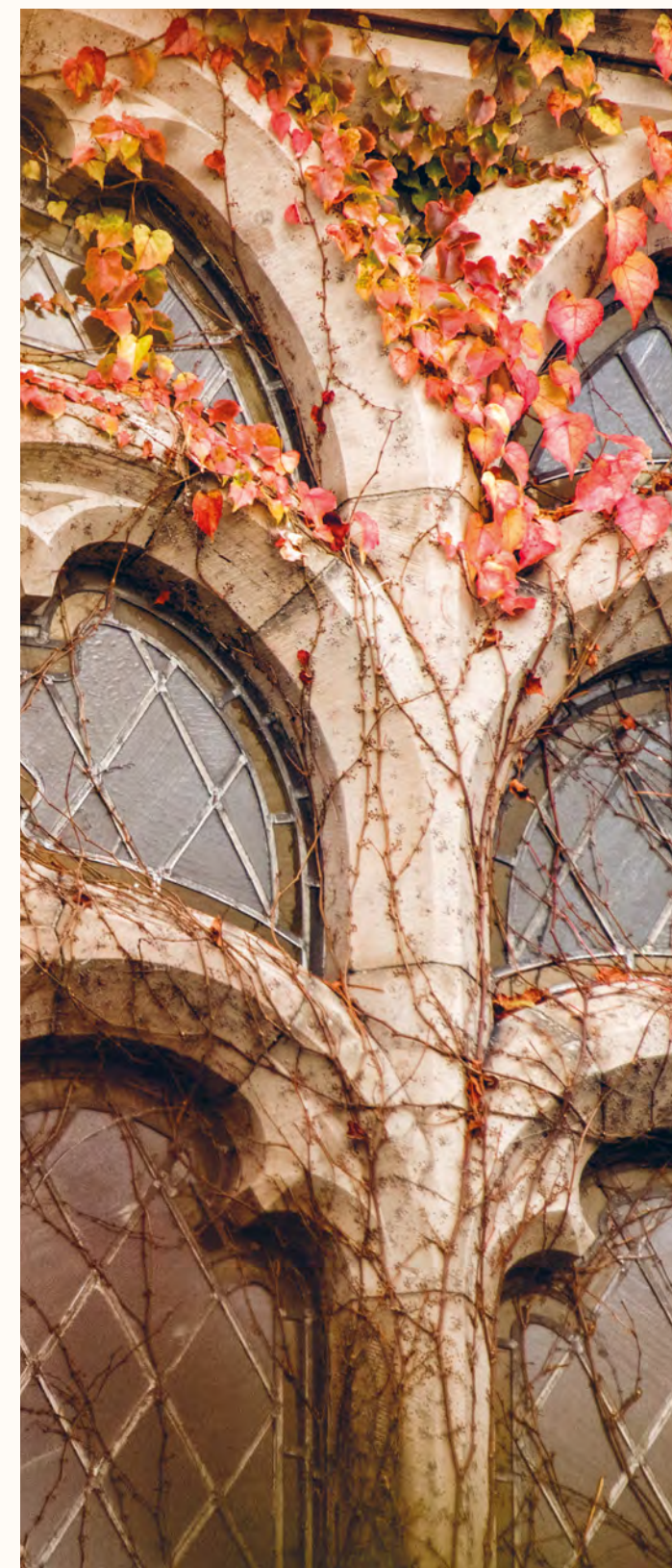
Students can sample a wide range of courses, or build a more focused curriculum, for example in History or Literature.

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

- AY3009 Scottish Archaeology
- AY4013 Viking Archaeology
- CE1037 Songs, Myths and Hero-Tales of the Old North
- EF1005 Doric Language and Culture - An Introduction to North-East Scots
- EF2501 Scottish Folklore and Oral Traditions
- EL30QA Sympathy for the Devil: Scottish Short Stories
- GH1007 and GH1507 Gaelic for Beginners (1A and 1B)
- GH2006 Gaelic Folklore
- GH2514 Introduction to Scottish Gaelic Literature
- HI2524 Kingship, Clearances and Conflict: Debates in Scottish History
- HI2526 Vikings: An Introduction

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.



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 Anthropology: Questions of Diversity
- AT2515 Reimagining Colonialism
- PI1518 Introduction to Politics & International Relations 2: Power and Conflict
- PI2508 Global Politics: Equality & Inequality
- SO1507 Introduction to Sociology II: Systems and Power
- SO2505 Sociology of Everyday Life: Global Issues in the 21st Century



Honours options, where appropriate, include:

PI3579 Digital Politics: Political Communication in the Internet Age

This course is about political communication - how media, politicians and citizens interact, and how parties run their election campaigns - in the digital age. Students will learn topics like how journalism is changing, whether echo chambers divide, how populists treat the media, who runs campaigns, how parties target citizens, and whether digital media jeopardise democracy. These themes are explored through cases from the UK and US, but also from across the globe.

TR4004 Between Peace and Conflict: Societies in Transition

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 how states transition through revolutionary violence or through peaceful means, how individuals are radicalized into terrorist groups or become involved in non-violent movements and transitions in global institutions, norms and technology that generate local and individual changes.

AT403A Anthropology, Museums and Society

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 volunteering

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

Connect with us

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



Sport at the university

Reach your full potential with our Olympic standard sports facilities.



AUSA sports union

Whether your interest in sport has just begun or is well-established, the opportunities to get involved in sport at the University of Aberdeen are endless. As part of the Aberdeen University Students' Association (AUSA), the Sports Union runs more than 50 sports clubs. The Union has an elected body with a full-time Sport Officer and Sports Administrator. Our clubs often compete against many of the universities across the United Kingdom.

Aberdeen Sports Village, located just across the road from the main campus, provides outstanding sports and exercise facilities, including:

- More than 150 exercise stations
- Over 100 group exercise classes
- A 50 metre Olympic swimming pool
- A 25 metre Olympic diving pool
- Full-size 3rd generation FIFA approved indoor football pitch
- Full-size grass football pitch
- An eight lane 400m running track
- A six lane indoor running straight
- Four squash courts
- Exclusive memberships for UoA students
- Personal trainer induction with every membership
- Training plans
- Two health and relaxation suites

And if that's not enough for you... There are numerous other sports facilities available across the University:

- Two rugby pitches
- A lacrosse pitch
- An artificial cricket wicket
- Outdoor tennis courts
- Floodlit football training areas
- The Balgownie Playing Fields, for football, rugby and shinty teams
- The Hillhead Centre has a full-size grass football pitch, a full-size sand-dressed synthetic pitch and a grandstand
- The River Dee boathouse rowing club
- Royal Deeside climbing bothy

aberdeensportsvillage.com

Accommodation



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.

Hillhead Student Village

- 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

Visitor Visa

Visa nationals coming for less than six months must apply for entry clearance as a visitor.

Non-visa nationals (including EU/EEA/Swiss students who don't have status under the EU Settlement Scheme) can either apply for entry clearance as a visitor before traveling or request to be admitted as a visitor on entry to the UK. You can't do any paid or unpaid work.

It is your responsibility to ensure you have adequate health insurance.

Find out more on visa nationals at:

👉 www.gov.uk/guidance/immigration-rules/immigration-rules-appendix-visitor-visa-national-list

Student Visa

All full-time international students staying for more than six months will need to apply for a student visa.

The mandatory immigration health surcharge entitles you to use the National Health Service (NHS).

Find out more at:

👉 www.gov.uk/student-visa





The Go Abroad Team
Student Recruitment and Admissions
University Office
King's College
Aberdeen
AB24 3FX
Scotland

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 youtube.com/uniofaberdeen
 instagram.com/uniofaberdeen

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