Welcome New International Students

Welcome to the UK
Collect your International welcome Pack at matriculation which includes a free mobile sim card and lots of useful information. After matriculation week, packs will be available to collect in the Global Room or the Enquiry Centre.

Cultural transitions
When you first arrive in a new culture, differences are intriguing and you may feel excited, stimulated and curious. At this stage you are still protected by the close memory of your home culture. A little later, differences may feel confusing, isolated or inadequate as cultural differences intrude and familiar supports are not immediately available. It might be helpful to realise that your experience is quite normal, you can read the following helpful guidance at: uod.ac.uk/cultureshock

Listen to some of our students experiences of arriving living in Dundee www.dundee.ac.uk/international/support/

LIVE Smart and LEARN Smart Signposts you to key information and online resources to help you during your studies. Provides help with wellbeing, healthy living, personal development and student life in Dundee. http://libguides.dundee.ac.uk/learnsmart

September 2019
A warm welcome to our new international and EU students. The University of Dundee has a wide range of support services across campus available to all students. For general advice and referrals, your first point of contact should be the Enquiry Centre, Campus Green (no. 21 on the campus map): www.dundee.ac.uk/studentservices. We also have Global Room (no. 4 on the campus map), which is a social space on campus for all staff and students to relax, meet new people and celebrate cultural events.

The International Advice Service (IAS) provide support and advice specifically for international students and their families, on a wide range of issues, including visa and immigration, practical guidance as well as links to local hospitality schemes. We understand that studying and living in a different country can be exciting and challenging and are fully aware of your primary concerns. This also applies to study abroad and exchange students who stay for a shorter period of time.

The IAS works within the Enquiry Centre, Campus Green and is open from Monday – Friday from 9 am – 5 pm. Visit our website at: www.dundee.ac.uk/international/support To make an appointment for specialist advice, please complete the online meeting form at www.dundee.ac.uk/international/support/meetingform or attend a drop-in session at the Global Room every Monday, Wednesday, Friday 11 am – 1 pm.

The University also has a high quality welcome programme uod.ac.uk/freshers with lots of events and opportunities to learn about all the support available and make friends. We hope you will enjoy your time in Dundee and take advantage of all that is on offer. Below are just some of the events you can attend from the Principal’s Official Welcome to the Taste of Scotland Welcome Party, there’s something for everyone.

Events

Principal’s Official Welcome Event
Monday 9th September 10:45 - 12:00, Caird Hall, City Square. Official welcome and procession by University Principal and Academics. Dress informal

International Welcome & Adapting to a New Culture
Friday 13th September 15:00 – 17:00, Global Room, Old College Hall
This event will be fun, interactive and informative hosted by International Advice Service. You will meet members of staff, representatives from our local international hospitality schemes, International Society and more. Learn about studying and living in new culture and environment. A chance to win a Highland trip worth £126. Free refreshments.

DUSA Freshers’ Fair
Saturday 14th September 11:00 – 15:00, Campus Green
Freshers’ Fair is the best way to meet societies, fellow students and get a lot of free things.

Peer Connections
Look out for events offered by the Peer Connectors who will welcome, buddy, mentor and help all students settle in, show you around, meet, mix and share information and experience with other students. www.dundee.ac.uk/studentservices/peer-connections Enquiry Centre, Campus Green (no.21 on the campus map)

International Society is the biggest society and one of the most active. Every year we are meeting people from different countries who share their experience with us. In return, we are connecting students through various events over the year showing them traditions and cultures from around the world. ISOC is organising various events throughout the year such as Trip to Highlands & Scotland, Treasure Hunt, Open Stage Night, Around the Worlds, Halloween Pumpkin Carving Competition, Nutella Day, International Food Festival, Ice Skating trips, Christmas lights events, BBQ and many others. We have members from different parts of the world, so feel free to join our society. You can contact us on Facebook at: https://www.facebook.com/internationalstudentsocietydundeeuniversity/ https://www.instagram.com/dusatheunion/

Email: internationalsociety@dundee.ac.uk

Student Calculator
The International Student Calculator will help you manage your money for your studies in the UK. It enables students to budget throughout the year, before and after arrival in the UK. Case studies are available for guidance with regards to time and money whilst in the UK international.studentcalculator.org.uk
Prepare for success
An interactive learning resource for to help you find out about different aspects of academic life in the UK and the skills needed for effective study:
www.prepareforsuccess.org.uk

Have you registered with a doctor yet?
All students are required to register with a local general practitioner (GP) This should be done as soon as possible after your arrival in Dundee. See the University’s Health Service website for more information about keeping healthy and how to register with a Doctor uod.ac.uk/gpreg

Friends in the Community
Friends International Dundee is a group of people living in Dundee who like to welcome international students. For further details see: www.dundee.ac.uk/international/support/friends-in-the-community

The University of Dundee ‘Taste of Scotland’
Welcome Ceilidh (Party)
Friday 4th October 19:00 – 23:00, Bonar Hall
Join our, staff and students for this traditional Scottish party. Enjoy a haggis supper, Burns poetry, Highland Dancers, bagpipes and join in the of Scottish country dancing to the excellent Ceilidh band. Tickets cost £6, pay by debit/credit card online at: http://uod.ac.uk/tasteofscotland

University of Dundee International Families’ Group – weekly get-together
Would you like to meet with other international students’ spouses and their children? Why not join us on Wednesday mornings? This is a good opportunity to practice speaking English and to make friends. Children can come and they play together. We meet every Wednesday morning during the university term time from 10am to 12pm in the Chaplaincy Centre. email: farquhars@friendsinternational.uk

Frequently asked questions from international students
The International Advice Service have prepared a range of factsheets which cover frequently asked questions, from government legislation and visa extensions, to practical information such as opening a bank account and applying for a National Insurance number. These factsheets are available to collect from the Enquiry Centre, Campus Green (no. 21 on the campus map), Global Room (no. 4 on the campus map). You can also view them online by visiting this webpage: www.dundee.ac.uk/international/support/factsheets

BREXIT information for EUEEA & Swiss Students As the UK prepares to exit the EU, we strongly advise you make an application for pre-settlement or settlement as soon as you arrive and before 31st December 2019 to ensure you will be eligible to stay to complete your studies
https://uod.ac.uk/int-2308 See also BREXIT FAQ's: https://uod.ac.uk/int-2301

Collection your BRP card at the Post Office If you have been issued a Tier 4 student visa you will be required to collect your BRP (Biometric Residence Permit) within 10 days of arrival in the UK. Please take your passport and any other relevant letters/documents to collect your BRP which you will need to have for matriculation/registration. The Post Office is a 5-10 minute walk from Campus at: 30 Whitehall Street, Dundee DD1 4AF uod.ac.uk/brpcollection

Registering with the Police
If you are required to register with the police when you arrive in the UK this will be stamped in your passport/stated on your letter from the Home Office. Police will be available on campus during welcome week when you will be asked to present a completed registration form, your passport and BRP card, 2 passport sized photographs and £34 cash. Look out for an email from tier4compliance with further instructions. If you arrive after welcome week you can register at the police station for more information see: uod.ac.uk/policereg

Fraud, tricks and scams
Be aware of scams (email, telephone call or letter) targeting students. For example, the scammer inform students that there is a problem with their original visa application and requests a payment to solve the issue. The scammer may pretend to be an officer from the Home Office, police, embassy, custom control. Under no circumstances, should you give personal details (bank, passport/visa, computer passwords) over the phone/email. For further information, see www.ukba.homeoffice.gov.uk/aboutus/scams

Student Services
Here to support students who have personal, health, disability or work related problems but also seek to help all students learn the personal skills needed to build the lives and careers they want. Being at University is about seeking out and responding to opportunities in all spheres of life, not just academic work, and Student Services support that search whether things are going well or not so well. www.dundee.ac.uk/studentservices

A large print version of this newsletter is available on request by calling 01382 383838. This newsletter can also be provided in a variety of formats.