

UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN EAU CLAIRE

CENTER FOR INTERNATIONAL EDUCATION

Study Abroad



**HARLAXTON
2020**

Program Guide

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Congratulations on being accepted by the University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire (UWEC) to the University of Evansville's study abroad program in Harlaxton, England. Living and studying in a new culture is both an exciting and a challenging experience. Past participants of study abroad report that the many advantages of international study include:

Gaining new perspectives on a chosen academic field

Increasing understanding of different cultures

Enhancing personal development

Developing different perspectives on U.S. culture

Gaining self-confidence and independence

Learning skills for the future international job market

It is up to you to determine how you can best benefit from these possible advantages. This is your adventure!

Use this program-specific guide with the more general resources in your BlugoldsAbroad account. While this guide contains the information available at the time of publication, it is impossible for any single resource to answer all of your questions. Your peer advisor will email information throughout the semester, and we encourage you to do your own research, also, using the web resources listed towards the end of this guide, as well as others that you find. Contact the Center for International Education (CIE) staff or your peer advisor with your specific questions.

Questions only you can answer include:

- 1) What are YOUR goals for this experience? Advancement in a future profession, desire to expand personal and academic horizons, need for a change, and wish to challenge yourself in a new environment?
- 2) Given the way the program is set up; how can you best prepare to meet your goals? For example, if one of your goals is truly being immersed in British culture, yet you are living in a historic manor full of U.S. students, how are you going to get out and meet the locals?

The information in this guide was current at the time of publication, though changes may occur at any time.

ACADEMICS

Additional information on topics such as maintaining program eligibility, registration at UW-Eau Claire, class attendance, course equivalencies, grades, transcripts and service learning is in the [Academics section of your Study Abroad Handbook](#).

Pre-departure Planning

Please see the [UWEC Harlaxton Academics page](#) for details on how to plan your courses at Harlaxton. The academics page also has specific information for Honors and/or Nursing students.

Credits and Course Load

Fall 2019-Spring 2020:

All students are required to take the six-credit British Studies course. It transfers back to UW-Eau Claire as an elective that fulfills LE-K2. You have the option to take a lower division, upper division or upper division Honors version of British Studies depending on what type of credit you need.

- BRIT H282 British Studies Lower Division
- BRIT H382 British Studies Upper Division
- ID H382H British Studies Honors Upper Division

In addition to the British Studies course, you will take two or three additional courses for a total of 12-15 credits.

Starting Fall 2020: Semester students will enroll in four courses for a total of 12 credits. You will only be required to enroll in ONE, three-credit British Studies Course. The second British Studies Course will be optional. To fill your schedule, you'll enroll in additional electives.

Summer Students: The British Studies Course is not offered in the summer. You will take either one or two courses for 3-6 credits. If you'd like to participate in the summer internship, you need to complete the summer program and stay longer.

Keep in mind:

- Courses that get insufficient enrollment (fewer than 8 students) may be cancelled.
- The credits you earn abroad are considered UW-Eau Claire resident credits.
- The classes you take abroad will count towards the total credits needed for graduation.
- Dropping below full-time status may result in loss of financial aid and/or insurance coverage and **must be approved in advance by the CIE and Harlaxton.**

Registration at Harlaxton

You will register for courses at Harlaxton through the University of Evansville online system. UE will provide instructions. Courses are first come/first served so when Harlaxton emails you registration times, be sure to do this right away!

Internships (optional)

Semester: Harlaxton offers an unpaid internship opportunity. To learn more about the semester option, [click here](#). The most important thing to realize is that an internship means you have to obtain a Tier 4 visa, which is extensive and costly. This isn't meant to deter you but this can be a burden for some students.

Summer: Students who do the five-week summer program can stay longer and add on an internship. There is an additional program

fee for this on top of the Tier 4 visa costs. For more about the summer option, [click here](#).

Dropping/Adding Courses

Semester:

There will be a drop-add period your first week at Harlaxton.

Summer:

You will have a few days to make changes to your courses. If you register for 6 credits but then decide to drop a course, UE/Harlaxton financial penalties will apply.

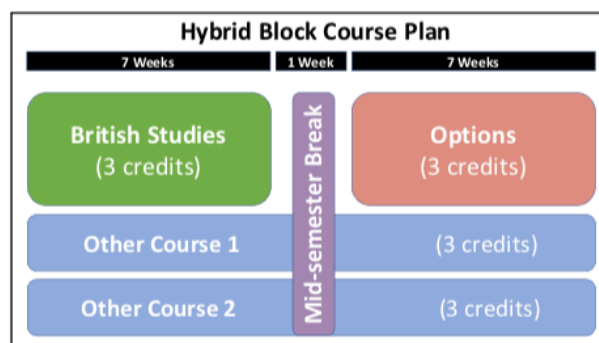
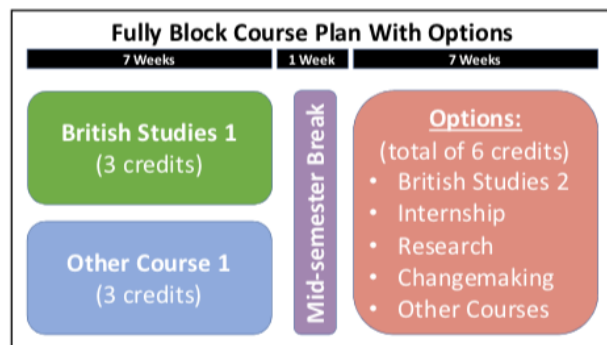
Note: you cannot make any changes in your course registration **until after you arrive** at Harlaxton.

Class Schedule

SEMESTER

Classes are typically scheduled Monday through Thursday until 5pm. However, not every Friday is free for travel. The required British Studies field trips, or any other field trips organized by Harlaxton, typically take place on Fridays.

Beginning in fall 2020, the schedule will be arranged differently to allow a mid-semester break. See the visuals below to get a better understanding of how you'll be taking courses.



SUMMER:

Classes are typically Monday – Thursday, usually only in the mornings. Monday and Tuesday afternoons are reserved for course specific fieldtrips and study sessions. Wednesday afternoons are reserved for local and regional fieldtrips.

Class Attendance

Harlaxton College has a very **strict** attendance policy. Three or more unexcused absences will always result in a lowering of your grade; professors are free to set stricter standards in their classes.

Grades

Harlaxton grades on a U.S. A-F scale.

Note: UWEC students abroad are not allowed to take classes pass/fail. Grades from Harlaxton are figured into your UWEC GPA and posted to your UWEC transcript. No exceptions will be made

Harlaxton & UWEC Transcripts

Please see the [Academics section](#) of the Study Abroad Handbook for important information if you are **graduating, transferring or applying for a competitive major** such as Nursing or Education at the end of your term abroad.

A transcript with Harlaxton grades is sent to UW-Eau Claire, roughly one month after the end of the term. Because grades will arrive later

than the end of the UW-Eau Claire semester, your MyBlugold CampS account will initially indicate “NR” (not reported). This will be changed once the transcript arrives.

Harlaxton Academic System

Although you are going to a U.S. campus abroad, be aware that the British Studies course is taught much like a course in the regular British university system, and you may also take other courses with British faculty. In the words of many past participants, “**YES! You WILL need to study! A lot!**”

Past students have also indicated that many of the professors at Harlaxton, both U.S. and British, give essay exams. For some students, this was a change from the test format that they had experienced at UW-Eau Claire. If you have concerns about taking essay exams, talk with the professor early in the semester about what is expected and how you can improve your essay writing skills.

British Studies (semester):

The British Studies course is taught as a lecture/seminar. The lecture will be a large group session that includes all Harlaxton students and visiting faculty. You will cover a lot of material and there will be little to no time for questions. The seminars are smaller groups, discussion oriented, and are used both to discuss the lecture materials and the outside reading. Thorough reading of the material and active participation in the seminar are critical to doing well on the quizzes, mid-terms, paper, and comprehensive final exam. In addition, students do get a participation grade that factors into their overall grade, most of which comes from participation in seminar discussions.

MONEY MATTERS

UWEC information about making payments, when they are due, withdrawal and refund deadlines, financial aid, general scholarships, budgeting and ways to bring money abroad is in the [Money Matters section of your Study Abroad Handbook](#).

Cost Estimate

You can find the most current Cost Estimate for your program, in easily printable format, on the [CIE Harlaxton webpage](#). Be sure you are looking at the correct term. The cost estimate includes what you pay to UWEC, what you pay to Harlaxton, and what you pay directly to other vendors.

Currency Exchange

The currency of the United Kingdom is the pound, abbreviated GBP (Great Britain Pound) and symbolized “£.” Just like the dollar, the pound is divided into 100 units, called “pence,” abbreviated “p.” Coins come in denominations of 1, 2, 5, 10, 20, and 50 pence, as well as 1 and 2 pounds. There are £5, £10, £20, and £50 bills.

You can find current exchange rates at <http://www.oanda.com/currency/converter/>.

Cost of Living

For an idea of what everyday costs you may encounter, check out this website: <https://www.numbeo.com/cost-of-living/in/Newcastle-Upon-Tyne>

HEALTH & SAFETY

General information on these issues, as well as information on CISI insurance, is included in the [Health & Insurance](#) and [Safety Abroad](#) sections of your Study Abroad Handbook.

Centers for Disease Control

The Centers for Disease Control (CDC) has vaccination suggestions, how to stay healthy when abroad, and health information specific to the UK. Review the [CDC site for the United Kingdom](#).

Vaccinations

Due to an increasing measles and mumps cases in Europe, we strongly encourage all students to check their vaccine history to see if they have had the MMR vaccine.

Also, our university partners in the UK have indicated that the National Health Service has a policy of immunizing for Meningitis “C” and recommend that students who have not been vaccinated plan to have this done before leaving home.

Healthcare

Campus Medical Services:

There is a nurse at Harlaxton four hours per day. She can make referrals to a clinic in Grantham as necessary. If you have a prescription medication that needs refrigeration, such as insulin, storage can be arranged through the nurse and the Dean of Students.

Counseling Resources:

A counselor is available one night per week at the Manor. Her office is in a little-used part of the building. You can sign up for appointments

in advance, using an anonymous system posted on her door.

The Dean of Students and the Student Services Interns live in the Manor and are available 24 hours a day if needed. Other counseling resources are available in Grantham. Resource lists are posted around the Manor and/or can be provided by the Student Affairs staff.

Services for Students with Disabilities

With written documentation, Harlaxton can provide accommodations for students with a variety of specific requirements.

It is also important to look at the level of accessibility in the UK. To find more information on this topic, please see the [State Department Country Specific Information page](#).

If you have questions or concerns about this, please contact your UWEC study abroad coordinator.

Intro to the UK Health System

The National Health Service (i.e. the UK national healthcare system) sometimes does not have a very good reputation in the U.S. The system generally works fine; however, it operates under a different set of assumptions from the U.S. health system. U.S. students and their parents need to be aware of some of the major differences between the U.S. and UK health systems.

1) **The UK system is set up to favor those typically most in need of medical treatment:** infants/children, pregnant women, and the elderly. People in traditional university age range are expected to be low users of the system except in the case of accidents or serious illness.

2) Because of this, **there can be a long wait to set up treatment for pre-existing conditions.**

If you have a condition that will need ongoing treatment while in the UK, contact your UW-Eau Claire study abroad coordinator right away!

3) In the UK, **medical professionals do not consider a common cold/sore throat to require medical attention.** Being sick with a cold for three or four days is considered normal and of no major concern in a person of college age.

4) **Antibiotics are rarely prescribed in the UK.** Doctors point to research that shows frequent use of antibiotics leads to mutation in germs, rendering the antibiotics useless. Antibiotics are therefore used to treat severe illness. If you use antibiotics regularly, you may wish to bring them with you.

5) **Allergy shots are generally not recommended** by physicians in the UK. It will be difficult to find anyone who will prescribe or administer them.

Safety in the U.K.

Information on crime, specific safety issues, road safety, drug penalties, and terrorist activity in the U.K. is included in the U.S. State Department's [United Kingdom Country Information website](#). Specific safety in and around Harlaxton will be discussed during orientation in Eau Claire and at Harlaxton.

Hiking

Per the U.S. State Department, "Hiking in higher elevations can be treacherous. Several people die each year while hiking, particularly in Scotland, often due to sudden changes in weather. We encourage visitors, including

experienced hikers, to discuss their intended routes with local residents familiar with the area and to adhere closely to recommendations."

Sexual Harassment and "Lad Culture" in the UK

"Lad culture" is a concern among British universities. In [recent research](#), it was defined as a "group" or 'pack' mentality residing in activities such as sport and heavy alcohol consumption, and 'banter' which is often sexist, misogynist and homophobic." Although some respondents found it influenced their academic experience at the university, lad culture is seen as particularly influential in the social side of university life. Some commentators compare it to "bro culture" or frat culture here.

Many respondents reported sexist jokes and rape banter in their friendship groups that made them feel uncomfortable or felt pressured to engage in sexual relationships. Sexual harassment was common, and there were accounts of sexual violence. Harassment ranged from verbal harassment and catcalling to physical harassment and sexual molestation. Some viewed groping in nightclubs as a part of a normal night out.

Excessive drinking is an often-cited contributing factor and the university drinking culture is seen as one of the biggest obstacles to eliminating lad culture. Some women were also found to participate in the heavy drinking and crude behavior associated with lad culture and have been dubbed "ladettes."

Undoubtedly, some UW-Eau Claire students have witnessed or been victim to this type of behavior in Eau Claire. However, it may be more difficult to speak up when you are in a new culture. You cannot change a culture in a

visit, but you can make smart choices about how to manage your interactions and reactions to lad culture:

- Ask your British friends, both male and female, how they think lad culture impacts university social life.
- Remove yourself from situations where you do not feel comfortable. Listen to your instincts.
- Drink in moderation if you choose to drink.
- Be careful accepting drinks from people that you don't know. In particular, watch your drink when you are out at bars or clubs.

Emergency Contacts

General emergency procedures are described in the [Safety Abroad](#) section of the *Study Abroad Handbook*, and Harlaxton has a Study Abroad Adviser who is available for consultation if difficulties arise. You will receive an emergency contact card at Orientation 2; be sure to keep it in your wallet. The information is also on the [Contact Names & Addresses](#) page of this guide.

911 Equivalent in UK

If you are in an emergency situation in the United Kingdom, you will need to know how to reach the local police, fire, or ambulance services. The local equivalent to the 911 emergency line **in the United Kingdom is 999; in Gibraltar, it is 112**. Save this number in your cell phone in case you need it to use it quickly.

The U.S. State Department also provides a list of [911 numbers abroad](#). Please note that in some countries there are different numbers for fire, police, and ambulance. Plan ahead and research numbers before you go.

Marijuana and other Illegal Drugs

Although marijuana may be relatively easy to obtain in the UK, **the possession and use of**

marijuana is illegal. [Penalties for possession, use, or trafficking in illegal drugs in the U.K.](#) are severe and convicted offenders can expect long jail sentences and heavy fines. U.S. citizenship offers no protection if you break a U.K. law. There is NOTHING the CIE, Harlaxton, or the U.S. government can do if you are found in violation of U.K. laws.

In addition to legal penalties, you are putting yourself at risk of robbery or assault, or you may get a much more dangerous combination of drugs than you thought you were buying.

REQUIRED DOCUMENTS

Passport information is included in the [Travel Resources section of your Study Abroad Handbook](#).

If you are not a U.S. citizen, please consulate the British consulate in your home country.

Visa

A visa is official permission to temporarily reside in another country and is granted by the government of that country. U.S. citizens studying in the UK for less than six months may enter the UK under two categories: Short-Term Study Visa or Tier 4 (General) Student Visa. **Harlaxton and UW-Eau Claire recommend that students enter under the Short-Term Study Visa category.**

If you are doing an internship, you must apply for the Tier 4 visa with takes a lot of pre-planning and is expensive.

See the "Visa Information: UK" in the Learning Content section of your UW-Eau Claire

BlugoldsAbroad account for basic information about the visa options. This information will be discussed briefly at study abroad orientation, also.

Note that **you cannot enter the UK for the first time via Ireland if you are using the short-term study visa option**. In addition, proof of onward journey, **usually in the form of a roundtrip plane ticket**, is required.

It is your responsibility to keep up-to-date about student visa requirements for the UK, and if required, to apply for and receive a visa from an UK consulate or embassy in a timely manner.

Visas for Travel to Other Countries

If you plan to travel outside of the UK while abroad, verify visa requirements for each country you will visit by contacting the nearest consulate for that country, or your travel agency. Most Western European nations do not require U.S. citizens to have a visa for tourist travel of less than three months, but you should always verify the requirement as entry requirements can change with little notice.

PACKING TIPS

There is general packing information in the [Travel Resources section of your Study Abroad Handbook](#), and you will get a suggested packing list for Harlaxton at Orientation 2. In addition, you should know the following:

Weather

Summer: Harlaxton has a temperate climate due to the Gulf Stream. Past participants have noted, however, that at times the weather can be cold, rainy, and windy, and that it can change several times throughout the day.

Semester: Weather in the UK is often cool and wet, especially in the fall and winter. Many buildings are not centrally heated, so plan accordingly by dressing in layers.

Clothing

Past participants suggest bringing clothing that you can wear, or take off, in layers.

Harlaxton College tends to be on the casual side for class and free time around the Manor. However, there are formal dinners a couple of times each semester. Bring a few “dress-up” clothes for these, and for going out to restaurants or clubs. Some nightclubs don’t allow jeans or tennis shoes.

Converters & Adapters

If you plan to bring a hair dryer, razor or other appliance from the US, you will need to **buy both a voltage converter and a plug adapter**. Past students have indicated that Harlaxton sells them for about £5, so you can always choose to buy them upon your arrival. Another option is to buy the appliances after you arrive.

If you plan to bring your laptop abroad, check the power cord to see acceptable voltage inputs and outputs. If it includes 220 volts, you will only need to use a plug adapter, not a voltage converter.

If you have several US appliances you plan to use abroad, consider bringing a power strip, also. You will still need to have a voltage converter in order to plug it into the wall.

GETTING TO ENGLAND

There is information on student-oriented travel agencies, instructions for booking a flight, and other travel information in the [Travel Resources section of your Study Abroad Handbook](#)

Travel Arrangements

It is your responsibility to make and pay for travel arrangements to London Heathrow airport. You can book a seat on the optional group flight from Chicago, arranged by the University of Evansville. The group flight is scheduled to arrive on the designated arrival day and in time for the airport pick up. You will receive information about this flight and how to book it directly from UE.

Please do not make travel arrangements until the optional group flight has been announced and the calendar confirmed. You will receive exact arrival information when the group flight information is announced.

Important:

- **You cannot enter the UK for the first time via Ireland if you are using the short-term study visa.**
- Most visas require a **roundtrip** ticket. If you are planning to travel at the end of the program, that is fine. You do not need to leave the UK immediately at the end of the program, as long as you will not be there/in Europe as a tourist for more than a total of 90 days before/after the program.

Getting to Harlaxton

Harlaxton offers a pick-up service from **London Heathrow Airport only**. To take advantage of the pick-up service, you must plan your travel to arrive on the designated arrival day by the

designated time and submit your travel details to Harlaxton College through their online system. Historically, students have been asked to arrive by 10:30 am on the designated arrival day for the pick-up service but Harlaxton will confirm this.

Independent Arrival

You will need to make your own way to Harlaxton if you

- Arrive at any other airport besides London Heathrow.
- Arrive later than the designated time on the designated arrival day.
- Arrive on a different day than the designated arrival day.

UE will provide independent arrival instructions with the immigration packets they send prior to the beginning of the term. Note that you will need to travel through London and change transportation with your luggage two to four times, in order to reach Harlaxton Manor. You will also spend at least \$100 U.S. to get from the airport to Harlaxton. **Please consider these factors when comparing airfares.** Cheaper is not always better.

Immigration & Customs

You will be asked to provide documents to the UK immigration official at the airport. More information will be given to you from UWEC and Harlaxton.

Upon verifying your documents, the immigration agent will stamp your passport with the short-term study visa.

VERY IMPORTANT: If you are entering the UK on the short-term study visa, you CANNOT go through the electronic immigration gates – you MUST go to an immigration officer and present your documents.

ALSO IMPORTANT: You will be arrested if you bring pocketknives, blades, mace or pepper spray canisters, or any part of a gun into the United Kingdom. Please refer to the UK government publication [Travelling to the UK](#), which details the items visitors are prohibited from bringing into the United Kingdom

SETTLING IN

Orientation

You will have an orientation to Harlaxton Manor, the program, and the surrounding area when you first arrive at Harlaxton.

On-Site Support

Harlaxton has an on-site Dean of Students available for academic and cultural support.

Buying Textbooks

Textbooks are on sale at the beginning of the semester. You may pay with cash (pounds) or credit cards. Because the Harlaxton curriculum changes each semester, there is limited opportunity to sell books back.

Student Clubs & Organizations

Getting involved in and around Harlaxton Manor is easy. Join a residence life or student committee or help create the yearbook for your group. You can also get involved in intramural sports (volleyball, basketball, soccer). Harlaxton students often play students from the British high schools and universities in the area, as well as the Harlaxton staff.

The summer program is much more condensed so there may not be the same options available. Harlaxton still tries to coordinate a variety of events/gatherings so you can meet your peers and local residents.

Meet-A-Family Program (Semester only)

Semester students will have the opportunity for the Meet-A-Family program. This is a great way to get out of the Manor and into the local community. Because Harlaxton/Grantham is small, the number of families available for the program is also small; if more students ask for families than there are families available, there will be a lottery. You may sign up for the lottery on the Harlaxton online system when you complete your forms. Please register early as there are a limited number of Meet-a-Family placements.

Participating in the Meet-A-Family program entails some responsibilities and commitment on your part. Some families have dropped out of the program because their students have not participated fully in the program. Therefore, before you request a family, think about whether you are willing to make the following commitments:

- Attend four Meet-A-Family events per semester.
- Call your family regularly (once a week) to keep in touch.
- Accept invitations from your family and let them know you are interested in doing things with them.
- Keep commitments to your family. For example, your family has invited you to dinner on a Saturday night, and you have accepted their invitation. On Wednesday, some of your friends announce that they are going to Edinburgh for the weekend and ask you to come along. Do you:
 - a) Call your family and say that some friends have asked you to go to Edinburgh for the weekend, so you

won't be able to come to their house on Saturday?

b) Call your family and say that, unfortunately, you are not feeling well, so you won't be able to come to their house on Saturday?

c) Tell your friends you are going to your family's on Saturday, and so, unfortunately, are unable to go to Edinburgh with them?

If you answered a or b to this question, you should carefully consider whether the Meet-A-Family is a good fit for your goals while at Harlaxton College.

Other Local Involvement

In addition to the Meet-a-Family program, past students suggest the following as ways to get involved:

- 1) the local library posts volunteer opportunities around Grantham, and
- 2) there are shuttles every Sunday to take you to the church of your choice.

On-Campus Alcohol Policy

Unlike UW-Eau Claire, Harlaxton College does NOT allow students of legal drinking age to store or drink alcohol in their rooms. Students caught with alcohol in their rooms will incur disciplinary action, often including a substantial fine.

According to the Harlaxton Student Handbook: *Drinking is allowed only in the Bistro except during special events when there is a bar in the state rooms; drinking is confined to the state room used. With the exception of the above, possession and consumption of alcohol on-campus is strictly prohibited. This prohibition extends to student rooms, the grounds, sports*

hall, playing fields, and all vehicles used by the college for transportation. Students present in a residential facility where alcohol is present are also subject to disciplinary action. SAO (Student Affairs Office) staff, college drivers, RAs, and security staff will confiscate any alcohol brought onto campus. This policy includes empty alcohol containers.

HOUSING

Living Situation

All students on the Harlaxton program live either in Harlaxton Manor or in the adjoining Carriage House. There are two to five people per room, but the room sizes are generous. There are shared bathrooms/showers on each floor.

Every roommate receives a key/key chain for their room and an electronic key to open the outside doors at night. Housing assignments are done at Harlaxton; you cannot request to live in the Carriage House or the Manor.

What's Provided?

- Bedding (pillows, sheets comforters; changed every 2 weeks)
- Bed, dresser, small closet, hangers, chair, desk
- Some rooms have sinks & mirror

Meals & Snacks

Meals are cafeteria-style and held at designated hours in the Refectory. Every floor also has a small kitchen area with a refrigerator and storage cabinets. Some floors have microwaves.

While much of the food at the Manor will be familiar, you will have opportunities to try

traditional British food when out and about. A few things to try:

- **Bangers & mash:** sausage with mashed potatoes
- **Black pudding:** sausage made with pig's blood & fat
- **Yorkshire pudding:** a batter made with flour, eggs, and milk and cooked in the oven. Often eaten with roast beef for Sunday lunch.
- **Pie:** a pie is any baked food surrounded by pastry (mixture of flour and butter). So, you can get steak and kidney pie, or apple pie, to name a few.
- **Ploughman's lunch:** typical mid-day pub meal, consisting of a bread roll with a piece of cheese and pickled onion.
- **Fish and chips:** French fries and battered-fried fish. The chips are generally served with salt and vinegar.

Laundry

There is a laundry room with washers/dryers in the Manor.

COMMUNICATION

Information on accessing/forwarding your UW-Eau Claire email address and on computer app-based phone services (SKYPE, What's App, Facetime, etc) is in the [Contacts & Communication section of your Study Abroad Handbook](#).

Time Difference

England is six hours ahead of Eau Claire. For example, when it is 1:00 P.M. on Thursday in Eau Claire, it is 7:00 P.M. on Thursday at Harlaxton. To see the current time at Harlaxton, visit:

<https://www.timeanddate.com/worldclock/uk>

Email/Internet Access

Harlaxton has five computer suites with 24-hour access to the Internet, email and word processing.

Harlaxton is completely wireless, so anywhere you go on campus you will have Internet! All classroom, social, and residential areas have coverage. You can even sit outside and have access. If you would like to access the wireless networks and access ports, you need to bring your personal computer.

Video Chatting/Online Apps

Most Harlaxton students communicate with family and friends back in the U.S. by using and online video chat service such as Skype, Facetime, or WhatsApp. Past students recommend that you set up a regular time (for example, Sundays at 10 PM, Harlaxton time) so both sides are online at the same time. Keep in mind that some places in the manor have better Wi-Fi connections for video chatting than others so you may have to search for a place that will work well for you. The college also has a few computers set aside in the manor computer lab to use for this purpose.

Landline Phone Information

There are four telephones available for student use at Harlaxton. There are no telephones in the student rooms. Your callers have two ways to communicate with you by telephone:

- 1) Call the main number (see below) and leave a message with Security or voice mail after 5pm in England (11am in Eau Claire). The message will be posted. Remind your caller to specify whose time zone you are to use when returning the call.

2) Call the student kiosk number where you will be waiting for the pre-arranged call.

Main reception number (24 hours):

011-44-1476-403000

Student kiosk-Manor:

011-44-1476-403050; then Option 2 followed by Option 1

Student kiosk-Carriage House:

011-44-1476-403050; then Option 2 followed by Option 2

The easiest way for you to make outgoing phone calls on a Manor phone is by using a calling card. You can buy them at Harlaxton.

Calling from the U.S.

From the U.S. to the U.K. From the U.S. to England: You must first dial 011, which is the international dialing code. Next, you must dial 44 to get England, and then the rest of the number to reach a specific city and location.

Snail Mail

The University of Evansville will email the group about a month prior to departure with a link to a list of students' mailbox numbers.

Your name, box number
Harlaxton College
Harlaxton Manor
Harlaxton, Grantham,
Lincolnshire NG32 1AG
UNITED KINGDOM

The Harlaxton front desk sells postcard stamps, and you can mail postcards and small letters back to the U.S. from the Manor mailbox

TRAVEL WHILE ABROAD

See additional information in the [Travel Resources section of your Study Abroad Handbook](#).

Local Travel

Much has happened in British history at, or very near to, Harlaxton Manor. Harlaxton therefore offers a number of inexpensive (~£5) local trips, often as class fieldtrips, but also just for general interest, to make sure you are aware of the history and British culture all around you.

Longer Travel

Harlaxton offers a number of more extensive day and weekend trips at additional cost. Reservations for the trips are now made online, directly through Harlaxton. You will receive the exact day and time that travel booking begins from UE. You can find recent examples here: <https://harlaxton.evansville.edu/accepted/excursions.cfm>

Summer students will have fewer opportunities for longer travel due to the program length. It is recommended that summer students save most of their long travels for after the program.

Before you can make travel reservations, you must have filled out the online forms in your Harlaxton College account. You will book through the Harlaxton online system. **A deposit is due when you make your reservation, which you must pay by credit card via the online travel booking site.**

Since the deposits are charged in pounds, you may incur an international currency fee, and you should **contact your credit card company**

prior to the booking day so that your card is not blocked for suspicious activity.

Cancellations to your travel bookings can only be made to the same credit card used for the original booking. Cancellation deadlines are also online.

Past participant tip: *“I would definitely recommend the first London trip. It’s early in the semester, and you really get to know people. Plus, once you find your way around London, it’s easy to go back for a weekend on your own.”*

Independent Travel

Harlaxton offers on-campus and online resources to help interested students plan independent travel. On campus, there is a travel library where students can access guidebooks and maps. The Student Affairs Office also offers an “Independent Travel Seminar” during the first week.

Bus & Train in the UK

If you plan to travel in England, Scotland or Wales, transportation by train, ferry, and bus (coach) are all options. A 16-25 RailCard gives you 1/3 off regular fare tickets. It pays for itself after three to four trips, especially if you go anywhere in Scotland. Check out this Web site for more information: <http://www.16-25railcard.co.uk/>. You can download the application form online or simply ask for one at any train station in England. Bring an extra passport-size photo for the application.

There is also a special rail pass just for southwest England (which includes London and Oxford). When you buy a ticket to London with the pass, the ticket may also be used as a subway pass around London for the entire day.

If you plan to take buses, keep in mind that they are both cheaper and slower than trains. An NX2 card will give you at least 10% off all National Express bus tickets. If you’ve got time to spare, consider taking advantage of National Express’ £1 Fun Fare. During specific times, seats are offered for an absolute steal between London and 28 other cities.

CULTURAL NOTES

Where am I going? UK, England, or Great Britain?

You are actually going to all three simultaneously. “The United Kingdom is a country that consists of Great Britain and Northern Ireland. In fact, the official name of the country is ‘United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland.’

Great Britain is the name of the island northwest of France and east of Ireland that consists of three somewhat autonomous countries: England, Wales and Scotland. Therefore, England is part of Great Britain, which is part of the United Kingdom. The UK includes England, Wales, Scotland, and Northern Ireland.” From:

<http://geography.about.com/library/faq/blqzuk.htm>

The Government

The United Kingdom is a constitutional monarchy and parliamentary democracy, with a queen and a parliament that has two houses: The House of Lords and the House of Commons. Supreme legislative power is vested in parliament, which sits for five years unless dissolved sooner. The House of Lords was stripped of most of its power in 1911, and now its main function is to revise legislation.

The current monarch and prime minister are:
Sovereign: Queen Elizabeth II (since 1952)
Prime Minister: Boris Johnson (since 2019)

England has existed as a unified entity since the 10th century; the union between England and Wales, began in 1284 with the Statute of Rhuddlan, which was not formalized until 1536 with an Act of Union. In another Act of Union in 1707, England and Scotland agreed to permanently join as Great Britain. The legislative union of Great Britain and Ireland was implemented in 1801, with the adoption of the name the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland. The Anglo-Irish treaty of 1921 formalized a partition of Ireland; six northern Irish counties remained part of the United Kingdom as Northern Ireland and the current name of the country, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, was adopted in 1927.

From:

<http://www.infoplease.com/ipa/A0108078.html#ixzz1fnATw3d5>

Population

Population of the UK: 66.44 million (2018)

Nationality: British

Language: English (Note: the UK also has recognized regional languages: Scottish Gaelic, Welsh, and Cornish)

Religion: Christian 59.5%, Muslim 4.4%, Hindu 1.3%, other 2%, none 25.7%, unspecified 7.2%

Ethnic groups: White 87.2%, black 3%, Indian 2.3%, Pakistani 1.9%, mixed 2%, other 3.7% (2011 estimated)

From:

<https://www.cia.gov/library/publications/the-world-factbook/geos/uk.html>

CONTACT INFORMATION

HARLAXTON/

University of Evansville

Dr. Holly R. Carter

Director of Harlaxton College
Programs

University of Evansville

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Evansville, In 47722

1.812.488.1040

hc110@evansville.edu

Tel: 1-812-488-1040 or 1-800-UK

Manor

Web: <http://www.evansville.edu/>

Dr. Gerald Seaman, Principal

Harlaxton College

Harlaxton Manor

Harlaxton, Grantham, Lincolnshire

NG32 1AG

UNITED KINGDOM

Phone: 011-44-1476-403000

Student phone-Manor:

011-44-1476-403050; then Option

2 followed by Option 1

Student phone-Carriage House:

01- 44-1476-403050; then Option 2

followed by Option 2

Email: enquiries@harlaxton.ac.uk

<http://www.harlaxton.ac.uk/>

British Consulate in the U.S.

British Consulate-General, Chicago

625 N. Michigan Avenue, Suite

2200

Chicago, IL 60611

Tel: (312) 970-3800

Fax: (312) 970-3852

<https://www.gov.uk/government/world/usa>

[rld/usa](https://www.gov.uk/government/world/usa)

U.S. Embassy in London

Embassy of the United States of

America

33 Nine Elms Lane

London

SW11 7US

United Kingdom

American Citizen Services

Tel. In the UK 020-7499-9000

Tel. from the U.S. 011-44-20-7499-

9000

<https://uk.usembassy.gov/>

UW-Eau Claire

Jenna Krosch

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University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire

Eau Claire, WI 54702

Phone: (715) 836-4411

Fax: (715) 836-4948

After Hours Emergency

University Policy

(715)577-9045

Remember that in most cases,
local contacts are best in local
emergency situations.

If you have an after-hours
emergency that can be helped on
the U.S. side, please call University
Police at the number above. Calls
can be made to this number 24
hours a day. You may get an
answering machine; however, an
officer is alerted as soon as you
have left your message. Be sure to
give the officer the phone number
you can be reached at, as well as
what type of assistance you
require.

WEB RESOURCES: UNITED KINGDOM

University	Culture	Country
Harlaxton College Home Page http://www.harlaxton.ac.uk/	BBC Online Homepage http://www.bbc.com/	The UK Travel Guide http://www.uktravel.com
Harlaxton Experience Page http://www.evansville.edu/studyabroad/harlaxton.cfm	UK Rail Schedules http://www.nationalrail.co.uk http://www.nationalrail.co.uk/stations/gra/details.html	Official English Tourism Sites http://www.visitengland.com/ http://www.lonelyplanet.com/england/
Manor House Information http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Harlaxton_Manor	Grantham and Surroundings <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • http://www.granthamjournal.co.uk/ • http://www.visitoruk.com/Grantham/ • http://www.nationaltrust.org.uk/grantham-house/ • http://www.belvoircastle.com/ 	The Best of British English http://www.effingpot.com/
English Castles http://www.castles-of-britain.com/	Visit Britain <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • http://www.visitbritain.com/en/US/ • http://www.britishcouncil.org/arts • http://www.britainexpress.com/History/index.htm 	UK Parliament & CIA Facts <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • http://www.parliament.uk/ • https://www.cia.gov/library/publications/the-world-factbook/geos/uk.html
	London <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • http://www.londontown.com • http://www.visitlondon.com/ • http://www.officiallondontheatre.co.uk 	The Royal Academy of Arts http://www.royalacademy.org.uk/?lid=706

When past participants of the Harlaxton program were asked to sum up their experiences, what they wish they knew before going, etc. here is what they said:

People say things changed their life all the time. Harlaxton actually will change your life. It's more than a place. Harlaxton is a feeling and it feels more like home than your actual home.

Study abroad was an amazing four months filled with travel to all kinds of incredible places, making and hanging out with new friends, late night study sessions, lots of tea, sometimes embarrassing situations, individual growth, and hard goodbyes at the end. It was an experience I wouldn't change for the world.

Going to Harlaxton allowed me to do things I never imagined I would do. I changed and grew into a far better person which has caused me to change what I want to do with my future.

The biggest adjustment has been studying/doing school stuff at all hours of the day because we live with our professors, the school day doesn't end by dinner.

My time abroad opened my eyes to many different cultures, and it opened my eyes to how other people think.

Harlaxton is an amazing program in a beautiful house with great faculty and staff. The British Studies course really helps to inform you about British history and cultural identity and the school offers many free or low-cost trips around the country to experience it first-hand. The school is really good at working with you and helping you to make your experience the best it can be. They also plan lots of fun activities and house competitions to get you involved in the community. The faculty and staff as most live in the manor are highly accessible.

Don't be afraid to make new friends. Bring more money than you originally planned.

The walls in the dorms are extremely thin; you can hear everyone's conversations bring ear plugs or noise cancelling headphones if you are sensitive to noise.

The best part so far has been experiencing a brand-new culture (ex: traveling, eating, etc.) and gaining close friendships has been extremely beneficial to my success here. The administration has gone to great lengths to encourage students to join clubs, explore the town and "get out" of the classroom.



Updated: 11/19 jmk