









# Abertay University Overseas Prospectus









# Dundee: city life

Big enough to provide a variety of entertainment whatever your interests, yet small enough to feel like home – Dundee is the jewel of North East Scotland. In an ideal setting on the banks of the River Tay, Dundee offers an excellent quality of life.

#### Location

Dundee, beautifully located on the banks of the River Tay, combines all the shopping, cultural and entertainment benefits of city living but with easy access to wide open spaces in the surrounding country-side, coupled with excellent road, rail and air links to Edinburgh, Glasgow, Aberdeen, London and other major centres across the UK.

# Reputation

Dundee has a reputation for excellence in fields as diverse as life sciences and creative industries. And with a population of approximately 143,000, Dundee is a buzzing hub of of science and technology based 'knowledge industries', closely linked to the city's two universities with complementary strengths in creative digital media (Abertay University) and life sciences (Dundee University). Dundee has one of the highest proportions of students in its population of any city in the UK, injecting a unique and distinctive energy and vibrancy into Dundee's nightlife, leisure and cultural scenes.

# **Shopping**

Dundee's rejuvenated city centre has created one of the finest shopping zones in Scotland, with all the major national store chains represented. The Overgate shopping centre is a £150m retail development at the heart of Dundee city centre which is Europe's only single-sided shopping mall with a curved glass façade – only two minutes' walk from our campus.

Budget-conscious students can find a host of bargain outlets who can supply those essential student needs of clothes, food and music.

#### Entertainment

The award-winning Dundee Rep Theatre stages an all-year-round programme of theatre, comedy, dance and music. Dundee hosts a packed calendar of cultural events each year including Dundee Guitar Festival, Dundee Blues Bonanza, Dundee Flower & Food Festival and Discovery, Scotland's International Film Festival for Children and Young People. There's plenty to see and do with

several cinemas, skateparks, two football clubs, golf courses, leisure facilities, ice arena, museums, galleries, clubs and pubs all within easy access of the campus.

# Why Dundee?

- Three times nominated as one of Top Seven Intelligent Communities of the Year
- Chosen by the world famous V&A Museum as its first outpost beyond London – the V&A at Dundee project is scheduled to open in 2014
- Dundee Contemporary Arts is widely recognised as one of the most successful arts projects in the UK.
- Ranked as cheapest Scottish university city by Accommodation For Students (AFS).

# Our campus

Abertay is right at the heart of Dundee, combining all the advantages of a close knit campus with the buzz of city centre life. All our buildings are within a few hundred metres of each other, along with hundreds of shops, bars, clubs, cinemas and theatres, and we're just a few minutes walk from the bus and train stations.

### So convenient . . .

The heart of the University lies in Bell Street, with most teaching and learning facilities, offices, research centres, Library and the Student Centre all within just a few metres of each other. Whether you're going to lectures, meeting with staff, studying in the Library, or attending tutorials and seminars, you'll always feel like a part of our bustling community.

# So supportive . . .

Coming to University marks a major step in your life, and our fully trained support staff are on hand to make sure that the transition is as smooth as possible. The University can offer advice and support on everything from accommodation and managing your finances, to staying healthy and planning your workload. We have a counselling service that can help you work through any problems, and we employ a team of students each year to act as mentors for all newcomers. The Students' Association also provides help and advice via the elected student executive. No matter what your question, we have someone who can help answer it.











# So friendly . . .

Our friendly and welcoming environment is created by our students, who represent a great diversity of backgrounds and cultures. Over 64 nationalities are represented on campus, and our courses attract everyone from local school leavers to overseas research students.



#### . . . And world leaders

Abertay isn't just a great place to be a student – the University is also home to world leading research teams, whose discoveries are hailed internationally. We are the top-rated modern university in Scotland for environmental science research, with leading-edge initiatives such as the Abertay Centre for the Environment promoting 'green' business practices; the Urban Water Technology Centre developing innovative new drainage and pollution-control technology; and the SIMBIOS unit exploring bioinformatics and soil dynamics. All of our researchers are involved in teaching and developing courses – giving our students the chance to learn from world leaders every day.



Abertay scored another world-first in 2006 with the launch of its undergraduate degree in Ethical Hacking and Countermeasures followed in 2008 by the world's first postgraduate degree in Ethical Hacking & Computer Security. We have researchers developing new software and new systems in an amazing variety of fields not just in computer games, but in customer-oriented sales and service, environmental monitoring and prediction, novel medical diagnosis and treatment systems, cyber-security, town planning, policing, critical infrastructure planning, education and learning, heritage preservation, soil science and sustainability, infection control, sports psychology, telehealth, energy, business innovation capacity and much more.



The new Prototyping and Business Support Project for the UK's games and digital media industry run by Abertay is a £5m initiative that is planned to create dozens of new businesses and hundreds of new graduate-level jobs over the next few years.

Abertay has also been chosen to manage the Scotland Food and Drink Skills Academy, promoting the development of high-level skills and innovation through an industry which, in an age of food security, is a key component of Scotland's competitive economy.

And in 2009, the University was designated the UK's first national centre for excellence in computer games education, and we

opened a new Institute of Arts, Media and Computer Games to take forward research and teaching the creative industries.

# Why Abertay?

- ranked best modern university in Scotland for its environmental science, law and psychology research
- world-leading courses in computer arts and computer games technology
- launched Scotland's first degrees in computer arts, bioinformatics and biotechnology
- state of the art library fully networked for the digital age
- purpose-built student centre at the heart of the student experience
- one of the top UK universities for investment in IT facilities, and in Scotland for investment in library facilities
- according to government figures, Abertay is Scotland's best modern university for helping students progress in their studies
- one of the Top Ten most cost-effective universities in UK according to cost-of-living index survey by Push (2007)

# When do I study and start:

Most bachelor and masters programmes at Abertay start in early September. The majority of bachelor courses run for 4 years and most Masters for between 12-18 months

# Timeline for study at Abertay

July	Block 1 Pre-sessional English Language	
August	Block 2 Pre-sessional English Language	
September Week 1	International Orientation Week (Overse students only)	
September Week 2	Induction week (All new students)	
September Week 3	Academic teaching > Mid May	
Vacations	Late December/Early January; March/April; End of May > beginning of September	

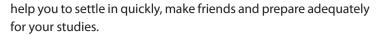
# Why applying early and getting your visa in good time is important

Abertay runs an International Orientation week followed by Induction week in early September. We strongly recommend that you attend both of these, as they give you lots of practical help,









# International Support

International students are given excellent support during their studies through our range of services, including:

- An International Student Advisor to assist and advise on a range of matters
- We offer free academic English language classes to all overseas students during the teaching year .
- Preferred consideration for a place in University residential accommodation for those new to Dundee, and accommodation support to those seeking to rent privately
- An international welcome week to help you settle into the British way of life
- A programme of special visits to tourist sites and cultural events
- A very successful International Students Association which organises social & cultural events and outings/visits
- An International Student Hosting Programme with members of local Rotary International Clubs
- Pre-arrival and Arrival handbooks
- Free airport'meet & greet'service from Edinburgh airport (booking required)



#### A warm welcome

Once you have an offer from us you can access our applicants portal with lots of information about Abertay, your course and Dundee. You can also download our International student guide and pre-arrival information which is full of useful suggestions to help you settle in.





#### Climate

Scottish weather is probably different from your expectations. It can be cold in winter with very occasionally a day when it snows! Often its just cool and wet or sunny and cold!

Our summers range from around 15-25C. Pleasantly warm but rarely hot! Few buildings have AC as its not needed, but we do tend to have heating for the winter months.

Dundee has a mild climate with clear unpolluted air, good visibility and an average of 1,400 hours of sunshine per year. The climate in

the UK is temperate and Scotland is similar to the rest of the UK, although a couple of degrees cooler than London, as we are further north. There are 4 distinctive seasons

# What can I study at Abertay?

We offer Bachelor degrees Masters degrees and PhD study in a wide range of areas including:

Business Management and Finance, Environmental Science, Biotechnology, Computing & Security, Computer Games, Social Sciences and Sport. A comprehensive list of the courses we offer is enclosed, together with up to date information on fees and scholarships.

# **English Language Requirements**

All of our programmes are taught and examined in English. To make the most of your study with us, you must be able to communicate fluently and accurately in spoken and written English. If your first language is not English you will be required to provide certified proof of your competence in English before starting your studies. The University accepts the following qualifications from international students whose first language is not English as proof of competence in English: Students may alternatively be required to enrol on our Pre-sessional English Programme/English Language Preparation Programmes to improve their skills.

# Pre-sessional Programme/English Language Preparation Programme

We provide a range of English language programmes including a pre-sessional programme immediately prior to the start of our academic courses, as well as one year long English language preparation programmes for those who require a little more support. Details of these programmes and requirements for entry can be found on our website at www.abertay.ac.uk

# English Qualification Minimum score or level for entry to all degree and postgraduate courses\*

	IELTS	Band 6	No individual test lower than 5	
	TOEFL	Computer based 223	Internet Based 85	Paper based 563 + TWE 5
ĺ	Pearson	Please enquire		
	TOEIC	880		

















Pearson	PTE Score of 59 or better	
Cambridge	(Certificate of Advanced English) Pass	
International Baccalaureate	Higher or lower English	
City and Guilds	"expert"	
SQA Higher	ESOL Grade B	
West African Senior Secondary Certificate WAEC	C6 or better	

<sup>\*</sup>Some programmes e.g. nursing have higher English language requirements Please see the individual course entry on our website

# Fees & Funding

Tuition fees are updated each year and current fees are available on our website www.abertay.ac.uk and on an insert in the back of this brochure. Once you have received an offer and met any academic or other requirements you will be asked to pay a deposit of 30% of the tuition fee. This is non-refundable unless your visa is refused. When you arrive you must pay an additional 20% of the fee and the balance is payable in full or by direct debit/instalment arrangements. Fees can also be paid in full in advance.

# **Scholarships**

Up to date information about scholarship funding is available on our website at www.abertay.ac.uk and in the enclosed leaflet.

# **Living Costs**

Living in Dundee is cheaper than in big cities such as London and you can easily walk rather than use buses or trains for your every-day study and domestic needs. There are special railcards and deals for students for travel further afield.

Apart from paying your fees you should have the funds recommended each year by UKBA for your accommodation, food and other living costs. Please check the UKBA website for up to date guidance. Some people will spend more, some less, depending on your lifestyle!

# Accommodation

Students new to Dundee normally look for somewhere affordable, comfortable and within daily travelling distance of the University.

There is a variety of different types of student residential accommodation, either privately owned or directly leased by the university. The size of the accommodation varies from single bedsits to multioccupancy flats and it is all located within easy walking or travelling distance to the University. The self-catering flats are furnished and are complete with standard kitchen facilities.

There are now a significant number of self-catering flats available with en-suite and IT facilities. The accommodation staff are happy to provide details of the range and prices of accommodation currently available. When allocating accommodation the University gives priority to first entrants and to overseas students who are new to Dundee



Unfortunately the University does not have purpose built accommodation for married students or students with families. The Accommodation Officers are happy to give advice on finding appropriate accommodation in the private sector or in local authority housing.

# How to Apply for University Accommodation

All applicants to the University are automatically sent information on accommodation and an application form once they are offered an unconditional place. Students wishing to secure accommodation should complete this accommodation application form. You can also choose to apply online once you are offered an unconditional place by following the links from our website **www.abertay.ac.uk**. If you would like to make any further enquiries about accommodation [e.g. up-to-date rents etc.], please contact the Accommodation Office **accommo@abertay.ac.uk** or visit our website **http://www.abertay.ac.uk/About/Acc/Intro.cfm** 

# Living in Private Rented Flats

Many senior students prefer to stay in private rented flats with friends and the majority of students living away from home, in the second or later years of their course, choose to stay in private rented accommodation. The Accommodation Office is happy to help with advice on looking for a flat. Prices of flats vary, to suit all budgets , depending on the location and facilities of individual properties.











# Working

Please check the UKBA website for the most up to date information about the part-time hours you can work while studying. Some students may be able to apply for a work visa when they graduate. Again you should check the UKBA website for the situation as it applies to your circumstances



#### How to Apply to Abertay

**Bachelor degrees** – You must apply online through the UK Universities centralised service UCAS www.ucas.ac.uk If you need help or advice please contact us.

**Masters and Postgraduate Diplomas** – you can either apply through an agent who will help you with the application and visa process or you can apply electronically online. Simply go to the programme you are interested in and click on apply.

**Doctoral Research Mphil PhD** – You should review the Universities specialist research areas on the school pages of our website and then get in touch with the relevant school (contact details provided) with brief details of the area you wish to pursue in the first instance



#### Need More Info?

We have a FAQ/make an enquiry section on the website at www.abertay.ac.uk or you can chat with a member of staff in the Student Recruitment Office Tel: +44 1382 308080 or email sro@abertay.ac.uk You can also find out more about Abertay and what's happening from our FaceBook pages, see our videos on YouTube, and communicate with us on Twitter or with Skype.





Your local representative:			



If you would like to know more about studying with us, please contact:

Student Recruitment Office University of Abertay Dundee Bell Street Dundee DD1 1HG

Tel: +44 (0)1382 308080 Fax: +44 (0)1382 308081 Email: sro@abertay.ac.uk

www.abertay.ac.uk