

Student life at the University of West London



Highlights

So what's it like to live and study in West London? What makes the University of West London first choice for so many people like you?



Location, location, location

Based in the heart of West London, we have major industry hubs on our doorstep. Meanwhile, central London and all it has to offer is within easy reach thanks to excellent transport links.

A thriving local community

You'll find us in the heart of Ealing, an attractive area of West London with plenty of parks and open spaces, a great café culture and excellent shopping.



Modern facilities

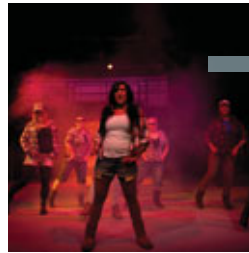
The University of West London has excellent resources and modern facilities, including a brand new teaching and learning centre funded by a grant from the Savoy Education Trust.

Excellent careers support

Our Careers and Employment Service is a superb source of information and advice, helping you prepare for career success after your studies.

Award-winning accommodation

Our Paragon Halls of Residence opened in 2006 and offers students convenience, comfort and quality of life.



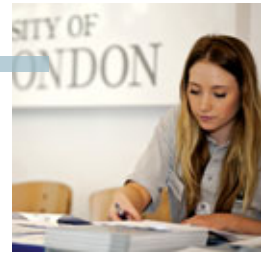
Clubs and societies for a wide range of interests

Sports, art, music, culture. You name it, there's probably a club, society or discussion group at the University that's up your street. It's a great way to meet and share common interests with like-minded people.

Come and see us

The best way to find out about life and study at the University of West London is to come to one of our open events. For dates and to book your place, visit uwl.ac.uk/open

We also offer campus tours throughout the year, which you can book by e-mailing us at events@uwl.ac.uk



Studying here

Join us at the University of West London, and you'll be part of a community of 12,000 full-time students, inspiring, approachable academic and support staff and a global network of over 80,000 alumni.



Studying in London is a rewarding, life-shaping experience. You'll be living in one of the most influential and highly regarded cities in the world – a leading global financial centre, an international hub for major industries and where many of the world's most successful businesses have headquarters or key offices.

Cultural and social diversity
London is also one of the most exciting capitals for art, culture, fashion, history, sporting events, live music, comedy, theatres, nightlife, restaurants, exhibitions and shopping. It is one of the most diverse and cosmopolitan cities in the world, with over 300 languages spoken and almost limitless opportunities to expand your social and cultural horizons.

Links with business

The University of West London is based in the heart of one of the UK's most successful business regions. Our teaching staff are connected to their respective industries with many still working part-time in them, so they can pass on invaluable insights and specialist knowledge of their subjects.

Well connected

This is partly why we've been able to create such strong connections, including:

- Savoy Education Trust
- Academy of Culinary Arts
- BBC
- Sky
- River Island
- Middlesex Law Society
- Hewlett-Packard (HP) Ltd
- Siemens
- ARC Technology Ltd

Furthermore, the BBC, GlaxoSmithKline, British Airways, PricewaterhouseCoopers, O2, Oracle, British Gas and Microsoft are all based nearby, offering great opportunities for work placements and part-time jobs.

A convenient locality

We are based in the London Borough of Ealing, with its relaxed, friendly atmosphere and attractive surroundings. The area is great for cafés, restaurants and bars, parks and shopping. There are excellent local shops and high street names nearby – and for the serious shopper, Westfield Shopping Centre is just 20 minutes away on the tube. Central London is also only a short tube journey from the University of West London's main site.

London is a fantastic place to live and study and the University of West London provides everything you need for a successful student experience.

Connected for life through our alumni network

As a University of West London graduate, you will automatically become a member of our worldwide alumni community. Wherever your studies and career take you, your link to the University of West London will stay with you.

It helps you stay in touch with us, your friends and colleagues, and it's a great way to maintain and take advantage of the connections you make during your time here. Our Alumni offers a wide range of career support initiatives, social and professional networking opportunities and many other useful resources.

We're always keen to hear about what our graduates are up to. University of West London alumni visit us regularly – to support current students to achieve the same successes they have enjoyed since leaving us. Likewise, we hope you'll want to stay in touch and let us know what we've helped you achieve.

For more about the University of West London Alumni Association, visit uwl.ac.uk/alumni or e-mail alumni@uwl.ac.uk

OVER 80,000
ALUMNI FROM
ALL OVER THE
WORLD

Resources and facilities

At the University of West London, we're continually improving and adding to our excellent modern teaching resources and facilities.



Our research facilities for supporting healthcare and legal professions are outstanding, and we have several leading research teams across our Schools and Departments.

A brand new teaching and learning centre

This has been made possible by a £750,000 grant from the Savoy Education Trust and has enhanced our standing within the business community significantly. It provides an excellent student experience and a hub that further strengthens our connections with local businesses.

The learning centre comprises:

- two lecture theatres and a conference room, fully equipped with the latest audiovisual and communications technology such as a video link for connecting around the world
- a multi-functional area that can be converted into one large space suitable for group work, or separate seminar rooms and breakout areas.

Simulation centre for Nursing, Midwifery and Healthcare

The state-of-the-art simulation centre at our Brentford site plays a key role in training tomorrow's nursing and healthcare professionals.

The Richard Wells Research Centre

The Richard Wells Research Centre is the only research centre of its kind in the higher education sector. It was established in 1995 to develop research and education initiatives that support people with HIV. The Centre also tackles prevention and care issues associated with other infectious diseases and infections and works closely with the Department of Health.

Professional Development Centre for Law

Our Professional Development Centre for Law supports the legal profession in a wide range of ways, and holds seminars throughout the year, on campus and at local employers' premises.

FEAST

FEAST is our student-run self-service restaurant. More than your average university canteen, it's a specially designed educational environment where students can learn a range of culinary skills, supported by the University's Chef and Food and Beverage lecturers.

Library facilities

Both our sites have their own library facilities, specialising in site-specific subject areas. As well as an extensive stock of books and journals, we provide fully networked, open-access workstations, scanners, colour printers, full video and audio playback facilities, internet access and a range of specialist databases – plus private study areas and knowledgeable support staff who can help you make the most of our extensive resources.

Comprehensive learning opportunities

Studying at the University of West London is about connecting you with your subject. We encourage you to play an active role in lectures, seminars and tutorials and in planning your own independent studies. You may also enjoy taking part in a group project, lab work and independent projects, work placements, learning contracts or online discussion groups.

You'll also have access to an online study support programme and every course we offer provides learning methods and activities to suit a wide range of learning preferences. They're designed by our expert academic staff to help you develop your skills and knowledge.

You'll get to experience several kinds of learning environment, too, such as tutorial rooms, lecture halls and libraries. Depending on your course, you may also get to work in a laboratory, hotel, hospital, or even a recording studio.

Whatever you study, we'll assess your progress at regular intervals. Not just with exams or assignments, but also through practical sessions, group presentations, short films, journals and interviews. Each assessment is designed to help you measure your understanding and progress against the learning outcomes of each module and the course as a whole.

Your own personal tutor

You will have a personal tutor, whose door will always be open to you, whatever you need. You'll also get to meet and discuss things with him or her regularly, on a one-to-one basis and as part of group tutorial sessions.

As well as monitoring your progress, sessions with your personal tutor are designed to enhance your learning experience and improve your study skills. They can help you make the most of the excellent learning resources available, build on your experiences and achievements and develop wider skills that will help you connect you with your future.

Working and studying abroad

At the University of West London there are plenty of opportunities to work and study overseas – usually in your second year. We run exchanges with several universities in Europe, arranged through the EU's Socrates-Erasmus programme, which also provides grants to help with the costs of studying abroad. You can also study in non-European countries with the approval of your Course Leader.

Volunteering

Volunteering is an important part of life at the University. It offers our students and staff the chance to work together and connect with positive community initiatives across West London. Our Careers and Employment Service helps you find volunteering roles that link with your course, your personal interests and your local area.



Becoming a volunteer has helped me improve my leadership skills, communication, time management, team work and boost my confidence. I think all of these skills are essential when taking steps into the outside world.



To find out more, visit uwl.ac.uk/volunteers



Working with local schools, colleges and communities

Our Education Liaison team organises projects with schools, colleges and local communities. They are designed to encourage you to get involved with local communities, helping young people take their next steps in life and education, and encouraging local groups to take advantage of the University of West London's resources and facilities. For example, many of our students volunteer as ambassadors, running workshops and taster events that promote university life. To find out more, visit uwl.ac.uk/scc

Making the most of your career opportunities

Our Careers and Employment Service provides a range of ways to help you prepare for success after your studies. As soon as you join us, you'll have access to comprehensive information, support and advice from the Careers and Employment Team.

Our Careers Service offers you:

- advice and guidance on a wide range of careers issues, including job hunting, assessment and selection procedures
- careers workshops on topics like preparing your CV, interviews and job searches
- a careers resource area with careers information, employer literature, a range of useful software packages, and intranet and internet search facilities
- specific careers support for our international students.

Find out more at uwl.ac.uk/CEScareers

Our Employment Service offers you:

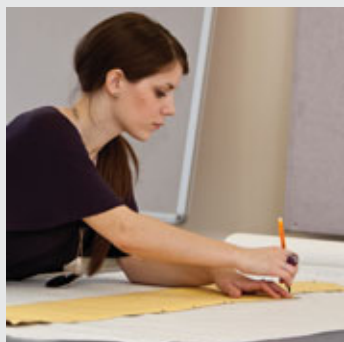
- job vacancy information from regional, national and international employers
- direct notification of the latest part-time and graduate vacancies, tailored to your interests and subject areas
- employment advice
- employer presentations on campus.

Find out more at uwl.ac.uk/CESEmployers

Our Volunteering Service offers you:

- leadership and management training and development through student-led volunteering projects
- weekly notifications of new volunteering placements tailored to your interests and subject areas
- various one-off volunteering opportunities you can fit into busy schedules
- invitations to the annual volunteer awards ceremony and the opportunity to nominate students for national and local volunteer awards
- references for future employers.

Find out more at uwl.ac.uk/volunteering



Wide-ranging support

Whether you're studying at one of our sites or learning remotely, you can access all kinds of support from our One Stop Shop.



The One Stop Shop is on the ground floor of the Library at our Ealing site, where you'll find extensive information and support, whatever and wherever you're studying.

Student advice

The One Stop Shop advisors offer free and confidential professional advice on practical issues. Their knowledge and expertise covers things like sources of funding, how to manage your finances, state benefits, housing rights, and immigration advice for international students.

e-mail student.services@owl.ac.uk to find out more.

Support for disabled students

The Disability Team provides a discreet, confidential service to the University of West London students with disabilities or learning difficulties.

Our support for disabled students also extends to practical issues. These include funding adjustments and financial help, alternative exam arrangements, liaising with faculty members, arranging support workers such as note-takers, dyslexia tutors and diagnostic assessments.

If you have any questions or concerns about provision for disabilities or learning difficulties, e-mail disability.team@owl.ac.uk to find out more.



The social scene

The University of West London has a vibrant, buzzing social scene, with great venues and events for all tastes throughout each semester. Our Students' Union plays a huge role in making sure there's never a dull moment, just plenty of fun to be had.

As well as representing your interests, views and rights as a student, the Students' Union runs regular and one-off social events across our sites – and will also gladly tell you what's hot and what's not for nights out nearby or in central London. Your National Union of Students (NUS) card can also get you discounts and promotions on a wide range of events, entry fees, restaurants, club nights and much more.

Meet new people and have fun

Open Monday to Friday, the Students' Union Recreation Office and Freddie's Bar are where you'll find all student-related services and any number of ways to make new friends and have fun. The Big Bite Coffee Shop is a great daytime venue for hanging out with friends over a

coffee or a snack, while Freddie's Bar at the Ealing site is our main venue for entertainment and events, from live music and club nights to comedy and quizzes.

The Students' Union also produces the popular **Edify** magazine. Written by students for students, Edify covers all aspects of life at the University of West London.

Tel 020 8231 2276
e-mail su.info@uwl.ac.uk

More about the Students' Union

The Students' Union ensures students' individual and collective views are heard by the University, government and other professional organisations that affect student life. It means we can respond to everyone's needs as they change.

When you enrol for a course at the University of West London, you automatically become a member of the Students' Union. It is affiliated to the National Union of Students (NUS), the body that represents and supports students at a national level.

The Students' Union supports elected student representatives from all our courses, who are often your first port of call if you need any advice or support. Our representatives receive excellent training, so you're in good hands, and if you like, there are many opportunities to volunteer and get involved with our Students' Union.

Spotlight on sports and societies

From football to aerobics, from cheerleading to photography – there are many different university sports and societies to choose from at the University of West London. New ones spring up every year – and there's nothing to stop you from starting your own.

Just pop into the Recreation Office in the Students' Union to find out more, or visit

westlondonsu.com/sports



Our sporting facilities and clubs offer access to:

- gym facilities
- football
- netball
- basketball
- rugby
- winter sports trips
- women's rugby
- Thai boxing
- yoga
- aerobics.

Our other clubs and societies include:

- Discussion
- Radio
- LGBT (Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender)
- Netball Appreciation
- Rugby Appreciation
- Languages
- Cheerleading
- Table Tennis
- Islamic
- Christian Union
- Music and Media
- Entrepreneur
- Law
- Photography.



Where to live?

Of course, you'll want to find somewhere you enjoy living while you're at the University of West London. Many new students like to spend their first year making new friends in our halls of residence. It's a great way to get involved with university life from day one and get to know your fellow students. Or if you prefer, we can help you find the ideal private rented accommodation nearby.



Either way, you can find out more by e-mailing us at student.services@uwl.ac.uk

Award-winning student accommodation
Our award-winning Paragon halls of residence provide purpose-built student accommodation at our Brentford site. There are 810 single study bedrooms, grouped into flats of eight study rooms, each with a well-equipped communal kitchen/dining area. Every study bedroom has en-suite facilities and broadband. There are also 29 en-suite studios, also with fitted kitchen areas and broadband.

All our halls of residence rooms have wheelchair access, lifts and 24-hour on-site security. There are excellent public transport links within a short walking distance and there's a free shuttle bus to and from our Ealing and Brentford sites every 20 minutes during the day.

Welcoming our international students

At the University of West London we're proud to teach students from 60 countries all over the world. Right now, we have students from Europe, Asia, the Middle East, Africa and the Americas on campus.



If you're an international student, we can help you before, during and after you come to the UK to study.

Before studying with us

Before joining us, you can get all kinds of support and advice from the International Office, including help with the application process and visas.

Find out more at uwl.ac.uk/international

During your studies

Once you're at the University, our support includes:

- an international orientation programme, including help with enrolment and social activities
- advice on finances and opening bank accounts
- information about international student organisations across the UK
- a free English course before your full-time study begins.

We want to make it as easy as possible for you to settle in, make friends and improve your academic English and study skills – so you can get the most out of your time at the University of West London.

You can also get specialist advice and support from our One Stop Shop, including student support, visa support and information on finance and accommodation.

If you're an international student with the appropriate qualifications, you can join some of our degree courses in the second or third years. Get in touch to find out more.

Tel +44 (0)20 8231 2468
learning.advice@uwl.ac.uk

Studying here for a shorter period

If you are already studying at a university in your home country and would like to study in London with us for a semester or a year, you can apply to take part in the Study Abroad Programme.

This allows you to study here in London and gain transferable credits towards your degree in your home country. To find out more, visit uwl.ac.uk/studyabroad