

University of Westminster: Quick Facts

Academics

- *Admissions Requirements*
 - 3.0 minimum GPA
 - Sophomore status +
- Cancellation policy
The University adheres to strict withdrawal deadlines. Their Study Abroad Application reports a £500 (approx. \$825) late fee for cancellation notices received beyond the deadline.
- *Program Academics*
 - Normal class load = 3-4 “modules” (courses)
 - To retain legal immigration status, student **must** enroll in 52.5-60 points (according to University’s credit-point system).
 - Most modules are 15 U of Westminster points, which typically translate to 4 AC credits. Final decision determined by Department Chair’s signed approval on the Off-Campus Study Course Approval Forms.
 - Module levels are indicated by the first number of the three digit module code. For example, 4FBL667 is a level 6 course.
 - Internships (unpaid) are offered, with a strong expectation and clear understanding of student commitment.
 - Fall term: Students fulfill “S” course requirement
 - Winter term: Students fulfill “S” course *spring-term* requirement
 - Alma College allows pass/fail for a course provided it meets guidelines published in the Academic Catalog. Refer to the Pass/Fail Option at Alma’s International & Off-Campus Study website for instructions. Pass/fail must be requested within nine weeks after the class begins.
 - Fall Semester transcripts are posted on the university’s intranet in late February. Spring Semester transcripts are posted approximately two weeks after the semester’s end.
 - 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 an “Incomplete” grade.

Housing

- The Halls of Residence offer basic hostel accommodation, do not include meals in the fees, and are within half an hour's public transport commute to the campuses.
 - *Marylebone Hall* is on-campus, and the most expensive hall. Students have use of the campus canteens (cost not included in room fees).
 - *Alexander Fleming* is off-campus, and a 15 min. metro ride to Regent St. Campus.
 - Harrow Hall is on-campus, a 20 minute commute from Baker Street and a short bus ride from Harrow, a suburb north of Central London. Only students who take two or more classes at Harrow will be assigned housing here.
 - Study Abroad students are assessed the full semester’s rent although in many cases with university approval, may depart before the end of the semester.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

1. *What travel documents do I need to go to England?*
 - A passport is required for international travel, and must be valid at least 180 days beyond the last date of the program.
 - Immigration permission is required for entry into Britain. Visa options and immigration instructions will be provided by the university upon acceptance to the program.
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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?*
 - You will have free access to the internet from any of the University campuses. All halls of residence offer internet access in students' rooms. Large areas of the campus now offer free wireless internet access.
 - In private accommodation you will have literally hundreds of internet providers offering a range of services. Big names include BT Internet, NTL, Blueyonder, Bull Dog, Virgin Internet, etc. If you plan to get a phone, satellite TV and internet it would be worth looking for a package deal.
 - There are also internet cafes all over London that normally charge about £1 for 20 minutes.
4. *Is there a limit on the number of internships offered?*
 - The University has placed a cap at 50 students per semester. When full, students accepted to the internship program will be placed on a wait list. For this reason, early applications are strongly encouraged.
5. *Who can I contact if I have questions about the application process, or general questions about the University of Westminster program?*
 - Your first point of contact should be the University of Westminster's official website (www.westminster.ac.uk).
 - If your questions aren't answered by thoroughly checking the website, you can contact staff at the University of Westminster by e-mail at educationabroad@westminster.ac.uk
 - Alma College's Program Advisors and Off-Campus Studies staff are always available to help answer your questions.