WELCOME TO NEWCASTLE UNIVERSITY

AND YOUR STUDENTS’ UNION 2017
There’s something for everyone here at Newcastle. We’re here to help you meet new people, have some fun and get settled into life at Newcastle University with the support of your Students’ Union! You can pick and mix from a range of events that are relevant to you. If you have any questions about any of the activities, just get in touch using the contact details below.

Looking forward to seeing you soon!

Contact details

Newcastle University:
WWW.NCL.AC.UK/ENQUIRIES

Students’ Union:
WWW.NUSU.CO.UK/WELCOME
✉️ WELCOME.UNION@NCL.AC.UK
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DATE</th>
<th>EVENT</th>
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<tr>
<td>Wed 20 Sep</td>
<td>Meet &amp; Mingle</td>
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<td>Campfire Cooking in the Woods</td>
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<td>City Essentials Walking Tour</td>
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<td>Micro-Volunteering: Conservation</td>
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<td>University Campus Tour</td>
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<td>Evening tickets collection</td>
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<td>Evening Events - Bowling &amp; Dinner</td>
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<td>Micro-Volunteering: Homelessness</td>
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<td>Sightseeing Bus Tour</td>
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<td>Welcome Fair at NUSU</td>
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<td>City &amp; Uni Welcome Reception</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fri 22 Sep</td>
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<td>Social Badminton</td>
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<td>Whitby Bus Trip - to the seaside!</td>
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<td>Micro-Volunteering: Bag/ Food Making!</td>
<td>11am - 2pm</td>
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<td>Freshers Week</td>
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<td>Sun 24 Sep</td>
<td>Campfire Cooking in the Woods</td>
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<td>Mon 25 Sep</td>
<td>Freshers Week</td>
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<td>Tues 26 Sep</td>
<td>Freshers Week</td>
<td>All day</td>
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<td>Wed 27 Sep</td>
<td>Freshers Week</td>
<td>All day</td>
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<td>Thurs 28 Sep</td>
<td>PG Events start today!</td>
<td>All day</td>
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<td>Fri 29 Sep</td>
<td>Holy Island Day Trip</td>
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<td>Sat 30 Sep</td>
<td>Freshers Week</td>
<td>All day</td>
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**KEY**

- **INTERNATIONAL WELCOME**
- **EARLY ARRIVALS**
- **FRESHERS’ WEEK**
- **POSTGRADUATE ACTIVITIES**
The International Welcome Programme provides you with all of the information you need to make your stay and study at Newcastle University as easy, enjoyable and successful as possible. Use this series of events to meet other students, make friends and get to know the campus and city!

**AIRPORT MEET AND GREET SERVICE**

If you are flying in to Newcastle International Airport between 19-21 September you can use our Meet and Greet Service, which will transport you free of charge from the airport to your University accommodation or to the main Newcastle University Campus.

Register for your place at: [www.ncl.ac.uk/pre-arrival/international/airport](http://www.ncl.ac.uk/pre-arrival/international/airport)

We are also operating a Welcome Desk, from 18–22 September to answer any questions you may have.

This will be located near International Arrivals and our friendly team will be there to help you.

**INFORMATION SESSIONS**

A number of information sessions will cover many different aspects of life and study in Newcastle and local businesses will also be there to talk to you, and tell you about the services they offer in Newcastle. You must attend one of the sessions called Welcome and we recommend doing this as soon as possible, as this gives you important information about completing your Registration at Newcastle. If you are a Tier 4 Visa holder you must also attend one of the Immigration advice for non-EU Students Sessions. We encourage you to attend as many of the other sessions as possible. For a full list of sessions, see page 7.

**CITY AND UNIVERSITY WELCOME RECEPTION**

Friday 22 September at 6pm

This is the official welcome to Newcastle, for international students. A fantastic event, with speeches from the Pro-Vice-Chancellor and the Sheriff of Newcastle. A great opportunity to celebrate starting at Newcastle, with your new friends, and a perfect end to your first week.

This year the event is organised in conjunction with the Students’ Union, who will provide music and entertainment following the official welcome. This event is free, but students will need a ticket, available from the Information Desk at the Herschel Building, 11am–1pm from 20–22 Sep.

**UNIVERSITY ENGLISH LANGUAGE ASSESSMENT**

The University English Language Assessment (UELA) is for all new students for whom English is not their first language. It does not affect your entry onto your academic programme, but assesses whether you would benefit from In-sessional English Language classes. Assessment sessions will take place following your arrival in September. Those taking place during International Welcome are listed below.

The following UELA sessions take place in Lecture Theatre 3 on the Ground Floor of the Herschel Building:

- **Wednesday 20 September:** 1pm–3pm / 3pm–5pm
- **Thursday 21 September:** 10am–12pm / 1pm–3pm / 3pm–5pm
- **Friday 22 September:** 10am–12pm / 1pm–3pm / 3pm–5pm

**PARENTS RECEPTION WITH THE VICE-CHANCELLOR**

Wednesday 20th 6pm-8pm

Parents of incoming students are invited to a special reception with Vice-Chancellor and President, Professor Chris Day. Please join Professor Day from 6pm–8pm in the Armstrong Reception Room, Armstrong Building, Newcastle University (campus map reference 22) for the opportunity to meet with Newcastle University staff and fellow parents. We will welcome you to the Newcastle University network by celebrating the start of your family’s Newcastle journey and providing ways that you can stay connected to the University, wherever you are in the world. Please register at the Information Desk in the Herschel Building.
Information Sessions

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<tr>
<th>Session</th>
<th>Description</th>
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<tr>
<td>Accommodation Service</td>
<td>For students who have not yet had accommodation allocated, or are having problems with their accommodation. The opportunity to put any questions to accommodation staff, and find out your options.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Adjusting to life overseas</td>
<td>Culture shock from moving to a new country and how to avoid it.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Careers Service</td>
<td>Whether you’re looking for a graduate career, starting your own business or embarking on further study, Newcastle University’s award-winning Careers Service can provide advice and support. Find out about the services they offer.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Immigration advice for non-EU students</td>
<td>An important session for any students not from the EU. Attending one session is compulsory for Tier 4 Visa students.</td>
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<td>Language Resource Centre</td>
<td>Find out about the facilities available, improve your English, and share your language with other students.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Learning at Newcastle</td>
<td>A great opportunity to find out about the study skills you will need to study, and modes of assessment used here.</td>
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<td>Library Services</td>
<td>More than just books, find out about the collections held at the Library and how to get the most out of the resources there.</td>
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<td>ncl+</td>
<td>The ncl+ Award offers you the chance to gain official recognition for activities and achievements outside of your studies. Find out how to take part.</td>
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<td>Personal finance</td>
<td>Our on campus bank, Santander, explains how to open a student bank account.</td>
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<td>Personal safety</td>
<td>How to be safe in Newcastle and look after your possessions.</td>
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International Students

Religion at Newcastle

The Chaplaincy team is currently made up of several Christian chaplains, a Buddhist chaplain and a Jewish chaplain, and is committed to religious tolerance, diversity and respect. Further information on the faith provisions in Newcastle and how to get involved.

Sports Centre

All you need to know about Newcastle University’s on campus Sports Centre to help you decide if you would like to join and the benefits members enjoy.

Student Advice Centre

Find out where to turn if you have any problems at Newcastle. Information, advice, assistance and representation on a wide range of issues including academic, disciplinary, finance, and accommodation.

Newcastle University Students’ Union

Find out how to get involved with NUSU, and all of the services and social and extra-curricular activities they offer.

Session for parents of students

A session for any parents who have travelled to Newcastle with their children and would like to know more about the University and the City.

Postgraduate student session

If you are a postgraduate student, this session is for you, as it is about all things relating to PG study and the PG experience at Newcastle.
WELCOME PROGRAMME TIMETABLE

All events take place in the Herschel Building on campus other than the City and University Welcome Reception.

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Welcome to Newcastle University and your students’ union! EARLY ARRIVALS WEEK IS OPEN TO ALL STUDENTS! Local, post-grad, international, anyone! This is for you all!

We’re here to help you meet new people, have some fun and get settled into life at Newcastle University! Here’s the social side of your first week.

Some activities require tickets, and you can book here: www.nusu.co.uk/earlyarrivals

Tuesday 19 September
Meet and Mingle
Come and meet other new students, play some ping pong, ask current students and staff your questions and visit your Students’ Union.

6pm–8pm, NUSU Building, Luther’s Bar.
FREE. No tickets – just come along!

Wednesday, Thursday, Friday 20–22 September
City Essentials Walking Tour
Come and learn where the main shops, services and essentials are in your new home city! Especially useful for international students: info on banks, phones, doctors, etc. Meet outside NUSU front entrance – look for the signs!

Wednesday – 10.30am or 3pm
Thursday – 10.30am or 3pm
Friday – 10.30am
FREE – sign up online

Go Volunteer
Get a taster of some of our popular volunteer opportunities!

Wednesday – Campfire Cooking in the woods!
Conservation Society activities (make a birdfeeder).

Thursday – Cockle Park Farm tours
NEST: Refugee support micro-volunteering

Friday – Bee Society micro-volunteering
Help Our Homeless micro-volunteering
Stu Brew Brewery tours

Saturday – Cockle Park Farm – get hands-on at the Uni farm!
Micro-volunteering: fun with food!

Sunday – Campfire cooking in the woods!
More details online!

Wednesday 20 and Thursday 21 September
Tour of St James’ Park
Newcastle United Football Ground
Go behind the scenes to see the changing rooms, visit the dugout, go pitch side and see the amazing view from the very top of the stadium!

Time: 3.30pm (Wednesday) or 11.30am (Thursday) £4 per student – sign up online

Evening events
Half of you will be going bowling on Wednesday, and half will go out for a free big dinner! On Thursday, you’ll swap and do the other activity. Collect an Evening Pass on Wednesday from 4pm at Luther’s Bar and check which you’re doing. 400 available, first come, first served.

Traditional English Roast Dinner at the Carvery
The way to people’s hearts is through their stomachs, so make new friends over some free dinner, with unlimited ice cream for dessert!

Meeting point – Luther’s Bar, NUSU Building 6pm. FREE – bring your evening pass!
Walking time = 5 minutes

Bowling Party
We’re whisking you away for a night at the bowling alley. You’ll find fast friends in your lane, share some laughs, guaranteed to get you talking!

Meeting point – Luther’s Bar, NUSU Building 6pm. FREE – bring your evening pass! Walking time = 15 minutes

Wednesday, Thursday, Friday 20–22 September
University Campus Tour
If you didn’t get a chance to be shown around campus on an Open Day, experience it now!

One hour tour.

Meet outside NUSU front entrance – look for the signs!

Thursday 21 September
Badminton for Fun!
Come and play social badminton! We have racquets you can use, just come along in sportswear and trainers and we’ll organise you into games! All genders and abilities welcome.

2–3pm – University Sports Centre, Sports Hall (1st floor) FREE – no tickets, just come along!

5-a-side Football Tournament
Come along if you fancy a game of football, we’ll sort out teams!

3–5pm – University Sports Centre, Sports Hall (1st floor) FREE – no tickets, just come along!

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ALL STUDENTS

Friday 22nd September

‘Bring Your Own’ Food Picnic

Bring some food to share from your own culture (or just something you love!) and meet students old and new over some yummy treats!

Friday 12-2pm. Free – meet outside NUSU in the Tent and bring some food!

Newcastle Sightseeing Bus Tour

Take a 90-minute journey enjoying the view from a double decker open-top bus! You will visit the many bridges of the River Tyne at the Quayside, learn about Newcastle through history and admire the architecture and stories that have made Newcastle the wonderful city that you now call home! Meet outside NUSU front entrance.

Friday 11.30am and 1.30pm
£3 per student – sign up online

WELCOME DAY at NUSU!

A whole building showcase of what’s on offer at your Students’ Union – do not miss! Free food for the first 500 students! Activities, clubs and societies, free massage, mini-zoo with cute (and creepy!) animals, photographers, music, information and MORE!

12pm–3pm
FREE – no tickets, just come along!

Celebration Reception and Welcome Party!

Be welcomed by the Sheriff of Newcastle and Pro-Vice-Chancellor of the University at the official welcome event for International students (including a FREE buffet) then stick around for a party like no other at your Students’ Union!

6-8pm – City and University Welcome Reception
8–11pm – Fiesta Welcome Party
11pm–late – UNICORN Nightclub

FREE – NUSU Venue
Tickets required for entry into the Welcome Reception – available from the Herschel Building Information Desk during the Induction Sessions for International Students.

Saturday 23rd September

Whitby Bus Trip

Come on a day trip to see some of the beautiful coastline of the North East of England and visit the stunning seaside town of Whitby in North Yorkshire. Famous for its Dracula associations, you can see the sights and enjoy a British tradition - fish and chips! Coach journey length: 72 miles.

10am–6pm £10 per student – sign up online

FRESHERS’ WEEK
24–29 SEPTEMBER
from your Students’ Union

Newcastle University Freshers’ Week is one of the biggest and most diverse in the country, with a huge range of activities to suit EVERYONE. Be a part of it!

As well as big night-time events, there are non-drinking/alternative events every evening, a huge range of daytime activities and so much more included in the ticket price (a wristband that gives you entry to everything). This page aims to dispel some of the common myths held about Freshers’, and give you some recommendations about what you can get involved with, from like-minded students!

Keep an eye on the website www.nusufreshers.co.uk for all the latest information; the countdown is live now!

FAQs

I have lectures every day; can I still go on daytime activities?

Yes, all the morning activities are repeated at least once after 2pm and we have agreed with the University that there will be no compulsory lectures after 2pm.

Isn’t Freshers’ Week only for 18 year olds?

This year we have a larger focus on night time events that don’t end with a club night in town like comedy nights, a burlesque show and an ‘Old Hollywood’ formal dinner. Last year we ran 293 daytime activities and we aim to run more this year, most of which are suitable for ALL ages and personalities.

I don’t drink, isn’t the wristband a waste of money?

95% of our activities are alcohol-free! The majority of events are daytime activities or non-drinking evening events, these run from Sunday 24 – Friday 29 September.
I have two young children, how can I get involved?

There are literally hundreds of daytime activities to choose from which are repeated throughout the week, so you can choose a session that suits your commitments. In addition, the alternative evening events tend to finish at a reasonable time, so you can be back for the babysitter!

TESTIMONIAL RECOMMENDATIONS

We asked different students about their freshers’ experience:

Mature student: “I didn’t really want to attend all the big nights out planned for freshers as I have a lot of other responsibilities including a part-time job. However, I purchased a freshers’ wristband as I’d heard it was really good value for money and I wanted to get to know the city. I ended up doing something nearly every night and so much during the day!”

International student: “As an international student from China, I was a bit apprehensive about freshers’ week as I thought it was all about drinking and partying. I did enjoy some of the night times but my favourite activities included seeing the city. I found this was a great way to make friends who had similar interests”

Local student: “I’ve lived in Newcastle all my life and also stayed at home during my freshers’ year. At first I thought I might get a bit left out, but there were meeting points outside Luther’s specifically for home students so I got to know others before the nights out. I also went to some of the activities during Early Arrivals Week at the Union, where I got to know other local students.”

How do I buy a wristband?

Wristbands are available online at www.nusufreshers.co.uk from August 17 and in limited supply so make sure you buy early to avoid disappointment!
POSTGRADUATE STUDENTS

Speed Networking
Perfect opportunity to meet other like-minded individuals in a fun, fast moving speed dating format (no romance required)!. The ideal way to meet lots of people in a short space of time!

Wednesday 4 October at 5.30pm.
No ticket required, just turn up! Free.
History Room, 1st floor Newcastle University Students’ Union Building.

Bubble Football
Brought to you by NUSU’s Give It A Go programme. A cross between traditional 5-a-side football and zorbing, bubble football combines the fun and competitive nature of the two to give you an action packed 90 minute session. Transport included.

Sunday 8 October – £12 – tickets online from September. Meet at 3.30pm outside the Hatton Gallery behind Northern Stage.

Stu Brew Brewery Tours
Tours with current student volunteers of Europe’s first student-led micro-brewery! You’ll see first-hand the brewing process that makes the ales, and find out how you too can get involved this year.

Tours at 3pm on Thursday 5 and Friday 6 October – FREE (£3 returnable deposit). Meet in Go Volunteer office 1st floor Newcastle University Students’ Union.

Newcastle Eagles Basketball
The most successful team in British Basketball League history are right here in Newcastle! Watch the Eagles take on arch-rival Glasgow Rocks right over the road at Sport Central.

Friday 6 October – £3 – tickets online from September. Meet at 6.45pm outside Newcastle University Students’ Union building.

Give it a Go
Give it a Go is an activities programme run by your Students’ Union offering you the opportunity to try something completely new, learn new skills, and meet new people. Whether you’re shooting a paintball gun, riding a horse, learning a new language or taking a trip to London, there really is something for everyone! No experience necessary, free or cheap activities all year round!

www.nusu.co.uk/giag

Go Volunteer
Go Volunteer at NUSU aims to make sure you get the most out of your time at Newcastle by offering volunteering opportunities that help you develop the skills employers look for, supplement your degree course, help the local community and make new friends.

Our opportunities range from student-led projects such as growing fresh produce at Cockle Park Farm to learning beer science with our Microbrewery, assisting refugees develop their English language skills and helping disadvantaged communities. We have over 150 projects for you to choose from, varying from one off, to long-term opportunities, allowing you to tailor your volunteering experience around your timetable. You can even apply for one of our grants of up to £1,000 to set up your own volunteering idea or project, with support from our team of project workers.

www.nusu.co.uk/govolunteer

Volunteering & Part-Time Jobs Fair
10 and 11 October, Venue, NUSU

More activities to be revealed online! www.nusu.co.uk/welcome
Art Gallery Tours, Workout Classes, Wine Tasting, PG-Only Bar Tour, and more!

More details coming soon!
Remember, new Postgrad students are whole-heartedly encouraged to come to Early Arrivals events, buy a Freshers’ Week wristband for the really BIG welcome package… plus these events are just for you, so make the most of all of them!
International Community Day
11 October, Newcastle Civic Centre, Free event

Come and find out about how to get involved in the community of Newcastle, with students from institutions across Newcastle. The event will feature stalls, information, performance, workshops, speed networking, and lots of freebies including tea and coffee.

Christmas in Newcastle
Programme of events for all students

For any students who will be in Newcastle during the Christmas Vacation, we offer a programme of events, including trips, activities and free traditional Christmas Dinner on Christmas Day. Experience what Christmas is like in the UK, and spend time with other students in a friendly, social setting.

For more information like our Facebook page to see the programme as soon as it is announced.

www.facebook.com/Christmasinnewcastle