Go Beyond Boundaries

Study Abroad Guide 2023/24
The world’s greatest challenges cross disciplines and span continents. To solve them we need people who see things from different perspectives. At the University of Aberdeen, students from over 130 nationalities come together to seek truth and spark change – breaking boundaries for over 500 years.

We go beyond rigid thinking and traditional approaches, as we continue to drive change in the service of our community, our city, and our world.

- **Beyond the classroom**: teaching that is integrated with research, embracing new perspectives, and working together.
- **Beyond schedules**: flexible, supportive learning with academics who are leading their fields.
- **Beyond Scotland**: students, researchers and academics who proactively change thinking, change business, and change the world.

At the University of Aberdeen there are no boundaries for your ideas and their impact.
Beyond measure

13th IN THE UK AND HIGHEST RISING TOP 20 UK UNIVERSITY

Guardian University Guide 2023

Founded
1495

14,500 STUDENTS

4th IN THE UK
FOR OVERALL student satisfaction
NSS 2022

GLOBAL TOP
40 for Environmental Impact***

WORLD CLASS SPORTING FACILITY
Aberdeen Sports Village

2nd IN THE UK
for Sustainable Education*

1st IN SCOTLAND
for Environmental Research Impact***

INTERNATIONAL GLOBAL NETWORKS
Study exchange opportunities with over 150 partner institutions across the globe

Over
220
SPORTS CLUBS
and societies

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

5th IN SCOTLAND
for Research Power****

In the top
200
UNIVERSITIES IN THE WORLD*

**The Times and Sunday Times Good University Guide 2019 | **CEOWORLD magazine, 2016
*QS Sustainability Rankings 2013

***QS World University Rankings 2022 | ****Research Excellence Framework (REF) 2022
*Times Higher Education World University Rankings 2025
A place beyond expectations

People have changed the world from Aberdeen for half a millennium. A mix of old and new, urban and rural, connected but independent, our vibrant city is at the centre of global energy transition and at the heart of preventative healthcare.

At Aberdeen, the time is now. From our historic city you can be at the centre of radical, urgent global transitions, and you can help move the world.
A city beyond limits

Nestled between the sea and the mountains, Aberdeen is a unique student city with something for everyone, proving that it’s worth going that little bit further for something really special.

Close to where you can experience the northern lights, during the summer months you can enjoy glimmers of daylight as late as 11pm. In winter, discover cozy evening cafes down winding, cobbled streets with live music and chilled out, craft beer hideaways. A dynamic, diverse offering of live venues play host to big names in music, comedy, and theatre, from the state-of-the-art P&J live arena to creative, intimate spaces. With a buzzing, cultural scene, we're also fiercely proud of our home-grown talent, and we don't need much persuasion to show off local music, food and tradition in an array of festivals throughout the year. Then if you're looking to blow away the cobwebs, what could be better than a spot of skiing, golfing, paddleboarding or a run along our fantastic beach? Or you can always grab an ice cream and do a spot of dolphin watching. With so much on your doorstep, Aberdeen really is the city beyond expectations.

visitabdn.com aberdeenperformingarts.com pandjlive.com aberdeeninspired.com/festivals abdn.ac.uk/study/city
Looking to get adventurous? Aberdeen’s location between miles of golden coastline and the Cairngorms National Park means you don’t have to go very far to push your boundaries. Aberdeenshire is home to four of the five highest mountains in Britain and our coastline was named one of the 20 most iconic landscapes in the world by National Geographic. With wild swimming, surfing, snowboarding, paddleboarding and trail cycling all on your doorstep, what else will you discover?

visitabdn.com
Explore beyond a traditional campus

FORESTERHILL CAMPUS
A  The Polwarth Building
B  Institute of Medical Sciences
C  The Medical School Library
D  Medico-Chirurgical Hall
E  Institute of Applied Health Science
F  The Suttie Centre (Medical School)
G  The Dental School
H  Rowett Institute of Nutrition and Health
I  Aberdeen Royal Infirmary

KING'S COLLEGE CAMPUS
A  King's College
B  University Office
C  Regent Building
D  Sir Duncan Rice Library
E  The Student Union Building
F  Cruickshank Botanical Gardens
G  St. Mary's Building
H  The Old Town House
I  Fraser Noble Building
J  Zoology Building
K  MacRobert Building
L  Meston Building
M  Aberdeen Sports Village/Aquatics Centre
N  Taylor Building
O  Edward Wright Building
P  William Guild Building
Q  Old Brewery
R  New King's
S  5D/52 College Bounds
T  Science Teaching Hub
Go beyond the classroom

The University of Aberdeen is a modern, global, research-led university with a 500-year history of innovation. Our campuses are special. Lively, accessible and connected to both local and global industries that matter.

King’s Quad is the historic heart of King’s College, but don’t worry, the classrooms have been updated since 1495!

New King’s, one of our ‘newer’ buildings built in 1913...

Sir Duncan Rice Library, named one of the most beautiful libraries in the world

Student Union Building, home to a range of support services and AUSA

Jointly owned by NHS Grampian and the University of Aberdeen, Foresterhill is one of the largest medical campuses in Europe.
Go north... for innovation

Our fully digitised, state-of-the-art Science Teaching Hub is designed to provide flexible laboratory spaces to accommodate teaching across disciplines.

Advanced laboratory facilities mean you will be using the same high quality equipment found in an industry setting. Collaborative learning spaces allow you to enhance your core science skills in a dynamic environment, giving you the tools you need to thrive in the workplace of the future.

- 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/study/student-life/sth

...then follow the north star home

We offer a wide range of accommodation from catered rooms to self-catered flats and with Hillhead Student Village being only a short walk from the main campus and a quick bus ride away from the city centre you're never far from home.

If you want to explore further afield, Aberdeen boasts an extensive range of student and private accommodation across the city.

University of Aberdeen Accommodation offers:
- Guaranteed accommodation (T&Cs apply)
- Accommodation on or within walking distance of the main campus
- Frequent bus service
- 24hr social and study facilities at Hillhead Student Village
- A dedicated team to provide support and information
- 24/7 maintenance support
- Single study bedrooms
- Wireless network throughout
- Car parking and bike storage facilities
- Limited accommodation for couples and families
- Accessible accommodation

Costs and additional information
- Up-to-date information on the various accommodation offered by the University (including the all-important costs) is available on the accommodation website.
- Applicants who have firmly accepted an offer of admission can apply online for accommodation up to the application deadline. We endeavour to allocate first choice where possible but this is not guaranteed.

For more information and Frequently Asked Questions visit:
abdn.ac.uk/accommodation
Go north to find a community

Your Students’ Union at the University of Aberdeen is here to make your life better while you’re at university. Whether you’re looking for new things to get involved with, exciting events to attend, or want to change the campus around you, we can help!

Sports, clubs, societies and events
Clubs and societies are a huge part of your student experience and a great way to meet new people and try new things. With over 180 societies and 55 sports clubs to choose from, there’s something for everyone. To find out more, get in touch with us at:
activities@abdn.ac.uk

Where are we?
You’ll find us on the ground floor of the Students’ Union Building on Elphinstone Road. Also look out for us at the Aberdeen Sports Village. You can reach us online at:
ausa.org.uk
or email us at:
ausa@abdn.ac.uk

Your voice heard
We want you to use the power of your voice to influence University decisions and make campus a better place for everyone. You can drive positive change in your community through your elected student officers, our liberation and section forums, or by standing to be a student representative yourself. To find out more about our events and campaigns, email:
ausareps@abdn.ac.uk

Test your boundaries

Reach your full potential with our world class sporting facility.

Aberdeen Sports Village (ASV)
Located close to the main campus, ASV offers exceptional sports and exercise facilities. The standard of these facilities has attracted a range of high profile sporting events to Aberdeen including BBC Sports Personality of the Year’s “Festival of Sport” and the 2020 European Junior Swimming Championships. In addition to the services at ASV the University also provides facilities in and around Aberdeen including the Rowing Club boathouse and Royal Deeside climbing bothy.

AUSA Sports Union
For many, sport will be a big part of campus life. Whether you want to compete, to participate recreationally, or simply to remain active during your studies, there’s something for you at the University of Aberdeen. Our Sports Union supports over 50 different clubs from Archery to Weightlifting. Our teams compete across the UK, often at a high level, and the clubs themselves provide ample scope to develop transferable and team skills.

Connect with us
ausa.org.uk
facebook.com/abdnunisa
twitter.com/ausatweet
instagram.com/aberdeenunisa
tiktok.com/@aberdeenunisa

aberdeensportsvillage.com
Support that goes above and beyond

We want you to have the support you need to reach your full potential. Right from the start, our staff and student support teams will be here to help you.

Go Abroad Tutor
Your Personal Tutor can provide general support to you throughout your studies and will be a point of contact for any queries you have as a student. They will often be the first person you turn to if you encounter difficulties.

abdn.ac.uk/students

Student Advice & Support Office
Student Advice & Support Office offers impartial, confidential advice and support to students across a wide range of issues including finance, disabilities and specific learning differences, visa and immigration matters, mental health and wellbeing, and more.

abdn.ac.uk/students/support

International Student Advisers
Our ISAs provide advice on immigration issues, in particular Tier 4 visa extensions, and queries regarding dependants. British immigration legislation is complex and our immigration advice and services are regulated by the Office of the Immigration Services Commissioner. The HOST UK scheme for international students at the University is administered by the International Advisers.

student.international@abdn.ac.uk
01224 273935

Welfare support in Halls of Residence
A Community Liaison Officer and team of Student Resident Assistants (SRAs) are based in the University owned Halls of Residence to look after the welfare of residents. The team work very closely with the Student Advice and Support Office and often signpost students to see an Adviser in the team.

The Counselling Service
Free, confidential and professional service for students who have personal, social or emotional concerns.

counselling@abdn.ac.uk
01224 272139

Chaplaincies
The University Multi-faith Chaplaincy is a community hub for people of all faiths and none.

abdn.ac.uk/chaplaincy

Student Support Advisers
Student Support Advisers provide free, impartial and confidential advice to students on a range of issues which include student loans, finance, University procedures, benefits and personal problems.

student.support@abdn.ac.uk
01224 273935

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:


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

Visa & immigration regulations
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 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 2023/24
International Students:
Semester £10,400 / Full Year £20,800
EU National Students:
Semester £7,900 / Full Year £15,800

Bilateral Exchange Agreement Students:
Tuition fees are waived for students of bilateral exchange partners

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 goabroad.incoming@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
- Calendar Year (January - December): 15 October
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 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.

Meet emma

Emma Meehan
Chemical Engineering student

Studying abroad sets you apart from other engineers because it shows you care about expanding your interpersonal skills.
An ancient University
with incredible choice

We offer a wide range of courses across the following subject areas:

Accountancy
Anthropology
Anthropology
Art History
Biology and Biological Sciences
Biomedical and Medical Sciences
Business Management
Celtic, Gaelic and Scottish Studies
Chemistry
Computing Science
Conservation, Ecology and Environmental Science
Criminology and Sociology
Divinity, Theology and Religion
Economics
Engineering
English and Creative Writing
Film and Visual Culture
Finance
French
Gaelic
Geography
Geology and Geoscience
German
History
Language and Linguistics
Law and Legal Studies
Marine Biology
Mathematics
Medicine
Modern Languages and Translation & Interpreting Studies
Music
Philosophy
Philosophy, Politics and Economics (PPE)
Physics
Politics and International Relations
Psychology
Real Estate
Sociology
Spanish
Sports, Exercise and Health Sciences
Zoology
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