Study Abroad

ABERDEEN & STIRLING, SCOTLAND
SPRING 2018
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CONGRATULATIONS on being accepted to study in Scotland! Living and studying in a foreign culture is both an exciting and a challenging experience. Past participants of study abroad report that the many advantages of international study include:

- Building upon existing foreign language skills
- 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!

This program guide is to be used together with the online Study Abroad Handbook. The handbook has information that is valid for all study abroad programs. This guide will provide you with specific information for Scotland and your Scottish university. It is designed to complement the handbook, study abroad orientation, and your individual pre-departure preparations.

All of the information available at the time of publication has been used, it is impossible for any single resource to answer all of your questions. Your peer advisor will email additional information throughout the semester. We strongly encourage you to contact your peer advisor, the Center for International Education (CIE) staff, past program participants, and Scottish students on campus with your specific questions. Also make use of the written and web resources listed towards the end of this guide.

Basic questions only you can answer include:

1) What are YOUR goals for this experience? Common objectives of student travelers include advancement in a future profession, desire to expand personal and academic horizons, need for a change, and a wish to challenge oneself with immersion in a new culture; and advancing language skills.

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 Scottish culture, how can you ensure that you do not spend too much time with other U.S. Americans or international students on your Scottish campus?

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

**The Program**
The University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire has relationships with three universities in Scotland: University of Aberdeen, University of Glasgow, and University of Stirling.

As a UW-Eau Claire student, you may choose to study for a semester or an academic year at any of the three Scottish universities. You can also study for the summer in Stirling. You will live in the residence halls and take classes with Scottish students taught by Scottish professors. It will be a true immersion into Scottish university culture. In Spring 2018, there will be UW-Eau Claire students at both the University of Aberdeen and the University of Stirling.

As you see, this program involves many different campuses and term options. Because each of these campuses sets its own policies regarding everything from academics to housing, and because the policies may change at any time without prior notice to the CIE at UW-Eau Claire, it is CRITICAL that you read all email or regular mail correspondence from your Scottish campus promptly and carefully, and that you forward the correspondence to Cheryl Lochner-Wright (lochnecb@uwec.edu), the Study Abroad Coordinator for the Scotland programs, with questions if there is anything you do not understand.

**The Locations**
**Aberdeen:** Aberdeen is a thriving city of 220,000 mid-way up the east coast of Scotland. With excellent museums, great concert venues, and a vibrant nightlife, the city offers something for everyone. Its location, on the coast at the confluence of two rivers and near the Cairngorm Mountains, guarantees both spectacular scenery and incredible opportunities for those who love the outdoors.

**Stirling:** The city of Stirling is a 10-minute bus ride from campus. With a population of around 45,000, the city offers a warm community and is within easy reach of both Glasgow (50 minutes by train) and Edinburgh (25 minutes by train).

**The Universities**
**The University of Aberdeen**
Founded in 1495, the University of Aberdeen is the third oldest university in Scotland and the fifth oldest in the U.K. With a student population of 13,000, Aberdeen offers nearly 90 majors in three colleges: Medical & Life Sciences, Physical Sciences, and Arts & Social Sciences. You can find complete information at www.abdn.ac.uk/studyabroad

University of Aberdeen has pre-departure information available at http://www.abdn.ac.uk/study/international/pre-departure-information.php. They offer videos, online webinars, Facebook, and old-fashioned print materials to help you prepare for your time at Aberdeen.

**The University of Stirling**
With a student population of 9,000, the University of Stirling is known for programs in communication & media studies, English, environmental science, social work, and sociology. Built in the rolling hills of a former estate, the Stirling campus boasts a friendly atmosphere and an active student life, with a large percentage of students living on campus and many opportunities for student involvement. You can learn more about the
University of Stirling by visiting their website: http://www.stir.ac.uk/.

You may also want to consult the University of Stirling the “Incoming exchange and study abroad students” page at: http://www.stir.ac.uk/study-abroad-exchanges/. Scroll down to find the “Student Handbook for Study Abroad” and other helpful pre-arrival information.

**Academic Calendars**
Below are the Aberdeen & Stirling Spring 18 dates. Do not make your flight arrangements until you receive confirmation of your acceptance and the final, confirmed dates from the Scottish university.

**Aberdeen:** At Aberdeen, you may study for a semester or full academic year. Semester 1 runs September through December. **Semester 2 runs January to May, including a four-week spring break.**

The tentative term dates for the University of Aberdeen spring 2018 are provided below. You will receive confirmed final dates in your University of Aberdeen acceptance letter.

**Aberdeen Spring 2018 (Tentative)**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Depart the U.S.</th>
<th>January 4 or 5</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Official arrival dates</td>
<td>January 6 or 7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Orientation/Registration</td>
<td>Jan 8-12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Classes Begin</td>
<td>January 15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Final Exams</td>
<td>April 28-May 18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Term Ends</td>
<td>May 18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Earliest Departure Day</td>
<td>May 19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Student Accommodation Contract Ends</td>
<td>June 1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

For more information on the U of Aberdeen calendar, visit: http://www.abdn.ac.uk/study/international/international-study-abroad.php. Make sure to click on the “Term Dates” tab and scroll to the Spring 18 calendar.

**Stirling:** The Stirling academic calendar is divided into two equal semesters. Autumn runs from September to mid-December. **Spring semester runs from mid-January to mid-May.**

**Stirling Spring 2018**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Depart the U.S.</th>
<th>January 12</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Official arrival date</td>
<td>January 13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Orientation</td>
<td>January 14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Classes Begin</td>
<td>January 15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Final Exams End</td>
<td>May 11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Earliest Departure Day</td>
<td>May 12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Student Accommodation Contract</td>
<td>10:00 am* on Saturday, January 13 to 9:30 am, Saturday, June 2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*This does not mean that your flight has to arrive after 10 am on January 13. It will take you a few hours to get from your arrival airport to Stirling.

**ACADEMICS**

There is additional information on program eligibility, as well as academic topics such as registration, class attendance, credits and course load, grades, transcripts, and accessing the UW-Eau Claire library while abroad in your Study Abroad Handbook.
Semester Pre-Departure Planning and Course Equivalencies
A planning form for your Scottish university is posted on the Academics Page of the respective CIE program website. You can use this information to plan for your semester in Scotland and complete the module (course) interest section of the application for your host university.

Academics: Aberdeen
Academics: Stirling

To find courses that have been evaluated for your institution, you will use the Transfer Credit Wizard. A guide to using the Wizard, with screenshots, is on each of the Academics pages listed above.

The CIE will ask the Admissions Office to evaluate any courses listed on your application that do not have UW-Eau Claire equivalencies. Equivalencies will be posted on the Transfer Wizard as they are evaluated.

Graduate Courses
Some students have expressed an interest in taking graduate courses abroad. In particular, students going to the U of Glasgow have inquired about this possibility. Although your host institution faculty advisor may not have a problem with you taking graduate courses, UW-Eau Claire does. You will not be granted credit for graduate courses taken abroad unless your host institution allows the graduate course to count toward their home campus undergraduate degree.

Aberdeen Credits & Course Load
The workload at Aberdeen will be measured in credit points. You must take a minimum of 50 Scotcat credits and may take a maximum of 70. Four Scotcat credits equal 1 U.S. credit, so you will generally be taking the equivalent of 12.5-17.5 U.S. credits. There is no fixed number of courses you must take because courses may carry from 10-30 Scotcat credit points or 2.5 to 7.5 U.S. credits.

Stirling Credits & Course Load
Most University of Stirling courses are worth 5 U.S. credits. Typically, you must take three classes (15 credits) per semester. However, there are a few “half modules” that are equal to 2.5 U.S. credits, in which case you could take either 12.5 U.S. credits or 15 credits per semester.

Registration at UW-Eau Claire
Do not register for classes at UW-Eau Claire for the semester you will be abroad. The semester before your program departs, CIE staff will work with the Registration Office to enroll you in a temporary course number (INTA or INTX) for 12 credits. This temporary registration for 12 credits will appear on your billing statements. You do not need to complete any other registration at UW-Eau Claire. Once the transcript from your host university arrives, your classes, credits, and grades from Scotland will be posted on your UW-Eau Claire transcript. The INTA or INTX registration code will remain on your transcript so that the university can maintain historical records regarding who has studied abroad. However, the INTA/INTX credit units will be removed and the INTA/INTX course will not be graded.

Registration in Scotland
Regardless of which university you are attending in Scotland, you should have a plan about what you will take abroad and how it will transfer back to UW-Eau Claire.
At Aberdeen: You indicated on your U of Aberdeen application form which classes you prefer to take, but registration will not actually be confirmed until after you arrive at the U of Aberdeen and meet with your Advisor of Studies.

At Stirling: You indicated on your U of Stirling application which courses you would like to take. In your official offer letter from the U of Stirling, you will receive a list of modules that you have been approved to take. You will need to select your top three module choices and one reserve module and return the form to the U of Stirling. You will be pre-approved to register for these classes by the International Office at the U of Stirling, based on the course information you listed on your offer reply/acceptance form.

You will also be asked to complete a four-step, online “Discover Process” via your online Stirling account. Please follow the directions for completing the online enrollment forms. These forms must be completed BEFORE you will be allowed to apply for housing.

Upon arrival, you will be assigned an Advisor of Studies. You must set up a meeting with your advisor during the first week of the semester to discuss your registration. You may make changes to your registration during the first two weeks of the semester, provided space is available in the classes you wish to take. All changes must be approved by your Advisor of Studies, and you must report them to the Student Matriculation and Records Office.

For All Students: As soon as you are registered for classes in Scotland, please complete the course questionnaire in your online UWEC study abroad account for all courses that you are taking that have not been evaluated. You will be asked to include the course title, course number, course description (just cut-and-paste from the on-line catalog) and number of credits for each of the classes you are taking.

If no UW-Eau Claire equivalency has been determined for a class that you registered for, Cheryl Lochner-Wright will contact the Admission Office for an equivalency and let you know what it is. Note that the equivalency is determined by the chair of the appropriate department, and that the process of determining an equivalency can take three to four weeks. Because of the time involved, department chairs will only evaluate courses students are actually taking abroad. In other words, you will not be able to have equivalencies established for three or four courses so that you can choose which one you wish to take.

U.K. Academic System Expectation of independent learning: Returned students most often describe academic life at the UK as “different.” They go on to explain that while they didn’t find classes there more or less difficult than classes at home, they definitely did need to adjust to a new way of teaching and learning.

From a U.K. perspective, it is hard to understand the teaching and assessment methods used in U.S. higher education, with lots of direction from the professors, many small, graded assignments, and the general "checking up" to be certain that students are
learning the assigned materials. **This is how U.K. students learn in high school.** Once they enter university, they are expected to take responsibility for their own education.

**Class meetings and schedule:** Most classes meet once per week for either a three-hour lecture or two to three hours with a mixture of lecture and tutorial. For the lecture and tutorial, both sections are taught by the same professor (known as a lecturer in the U.K. system). Given that the course load is 3-5 courses per term, you may find yourself spending only 12-15 hours in class per week depending on your schedule. Past peer advisor tip: “*Classes are usually 3 hours a week, 2 hours of lecture and 1 tutorial. Lectures are at set times but you can choose which tutorial you would like to take from a list of times. Your classes will be with a mixture of Scottish and other international students.*”

**Lectures:** Like in the U.S., the lecture is a traditional method of teaching that allows lecturers to pass important information to a large number of students. However, lectures in the UK may offer less opportunity for students to ask questions, since students are expected to ask questions and discuss the topic in the tutorial. Also, lectures in the UK are not intended to tell you everything you need to know for the test or assignment. Instead the lectures might provide an overview to allow you to place your course material or readings in context or to focus on a difficult concept or theory. **To take the best advantage of lectures, you should keep up with course reading and come to lecture prepared. By being prepared for lecture, you will be able to engage and ask questions in the tutorials.**

**Tutorials/Seminars:** Tutorials, or seminars as they are also called, are NOT mini-lectures. Instead, tutorials are active learning opportunities where the professor and your fellow students meet regular to discuss the material being covered in lecture and the reading that you are doing outside of class. For tutorials to be effective, they require active student participation. This means you:
- must have read assigned work and suggested sources in advance,
- should be prepared to contribute to the discussion,
- made note of any difficult concepts or points from lecture or your readings that you do not understand, and
- should be willing to raise issues for discussion.

Tutorials are not optional. Attendance is kept and absences are noted. One benefit of tutorials is that they allow for closer professor/student relationships than are typically found at the undergraduate level in the U.S.

**Advance planning and independent learning:** With only 12-15 hours of class time per week, you may think your time in Scotland will be an academic vacation. This is definitely not the case. Much of the emphasis is placed on private study. Keep in mind that in the British system, students do not say they are "studying" history, for example. **They say they are "reading" history. And that is precisely what students are expected to do: read!** As one student said, "*You will probably spend a lot less time in class than you are used to, but in exchange, you are expected to do a lot more independent work!*"

Upon beginning a class, you will likely be given a (very) long reading list. This is not a required reading list; it is a list of suggested
readings that will expand your knowledge of the subject area. What you actually read from the list is mostly left up to you. **If you are told that “You may wish to look at these specific titles,” take that as a strong hint to read those books.** You should also browse through several of the others and choose two or three to read carefully. These readings will form the basis of your contributions to tutorial discussions, as well as for the essays that serve as assessment for the module.

**Differences in assignments and exams:** Unlike in the U.S. system, you will rarely find a lecturer who makes short, weekly assignments. During the semester, you may have to give a few **tutorial/seminar presentations**, typically a group assignment where you and two or three other students need to prepare a short presentation about the week’s topic in order to facilitate discussion.

In some courses, you may not hand in any work until the last few weeks of the term. At this point, you will probably be asked to hand in essays or papers, which will range in length from 5-15 pages. You often receive the essay questions with your syllabus at the beginning of the semester. Start writing early!

The essays give you the opportunity to 1) show the lecturer that you have done some of the course reading, and 2) show the lecturer that you have critically thought about the material you have read. Generally speaking, you will be expected to present an original idea, or discuss opposing ideas, and **come to your own conclusion**. Demonstration of clear thought and argumentation are as critical as backing up your arguments with knowledgeable sources. You may also take a final exam in essay format.

In case you’re worried, take this advice from a former peer advisor: “**Don’t be afraid to email them or go to office hours! I often went to office hours to get input on essay outlines!**”

**Participation points:** Another difference is that there are no “participation points” in the UK. You may be penalized for not attending but you will not earn points just for coming to class or participating, as that is a basic expectation for all students.

**Student services:** Another difference to note is that "**student services**" are a relatively newer concept in British universities than in the U.S. The university is there to provide access to academic resources. There are some student support units. However, universities do not have the mission, common to most U.S. institutions, of “student development.” University students are considered adults who will work their way through the system, asking questions when necessary. As a newcomer to the system and the culture, you may need to ask questions often!

**Books**

The main thing to remember is that there usually is not one specific text. Students are given reading lists and are free to choose any of them to prepare for class and/or to write the essay or exam. The only exceptions are literature classes. Students often share books with other students or check them out from the library. **Past students have suggested getting to the library early in the semester as many books on the list will be checked out from the library if you wait too long.**

**Attendance**

You are expected to attend all teaching sessions (e.g. lectures and tutorials), as
material covered in these sessions forms the basis for your understanding of the subject. Please note that your different departments/faculty may have specific attendance requirements and penalties over and above the general university guidelines. If you are in doubt about the attendance policy for your module/course, please consult your professor.

**Grades**
The grade conversion scale for each of the Scottish universities follows. As you can see, Aberdeen and Glasgow share the same grading system but Stirling has a different system for issuing grades. Please consult the appropriate grading scale for your university.

### Aberdeen & Glasgow
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>UWEC Equivalent</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A1, A2, A3, A4, A5</td>
<td>A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B1, B2</td>
<td>A-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B3</td>
<td>B+</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C1</td>
<td>B</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C2</td>
<td>B-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C3</td>
<td>C+</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D1, D2</td>
<td>C</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D3</td>
<td>C-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>E1</td>
<td>D</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>E2, E3, F1, F2, F3</td>
<td>F</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>G1, G2</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Stirling
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Stirling Grade</th>
<th>UWEC Equivalent</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>67-77</td>
<td>A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>64-66</td>
<td>A-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>60-63</td>
<td>B+</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>57-59</td>
<td>B</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>54-56</td>
<td>B-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>50-53</td>
<td>C+</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>47-49</td>
<td>C</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>44-46</td>
<td>C-</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

40-43 D+
Below 40 F

**Transcripts & Graduation**
Your host university will send a transcript for your time abroad to UW-Eau Claire. **Transcripts are not available until two or three months after the end of the semester.** Due to this delay, you will initially receive a grade report with “NR” (not reported) for all courses. A revised transcript will be issued after the grades have arrived.

**If you are a senior** and are studying abroad for your last semester, please note that the different timelines in grade reporting will most likely require you to delay your graduation from fall to spring or from spring to summer. The UW-Eau Claire Blugold Central-Registrar must receive grades within 42 days of the last day of the UW-Eau Claire semester in order to confirm your graduation that semester. This is a UW-Eau Claire requirement, and our partners abroad cannot change their usual timelines to accommodate it.

**Service-Learning**
See additional information on Service-Learning in your Study Abroad Handbook.

Given that you will most likely spend fewer hours in the classroom in Scotland than UW-Eau Claire, you may find your term abroad an ideal time to complete some service-learning. However, to have this option, you must do the following before you leave the US:

- **Apply For A Tier IV Student Visa** See the Learning Content “Visa Information: UK” in your online study abroad account for details.
• **Have A Criminal Background Check**
  Volunteer work with vulnerable populations (i.e. children, the elderly, people with disabilities, etc.) will require a criminal background check. Like in the U.S., the UK has experienced some tragic incidents where people with criminal backgrounds have victimized vulnerable people. The result: a required criminal background check of all volunteers. You can apply for a criminal background check through the State of Wisconsin Department of Justice (http://www.doj.state.wi.us/dles/cib/crime-information-bureau). You must apply for and receive your background check before you depart for the UK. Once you receive your letter, put it in a safe place and bring it with you. You will ultimately share it with the volunteer site coordinator.

  Be sure you are looking at the correct term. Remember that the cost estimate includes what you pay to UW-Eau Claire, what you pay to your host university, and what you pay directly to other vendors.

**Exchange Option**
In Spring 2018, both Aberdeen & Stirling students will be exchange students. On a tuition only exchange program, each participant pays the costs they would normally pay at their home school – so Eau Claire students pay UW-Eau Claire costs, and Scottish students cover tuition costs at their respective university, and they switch places. Students pay the host institution for their housing.

**Money Matters**
Information about how payments are made, when they are due, the UW-Eau Claire withdrawal/refund deadlines, financial aid, scholarships, budgeting and ways to bring money abroad is in your Study Abroad Handbook.

**Cost Estimate**
You can find the most current Cost Estimate for your program, in easily printable format, on the CIE webpage for your program:
Aberdeen
Stirling

Remember to submit your service-learning forms online before you begin your project! (www.uwec.edu/SL)
Personal travel depends on your budget and your priorities. Students who want to be involved in their host community generally spend less time (and money) traveling. Others travel every weekend with correspondingly high costs and fewer close connections in their new home.

Currency and 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.

Scottish banks print their own versions of the pound, commonly referred to as “Scottish notes.” Scottish notes can be used in all parts of the United Kingdom although a small number of students have reported trouble using Scottish notes in England. You can avoid this problem by simply withdrawing money after you arrive at your destination in England.

The exchange rate as of June 16, 2017 was 1 GBP = 1.23626 USD. You can find current exchange rates at http://www.oanda.com/currency/ converter/.

MONEY ABROAD
In addition to the information about bringing money abroad in the Study Abroad Handbook, past participants report the following about the UK.

Funds upon Arrival
The Scottish universities recommends that you arrive in the UK with approximately £200-£250 in British currency, more if you are traveling by taxis and other public transport to get to campus. Do not carry any more than this in case it gets lost. It is also advisable to bring some travelers checks with you for emergencies; they can be cashed at airport “bureaux de change” offices and in banks. You can also withdraw money from ATMs using your credit or debit card.

Bank Accounts
For yearlong students, it may take up to three weeks to open a UK bank account, so be prepared with cash, debit/credit cards, and/or travelers checks until then. Students studying in the UK for six months or less are not allowed to open an account.

Travelers Checks
Many people no longer find travelers checks useful in the UK due to the convenience of ATMs and the service fees (1-4%) associated with cashing your travelers checks. Also, you will need to go to a bank or a money exchange office (e.g. bureaux de change) in order to cash travelers checks, which can be inconvenient. However, travelers checks can be useful in an emergency situation such as when your credit or debit cards are lost or stolen, your cards are damaged, or your cards are deactivated due to fraud concerns, etc.

SCHOLARSHIPS
In addition to the scholarship & financial aid information listed in your Study Abroad Handbook, there is one scholarship available specifically for study in the UK.
**BUTEX North American Scholarship Programme**
The British Universities Transatlantic Exchange Association (BUTEX) has a North American Scholarship Programme open to all undergraduate students currently registered at an institution in the United States or Canada. To be eligible to apply, you must have been offered a study abroad or exchange place at a U.K. university with BUTEX membership for a minimum of one semester. The Universities of Aberdeen, Glasgow and Stirling are all members. For further details on how to apply, please see [www.butex.ac.uk](http://www.butex.ac.uk).

**Health & Safety**
*In addition to the general information in the Study Abroad Handbook, you should be aware of the following health & safety information specific to the UK.*

**On-Campus Medical & Counseling Services**
**Aberdeen:** You will get information on to access medical services when traveling on a short-term student visa at orientation in Aberdeen. In addition, there is basic information about physical and mental health resources at these links: [https://www.abdn.ac.uk/infohub/life/doctor-and-dentist.php](https://www.abdn.ac.uk/infohub/life/doctor-and-dentist.php)

[https://cluedup.abdn.ac.uk/](https://cluedup.abdn.ac.uk/)

**Stirling** offers a range of on-campus student support services; you can find details at the following links:
[http://www.stir.ac.uk/student-support/](http://www.stir.ac.uk/student-support/)

Additional information on campus medical and counseling services will be covered during on-site orientation at your host university in Scotland.

You are also welcome to contact **Cheryl Lochner-Wright, the Scotland program coordinator**, at lochnecb@uwec.edu with any questions you may have about on-campus medical and counseling services before you leave.

**Services for Students with Disabilities**
Both Aberdeen and Stirling can provide accommodations for students with a variety of specific requirements. Details are here:

**Aberdeen:**
[https://www.abdn.ac.uk/disabilities/](https://www.abdn.ac.uk/disabilities/)

**Stirling:** [http://www.stir.ac.uk/campus-life/accommodation/studentswithdisabilities/](http://www.stir.ac.uk/campus-life/accommodation/studentswithdisabilities/)

It is also important to look at the level of accessibility in Scotland. To find more information on this topic, please see the [State Department Country Specific Information page](https://www.state.gov/). If you have questions or concerns about this, please contact your UWEC study abroad coordinator.

**Intro to the British Health System**
You may be aware that the British health system does not have a very good reputation in the U.S. The system is actually very good; 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 British health systems.
1) **The British system is set up to favor those typically most in need of medical treatment**: infants/children, pregnant women, and the elderly. People in the traditional university age range are expected to be low users of the health system except in the case of accidents or serious illness.

2) In Britain, **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.

3) **Antibiotics are rarely prescribed in Britain**. British 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.

Past peer advisor tip: “Register with a doctor as soon as you arrive. That way if you do fall ill you will be able to get an appointment straight away! Both Aberdeen and Glasgow have doctor’s offices (you may hear them called GP surgeries) just a 5-minute walk from campus.

**Prescriptions-Allergy Shots**
Please note that allergy shots are generally not recommended by physicians in the UK and it will be difficult to find anyone who will prescribe or administer them.

**Vaccinations**
The [Centers for Disease Control](https://www.cdc.gov) recommends that you are up-to-date on routine vaccines before your study abroad experience. These vaccines include measles-mumps-rubella (MMR) vaccine, diphtheria-tetanus-pertussis vaccine, varicella (chickenpox) vaccine, polio vaccine, and your yearly flu shot.

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 make arrangements to have this done before leaving home.

**Safety in Scotland**
One main thing to remember about safety in Scotland is that they drive on the opposite side of the road, so **LOOK RIGHT!!** before crossing the street.

Information on crime, road safety, drug penalties, and terrorist activity in the UK is included in the State Department Consular Information Sheet at the end of this guide. Safety in and around your host university will be discussed during orientation in Scotland.

**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” has become a concern among British universities. In [recent research](https://www.cdc.gov), it was defined by participants as a “group or ‘pack’ mentality residing in activities such as sport and heavy alcohol consumption, and ‘banter’ which often sexist, misogynist and homophobic.” Although some respondents
found it influenced their academic experience at university, lad culture is seen as particularly influential in the social side of university life. Some commentators have compared it to “bro culture” or frat culture in the United States viewing it as an imported phenomenon from the United States.

Many respondents reported sexist jokes and rape banter in their friendship groups that made them feel uncomfortable or pressure 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. Groping in nightclubs was viewed by some 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 this type of behavior at UW-Eau Claire. However, it may be more difficult to speak up when you are in a new culture. You cannot change a culture but you can make smart choices about how to manage your interactions and reactions to lad culture:

- Be careful about accepting drinks from people that you don’t know. In particular, watch your drink when you are out at bars or clubs.

**Emergency Contacts**

Each Study-in-Scotland university has a designated advisor for students to contact. Numbers are listed on the Contact Information page of this guide. When traveling outside the framework of the academic program, you may not be able to contact the international advisor for help. If an emergency should arise while traveling, U.S. embassies and/or consulates can offer some assistance in the following ways:

- provide a list of local physicians and lawyers
- contact next of kin in event of emergency
- provide assistance during civil unrest or natural disaster
- contact relations on your behalf to request funds or guidance in an emergency

**911 Equivalent in the 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.

**REQUIRED DOCUMENTS**
Passport and additional visa information is included in your Study Abroad Handbook.

**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. Most UW-Eau Claire students enter under the Short-Term Study Visa category. See the “Visa Information: UK” in the Learning Content section of your UW-Eau Claire online study abroad account for basic information about the visa options.

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 a 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 US 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**
In addition to the general packing information in the Study Abroad Handbook, you should know the following about Scotland.

**Clothing**
The weather in Scotland is often cool and wet, especially in the fall and winter. Many buildings are not centrally heated. Past participants suggest bringing clothing that you can wear, or remove, in layers.

Bring a few “dress-up” clothes for going out to restaurants or clubs. Some nightclubs will not let you in wearing jeans or tennis shoes.

A light and a heavy jacket are essential. One of these should be a raincoat with a warm lining. And don’t forget your umbrella!

**What to Pack**
Your Peer Advisor will provide a suggested packing list in the semester prior to departure.

**Appliances**
The standard electric current in Europe is 220 volts. U.S. appliances such as hair dryers and razors run on 110 volts. If you plan to bring these appliances, you will need to buy both a converter and a plug adapter.

**Arriving in Scotland**

**Travel Arrangements**
It is your responsibility to make travel arrangements to your host city. A list of student-oriented travel agencies, instructions for booking a flight, and other travel information are included in your Study Abroad Handbook.

Remember that you should not book your flight until your acceptance has been confirmed and the exact beginning and ending dates of the program have been confirmed by your host campus. However,
this does not mean that you cannot look
online and begin price comparisons.

You should plan to fly into either Glasgow
International Airport (GLA) or Edinburgh
International Airport (EDI). You can fly into
Glasgow Prestwick Airport (PIK), but the cost
of getting to Stirling will be much higher
unless you are traveling with a group (see
below.)

**Note that you cannot enter the UK for the
first time via Ireland if you are using the
short-term study visa option.**

**Immigration**

If you are using the short-term study visa
option to enter the UK, you will be asked to
provide the following documents to the UK
immigration official at the airport:

- *a valid passport*
- *your Letter of Acceptance from your host university*

If requested by the immigration agent, you
must also show additional documents. Again,
this information is also in your Learning
Content, Visa Information: UK

Plan to have the following documents on
hand if they are requested:

- *proof of onward journey* (i.e. proof that you
  are leaving the UK, most often this is in the
  form of a round-trip airline ticket).
- *proof of the necessary funds* to pay for your
course fees and support yourself for the
entire period you intend to stay. This can
be in the form of scholarships, grants, or
other financial aid award letters as well as
bank statements in your name which are
dated no more than one calendar month
before you

**arrive in the UK.** UW-Eau Claire will also
provide you with a letter stating you’re
your tuition will be paid through UW-Eau
Claire.

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

**Getting to the University of Aberdeen**

Aberdeen’s international airport is served by a
number of major carriers providing an
extensive network of routes throughout the
UK, direct to Europe, and worldwide through
major hubs. The airport is located at Dyce,
about seven miles from the center of
Aberdeen. Welcome staff will be located at
Aberdeen airport during peak arrival times and
will be available to assist you in making the
short journey to your halls of residence. Please
note that a taxi ride will cost you
approximately £15.

Bus (coach) and train service are available from
a number of UK cities to Aberdeen. This option
will require you to transport your bags and
yourself from the airport to the nearest bus or
train station. Taxis from the bus or train station
to campus cost about £7. To learn more about
bus and train service to Aberdeen, visit the U
of Aberdeen’s pre-departure information
device:
http://www.abdn.ac.uk/study/international/pr
e-departure-information.php.

Whether you arrive by plane, train, or coach,
you should direct the cab to drop you at
Hillhead Hall main reception on the Aberdeen
campus, which is where all international
students live.
Getting to the University of Stirling
Stirling is located about an hour and 20-minute drive from Glasgow and a 45-minute drive from Edinburgh; both cities have international airports.

U of Stirling does not arrange a pick-up service from the airport. Instead, they recommend that you use the transport service “Stirling Direct” since it is the least expensive way to get to the university. Current prices are from:

- £18 per person from Edinburgh Airport
- £20 per person from Glasgow Airport
- £90 per vehicle from Prestwick Airport

For more information on airport collection, visit the U of Stirling website: [http://www.stir.ac.uk/study-in-the-uk/airport-collection](http://www.stir.ac.uk/study-in-the-uk/airport-collection).

If you wish to book an airport collection with Stirling Direct, please do so through their website: [www.stirlingdirect.org](http://www.stirlingdirect.org). Please book at least 7 days in advance of your arrival in Scotland to ensure your place on the shuttle.

**Housing**

**Aberdeen:** At Aberdeen, you will most likely stay in one of the Hillhead Halls, a group of seven different residences with a range of services provided, at a corresponding range of costs. Hillhead is "self-catered," which means you have access to a kitchen and cook for yourself. Bedding and bed linens are not provided. You can either bring your own or purchase a bedding pack (approx. £18) when you apply for housing. Bedding and kitchen packs are also available from various retailers in Aberdeen City Center.

**Aberdeen- students with disabilities:** Crombie-Johnston Hall is a catered hall that offers facilities for disabled residents. If you have any special needs, please contact the Scotland program coordinator, Cheryl Lochner-Wright [lochnech@uwec.edu](mailto:lochnech@uwec.edu).

**Aberdeen- mature student:** Elphinstone Road flats are self-catered halls that are usually reserved for postgraduate/mature students.

You can learn more about each hall and compare costs/amenities at the U of Aberdeen Accommodation website: [http://www.abdn.ac.uk/accommodation/prospective-students/index.php](http://www.abdn.ac.uk/accommodation/prospective-students/index.php).

Each hall also has a Facebook page. You are encouraged to join the Facebook page for Accommodation and your hall of residence. Learn more by visiting “Your Facebook Pages”.

**Stirling:** Study abroad and exchange students have the choice of two to three on-campus and one off-campus residence each year. Students apply for accommodation online and instructions about how to do this will be

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**Settling In**

**Orientation**

**Aberdeen:** Shortly after your arrival, you will participate in an orientation program during which Aberdeen staff will go over academic and student life at Aberdeen, student support details (health service, counseling service), and transport information.

**Stirling:** You will have a one to two-day orientation program, including an introduction to the university and its facilities as well as a tour of the surrounding area.
emailed to you after you have been offered admission to the University and accepted the offer.

Student accommodation is apartment-style living similar to Chancellor's Hall at UW-Eau Claire. Students live in apartments or chalets, where three to seven students have individual bedrooms but share living, kitchen, and bathroom space. Each room has a desk, lamp, chair, bed, bookshelf, storage space, and sink. A bedding pack is provided, but you need to provide your own towels, cooking and eating utensils. Find details at http://www.stir.ac.uk/campus-life/accommodation/visitingstudents/.

**Stirling**-**students with disabilities:** U of Stirling does have some accommodation that was specifically designed to be accessible for students with varying needs. For more information on what is available, please visit the Accommodation Students with Disabilities page.

**Meals**

**Self-Catering:** As noted previously, most halls at all campuses are self-catering, otherwise known as cooking for yourself. For those of you coming from traditional dorm life, this may be a bit different. In most kitchens, you can expect to find an electric kettle, fridge, oven, freezer, stove, and microwave. You will most likely need to buy some inexpensive pans and utensils.

Many of your kitchen mates will be from all around the world – be open to trying and sharing food with them!

**Aberdeen:** Almost all students select self-catered halls at U of Aberdeen and cook their own food. In self-catered housing you will have access to a kitchen to store food and cook meals. There is a small grocery near the residences and there are cafeterias on campus if you prefer not to cook every day. No cooking utensils or tableware are provided; however, you can purchase a “kitchen pack” from a number of retailers in Aberdeen city center.

Past peer advisor tip: “In Aberdeen I always go to the Tesco Local or to Morrisons. Both are on King Street and are easy to get to from Hillhead. The Tesco is just across the road from campus and most students stop by on their way back to halls to grab what they need!”

**Stirling:** All accommodation at U of Stirling is self-catered. Students will need to provide their own cutlery, plates, cups, and other cooking utensils. There are a number of cafeterias and eateries run by campus catering. You can add funds to your U of Stirling student card if you like. Most students choose to cook for themselves and limit the amount they eat at the campus eateries as cooking is less expensive, and lots of social life in the halls centers around the kitchen. You can learn more the campus catering outlets at http://www.stir.ac.uk/campus-life/campus-facilities/catering/.

**Cultural differences in food.** Because tea is a more common drink than coffee, you'll find water kettles rather than coffee pots in most kitchens. When you go shopping, you'll find that eggs are not refrigerated. You'll find less beef and chicken, and more pork and lamb. Ketchup, peanut butter, and ranch dressing are hard to find and have a slightly different flavor. If you eat out, you'll find more Indian food and less Mexican food.

**Common Scottish and English meals**
- **Haggis**: a traditional Scottish savory dish containing sheep’s organs (heart, liver and lungs) minced with onion, oatmeal, suet, spices, and salt; mixed with stock; and traditionally encased in the animal’s stomach and simmered for approximately three hours. Most modern commercial haggis is prepared in a sausage casing rather than an actual stomach. For those of you who are not fans of organ meat, there is also vegetarian haggis.

- **Black Pudding**: a type of sausage made by cooking blood or dried blood with a filler until it is thick enough to congeal when cooled; often served at the traditional Scottish breakfast.

- **Square Sausage**: Lorne sausage known for its shape is often served with breakfast or on a roll.

- **Tablet**: basically sugar and butter; it is amazing.

- **Clootie Dumpling**: a traditional dessert pudding made with flour, breadcrumbs, dried fruit, sugar, spice, and milk.

- **Stovies**: A Scottish dish based on potatoes; recipes vary widely but the dish always contains potatoes and variously onions, carrots, other vegetables, roast beef, corned beef or other meat.

- **Fish and Chips**: fried fish served with fries. Depending on where in Scotland you are they will ask if you would like vinegar or salt or both. You will also find a variety of toppings people put on just chips such as doner or curry.

- **Shepherd’s Pie**: lamb pie cooked in a casserole with a layer of toasted mashed potatoes.

- **Bangers and Mash**: sausages and mashed potatoes.

- **Yorkshire Pudding**: popover served alongside roast beef with gravy on top.

- **Cadbury Chocolate**: an absolute must.

- **Doner**: found at the kebab shops; similar to a Gyro.

- **Fried Milky Way/Mars Bars**: almost anything can be found fried; just check out the menu at the nearest fish and chips shop.

**Laundry Aberdeen**: Hillhead Halls has a laundry facility on site.

**Stirling**: The University of Stirling has various laundry facilities located in A K Davidson Hall, Murray Hall, Alexander Court, Spittal Hill, John Forty’s Court, Thistle Chambers, Union Street development Stirling and in Polwarth House, central to the main residences complex. All have card operated washers and dryers. In the main laundry at Polwarth House, £4 buys a 12-point laundry card, which is swiped in the machines as they are used. Washes “cost” four points, and 20 minutes in the dryer “costs” two points, so each card holds the equivalent of three washes, six dries, or two of each.

**Getting Involved**
A great way to get involved in the community is to volunteer your time. Check with the study abroad office on your campus to see if any positions are available on campus or within your city. Otherwise, look into student groups that participate in volunteer activities. Past students who chose to do this gained a lot from the experience. Not only do you get to meet people, you get to make a difference. However, please see the "Service Learning" information on page 10 of this guide as volunteering in the UK will require a background check and Tier 4 Student Visa. Some students also attended a Scottish church on a regular basis. They really enjoyed doing
this as they were able to meet and connect with a wide variety of people.

Each of the campuses offers a wide variety of student activities.

**Aberdeen:** The University of Aberdeen has a wide array of student organizations, known as "societies." Visit [http://www.ausa.org.uk/](http://www.ausa.org.uk/) to read about the current societies on campus.

There is also a student union bar with activities every night. It is the social venue for you to visit when you want to get off campus. Take the number 20 bus that runs through Hillhead to Littlejohn Street, where you will be dropped off right in front.

**Stirling:** Stirling University Students' Association, or SUS, helps students organize activities, from sport to cultural activities and more. SUS also provides a framework within which students can organize clubs and societies which suit their interests. A list of clubs and societies can be found on the SUS clubs and societies web page: [http://www.stirlingstudentsunion.com/](http://www.stirlingstudentsunion.com/).

The university is a great place for sport and offers excellent sporting facilities. Facilities include a large indoor sports hall, a nine-hole golf course, squash courts, 50-meter swimming pool, indoor and outdoor tennis courts, a fitness center (with a variety of equipment including free weights) and an athletics track.

You can also get involved with the International Society. It runs a variety of social events (including the famous Scottish ceilidh!), trips around Scotland and other opportunities to mix with people from the 80+ nationalities represented on campus. For more information, visit the Society's website: [http://www.stirlingstudentsunion.com/clubssocieties/societies/internationalsociety/](http://www.stirlingstudentsunion.com/clubssocieties/societies/internationalsociety/).

**COMMUNICATION**

*Information on accessing/forwarding your UW-Eau Claire email address and international calling through your computer is in your Study Abroad Handbook.*

**Time Difference**

Scotland is six hours ahead of Eau Claire. When it is 1:00 p.m. in the afternoon here, it is 7:00 p.m. in the evening there. Because of the time difference, you may wish to set up a specific calling time with people at home.

**Telephone Information**

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

**From Scotland to the U.S.:** Dial 001, the area code, and the number.

**Email**

Each of the universities provides email access, or you can access a web-based account via the Internet. If you bring a laptop, there will be places to use it on campus and in your housing arrangement. There are also various computer labs on campus. You will need to purchase a UK adapter for your computer if you bring one. Make sure that if you have a three prong computer plug that you purchase a two prong converter (to plug into your adapter) that turns into a three prong so that you can charge your computer.
Snail Mail
International airmail usually takes at least 7-10 business days. Make sure you do not send anything valuable through snail mail until you are sure of where your mail will end up and that it is in a secure place.

CULTURE NOTES
Where am I going? UK, Great Britain, or Scotland?
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 regions: England, Wales and Scotland.

Therefore, Scotland 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/blqzu k.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. In November 1999, hundreds of hereditary peers were expelled in an effort to make the body more democratic. The executive power of the Crown is exercised by the cabinet, headed by the prime minister.

The current monarch and prime minister are:
Sovereign: Queen Elizabeth II (since 1952)
Prime Minister: Theresa May (since 2016)

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/country/united- kingdom.html

TRAVEL WHILE ABROAD
Here is specific information about travel in the UK to supplement the Study Abroad Handbook.

If you plan to travel in England, Scotland or Wales, transportation by train, ferry, bus (coach) and plane are all HIGHLY recommended. When deciding whether to travel by train or air, remember this: they are
often comparable in price, but train travel is considerably longer. For example, a train from Glasgow to London takes four hours versus a forty-minute flight. On the other hand, traveling by train allows you to see much of the countryside that you would miss if you fly. Also, train stations are usually closer to the city centers, while a taxi or bus ride might be needed if you fly.

**Train**
A Young Person’s RailCard gives you one-third off regular fare tickets. It pays for itself after three or four rail trips.

**Bus**
Scotland has a great bus system that can take you to many Scottish cities inexpensively. At [https://uk.megabus.com/](https://uk.megabus.com/), you can get a roundtrip bus ticket from Glasgow to Edinburgh for 3-4 pounds (roughly $7-9). If you’re going further, a National Express Student Coach Card entitles you to one-third off all regular fare coach tickets.

**Ferry**
If you have time, you can also take a ferry from Scotland to various cities in Ireland/Wales/England. Past participants have said they really enjoyed the ferry experiences. See [http://www.aferry.to/ferry-to-ireland-irish-ferries.htm](http://www.aferry.to/ferry-to-ireland-irish-ferries.htm) for more information.

**Air**
Many past students have recommended Ryan Air as a helpful site with low-budget flights all around Europe: [http://www.ryanair.com/en](http://www.ryanair.com/en). Typically, Ryan Air flies into airports that are further outside the city so you may need to spend more on taxis, buses, or trains to get into town.
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<td>UK Rail Schedules&lt;br&gt;<a href="http://www.nationalrail.co.uk">http://www.nationalrail.co.uk</a>&lt;br&gt;<a href="http://www.scotrail.co.uk/">http://www.scotrail.co.uk/</a></td>
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<td>University of Stirling:&lt;br&gt;<a href="http://www.stir.ac.uk/">http://www.stir.ac.uk/</a></td>
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<td>City of Stirling:&lt;br&gt;<a href="http://www.instirling.com/">http://www.instirling.com/</a></td>
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<td><strong>Radio Scotland</strong></td>
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<td>UK Weather&lt;br&gt;<a href="http://www.metoffice.gov.uk/weather/uk/">http://www.metoffice.gov.uk/weather/uk/</a></td>
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</tbody>
</table>
CONTACT NAMES & ADDRESSES: SCOTLAND
GENERAL UW-EAU CLAIRE & CISI CONTACT INFORMATION IS IN YOUR STUDY ABROAD HANDBOOK.

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BRITISH CONSULATE IN THE U.S.
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. Scroll down to the heading “British Consulate-General Chicago.” Please be aware that British Consulate in Chicago no longer offers visa processing services.

U.S. CONSULATE ABROAD
The U.S. Consulate General
3 Regent Terrace
Edinburgh EH7 5BW
Phone: (0) 13-156-8315 (in country)
Fax: (0) 13-1557-6023 (in country)
After-hours Emergency for American Citizens:
Phone: (0) 20 7499-9000 (in country)
edinburgh-info@state.gov
http://edinburgh.usconsulate.gov

Note: If you are calling outside the UK, please drop the "0". If you are calling within the UK, drop the "44" and begin the number with "0" plus the number

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U.W. EAU CLAIRE
Center for International Education

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Comments from Recent Study in Scotland Participants:

I'm very happy I studied abroad. I learned so much about myself and the world around me. Rebecca, Aberdeen, Spring 2017

This was an incredible experience overall. The courses were very interesting, and there were a wide variety from which to choose, many of which had pre-existing transfer to UWEC. The university is very welcoming and organizes many activities and opportunities for meeting people from around the world throughout the semester. Finally, Scotland is a beautiful country with countless opportunities for exploring, and it is easy to travel to other countries from Aberdeen as well. Spring 17 participant

Stirling is such a great place, with lots of opportunities. Tess, Spring 17

My study abroad experience changed my perspectives on how to conduct my day to day life and taught me that there is always something new to be learned." - Claire, Aberdeen Spring 2016