

STUDY ABROAD

at the University of Aberdeen, Scotland



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UNIVERSITY
OF ABERDEEN

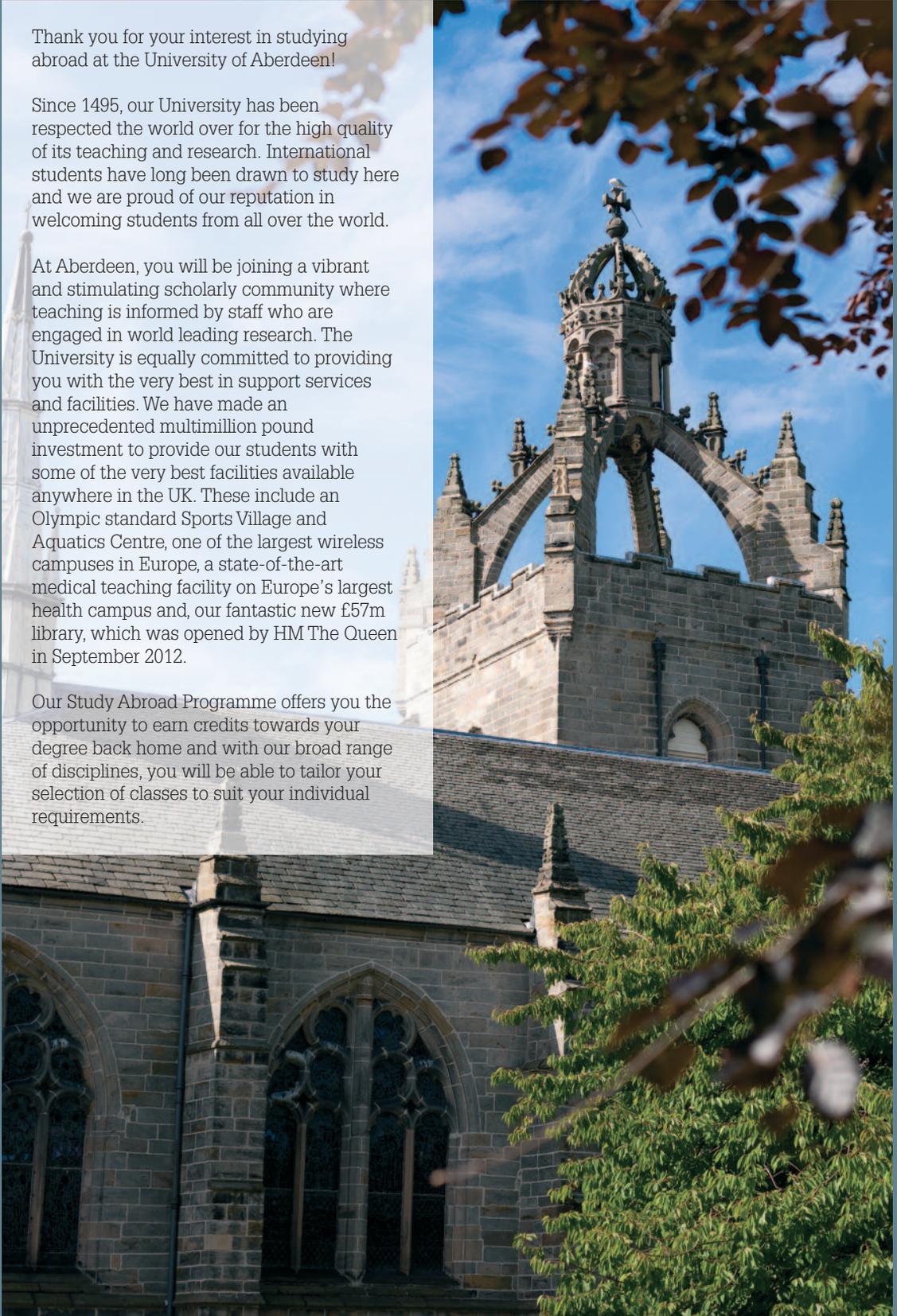
Welcome

Thank you for your interest in studying abroad at the University of Aberdeen!

Since 1495, our University has been respected the world over for the high quality of its teaching and research. International students have long been drawn to study here and we are proud of our reputation in welcoming students from all over the world.

At Aberdeen, you will be joining a vibrant and stimulating scholarly community where teaching is informed by staff who are engaged in world leading research. The University is equally committed to providing you with the very best in support services and facilities. We have made an unprecedented multimillion pound investment to provide our students with some of the very best facilities available anywhere in the UK. These include an Olympic standard Sports Village and Aquatics Centre, one of the largest wireless campuses in Europe, a state-of-the-art medical teaching facility on Europe's largest health campus and, our fantastic new £57m library, which was opened by HM The Queen in September 2012.

Our Study Abroad Programme offers you the opportunity to earn credits towards your degree back home and with our broad range of disciplines, you will be able to tailor your selection of classes to suit your individual requirements.



Living in Scotland

Scotland is a vibrant and exciting country that celebrates a rich diversity of cultural experience. From stunning landscapes to cosmopolitan cities, Scotland offers up a unique mix of tradition and innovation.

The Scots are famed for their friendliness and zest for life and this can be experienced first-hand during the variety of events and festivals on offer all year round..

Living in Aberdeen

The city of Aberdeen is an attractive, prosperous and friendly community of 250,000 people. Aberdeen is Scotland's third largest city and the cultural centre of the north-east of Scotland. Big enough for the "big city" experience, student friendly Aberdeen is compact enough to make it easy to find your way around and make friends. The city truly has something for everyone - from the bustling city centre of Europe's energy capital to the superb countryside and coastline in an area rich in historic and natural interest.

Students describe Aberdeen as having an unrivalled social scene, which caters for all tastes in arts, culture, leisure and entertainment. Communication and travel links are excellent, which means getting around the rest of Scotland and the UK is easy.

Aberdeen was named the UK's Happiest City in a 2013 survey, due to its rich culture, low unemployment and enviable lifestyle. The city boasts a wealth of cultural attractions, most notably His Majesty's Theatre, the Music Hall, and Arts Centre, which host numerous touring theatre companies and musicians. Other highlights include Aberdeen Art Gallery, the Maritime Museum and the Tolbooth Museum, one of Aberdeen's oldest buildings and one of the best-preserved 17th century gaols in Scotland.

Aberdeenshire is often referred to as Castle Country and with good reason, as it has more castles per acre than anywhere else in Britain. The stunning Dunnottar Castle offers a spectacular coastal setting while the nearby Balmoral Castle is a private residence of the British Royal Family. The shire also provides a range of attractions for outdoor enthusiasts and wildlife lovers alike including climbing, skinning, snowboarding and walking.

Fast Facts

- > Three of Scotland's five main ski centres are only two hours from campus. Aviemore, the Cairngorm Mountain, Glenshee and the Lecht provide perfect pistes for board-riders and alpine skiers.

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- > University events have drawn many authors, thinkers and commentators to the city; Seamus Heaney, Louis de Bernières, Sir David Attenborough, Professor Brian Cox and Bill Bryson are just some of the names who've appeared.

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- > Fifteen miles south of campus the historic fishing port of Stonehaven has an attractive cliff fringed harbour and the gloriously crumbling Dunnottar Castle. It's so picturesque Franco Zeffirelli filmed Hamlet with Mel Gibson here.

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- > For 267 years the city of Aberdeen had two universities when there were only two universities in the whole of England.

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- > A trace of Aberdeen's rich history can be heard in Doric, a form of Scots whose historic phrases and lyrical pronunciations pepper some local's everyday speech. Here are a couple of handy phrases to start you off:

**Fit like? – How are you?
Nae Bad – Pretty good**

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- > "Bon Accord". Knowing what Aberdeen's motto means really helps you feel at home. In case anybody asks it means: 'happy to meet, sorry to part, happy to meet again'.

The University of Aberdeen

The University of Aberdeen is Scotland's third oldest university, founded in 1495 as Columbus was opening up the New World and the Renaissance was spreading throughout Europe. William Elphinstone, Bishop of Aberdeen and Chancellor of Scotland, established King's College to train doctors, teachers and clergy for the communities of northern Scotland, and lawyers and administrators to serve the Scottish Crown. This fledgling university boasted, from 1497, the first chair of medicine in the English-speaking world.

Picturesque and historic Old Aberdeen - home of Elphinstone's original foundation - is now the main university site. The 15th century remains very much alive in King's College Chapel, which is still in regular use, offering an oasis of peace, beauty and a sense of history in the daily life of a university now focused on the needs of the new millennium.

As you would expect from a university dedicated to excellence in teaching and learning, you will be taught by the people who are at the forefront of research in their particular fields. The University has made bold new changes to modernise its curriculum, inspired by major international universities like Harvard, Yale, Melbourne and Hong Kong.

The University of Aberdeen has been praised by the UK Quality Assurance Agency for Higher Education (QAA) for the quality of relationships between students and staff at all levels and 90% of Aberdeen's research activity is of international quality. The University has also been ranked one of the best places in the UK to study by the National Student Satisfaction Survey.



Photograph: Ian Cowe

Academics

The Scottish higher education system has a strong tradition of academic excellence and has been used as the model for higher education systems throughout the world - the United States being one notable example.

The educational culture in Scotland is very much focused on independent learning and this is reflected in the number of contact hours students have with teaching staff. You may find that this is slightly lower than that of other countries, and the expectation is that a significant amount of reading and study will be done outside of the classroom. Although the learning style is different, as well as the help provided in tutorials, you will also be able to see your tutor outside of these times by booking an appointment.



Founded in 1495

16,000 students

20% of students from
outside Europe

**Ranked in world
*top 1%***

300 students from North America

In excess of \$500 million investment

**Top 10 in the UK
for Student Experience**

Study Abroad Programme

The University has been welcoming visiting study abroad students for over four decades. Our students either come to us through their home institution, through a third-party programme, or through direct enrolment. Students can study at Aberdeen for the fall semester, spring semester or a full year. The variety and flexibility offered by Aberdeen combined with its unique location make it an attractive and distinctive study abroad destination. Participating in the study abroad programme provides you the opportunity to experience 'the difference' at Aberdeen.



Assessment and

Credit Transfer

Classes Available

Most of our courses are available to visiting study abroad students. With over 600 degree programmes, students easily find courses that match their academic interests and fulfil requirements of their home university. Everything from Anthropology to Zoology is available along with our cross-disciplinary 6th Century Courses.

Courses range between 10-30 credit points each, so students take a variable number of courses per semester, usually between two and four courses. Our year is divided into semesters with exams at the end of each semester. After the completion of your studies, your home university will be issued a transcript with a suggested conversion scale.



Entry Requirements

To study at Aberdeen as a visiting study abroad or exchange student. The University requires:

- > A cumulative GPA of 3.0 or equivalent (on a 4.0 scale) or better.
- > An academic letter of reference from your home institution.
- > An academic transcript.
- > A personal statement of 500 words explaining why you would like to study at the University of Aberdeen.
- > If English is not your first language we will require an English Language test. Please see our pages on English Requirements for details.

Visa Information

All international (except European Economic Area and Swiss nationals) students will be required to apply for entry clearance to the UK.

Students who are studying for less than 6 months are able to apply for 'Student Visitor' entry clearance which is aimed at those short term students who wish to undertake a short course of up to six months and have no interest in full student visa entitlements, i.e. the ability to work or extend the length of your entitlement to stay in the UK without first returning home.

If you are studying for more than 6 months, undertaking an internship or work placement, or would like to have full student visa entitlements then you must apply for a 'Tier 4' full student visa.

UK immigration regulations change frequently. Please carefully and regularly check the eligibility and restrictions on the UK Visas and Immigration website.



How to Apply

You will find a downloadable application and guidance on how to apply on the Study Abroad pages of our website at <http://www.abdn.ac.uk/study/international/>. The Closing Date for applications is 1 July for Full Year and First (Fall) Semester applications and 1 November for Second (Spring) Semester applications.

Tuition Fees

International Student Abroad 2015/16	£UK
Semester	£6,500
Full year	£13,000

Cost of Living

In addition to tuition fees, students will require approximately a further £820 per month (minimum) to cover living additional costs. Please note that an additional allowance should also be made for a student's international travel to the UK.

Student Housing

All study abroad students are guaranteed a room in university accommodation provided applications are received by the stated deadline. Hillhead Halls is the student village on the banks of the River Don, only a 15 minute walk or a short bus ride from the University campus. It is home to nearly 2,500 students and includes a number of traditional catered halls, self-catering flats and facilities for disabled students.

For more information please visit www.abdn.ac.uk/accommodation.



Campus Life

The University of Aberdeen has many excellent student facilities within its broad campus, from its all-important lecture theatres, classrooms, and laboratories, to its friendly social spaces and eateries. The Hub is the No.1 place on Campus to meet friends - it's filled with great places to eat, drink, shop and chill out.

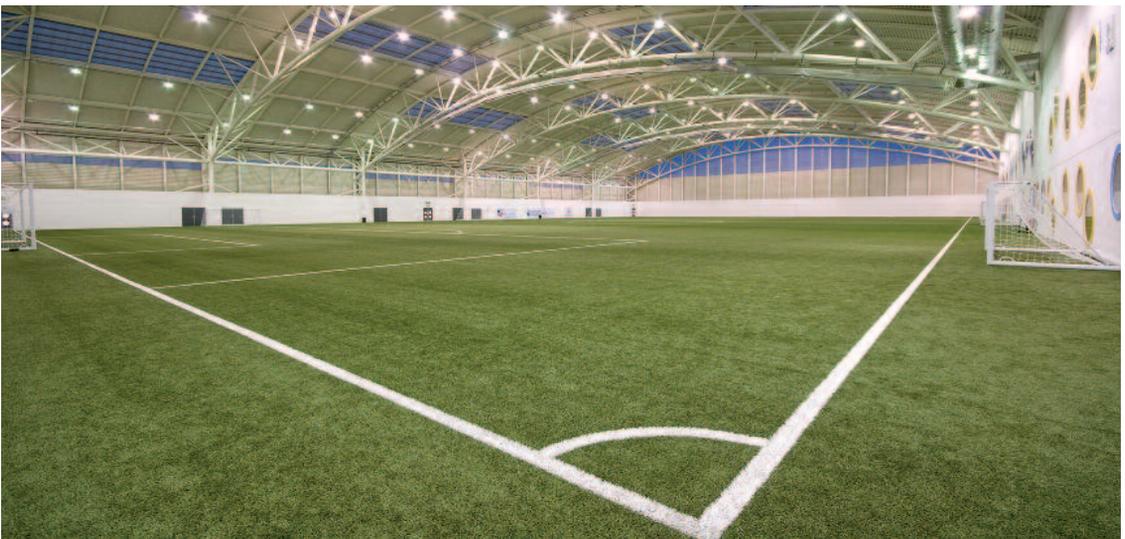
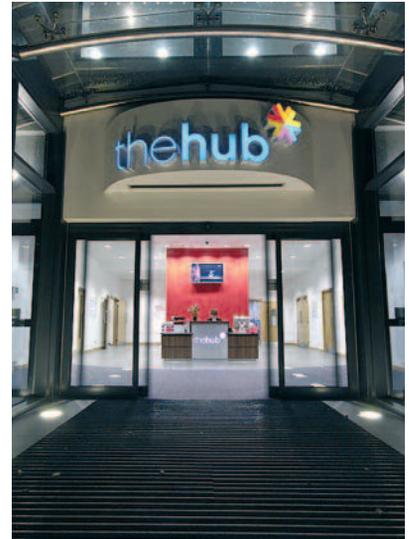


Student Association

Aberdeen University Student Association (AUSA) represents and serves students' interests. With over 170 different sports clubs and societies, a whole range of volunteering opportunities, support for all your education and welfare issues, a 2nd hand bookshop to buy and sell course texts and other literature as well as coordinating many events throughout the year. AUSA strives to provide students with a range of exciting activities and professional services to meet your requirements.

Aberdeen Sports Village

Aberdeen Sports Village (ASV) is the North East of Scotland's premier sports facility and comprises of: a large, multi-purpose sports hall; an indoor third generation football pitch; four squash courts; two exercise studios; a state-of-the-art fitness suite; IAAF approved indoor and outdoor athletics facilities; a water-based hockey pitch; an on-site physiotherapy service; a seminar room; a crèche; and a cafe.



Student Support Services

The Student Advice and Support office provide advice and information on three broad areas:

- > disabilities
- > international student matters
- > general advice and support

The University considers applications from all students on the same academic grounds. If there are particular disability-related issues which have had an impact on your studies, you should bring these to our attention during the application procedure. The University will always be proactive in making adjustments to remove or reduce any barriers as far as it is possible to do so. The University Disability Advisers offer support and guidance and are a first point of contact for disabled students. You are welcome to contact the Disability Advisers via e-mail or telephone to discuss your application.

The University also has a free counselling service – a confidential and professional service for students and staff who have personal, social, emotional or educational concerns.

More information on student support can be found at www.abdn.ac.uk/study/student-life.



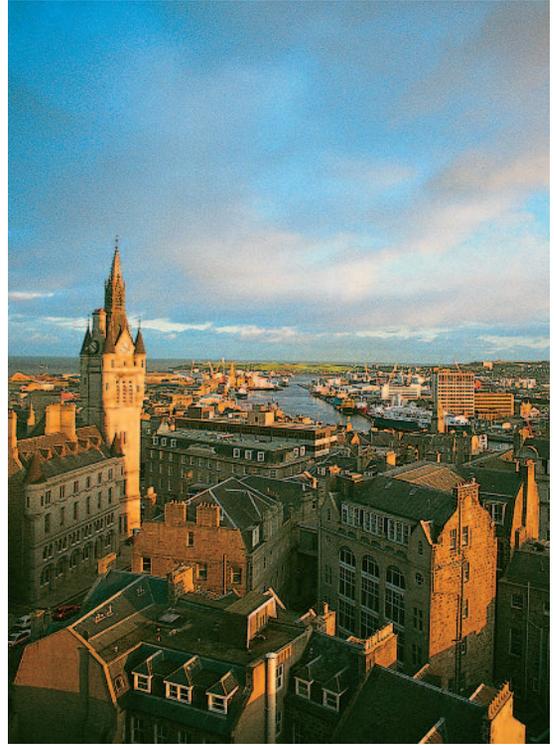
Photographs: Ian Cowe

Travel

The University is located within a city at the heart of a diverse and thriving regional economy. Aberdeen's pivotal role in the international oil and gas industry means that it enjoys excellent communications and travel links.

For those who wish to travel while living in Aberdeen, both Aberdeen train station and Aberdeen International Airport provide good links to the rest of the UK. The airport is served by a number of major carriers, providing extensive direct routes to Europe and worldwide through major hubs.

Getting around within the city is best done by foot or bus. Aberdeen is a very walkable city, giving students the opportunity to explore in their own time. There are also frequent local bus services that link the city centre with the our Old Aberdeen and Foresterhill campuses.





Contact Information

Student Recruitment & Admissions Service

The Hub, Elphinstone Road,

King's College

University of Aberdeen

Aberdeen

AB24 3TU

Tel: +44 (0)1224 272026

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