Key facts

- The University of Edinburgh is an ancient university, founded in 1583, located in the heart of Edinburgh, Scotland’s vibrant capital city.

- Ranked 6th in the UK (Times Higher Education World University Rankings 2015-16) and consistently ranked as one of the top 50 Universities in the world.

- The University has approximately 35,000 students, with over 14,000 international students from more than 150 countries.

- Famous alumni include Charles Darwin (Naturalist), David Hume (Philosopher), Joseph Lister (Surgeon), Piers Sellers (NASA Astronaut), and writers Robert Louis Stevenson, Ian Rankin and J K Rowling.
International Office

Contacts
Clare Swindells  Study Abroad Officer
Sophie Richardson  Study Abroad Adviser

Contact us: www.ed.ac.uk/study-abroad/contacts

International Office
33 Buccleuch Place
Edinburgh EH8 9JS
Scotland, UK.

t: +44 (0)131 650 4296

www.ed.ac.uk/study-abroad

Chat to us online
Students can register for one of our online information sessions:
www.ed.ac.uk/study-abroad/chat-to-us-online

University campuses

George Square (GS)
This is the central University campus, teaching the majority of subjects within the College of Humanities & Social Science. The School of Informatics and parts of the School of GeoSciences are also based there. GS is also home to the Main Library, Career service, Students’ Association, and a range of other student services.

The King’s Buildings (KB)
This is the main campus of the College of Science and Engineering housing the majority of our seven Schools, 2 km south of GS.

For campus maps please see our website:
www.ed.ac.uk/maps

The University provides a free shuttle bus service for students to travel between the Central campus and the King’s Buildings. For more information on our free shuttle service please see the website:
www.ed.ac.uk/schools-departments/transport/public-transport/buses/shuttle-bus
Academic year 2016-17

Semester 1
- Accommodation Move-in: 10 Sept 2016
- International Day: 11 Sept 2016
- Welcome week: 10 – 18 Sept 2016
- Teaching: 19 Sept – 02 Dec 2016
- Exams: 08 – 21 Dec 2016

Semester 2
- Accommodation Move-in: 11 Jan 2017
- January Welcome: 11 – 15 Jan 2017
- Teaching: 16 Jan – 07 April 2017
- Spring break: 10 – 21 April 2017
- Exams: 01 – 26 May 2017

Please check with the University website nearer the start of the year in case of unforeseen changes: www.ed.ac.uk/news/semester-dates

Welcome Week is not obligatory but it is a useful time for students to settle in, meet their Personal Tutor and finalise their courses etc.

Academic information

Academic entry requirements
To apply to study on Erasmus exchange you must:
- Be nominated by your home university to study on an Erasmus exchange agreement
- Have achieved a GPA of 3.0 or over on a 4.0 scale or equivalent (B average)

For more information on entry requirements: www.ed.ac.uk/study-abroad/how-to-apply/academic-entry-requirements

Looking for courses
You will find a list of the courses available to exchange students on the web site: www.ed.ac.uk/study-abroad/course

Students should ensure that the majority of their subjects are in the agreed subject area of the Erasmus agreement and that for any courses they must meet the equivalent of stated prior study requirements and English language requirements.

If you need additional information about any particular course, please fill in our online enquiry form at: www.ed.ac.uk/study-abroad/contacts

Subject-specific exchanges
If you are on a subject-specific exchange, you are effectively swapping places with an Edinburgh student who has gone to study at your home university in the agreed subject area.

You should select at least two thirds of your courses in the agreed subject area.

It may be possible to take one course per semester outside your subject area. If you intend to do this, please choose from our first and second year courses only.

We will aim to place you in your preferred courses but cannot guarantee this.
Modern language exchange
If you are applying under a Modern European Languages exchange, you will probably be studying English at your home university. You can take a variety of first and second year courses here in Edinburgh.

Entry into honours level courses
Year 3 and Year 4 courses are called honours courses.

All honours level classes have strict prior study requirements and in some subjects there are limited places available. For enrolment in many honours courses, we require visiting students to have completed at least three or four previous courses in the relevant subject area, achieving a grade B or above (or equivalent).

Students are not guaranteed admission to any honours course; however we will aim to place you in your preferred course.

Courses with high demand
The below courses are high-demand, with many qualified students seeking entry to a limited number of places:

- Art and Design elective courses
- English Literature *
- History
- History of Art
- Philosophy
- Politics & International Relations

* Places in English Literature honours courses are usually not available unless you are nominated under an English Literature agreement so we recommend that you consider our first and second year English Literature courses - which Erasmus students have, in the past, found to be interesting and sufficiently academically rigorous.

The below courses are also rarely available to students who are not on a direct exchange in the subject area:

- Education
- Law
- Nursing
- Sport

Programs & courses not open to exchange students

- Medicine
- Veterinary Medicine and studio based classes such as Architecture, Art and Design are not available to exchange students unless they are coming under an Erasmus agreement in that subject area.
- Parliamentary programme

Credit system
Under the semester system the majority of our courses will be 20 credit (Semester) or 40 credit (Year) courses. Students are expected to take the normal academic load of 60 credits per semester.

- 2 Edinburgh credits = 1 ECTS.

Students are not permitted to take more than 60 credits per semester and cannot normally take less credits:

www.ed.ac.uk/study-abroad/courses-credits/credits-grading-transcripts

Making changes to your course list
If you want to make changes to your course list after you have submitted your application then please contact us by filling in our online enquiry form at:

www.ed.ac.uk/study-abroad/contacts

Please note that the last opportunity to add or drop courses will be the end of the 2nd teaching week and no changes will be allowed after that.

Transcripts
An academic transcript will normally be issued by the end of the following February (for semester one students) and by the end of the following August (for semester two and full-year students).

One hard copy transcript will be automatically sent to your home university address you give us in your application.

If you or a third party require a copy of your transcript you can order an electronic transcript via the Electronic Document Service:

www.ed.ac.uk/student-administration/electronic-document-service

You can also request a hard copy of your transcript be sent to you by selecting “Request an academic transcript” at the following link:

www.ed.ac.uk/student-administration/order-documents/transcripts

The University does not automatically send transcripts after resits. In this instance an updated transcript must be requested by the student/home institution to:

infopoint@ed.ac.uk

Certificate of Arrival and Departure and Learning Agreements
As an Erasmus student it is most likely that you will need us to sign your Learning Agreement, Certificate of Arrival and Departure. Please fill them in and then take these to your College Visiting Student Office (VSO), contact details for your VSO can be found here:

www.ed.ac.uk/study-abroad/help-for-you/academic-support

It is your responsibility to return the signed documents to your home institution. Please note that the Erasmus grant relates to your study period at the University of Edinburgh and so the dates on your form must fall within our Academic Calendar.
Application process

Your home university will need to nominate you.
Your university will receive instructions on how to nominate you in February.
When we receive your nomination we will send you an email inviting you to apply online to the University of Edinburgh.
You must apply online to the University of Edinburgh as well as being nominated by your home university.
Please read the application guide which will take you through the online application step-by-step: www.ed.ac.uk/study-abroad/how-to-apply
To apply you should create an online account with us.
You will get a username and a password, which will allow you to track your application through its various stages.
You will need to upload copies of an official transcript and a personal statement.
Erasmus students are not required to submit an academic reference.
Students applying to do courses in Art, Design, Architecture or Landscape Architecture do not normally need to submit a portfolio.

Application deadlines
It is important that you apply by the deadline as we cannot accept late applications.
Applications must be submitted by the following deadlines:
• 31 May for students starting in September
• 31 October for students starting in January
Late applications will not be considered.

English language requirements

As a nominated Erasmus student you should have already achieved a good level of English equivalent to B2 in the Common European Framework of Reference for language (CEFR).
If you are applying for courses in the subject area of the Erasmus agreement, or for 1st or 2nd year courses in other subjects, then you do not need to provide evidence of your level of English.
You should note that you will be taking classes along with other students who will either be native English speakers or will have a level of English IELTS Overall 6.5 with 5.5 or above in each component.
You will need to provide evidence of your English level if you require a visa to study here.

English requirements for honours courses
You only need to produce evidence of your English level if you wish to take honours level courses outside of your subject area agreement.
Please refer to our Erasmus English requirements:
www.ed.ac.uk/study-abroad/how-to-apply/english-language-requirements

In-session language assistance
A range of academic language skills tuition, intensive credit courses and independent study materials are open to exchange students who require English language support whilst studying for their degree.
Please refer to the English Language Teaching Centre for more information:
www.ed.ac.uk/schools-departments/english-language-teaching

Pre-session language testing
If you do not have an English certificate then you can sit an optional free English test during orientation when you arrive in Edinburgh.
*Please note that at the time of your free English test a lot of honours courses may already be full, therefore if you would like to enrol in an honours course before arrival then you will need to submit an English certificate as part of your online application.
Visa requirements

If you are not an EU national, then you are required to apply for a visa.

If you are coming to the UK to study for more than 6 months, you should apply for a Tier 4 General visa before travelling to Edinburgh:
www.ed.ac.uk/international-office/immigration/new-students/tier-4-general-visa

If you are studying here for less than 6 months and you do not wish to work, extend your studies in the UK or bring dependents, then you can apply to come to the UK as a short term student.
www.ed.ac.uk/international-office/immigration/new-students/short-term-student

Nationals of some countries can travel to the UK for up to six months without needing to apply for a visa before travelling. These are called ‘non-visa nationals’. If you are a non-visa national, you can ask for permission to be admitted to the UK when you arrive at immigration control.

For more information check our visa pages:
www.ed.ac.uk/study-abroad/help-for-you/visa-requirements

If you are planning to apply for the short-term student visa upon arrival at the UK port, you must not travel via the Republic of Ireland.

Living costs
(Basic living costs based on 2015/16 prices)

For each month students are resident in Edinburgh they should allow themselves the following sums of money to cover their expenses in the academic session.

Estimated monthly costs

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Lower range</th>
<th>Upper range</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Rent</td>
<td>£360</td>
<td>£700</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Food</td>
<td>£140</td>
<td>£250</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gas/electricity*</td>
<td>£40</td>
<td>£80</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Internet</td>
<td>£20</td>
<td>£60</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mobile phone</td>
<td>£10</td>
<td>£50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Laundry/toiletries</td>
<td>£10</td>
<td>£40</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Printing, stationery, photocopying, text books</td>
<td>£25</td>
<td>£50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total per month</td>
<td>£605</td>
<td>£1,230</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Most University accommodation includes gas and electricity costs

Further expenses

In the unfortunate circumstance of a student failing an exam, the student will be liable to pay the charge for a resit examination.

A more detailed break down of living costs is available on our website:
www.ed.ac.uk/studying/international/finance/cost-of-living

Travel

Most students live near the University and can easily walk to classes. If students find accommodation further away from the university, but still within the city boundary, they may need to budget for bus travel, around £45 for a 4-week travel card.
Accommodation

Students should submit their accommodation application online: [www.ed.ac.uk/study-abroad/help-for-you/accommodation](http://www.ed.ac.uk/study-abroad/help-for-you/accommodation)

Search the range of university accommodation available on the Accommodation website: [www.accom.ed.ac.uk](http://www.accom.ed.ac.uk)

**Full year students**

Full year Erasmus students are guaranteed accommodation, providing their application is submitted in good time. The final deadline for receipt of accommodation applications for September is 30 August and 30 November for January starts.

Our Res Life team are there to help students get the most out of their experience in University accommodation: [www.accom.ed.ac.uk/residence-life](http://www.accom.ed.ac.uk/residence-life)

**Semester Only students**

Students here for a single semester are NOT guaranteed accommodation. However we would advise that you still submit a university accommodation application in case there are spaces left.

If there are no rooms available in university accommodation, you will be placed on a waiting list and you will need to look for private accommodation.

Finding semester only private accommodation in Edinburgh can be difficult, therefore students should be prepared to spend time researching their housing options.

Accommodation Services have useful information and advice for students looking for private accommodation: [www.accom.ed.ac.uk/accommodation/private-housing](http://www.accom.ed.ac.uk/accommodation/private-housing)

**Tenancy scams**

It is important that you do not send money to anyone for accommodation before viewing the property.

You should also verify that the person is the actual landlord or letting agent and see the tenancy agreement before paying money to them.

**Early arrivals**

Please check details with Accommodation Services: accom.allocations@ed.ac.uk

Health & personal insurance

All students on a full-time course of studies in Scotland are eligible for National Health Service (NHS) treatment. NHS treatment is provided for free however, you may have to pay for dentistry and some more specialised services. If you are coming to the UK on a Tier 4 visa then you will need to pay an immigration health surcharge when making your visa application. This charge will allow you equal access to the National Health Service (NHS).

You should register with a Doctor soon after your arrival in case you need medical advice/treatment whilst you are here.

Students may like to consider taking out medical insurance cover for travel.

For further information please refer to: [www.ed.ac.uk/staff-students/students/new-students/health-insurance](http://www.ed.ac.uk/staff-students/students/new-students/health-insurance)

Students should ensure that they take out adequate insurance protection to cover personal items, such as baggage, books, personal computers etc. Insurance is included in the rent for students who are in university accommodation.
Computing facilities

The University has a number of open-access labs and there is an extensive network of wireless points throughout the University sites.

The University’s residential networking system provides a telephone, data and internet service to around 85% of students in our residential accommodation. For more detailed information please refer to: www.accom.ed.ac.uk/services/it-facilities

Student services

University Leisure Activities

- **The Centre for Sport and Exercise (CSE)** - The sport and exercise facilities are ranked among the very best in the UK.
  www.ed.ac.uk/sport-exercise
- **Student Union** - Teviot, the oldest purpose built Student Union in the world, opened in 1889.
  www.eusa.ed.ac.uk/eatdrink/teviot/bars-and-cafes
- **Student societies** - Students can choose from a variety of over 240 societies (65 sport clubs).
  www.eusa.ed.ac.uk/activities/societies/findasociety
- **Edinburgh Buddies** - Exchange students can have a buddy to help them adjust to life here in Edinburgh.
  www.eusa.ed.ac.uk/activities/eusaglobal/buddies

University Services available to visiting students

- **Main Library** – Newly refurbished and the largest of Edinburgh University’s Libraries
  www.ed.ac.uk/schools-departments/information-services/library-museum-gallery
- **Advice Place** – Professional, free, impartial and confidential advice offered to all students
  www.eusa.ed.ac.uk/adviceplace
- **Nightline** – a confidential phone and online support service run by students for students.
  ednightline.com
- **Student Disability Office** – Guidance and support offered for disabled students
  www.ed.ac.uk/student-disability-service
- **Career Services** – Advisers specialised in providing career support to students in particular schools.
  www.ed.ac.uk/careers

New student guide

The ‘New students’ website, which is updated each semester is a source of useful information.

www.ed.ac.uk/new-students

Useful links

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Service</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Study Abroad Website</td>
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<td>International Student Centre</td>
<td><a href="http://www.ed.ac.uk/studying/international/student-life/isc">www.ed.ac.uk/studying/international/student-life/isc</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Student Association</td>
<td><a href="http://www.eusa.ed.ac.uk">www.eusa.ed.ac.uk</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Course Finder</td>
<td><a href="http://www.ed.ac.uk/study-abroad/course">www.ed.ac.uk/study-abroad/course</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tourist Information</td>
<td><a href="http://www.visitscotland.com">www.visitscotland.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>University Computing Services</td>
<td><a href="http://www.ed.ac.uk/information-services">www.ed.ac.uk/information-services</a></td>
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