



Newcastle University

Incoming Exchange 2026/27
(Semester 2 / Spring semester)

Application Guidelines and Information



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Introduction

We are delighted to be accepting exchange applications for Semester 2 (Spring) 2026/27.

If you choose the beautiful and historic city of Newcastle as your exchange destination, you'll have a unique opportunity to experience university life in the Northeast of England and to study at an award-winning Russell Group institution famous for academic excellence.

Please read through this document carefully as the information included will be useful in guiding you through the application process and preparing you for your upcoming adventure at Newcastle University.

Please contact us with any questions at global.opportunities@newcastle.ac.uk. We look forward to receiving your application.

Key Terms

Here are **explanations** for some of the key terms used throughout these guidelines:

Exchange

Spending a semester or full academic year at Newcastle University as part of a degree programme in your home country. You do not pay tuition fees to study with us.

Terra Dotta

This is our application portal where you complete and submit your application to study on exchange at Newcastle. We will send you a link to access Terra Dotta when we are ready for you to start your application.

Academic Transcript

This is an official university document that lists the classes/modules/courses you have taken. We will ask to see a transcript from your home university as part of the application process. You will need to provide a certified English translation if your transcript is provided in another language. We will also issue you a transcript on completion of your experience here at Newcastle to document the modules you have completed.

Module

At Newcastle University, the term 'module' simply means a course. Exchange students must study 60 Newcastle credits (30 ECTS) per semester. Please see our [module catalogue](#) for more information.

Visa

A UK visa is the authorising document that gives worldwide citizens the right to enter, stay temporarily, or live in the UK. This can be a passport stamp, a document given by a UK consulate/embassy in your country of origin or an electronic authorisation.

Areas of Study

We offer modules from the below areas of study; however, you will only be able to choose modules from subjects that are listed in the exchange agreement that we have with your home university. Please make sure you are clear about which subjects these are to avoid disappointment when trying to apply for subjects you may not be eligible for.

Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences

- Architecture, Planning and Landscape
- Arts and Cultures
- Business, Finance and Accounting
- Education, Communication and Language Sciences
- English Literature, Language and Linguistics
- Geography, Politics and Sociology
- History, Classics and Archaeology
- Law
- Modern Languages
- Philosophy

Faculty of Science, Agriculture and Engineering

- Computing
- Engineering
- Mathematics, Statistics and Physics
- Natural and Environmental Sciences

Faculty of Medical Sciences

- Biomedical, Nutritional and Sports Sciences
- Psychology





Application Guidance

You can start an application by clicking the link you will receive by email.

Please follow the instructions and be sure to submit before the relevant deadline. The online application form will ask you to provide some general information, contact details and a motivational letter. You will also be asked to choose the modules you would like to study at Newcastle. These selections are only your initial choices and will be finalised once you arrive on campus. You may need to submit an [English language test](#) certificate.

You will also need to upload a variety of documents, such as a valid passport and transcript. We recommend you prepare these well in advance of the application deadline.

You will receive an automated email when your online application has been submitted successfully. We aim to process applications on a rolling basis, and we are grateful for your understanding if there are delays during our peak periods. You should hear from us by no later than 30 November 2026 with regards to the initial outcome of your application.

Deadline

Semester 2 application deadline – 30 October 2026



Application Guidance

Module Choices

The range of modules available to you will depend on the agreement we have with your home university.

Before you start an application, you should check that Newcastle University can offer you the modules you need by reading our [module catalogue guidance notes](#), which explain the terminology used and indicates any exclusions.

Exchange students are free to choose modules from the Faculties and Schools included in the exchange agreement between Newcastle University and their home institution. This is subject to timetabling clashes and module leader approval. The list of modules available to exchange students can be in our [Module Catalogue](#).

Your programme of study at Newcastle is finalised after you arrive on campus.

While we do ask all students to select their preferred modules during the application process, we cannot guarantee these will be available to you when you arrive. If you are accepted to study at Newcastle, the acceptance only provides an 'in principle' approval of your module choices.



Application Guidance

Application Decision

We aim to review applications on a **rolling basis**, and you can usually expect to hear from us **within three weeks** from submission, though there may be additional delays at peak periods.

A member of the Global Opportunities team will be the first to review your application to make sure you have provided all the information we need. We will be in touch with you if we identify any issues.

Secondly, the School Exchange Coordinator for your subject area will review and assess your application. Our coordinators will consider your **academic background, motivation letter**, and **choice of modules**. For some subject areas, such as Fine Art, Music or Architecture, you may be asked to submit additional materials, such as a portfolio, which can be uploaded with your application.

Most applications we receive are successful, however, we sometimes issue 'conditional' offers. This may happen, for example, when a Coordinator would be happy to receive you as an exchange student, but would prefer you to change your module choices or requires more information. We will work with you if you receive a conditional offer to make sure you understand what to do next.

Any additional documents you need for immigration purposes will be sent to you later.



Timeline – Semester 2 Only

Here are some of the **key dates** to remember for your application and academic timeline if you are planning on studying with us for Semester 2 (Spring) only.



30 October 2026

Semester 2 application deadline

The deadline for submitting your online application if you are planning to study for Semester 2 (Spring) only.



20 – 22 January 2027

International Welcome

A short week of activities, information sessions and support to help international students get settled into Newcastle and meet new people. These dates are provisional and will be confirmed in your acceptance letter.

20 January 2027



Provisional recommended arrival date

We recommend that you arrive on Wednesday so that you can take part in International Welcome. Please wait until you receive your acceptance and visa (if applicable) before making any travel plans.

25 January 2027



Semester 2 classes begin

The teaching start date for Semester 2 (Spring).



25 March 2027

Classes end for Spring Break

Students will have a month for travelling, socialising, relaxing and preparing for any upcoming exams.

19 April 2027



Classes resume after Spring Break

Spring Break ends and classes will continue for the rest of Semester 2.



4 June 2027

Semester 2 end

The end date for Semester 2 (Spring).



English Language Requirements

If English is not your (first) native language, you'll need to provide evidence that your level of English means you will be successful in the classroom.

You can find more information on our [English Language requirements](#), as well as the [evidence / tests we accept](#).

Exceptions:

You **do not** need to provide proof of your English level if:

- You are from one of the countries or territories listed by the [UK Government](#) as being exempt from English language requirements.

You **do** need to provide proof of your English level if:

- You studied for the Hong Kong Diploma of Secondary Education (HKDSE)
- You must have Grade 5 in English
- You must also have at least Grade 4 in each element
- You studied the Singapore Integrated Programme
 - You must meet the specific English conditions stated in your offer
- You are joining us from a Japanese partner institution
 - We accept IELTS 6.0 overall, with 5.5 in each sub skill
 - You will be required to follow certain courses or modules while studying with us
- You have studied at an English speaking or English teaching institution
 - We can recognise your previous education as sufficient evidence of your English level

All certificates proving your English, must be dated less than three years before your start date with Newcastle.

English Language Courses

We offer [free English lessons](#) throughout the year – you can attend classes, workshops and interactive lectures to help with your English language skills. You can also take a [pre-sessional English course](#) in the summer before you start your studies.



Visa Regulations

Applying for a visa

Once your application is accepted, the Global Opportunities team at Newcastle University will issue you with the **necessary documents** required to enter the UK as a student, but it is **your responsibility** to check if you need to apply for a visa/ETA before you travel.

If you are coming to Newcastle to study for **one semester only**, you may need to apply for a **Standard Visitor Visa** or an [ETA](#) before you travel to the UK.

Most international students coming to Newcastle to study for an **academic year** will require a **Student Route Visa**. Please visit the [UK government's visa and immigration](#) website to check if you need a visa. You should carefully check what you need and research the **cost, requirements** and **timescales**.

If you are a semester-only student and wish to extend your stay for the next semester, you will need to apply for a **Student Route Visa**. A requirement for this is a valid IELTS score of 6.5 with a score of 5.5 in the subsections. Approval from Newcastle University and your home institution is also needed. You will need to notify Global Opportunities by 30 October 2026.

Immigration advice is available from [UKCISA](#) and [Newcastle University visa support](#).

Right to Work

You may or may not have the right to work in the UK as a student and this will depend on your **immigration status/type of visa**. If you need additional guidance on UK immigration, please see [Newcastle University visa support](#). Please note that most students joining us for a semester cannot work in the UK.



Arrival Dates

Semester 2 (Spring):

Welcome week: Wednesday, 20 January – Friday, 22 January 2027

- Recommended arrival date: Wednesday, 20 January 2027
- On campus welcome activities: Friday, 20 January 2027

We recommend you wait until you have been accepted by Newcastle and have your visa – if required – before making any travel arrangements.



International Welcome

Our **International Welcome** programme has been designed to support new international students as they adjust to their new life in Newcastle. International Welcome Week runs in **January for Semester 2 students**. For those flying into Newcastle Airport during designated times, staff will be there to offer a warm welcome and to provide transport to your accommodation.

During International Welcome Week there will be:

- Talks to help prepare you for your upcoming studies.
- Sessions to introduce you to the local area and surrounding region.
- Opportunities to socialise and meet new students.
- Fun activities and events to keep you busy while you settle in.
- Workshops where you will officially register for modules/classes.

We have a [dedicated webpage](#) that is updated before the start of each new semester with information for new students.

Arrival to Newcastle

Our nearest airport is **Newcastle International Airport** (15 minutes by car to campus, 20 minutes by Metro (train) to campus).

Our nearest train station is **Newcastle Central** (5 minutes by car to campus, 5 minutes by Metro to Campus).

If you arrive within the designated times during International Welcome Week, Newcastle University staff will be waiting for you at the **airport arrivals** and will provide transport to your accommodation. More information on how to take advantage of this service will be provided to you in the pre-departure period (also be found [here](#)). Please note that this will be updated at a later stage for students joining us in January 2027.

If you arrive outside of these times or into the train station or another UK airport, you must organise transportation to your accommodation **independently**. Please try to plan this ahead of your arrival and seek advice from [Global Opportunities](#) if you need it.

Please visit our website for more information about other ways of [getting to Newcastle from other UK airports](#).



Accommodation

Accommodation applications are expected to open at the end of November. Once you've accepted your place at Newcastle University, you can apply for student accommodation.

Our student rooms are designed for **single-occupancy**, providing a private space to sleep and study. Some rooms include an ensuite bathroom, while others share a bathroom with typically 4-6 other students. You'll also have access to a shared communal space and kitchen with your new 'flatmates'.

If you're coming for a full year

As a full year applicant, you are **guaranteed accommodation**. Eligibility criteria applies - please make sure you familiarise yourself with our [accommodation guarantee](#).

Once you receive your acceptance, you will be emailed with an invitation to apply for accommodation.

If you're coming for one semester

If you're coming for one semester only, **we can't guarantee accommodation**. We would encourage you to apply and we will do our best to help you, either with an offer of university accommodation or signposting you to a private accommodation provider.

Once applications open, you will be able to apply, providing your top three preferred accommodation. For more information about the process please visit our [Accommodation website](#).

Enquiries

If you have any queries regarding student rooms at Newcastle University, please contact [Accommodation Services](#) directly.



Why Newcastle?

A Cultural City

Newcastle offers a **diverse** cultural scene, **architectural** beauty, **history** and a world-famous **nightlife**. The city has excellent **transport links**, and **London** is only a 3-hour journey away by train. From the city centre, it is only a short bus or train ride to the **countryside**, where you can explore the area's breath-taking scenery and **coastline**.

Find out more about [Life in Newcastle](#).

A Sporting City

This city is not only home to **Newcastle United Football Club** and St. James' Park, but also the Newcastle Redbolls and Eagles; top-tier **rugby** and **basketball** teams. Newcastle University is also one of the UK's top universities for sport, offering fantastic **facilities** and a range of **athletics clubs**. Find out more about [Sport](#).

A Student City

Newcastle is ranked as one of the **UK's top student cities**, offering a range of **culture** and **entertainment**. The Newcastle University Students' Union (NUSU) is run by students, for students. They provide lots of opportunities to get involved. Find out more about [NUSU](#).

