



## Information Sheet 2020-21

### General Information

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<b>Main Contact (Students)</b>	Hazel Gerrard, International Assistant
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### Semester Dates

<b>Semester 1 (September – December 2020)</b>	
<b>Arrival weekend</b>	Saturday, 5 and Sunday, 6 September
<b>Orientation</b>	Monday, 7 September
<b>Registration/Welcome Week</b>	Tuesday, 8 – Friday, 11 September
<b>Classes begin</b>	Monday, 14 September
<b>Examinations begin</b>	Saturday, 5 December
<b>Term ends</b>	Friday, 18 December
<b>Semester 2 (January – May 2021)</b>	
<b>Arrival weekend</b>	Saturday, 9 and Sunday, 10 January
<b>Orientation</b>	Monday, 11 January
<b>Registration/Refreshers' Week</b>	Tuesday, 12 – Friday, 15 January
<b>Classes begin</b>	Monday, 18 January
<b>Spring break begins</b>	Friday, 2 April
<b>Spring break ends</b>	Monday, 26 April
<b>Examinations begin</b>	Saturday, 1 May
<b>Term ends</b>	Friday, 21 May

Academic Information	
Exchanges are only eligible for undergraduate students, unless otherwise stated in the bilateral exchange agreement	
Language of instruction	English
Standard academic course load	60 credits per semester (30 ECTS)
Average course credit load	15 credits per course / 30 credits for some upper level courses
Minimum full time course load	46 credits per semester
Maximum course load	75 credits (permission to overload past 60 credits must be granted by the student's Go Abroad Tutor at the University of Aberdeen)
Course restrictions	<p><b>No Availability:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Clinical Medicine &amp; Dentistry Courses</li> <li>• Level 4 English and Linguistic Courses</li> <li>• BM 4501 - Biomedical Science Honours Project</li> <li>• Level 4 Engineering Project Courses (e.g., EG4578: GROUP DESIGN PROJECT (BENG)).</li> </ul> <p><b>Limited Availability</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Education Courses</li> <li>• Level 3 English and Linguistic Courses</li> <li>• Environmental Field Courses – places are limited so students will only be able to enrol if the course is mandatory for her/his degree, space permitting</li> </ul> <p>Generally, courses at level 1 and level 2 are open to incoming students. Entry to courses at level 3 and level 4 require proof that the student has taken relevant prerequisites at their home university. Entry to Medicine and Dentistry courses is prohibited. Some level 3 and 4 courses (particularly in subjects such as English, History, Politics and Sixth Century courses) are capped. Students will be entered into an electronic lottery, along with Aberdeen students, to determine enrolment.</p> <p>Postgraduate exchange students in Law cannot take Diploma in Legal Practice (DLP) courses. These courses have a 'D' in the second-to-last digit of the course code (e.g., LS55DA). These courses are reserved for students with an LLB in Scots Law.</p>
Research Courses	<p>Exchange and study abroad students wishing to undertake research at the University in history and/or chemistry should be directed to the following courses:</p> <p>HI304J/HI354J: HISTORICAL RESEARCH FOR VISITING STUDENTS</p> <p>CM4032, CM4033, CM4034 and CM4532: CHEMISTRY (NON-GRADUATING)</p>
Course Guides/Syllabi	<p>Medical Science course guides can be found <a href="#">here</a>. Many History and History of Art course guides can be downloaded by clicking on the 'Download Course Guide' link in the <a href="#">course catalogue</a>. Other course guides can be obtained by emailing <a href="mailto:studyabroad@abdn.ac.uk">studyabroad@abdn.ac.uk</a></p>

### English Proficiency

Where the primary language of instruction at the home university is not English, applicants must satisfy the English language requirements for entry to the programme. Updated entry requirements can be found at: <http://www.abdn.ac.uk/study/international/undergraduate-degrees-english-requirements-268.php>

### Application and Nomination Procedures

<b>Nomination</b>	Nominated student details should be sent directly from our Exchange/Study Abroad partners. A link to our nomination form will be provided. Information required includes: student name, email address, degree/major, current level of study, and period applying for (S1, S2 or Full Year)
	Nominated students should have a GPA of 3.0 on a 4.0 scale or equivalent. Applicants with a GPA of 2.8 or above may be considered with endorsement from the home university.
<b>Application</b>	After they have been nominated by their home university, students will be provided with a link to our online application.
<b>Supporting documents</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Official academic transcript</li><li>• One Letter of reference from an academic</li><li>• English Language test results (if primary language of instruction at the home institution is not English)</li><li>• Photocopy of a valid passport</li></ul> <p>These documents can be uploaded directly to the online application. If some documents (e.g., passport photocopy) will be unavailable until after the application deadline, they can be emailed separately to <a href="mailto:studyabroad@abdn.ac.uk">studyabroad@abdn.ac.uk</a></p>

### Nomination Deadlines

<b>Academic year &amp; Semester 1</b>	1 June
<b>Semester 2</b>	15 September

### Application Deadlines

<b>Academic year &amp; Semester 1</b>	1 July
<b>Semester 2</b>	15 October

Submission of late applications should be requested and will be determined on a case-by-case basis.

### Accommodation

University accommodation is guaranteed to students as long as they apply by the stated deadline. Students will be emailed information on how to apply and the deadline for applications once they are accepted into the programme.

Most incoming students opt to live in [Hillhead Student Village](#), which is self-catered accommodation. Students may also apply to live in [Adam Smith House](#), which has catered options.

Updated costs for semester and year-long accommodation contracts are emailed to students by Hillhead at the point of acceptance.

## Student Visa

Students coming for one semester (six months or less) with a non-EU/EEA passport are entitled to enter the UK on a short-term student visa. The cost and process of applying for this visa depends on from where the student is applying/country of domicile. Students are not permitted to work in the UK while studying on this type of visa and must leave the UK within six months of the date of arrival.

Students coming for longer than six months on a non-EU/EEA passport must apply for a Tier 4 visa. This visa has a strict application process. Students are generally allowed to work up to 20 hours per week on this type of visa.

Information on [visa types](#) and how to apply are sent to students when they are offered a place at the University of Aberdeen.

## Cost of Living

UK Visas and Immigration indicate that Tier 4 students should have £1015 for each month that they will spend in the United Kingdom. Although no official advice is given for short-term student visa students, we suggest that semester exchange/study abroad students also budget £1015/month for living expenses. A further breakdown of costs can be found [here](#).

## Orientation and Arrival

Students are given a one-day orientation on the Monday after arrival weekend. This is then followed by a week of registration and induction where students will meet with their Go Abroad tutor (academic advisor) to finalise their curriculum, complete their registration and acquaint themselves with campus and the city.

## Transcripts

At the end of the period of study an academic transcript will be produced for each student. Students must give written permission for the release of these transcripts to their home university. Once we have this permission we will email the official transcript to the student's home university.

## Insurance

**Health/Medical Insurance:** Students coming for six months or less are required to purchase health/medical insurance in their home country before departing for Aberdeen. Although the National Health Service (NHS) in Scotland may provide some free healthcare services to these students, they cannot register as patients at NHS practices and there can be lengthy waiting times where preference may be given to permanent patients. Private insurance guarantees that the students will receive the relevant care in a timely manner.

**Tier 4:** Students coming for more than six months will be required to pay a healthcare surcharge as part of their Tier 4 visa application. This entitles them to register with a local NHS practice and to receive health care and free prescriptions. Comprehensive medical and travel insurance is still recommended, however, as students will likely travel outside of Scotland during their time in Aberdeen.

**Dual Citizens:** Students who have a UK passport will be eligible to use the NHS while in Scotland. EU/EEA passport holders (e.g., An Australian student with an Irish passport), should plan to use private health insurance, as it is unlikely that they will be eligible for a European Health Insurance Card. Again, comprehensive medical and travel insurance is still recommended in all cases, as students will likely travel outside of Scotland during their time in Aberdeen.

**Travel Insurance:** Students are also encouraged to purchase travel insurance that will cover their personal effects.