

NKU Academic Exchange in Glasgow, Scotland



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Spend a semester or an academic year studying at
Glasgow Caledonian University!

A brief introduction...



Office of Education Abroad
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NKU Academic Exchanges

The Office of Education Abroad offers academic exchanges as a study abroad option for independent and mature NKU students interested in a semester or year-long immersion experience in another country. The information in this packet is meant to provide an overview of the experience available through an academic exchange in Glasgow, Scotland. However, please keep in mind that this information, especially that regarding visa requirements, is subject to change. It is the responsibility of each NKU student participating in an exchange to take the initiative in the pre-departure process with regards to visa application, application to the exchange university, air travel arrangements, housing arrangements, and pre-approval of courses. Before and after departure for an academic exchange, the Office of Education Abroad will remain a resource and guide for participating exchange students.

Scotland

Scotland, located north of England, is one of the four constituent countries that make up the United Kingdom. Though kilts, haggis, bagpipes, whiskey, and sheep may come to mind when thinking of Scotland, the country certainly has much more to offer. The capital city Edinburgh, where the Medieval Old Town contrasts with the elegant Georgian New Town has an old-fashioned feel and unbeatable festivals. Glasgow is famous for high-end shopping, world-class museums, a wealth of Victorian architecture and bright, cheery inhabitants. Spectacular islands, beaches and the Highland countryside - a wild, beautiful tumble of raw mountain peaks and deep glassy lakes - complete the picture. Everywhere you'll find ancient castles and houses, prehistoric forts, and stone circles. Scotland consists of the southern Lowland area, a region of moorland and pastoral scenery – where most of the population is concentrated – and the northern Highlands, dominated by the Grampian Mountains. The whole of the exceedingly beautiful coastline is indented with lochs, including Loch Ness. Varied is the perfect word to describe the climate of Scotland. While the weather is relatively mild, but often wet, in the Lowlands, the Highlands can have extreme weather at any time. The official language of Scotland is English, although Gaelic is still spoken by some people, mostly in the upland areas.

Glasgow

Glasgow, situated on the River Clyde in the west central lowlands, is the largest and wealthiest city in Scotland. With over one million people living in the greater Glasgow area, Glaswegians account for more than 40% percent of the whole Scottish population. There are three universities in the city, providing a student population of more than 40,000 students, which makes living in Glasgow lively and interesting. Glasgow, one of Europe's most fashionable and spirited cities, is now the UK's third most popular tourist destination. Its cosmopolitan nature is reflected in the many and varied amenities available from Kelvingrove Museum to the stadiums of Glasgow's two rival soccer teams. Glasgow also features the Theatre Royale, home of Scottish Opera and Ballet, and the world's tallest cinema. In 1990 Glasgow was named the European Capital of Culture and in 2003 it was named the European Capital of Sport. During the coldest month of the year, January, expect temperatures around 35°F and in July, when its warmest, temperatures rarely go higher than 65°F.

Glasgow Caledonian University

One of the biggest universities in Scotland, Glasgow Caledonian's student population exceeds 15,000. The university hosts over 400 international students from more than 90 different countries,

giving GCU a truly cosmopolitan atmosphere. The university offers modern facilities and a variety of courses to suit many academic disciplines. Currently, the university has over 90 undergraduate and 40 postgraduate programs. GCU is located in the center of the city and is just minutes away from the main bus station. The academic year in Scotland is divided into two semesters – semester A runs from September through December and semester B runs from the end of January through May.

Housing

University housing is available at Glasgow Caledonian University and can be rented for one full semester as available. Caledonian Court is a complex of modern student apartments set in landscaped grounds right across the street from the main campus. Each apartment contains five to eight bedrooms with a shared kitchen and common space. There are two types of rooms available including an “Ensuite Room” which is a single bedroom complete with shower and bathroom. The other option is for students to have a single bedroom and share a bathroom with his/her other “flatmates”. In both types of accommodation, furniture, bed linens, pillows, common kitchen utensils, and broadband Internet connections are provided. The Accommodation Office staff gives advice and guidance on all aspects of accommodation and the 24-hour security staff is always at your service as well.

Transportation

Glasgow is a city easily discovered on foot and is well served by buses, local trains, and a small underground system -- making it a breeze to get around the city. The city’s main bus station, Buchanan Bus Station, is conveniently located right across the street from GCU. Buses are a simple and convenient way to take a day trip to Edinburgh, only 45 minutes away, or travel around the whole of Scotland. There are also two British Rail mainline stations located in Glasgow that connect with most other Scottish and British cities. Outside of Scotland, the European train system is highly efficient and dependable and budget airlines often offer great deals.

Visa and Health Insurance

Students who participate in the semester academic exchange will not require a visa for entry into the United Kingdom. However, you will need a valid passport, an official acceptance letter from the university, and evidence of financial support to enter the country.

Full-time students in Scotland do not have to pay medical charges for consultations with general practitioners and hospital treatments. Since this does not cover any other medical or dental treatments, students are advised to purchase additional health insurance if their U.S. health insurance does not provide sufficient coverage overseas.

Useful Links

Glasgow Caledonian University: <http://www.gcal.ac.uk>

U.S. Department of State Information: <http://travel.state.gov/uk.html>

Information on Scotland: <http://www.scotland.org>

General Living Expenses Glasgow Caledonian, Scotland Semester Estimated Budget

Please use the following budget only as a general guide for expenses for one semester. Also note that expenses are estimated and subject to fluctuate according to currency rates* and general economic inflation.

Tuition	\$4236	(undergraduate, in-state tuition for 12-16 hours)
Passport	\$135	
Round-trip airfare	\$1,400	
Accommodation	\$3,200	
Food	\$1,500	
Books and supplies	\$100	
Health insurance	\$250	
Personal spending	<u>\$2,000</u>	(shopping, entertainment, travel etc.)
Total	\$12,149	

*July 2014 currency rate: **1 British pound = 1.71 U.S. dollars**