

University of Aberdeen: Quick Facts

Academics

- *Admissions Requirements*
 - 3.0 minimum GPA (will consider slightly lower if have strong support, but never lower than 2.75)
 - Sophomore status + (most students are in junior year)
 - Faculty recommendation letter
- *Program Academics*
 - Not all departments require that students have completed 3 -4 courses in the subject area, but it's a good way to determine if student has met the required prerequisites, and is adequately prepared for course.
 - Typical class load = 3-4 classes/60-70 Aberdeen credits
 - 5 Aberdeen credits are typically equivalent to 1 AC credit
 - 15-20 Aberdeen credits are typically equivalent to 4 AC credits
 - 30-40 Aberdeen credits are typically equivalent to 8 AC credits
 - The list of available courses for the academic year is updated every May.
 - Fall: Students fulfill "S" course requirement
 - Winter: Student fulfills "S" course *spring term* requirement because it runs through May. Students must confirm this with Registrar upon publication of program dates.
 - Alma College allows pass/fail for a course provided it meets guidelines published in the Academic Catalog. Refer to the Pass/Fail Option form (provided with Step 4) for complete instructions. Pass/fail must be requested within nine weeks after the class begins.
 - Incomplete grades must be replaced by letter grades within six weeks from being recorded on the Alma transcript, or they convert to "E". Contact the Registrar for assistance when you have received an Incomplete grade.

Housing

- Students apply online for housing once they are accepted to the program. The housing assignment will be released approximately one month before departure.
- Hillhead Hall of Residence has been recommended by previous students, and is a 15 minute walk from campus
- City buses run regularly to most halls.
- Students can request catered or self-catered housing.
 - University housing does not provide linens, towels or pillows.
 - If self-catered housing is selected, student will need to purchase utensils and cookware. The University provides options prior to departure.

Miscellaneous

- Fall term is 13 weeks in duration and does not include any breaks
- Winter term is 19 weeks in duration, with a three week mid-term break

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

1. *What travel documents do I need to go to the United Kingdom?*
 - A passport is required for international travel, and must be valid at least 180 days beyond the last date of the program.
 - A visa is not required for entry into Scotland if the stay is less than six months. An immigration certificate will be issued upon arrival. Students must provide proof of full time study and documentation of meeting the costs of their stay to receive this.
 - More information about visas and immigration will be provided upon acceptance.
2. *Can I use my cell phone in the United Kingdom?*
 - Using a U.S. cell phone abroad to make local and/or international calls can be very costly. Check with your service provider for details.
 - One option is to purchase a mobile phone once you arrive at the program.
 - You could also purchase phone cards once you arrive in Britain. It is not recommended to purchase international calling cards while in the United States because they often will not function once you are abroad.
 - PicCell Wireless and other such companies allow students to rent a phone with a global SIM card and charger appropriate for the UK.
 - The cheapest option is to set up Skype or QQ, a free internet-based calling service. Look online for details.
3. *Will I have internet access at the school? Should I bring my laptop?*
 - The University has over 1,000 Internet capable computers on the main campus and in residence halls.
 - Most University academic, administrative and residential buildings on the Old Aberdeen, Foresterhill and Hillhead campuses benefit from wireless access. Some buildings on the Rowett campus have wireless enabled hotspots.
 - Bringing a laptop is encouraged, but not mandatory.
4. *What kind of student services are available at the University?*
 - Prior to the program start date, you will receive a New Student Packet outlining all services, websites, contacts etc.
 - The University has a plethora of student support services, from professional counseling, Information Technology (IT) help, and career services to student clubs and faith based resources.
5. *Who can I contact if I have questions about the application process, or general questions about the University of Aberdeen program?*
 - Your first point of contact should be the University of Aberdeen's official website (www.abdn.ac.uk).
 - If your questions aren't answered by thoroughly checking the website, you can contact staff at Aberdeen by e-mail at studyabroad@abdn.ac.uk
 - Off-Campus Studies staff are always available to help answer your questions.