

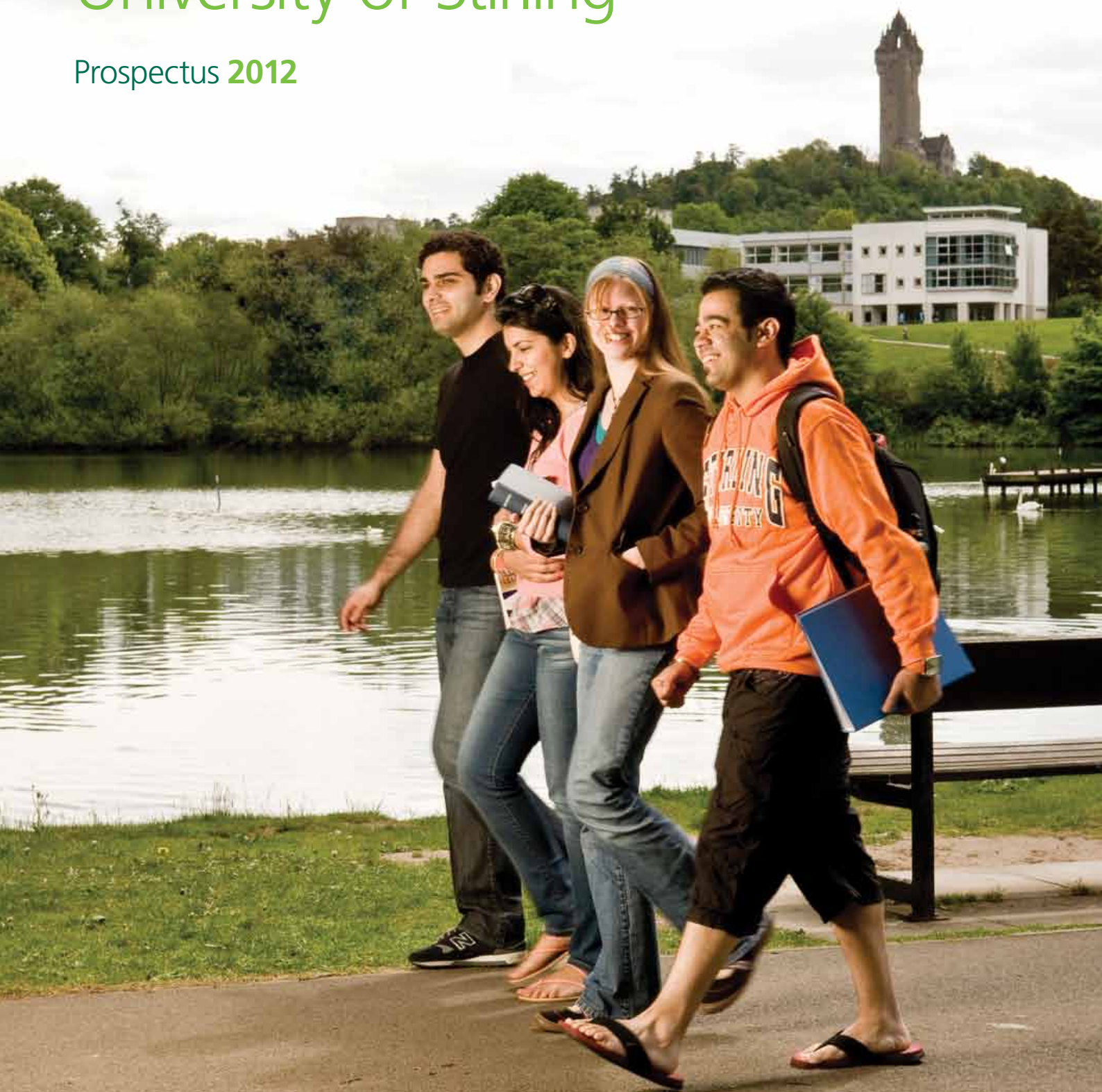
For a once in a lifetime experience



**UNIVERSITY OF
STIRLING**

Studying abroad in Scotland at the University of Stirling

Prospectus **2012**



Inspiring **Excellence**

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Contact us

Email: international@stir.ac.uk
Web: www.stir.ac.uk

Turn over to see our Stirling campus for yourself...

... and take the virtual tour:
www.stir.ac.uk/tour



Welcome to Stirling

Fàilte don oilthigh againn

The University of Stirling is a wonderful place in which to study. Above all we have an excellent reputation for research, teaching and the learning opportunities we provide; and the University was delighted to be named *The Sunday Times* 'Scottish University of the Year' for 2009/10. Ideally placed in the heart of Scotland, the University also offers a caring, friendly community for international students on one of the finest campuses in Europe.

And, as we're ideally placed in the heart of Scotland, one of the most stunning and special countries in Europe is on your doorstep too.

- 11,827 students
- 8,452 undergraduate students
- 2,961 postgraduate students
- 82 percent students from the UK
- 18 percent students from overseas
- Over 90 nationalities on campus
- 180 visiting students each semester

This prospectus gives you an introduction to life at Stirling. Whether you plan to come as a Study Abroad student for a summer, semester or year, or for your entire undergraduate or postgraduate degree course, we are confident that Stirling can meet your academic, social and personal needs.

As a Study Abroad or International Summer School student, you can tailor your learning according to your academic background and experience. We have a diverse and dynamic range of course modules for you to choose from and everything counts as credit at your home institution.

Should you choose to study your degree with us you can be confident that you will be part of a strong and well respected academic community here at Stirling. Experience informs us that, as a graduating student, your Stirling degree will open doors whether you choose to return to your home country for further study or employment, or elect to take advantage of the varied work opportunities available in Scotland.

Above all, we want to create a feeling that your time at Stirling will be one of the most exciting, rewarding and unique times of your life.





National Wallace Monument

Golf Centre

Rugby pitches

Airthrey Castle

Innovation Park

Cottrell Building
(Academic Schools)

Students' Union

Stirling Management Centre

Medical Centre

Shops, theatre and cinema

Library

Chalet accommodation

Main halls
of residence

Sports Centre

sportscotland Institute of Sport

National Tennis Centre

National Swimming Academy

International &
Postgraduate Office

Pathfoot Building
(Academic Schools)

Main entrance

Stirling city
10 minutes by bus or
car and 50 minutes
to the nearest
international airport

Fast facts

Study Abroad, Summer School and Full degree

Of all the questions you have, hopefully these are the key ones answered: from the basics of where Stirling is, to the practicalities of how much it's likely to cost. Most of these issues are covered in more depth later in this prospectus – so if you can't see the answer here, keep reading!

Where will I be?

- Stirling is an historic city in the heart of Scotland with a population of around 40,000
- Our Stirling campus is 27 miles from Glasgow and 37 miles from Edinburgh
- Both cities have international airports, with direct flights to several North American and European destinations
- London is readily accessible from Stirling, by train, plane or bus

The campus lies two miles from central Stirling, which has major shopping and leisure facilities plus transport links.

The setting is unrivalled – a beautifully landscaped campus with spectacular views of world-famous historic landmarks.

> See page 8 for more on our city

When can I go?

Autumn semester 2012 – 10 September – 17 December
(Housing opens for new students on 8 September)

- Orientation and Enrolment: 9 – 12 September
- Mid-semester break: 22–26 October
- Examination dates: 4–17 December

Spring semester 2013 – 11 February – 1 June

- Orientation and Enrolment: 10–13 February
- Mid-semester break: 29 March – 5 April
- Examination dates: 11 May – 1 June



King of Scots, Robert the Bruce



What documents do I need to apply for Study Abroad?

- 1 An official transcript
- 2 A completed University of Stirling application form:
 - > www.stir.ac.uk/study-abroad-exchanges/how-to-apply
- 3 Academic Letter of Recommendation
- 4 Confirmation of your English language abilities, if English isn't your native language

If you're coming from outside the EU or if you are embarking upon an undergraduate or postgraduate degree course, we strongly recommend you visit the British Embassy visa section online to view the visa regulations for entry to the UK, before travelling to Stirling.

> www.ukvisas.gov.uk

What will it cost to Study Abroad?

In 2011/12, one semester's tuition fees were:

- £5,100 for non-EU overseas students
- £910 for students from within the EU

We expect this to rise by two to three percent for 2012/13.

Undergraduate and postgraduate fees vary according to the course of study and details are available at:

> www.stir.ac.uk/study-in-the-uk/finance

Housing costs are approximately £1,500 per semester.

For food, you should allow around £800 per semester. Meal packages and discounts are available, although residences have their own kitchens. Other costs, such as books, supplies and travel, will be around £700–£975 per semester.

Will Study Abroad count towards my studies back home?

Students usually study three modules per semester. Each module earns you 22 University of Stirling credits.

Typically, this converts to:

- Five US credits (where the academic year normally gives 30 credits)
- 10 ECTS credits

So, for one semester you can earn 15 US credits or 30 ECTS credits.

Students attending the International Summer School can earn 22-44 Stirling credits (6-12 US credits) over a four-to eight-week period.

A grade transfer scheme is available to assist with credit transfer.

Where will I live?

All our Study Abroad students are prioritised for accommodation provided an online application is received by the advertised deadline date. Accommodation can be in either University owned or managed accommodation which is located both on and off campus.

> For more information please check Residential Services web pages at www.studentaccommodation.stir.ac.uk

What else is on the campus?

- Two main teaching buildings (one of them is also an art gallery)
- A newly refurbished University library
- State of the Art Computer Labs
- A major sports centre and playing fields
- 50m swimming pool
- A nine-hole golf course
- An arts centre with cinema and theatre
- Several restaurants and coffee bars
- Stirling Management Centre with hotel and conference facilities
- Stirling Innovation and Research Park

There's also a Students' Centre, offering various refreshment and entertainment facilities, plus a supermarket, bookstore, bank, travel agency and pharmacy.

> For more on the campus, see page 9

What help and support will I get?

Our International & Postgraduate Office will help you with the application process, obtaining module outlines and course information, arranging housing, visa advice and other services.

A comprehensive orientation programme is organised at the start of your period of study. Visiting student transcripts are issued at the end of the your study period.

An airport pick-up service is available when you arrive and we will provide a full orientation programme during your first week.

> See page 18 for more details

What can I study?

The University of Stirling offers a vast range of courses at all levels and these are available to you as long as you have the necessary academic background or prerequisite classes.

> For a complete list of all the modules and degree courses available, please see page 16

> And for further information on all the Study Abroad modules, including their prerequisites, visit:

www.stir.ac.uk/study-abroad-exchanges/module-information

Your new city

Stirling city is a thrilling mix of the old and the new. Known as the 'Heart of Scotland', it's cosmopolitan, student-friendly and a lively place to be. It's one of the UK's most attractive places to live, capturing the historic and contemporary in a unique atmosphere. Here are some of the key things you'll probably want to know...

How big is Stirling?

We think it's the perfect size. The population's around 40,000 – 20 percent of whom are students. This makes Stirling big enough to offer a full 'city experience': shopping, café culture, performing arts and nightlife. Yet it's still compact enough to retain a warm community feel – and make it easy for you to get around and settle in.

How far is it from campus?

Stirling city centre is just two miles from the campus – less than 10 minutes by bus.

What can I do?

Stirling combines the charm of an historic destination with the buzz of a contemporary city. There's truly something for everyone, much of it aimed directly at students. You'll soon learn that Stirling is linked to two of Scotland's historic heroes: William Wallace and Robert the Bruce. Along with a dramatic medieval castle, these give it a magical aura.

Stirling's history blends perfectly with a thriving modern soul. The city lights up at night, and many pubs, clubs and bars gear themselves towards students, with themed nights and DJs. Traditional pubs provide quieter alternatives, with open fires, real ale and folk music. Closer to campus, Bridge of Allan provides a vibrant mix of old and new, with beer gardens for long summer evenings.

Culturally, Stirling Castle is an established concert and arts venue and is the focal point of the city's annual Hogmanay (New Year) celebrations. The Tolbooth building is another busy focus for performing arts and other events.

The city's a major tourist destination, something reflected in the wide choice of cuisine at the numerous restaurants, bistros and cafés. There's everything from pub grub to fine dining, with Italian, Indian, Chinese, Thai and Mexican all well represented. And you can pop into nearby Bridge of Allan for delis, bakeries and a classic fish 'n' chip shop.



Stirling Castle overlooking the City of Stirling

What's the cost of living?

The cost of living is consistently lower than neighbouring cities such as Glasgow and Edinburgh. With plenty of accommodation on or near campus, you can minimise travel costs. Also, the self catering flats and chalets mean you can cook to your own budget if you wish.

If you want to supplement your funds, the University's Job Shop can help. It advertises part-time jobs on campus and vacancies in Stirling and the local area.

> www.jobshop.stir.ac.uk

What else is nearby?

Nestling where the Scottish highlands and lowlands meet, it's no surprise that Stirling is known as 'the Heart of Scotland'. On your doorstep is the peace and tranquillity of unspoiled mountains, lochs and shores – perfect for outdoor activities such as walking, canoeing, mountain biking and sailing.

As the geographical heart of Scotland, Stirling naturally has superb links to the rest of the country and beyond. In particular, both Edinburgh and Glasgow are less than an hour away by road or rail.



'The University of Stirling is gorgeous. The campus and the people I've met have been amazing. The town is perfect; you get the best of both worlds with its location. I couldn't be any happier with my choice of Stirling.'

*Michelle Massure, Study Abroad,
Grand View College, USA*

Your new surroundings

Our Stirling campus is in a stunning setting. Beautiful, inspiring, safe and modern. It's easy to get around and there's nowhere else like it in the UK. Don't take our word for it, look at our campus on pages 4 and 5!

You'll be inspired

The University of Stirling was founded on the site of the historic Airthrey Estate in 1967.

Nestling beneath the Ochil Hills, our campus covers 310 acres and has a beautiful loch and 18th-century Airthrey Castle at its heart. The views are breathtaking and the buildings are all designed to harmonise with their surroundings.

It's all on your doorstep

All the facilities are a short walk from each other. In particular, a central social area links the library, eating facilities, shops, Students' Union and arts centre (MacRobert).

There are also over 1,900 accommodation spaces on campus, all just an early-morning stroll away from the lecture halls, labs and library.

Approximately 800 further accommodation spaces are located nearby, all within a ten-minute bus ride of the campus.

It's safe

The police have described our campus as one of the safest in Britain.

Everything you need is on campus

As well as the academic facilities you'd expect, the campus also boasts:

- Cinema and theatre, in MacRobert arts centre
- Bars and a nightclub in the Robbins Centre
- Restaurants and coffee bars
- Shopping mall with bank, travel agent, pharmacy, bookstore, newsagent and supermarket

There's lots to do

As well as many social and entertainment activities, we're very proud of our sports facilities:

- 50m swimming pool in the National Swimming Academy
- Indoor and outdoor tennis courts
- Golf academy with practice areas and a nine-hole, par-three golf course
- State-of-the-art fitness and conditioning centre
- Natural and artificial pitches for soccer, rugby, hockey, Gaelic and American football
- Airthrey Loch for angling, sailing and canoeing
- 400m running track

The University of Stirling has gained one of the best reputations for sport of any UK university and is proud to be named Scotland's University for Sporting Excellence.



'Playing for the Clansmen here at University has made me feel like I am still part of a family while studying abroad. Everyone is so welcoming and the facilities, coaching staff and standard of play is as good as I experienced back home too.'

*Nash Riggins, Kansas, USA
BA Journalism Studies*



Study abroad with us

We've been providing Study Abroad courses for over 30 years. During this time we've built up a structure that's easy to apply for, offers plenty of choice and complements your other studies perfectly. The main details are here – please get in touch if you have any questions.

Can I secure my module choices before I arrive?

Yes. We have a module (class) pre-approval system, that guarantees entry to named modules before arrival.

We make this a key part of your application process, to safeguard your academic courses and to ease credit transfer. Breadth and interdisciplinary study are encouraged within the Stirling system, making it straightforward for you to select modules according to your interests.

Who can apply?

You can apply if:

- You're currently enrolled as an undergraduate student at an institution of higher education, or
- You intend to enter one after studying at Stirling

Students from the USA or Canada should have a Grade Point Average (GPA) of 3.0 or above.

Special circumstances may be taken into account if your GPA is a little lower than this.

Students from other countries should have good pass grades for courses taken and a good record in your major subjects.

How do I apply?

Applications are handled by our International & Postgraduate Office, in close consultation with Academic Schools.

The Study Abroad Application Pack includes the application form, plus information on semester dates and costs. This complements the full course (module) catalogue which can be found on our website.

If you're taking part in an exchange programme, you should receive these documents from your exchange co-ordinator. Otherwise, you can download them from the website:

> www.stir.ac.uk/study-abroad-exchanges/how-to-apply

To apply, please submit a completed application form along with a copy of your most up-to-date academic transcript or academic record. If this isn't in English, please provide a translation. A letter supporting your application is helpful, but not a requirement.

If English isn't your native language, please provide information to show your language ability is at the required level (see the application pack).

On the application form, you must nominate the modules you want to take at Stirling.

How do I choose modules?

All students at Stirling take a maximum of three modules (course units) in one semester.

When choosing, we recommend you apply for at least three modules per semester and preferably up to six to give a wide choice of pre-approved modules. You'll be asked to narrow this down to three when you accept your place, and you'll be registered for those three before you arrive.

You can choose from any listed in the course catalogue, as long as you have the necessary academic background listed in the prerequisites. We don't expect you to have taken exactly the same module listed in the prerequisite, but we do expect you to have a similar level and background from previous study of the subject. If you have any doubt, it helps to send more information about the course you've taken, such as a course outline.

Each module in the course catalogue has:

- A code
- A title
- An indication of when it's taught (autumn or spring semester)

The catalogue is available online:

> www.stir.ac.uk/study-abroad-exchanges/module-information

Subject areas available

- Accountancy and Finance
- Applied Social Science
- Aquatic Science
- Biological Sciences
- Business Studies
- Computing Science
- Criminology
- Ecology
- Economics
- Education (introductory level only)
- English Studies
- Environmental Science
- Film and Media
- Financial Studies
- French
- History
- Human Resource Management
- International Politics
- Journalism
- Law
- Management
- Marketing
- Mathematics and its Applications
- Media and Communication
- Nursing and Midwifery
- Philosophy
- Politics
- Psychology
- Public Sector Management
- Religious Studies
- Scottish History
- Scottish Literature
- Sociology / Social Policy
- Spanish
- Sports Studies / Sport and Exercise Science



'Studying abroad opens your eyes to many new cultures. Stirling was a great opportunity because the diverse community on campus and throughout the city has taught me things you cannot learn in a classroom.'

Katie Panuzio, Study Abroad

Modules shown as Level 8 and Level 9 don't require much, if any, previous study in the subject. Level 10 is more advanced, always requires previous study in the subject and equates to US Upper Division courses.

When applying, make sure your choice of modules is agreed by your home institution and that you'll gain credit for them.

Even though we register you prior to arrival, you may still change modules during the first two weeks of semester, if places are available.

How are semesters structured?

Stirling's academic year is divided into two semesters, each of which is 15 weeks in length. Exams take place in the final two weeks of semester.

There is a short break from classes part-way through each semester.

What credit values will I receive?

One full course module earns:

- 22 Stirling credits
- Five US credits (in systems with 30 credits per academic year)
- 10 ECTS credits, so there are 60 ECTS credits available in one academic year at Stirling

Half-module, 11-credit courses gain two US or five ECTS credits.

Are modules limited in spaces?

Certain courses are always popular and can be over-subscribed, so it's a good idea to apply early. Check the course catalogue for any restrictions.

Please note:

- Advanced modules may be altered or withdrawn due to staffing or other changes
- Applications received after the deadline may be rejected

When do I need to apply by?

- To enter in autumn semester: 1 April 2012
- To enter in spring semester: 15 October 2012

How are applications processed?

All applications are processed by the International and Postgraduate Admissions Office. When we receive your application, we will send you an acknowledgement email containing a unique reference number. Please use this number if you need to contact us about any aspect of your application.

Once a decision is made, you will be sent an electronic offer outlining the conditions of entry and listing the course modules offered. If you want to accept the offer, please respond as soon as possible indicating your three preferred modules. When we receive your acceptance of our offer, you will be registered for your chosen modules.

Acceptance Pack

When we receive your acceptance, you'll be sent our electronic Acceptance Pack. The Pack includes details on how to apply for housing online and other important information about studying at Stirling. You don't need to ask for an accommodation application – we will send details automatically.

Pre-arrival Pack

This Pack includes a final Orientation Programme, the International Students' Handbook and other essential information.

The Pack will be made available on our website a little over a month before the start of semester.

Orientation Programme

The Orientation Programme will help you settle in as quickly as possible by answering some of the questions you may have. For example: how to register for healthcare, how Stirling's assessment system works etc.

The initial Welcome Programme is held on the Sunday afternoon before the semester starts. Students who have completed all enrolment requirements will receive their student ID cards at this time. We strongly recommend you plan to arrive in Scotland the day before:

- Saturday 8 September (autumn semester)
- Saturday 9 February (spring semester)

Other events are held over the following three days.

If you arrive the weekend before the semester starts, an airport pickup service can be booked from Edinburgh or Glasgow. Please find details at:

> www.stir.ac.uk/study-in-the-uk/visit-the-campus/airport-collection

Tuition fees

Students studying at Stirling pay a tuition fee, unless you're nominated through an exchange agreement. You'll need to pay your tuition fees when you register, though you can often pay in instalments if this is easier.

We'll give fuller details in the Acceptance Pack we send to you.

Grades and transcripts

Work in each module will be graded in the range 1 (excellent) to 5 (fail). You can check your final grade anywhere in the world by logging onto the student portal via:

> www.stir.ac.uk

At the end of your studies at Stirling, we'll issue an official transcript. We normally issue these in late January and late July, after you've finished studying here. Unless you came independently, transcripts are sent directly to your sending institution or Study Abroad agency / provider.

Our International Summer School

Our International Summer School (ISS) was launched in 2008 and has grown from strength to strength. It's open to students from around the world and gives you a unique opportunity to experience Scotland's rich culture while gaining credits towards your degree course from your home institution.

What's on offer?

The course combines academic study with the chance to experience Scotland.

It's divided into two four-week blocks:

- Block 1: 16 June to 7 July 2012
- Block 2: 7 July to 11 August 2012

You can take these independently or consecutively.

The academics

The course includes modules (classes) in a variety of subjects. You'll receive 11 Stirling credits (equal to three US credits) for each course module you complete. So you can take either:

- 22 credits (six US credits) during a four-week block, or
- 33 – 44 credits (nine – 12 US credits) during an eight-week block

This gives you the flexibility to decide how long you want to study and how many credits you want to gain – depending on your individual and school requirements.

Most modules are made up of taught and field trip components, giving you the opportunity to learn both in and out of the classroom.

Although we haven't yet determined the final course content for summer 2012, here – as a guide – is what was on offer in summer 2011.

Block 1

- Brief Encounters: An Introduction to Writing Short Stories
- Crime and Justice in Scotland: The Criminal in Scottish Society
- Green Politics: Theory and Practice
- Issues in Moral Philosophy
- Marketing and Branding Scotland
- Photographing the Urban
- Psychology of Evil
- Scottish History: The Covenanters
- Scotland on the Screen

Block 2

- Classics of World Cinema
- Changing Worlds: An Introduction to Modern Poetry
- International Relations
- Monsters and Vampires: The Impact of British Gothic on Contemporary Popular Culture
- Nursing and Health Care in Scotland
- Scottish History: The Jacobites
- Sports Management and Culture: A European Perspective
- Witchcraft in Early Modern Scotland
- European Marketing: An Introduction
- Internship for International Summer School

Experience Scotland

The course isn't just about gaining academic credit. It also incorporates a host of social and cultural activities. You'll get to know other students at the ISS, and other local and international students – plus have an opportunity to travel and experience more of Scotland including:

- The cities of Edinburgh and Glasgow
- The historic Royal Burgh of St Andrews
- Loch Ness and Glencoe

What you do depends on your studies and what interests you. Some trips are compulsory parts of your course, others are optional. All are included in your course fee. They're also open to students not taking your modules or on the course (subject to space), so you'll meet new people each time.

Staying longer?

For a longer stay in Scotland, you can combine the ISS with a spring or autumn semester at Stirling.

The modules you study during the summer will be compatible in terms of content, contact hours and assessment arrangements with standard semester teaching but, by means of an intensive timetable, are taught over a shorter period. Full transcript and grade report forms are provided for credit transfer.

More information

For the latest information about the ISS, visit:

> www.stir.ac.uk/study-in-the-uk/international-summer-school

Interested students are encouraged to contact the International Summer School Manager at:

> iss@stir.ac.uk

A full prospectus for the 2012 International Summer School will be available in autumn 2011.

What does it cost?

We've kept things as simple as possible – everything is included in the course fee except food.

Course fees range from £2,400 to £4,700 depending on how many modules you choose to study.

This includes:

- Course module tuition
- Your accommodation: a single room in a shared apartment on campus
- A comprehensive orientation and social programme
- Compulsory and optional field trips
- National Health Service emergency healthcare
- Sports Centre membership
- Airport pick-up and drop-off
- Free 24-hour internet access in your room

MyStirling...

“ The University of Stirling ISS gave me the opportunity to live, study and feel at home in Stirling and the freedom to explore the rest of Scotland and the surrounding continent. ”

Marjorie Loesch, Grove City College, Pennsylvania, USA



Study your full degree with us

Scotland is known worldwide for its strong foundations in education and the Scottish Higher Education System is no exception. Whether you are considering Stirling for your undergraduate or postgraduate studies you can be confident that your degree will be recognised and well respected internationally.



Our undergraduate courses

Like the USA and Canada, the four-year Scottish Honours degree allows you to study a broad range of courses in different disciplines throughout the first two years of your studies.

In most courses you won't have to make any firm decisions about your final degree subject(s)/major(s) until midway through your second year. This gives you plenty of time to try out different classes and focus as your interests develop. Given the flexibility of the Scottish system, it is perhaps no surprise that the University of Stirling has one of the lowest drop out rates in the UK.

Our postgraduate courses

In common with the rest of the UK, our Taught Master's courses are normally one year in duration and begin in September each year.

They typically involve nine months of class-based learning followed by a three-month dissertation or research project. Despite the difference in length of study from many North American and European Master's courses, you can be assured that these qualifications are valued throughout the world. It also saves you a year of living costs too!

Our Doctor of Philosophy (PhD) courses comprise independent research, which normally takes three years of full-time study (two years for MPhil), and includes an initial period of supervision and training. You'll also need to submit an extensive thesis at the end of your research period.

Transitioning from Study Abroad/Summer School to full degree

Most Study Abroad students love their time at Stirling. In fact some love it so much that each year we receive applications from students wishing to transfer to complete the remainder of their undergraduate studies with us. Provided that you meet our entry requirements or have the necessary prerequisites for advanced entry, this is a very straight-forward process.

Many visiting students also return to us for graduate studies and with a 10 percent alumni tuition fee discount now offered on all our postgraduate courses, what better reason do you have to return?

How you'll be taught

You will learn via a range of teaching methods – lectures, tutorial and seminar discussion groups, laboratory sessions, fieldwork and excursions, and individual group project work. We realise that some of these will be familiar to you while others may be new and so there is plenty of support in place to help you progress.

At Stirling you'll find yourself part of a real academic community with a strong staff-student dynamic. All academic staff – including Professors and Heads of School – have a teaching remit in addition to their research work, so you can be confident you'll be learning from some of the leading experts in your chosen field of study.



How you'll be assessed

We operate continuous or periodic assessment for all our courses. Your final grade each semester is likely to be made up of several pieces of assessed work. These will vary from subject to subject and from one module to the next but could include:

- Essays
- Short tests
- Projects
- Lab reports
- Examinations

In most cases exams account for no more than 50 percent of the overall grade for each module. Dissertations or research projects undertaken in the final year of undergraduate study or at the end of a taught Master's course are assessed entirely by coursework.

How good is our teaching?

We think it's great, but don't just take our word for it.

The University earned high marks in the National Student Survey, 2010, with an 89 percent student satisfaction rating. This places us joint third in Scotland and exceeds the UK average of 85. The University was also ranked among the top ten universities in the UK for the quality of its student experience (*Times Higher Education Supplement*) and ranked second in the UK for a 'good place to be' (International Student Barometer, 2010). In recognition of the quality of the student experience, Stirling was named as *The Sunday Times* 'Scottish University of the Year' for 2009/10.

How good is our research?

Across the University, the international excellence and importance of the work carried out by our researchers has been recognised by panels of experts who assessed the quality of research in all UK universities in 2008. The UK-wide Research Assessment Exercise (RAE) confirmed that 85 percent of the University of Stirling's research has been judged to be internationally excellent and internationally recognised, with the top 10 percent of that research judged to be 'World-leading'.

In four areas – Sport, Nursing and Midwifery, Education and Film, Media and Journalism, the University is at the top of the league of Scottish research. Social Work, Social Policy, Philosophy, Aquaculture and Economics also all performed very strongly.



'Home's not going anywhere and the 'nine-to-five' will be waiting for you when you get back, so why not take some time to think, delve deeply into a subject, to get away from the noise and demands of the life you've always known? You might find something you never expected.'

*Julio Bermejo, Los Angeles, USA,
MSC Public Relations*

Your choice of subjects

At Stirling we pride ourselves on the choice and flexibility of our academic courses. The following table highlights your options for study abroad, undergraduate and postgraduate (taught and research) study.

SUBJECT	SA	UG	TPG	RPG	SUBJECT	SA	UG	TPG	RPG
Accountancy	•	•		•	International Management Studies	•	•		•
Advanced Computing			•	•	International Politics	•	•		•
Advanced Practice			•	•	International Publishing Management			•	•
Animal Biology	•	•		•	Investment Analysis			•	•
Applied Social Research			•	•	Journalism Studies	•	•		•
Aquaculture	•	•	•	•	Law (BA)	•	•		•
Aquaculture: Sustainable Aquaculture			•	•	Law (LLB) (TPG two-year Accelerated LLB available)		•	•	
Aquatic Pathobiology			•	•	Law (LLM in Financial Services Regulation)			•	•
Aquatic Resource Development			•	•	Law (LLM in International Commercial Law)			•	•
Aquatic Veterinary Studies			•	•	Law (Legal Practice)			•	•
Biology	•	•		•	Legal and Political Philosophy			•	•
Banking and Finance			•	•	Management	•	•		•
Business Computing	•	•		•	Management Science	•	•		•
Business and Management			•	•	Marine Biology	•	•		•
Business Law	•	•		•	Marketing	•	•		•
Business Studies	•	•		•	MBA (Master of Business Administration)			•	•
Cell Biology				•	Mathematics	•	•		•
Child Development: Early Years Research and Practice			•	•	Media and Culture			•	•
Computing for Financial Markets			•	•	Media Management			•	•
Computing Science	•	•		•	Media Research			•	•
Conservation Biology and Management	•	•		•	Modern Languages	•	•		•
Creative Writing			•	•	Modern Scottish Writing			•	•
Criminological Research			•	•	Money, Banking and Finance	•	•		•
Criminology	•	•		•	Nursing and Midwifery	•	•		•
Dementia Studies			•	•	Philosophy	•	•		•
Ecological and Environmental Processes				•	Philosophy, Politics and Economics (PPE)	•	•		•
Ecology	•	•		•	Politics	•	•		•
Economics	•	•		•	Postcolonial Studies			•	•
Education ¹	• ¹	•		•	Professional Enquiry			•	•
Educational Research			•	•	Psychological Research Methods			•	•
Energy Management			•	•	Psychological Therapy in Primary Care			•	•
English Studies	•	•		•	Psychology	•	•		•
Environmental Economics			• ²		Public Communications Management (online)			•	
Environmental Geography Environmental	•	•		•	Public Management and Administration	•	•		•
History			•	•	Public Relations (full-time and online)			•	•
Environmental Science	•	•		•	Public Service Management (MBA)			•	•
Environmental Management			•	•	Publishing Studies (MLitt and MRes)			•	•
Environmental Science and Outdoor Education	•	•		•	Religion	•	•		•
Film and Media	•	•		•	Renaissance Studies			•	•
Film Studies			•	•	Retailing (MBA) (distance learning)			•	•
Finance	•	•		•	Retail Management			•	•
Financial Journalism			•	•	Retail Marketing	•	•		•
French	•	•		•	River Basin Management			•	•
Freshwater Science	•	•		•	Scottish History	•	•		•
Geoarchaeology and Environmental History			•	•	School Leadership and Management			•	•
Global Cinema and Culture	•	•		•	Social Work		•		•
Gothic Imagination			•	•	Social Work Studies			•	•
Health Psychology			•	•	Sociology and Social Policy	•	•		•
Health Research			•	•	Software Engineering	•	•		•
Hermeneutics			•	•	Spanish	•	•		•
Historical Research			•	•	Sport and Exercise Science	•	•		•
History	•	•		•	Sports Studies	•	•		•
Housing Studies			•	•	Sports Coaching			•	•
Human Resource Management	•	•		•	Sports Management			•	•
Human Resource Management and Socio-Economic Development			•	•	Sports Nutrition			•	•
Humanities			•	•	Sports Research			•	•
Information Systems	•	•		•	Strategic Public Relations and Communication Management			•	•
Information Technology			•	•	Sustainable Aquatic Resource Development			•	•
International Accountancy and Finance			•	•	Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages (TESOL) with Computer Assisted Language Learning (CALL)			•	•
International Business			•	•	Tertiary Education			•	•
International Conflict and Cooperation			•	•				•	•

Key: SA: Study Abroad UG: Undergraduate [BA (Hons), BSc (Hons), BAcc (Hons)] TPG: Taught Postgraduate [MSc, MLitt, MBA, MEd, MRes] RPG: Research Postgraduate [DPhil, MPhil, PhD]
¹Study Abroad students can only take introductory modules. ²Subject to confirmation.

MyStirling...

“ Deciding to participate in Study Abroad at the University of Stirling was honestly one of the best decisions I have ever made. I have had the most amazing experiences academically, culturally, and socially. The modules were enjoyable and the professors are very knowledgeable. Studying at Stirling has changed my life and I recommend it to everyone. I loved it so much I am even planning to transfer to complete my undergraduate degree here. ”

Emily Young, Study Abroad, Wells College, USA



How we'll help you

While university's about finding your own way, it helps to know you can get advice and support from people who've been there before you. We offer services that help you make the most of your time at Stirling and also kick-start life afterwards. Here are the main sources of help and support we'll provide.

Advisors of studies

You have the option to meet an Academic Advisor during the first week of semester.

Each Academic School also has a designated Overseas Advisor. They provide academic guidance throughout your time at the University.

Study Abroad and exchange students may also need to meet with them if you decide to change your module choices after you've arrived at Stirling.

University of Stirling Students' Union

The Students' Union also has a support service. This is run by students for students and is independent of the University.

Its services are geared to support on academic, welfare and personal matters. It provides a confidential telephone support service, as well as organising specialist information services for different groups of students.

Every new student gets a copy of The Union's Handbook for Students at the start of semester. The Union's also the governing body of all student clubs and societies, including the Sports Union.

International & Postgraduate Office

This office is part of the Student Recruitment & Admissions Service (SRAS) and incorporates the University's Study Abroad team. They're here to provide help and information both before and during your time at the University.

SRAS staff help you by:

- Organising admission
- Providing an induction programme
- Arranging events and tours of the local area
- Helping you keep in touch with your home
- Sending our transcripts to your home institution (for Study Abroad and exchange students)

Counselling and wellbeing

We have a dedicated International Student Advisor who is trained to help with a range of matters, including welfare, legal and visa-related issues. This confidential service is based within the International & Postgraduate Office.

We also offer a free and confidential service, so you can talk in private about anything that might affect your ability to study.

Residential Services

This team allocates accommodation and provides all housing services and support for students in University accommodation.

They are based within Geddes Court, located in the heart of the on-campus residences, offering a one-stop-shop for all accommodation issues and queries. Residential managers and support staff are there to help ensure a good working and living environment for all students.

Language programmes

If English isn't your native language and you want to improve your English language skills, our Centre for English Language Teaching (CELT) provides a number of pre-session courses. A fee is payable for these.

> www.ioe.stir.ac.uk/centres/celt/index.php

Learning strategies modules

We can help you study efficiently and effectively and make the most of your time.

We offer credit-bearing learning strategies modules covering topics such as time management, critical thinking, assignment planning, academic writing, referencing and exam techniques. These courses are particularly useful if you are just starting your studies with us or are used to a different learning style in your home country.

They'll help you make the most of your studies, achieve the grades you're capable of and provide a rewarding learning experience.

You can take one of these half modules in addition to the normal three-module course load.

Disabled students

We have award-winning services for students with special needs. Our dedicated advisors make sure you have all the support you need.

There's ramped (or similar) access to buildings. Most teaching, social and recreational areas have lifts, and lecture theatres and seminar rooms are wheelchair accessible. Housing is accessible by wheelchair on access levels only. If you have specific accommodation requirements you are advised to contact Residential Services prior to arrival to discuss your specific needs.

Where teaching rooms aren't fitted with induction loop hearing systems, portable systems can be used. The library can provide books on tape or in Braille, or provide readers, if sufficient notice is given.

We have an extensive technical support service for disabled students which enables you to meet your own academic potential.

There's also a computing facility for students with disabilities and special assistance provisions exist for assessment, including examinations.

If you feel you may require such support, please contact the International & Postgraduate Office early on in your application.

Disability Service

> studentadvice.disability@stir.ac.uk

Download Guide for students with disabilities from:

> www.foi.stir.ac.uk/disabled/index.php

How much will it cost?

Studying in Scotland is not as expensive as you might imagine. Competitive tuition fees, free healthcare, transferable US Federal Loans and the ability to work throughout your studies, all ensure that the cost of studying overseas is more affordable.

Living costs

Stirling is one of the cheapest places in the UK to live and is notably cheaper than many larger UK cities such as London, Edinburgh and Glasgow. Whatever your budget, your money will go further here. You will need to budget around £6,000–£7,000 per year to cover the cost of housing, food, books, local travel and clothing – with some money set aside for socialising of course!

Postgraduate students on average spend more per year, due to the length of Master's courses (11 months). You will need to budget around £7,000–£8,000 per year in this case.

Additional money will also be required to cover any travel and insurance.

Healthcare

As an international student studying in Scotland, you are entitled to free National Health Service (NHS) treatment should you require this, even if you are only studying for a semester. There is an NHS medical centre conveniently located on campus and it is recommended that you register with this or another practice as soon as possible after your arrival.

US Federal loans

The good news for US degree-seeking students is that the University of Stirling is registered with the US Department of Education. Should you wish to apply for financial aid under the US Department of Education's Direct Loan programme, you can do so in exactly the same way as you would do for a US institution. The process is straightforward and we have a dedicated member of staff within the International & Postgraduate Office who deals with all applications and is happy to assist you throughout the process. Study Abroad and exchange students should apply for financial aid through their own financial aid offices.

Part-time work

International students with a Tier 4 visa are eligible to work in the UK for up to 20 hours per week during semester time and full-time during vacation periods. We have a Job Shop on campus which specialises in assisting you in finding part-time work, and if you are a degree-seeking student, full-time work during vacation periods, as well as offering other employment advice. Students can work on or off campus and the majority get employment in local shops, cafés, bars and restaurants. For further information and advice on part-time employment opportunities at the University of Stirling, please get in touch with our International Student Advisor (international@stir.ac.uk).



Scholarships

For information on our range of international scholarships please contact our International & Postgraduate Office. The majority of our scholarships are for postgraduate study; a full list can be found at:

> www.stir.ac.uk/postgraduate/financial-information/scholarships

This includes the very popular Saltire Scholarships which provide a tuition fee discount for students from specific countries including the USA and Canada.

What does it cost?

Tuition fees 2011/12

- Undergraduate – £10,200 – £12,250
- Postgraduate – £10,200 – £15,130
- Study Abroad – £5,100 per semester*
- International Summer School – £2,450 – £4,800*

Further information on tuition fees and specific academic costs can be found at:

> www.stir.ac.uk/study-in-the-uk/finance/tuition-fees

*Rates will vary for students using a third party provider.

Your new home

We know how it is. People asking 'do they really wear kilts in Scotland?'^{*} and making countless jokes about eating haggis and not understanding the accent. Well, here are five things you actually need to know about Stirling.

1. You'll definitely get a room

We prioritise University owned or managed accommodation for all international students who apply before the advertised deadline date.

2. You won't be miles away

Residential Services offers accommodation both on and off campus. Many of the on-campus residences overlook the loch and are just a few minutes' walk from all main facilities. Off-campus properties offer the support of living within a University community whilst being in the heart of the city.

3. You won't be alone

We have one of the most diverse communities of any UK university. 18 percent of our students come from overseas (including 320 Study Abroad students each year) and over 90 nationalities are represented on campus. You can be sure you will have plenty of opportunities to make new friends and get involved right from day one.

4. You'll have your own space

Our rooms are almost all single occupancy. In times of very high demand some students may be required to share a twin room for a short time.

5. You'll enjoy it!

Overseas students are completely integrated into Stirling life, and your flatmates could well come from any corner of the globe... even Scotland!

It's a great environment:

- Shared self-catering kitchen facilities create a superb social atmosphere
- All rooms are networked, so you can link your PC to our high-speed network – giving you free Internet access, 24 hours a day, every day
- If you have specific accommodation requirements contact Residential Services and Student Development and Support Services to discuss your requirements prior to arrival

How do I apply for accommodation?

Once your place at Stirling is confirmed, details of how to access the online application system will be sent to you.

> www.studentaccommodation.stir.ac.uk

^{*} Yes they do!

Catering

Our Stirling campus offers several catering options to complement the self catering lifestyle available within University accommodation. Affordability, choice and quality are key. Sodexo, one of the world's leading food service providers, manages an excellent range of catering outlets on campus.

Haldane's Eatery and Pathfoot Eatery

Incorporating the very best of Scottish and international cuisine and a range of healthy choices, our two main dining areas offer a wide range of delicious options, including a live 'Chef's Theatre', where you can see your lunch freshly prepared.

Stir Café

Stir Café customers can enjoy tasty freshly made cakes and the freshest Triple Certified coffee, as well as delicious soup, paninis and salads.

The Bite

The University's newest catering outlet, The Bite, incorporates Costa Coffee and offers hot and cold snacks, confectionery and soft drinks within a convenient location for students 'on the move' to and from lectures and classes.

Atrium Food on the Move

Hot snacks, including freshly prepared burgers, pizzas, jacket potatoes plus a fantastic 'Foods of the World' Bar are available along with delicious, freshly made soup and a range of mouth watering sandwiches, served on a variety of breads.

The University offers students catering options which allow you to both budget for your catering needs and also guarantee yourself at least one square meal a day.

Flexi meals cards

Each Flexi-meal card, currently costing £35, is valid for 12 meals which includes two FREE meals (to a value of £3.50 per meal). Flexi meals are redeemable in any of the Sodexo catering outlets. Flexi-meals can be purchased by cash or card in all Sodexo catering outlets.

Go Cashless with your Student Card

You can also use your Student Card to pay for your meals at any of the University catering outlets managed by Sodexo, by 'topping-up' your Student Card at any of our till points.

In the near future it is anticipated that students will also be able to 'top up' student cards online, via Sodexo's secure ParentPay service.

> www.catering.stir.ac.uk

Centrally located

We pride ourselves on being at the heart of Scotland. Less than one hour from both Glasgow and Edinburgh, and on the doorstep of unspoiled mountains, lochs and shores, Stirling is ideally placed to provide a diverse and exciting University life.

Travelling to Stirling

Stirling is well connected to the UK road and rail networks, and is less than one hour from both Edinburgh and Glasgow.

Students wishing to fly can choose from either Edinburgh or Glasgow airports, both of which offer direct flights to a wide range of domestic and international destinations.

First Buses Unilink, 53, 54, 58, 62 and 63 run between the University and Murray Place, Stirling (two miles).

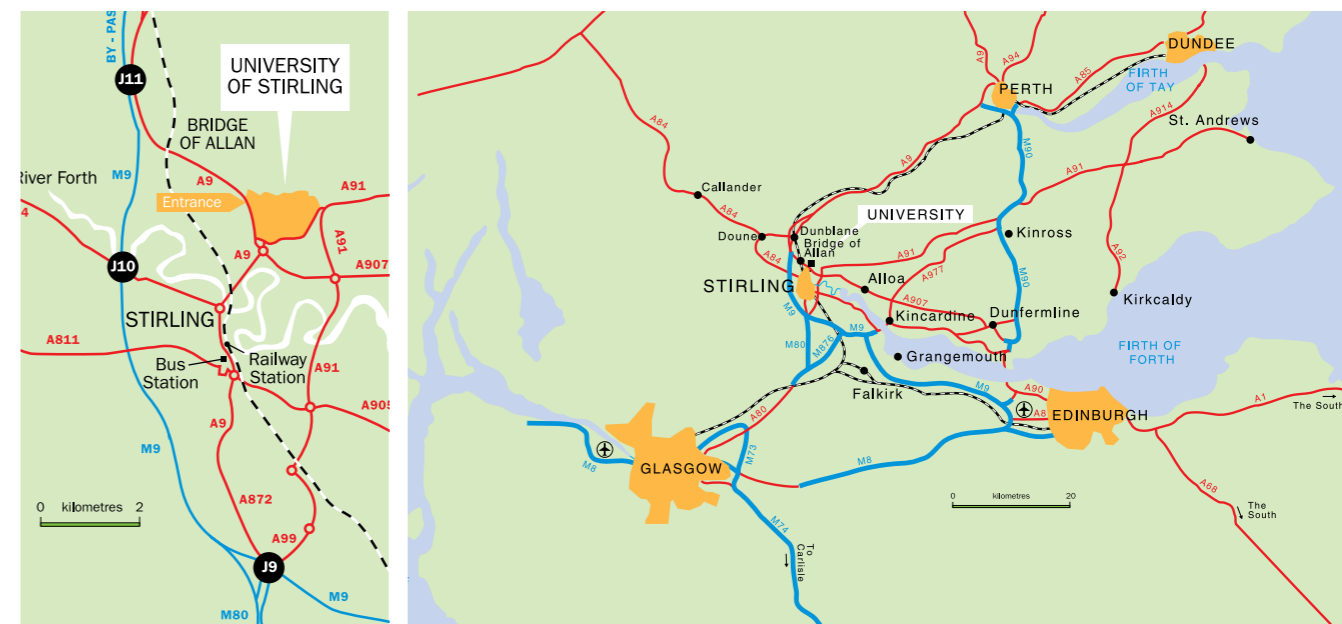
As part of the University's commitment to developing a Green Travel Plan, all students, staff and visitors to the University are encouraged to make use of Stirling's excellent public transport links, or other sustainable modes of travel, to access the campus.

For further information on First Bus services, telephone 08708 727 271 (open Monday – Friday, 8am – 6pm), or visit:

> www.firstgroup.com/scotlandeast

Approximate distances

- Stirling – Glasgow = 27 miles / 43 kms
- Stirling – Perth = 35 miles / 56 kms
- Stirling – Edinburgh = 37 miles / 59 kms



Take the next step

Whether you are applying as an Undergraduate, Postgraduate or Study Abroad student, we'll try to make the process as straightforward as possible. If you have any questions, please get in touch with our International & Postgraduate Office. We hope to see you soon!



Stirling Bridge

1 A Study Abroad application form.

Fill in all the sections. Type or print your entries as this reduces the chance of errors.

2 A copy of your university or college academic record, transcript, inscription, etc and an academic letter of recommendation.

These must be in English.

3 English language competence

If English isn't your native language, you need to provide evidence of your English language competence.

If you're part of an ERASMUS exchange, we may have an agreement with your home university to accept its verification of your language abilities. Please check this with your course co-ordinator.

As a guide, a TOEFL score of 550 (PBT) / 80 (IBT) or IELTS 6.0 is our minimum entry level.

4 Send all the information together

If you can, please send all the information together, because we can only process applications once all your documents have been presented.

5 Send materials to the International & Postgraduate Office

Applications by post:
International & Postgraduate Office
Student Recruitment & Admissions Service
University of Stirling
Stirling FK9 4LA
Scotland, UK

Applications by email:
study-abroad@stir.ac.uk

Undergraduate study

You should apply through UCAS (Universities and Colleges Admissions Service). This is a centralised admissions process which enables you to apply for up to five different UK institutions on a single application form.

You should apply online at www.ucas.com. If you are applying to Stirling and no other UK institution then you can apply directly using our Stirling application form.

Please email:

> admissions@stir.ac.uk

Entrance Requirements

US applicants are required to have: a minimum of 550 in verbal, math and writing in SAT I plus

- Two AP classes at grade 3 or 4 or
- Two SAT II with 550 minimum in each or
- ACT score of 26-28
- IB of 28 minimum

Applicants from Canada are required to have 68 percent in a minimum of five subjects at Grade 12.

Please contact our International & Postgraduate Admissions Office for details of the international entry requirements for your chosen course.

International applicants have until 30 June 2012 to apply, although you should apply as early as possible and not leave it until the final date. There is a one-off fee of £21 to apply to UCAS.

Our overseas representatives (agents) can help you apply to the University.

Graduate study

Applications for postgraduate study are made directly to the University. Forms can be downloaded from the website or submitted online at:

> www.stir.ac.uk/postgraduate/how-to-apply

All our overseas representatives outside the UK have supplies of our application forms and are able to help international students apply.

Entrance requirements

Students from the USA are expected to have completed a four-year Bachelor degree from a recognised US institution with a cumulative GPA of at least 2.7 but ideally over 3.0.

Canadian students are required to have a minimum of a second class Honours degree for entry to most courses.

If you are uncertain about whether your qualifications and/or experience meet the requirements of your chosen course, please contact the International & Postgraduate Admissions Office or the appropriate course contact.

With your completed application you will need to include:

- copies of academic qualifications or certificates
- an academic transcript from your undergraduate course
- Two references (at least one academic)
- A research proposal (for research courses only)
- A copy of the personal details page of your valid passport (if applicable)

You can apply up to one year in advance of the course start date and by 31 July for courses starting in September.

If you need to get in touch

Hopefully this prospectus has given you most of the information you need, but if there's anything more you want to know, or if you just want to discuss your options generally, please don't hesitate to get in touch.

University of Stirling

Stirling FK9 4LA
Scotland, UK
Tel: +44 (0)1786 473171
www.stir.ac.uk

International & Postgraduate Office

Stirling FK9 4LA
Scotland, UK
Tel: +44 (0)1786 466681 (general enquiries)
+44 (0)1786 467040 (application enquiries)
Fax: +44 (0)1786 466800
Email: international@stir.ac.uk
www.stir.ac.uk/study-in-the-uk

Residential Services Office

Tel: +44 (0)1786 467060
Fax: +44 (0)1786 466844
Email: accommodation@stir.ac.uk
www.stir.ac.uk/campus-life/accommodation

Student Development & Support Services

Tel: +44 (0)1786 467080
Fax: +44 (0)1786 466806
www.student-support.stir.ac.uk

International Summer School

Tel: +44 (0)1786 466052
Fax: +44 (0)1786 466800
Email: iss@stir.ac.uk
www.stir.ac.uk/study-in-the-uk/international-summer-school

Useful web links

Main University page
www.stir.ac.uk
University prospectuses
www.stir.ac.uk/undergraduate-study/course-information/download-the-undergraduate-prospectus
www.stir.ac.uk/postgraduate/programme-information/postgraduate-prospectus
www.stir.ac.uk/study-abroad-exchanges/prospectus
Students' Union
www.stir.ac.uk/campus-life/the-students-union
www.stirlingstudentsunion.com
Stirling information
www.stir.ac.uk/about/

'I love everything about Stirling. There's always something to do or someone to hang out with. It's definitely been a unique and life-changing experience. I'd do it all over again in a heartbeat.'

Sarah Becker, Study Abroad

'Excellent courses, a well-equipped University and historical town – as well as fantastic student support and comfortable housing. All these things made my stay here a great and exciting student experience.'

James Grabmeier, Study Abroad

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Why Stirling? 10 great reasons....

1. Quality of choice

Around 200 high quality degree combinations to create the course that will suit your strengths and help you achieve your goals.

2. Leading research

Three quarters of Stirling's research was judged as 'Internationally excellent' and 'Internationally recognised' in the most recent Research Assessment Exercise with 10 percent judged to be 'World-leading'. Many subject areas are rated top in Scotland for research so you'll have access to cutting edge developments in your field.

3. Cosmopolitan campus

There are over 90 nationalities represented on campus.

4. Superb sport

We have some of the finest facilities on a single site in the UK. No wonder we've been named Scotland's University for Sporting Excellence.

5. Central location

Edinburgh, Glasgow and the Highlands are all on your doorstep – Stirling really is Scotland's heart.

6. Stunning environment

"Where else can you study on the shores of a loch, by an 18th-century castle, beneath rolling hills?"

(The Guardian University Guide)

7. Friendly atmosphere

We're medium-sized, based on a campus, highly residential, with 90+ nationalities represented; there's a great community feel.

8. Latest technology

All the bedrooms in our halls are networked and there are wireless hubs throughout the campus – no excuse not to stay in touch!

9. Cracking nightlife

Stirling's a friendly, buzzing and youthful city, with lots to do. One in every five residents is a student.

10. You're going to love it

We know you will because a resounding 89% of students were satisfied with their course (National Student Survey, 2010).

We have also been voted 'The Sunday Times University Guide' Scottish University of the Year 2009/2010.