

Guide for International Students

2019/20



ual:

Arts
Students'
Union





Contents

University of the Arts London






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How to use this guide:

-  Search online at arts.ac.uk
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Welcome from Associate Dean, International Student Experience	3	Things to know before you get here	25	Shopping	47
		Visas	26	Markets and fairs	48
		Insurance	26	Refunds and returns	48
Welcome from Arts Students' Union	5	Booking your plane ticket	26	Money-saving tips	49
		Airports	26		
University of the Arts London	7	Airport Collection Service	27	Travelling around London	51
Term dates	7	Packing your belongings	27	Zones	52
Opening times	7	Banned and restricted items	27	The Underground	52
		Money	27	Buses	52
Things to know about UAL	9	Electricity	27	Above ground trains	52
Student Services	10			Ways to pay	52
Diversity	10	Things to do after you get here	29	Walking	52
Disability and dyslexia	10	Open a bank account	29	Cycling	53
Counselling Health Advice, and Chaplaincy Service	10	Register with a doctor	29	Cars	53
Libraries and Learning Zones	10	UK visas and registering with ORVO	29	Taxis	53
Books and materials	10				
English, other languages and intercultural skills	11	Things to know about living in London	31	Travelling around the UK	53
Academic support	11	Accommodation	32	Travelling abroad	53
Academic culture	12	Council Tax	33		
Academic success	14	Staying safe	34	Working while studying	55
Alumni & Friends	14	Keeping in touch	35	National Insurance	55
Degree classifications	14	Mobile/cell phones	35	Income tax	55
Assessment	14	International calls	35	Applying for a job	55
UAL online resources	16	Internet/broadband	35		
Moodle	16	Postal service	35	Things to know about Arts Students' Union	57
UAL Portfolio tool	16			Students' Union Representatives	58
Library catalogue	16	Arts Students' Union guide to exploring London	37	Advice Service	58
University Archives, Museums and Special Collections	16	Museums and galleries	38	Societies and sports	59
University IT services	17	'Late' events	38	Student Initiative Fund	59
WiFi access	27	Students' Union recommends	38	Advice Service	59
		Taking time out	39	Course representatives	59
Things to know about the UK	19	Getting active	39	Made in Arts London	59
Climate	20	Meeting new people	39	Arts Unlocked London	59
Seasons	20	UAL Social & Arts SU	39		
Daylight Saving Time	20	Multi-cultural city	40	Map of UAL sites	60
Date and time	20				
Culture	21	Food and drink	43		
Religion	21	Traditional British food	44		
Customs and rules	21	Pubs and alcohol	44		
Slang and Colloquialisms Dictionary	22	Eating and drinking out	44		
		Eating in	45		
		Supermarkets	45		
		Online shopping	45		
		International food	45		



Welcome

**Hello and welcome to University of the Arts London!
Studying at university in a different country to your own is both a brave and exciting thing to do.**

You will be joining a multinational, multicultural, creative community in one of the world's most stimulating and exciting capitals.

University of the Arts London (UAL) is a vibrant community of 19,000 students from more than 130 countries. It's located in one of the best cities in the world for art and design, with lots of opportunities to make the most of student life.

We hope this guide will answer your questions and give you some ideas about how to make the most of your experience with us at UAL.

We look forward to welcoming you,

Helen Mcallister

Associate Dean, International Student Experience



Hello! We are your Arts Students' Union.



Students' unions are student-run organisations totally independent from and different to the university.

What makes students' unions special is that we are run by democratically elected students, representing you within the university and beyond. Every students' union is different, but most of them, like Arts Students' Union (Arts SU), offer a range of different services where you can meet new people or get support. We have sports clubs, student-run societies, course representatives, free advice, and campaigns support - basically, we exist to make things better for you.

By enrolling at UAL, you're automatically a member of our union (you lucky thing) and it's our job to look out for you and make your student experience as enjoyable as possible.

We've helped to put together this handy guide to support you as you settle into London life. It's packed with practical stuff like information about banks and how to register with a doctor but also includes lots of fun tips, recommendations (including getting the most out of your studies), and information about London. We hope you have a fantastic time at UAL and enjoy exploring the city!

Please do come and say 'hi' to us - we're excited to get to know you.

Arts Students' Union



You've chosen to start your creative future at **University of the Arts London (UAL)**, which is made up of six world-renowned colleges:

- Camberwell College of Arts**
- Central Saint Martins**
- Chelsea College of Arts**
- London College of Communication**
- London College of Fashion**
- Wimbledon College of Arts**

Term dates

These are the general term dates for 2019/20 but specific dates may vary for some courses.

Term dates depend on whether you are in:

- Higher Education (HE), for example a undergraduate or postgraduate degree
- Further Education (FE), for example a foundation course

Autumn term 2019

HE	Monday 23 September 2019 – Friday 6 December 2019
FE	Monday 2 September 2019 – Friday 13 December 2019

National holidays 2019

Easter weekend	19 April – 22 April 2019
May bank holidays	6 & 27 May 2019
Summer bank holiday	26 August 2019
Christmas Day	25 December 2019
Boxing Day	26 December 2019

Spring term 2020

HE	Monday 6 January 2020 – Friday 13 March 2020
FE	Monday 6 January 2020 – Friday 27 March 2020

Summer term 2020

HE	Tuesday 14 April 2020 – Friday 19 June 2020
FE	Monday 13 April 2020 – Friday 22 May 2020

National holidays 2020

New year's day	1 January 2020
Easter weekend	10 April – 13 April 2020
May bank holidays	4 & 25 May 2020


 'Term dates'

Opening times

UAL is always open during term-time and closed on national holidays. Opening times vary, so please check the arrangements at your college.

Student fees and funding including scholarships

The Student Advice and Funding Service provide students with information and advice about funding options available to cover tuition fees, living costs and course costs. You can also find out more about scholarships, bursaries and awards.

 'Student fees and funding'



> Things to know about UAL

In addition to high-quality teaching, modern facilities and creative space for you to explore your ideas, skills and unique vision, UAL can provide you with support with your studies and wellbeing.



Student Services

Student Services at UAL includes the Student Advice Service, the Disability Service and Counselling, Health Advice and Chaplaincy.

Our Student Services staff provide free, professional and confidential services to all UAL students. We understand that talking about problems and how you are feeling might be uncomfortable and new to you. But it's important you let us know so we can find a way to support you and make the most of your time here. There are lots of different things we can help you with, including:

- visa and other immigration matters
- financial matters
- support to overcome barriers to your study
- if you're worried about something, feeling emotional or just want to talk

🔍 'Student Services'

Diversity

We want UAL to be an inclusive and supportive environment for everyone. We are committed to promoting equality, inclusion and diversity on grounds of age, disability, gender, gender identity, nationality, race, religious belief (or no belief), sexual orientation or socioeconomic class.

🔍 'Student diversity'

Disability and dyslexia

The Disability Service provides advice and support for disabled students and to students who are dyslexic or have any other specific learning difficulty. Support is available at any point throughout your time at UAL.

🔍 'Disability and dyslexia'

Counselling Health Advice, and Chaplaincy Service

The Counselling, Health Advice and Chaplaincy Service offers support to all University of the Arts London students for personal, emotional, health and mental health concerns as well as in spiritual, religious and faith related matters.

🔍 'Counselling Health and Chaplaincy'

Libraries and Learning Zones

You can access all six college libraries; just bring your student card to start exploring and borrowing. Our libraries have group and individual study zones, access to computers, photocopying and printing. You can also borrow a laptop and get help from the library staff to find what you need.

Learning Zones are also available for social and activity-based study in an informal environment. We will tell you more about the library facilities during your first term when you attend an introduction.

🔍 'Library services'

Books and materials

You'll be given a book and course supply list during the first week of classes. Many items will be available from the university shops, located at the college sites. Your tutor can also tell you about shops which sell affordable supplies and materials.

English, other languages and intercultural skills

If you are multilingual and speak English as an additional language, UAL Language Centre offers English language tutorials, classes and resources to help you specifically with your subject area studies and to continue to build your English language proficiency. All support is free to full time students.

We also offer evening courses in Arabic, French, Italian, Japanese, Mandarin and Spanish, all taught in the context of art and culture, as well as intercultural skills.

🔍 'Language centre'

Academic Support

We want to help you develop and improve skills which are relevant to your studies and your professional future. Academic Support tutors will be introduced to you during your induction events and you can find resources and links to individual and group sessions in your college and across UAL.

🔍 'Academic Support online'



The language used in your classes may be different to what you're used to so we've put together a list of commonly used words:



1. Associate Lecturers

often guest lecturers who work in the industry you are learning about

2. Course & Unit Handbooks

really important documents which are useful to read because they contain all the information about your course, assignments, learning outcomes, deadlines and essential reading lists

3. Course Leader

they manage the course and your tutors; if you have any issues they are the person to contact

4. Crit

an opportunity to discuss your work and ideas with tutors and students

5. Cultural Capital

the unique combination of skills, experiences and personal history each student brings to the learning environment which can be shared to enrich the learning experience for everyone

6. Dissertation

depending on your course, you might need to write a long essay in your final year which contributes towards your degree

7. Self Directed Learning

sometimes students are encouraged to follow their own interests, rather than tutors directing them. This may take time to get used to if you have not experienced it before but will help you develop different skills

8. Plagiarism

presenting someone else's work or ideas as your own, with or without permission and without making it clear that the work or ideas are someone else's. It's a form of academic misconduct so never copy from any source on the internet or a book without showing where it came from

9. Subject Librarian

a special librarian who knows about the library resources available for a particular area of studies and how to find them

10. Technicians

staff who will demonstrate and support you with technical parts of your course, such as operating machinery or using special materials

11. Tutor

teacher (probably the teaching staff you'll see most)

12. Unit Assessment Brief

this explains what you need to do for your specific assignment and how it will be marked

13. Tutorial

one to one session with an academic member of staff, where you discuss and get advice about your work

14. Formative Assessment

assessment that supports your learning and will not count towards your final mark

15. Summative Assessment

assessment that assesses your learning and will count towards your final mark

Academic success

Sometimes university can feel a bit confusing and different to what you're used to in your home country. Don't worry though as you aren't the only one feeling a little lost and these tips should help you find your way:

- **Ask questions** when the tutor gives you an opportunity. This shows you are interested and thinking carefully about what they are saying; there are no silly questions and the tutors are here to help you
- **Talk to other students** about what you are learning and how your projects are going. Talking to each other helps you come up with new ideas. Learning to work with, and listening to, different people is a very important skill to have
- **Join social activities and events** for students. This will help you make friends across UAL, outside of your course and college
- **Use the Academic Support**, English Language Development, online resources, Libraries and Student Services; they are here to help everyone do the best they can in their studies
- **Experiment and try new things;** challenging yourself to explore new things will help you grow as an individual. Don't be afraid to fail as you can only learn from mistakes

Alumni & Friends

The UAL Alumni Association is the world's largest creative network, with over 200,000 members across the globe. After you graduate, you will automatically become a member and will be able to access support and stay connected with the colleges and other alumni, wherever you are in the world.

🔍 'Alumni & friends'

🏠 Contents

Degree classifications

In the UK, when you finish and pass your degree, you will also get a 'classification' showing how well you did. The classifications are as follows:

- At FE level eg Foundation Degree, you can Pass and on some courses get a Merit or a Distinction. Distinction is the highest classification at this level.
- At undergraduate level eg BA or BSc, you can get a 3rd (third), a 2:2 (two two), a 2:1 (two one) or a 1st (first). First is the highest classification at undergraduate level.
- At postgraduate level eg MA or PG Diploma, you can get a Pass, Merit or Distinction. Distinction is the highest classification at postgraduate level.

If you want to progress from undergraduate to postgraduate levels of study, it's best to aim for a 2:1 or 1st at undergraduate level, as this will make it easier for you to get accepted onto a postgraduate course.

Assessment

It is important you understand what criteria your work is being assessed against so you can focus on those things. You may find assessment methods different to what you have experienced before. You will find information about assessment in your course materials (online) and on the UAL website.

🖱️ arts.ac.uk




UAL online resources

Make the most of the huge collection of print and online resources you can access while studying at UAL. Here are some of the resources.

Moodle

This is our virtual learning environment (VLE) and it's where you'll find information specific to your course, including your timetable and the course handbook as well as your grades throughout the year. Your course site will have important announcements and assignment details and should be checked regularly.

 moodle.arts.ac.uk
or access via MyUAL app

UAL Portfolio tool

Get creative with UAL's showcasing platform Portfolio, where you can present your work alongside other UAL students from various subject areas. You can create a profile from the start of your course, and update your projects right through to two years after graduation. Portfolio enables you to show the world your work and projects, share your creative skills and interests, as well as connect and network with peers from across UAL.

 portfolio.arts.ac.uk

Library catalogue

As a UAL student you have access to all six college libraries; just use your ID card to borrow books and other items. You can also search the online catalogue and have books sent to the library that's easiest for you to get to, and return them to any college library.

University Archives, Museums and Special Collections

The libraries have outstanding physical and digital collections in art, design, communication, fashion and performance. These collections include historical archives and special collections such as zines, material samples and artists' books.

You can also access the University Archives and Special Collections Centre at LCC which specialises in material on printing, graphics and film, including the famous Stanley Kubrick Archive. Other collections in the university include the LCF Archive and the Museum and Study Collection at CSM.

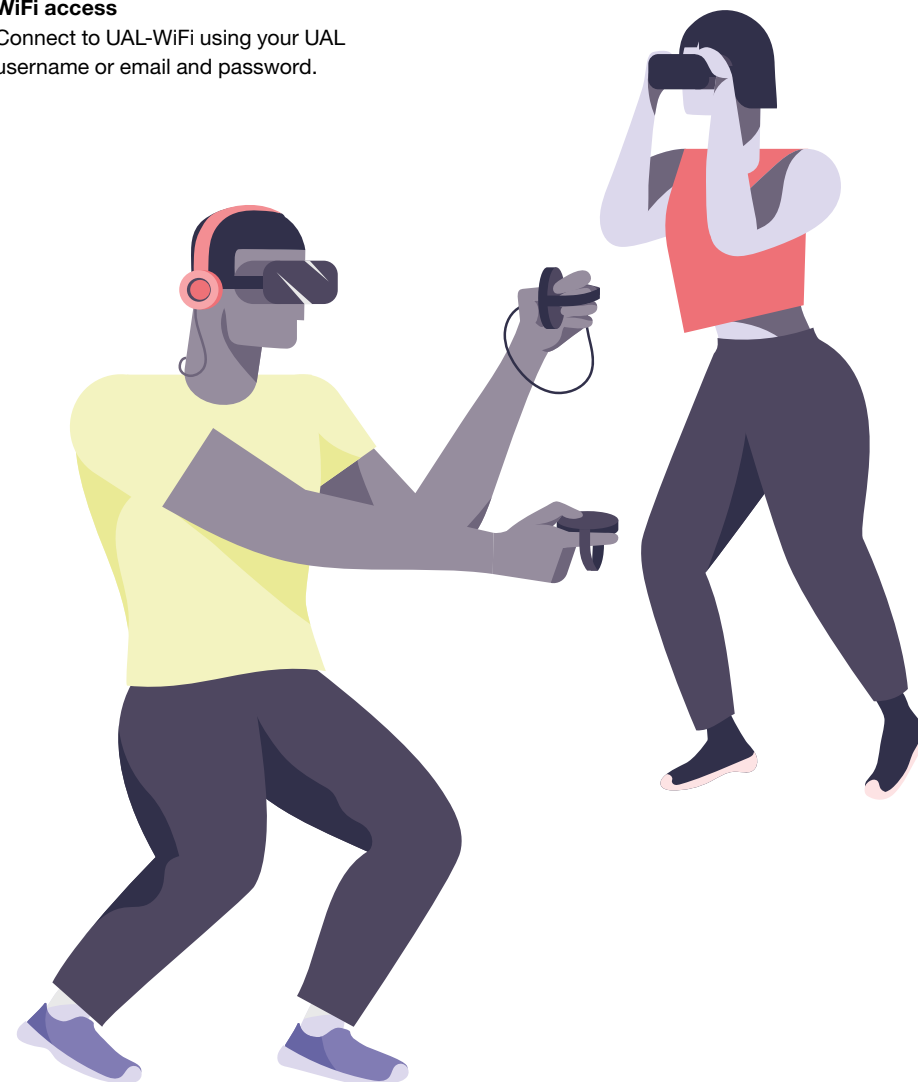
 'Collections and archives

University IT services

IT Services looks after all the digital stuff at UAL including your account, your email, computers, printing and online security.

WiFi access

Connect to UAL-WiFi using your UAL username or email and password.





> Things to know about the United Kingdom

The United Kingdom, or the UK, is made up of England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland. Known for being an island nation of tea drinkers and its unpredictable weather, it's home to over 60 million people, creating a multicultural society with people from all over the world.



British climate

Although London's climate is moderate, it's often changeable and difficult to predict. It is advisable for students to have clothing for a variety of conditions including rain. The coldest months tend to be November through to February and warm clothing is needed for these months of the year.

Seasons

Winter	December – February
Spring	March – May
Summer	June – August
Autumn	September – November

Although the seasonal differences in Britain are not as extreme as in some countries, there is still a large difference between winter and summer. The seasons often overlap or don't follow the standard pattern. Expect rain, snow, wind and sunshine; sometimes all on the same day!

Daylight Saving Time

To make the most of daylight, the clocks change twice a year in the UK. They are moved forward by one hour in March, for what is known as British Summer Time, and are turned back by one hour in October.

Clocks go forward	31 March 2019
Clocks go back	27 October 2019
Clocks go forward	29 March 2020
Clocks go back	25 October 2020

Tip If you find yourself confused about which way the clocks are moving, remember to use the helpful phrase 'spring forward, fall back'

Date and time

To avoid missing an important meeting or event, it's important to remember the format for writing dates and time in the UK. British dates are written in day-month-year format (1 September 2019 or 01/09/19). The time can either be written using the 12-hour clock (3.30pm), or the 24-hour clock (15.30) which is most common with industries such as transport, the police and the military.

Culture

Culturally, the UK is very welcoming of people from around the world – and London is much more diverse in languages, accents and ethnicities than the rest of the UK. Although you may find the pace of life very fast in London, people are mostly friendly and willing to help if you ask.

UAL has its own community of followers on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram, and some have specific groups related to your course or college, so you can ask any questions before coming to London.

You can also find advice and tips from international students on commonplace.arts.ac.uk website.

Religion

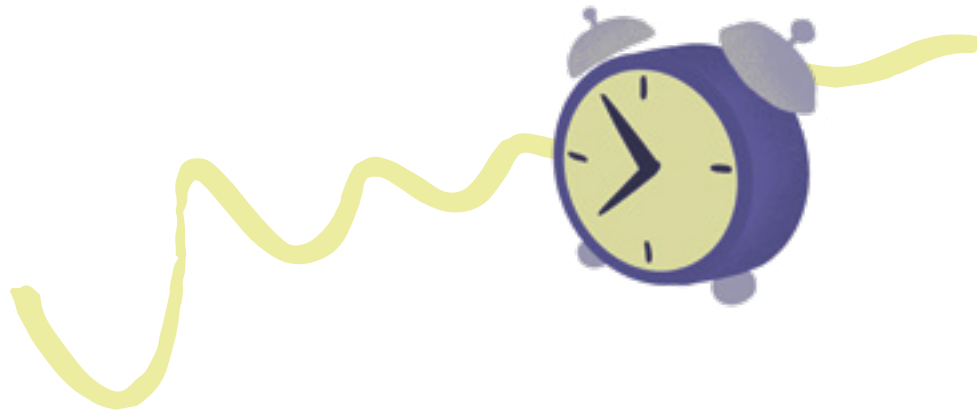
London's cultural diversity brings many different faiths together with a variety of places available throughout the city catering to everyone. Many of our college sites also offer non-denominational prayer rooms for you to use.

 'Chaplaincy'

Customs and rules

A few important rules and customs to keep in mind:

- In the UK everyone is considered equal in status with the same rights.
- Basic politeness will help you – saying 'please' and 'thank you' is recommended and people are more friendly if you approach them politely
- People in Britain 'queue' (or line up) when waiting for a service. It's considered rude to place yourself in front of those already waiting
- It's considered bad manners and a punishable offence in some areas to spit or to throw rubbish (litter) in the streets
- You are expected to arrive on time for meetings, appointments and your classes. If you're going to be late, it's polite to tell the person/people you are meeting
- Smoking isn't allowed in any enclosed place, public building or on public transport in the UK. This also applies to e-cigarettes and vapes, so always look for a designated smoking area



Slang and Colloquialisms Dictionary: 30 common British words and phrases

UK slang and colloquialisms (informal words and phrases) can be difficult to understand, even for students from other English-speaking countries, so here are some of the more common slang words and phrases that you might hear.

Remember, UAL and London are multicultural so people will be interested to hear interesting words and phrases from other languages too.



1. Allow it (vb)

another way of saying 'forget it' or leave something alone

2. Alright? (exclam)

a common greeting similar to 'How are you?'

3. Banter (n)

a funny/joke filled conversation

4. Booze (n)

another word for alcohol

5. Buff/fit (adj)

another way of saying someone is attractive

6. Can't be arsed (vb phrase)

means someone can't get the motivation to do something. For example, "I can't be arsed to go to that lecture today."

7. Cheers (exclam)

another way of saying 'thank you'. It's also common to clink glasses and say a quick 'cheers' before having a drink at the pub

8. Hyped (adj)

very excited. For example, "I'm hyped about the new sports centre."

9. Cock up (n/vb)

to make a big mess of something or a mistake. For example, "I cocked up my job interview today."

10. Shook (adj)

shocked or surprised. For example, "I was so shook when she followed me back!"

11. Daft (adj)

another way of saying stupid

12. Dodgy (adj)

used to refer to something that's wrong or illegal

13. Dosh (adj)

another way of saying money

14. Excuse me (phrase)

used when addressing a stranger, when interrupting or disagreeing with someone, or to ask someone to repeat what they said

15. Fag (n)

another word for cigarette

16. Fancy (phrase)

another way of saying you are attracted to someone

17. Fiver (n)

another way of saying £5

18. Peng (adj)

really nice. For example, "Your jacket is peng."

19. Gutted (phrase)

another word for disappointed. For example, "I'm gutted that I didn't get a higher mark on that exam."

20. Innit? (tag question)

another way of asking 'isn't it?'

21. Knackered (adj)

another word for exhausted or tired

22. Lose the plot (vb phrase)

a way of saying someone doesn't know what is going on

23. Nice one (adj phrase)

a common phrase, used either sarcastically or sincerely. If used sarcastically, it means something similar to when someone says 'good job' to someone who has completely messed something up. When used sincerely, it's usually a form of praise

24. Peckish (adj)

another way of saying you are hungry

25. Quid (n)

another word for pound (£)

26. Skive off (vb)

another way of saying you're going to skip a day of work or classes. For example, "I'm going to try to skive off work and sleep instead."

27. Sod (vb)

used in different ways. For example, 'sod off' is used to tell someone to go away and 'sod it' is a way to say you're giving up on something

28. Taking the piss (phrasal vb)

to make fun of something, usually in a sarcastic way

29. Tenner (n)

another way of saying £10

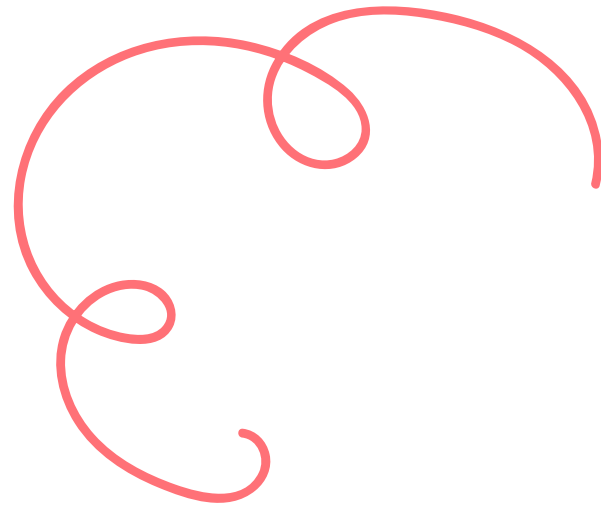
30. Till (n)

a pay point or check-out, where you pay for items in shops



> Things to know before you get here

Moving to study in another country requires a lot of preparation, which can be a bit overwhelming. The following pages provide essential information to ensure you are fully equipped for your arrival into the UK and ready to begin your creative future at UAL.



Visas

A visa provides permission to enter, or stay, in the UK and is given when you make a successful visa application. Students from countries outside the European Economic Area (EEA) and Switzerland, who do not have immigration permission which permits study at UAL will require a Tier 4 General Student Visa.

For information on the different kinds of student visas and whether you need one, visit the UK Visas and Immigration website, [gov.uk/tier-4-general-visa](https://www.gov.uk/tier-4-general-visa).

 'Immigration and Visas'

Insurance

It's important that you have relevant insurance as this will save you money in case of emergencies.

There are many inexpensive insurance policies you may be able to buy which cover travel, possessions and health. It's recommended that you make sure you tailor one to your needs, especially if you are in the UK for less than six months, as you will not be covered in the same way as students who are in the UK for longer. Medical insurance will be far cheaper than paying for emergency medical care. Check what insurance is available in your home country for travel to the UK.

If you're studying in the UK for more than six months, you will have to pay an Immigration and Health Surcharge as part of your visa application. This will entitle you to healthcare from the UK National Health Service (NHS) after registering with a doctor. Visits to the doctor and emergency treatment is free for those registered with the NHS. You will be required to pay a fee for any medication a doctor prescribes, or for treatment for any pre-existing conditions.

Booking your plane ticket

We recommend you arrive one to two weeks before your course starts so you have time to adjust and explore London to familiarise yourself with your surroundings. This will also give you a chance to attend UAL 'Big Welcome' events organised specially for new students during the pre-enrolment period.


 'The Big Welcome'

We recommend you pay extra attention to the following when booking your ticket:

- Each airline differs in the amount of free baggage you are able to travel with so make sure you check your baggage allowance before booking your ticket
- The electronic devices and electrical items you're allowed to take on a flight depend on the country and airport you're travelling to the UK from. Some airlines might also have different restrictions. Check with your airline before you travel if you're not sure about what you can take as hand luggage. This also applies to things like your laptop, phone and vape
- Make sure you check the airport codes match the airport you want to land in


Airports

London has five major airports: London City, London Gatwick, London Heathrow, London Luton and London Stansted. Please visit the airport's website for information on how to get to your final destination from there. There should be plenty of choices of buses and trains to take from the airport, and although taxis will be available, it will be the most expensive option.

 **Make sure you plan your onward journey before you arrive at the airport**


Airport Collection Service

UAL offers a free one-off taxi service for students coming to the university for the first time from non-European countries. You'll be collected from any of the London airports and driven to either your Hall of Residence or your private accommodation. To take advantage of this free service, you must book at least three days before your arrival date in London. Simply fill in the online form on the UAL website with your arrival details.

 'Airport taxi service'

Packing your personal belongings


As London temperatures vary dramatically, layered clothing will help you remain adaptable. Bring a selection of clothing to cater to all seasons and pack lightly – there are numerous affordable and exciting shops in the fashion capital! Most items such as bedding and cooking utensils can be bought cheaply when you arrive so you shouldn't worry about shipping or mailing too many personal belongings as this may work out to be more expensive.

 **Make sure to label your luggage with your UK contact details. Also make a list of what you pack in case you need to make an insurance claim**

Banned and restricted items

There are strict governmental controls on some goods and if you bring them with you, you may face seizure of the good(s), a fine or prosecution. You should check the government's website to see what you can and cannot bring into the UK as the allowance differs from country to country. Always watch your belongings and never leave your bags unattended.

Examples of banned and restricted items: illegal drugs, offensive weapons, endangered animals, food and plant products from outside of the EU, and indecent and obscene materials.

 [gov.uk](https://www.gov.uk) 'Duty free goods'

Money

You should bring some money with you to use during your first few weeks in the UK as it takes time to set up a UK bank account.

It will be easier if you bring British currency so be sure to shop around for the best exchange rate. You can also exchange your money at the airport once you arrive but you'll most likely get a worse exchange rate.

If you are planning to use your debit or credit card in the UK, tell your bank for security reasons. Your bank statements will show you the currency conversion and the exchange rate for each purchase but you should be aware you may have to pay additional charges for using it abroad so make sure you check the fees. You can also bring pre-paid cards.

Electricity

It's easy to charge your devices and stay connected. Three main things to remember are:

- UK appliances are fitted with a three-pin plug
- Wall sockets have a switch controlling power supply
- Adapters are easy to find; if your country uses lower voltage than the UK average of 230v, you may also need a converter



> Things to do after you get here

When you arrive in London, there are a few things you should do in the first two weeks.

Open a bank account

You should open a UK bank account so you can manage your money more easily. We recommend you speak to your bank in your home country before you come to London - they may be able to help you open an account in the UK.

To open a bank account in the UK, you'll need to visit a branch of your chosen bank and show them all or some of these documents:

- Your passport and UK immigration permission
- Proof of your address in your home country. Banks will accept an offer letter from UAL as proof
- Proof of your UK address e.g. your UAL accommodation contract
- A 'bank letter' from UAL. You can request this from your college, but only after you enrol. You will need to provide us with the name and address of your chosen bank


Tip As you may be without a bank account for a few weeks, make sure you have another source of money, such as cash, or a debit/credit card

Register with a doctor

If you're studying at UAL for longer than six months, you'll have access to the UK's National Health Service (NHS) so it's essential to register yourself with a doctor (also known as General Practitioner or GP). The NHS will also cover you for emergencies, some dental care and eye tests but only after you are registered with a doctor. If you have a recurring


health problem which requires treatments, you should bring prescriptions and a note from your doctor in your home country so your new doctor in London can help you as effectively as possible. You should also consider additional medical insurance, as there are restrictions on what treatments can be provided for existing health problems, and the UK treatment may not be the same as the treatment in your home country.

You should register with a doctor near your new home so you can get to them easily if you need medical attention. For emergencies, either call 999 and ask for an ambulance or go to the nearest Accident and Emergency (A&E) department in one of the hospitals. For non-emergencies, call 111; they will give you professional advice and make you an appointment with your doctor or nearest Walk-in Centre. All of these will be free of cost for you under the NHS.

 'Doctors'

UK visas and registering with the police

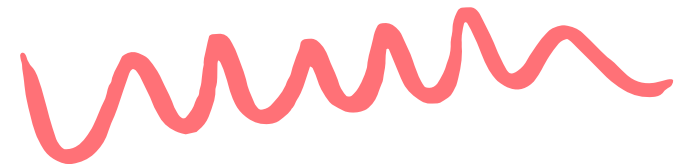
Depending on the type of visa you hold, you may have to register with the Overseas Visitors Records Office (OVRO). This will be indicated on your passport or visa documentation which you will need to take with you, along with one passport size photograph and the £34 registration fee.

 'How to register'



> Things to know about living in London

It's easier to think of London as lots of tiny towns rather than one big city. Every area in London has a different ambience, atmosphere and local 'tribe' and before long, you will have your favourites. London can be both an exciting yet challenging experience. This section will give you an idea of what it's like to live here, along with some useful tips about daily life, to help you make this diverse and vibrant city your home.



Accommodation

Most new students choose to live in a student Hall of Residence, as it's bookable through UAL's Accommodation Services and includes utilities (gas, electricity, water) in the cost. Living in Halls also allows you to meet other students and make friends and we have a wide range of sites located near to each college.

🔍 'Accommodation'

If you prefer to live in private accommodation, we recommend you contact Accommodation Services for advice and help to find a rental property in London.

✉️ accommodation@arts.ac.uk

📞 UK office: +44 (0)20 7514 6240
(9am – 5pm Monday – Friday)
Asia office +852 2155 4207

📍 'Private accommodation'

If you choose to rent private accommodation directly from an individual or an agency, there are a few things you should keep in mind:

- Living in or near the centre of London is very expensive and most students live a little further away as it's more affordable with better quality accommodation. This may mean it will take time for you to get to your college so factor in travel time when searching. For example, the average journey time for someone living in South London commuting to work/school/university in central London, by public transport or car could take between 40-60 minutes.

- Unlike living in Halls, you will have to pay other bills in addition to the rent, such as water, gas, electricity and internet. You'll also have to pay for a TV licence if you choose to view programmes on your television or laptop so make sure you factor in all these extras when budgeting
- Rental prices vary widely with costs ranging anywhere from £150 per week to £500 plus per week. Most properties are listed with the weekly charge although you may pay your rent monthly so make sure you ask
- It's not advisable to rent a property without viewing it in person as photographs can be deceptive

Tip Laundry services are available in Halls. If you're renting privately, make sure you have access to a washing machine or check where the nearest laundry facilities are

There are rules on renting in the UK which may be different from what you are used to in your home country. Wherever you choose to live during your studies, remember:

- You should have a written contract, in English, for your accommodation. A contract is the agreement between you and your accommodation provider which you both have to sign
- The contract will cover the amount of the rent, frequency and method of payment of the rent, the bills you are responsible for, the length of the tenancy, notice period, as well as other important points
- You must read and understand the contract before you accept it and make an initial payment. UAL have a dedicated Private Accommodation Advisor who can check the contract and explain it to you

📍 gov.uk 'Private renting tenancy agreements'

Tip It's a good idea to insure your belongings, especially if you have expensive electronic equipment such as laptops and phones. If you're living in Halls, your belongings are insured (check restrictions when you arrive). If you're renting privately, you should get private contents insurance in case your belongings are lost or stolen

🔍 'Insurance'

Council Tax

Full time students on most courses are exempt from paying 'Council Tax', which is a fee residents pay to the local government for waste collection, recycling and general maintenance. If you're renting privately, you'll need a certificate to prove you are exempt by requesting a Council Tax Exemption Certificate after you enrol on your main course.

🔍 'Council Tax'

Staying safe

London is generally a safe city to live in, but like any new place, you should take time to learn how to look after yourself and your belongings. Here are some top tips:

- Keep your purse or wallet close to your body and don't carry too much cash
- Keep all valuables out of sight when out and about, especially when in crowded places
- Carry your laptop in a rucksack rather than a laptop bag so it's not easily seen
- Register your pocket electronics (phone, iPad, iPod) for free on immobilise.com so if they get stolen and police have to search for them, they can check the serial number and track you as the owner
- Plan your route before you leave; the Transport for London website tfl.gov.uk is a good place to start
- Avoid walking alone at night; keep to well-lit main roads or take a taxi for longer distances; only use registered taxis or minicabs
- Report any incidents, suspicious activity or stolen belongings to the police; dial 101 for your nearest police service or 999 in an emergency
- Go to an Accident and Emergency (A&E) department at your nearest hospital if you have a serious injury or illness
- Students are sometimes targeted by scammers trying to access personal information or bank details. Read our [Commonplace article 'Keep safe - tips for avoiding student scams'](#).



Keeping in touch

Mobile/Cell phones

Getting a UK mobile phone is the best way to keep in touch with your new friends in the UK. You have several options to choose from:

- **Pay Monthly:** you'll need to sign a contract for a fixed length of time, usually for 12 to 24 months
- **Pay as You Go:** you'll just need to top up / buy credit as and when you need it
- **SIM-only:** similar to Pay Monthly but you'll only be committed to a rolling 30 days contract and won't get a mobile device

There are lots of different phone providers in the UK so it's important to shop around when you are deciding on the best option for you.

International calls

Calling international numbers from the UK can be expensive, especially if you decide to use your mobile. Some alternative ways to stay in touch with your family and friends back home include using Skype, WeChat, Facebook Messenger or WhatsApp to make calls and send messages or including an international calling plan when you get a UK mobile. You can also buy international calling cards from most local shops and many have a free phone number you can access to place a call; if your mobile phone plan charges for calling free phone numbers, use a land line or the public telephones located around London.

Internet/ Broadband

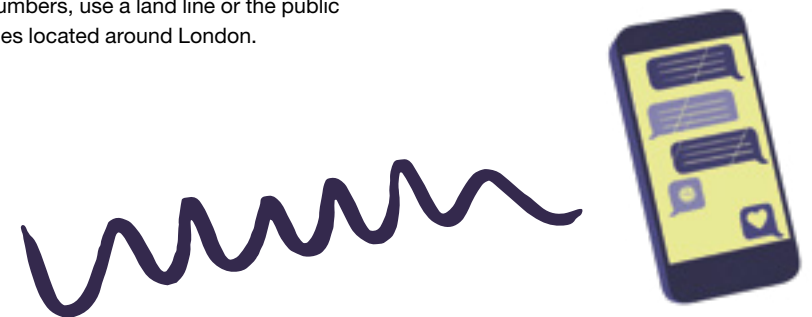
In addition to having internet on your new mobile phone plan, you can access free Wi-Fi at all UAL sites, including UAL Halls of Residence.

If you are renting privately, there is a wide selection of home broadband companies and packages to choose from but budget wisely, as this may mean you will have to pay a rental fee for a land line phone.

Tip Use price comparison websites to see offers from different companies

Postal Service

Post Offices are located all over London and Royal Mail is the main distributor. If you are posting a letter or package containing valuable items or it needs to get to its destination quickly, there are different services available and you should talk to someone at the Post Office about the best options for you. Some of the services won't be available for international destinations. We would recommend you compare costs from other providers such as Parcel Force if you're sending a package abroad as costs may vary depending on destination, size and weight of the package.





> Arts Students' Union guide to exploring London

Once you've settled in and know the essentials, it's time to get to know your new city! There's so much to London and always something new to explore.

Look back at this section whenever you're stuck for somewhere to go or something to do.




Museums and Galleries

Most of London's museums are free to enter. From the Victoria & Albert Museum to the Science Museum, you'll find yourself submerged in art, history, culture and innovation from ancient history all the way to the 21st century. Learn about developments in contemporary science, medicine and technology and then fall in love with surrealist, minimalist and abstract artworks.

There are also plenty of galleries around London, from the Serpentine Gallery to the Photographers' Gallery where workshops and talks are organised.

'Late' events

Larger museums, such as the British Museum and The Royal Academy of Arts, host events called 'Lates'. Taking place in the evenings, exhibitions come to life through performances and art installations. It's an extravagant part of London's art scene, and best of all, our Arts SU often gets involved with them – so look out for events.

 arts-su.com 'Creative events'

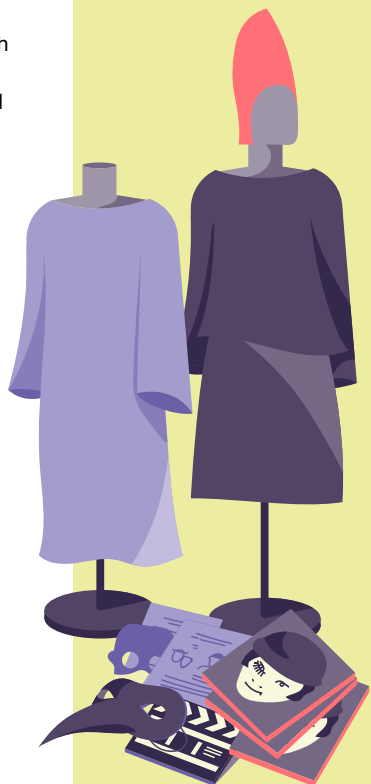
Students' union recommends:

Art and design

Tate Modern
Tate Britain
Royal Academy of Arts (RA)
Saatchi Gallery
Whitechapel Gallery
Photographers' Gallery
The Design Museum

Museums

Museum of London Docklands
Imperial War Museum
Museum of London
The National Gallery
Victoria and Albert (V&A)
Museums of Brands



Taking time out

It's easy to be caught up in the wonderful mayhem of London as it's a busy place. Make the most of what the city has to offer so you can explore and relax.

- **Hidden walks:** if you're getting tired of the crowds in popular areas such as Hyde Park, there are lots of places you can explore at your own pace. Follow Regent's Park's beautiful twisting canal or discover London's history via Thames walk paths
- **The great outdoors:** visit Hampstead Heath Park, Richmond Park and Primrose Hill for unique views of London, for free
- **Sip and see:** bird watch at the Waterside café located on a canal boat or read a book in the Poetry Café during the day and stay for the free performances in the evening. There's also a lot to see and do at Kew Gardens as well as lots of cafes with great views of the famous garden

Getting active

London is a great place to stay fit and active, offering a wide variety of activities.

- **Parkrun:** a great way of finding people to run with. All you need to do is find the closest event to you on parkrun.org.uk
- **Our Parks:** offers free group exercise in parks across London. Experienced instructors lead activities ranging from Tai Chi and yoga to Brazilian dance and high-intensity full body workout. Book your free place through ourparks.org.uk
- **Meditation:** to relax, unwind and recharge your batteries, join free meditation sessions offered by innerspace.org.uk

Meeting new people

Despite the size and population of London, it can be difficult to meet people. Being a student will make this easier through classes and group projects, as well as through student accommodation, should you choose to live there.

There are also many events and activities where you can meet people, organised by Arts SU and UAL Social. Events and activities vary from quiz nights, film nights, trips to famous landmarks or the theatre and various workshops and masterclasses.

 facebook.com
'UAL Social' & 'UAL Arts SU'
instagram.com/UALSocial

UAL Social & Arts SU

If you prefer sports and related activities, Arts SU runs a wide range of great sports and activities as well as health and nutrition talks and exciting one off events. There are over 25 sports clubs which you can join, ranging from football, volleyball, ballet and badminton to yoga, Zumba, Pilates and much more.

 'Arts Active'

Multi-cultural city

London may be the capital city of England, but it's also one of the most multicultural cities in the world. As a matter of fact, one-third of all Londoners were born outside of the UK, and over 200 languages are spoken throughout many of London's streets and neighbourhoods.

If you want to experience some of the many cultures present, here are some neighborhoods to visit - you'll find it hard to believe that you're walking around London:



Chinatown

Packed full of Chinese supermarkets, bakeries, and over 80 different Chinese restaurants. Be sure to head to Chinatown to celebrate Chinese New Year.

Camden

Although known for contemporary art, it also has lots of Latin culture which deserves to be explored.

Brixton

Declared the unofficial capital of the British African-Caribbean community as over 24 percent of its population is of African or Caribbean descent. There are lots of Caribbean restaurants and reggae music shops, and it also hosts an annual celebration for Jamaican Independence Day.

Waltham Forest

Waltham Forest has one of the diverse ethnic populations in the UK (mostly consisting of Eastern Europeans and British Pakistanis). You'll find a variety of architecture, restaurants and shops influenced by Scandinavian, Portuguese, Italian and Spanish culture.

Golders Green

Mainly a Jewish community, the area also features a mix of various cultures like Japanese, Turkish, Korean and Italian. The neighbourhood is home to countless Kosher cafes and Jewish book stores, and the former home of ballerina Anna Pavlova has been turned into a Jewish Cultural Centre which you can visit.

Tooting, Southall and Aldgate

Nicknamed "Little India" and "Curry Corridor", these areas thrive with Indian and Asian culture. With shops packed full of imported items from traditional clothing to spices, you can also find food from nearly every country in South Asia.

New Malden

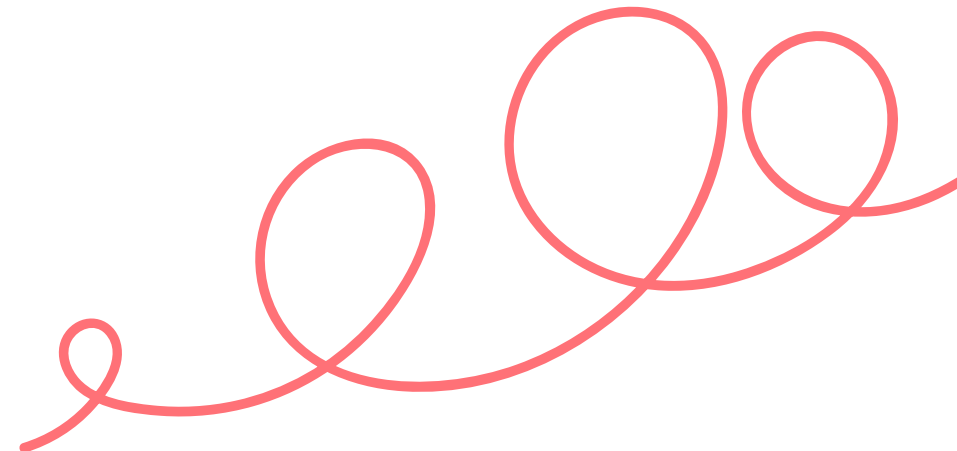
Known as "Little Korea," it has one of the most densely populated areas of Koreans outside of South Korea. The area boasts over 20 different Korean restaurants and cafes as well as Korean-language churches and nursery schools. The area also hosts the Korean Food Festival every year, and you won't have to look very far to find a Korean-style karaoke bar.



> Food and Drink

The diversity of cultures and their cuisines provides something for everyone in London, whether you are looking to match dietary needs such as kosher, halal, vegan and vegetarian or simply want to satisfy a craving.

Why not visit China Town or simply search online and you'll find what you're looking for! Otherwise visit 'Multi-cultural city' (page 40) for more options.



Traditional British food

There are so many tasty British culinary delights that are enjoyed and eaten quite regularly all across the UK. Be sure to take some time to try out one of two or even all of the foods here:

- **Sunday Roast:** traditionally eaten and served in pubs all over the country at Sunday lunchtime. It involves roast meat, roast potatoes, at least two different kinds of vegetables, gravy and Yorkshire puddings (which, confusingly, are not sweet!)
- **Fish and chips:** battered cod and chips with salt and vinegar. It's the classic English take-away food, and the traditional national food of England. The best fish and chips are found near the coast, so maybe take a trip to Brighton!
- **Full English breakfast:** a very English meal involving any combination of toast, sausages, fried mushrooms, eggs, baked beans and bacon. Most people don't have it every day, but might indulge at the weekend! You can try it yourself in almost any café
- **Curry:** Curry is one of the UK's most popular dishes. Chicken Tikka Masala was invented for the British!

Pubs and alcohol

In England, visiting pubs is a common way to relax, celebrate or simply meet up with friends. All pubs will have a bar serving alcoholic and non-alcoholic drinks. Many serve food as well as put on events, such as the traditional pub quiz. It's absolutely fine to go along if you don't drink alcohol.

"Off licences" are small shops which have a licence to sell alcohol for consumption off the premises.

You might see signs in shops reading "Under 25?". You don't need to be 25 to buy alcohol in the UK (the legal drinking age is 18); all it means is that if you look under 25, you will be asked for ID. ID stands for 'identification', and in this case refers to an official document with a photo of you and your date of birth on it, such as passport or driving licence.

Some pubs, bars and clubs ask for ID from everyone wishing to enter, regardless of age. If you don't have ID, you may be turned away.

Eating and drinking out


Eating and drinking out might seem like a simple thing, but if you are unfamiliar with UK customs, you may be in for a few surprises! Here are some common things to know:

- If you order water, you may be served bottled water that you'll have to pay for. Ask for tap water, which is free and safe to drink in the UK
- Many restaurants add a service tip to the final bill (look out for "service included" on your receipt), so there is no need to tip extra unless you want to
- In most pubs you have to go to the bar to order your food and drinks
- It's polite to 'buy rounds' (take turns to buy drinks) with your group of friends
- About 10 minutes before closing time, the bar staff will ring a bell and tell people to order their last drinks. The pub isn't allowed to serve drinks after closing time and you must finish your drink and leave 20 minutes after the bell has been rung. Closing times vary in different pubs

Eating in

Although all manner of food is available within a variety of price ranges in restaurants and the UAL canteens, we recommend that you shop for, and prepare, your own meals. This is a healthier option and will better suit a student budget.

The most affordable way to prepare food is setting a budget first and creating meal plans before buying the ingredients. You'll be surprised how many different foods you can create with the same ingredients and there are lots of websites to help you plan meals on a budget.

 Google 'Eating on a student budget'

Supermarkets

Supermarkets are located throughout the city where you can buy groceries and other essentials. The ones located in the centre of London tend to be smaller with fewer options of food and price ranges. We recommend you visit larger supermarkets outside of central London which will give you the opportunity to check out special offers and discounted items as well as see the different ranges of price for the same item.

The main affordable supermarkets are:

- Lidl
- Aldi
- Asda
- Tesco
- Sainsbury's
- Morrisons

Tip When visiting the supermarket, it is always worth checking to see the difference between famous brands and the supermarket's own brand – sometimes it's the same thing and will save you a lot of money

Tip You will notice lots of pre-packaged and pre-made food at the supermarket; it may be tempting as it's quick and easy but it's rarely a healthier or the most affordable option

Online shopping

Most of the supermarkets have the option for you to shop and pay online and get the shopping delivered to your home for a fee.

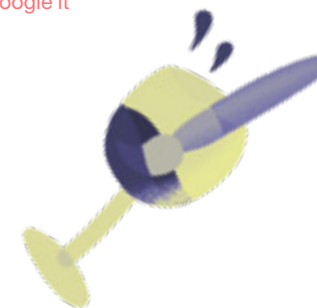
Tip If the supermarket doesn't have the exact item you ordered, they will deliver the nearest matching item

International food

If you are looking to re-create your favourite food from your home country the supermarkets may have the ingredients you need, although there may not be a lot of choices. Don't despair though, being a multicultural city you'll surely find what you need, and more, from these neighbourhoods:

- South Asian: Harrow, Southall, Wembley, Aldgate
- Southeast Asian: Chinatown
- Portuguese: Stockwell and Oval
- Polish supermarkets: Shepherd's Bush
- African-Caribbean: Lambeth and Lewisham
- Middle Eastern: Edgware Road
- South America: Elephant & Castle
- Vietnamese: Hackney

Tip If you can't find what you're looking for, simply google it





> Shopping

London has thousands of shops catering to all styles and tastes. Some of London's main shopping areas are around Oxford Street, Kensington and Chelsea, Covent Garden and Angel.

You'll also find one of the UK's biggest shopping centres Westfield in Stratford (with a smaller version in White City) as well as other local shopping centres wherever you settle in London.



A typical shopping area will have:

- **'High Street' shops:** chain stores found all over London that carry the latest fashions (such as Zara, Topshop and H&M). Primark is one where you're sure to find bargains as it's much more affordable
- **Department stores:** a large place that has separate areas in which different kinds of products are sold (such as make-up, fashion, furniture and household goods). The main ones in London are Debenhams, John Lewis, Selfridges, Harrods and House of Fraser; prices ranging from affordable to high
- **Home stores:** sell essential items you'll need for your home; from towels and blankets to frying pans and furniture. The most popular one is Argos (also sells electronics for your home) and Ikea (mainly located in the outskirts of London)
- **Electronic stores:** sell a variety of home electronics (such as laptops, gaming consoles and phones) and household appliances (such as fridges, kettles and hoovers). Main ones you'll see are Currys, Carphone Warehouse, PC World and Argos
- **Health and beauty stores:** sell a range of products for personal care such as make-up, shampoos and medicines. Superdrug and Boots are the most affordable
- **Stationery shops:** sell essential items you may need for your studies, ranging from pens to notebooks and books. Popular ones are WHSmith and Ryman

Tip If buying furniture, you may come across words like 'ready to assemble' or 'flat packed'. This means you'll have to put the furniture together yourself by following the instructions the item comes with

Markets & Fairs

London has many wonderful markets where you can buy almost anything from food to flowers and modern art to clothing.

- Notting Hill, Portobello Road and Camden Lock; sell a variety of goods including antiques, food, clothes, music and art
- Brick Lane; known for vintage clothing but also sells antiques, arts and food
- Old Spitalfields; known for fashion but also sells antiques and food
- Borough market; London's most renowned food and drink market with a variety of British and Internationally grown items

There are also some great themed fairs you might enjoy; from the famous London Book Fair and London Art Fair, to London Car Fair and the VegFest.

Tip Check the opening times and the exact location of the market and fair you're planning to visit

Refunds and returns

If you change your mind about something you bought, you can return the item in the original condition to the store and they'll either:

- give back the money you paid (refund)
- allow you to exchange the item for another
- give you store credit which you can use to buy something at a later date

Every store has different rules for returning items, especially when the item has been discounted, so make sure you check before you buy.

Money saving tips

There are lots of ways to save a little extra money during your time in London.

- **NUS card:** you can buy a card from National Union of Students (NUS) which will save you money from over 200 places, including fashion, electronics and food retailers, as well as entertainment and travel. Remember, shops don't always advertise the discount, so always ask if they take NUS card!

 nus.org.uk 'NUS extra'

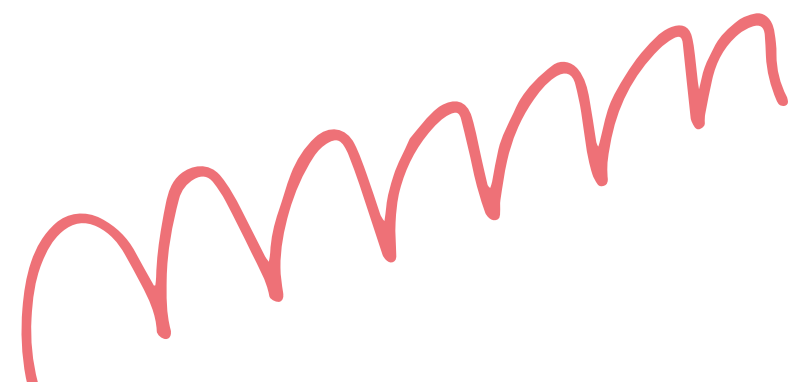
- **Local discount scheme:** as a student, you might be able to get discounts depending on the area you chose to live in. Discounts are offered by the Borough Council (which looks after the area you live in) and can be used for local sport centres/gyms, restaurants and events. Search your council's website to see what discounts they offer to residents
- **Online discounts:** websites such as VoucherCloud and Groupon have lots of offers and are great for treating yourself to anything from a massage to a meal
- **Buy a reusable cup** and get discounts in many coffee shops (as well as being more sustainable!).





> Travelling around London

London has one of the largest transport networks in the world and once you get used to it, you'll find it easy to use. With multiple ways of getting around, the best thing to do is plan your journey by using Transport for London's (TFL) 'journey planner', available on its website or as an app.



Zones

The underground and overground trains in London are divided into zones with most operating in zones one to six, and a few operating in zones seven to nine. The zones depend on their distance from central London (classified as zone one).

Underground trains

The most popular method of travel is the London Underground, also known as the Tube. It's the quickest way to travel in and around London and has eleven 'lines', some of which are open 24 hours at weekends.

Tip Travelling outside of the busiest hours (known as 'peak time' between 6.30am to 9.30am and 4pm to 7pm on the weekdays) is cheaper and will help if you aren't used to big crowds

Buses

Buses cover all zones of London, and you can get from one zone to another for a set fare. You can also travel on more than one bus for the same fare but you must complete your journey within an hour. It's a convenient way to get to know your surrounding area but you should factor in traffic on the roads when planning your journey. Some buses work 24 hours, with most stopping around midnight.

Above ground trains

The London Overground and National Rail are easy and quick ways to get from central London to more residential areas not covered by the Tube. Similarly, the Docklands Light Railway (DLR) mainly travels to East London areas.




Ways to pay


There is a range of ways to pay for your travel and the cheapest method depends on where you live and which transport you'll use most often.

With a Student Oyster photocard, you will save 30% of the price of Travelcard and Bus Pass, available to buy for daily, weekly and monthly use.

You can only apply for a Student Oyster photocard through the TFL website after you've been given a student identification number at enrolment. You'll need a digital photo of yourself, your course start and end dates, your email address and a bank card to pay the £20 fee.

 tfl.gov.uk 'Student Oyster'

You might also be able to apply for one of a range of National Railcards which offer discounts on Tube, DLR, London Overground, TfL Rail and National Rail services.

 tfl.gov.uk '16-25 Rail Card'

Tip Register your Oyster card on the TFL website; it'll save time in case you lose your card and will also let you put credit on your card online

Walking


The best way to travel in London is walking. Start somewhere central like Oxford Circus and walk in any direction, and before you know it you will reach another Tube stop you recognise and will be surprised how small central London really is. If you get lost, Google Maps and other similar apps will help you find your way.

Cycling

Cycling is an affordable and healthy way to travel around London. If you don't have your own bicycle, you can hire one from as little as £2. Simply go to any docking station in London with your bank card and touch the screen to get started. There's no need to book - hire a bike, ride it to your destination, then simply return it to the nearest docking station.


TFL also offers free Cycle Skills lessons, advice on how to protect your bike and have some great guides for when you're ready to take to the road.

Tip To stay safe, we recommend wearing a helmet and bright clothing when cycling

 tfl.gov.uk 'Cycling'


Cars

Cars are a comfortable way to travel but they are very expensive to maintain in London. You'll have to pay a fee every time you drive into central London, as well as pay for fuel, parking, insurance, road tax and maintaining safety. Make sure you research what is involved in maintaining and using a car in London before making a decision.


 ukcisa.org.uk 'Driving'

Taxis

Taxis, also known as 'cabs' or 'mini-cabs', are a quick and comfortable option but are much more expensive than taking a bus or the Tube. There are some illegal or unregistered mini-cabs that can be dangerous, especially for women travelling alone, so make sure there's a registration number or a fare counter near the driver. Visit the TFL website to learn what you should look for before getting into a vehicle and the different options available.

 tfl.gov.uk 'Taxis and cabs'

Uber is a safe taxi service and one of the easy ways to order a cab and travel cheaply. You can hire a private driver to pick you up and take you to your destination with the tap of a button on any smartphone device.

 [Uber App](#)

Travelling around the UK

You might want to travel to other parts of the UK while you're here and you can do this with:

- **Coaches:** often the cheapest way to travel as sometimes you can get a ticket for as little as £1 when you book in advance
- **Trains:** can be expensive so it's best to book in advance using websites like Trainline to compare prices. You can get more information about train travel in the UK on the National Rail website

Tip You can also plan and book journeys across the UK via GoEuro, a multi-mode search engine which allows easy comparison and combination of train, coach and plane travel

Travelling abroad

If you want to take the opportunity to travel abroad during your studies in the UK, there are many options available to you such as planes, trains, ferries and coaches. Before you plan your trip it's essential you check:

- your passport is valid and won't expire while you are away
- if you need a visa to enter; refer to the embassy website of the country you want to visit

 'Travelling abroad'




> Working while studying

You might want to work during your studies to earn some extra money and to gain experience. Students from countries outside of the European Economic Area (EEA) and Switzerland will need permission to work in the UK. Check if you are allowed to work by looking at the visa stamp in your passport.

National Insurance

Everyone who works in the UK needs to have for a National Insurance number. National Insurance (NI) is a charge all workers automatically have deducted from their wages, to contribute to state benefits such as the NHS. You will have to pay this charge even if you're here for a short time. More information, including how to apply, is available online.

 [gov.uk](#) 'National Insurance number'

Income tax

You are liable to pay income tax on earnings – however, you need to be earning more than a certain amount before you need to pay any tax. More information, including tax rates, is available online.



 [gov.uk](#) 'Income Tax rates'

Applying for a job

Most people look online as there are lots of websites dedicated to help you find a suitable job. UAL can also help you with your job search and application process, and there are lots of jobs you can apply for, available for UAL students only.

Students who are on Tier 4 visas, or any other visas with a work restriction are not allowed to be self-employed, freelance, or sell work to have an income.

This includes paid jobs and internships on the Creative Opportunities jobs board through our in-house temping agency ArtsTemps.

 'Internships on the Creative Opportunities'
 'ArtTemps'



> Things to know about Arts Students' Union

Every UAL student is automatically a member of Arts Students' Union. Whether you need support or want to get involved, we can help.

Students' Union Representatives

Anita Israel
Education Officer
✉ education@su.arts.ac.uk

Annie-Marie Akussah
Activities Officer
✉ activities@su.arts.ac.uk

Katayoun Jalilipour
Welfare Officer
✉ welfare@su.arts.ac.uk

Olivia Kellett
Campaigns Officer
✉ campaigns@su.arts.ac.uk

Samuel Thoumieux
International Students Officer
✉ international@su.arts.ac.uk

🔍 arts-su.com 'Your union'



We are the students who campaign for and represent you. We are elected by you to work for a year to create change around issues you care about. There is even an International Students' Officer to represent your needs to the university!

If you want to find out more about what we are doing, you can get lots of information on the Arts SU website. You can also come to our office on the 1st Floor of High Holborn, London. Your officers are here to represent you, so please do get in touch!

We look forward to meeting you.



Anita
Annie-Marie
Katayoun
Olivia
Samuel



> Societies and sports

There are over 30 societies and 20 sports clubs you can join. This is one of the easiest ways to meet people from across all six colleges. You'll gain experience from organising fun things for the UAL community and, if your group is big enough, the students' union will even help towards the costs of running your activities. If competitive sports are not for you, you can also join Arts Active.

📍 arts-su.com 'Sports and societies'

Student Initiative Fund

The Student Initiative Fund (SIF) helps current UAL students lead innovative projects. It funds projects and events which will be for the enjoyment, benefit of, or to build the UAL community. You can apply for up to £200. This is a fantastic opportunity to build industry and professional experience in a space that is safe to experiment in!

Advice Service

The Students' Union Advice Service offers free, confidential advice, which means we won't tell your college you have talked to us (unless you want us to), and we are completely independent from the university. We can help you with academic matters such as appeals and complaints as well as accommodation issues.

You can talk to us by booking an appointment for a time which suits you or by coming to see us on weekdays between 10am to 12pm. You can also call or email us (a good idea if you're travelling to see us).

☎ 020 7514 6270

✉ advice@su.arts.ac.uk

📍 arts-su.com 'Advice Service'

Course Representatives

Course Representatives are students who volunteer to represent their course at university meetings. They have a lot of influence over issues like curriculum design, facility access, opening hours and more, and their efforts ensure students are heard. It is a great opportunity to create change in your college. Elections for this position take place at the start of term - we'll let you know when they are happening if you would like to get involved.

Made in Arts London

Arts Students' Union runs Made in Arts London (MiAL), a uniquely student-led enterprise. Some MiAL student artists can sell pieces online, exhibit in galleries, attend training workshops and support and learn from each other. If you are not able to sell your work UAL still offers numerous and varied professional development opportunities and mentorships throughout the year to all current UAL students.

Students who are on Tier 4 visas, or any other visas with a work restriction are not allowed to be self-employed, freelance, or sell work to have an income.

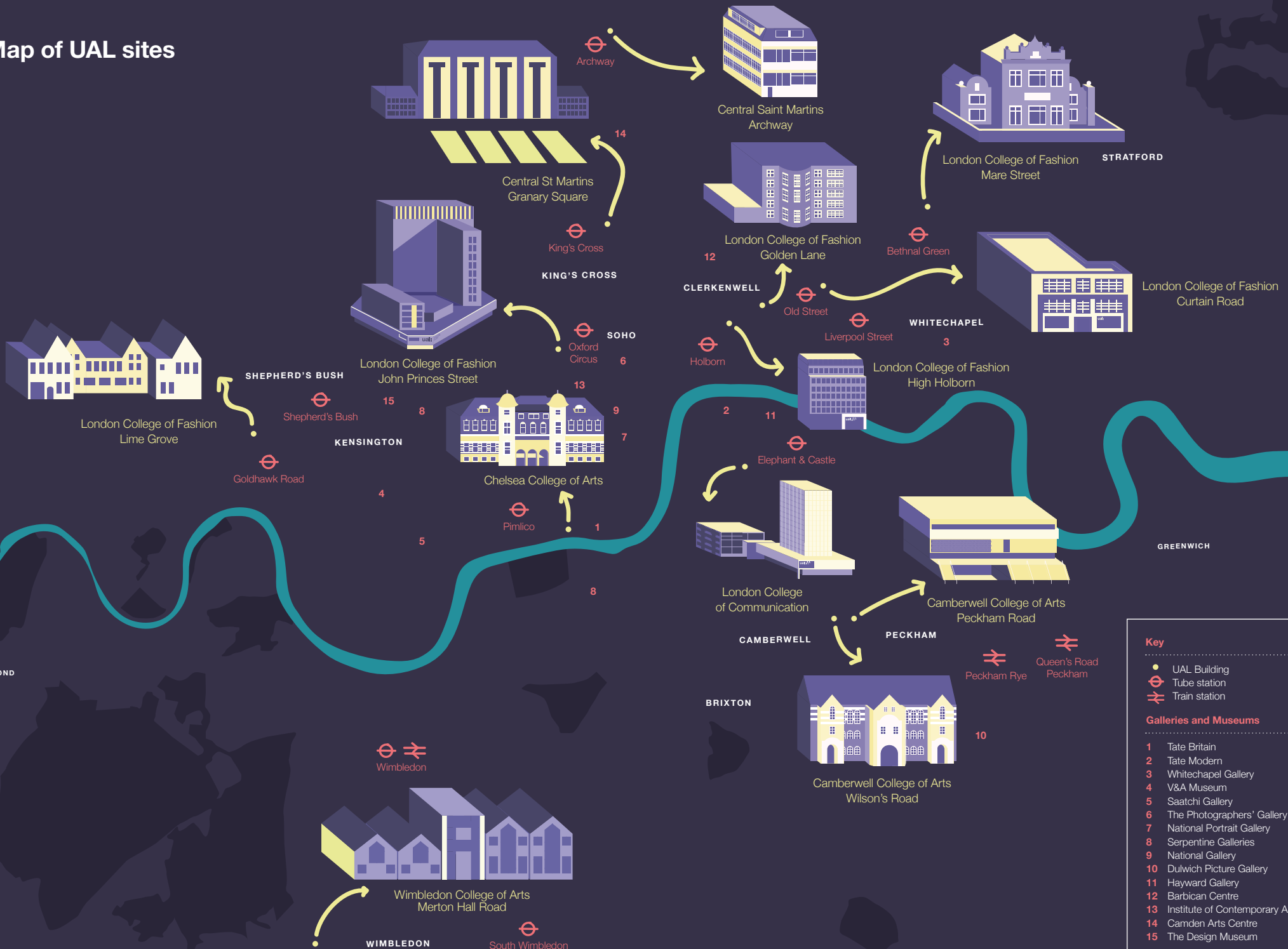
📍 arts-su.com 'MiAL'

Arts Unlocked London

A network of museum professionals, university lecturers and artists, unlocking London's cultural world, The network offers exclusive tours of London's major museums for individuals and small groups of culture-savvy travellers.

📍 artsunlocked.com

Map of UAL sites



Key

- UAL Building
- ⊖ Tube station
- ⇨ Train station

Galleries and Museums

- 1 Tate Britain
- 2 Tate Modern
- 3 Whitechapel Gallery
- 4 V&A Museum
- 5 Saatchi Gallery
- 6 The Photographers' Gallery
- 7 National Portrait Gallery
- 8 Serpentine Galleries
- 9 National Gallery
- 10 Dulwich Picture Gallery
- 11 Hayward Gallery
- 12 Barbican Centre
- 13 Institute of Contemporary Arts
- 14 Camden Arts Centre
- 15 The Design Museum

We hope this guide has reassured you that everything you want and need is on your doorstep in London.

Once you arrive, we'll give you another guide to help you settle into your new life as a student of UAL, including information specific to your chosen college.

There's also a lot of events to look forward to. As part of our Big Welcome to you, you'll be invited to international student orientation, course inductions, college welcome days and many other social and cultural events where you'll get a chance to meet other students.

Look out for more details on our website; we'll be adding essential information over the summer to help you begin your journey with us.

 ['The Big Welcome'](#)

We look forward to getting to know you, your work and, of course, helping you thrive.



