Study in Scotland

A guide for North American students

abdn.ac.uk/international
University of Aberdeen

Founded in 1495, the University of Aberdeen is the fifth oldest university in the English-speaking world.

Today, the university has 14,000 students, from over 133 countries around the world, undertaking undergraduate and postgraduate degree programmes, across the Arts and Humanities, Business, Law, Science and Engineering and the Medical Sciences.

Rankings and Reputation

Scholars associated with the university include five Nobel Prize winners, and the inventor of the modern MRI machine.

University alumni founded the College of William and Mary in the US, and the University of Hong Kong.

We established the first Chair of Medicine in the English speaking world in 1497.

Law School ranked 12th in the UK out of more than 90 law schools (Times Good University Guide, 2015).

Fifth oldest university in the English-speaking world.

One of the top 10 Beautiful Historic Universities (QS Top Universities website, 2014).
Academic Structure

Teaching and research at the University of Aberdeen is organised across 12 Schools, which encompass a broad range of disciplines:

**Arts and Social Sciences**
- Business School
- School of Divinity, History and Philosophy
- School of Education
- School of Language, Literature, Music and Visual Culture
- School of Law
- School of Social Sciences

**Life Sciences and Medicine**
- School of Biological Sciences
- School of Medicine, Medical Sciences and Nutrition
- School of Psychology

**Physical Sciences**
- School of Engineering
- School of Geosciences
- School of Natural and Computing Sciences
The £57 million Sir Duncan Rice Library opened in 2012
Contrasting stunning architecture and historical charm with landmark building design, our campus epitomises both the University’s impressive heritage and its modern outlook.

The campus is home to a wide and diverse range of world-class teaching and research facilities, as well as sporting and recreational amenities, all in close proximity.

- Campus named in the “Top Ten Most Beautiful Historic Universities in the UK” by QS Top Universities website (2014)
- Located in the historic district of Old Aberdeen – a 20 minute walk from the centre of the city
- Sir Duncan Rice Library, named amongst the “20 Most Spellbinding University Libraries in the world” by the Independent newspaper (2013)

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, there 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 £57million 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

- The beautiful and peaceful 11 acre Cruickshank Botanic Garden has shrub borders, a rock and water garden, sunken garden, rose garden, herbaceous border and an arboretum, and houses a nationally important collection of over 2500 labelled plants
- The University’s Zoology Museum is a Recognised Collection of National Significance to Scotland, featuring displays from microscopic organisms to great whales
Aberdeen is steeped in history, yet 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 centre of Europe’s Energy Capital out of town to experience some of the most stunning attractions, countryside and wildlife that Scotland has to offer.

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

Shopping and Eating

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 quirky independent shops and international street markets. 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.

In recent years, the city has been ranked as:

- The safest university city in the UK*
- The sunniest city in Scotland**
- The happiest city in the UK***

* Source: Bank of Scotland poll, 2015
** Source: Mercer Quality of Living Study, 2016
*** Source: PwC, 2013
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 homes. There, alongside breath-taking 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 the length and breadth of 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.

There are more castles per acre here 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

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.

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.

Find out more: [www.visitabdn.com](http://www.visitabdn.com)
Like the USA and Canada, Scotland has a four year undergraduate degree system, with an emphasis on breadth and flexibility.

The Aberdeen degree is structured in a way that allows students to study a broad range of subjects during their first two years, before specialising in their third year of study.

We offer over 70 subjects at undergraduate level, spanning the Arts and Humanities, Business, Law, Science, Engineering and Medical Sciences. While you are required to select a particular subject when applying to the University, the tradition at Aberdeen is to admit students to the overall degree programme, such as the Master of Arts or the Bachelor of Science, rather than to a particular subject. For example, a student accepted to study History would be admitted to the degree of Master of Arts, while a student accepted to study Biology would be accepted to the degree of Bachelor of Science.

The flexible structure of our four year system also means that while you will begin taking classes in your chosen subject in your first year, you will also have the opportunity to take classes from different subjects and also to switch to another subject (major) during the course of their studies.

Enhanced Study

The selection of optional courses is managed through the system known as Enhanced Study, which is designed to ensure that students optimise their choice of optional courses and take full advantage of the choice and flexibility offered by the Aberdeen degree system. There are three types of Enhanced Study options:

Sustained Study

Sustained Study offer students the opportunity to study another subject alongside their main subject throughout the first two years of their degree programme. Popular options include languages, such as Arabic, French, Gaelic, or Chinese (Mandarin), though other options include Business, Computing, and Conservation & Environment.

Sixth Century Courses

Sixth Century courses are courses which have been specially designed to offer multi-disciplinary approaches to knowledge and enquiry and to encourage students to develop a deeper critical understanding of their discipline area, by setting the subject in a wider context.

Discipline Breadth Courses

Students can also choose optional classes from another subject area. The course might be related to your core subject or entirely unrelated to. For example, a student studying History might choose a related course in Archaeology or an entirely unrelated course in Biology.

Tuition Fees 2017/18*

The annual tuition fee is based on the subject area of your degree programme. Arts-based programmes include Arts, Social Sciences, Divinity and Law while Science based programmes include Science and Engineering.

Arts-based programmes: £14,300
Science-based programmes: £18,000
Medicine: £29,000

Please refer to www.abdn.ac.uk/study/international/finance.php for information on tuition fees

*subject to confirmation
Scholarships and Aid

International Undergraduate Scholarship

The International Undergraduate Scholarship provides a full tuition waiver for international students for the fourth year of study. Eligible international students, admitted to a full four year programme of study pay for only three years of their four year degree. The International Undergraduate Scholarship is awarded to eligible students upon admission to the University; there is no separate application required.

Findlay Walker Scholarship (US Students)

In honour of Dr J Findlay Walker (MBChB 1967), the Findlay Walker Scholarship Program awards scholarships of $2,000 towards tuition/fees for the first year of study to two US students. All US students who apply for an undergraduate place at the University of Aberdeen no later than 30 December will automatically be considered. For more information, including eligibility criteria, please refer to www.abdn.ac.uk/international/usa

Federal Aid (US Students)

With the exception of some Medical and Certificate/Diploma programmes University of Aberdeen programmes are eligible for Federal Direct, Parent Plus and Graduate PLUS loans. Please refer to our US Federal Aid webpage at www.abdn.ac.uk/infohub/finance/us-federal-direct-loans.php or email usaloans@abdn.ac.uk for further information.

Entry Requirements

Entry Requirements can vary depending on the programme applied for. As a general guide, students should present the following minimum requirements to be considered for admission to undergraduate degree programmes.

Canada

Canadian students should present an average of 75% in the relevant high school diploma for their province or territory. Students applying to Law, Science and Engineering may require higher grades in specific subjects.

Mexico

The University of Aberdeen welcomes applications from students from Mexico presenting a range of qualifications including GCE A Levels, the US High Diploma (with other standardised tests including the SAT, ACT or APs) or the International Baccalaureate. Students presenting the Bachillerato or Prepa are normally required to complete a recognised Foundation year programme for admission to undergraduate study.

United States

Applicants from the United States should present the following minimum requirements to be considered for admission:

High School GPA of 3.0, plus at least one of the following:
- SAT score of 1250, with 600 in Evidence-Based Reading and Writing, or
- ACT composite score of 26, or
- 1 SAT Subject Test score of 600, or
- 1 AP Subject Test at grade 3

Applicants for Law, Science and Engineering programmes may be required to present additional SAT Subject tests or AP exams in relevant subjects.

International Baccalaureate (IB)

The University of Aberdeen also accepts the International Baccalaureate (IB) Diploma. For further information, please refer to www.abdn.ac.uk/study/undergraduate

English Language Requirements

Students whose first language is not English must also meet the University’s English Language requirements. Please refer to www.abdn.ac.uk/study/international/english-requirements for further information.

How to Apply

Students applying from the United States, Canada or Mexico for undergraduate admission to the University of Aberdeen may apply through UCAS (ucas.com). Alternatively, applicants may choose to apply through Common App (commonapp.org) for all programmes except Medicine. Please note that you may only use one method of application.
Undergraduate Course List

**Arts, Business and Social Sciences**
- Accountancy
- Anthropology
- Archaeology
- Behavioural Studies
- Business Management
- Celtic & Anglo-Saxon Studies
- Divinity
- Economics
- English
- Film & Visual Culture
- Finance
- French
- Gaelic Studies
- Geography
- German
- Hispanic Studies
- History
- International Relations
- Language & Linguistics
- Mathematics
- Mental Philosophy
- Music
- Music and Communities
- Music Education
- Natural Philosophy
- Philosophy
- Politics
- Psychology
- Real Estate
- Scottish Cultural Studies
- Scottish Studies
- Sociology
- Theology
- Zoology

**Engineering**
- Chemical Engineering
- Civil Engineering
- Engineering (General Entry)
- Electrical and Electronic Engineering
- Electronic and Software Engineering
- Mechanical Engineering
- Petroleum Engineering

**Law**
- Law (LLB)
- Law (LLB - Accelerated 2 years)
- Law (LLB) with English Law
- Law with English Law (LLB - Accelerated 2 years)
- Legal Studies

**Life Sciences**
- Animal Behaviour
- Behavioural Biology
- Biological Sciences
- Biology
- Conservation Biology
- Ecology
- Environmental and Forest Management
- Environmental Chemistry
- Environmental Science
- Marine Biology
- Plant and Soil Science

**Medical Sciences and Medicine**
- Biochemistry
- Biomedical Sciences
- Biotechnology
- Exercise and Health Science
- Genetics
- Human Embryology and Developmental Immunology
- Medicine
- Microbiology
- Molecular Biology
- Neuroscience with Psychology
- Pharmacology
- Physiology
- Sports and Exercise Science

**Sciences**
- Applied Mathematics
- Archaeology
- Chemistry
- Computing
- Computing Science
- Geography
- Geology
- Geology and Petroleum Geology
- Mathematics
- Oil and Gas Chemistry
- Physics

For a full course list please visit [abdn.ac.uk/study/undergraduate](http://abdn.ac.uk/study/undergraduate)
Master’s Programmes

- Taught Master’s programmes are 12 months in duration, usually consisting of 9 months of coursework, followed by a 3-month research project and dissertation.
- Teaching methods combine lectures, seminars, project work, and independent reading, as well as laboratory work in relevant disciplines.
- Master’s programme are designed to build on your undergraduate studies to develop further expertise in a particular subject as well as developing your research skills and are an ideal springboard to Doctoral studies or for entry to a profession.
- Certain programmes in areas like Business, Finance, Education or Health Science may also satisfy certain professional requirements.
- Master’s programmes commence in September, though some also offer a January start date.

PhD Programmes

As a research intensive university, Aberdeen offers supervision across a range of PhD programmes. PhD programmes may include some minor coursework in subjects such as research skills and methodology, however they mainly involve independent research under faculty supervision and writing a thesis. Programmes can vary in length, but a PhD programme normally takes a minimum of 3 years.

Postgraduate Entry Requirements

Entry to a Master or PhD programme usually requires the equivalent of a 2:1 (Upper Second Class Honours) British degree, or a 2:2 (Lower Second Class) British Degree. Postgraduate programmes at the University of Aberdeen and other British universities do not generally require standardised tests such as the GRE, GMAT, LSAT, MCAT etc. Instead, applicants are assessed on the merit and relevance of their undergraduate studies, as well as references and personal statement.

Canada and the United States

A degree with a CGPA of 3.3 - 3.5 in an honours programme, with a minimum of 3.5 in degree relevant subjects, is considered comparable to a 2:1 British degree. A degree with a CGPA of 3.0 is considered comparable to a 2.2 British degree.

Mexico

A degree with a CGPA of 8.5 is considered comparable to a 2:1 British degree. A degree with a CGPA of 7.5 is considered comparable to a 2.2 British degree.

English Language Requirements

Students whose first language is not English must also meet the University’s English Language requirements. Please refer to www.abdn.ac.uk/study/international/english-requirements for further information.
How to Apply

All our postgraduate taught and research programmes, with the exception of PGDE and Education Programmes (including Studies in Mindfulness and Person-Centred Counselling), can be applied for online directly to the University at www.abdn.ac.uk/study/postgraduate/apply

In order to submit an application you will need to upload a completed online Postgraduate Application form along with your academic transcripts/certificates and also a personal statement.

Please note that PhD programmes require a research proposal as part of the application process. Students interested in applying for a PhD programme are therefore advised to contact a member of faculty to discuss their research interests and to agree a research topic before submitting formal application.

Postgraduate Tuition Fees
2017/18*

The annual tuition fee is based on the subject area of your degree programme. Arts-based programmes include Arts, Social Sciences, Divinity and Law while Science based programmes include Science and Engineering.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Programme</th>
<th>Fee</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Arts-based Programmes</td>
<td>£14,300</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Science-based Programmes</td>
<td>£18,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Business and Select Law Programmes</td>
<td>£16,100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MBA and LLM with Professional Skills</td>
<td>£18,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MBA Energy</td>
<td>£19,500</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Please refer to www.abdn.ac.uk/study/international/finance.php for full details of tuition fees.

*subject to confirmation

Scholarships and Aid

For more information on scholarships, bursaries, loans and discounts available through the University and externally from organisations, companies and charities, please refer to the University of Aberdeen funding database at www.abdn.ac.uk/funding

CONACYT (Mexico)

The University of Aberdeen is among 25 Higher Education Institutions in the UK who can receive fully funded students for postgraduate taught and research programmes. For more information on all active calls that CONACYT has with the Mexican states please check the website: www.conacyt.gob.mx/index.php/convocatorias-becas-extranjeros/convocatorias-entidades-federativas

Federal Aid (US Students)

With the exception of the MBChB Medicine, Nursing, Certificate and Diploma programmes all other full and part-time programmes are eligible for Federal Direct, Parent Plus and Graduate PLUS loans. However, we are not authorised to certify eligibility for any grants. Please refer to our US Federal Aid webpage at www.abdn.ac.uk/infohub/finance/us-federal-direct-loans.php for further information or email usaloans@abdn.ac.uk
# Postgraduate Course List

## Arts and Social Sciences
- Art and Business
- Biblical Studies
- Celtic and Anglo Saxon Studies
- Comparative European Societies
- Creative Writing
- Creative and Cultural Communication
- English Literary Studies
- Ethnology and Folklore
- Film and Visual Culture
- Global Conflict and Peace Processes
- Globalization
- Human Rights
- International Relations
- Irish and Scottish History
- Irish and Scottish Literature
- Islamic Studies
- Latin American Studies
- Literature, Science and Medicine
- Medieval and Early Modern Studies
- Ministry Studies
- Modern History
- Museum Studies
- Music
- Pastoral Studies and Applied Theology
- People and the Environment
- Person-Centred Counselling
- Political Research
- Post-Conflict Justice and Peacebuilding
- Professional Communication
- Religion and Society
- Scandinavian Studies
- Sex, Gender, Violence
- Social Anthropology
- Social Research
- Sociology
- Sonic Arts
- Strategic Studies
- Systematic Theology
- TESOL

## Business
- Accounting and Finance
- Applied Economics
- Business Administration (MBA)
- Energy Management (MBA)
- Finance and Investment Management
- Finance and Real Estate
- Financial Mathematics
- Information Systems and Data Management
- International Business Management
- International Political Economy
- Management Consultancy
- Marketing Management
- Petroleum, Energy Economics and Finance
- Real Estate
- Rural Surveying and Rural Property Management

## Law
- Criminal Justice
- Criminal Justice and Human Rights
- Energy and Environmental Law
- Energy Law
- Energy Politics and Law
- Intellectual Property Law
- International Commercial Law
- International Law
- Oil and Gas Law
- Private International Law
- Professional Legal Practice
- Public International Law

For a full list of taught postgraduate courses visit [abdn.ac.uk/study/postgraduate-taught](http://abdn.ac.uk/study/postgraduate-taught) or [abdn.ac.uk/study/postgraduate-research](http://abdn.ac.uk/study/postgraduate-research) for information about research degrees.
Life Sciences and Health Sciences
Applied Marine and Fisheries Ecology
Bio-Business and Medical Sciences
Clinical Pharmacology
Drug Discovery
Ecology and Conservation
Environmental and Forest Management
Environmental Partnership Management
Environmental Science
Genetics
Global Health and Management
Health Psychology
Human Nutrition
Immunology
Master of Public Health
Medical Imaging
Medical Physics
Medical Research Skills
Microbiology
Physician Associate Studies
Psychology
Soil Science
Stratified Medicine and Pharmacological Innovation

Physical Sciences
Advanced Mechanical Engineering*
Analytical Chemistry
Archaeology
Archaeology of the North
Data Analysis, Visualisation and Communication
Decommissioning*
Geographical Information Systems
Geophysics
Information Technology
Integrated Petroleum Geoscience
Mathematics of Computing
Oil and Gas Chemistry
Oil and Gas Engineering
Oil and Gas Enterprise Management
Petroleum Engineering
Petrophysics and Formation Evaluation
Process Safety
Renewable Energy Engineering
Reservoir Engineering
Safety and Reliability Engineering
Subsea Engineering

*Subject to approval
Meet some of our students who are from North America, and took the decision to study in Aberdeen

Meredith
MSc Accounting and Finance student from Iowa, USA

I did some research into the Accounting and Finance degree and I liked what I saw—a wide range of modules and the opportunity to take a professional exam (IFRS).

I really enjoyed Quantitative Methods in the first semester and in the second semester the Management Accounting class was my favourite. I learned so much and felt like the instructor gave us a lot of support to ensure we understood the material.

I found it very easy to integrate into student life here. From the first day, my classmates and I were encouraged to get to know each other and form study groups, which we did. In the second semester we were given a group project where the students were assigned groups to work in.

We had seven people from five different countries in our group, and we all brought a different perspective and background to the project. We had a lot of fun working together and we still keep in touch!

Kerry
BSc Environmental Science from Massachusetts, USA

I have always loved Scotland. Growing up, we had family friends in Scotland then when I was looking at where I could go to school outside of the USA I thought of Scotland.

My dad and I took a trip to Aberdeen during my senior year and I fell in love with the campus. Additionally, the academics at the University are exceptional and there are hundreds of clubs and sports to choose from. The fact that the University was on the Common App also made it very easy to apply.

The student body is incredibly international, in addition to welcoming. I am a part of the University of Aberdeen Archery Club, however in my Fresher’s week I tried out quite a few activities. All of the clubs are incredibly welcoming and the people are wonderful.

Studying abroad is an incredible experience and definitely teaches you a lot about yourself. Don’t let your hesitations hold you back from stepping out of your comfort zone. Even though you might be apprehensive about leaving your country, the friends you make and the experiences you have will last you a life time.
Evan
MA Geography and International Relations from Pennsylvania, USA

My initial interest in the University of Aberdeen was drawn simply out of a love for Scotland. Aberdeen has a strong programme in my area of interest alongside a sometimes overlooked part of the UK.

This year I will be the Vice-President of the Geography Society. Our society does a number of different events, with a wide range of geography focus. We also do pub quizzes, nights out, and film nights that do not require an interest in Geography. Most of my time is split between university work, society events, and relaxing with my friends.

Going abroad for university is a very rewarding experience that you may not ever have the opportunity to do again. Be flexible and do not be afraid to ask for help when you need it. The normal issues associated with going away to university will still be there, but being in a different country offers a huge range of distractions to help you through.

Audrey
BSc Biomedical Sciences (Anatomy) from Connecticut, USA

If first fell in love with the University of Aberdeen, sophomore year in high school, while I was in my guidance counselor’s office looking for potential universities. Just looking at the information booklet, everything about the university appealed to me, from the location, degrees offered and of course, the beautiful library! Being here has truly opened my horizons.

Coming from a small town in the States, attending the University of Aberdeen has been a game changer for me. I have met people literally from all over the world! Students and staff here at the University have been very helpful and welcoming.

My piece of advice to someone considering going abroad for university is that they should do a lot of research and don’t hesitate in asking questions.
Student Accommodation

All new students are guaranteed a place in university accommodation, provided the application reaches us by the deadline.

We offer a range of options in or close to the Old Aberdeen Campus, the Hillhead Student Village and the City Centre. All the rooms are single study bedrooms with both en-suite and standard facilities available with prices to suit all budgets.

Undergraduate Students

Undergraduate students can choose between the halls on the Old Aberdeen campus or Hillhead Student Village, which is a 15 minute walk from the centre of campus. Whether you choose Old Aberdeen or Hillhead, catered or self-catered, you will have your own single study bedroom.

Crombie Hall is a catered hall at the heart of campus, close to the University’s academic departments, sports facilities and the library, which offers a varied selection of freshly prepared meals.

Most students live in the self-catered halls at Hillhead Student Village. These are mainly apartment (suite) style units, with a shared kitchens and bathrooms. Adam Smith, Fyfe and Wavell are corridor style rooms with shared bathroom facilities at the end of the corridor.

Postgraduate Students

The University also offers a number of Halls exclusively for postgraduate (or sometimes older undergraduate) students. Elphinstone Road Flats, The Spital, and Kings Hall are all located a short walk from the centre of campus and consist of single study bedrooms, organised into flats (apartments) of between 3 - 7 residents, with shared kitchen and other facilities per flat.

This means that you have the same level of privacy and independence as you would have living in an apartment off campus, but with the convenience of being able to book your room before you arrive.

There are also a number of off-campus halls of residence for postgraduate students, which are owned and managed by private housing companies, but can be booked through the University’s accommodation office. These include King Street, King Street Exchange and Trinity Court.

Please refer to the accommodation website at www.abdn.ac.uk/accommodation for further information.
International students are welcome to join the numerous student clubs and societies at the University of Aberdeen.

Special sign up days are held at the beginning of each semester where you can go along and find out about the many ways you can get involved.

**Student Societies**

The Aberdeen University Student Association (AUSA) runs over 120 societies, ranging from Departmental Societies, relating to the various departments within the University, to Cultural Societies, Creative Arts Societies and various General Interest Societies relating to different interests or hobbies.

AUSA arranges numerous other activities throughout the year and you’ll have plenty of opportunities to try out the activities of a particular society before deciding to join. All our societies hold regular events and socials which offer a fantastic opportunity to meet like-minded students.

Find out more at: [www.ausa.org.uk/societies](http://www.ausa.org.uk/societies)
Student Sports

Students can also choose from 50 sports clubs. If you don’t want to compete, AUSA organises a wide range of non-competitive clubs, intra-mural leagues and one-off sporting events. Sporting options range from indoor sports such as Volleyball and Basketball, to field sports including Soccer, Rugby and Lacrosse. There is also a Snow Sports club, Sailing club and Hillwalking & Climbing club, if you wish to combine sport with an opportunity to explore more of the country.

Find out more at: www.ausa.org.uk/sports

Student Volunteering

Aberdeen Students’ Charities Campaign is a collection of students from across Aberdeen who raise huge amounts of money for local charities through a variety of events. In addition, students can volunteer with local organisations, which is a great way of widening your experience whilst studying abroad. It helps you to build professional skills and opens doors for new opportunities, whether you are running clubs and societies, writing for the newspaper, sitting on committees, putting on events and helping with the University’s museums or contributing to the wider Aberdeen community through various charities and fundraising activities.

Find out more at www.ausa.org.uk/volunteering

International Student Support

We understand that attending university abroad is a huge investment in your future, and we are dedicated to ensuring all of our international students feel part of the University community. With a third of our students coming to Aberdeen from overseas, the University of Aberdeen has a great deal of experience welcoming of helping international students adjusting to student life in Scotland. Supports include:

- International Recruitment and Admissions Officers (Admissions enquiries)
- International Student Advisers (Visas and Immigration enquiries)
- International Centre
- International Orientation
- Counselling Service
- Chaplaincies
- Resident Assistants (RAs)
- AUSA Student Advice Centre

Find out more at: abdn.ac.uk/infohub/life/international-centre

International Centre

The International Centre was opened with the purpose of providing a focal point where members of the University of Aberdeen community can meet and engage with all things international and to help international students make the most of their time in Aberdeen. The International Centre holds an annual calendar of events and socialising opportunities for International Students, including day trips, movie nights, and ceilidh dances!

Find out more at: abdn.ac.uk/infohub/life/international-centre

Careers Service

The University of Aberdeen has one of the best records in the UK for graduate employability. In fact, in 2016, the University was named in the top five UK Universities for graduate employment (HESA, 2016).

Whether you already have firm plans for your future, or are still making up your mind, we are on hand to help you make informed career decisions and provide the practical support you need to secure a graduate job or a place on a postgraduate course. The University Careers Service is available to all students throughout their time at Aberdeen, and this continues even after you have graduated. We also offer various employability initiatives, including work placements and career mentoring.

Study Abroad

Many of our degree programmes offer the opportunity for students to spend time in another country – some degree programmes even have a built-in period of study or work abroad, which means you can gain even more international experience, while studying at the University of Aberdeen. Both the Erasmus and the International Exchange programmes offers students the opportunity to spend a semester or a full year studying at one of our partner universities, either in Europe or countries including Australia, Canada, China, Japan Singapore and the USA.
Student Visa and Immigration Regulations

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

**Tier 4 Visa**

Any international (except European Economic Area and Swiss nationals) student planning to study full-time in the UK for more than six months will need to apply for their visa under Tier 4. The visa application is based on a points based assessment. 40 points are needed to be granted a visa. You score:

- 30 points for Confirmation of Acceptance of Studies (CAS), which is a number generated when a licensed immigration sponsor enters your data into the relevant Home Office electronic system; and
- 10 points if you can show that you have enough finances to cover your course fees for the first 12 months and monthly living expenses for up to 9 months (known as maintenance).

For further information visit [www.gov.uk/browse/visas-immigration/student-visas](http://www.gov.uk/browse/visas-immigration/student-visas)

**Health Insurance**

International students coming to the UK on a Tier 4 visa for a period of study of more than 6 months are required to pay an Immigration Health Surcharge. This charge is mandatory as part of your visa application and entitles international students to be able to use the National Health Service during the duration of your stay in the UK.

For more information please visit: [www.gov.uk/healthcare-immigration-application](http://www.gov.uk/healthcare-immigration-application)
The University is based just a 20 minute walk from the centre of Aberdeen, a city known for its diverse and thriving regional economy.

Our city’s role as the Energy Capital of Europe means that we benefit from the very best of transport and travel links from throughout the world. With global air, rail and road connections, Aberdeen is also easily reachable from anywhere in the UK.

Aberdeen International Airport is one of the fastest growing airports in the UK and has excellent links to the UK’s main and regional airports. The airport is served by a number of major carriers, providing an extensive network of routes throughout the UK, direct to Europe and worldwide through major travel hubs.

British destinations include four London airports, (London City, Heathrow, Gatwick and Luton - just over an hour’s flight time. Connections to and from North America can also be made at Amsterdam, Frankfurt and Paris.

For further information, please visit www.aberdeenairport.com

Contact Us

Brian Hussey
Lead International Officer, Americas
T: +44 1224 272187
E: brian.hussey@abdn.ac.uk

Sandra Silva
International Officer, Americas
T: +44 1224 274 563
E: sandra.silva@abdn.ac.uk
We make every effort to ensure that the information provided to you is fair and accurate at the time of publication, however, as it is prepared well in advance of the academic session to which it applies, changes to the information presented may have occurred. For more information visit www.abdn.ac.uk/amendments.