THE UNIVERSITY of EDINBURGH

2027 Undergraduate Guide

EDINBURGH
xtraordinary futures await

Where visionaries, dreamers and pioneers converge to shape **extraordinary** futures.

34TH
in the world
QS World University Rankings 2026

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Extraordinary sustainability

Sustainability is deep-rooted in everything we do.

We believe that all our activities – from our world-class research and teaching; to how we operate as an institution; to the actions of our diverse community – should address the environmental emergencies and make a positive contribution to the regeneration of the natural world.

We are consistently ranked one of the world's top universities for environmental and social impact and seek to become a truly 'regenerative' University by actively restoring natural, biophysical systems for the benefit of people and the planet.

Research

Tackling the climate and environmental emergencies is one of three core research missions at the University. Our research is world-leading in areas as diverse as earth systems, biodiversity, farming and food, energy and manufacturing, space and satellites, health and inequalities, the circular economy, climate finance and corporate responsibility, public attitudes and environmental politics.

Teaching

We offer you access to innovative workshops and courses on climate and nature regardless of the degree you study.

We are the first university in the world to offer Carbon and Biodiversity Literacy training to our whole community; more than 11,000 students and staff have completed sustainability training since 2023.

Our culture

We support our staff, students and alumni to develop a University-wide culture that visibly champions regenerative sustainability practices and innovation.

Our Sustainability Rewards App encourages students and staff to act sustainably, offering you vouchers and charity donations for actions such as saving energy and reducing waste.

We also support the creation of staff and student startups and spinouts that help to address environmental and social sustainability challenges.

We're not just sustainable; we're regenerative.

Read more: www.ed.ac.uk/sustainability

Advancing action:

Find out more about our research and reflections from COP 30.

edin.ac/advancing-action

4TH We're second in the UK, third in Europe, and fourth in the world in the **QS World University Rankings: Sustainability 2026**. We will be net zero by 2040, and a Nature Positive University.

Extraordinary entrepreneurs

Edinburgh is an entrepreneurial city, home to two of the UK's $1 billion-valued unicorn companies. It's an environment in which the University and Edinburgh Innovations (EI), our commercialisation service, are pivotal.

You'll join one of the UK's most entrepreneurial student bodies. In 2024/25 our student startups secured more than £11.8 million in investment, grants and funding.

During 2024/25, we helped 55 student startup companies. We increasingly see a number of socially and environmentally-focused startups each year. Sunsave Solutions, for example, which was founded by School of Social & Political Sciences graduate Mekila Ngwambe, is prototyping an affordable solar power kit to provide electricity to rural households in the world's poorest areas.

With a track record of more than 350 startups in the last four years, our support for entrepreneurship is no one off. Previous successes include audio tech company Two Big Ears, which was acquired by Facebook in 2016. If you have an idea for a business that could make a positive impact on the world, we can help.

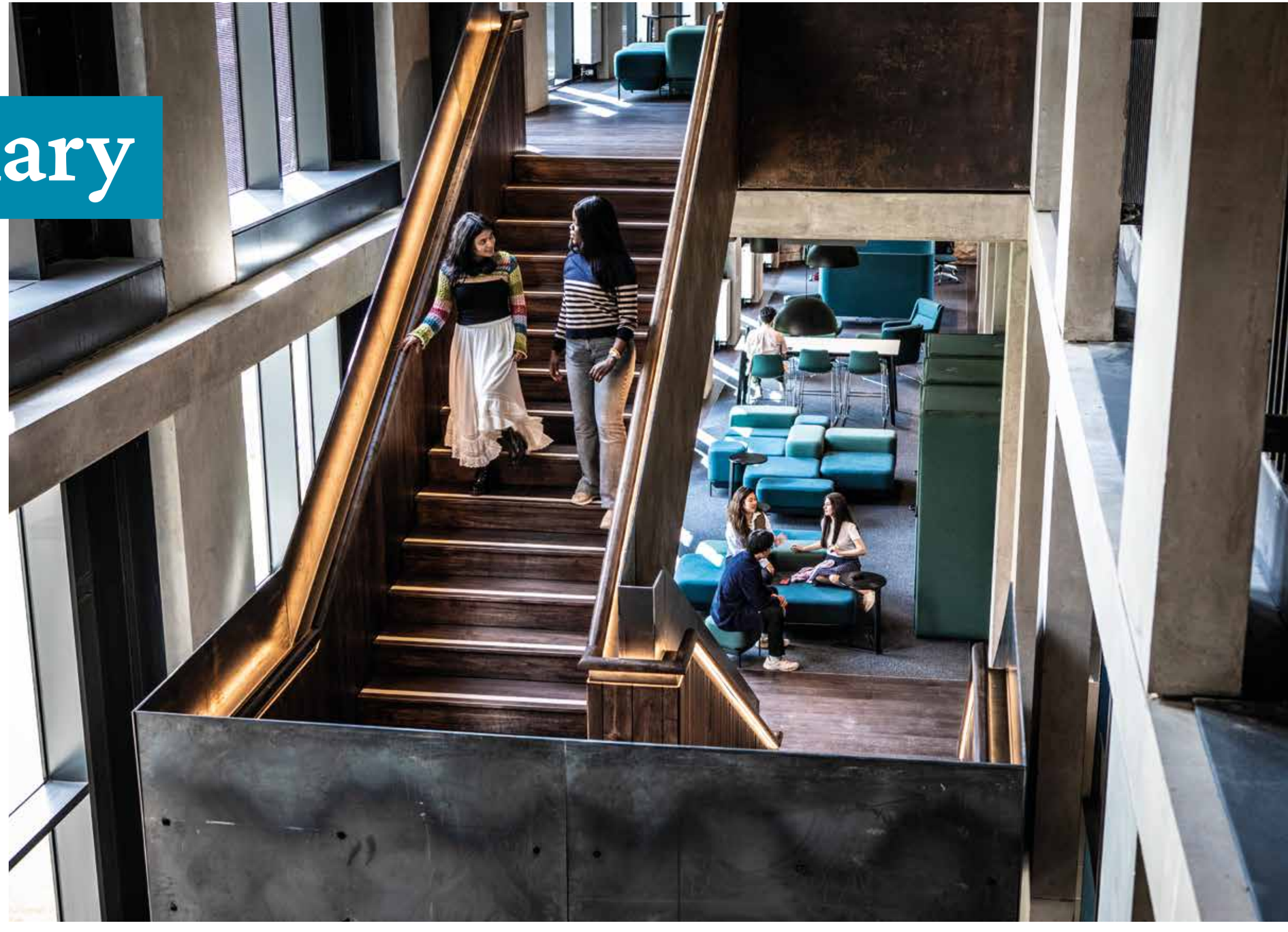
"EI is proud to support a thriving culture of entrepreneurship at the University, where our innovative student companies are translating their ideas and creativity into solutions that improve lives in areas from climate and environment to data and AI for good, and future health and care. That's what innovation means to us."

Dr Andrea Taylor
CEO, Edinburgh Innovations

Power of innovation:
Find out more about our impact.
edinburgh-innovations.ed.ac.uk/about-us/power-of-innovation

1ST
We're ranked first in the world for industry, innovation and infrastructure (THE Impact Rankings 2025).

Why this **extraordinary** place?



For more than 400 years, discoveries and advances from here in Edinburgh have changed the way the world is understood, thanks largely to the benefits our collaborations bring.

Embracing innovation and entrepreneurialism, and encouraging our people to push the frontiers of knowledge today, helps ensure we make a positive sustainable mark on the world tomorrow.

Extraordinary choice

For you, this all starts with the possibilities offered by 350 degrees across more than 50 different subjects. Many of these are joint honours degrees, offering the potential for innovative cross-disciplinary subject combinations.

Some of our degrees let you study a single subject in depth, developing a deep understanding of one area. Others feature an open and flexible structure with options to tailor your own studies. This lets you choose whether to experience a wide range of topics before you specialise, or sample multiple subjects in a broader degree.

Our global links offer you possibilities for fieldwork, industry placements and study abroad opportunities, and our research-led, industry-informed teaching incorporates the latest developments in your field.

The University of Edinburgh

We live in a complex, fast-changing world and we're honest about the significant challenges facing us all. As a leading global university, we believe education will play a vital role solving those challenges and relish our shared responsibility to respond to them.

Extraordinary people

As we all adapt to the changing world around us, we continue our commitment to being open and inclusive. On campus and online, we widen access to higher education and bring people together from a range of backgrounds and experiences. We welcome people with new outlooks and perspectives into an international community that nurtures and values each individual and the contribution they make.

Working collaboratively, we are open to change, adapting to new technologies and methods that can disrupt the status quo and overturn established ways of thinking. We do this without boundaries, in facilities where our students, academics and researchers come together with the public and private sectors to learn from each other and work in tandem to create new solutions.

Our Edinburgh Student Vision

We're committed to giving all our students the opportunities they need to be:

- **Confident in their discipline**: with advanced specialist skills, knowledge and experience.
- **Ready to thrive in a changing world**: developing the skills to be a reflexive learner with a critical mindset, who is inclusive, open to diverse perspectives, and has an enduring commitment to lifelong learning.
- **Highly employable**: able to translate their experience and capabilities to career success that is compatible with their own values and aspirations.
- **Valued collaborators**: with effective written and verbal communication skills, able to work constructively across a range of contexts, and advocate for themselves and others.

Your choices

As one of Scotland's four 'ancient' universities, many of our full-time degrees in the humanities and social sciences are undergraduate masters qualifications that require four years of study.

In science and engineering we offer four-year bachelors degrees or five-year integrated masters. We also offer a smaller number of other qualifications including LLB Law, as well as a few degrees with shorter or longer full-time study durations. These range from three to five or even six years (MBChB Medicine).

Depending on your qualifications, you may have the option to start in the second year of some of our science, engineering, biomedical sciences and medical sciences, and art and design degrees. We also offer an expanding range of options for students progressing from a Higher National Certificate or Diploma.

If you're considering a year out before you go to university, you may be able to apply for deferred entry.*

*Applications for BVM&S Veterinary Medicine or international applications for MBChB Medicine will not be considered for deferred entry. Please contact us to check before you apply.

"It's been a really positive and rewarding experience. I've learned so much from brilliant mentors, taken part in exciting projects, and built friendships that have made my time here even more memorable. It's a city and community that makes you feel part of something meaningful."

Alsadeg Bilal
MBChB Medicine and **PhD TRACC**
(Train and Retain Academic Cancer Clinicians)

An inclusive place

We believe everyone deserves an equal opportunity to study at the University of Edinburgh. We welcome and celebrate the diverse experiences, backgrounds and cultures of students from all over the world.

We're committed to widening access to higher education, and admitting the very best students, who demonstrate the potential to benefit from, and contribute to, the academic experience we offer. This means that no student is admitted on the basis of grades alone.

What qualifications and grades do I need?

The qualifications and grades you need vary according to the degree you apply for and may also depend on whether you are eligible for a widening access offer. Please check the specific subjects and grades we require, for entry to the degree you are interested in, online: **www.ed.ac.uk/undergraduate/degrees**

Will I be eligible for a widening access offer?

To be eligible for a widening access offer you must be permanently resident in the UK.

We will assess your eligibility for a widening access offer using the following factors:

- where you live (your home postcode);
- the school or college you go to;
- if you are care experienced, or a refugee or asylum seeker; or
- if you've completed a Scottish Wider Access Programme (SWAP) or University of Edinburgh Access Programme, or a recognised bridging programme.

You may need to meet criteria relevant to more than one of the factors listed to be eligible for a widening access offer.

Check your eligibility online:
www.ed.ac.uk/access-edinburgh

My story

Tristan completed the University's Access Programme, which helped prepare him to return to degree-level study:

"As a mature student from a high school with particularly low rates of progression into higher education, I was nervous about being an outsider. However, I soon discovered how broad the student body is and you'll undoubtedly meet people from a similar background to you. There is a lot of support so the leap didn't feel as overwhelming as I'd anticipated. Even if you haven't gone straight into university, you certainly haven't missed your chance. When you do start your degree, even if it is later in life, you'll be equipped to get even more out of it.

"I was quite anxious about being accepted into the student community as an openly transgender student. However, I've used it as an opportunity to support and educate my fellow students. I became a member of my School's Equality and Diversity Committee to share my experiences and help organise events for LGBT+ History Month."

Tristan Craig
MA (Hons) Ancient & Medieval History

Quick Q&A

Do only straight A students get into the University of Edinburgh?

No. We're committed to widening access and offer places, based on grades that consider the context in which results were achieved, to students we believe have the potential to succeed.

"I didn't think I was likely to meet the entry requirements. I found I was eligible for a widening access offer and this helped me recognise my ability to make it to university. Having the reassurance of the contextual offer made a massive difference to my confidence to apply."
Kalim, BSc Neuroscience

Am I too old to go to university?

No. Whatever age you are, you're welcome. Adults returning after a break of at least three years in their formal education need to have undertaken some recent academic study: **www.ed.ac.uk/studying/mature**

Is it possible to go to university if you have kids?

Yes. Many students balance university and raising a family. We offer childcare services, support and advice, and an excellent network run by our student parents' representative.

Am I going to fit in?

Yes! No matter who you are, or where you come from, you will be welcomed to our student community.

"It did take me a while to settle in – socially and with my studies. It was a hard balancing act but with time, you get used to it. My advice is to stop caring about fitting in and making friends quickly as it comes naturally. Instead make a good schedule and stick to it – time management and a good sleep is key!"
Phoebe, MA (Hons) Architecture

"By the time I had chosen the University, I did not feel any trepidation at going into an unfamiliar environment. I already felt part of the community."

Anais Banag
LLB (Hons) Law

"Everyone talks about how great university is but it is important to recognise that at times it will also be challenging. Remember, everyone finds things difficult and if you need help, don't be afraid to ask for it. Everyone here is wanting to help you get through whatever struggles you have."

Olivia Warner
MA (Hons) History

Study in breadth and in depth

When you choose to study with us, you'll find that many degrees take four years to complete. This is an approach that's common not just to Scotland but across Europe and in the US.

Studying a four-year degree allows you to benefit from greater flexibility and choice during your studies than might be offered in a shorter degree elsewhere. You'll usually have the time to try different subjects before you concentrate your studies for your final degree. Some students find these experiences change their mind about the degree or specialism they want to qualify in and allow them to take advantage of the flexibility to refocus.

How it works

On most of our degrees in the arts, humanities, engineering, science, and social sciences, you'll be able to study a range of subjects in Years 1 and 2 before you decide which area to specialise in for your final degree. You'll study the compulsory courses that are required for your degree and in addition will be able to choose a number of option courses either from areas related to your degree or from different parts of the University.

Using your option course choices, you'll be able to choose to study up to three subjects in Year 1, then continue those subjects or swap some out as you move into Year 2. It's flexible, letting you try subjects without committing to them long term, and it's personal. You'll develop academically and intellectually, discovering which subjects suit your interests and aptitudes and which are the best fit for your career aspirations.

As you move into Year 3, you'll have more confidence to say with certainty which area you want to specialise in for your final degree. You'll also take up any possible option to study abroad, or any industrial placement offered on your degree, usually during Year 3 before returning to the University for your final year. You'll then focus on the in-depth studies required for your degree across a series of Year 4 compulsory courses and a final project or dissertation. This will allow you to graduate with a versatile combination coveted by prospective employers – a specialist focus built on a broad base of interdisciplinary experience.

Example degree structure (single honours): BSc Computer Science

Year 1	Computer Science 40 credits	Maths 40 credits	Option 40 credits	
Year 2	Computer Science 80 credits		Maths 20 credits	Option 20 credits
Year 3	Computer Science – 120 credits			
Year 4	Computer Science – 120 credits			

Example degree structure (joint honours): MA Economics & Politics

Year 1	Economics 40 credits	Politics 40 credits	Option 40 credits
Year 2	Economics 60 credits	Politics 40 credits	Option 20 credits
Year 3	Economics – 60 credits	Politics – 60 credits	
Year 4	Economics – 60 credits	Politics – 60 credits	

Benefits

- Enhance your career prospects, gaining a broad education that is attractive to employers.
- Experience new subjects without the need to commit long-term – discover new passions, take your career in a new direction or enhance your CV.
- Discover where your strengths lie and tailor your degree accordingly.
- Nurture your talents, develop a broad range of skills and grow intellectually over a longer period of time.
- Develop a global outlook – opportunities to study abroad are usually possible on most of our degrees.

"Edinburgh is one of the top campuses that we target for recruitment. If you are looking for a university that will give you the skills and experiences to have a successful career, then Edinburgh is a good place to start."

Procter & Gamble

My story

"Edinburgh was my first choice – the city enchanted me with its historic architecture, iconic views of the Castle and Arthur's Seat, walkable city centre and close-knit University campus.

"My architecture studios are in the heart of the city, within walking distance to my accommodation and amenities. My studies are quite intense, but the studio culture allows for socialising and group work on projects. Some of our design projects are in Edinburgh, allowing us to visit and investigate the site, while some let us travel abroad, creating an understanding of different cultural and environmental conditions. The four-year structure allows us to incorporate our personal interests; in my case, I travelled to Germany for an exchange.

"Edinburgh is a great city, allowing each student to find their own identity within the capital. Outside the architecture studio I'm involved in societies where I can socialise, have fun, and explore my personal interests. I have been a member of the architectural, theatre, newspaper, and knitting and crochet societies."

Karolina Pavlikova
MA (Hons) Architecture

New ways of learning

Choosing to study with us means more than choosing to sit in our lecture theatres.

For many of you, it will mean adopting a whole new approach to your own education that differs from what you experienced at school or college.

You will become an independent learner, working collaboratively with us to enhance and enrich your own education. You'll need to be proactive, seeking out and seizing the opportunities we offer while managing your own time, learning new ways of studying and developing independent learning skills to meet the demands of your degree. We'll work with you, of course, providing help and guidance on how to study most effectively and how best to succeed in this new environment. We'll nurture and support your development, including with award-winning careers support (see page 32), giving you the attributes required for success at the University and beyond.

Our approach

In addition to lectures and tutorials, you'll experience a range of other ways of learning when you study with us.

We use in-person, online and hybrid teaching models to ensure continuity of education. On campus, practical and lab sessions are common in many of our science, engineering and health-related degrees. These let you put what you've learned into practice and conduct your own live experiments and other bench work. Fieldwork is a feature of our degrees in areas such as geography and Earth sciences. It will take you away from the University, bringing theory to life in the field as you study the natural world both here in Scotland and overseas.

Art and design students usually spend a lot of time in the studio where you will be expected to develop your own skills, responding to creative briefs through project-based learning. You will also have opportunities to exhibit.

Research-led teaching

Our world-class academics include leaders in their fields, conducting groundbreaking research that can directly inform the teaching you receive, allowing them to share their discoveries. You may have the opportunity to get involved in research that allows you to delve more deeply into your chosen subject. This will not only develop your analytical skills, but will help you prepare for the next steps in your career whether that's in industry or postgraduate study.

Industry placements

A number of our degrees offer you the opportunity to get involved in and sample life on the front line of your future career with an industry placement. These can be short placements or in some cases a full year out and some may take place outside the UK. They offer an unrivalled opportunity to hone your skills and put theory into practice under genuine working conditions, tackling live projects side by side with your peers. In some cases, you will be required to find and secure your own placement and in others you will be recruited competitively by the companies offering the positions. Industry placements offer you an opportunity to broaden your horizons, gain valuable insights into the professional application of your chosen degree, and enhance your future career prospects.

Study exchanges

We're one of the world leaders in international student exchanges, offering more than 1,400 opportunities to study abroad across 300 different destinations. Exchanges are possible on many of our degrees – the options open to you depend on what you're studying. Our exchange partners include a broad geographical spread of institutions.

"Getting taught by lecturers who were carrying out their own research and would allow you to work alongside them was a dream come true to me."

Brenda Mionki
BSc (Hons) Biological Sciences (Biochemistry)

Within Europe, these include the Universities of Bologna, Amsterdam, Sorbonne, Copenhagen and FU Berlin. Worldwide, our partners include the Universities of Sydney, Pennsylvania and Toronto, the National University of Singapore and Seoul National University. You'll usually apply during Year 2 then study abroad in Year 3. Most of our students go abroad for the full year but shorter semester-only options may also be available in some subject areas. Securing a place can be competitive, but a study exchange can be a career-boosting international experience, providing insights into another culture while broadening your network and developing new perspectives on your subject.

Short-term, blended and virtual experiences

There are also opportunities for you to participate in short-term, blended and virtual international experiences, with funding available to support participation in international summer programmes. Find out more:
https://global.ed.ac.uk/study-and-work-away-service

Interdisciplinary Futures

Building on expertise from across the University, and working in an inclusive and participative environment, the **Edinburgh Futures Institute** offers a four-year undergraduate degree – Interdisciplinary Futures – and a portfolio of future-focused undergraduate option courses. Bringing together teaching from different subjects, this degree is focused on global and local challenges and allows you to apply your learning to 'real life' problems. You will have an opportunity to develop creative, critical and data-informed thinking that cuts across traditional disciplinary boundaries and prepares you for a career of your choice:
efi.ed.ac.uk

Decisions, decisions...

The following index lists the extraordinary range of areas we currently offer degrees in. With hundreds of options available, you'll find the ideal degree for your personal interests and career aspirations, even if you're still nailing down exactly what you want to study.

Find out more:

Visit our degree finder for information on our subjects and individual degrees.

www.ed.ac.uk/undergraduate/degrees

A

Accounting
- Accounting & Finance

Arabic & Persian
- Arabic & Business
- Arabic & French
- Arabic & History
- Arabic & Persian
- Arabic & Politics
- Arabic & Spanish
- Arabic with Islamic & Middle Eastern Studies

Archaeology
- Archaeology
- Archaeology & Ancient History
- Archaeology & Social Anthropology

Architecture and Architectural History & Heritage
- Architectural History & Archaeology
- Architectural History & Heritage
- Architecture

Art
- Fine Art

B

Biological Sciences
- Biochemistry†
- Biological Sciences
- Biological Sciences with Management
- Biotechnology†
- Cell Biology†
- Development, Regeneration & Stem Cells†
- Ecology†
- Evolutionary Biology†
- Genetics†
- Immunology†
- Molecular Biology†
- Molecular Genetics†
- Plant Science†
- Zoology†

Biomedical Sciences
- Anatomy & Development
- Biomedical Informatics*
- Biomedical Sciences
- Infectious Diseases
- Integrative Biomedical Sciences*
- Neuroscience
- Pharmacology
- Reproductive Biology

Business
- Business & Economics
- Business Management
- Business with Decision Analytics
- Business with Enterprise & Innovation
- Business with Human Resource Management
- Business with Marketing
- Business with Strategic Economics
- Finance & Business
- International Business
- International Business with Chinese
- International Business with French
- International Business with German
- International Business with Italian
- International Business with Spanish

C

Celtic
- Celtic & English Literature
- Celtic & French
- Celtic & Linguistics
- Celtic & Scandinavian Studies
- Celtic & Scottish History

Chemistry
- Chemical Physics
- Chemistry
- Medicinal & Biological Chemistry

Chinese
- Chinese
- Chinese & French
- Chinese & German
- Chinese & History
- Chinese & Linguistics
- Chinese & Spanish

Classics
- Ancient & Medieval History
- Ancient History
- Classical Archaeology & Ancient History
- Classical Studies
- Classics

Cognitive Science (Humanities)
- Cognitive Science (Humanities)

Computer Science (Informatics)
- Artificial Intelligence
- Artificial Intelligence & Computer Science
- Computer Science
- Computer Science & Mathematics
- Informatics
- Software Engineering

D

Design
- Animation
- Fashion
- Film & Television
- Graphic Design
- Illustration
- Interior Design
- Product Design

E

Earth Sciences & Environment
- Earth Sciences
- Earth Science & Physical Geography
- Environmental Geoscience
- Geophysics

Ecological & Environmental Sciences
- Ecological & Environmental Sciences
- Ecological & Environmental Sciences with Management

Economics
- Economics
- Economics & Accounting
- Economics & Mathematics
- Economics & Politics
- Economics with Finance
- Economics with Management Science

Education
- Childhood Practice
- Physical Education
- Primary Education with Gaelic (Fluent Speakers)
- Primary Education with Gaelic (Learners)

Engineering
- Chemical Engineering
- Civil Engineering
- Electrical & Mechanical Engineering
- Electronics & Computer Science
- Electronics & Electrical Engineering
- Engineering
- Mechanical Engineering
- Structural & Fire Safety Engineering
- Structural Engineering with Architecture

English Language
- English Language
- English Language & Literature

English Literature & Scottish Literature
- English & Scottish Literature
- English Literature
- English Literature & Classics
- English Literature & History

F

French & Francophone Studies
- French
- French & Business
- French & English Literature
- French & German
- French & History
- French & Italian
- French & Linguistics
- French & Philosophy
- French & Politics
- French & Portuguese
- French & Russian Studies
- French & Scandinavian Studies
- French & Spanish

† We offer this as a specialism of Biological Sciences. Your degree title will be Biological Sciences (name of specialism).

* These degrees are based in China at the Zhejiang University-University of Edinburgh Institute (ZJE). Visit: **www.ed.ac.uk/biomedical-sciences**

G

Geography
Geography

German
German
German & Business
German & English Literature
German & History
German & Linguistics
German & Philosophy
German & Politics
German & Portuguese
German & Scandinavian Studies
German & Spanish

H

Health in Social Science
Health in Social Science

History
History
History & Archaeology
History & Classics
History & Economics
History & History of Art
History & Politics
History & Scottish History

History of Art
History of Art
History of Art & Architectural History
History of Art & English Literature
History of Art & History of Music

I

Interdisciplinary Studies
Interdisciplinary Futures (Edinburgh Futures Institute)

Islamic Studies & Middle Eastern Studies
Islamic Studies
Middle Eastern Studies

Italian
Italian
Italian & English Literature
Italian & History
Italian & Linguistics
Italian & Philosophy
Italian & Politics
Italian & Spanish

J

Japanese
Japanese
Japanese & Linguistics

L

Landscape Architecture
Landscape Architecture

Law
Global Law
Law (Graduate Entry)
Law (Ordinary and Honours)
Law & Accountancy
Law & Business
Law & French
Law & German
Law & History
Law & International Relations
Law & Politics
Law & Spanish

Linguistics
Linguistics
Linguistics & English Language

M

Mathematics
Applied Mathematics
Mathematics
Mathematics & Business
Mathematics & Physics
Mathematics & Statistics

Medicine
HCP-Med for Healthcare Professionals
Medicine

Music
Acoustics & Music Technology
Music

N

Nursing Studies
Nursing Studies

P

Philosophy
Philosophy
Philosophy & Economics
Philosophy & English Literature
Philosophy & Linguistics
Philosophy & Mathematics
Philosophy & Politics
Philosophy & Psychology

Physics & Astronomy
Astrophysics
Computational Physics
Mathematical Physics
Physics
Physics with a Year Abroad
Theoretical Physics

Politics & International Relations
International Relations
International Relations with Quantitative Methods
Politics
Politics, Philosophy & Economics
Politics with Quantitative Methods

Psychology
Psychology
Psychology & Business
Psychology & Linguistics
Psychology & Sociology

R

Russian Studies
Russian Studies
Russian Studies & English Literature
Russian Studies & History
Russian Studies & Linguistics
Russian Studies & Philosophy
Russian Studies & Politics
Russian Studies & Spanish

S

Scandinavian Studies
Scandinavian Studies (Danish, Norwegian, Swedish)
Scandinavian Studies & English Literature
Scandinavian Studies & History
Scandinavian Studies & Linguistics
Scandinavian Studies & Philosophy
Scandinavian Studies & Politics
Scandinavian Studies & Spanish

Scottish Ethnology & Studies
Scottish Ethnology & Archaeology
Scottish Ethnology & Celtic
Scottish Ethnology & English Literature
Scottish Ethnology & Scottish History
Scottish Studies

Social Anthropology
Social Anthropology
Social Anthropology & Politics
Social Anthropology & Social Policy

Social Policy
Government, Policy & Society
Government, Policy & Society with Quantitative Methods
Social Policy & Economics
Social Policy & Politics
Social Policy & Sociology
Social Policy with Quantitative Methods

Social Work
Social Work

Sociology
Sociology
Sociology & Politics
Sociology & Social Anthropology
Sociology with Quantitative Methods

Spanish, Portuguese & Latin American Studies
Spanish
Spanish & Business
Spanish & English Literature
Spanish & History
Spanish & Linguistics
Spanish & Philosophy
Spanish & Politics
Spanish & Portuguese

Sport
Applied Sport Science
Sport Management

Sustainability
Sustainable Development

T

Theology & Religious Studies
Philosophy & Theology
Religion, Culture & Society
Theology

V

Veterinary Medicine
Veterinary Medicine
Veterinary Medicine (Graduate Entry Programme)

Join us

How to apply
You should apply for full-time undergraduate study at the University via UCAS. You can find out more about how to apply online: **www.ed.ac.uk/undergraduate/apply**

When to apply
You can submit your application for 2027 study from 1 September 2026. We recommend you apply as soon as possible. You must apply before the relevant deadline:

- **15 October 2026** – deadline for all applications to study medicine or veterinary medicine.
- **13 January 2027** – all other UK and Irish applicants must apply before the UCAS January deadline. We also recommend international applicants apply by this date as many of our degrees are competitive and may close on, or soon after, the January deadline.

What you need to apply
You'll need your qualifications, a personal statement and a reference to apply. For some of our degrees you may also need to:

- attend an interview, for medicine, veterinary medicine, nursing or teacher education;
- submit a digital portfolio, for art, design and fine art;
- sit an admissions test, such as the University Clinical Aptitude Test (UCAT) for medicine;
- provide evidence of relevant work or voluntary experience, and meet fitness to practice standards, for professional programmes.

You'll also need to provide evidence of your English language skills. We accept a range of qualifications that demonstrate your English language competency including SQA National 5, GCSE, and IB Standard Level English. We also accept a range of other English language tests and qualifications: **edin.ac/ug-english**

Our entry requirements
Please check the specific subjects and grades we require for entry to the degree you are interested in. You can look at the detailed entry requirements online: **www.ed.ac.uk/undergraduate/degrees**

We accept lots of different qualifications from around the world. Again, full details are available online: **www.ed.ac.uk/undergraduate/entry-requirements**

Please also see the information on page 12 for widening access applicants.

International foundation programme
If we do not accept the school-leaving qualifications from your country for admission, we offer a one-year foundation programme to develop your academic skills and English language proficiency. If successful, you'll be eligible for entry to many of our degrees.

Immigration
EU and other international students normally need a visa to study in the UK. We offer online guidance to help explain which immigration permission you need: **www.ed.ac.uk/immigration**

Our terms and conditions
If you apply to the University and are offered a place to study here, please read our terms and conditions online before you accept our offer: **www.ed.ac.uk/terms-conditions**

Our privacy statement
Before you apply, you can read our privacy statement online for information about how we will use your personal data from your application and who we will share it with: **edin.ac/privacy-applicants**

Contact us
If you would like to speak to someone about admission to a specific degree and how to apply, you'll find our contact information on page 48.

Making an application

What you need to do and where to find out more.

Step 1
Find out more about your degree
Check what, and where, you will study, how you will learn, your career opportunities and more.
www.ed.ac.uk/undergraduate/degrees

Step 2
Check what qualifications you will need to get in
Find the specific subjects and grades required for entry to your degree.
www.ed.ac.uk/undergraduate/degrees

Step 2a
For help understanding our entry requirements, or if you can't find your qualifications
Read our guidance on the wide range of UK and international qualifications we accept.
www.ed.ac.uk/undergraduate/entry-requirements

Step 3
Find out how to apply
Read our advice on everything you need to know, including personal statements, references and deadlines.
www.ed.ac.uk/undergraduate/apply

Step 4
Make your application
You will apply online, via UCAS.
www.ucas.com

Contact us if you need more help

We're happy to support you at any point during your application.

See page 48 for our contact details.

Financial peace of mind

We appreciate studying here is a significant financial commitment. **We awarded £2.4 million in undergraduate living costs support in 2024/25**, and are dedicated to helping students of all ages and social backgrounds enter higher education, regardless of your financial situation.

We offer one of the most generous financial support packages in the UK for students from households with the lowest incomes, as well as a number of scholarships awarded on the basis of academic merit.

Information on funding opportunities, tuition fees and financial assistance can change, please check online in conjunction with this guide: **www.ed.ac.uk/student-funding/undergraduate**

After fees, living costs will be your main expenditure. If you're a student from the UK, you may be eligible for living costs support from your regional funding body in the form of loans, bursaries or grants. It is important to prepare a budget for life at university and understand what you expect the cost of your necessities to be.

Living costs info and tools:
edin.ac/ug-fees-funding

Working while you study
Many students take up part-time work to help with living costs while they are at university. As a thriving capital city, Edinburgh offers a wide range of job opportunities.

Our award-winning Careers Service offers an online portal that includes part-time job opportunities. We are also well placed to support our international students. If you have a Student Visa to study in the UK, you may be able to work – how much depends on what you're studying and whether or not you're working during term-time. Please check your visa conditions.

Fees at a glance
What you pay and the assistance you may receive depends on where you live. The following information offers an overview of indicative fee levels and funding in 2026. Please check online for up-to-date information for 2027.

Scotland – for eligible students, fees will be paid by the Student Awards Agency Scotland (SAAS).

England, Wales, Northern Ireland and the Republic of Ireland – eligible students receive a government-funded loan for fees that isn't repaid until they are in work and reach an earnings threshold.

International (including EU) – **you will pay a fixed annual fee for the duration of your studies**. EU applicants living in the UK with pre- or settled status will pay the Scottish rate. All other students will pay the international rate. International students' fees for 2027 are yet to be confirmed. Please check online for up-to-date information. For indicative fee levels, in 2026, international students paid a fixed annual fee starting at £28,000 a year. Laboratory- and studio-based degrees cost £36,800 a year, and veterinary medicine fees £39,700 a year. Medicine fees cost £51,961 a year including the ACT levy. International students studying at any Scottish medical school are required to pay this levy, which contributes to the teaching costs of the NHS. The University subsidises this charge, but the levy is subject to change. Depending on your home country and personal circumstances, you may be eligible for loans or scholarships. EU students currently living in the UK should refer to: **edin.ac/eu-fee-status**

Check your fee status online:
www.ed.ac.uk/student-funding/fee-status

Examples of available funding

Access Edinburgh
The Access Edinburgh scholarship is for full-time undergraduate students who live in the UK. Awards are worth up to **£5,000 a year** depending on your circumstances and household income.

More than 3,000 students a year receive Access Edinburgh scholarships. Any student from a lower income household, which includes those who have been in care, or those estranged from their family, will receive an Access Edinburgh scholarship. Your award will be automatically assessed, based on your household income when you apply for SAAS or Student Finance England, Wales or Northern Ireland funding.

Black British Undergraduate Scholarship Programme
A number of scholarships, including the Cowrie Foundation Scholarship, cover any applicable tuition fees and up to **£5,000 a year** for living costs. Applications are open to UK-domiciled Black African or Caribbean-heritage students facing socio-economic challenges.

Mathematics Scholarships
The School of Mathematics provides a number of scholarships worth up to **£5,000 a year** to maths students of outstanding ability.

Robertson International Scholarships
There are two scholarships, each of **£1,400 tenable for one year**. You must be a national of a country outside the UK and be liable to pay the overseas rate of tuition fees, commencing a degree in the School of History, Classics & Archaeology.

The Royal (Dick) School of Veterinary Studies UK Graduate/International Scholarship
There are two scholarships, each of **£5,000 a year**, available to UK graduates or international students studying BVM&S Veterinary Medicine.

Use our online tool to search for more funding opportunities available to you: www.ed.ac.uk/student-funding

Make your future **extraordinary**

For more than 400 years, our students and staff have been influencing and changing the world for the better. **Now it's your turn.**

Work carried out at the University is expanding the depth of human knowledge and improving lives around the world.

The University has laid the foundations of modern economics and sociology, the Scottish Enlightenment, geology, English literature, quantum mechanics, electromagnetism, thermodynamics, antiseptic surgery, nephrology and the theory of evolution.

It has led to the discovery of carbon dioxide, latent and specific heat, chloroform anaesthesia, SARS (Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome), and the Higgs boson particle, and it has developed the Hepatitis B vaccine, the hypodermic syringe, the kaleidoscope, the vacuum flask, the ATM, the diving chamber and in-vitro fertilisation.

It has advanced the public understanding of how our behaviours affect ageing, protected forest ecosystems, and helped bring broadband to remote communities.

Our community has long enjoyed a spirit of innovation and continues to do so today. Working with our partners and building on our strengths in data science, we've set out to establish our region as the data capital of Europe. We're also working towards other historic firsts including new treatments for major diseases such as multiple sclerosis, motor neurone disease and cancer; and doing innovative work to tackle climate change.

Join us and you'll do more than follow in the footsteps of Nobel laureates, Pulitzer prizewinners, Olympic medallists, revolutionary thinkers and scientific pioneers. You'll have the opportunity to lead – to transform your education here into your own mark on our shared history, forging your path to the groundbreaking discoveries and innovative research that will influence tomorrow's world.

Extraordinary people

Our notable alumni include:

Sir Michael Atiyah
Sir JM Barrie
Alexander Graham Bell
Joseph Black
Dame Elizabeth Blackadder
Max Born
Gordon Brown
Sir Winston Churchill
Charles Darwin
Sir Arthur Conan Doyle
Dame Katherine Grainger
Peter Higgs
Sir Chris Hoy
David Hume
James Hutton
Sophia Jex-Blake
Joseph Lister
Chrystal MacMillan
James Clerk Maxwell
Zhong Nanshan
Julius Nyerere
Viscount Palmerston
Eduardo Paolozzi
Ian Rankin
William Rankine
Peter Mark Roget
JK Rowling
Daniel Rutherford
Anneila Sargent
Sir Walter Scott
Julia Sebutinde
Piers Sellers
Sir James Young Simpson
Adam Smith
Robert Louis Stevenson
Dugald Stewart
Kirsty Wark
Sir Ian Wilmut

Academic prizes

Pulitzer
One Pulitzer Prize winner

Turing
Three Turing Award winners

Nobel
There are 20 Nobel Prize winners who are alumni of the University or have been members of academic staff here.

1500

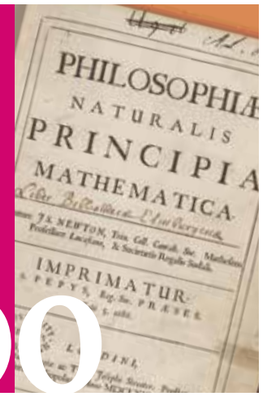
1583

University founded. The sixth oldest university in the UK.

1600

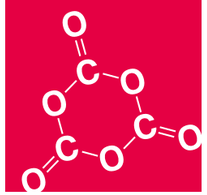
1687

Acquisition of Sir Isaac Newton's *Principia* for the University library. This great work is still held in our Centre for Research Collections to this day.



1754

Alumnus and lecturer Joseph Black first discovers 'fixed air', which we now know as Carbon Dioxide.



1700

1776

US Declaration of Independence. Alumni James Wilson and John Witherspoon are signatories.

1750–1800

The Scottish Enlightenment. Edinburgh alumni including Adam Smith, James Hutton, David Hume, Joseph Black and William Cullen lead an era of radical thought and invention making the city a 'hotbed of genius'.

1707–1726

First founding of the faculties of law ('07), arts ('08) and medicine ('26).

1876

Alumnus Alexander Graham Bell makes the first telephone call, telling his assistant: "Mr Watson. Come here. I want to see you."

1865

Alumnus and lecturer Joseph Lister first uses an antiseptic treatment of carbolic acid to prevent infection.

1813

Our first black graduate, Caribbean student William Fergusson, gains his MD.

1855

Wong Fun gains his MD, believed to be the first Chinese graduate of any European university.

1800

1869

The Edinburgh Seven become the first female students allowed to matriculate at any UK university. The first formal graduation of women from the University took place in 1893.

1884

Alumnus Sir John Murray, the father of modern oceanography, establishes the UK's first marine laboratory in Granton, Edinburgh.

1900

1964

Theoretical physicist Peter Higgs first proposes the existence of the Higgs boson.

1969

Stephen Salter and Donald Michie, in the University's Department of Artificial Intelligence, develop the first automated industrial assembly robot.

1999

Graduation of Sir Chris Hoy (Applied Sport Science) who goes on to become one of the UK's most decorated Olympic medallists.

1996

Sir Ian Wilmut's team produces Dolly the Sheep, the world's first mammal cloned from an adult somatic cell.

1960

Sir Michael Woodruff, Chair of Surgical Science at the University, performs the UK's first successful kidney transplant.

1980

Sir Ken Murray, Head of Molecular Biology, develops a genetically engineered vaccine against Hepatitis B.

1958

Journalist and war hero Elizabeth Wiskemann is made the first female professor at the University.

2003

Alumnus Zhong Nanshan discovers the SARS Coronavirus.

2000

2018

In a world first, Professor Evelyn Telfer grows human eggs in the lab paving the way for new fertility treatments.

2017

Ambitious plans to make Edinburgh the data capital of Europe announced.

2024

The Edinburgh Futures Institute opened in the Old Royal Infirmary building: **efi.ed.ac.uk**

2031 and beyond

Over to you to write the next chapter.

Inspiring minds

You can't plan on changing the world without starting small. It takes an inquisitive mind and a curious nature. It takes extraordinary teachers with the passion and enthusiasm to inspire you. It takes confidence to challenge and be challenged rather than accept the status quo.

Our worldwide reputation for teaching and research helps attract some of the international research community's sharpest minds, which in turn means world-class teaching.

You'll learn from people who are among the leaders in their fields, who conduct groundbreaking research with global implications and use it to directly inform the teaching you receive. Join our enthusiastic community of pioneers, visionaries and scholars, studying the latest developments in your subject with the prospect of working on life-changing research yourself.

Your studies will take place in our cutting-edge facilities and extraordinary historic buildings – an invigorating environment in which ideas can be researched, tested, developed and refined.

Our **Main Library** is one of the largest and most important academic libraries in the world and is open to you 24 hours a day, seven days a week. In total, our 10 libraries hold millions of printed and online volumes and grant access to 330,000 electronic journals and databases.

Our **Centre for Research Collections** is unique, bringing together more than 400,000 rare books, from Shakespearean first editions to oriental manuscripts and museum-standard collections of art and artefacts.

Our unique **FloWave Ocean Energy Research Facility** is the world's most sophisticated simulator of wave and tidal current interactions. Its 25-metre diameter circular tank holds 2.4 million litres of water. We're also a founding partner of **FastBlade**, the world's first rapid testing facility for tidal energy turbine blades.

St Cecilia's Hall, built in 1762, is Scotland's oldest purpose-built concert hall. It now houses our Collection of Historical Musical Instruments – one of the world's most important collections of musical heritage with 5,000 objects spanning 500 years.

Edinburgh Imaging is one of Europe's foremost clinical research imaging facilities. It sits alongside one of the UK's largest state-of-the-art teaching hospitals and the world-leading MRC Centre for Regenerative Medicine, where we're studying stem cells and developing new treatments for cancer, heart disease, liver failure, diabetes, multiple sclerosis, Parkinson's and motor neurone disease.

Our Data-Driven Innovation hubs – the **Bayes Centre, National Robotarium**, **Edinburgh Futures Institute** (EFI), **Usher Institute**, **Easter Bush Agritech Hub**, and **Edinburgh International Data Facility** – form a regional powerhouse for collaboration between industry and our academic disciplines, to address the world's most pressing challenges. The combination of business acumen and ideas, with rapid advances in high-powered computing, high-speed data analytics, and our research expertise supports Edinburgh's ambition to become the data capital of Europe: **www.ddi.ac.uk**

A world-leader in Artificial Intelligence for more than 60 years, the University is now leading the new era of generative AI. We're developing techniques for its use and examining the ethical, legal and regulatory frameworks required to ensure that use is safe and responsible.

We have one of the world's most sophisticated advanced computing facilities and have hosted the UK's national supercomputer for more than 30 years. The University was named the country's first National Supercomputing Centre and home to the UK's next generation national supercomputer.

This puts Edinburgh, and the region, at the centre of a nationwide effort, to drive technological innovation and support industry using computing and AI.

We also host the **Edinburgh Climate Change Institute** (ECCI), Scotland's leading climate action hub, and the **Edinburgh Earth Initiative**, which works to accelerate interdisciplinary research, partnerships, teaching, and innovation for the climate and environmental emergency.

A £100m investment created a European centre of excellence in animal services and food security on our Easter Bush campus. We also have small animal, large animal and equine hospital facilities at the **Royal (Dick) School of Veterinary Studies**, founded in 1823, and host one of the UK's 10 Wellcome Trust clinical research facilities.

Our **Institute for Astronomy**, based at Edinburgh's historic Royal Observatory, is one of the UK's major centres of astronomical research, with special strengths in survey astronomy, cosmology, active galaxies and the formation of stars and planets.

Our **Anatomy Museum**, first opened in 1884, has a wealth of unique anatomical objects, and the **Talbot Rice Gallery** and **Tent Gallery** host public contemporary art exhibitions throughout the year.

Shape your career

Our graduates are highly employable and we can help you stand out in a competitive job market.

You'll want to take full advantage of the development opportunities open to you, both academically and beyond the University. Your future employers will look for more than just a qualification – they'll expect you to have the skills, personal qualities and mindset to thrive in the working environment. That means studying here is about laying the foundations for your future success, whatever shape that takes.

We offer career-enhancing opportunities for you to develop new skills and abilities, learn more about yourself and your working practices, and boost your confidence. We invest in your future beyond the end of your degree, helping you to develop a unique set of graduate attributes that will be fundamental to your development and long-term success.

Our award-winning Careers Service provides digital tools and resources, tailored advice, individual guidance and personal assistance, internships and networking opportunities with employers from local SMEs to top multinationals, and access to the knowledge and experience of our worldwide alumni network: **careers.ed.ac.uk**

A lot of what you do outside university also contributes to your development as a more rounded individual. This might include extracurricular activities such as running a club or society night, volunteering, or part-time work. The Edinburgh Award is our way of recognising, certifying and demonstrating to employers the skills and attributes you've gained from your extracurricular activities: **www.edinburgh-award.ed.ac.uk**

If you consider yourself something of an entrepreneur, you'll be interested to know this is an entrepreneurial city (see page 4), home to two of the UK's $1 billion-valued unicorn companies. Edinburgh Innovations (EI) embodies our strong enterprise culture and supports our entrepreneurial students. This includes free, confidential, one-to-one business advice, a range of workshops, events, and competitions, as well as a dedicated student enterprise hub and funding opportunities, including our in-house venture capital fund Old College Capital. You don't need a business background or even an idea to access the service – EI supports that first innovative spark and your startup ambitions: **eil.ac/students**

All this combines to form an approach that sees us ranked in the top 10 in the UK for the employability of our graduates.* Employers from all sectors have the confidence to consider the University an excellent training ground for graduates with the intellectual ability and high level attributes needed to succeed and thrive in the global job market.

We collaborate with partners worldwide in fields as diverse as e-science, engineering, life and medical sciences, and arts and culture. World-class experiences are available as you study, while our partnerships ensure our teaching and research benefits communities globally. Our current partnerships with leading universities include:

*Times Higher Education Global Employability University ranking 2026

98.2/100 Our employer reputation rating in the 2026 QS World University Rankings.

13TH High Fliers 2024/25 research ranked us in the UK's top 20 universities most targeted by top employers' graduate recruiters.

34TH Our graduates were ranked 34th in the world by employers in the 2026 QS World University Rankings.

"I'd recommend students get involved with Edinburgh Innovations. They offer practical support to make your business a reality. My sound design software, Dehumaniser, is now used by industry professionals, including Hollywood film studios."

Orfeas Boteas
MSc Sound Design graduate

EI supported the development of his company Krotos: **www.krotosaudio.com**

- University of Amsterdam
- California Institute of Technology
- University of Copenhagen
- Cornell University
- University College Dublin
- ETH Zurich
- Fudan University
- University of Helsinki
- KU Leuven
- Leiden University
- University of Melbourne
- National University of Singapore
- Peking University
- University of Pennsylvania
- Pontificia Universidad Católica de Chile
- University of Sydney
- University of Toronto
- University of the Witwatersrand

We're a member of the global research network Universitas 21 and of the European networks COIMBRA group, UNICA and LERU. We're also a member of the Una Europa Alliance, with 10 other leading European universities, which is committed to creating joint degrees and increased exchange opportunities to build the European university of the future: **www.una-europa.eu**

Alumni careers stories
alumni.ed.ac.uk/new-graduates/multi-story-podcast

My story

"In summer 2024, I worked as an intern for the Careers Service. I was responsible for building, marketing and branding a digital resource for students and recent graduates interested in a career within the creative or cultural sectors.

"That research inspired my own aspirations. It allowed me to explore creative opportunities I didn't know existed. After my internship, I maintained contact with the Service and booked appointments with ECA Careers Consultant, Gina. She provided advice on getting my foot in the door of the textiles industry – to network, email professionals, and sign up to specific job sites. All to help make this career a reality.

"Since graduation, I have a new role as a seamstress for a specialist curtain company, who cater for large-scale theatre productions in London's West End and beyond.

"I found the Careers Service incredibly supportive and beneficial to my journey towards a graduate job in the textiles industry. I recommend the service to anyone, eager to discover the opportunities out there for them."

Rosie Warwood
BA(Hons) Illustration

Extraordinary Scotland

From its highlands and islands to its lowland borders, Scotland is a country of breathtaking natural beauty.

For a country of its size, there is great variety in Scotland's terrain from towering mountains to dense woodland glens. Even if you've lived here all your life, it may surprise you to learn that Scotland has more than 6,000 miles of coastline, almost 800 offshore islands and more than 31,000 freshwater lochs. This is a country steeped in history yet firmly focused on the future – a modern, dynamic, European nation where the life sciences, creative industries, digital technology, energy and renewables, financial and business services, and, yes, tourism now drive our economy.

Climate

Scotland's climate is temperate and oceanic with variable weather. Average temperatures range from 5°C in January to 19°C in August.

"It is one of the most hauntingly beautiful places in the world."

JK Rowling
Best-selling author and alumna

Natural resource

Loch Ness alone contains more water than all the lakes of England and Wales combined.

5.5M

Scotland's population is 5.5 million. There are estimated to be many more people of Scottish heritage living in North America than the population of Scotland.

Fantastic beasts

Nessie may grab the attention as the more famous creature, but Scotland's national animal is the Unicorn.

1ST

The birthplace of modern golf in the 15th century, Scotland also hosted the world's first international association football match, against England, in 1872.

Extraordinary Edinburgh

Scotland's inspiring capital will be the backdrop to your studies. One of Europe's great cultural hubs and a stimulating place to study, Edinburgh is an irresistible blend of history, natural beauty and modern city life.

Sometimes known as 'the Athens of the North', Edinburgh is a city of stunning, historic architecture and is home to two UNESCO World Heritage Sites. It was the world's first UNESCO City of Literature.

Large enough to offer something for everyone, but small enough to feel like home, Edinburgh is a modern, sophisticated and beautiful European city with a diverse multicultural community. Well known for its friendly people, its safe, green environment and its compact size, Edinburgh is easy to get around and get away from it all – wherever you are in the city you are never far from open countryside.

Edinburgh's location is perfect for adventurers, with diverse and readily accessible opportunities from snowboarding to surfing. A single day could see you hillwalking in the morning, lazing on the beach in the afternoon, and enjoying the treasures of the medieval lanes and Georgian streets by night.

"Edinburgh is one of Europe's most beautiful cities, draped across a series of rocky hills overlooking the sea."

Lonely Planet
Travel Guide

A student city

Around 100,000 students call Edinburgh home, giving the city a unique buzz and ensuring you'll be in good company. The friends you meet, places you discover and the lasting memories you create will contribute as much to your university experience as your formal learning.

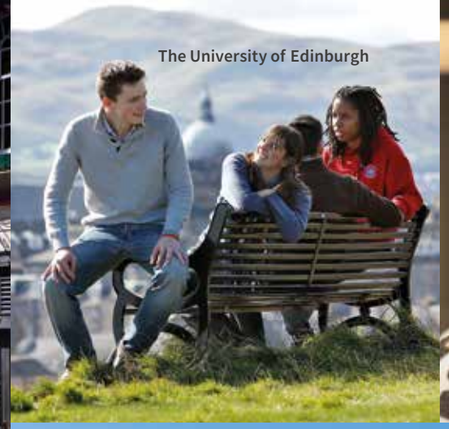
In the summer months the pace of city life usually accelerates as Edinburgh's world-famous annual festivals get under way. The capital hosts 30 festivals each year, which attract almost four million visitors to the city, and many of them take place either on campus or near to the University making for a vibrant addition to student life.

Getting here and getting around

Edinburgh's International Airport puts the city within reach of the rest of the world thanks to direct flights from most major cities in Europe – Paris is just an hour and a half away – and a host of destinations worldwide.

Within the UK, Edinburgh is easy to reach and makes an ideal location from which to explore. London is just a few hours away by train while a two-hour jaunt north puts you at the heart of the Scottish Highlands.

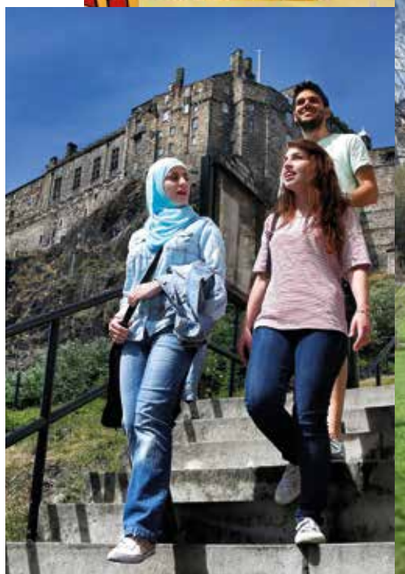
Within the city limits, Edinburgh is one of the UK's greenest cities with an extensive cycle route network plus reliable bus and tram services. Its compact size makes Edinburgh ideal for exploring on foot too!



The University of Edinburgh

Edinburgh's festivals include:

- International Science Festival
- Jazz and Blues Festival
- International Festival and Festival Fringe
- Art Festival
- The Royal Edinburgh Military Tattoo
- International Book Festival
- Edinburgh Mela
- Edinburgh's Christmas and Hogmanay



Welcome on campus

Your Students' Association

All our students are made members of Edinburgh University Students' Association when they join us.

We believe university is about more than your degree. It's an opportunity to discover new passions, share unforgettable moments and make lifelong friends! Led for, and by, students, the Students' Association enhances your experience, providing a community, support, entertainment, extraordinary spaces, and opportunities to make your voice heard. As a registered charity, every penny spent in the Association's shops, venues, or events goes back to helping students.

Elected Sabbatical Officers take a break from their studies to lead the Students' Association full-time. Other elected representatives include school representatives for undergraduates and postgraduates, and Liberation Officers representing black and minority ethnic, disabled, LGBTQ+, trans and non-binary, widening participation, and women's interests.

The Students' Association supports student-led societies and volunteering groups, from the A Cappella and Business societies to the Women in STEM and Yoga societies. The student participation grant can even remove the financial barriers students face to getting involved with and joining a group. It also runs award-winning food and drink spaces and hundreds of events from language cafes to silent discos, ceilidhs, and cabaret nights.

The refurbished Teviot Row House, first opened in 1889, is the oldest purpose-built students' union in the world. It provides accessible and environmentally efficient facilities, including a community lounge, cafe bar, and wellbeing studio, while retaining the unique character, history and design of iconic, original spaces such as the Debating Hall and Library Bar.

Potterrow, with its iconic dome and large events space, is home to The Advice Place while The Pleasance is a thriving activities centre including dance studios, multipurpose performance space, TV and radio production facilities and a cafe and bar. At the King's Buildings campus students benefit from a coffee shop and cafe, common rooms, wrap bar, and shop.

The Students' Association mascot, Dusty the Moose, is always on hand to help our students feel at home.

Societies and groups:

Watch a brief introduction.

edin.ac/student-socs-sports

Edinburgh University **Students' Association**

5
elected Sabbatical Officers

90+
other elected representatives

400+
student-led societies and volunteering groups

Ambition. Belonging. Belief

Whether you're a recreational gym-user or a performance athlete going for gold, our world-class sport and fitness offer caters for you.

We've long been recognised as one of the UK's leading sporting universities, consistently finishing in the top five of the British Universities and Colleges Sport (BUCS) rankings. We were named the Best Gym in Scotland and Ireland at The National Fitness Awards in 2024.

Your world

With more than 70 sports clubs made up of more than 200 teams, we offer something for everyone, from American Football and Archery, to Underwater Hockey and Weightlifting. There are opportunities for beginners through to athletes competing on an international stage. Our sports clubs offer regular coaching, training, trips and competition, both locally and nationally, with opportunities to participate most days of the week.

We host Scotland's largest intramural sports programme, offering leagues and tournaments across 10 sports. With more than 180 teams involved from across the University, this creates an exciting community for all! We also cater for those interested in trying new sports and exploring a variety of sessions.

"If I hadn't gone to Edinburgh, I'd never have taken up rowing. I'd never have had the life I'm currently living."

Dame Katherine Grainger
Olympic champion rower and Edinburgh law graduate

Throughout the year, we offer recreational sports opportunities and run an international sports club allowing you to experience a different sport each week.

Our Coaching and Volunteering Academy provides sports-related volunteering and skill development, open to all Sports Union students, volunteers, and coaches.

Our world

We have some of the UK's best sport and fitness facilities:

- The Pleasance Sport Complex and Gym, our main indoor sport and fitness hub, offers more than 20 gym and sport spaces. This includes an extensive range of cardiovascular equipment, multiple free and fixed weights areas, cycling, rowing and class studios, sports halls and dedicated spaces for squash, dance, boxing, grappling, archery and shooting, as well as indoor climbing and bouldering.
- The Easter Bush Gym is our first satellite gym offering the opportunity to stay active in a safe, fun and welcoming environment. Serving the students and staff of the Easter Bush campus, it provides a range of cardiovascular, conditioning and free and fixed weights equipment.
- A 25-metre, six-lane pool, free weights gym and multi-activity sports halls at St Leonards Land.
- Peffermill Playing Fields, one of Scotland's leading outdoor sports facilities, with international-standard, floodlit, 3G football/rugby facilities, Scotland's first carbon zero hockey surface, 3G five-a-side pitches, artificial cricket nets, a 100-metre training track and a Scottish Football Association-approved football arena.
- Firbush Outdoor Centre, on the banks of Loch Tay in the Highlands, offers tailored activities and services, from windsurfing to mountain leadership training, with fully-accredited, experienced instructors and all specialist equipment.

We also offer one of the country's best fitness and wellness programmes, with flexible and affordable membership packages, a year-round programme of more than 100 weekly exercise classes, fitness challenges and sports participation events. Our Active Lives programme helps you get started on your fitness journey and stay active, offering one-to-one support, beginners' groups and advice for a healthy active life.

The world

Our Performance Sport Programme is one of the most highly regarded in the UK. It enables athletes to achieve a world-class degree and perform at the highest level within their sport.

Our top-class coaches, facilities and services are currently supporting more than 600 students.

Support and scholarships are also offered to athletes competing in all sports through our Sport Scholarship Programme. Performance athletes have access to our state-of-the-art facilities, including our dedicated Performance Gym for sports-specific strength and conditioning coaching. Alongside this, students are able to access a full range of support services: sports psychology, sports science, mentoring, lifestyle advice, and nutrition. Performance Athletes are also able to access the world-renowned Edinburgh Sports Clinic with dedicated performance sport physiotherapy staff. We offer exceptional team-specific programmes in rowing, swimming, hockey, netball, endurance running, rugby and diving. These are led by dedicated performance coaches, with specialist conditioning, medical and advisory back-up. We also offer elite sports accommodation for first-year students, academic support and the opportunity for flexible study. Talented sport performers applying to Edinburgh are able to benefit from an elite athlete access and scholarship policy to support applications to study at the University. There is also access to funding opportunities through the Winning Students network. Find out more: **edin.ac/performance-sport**

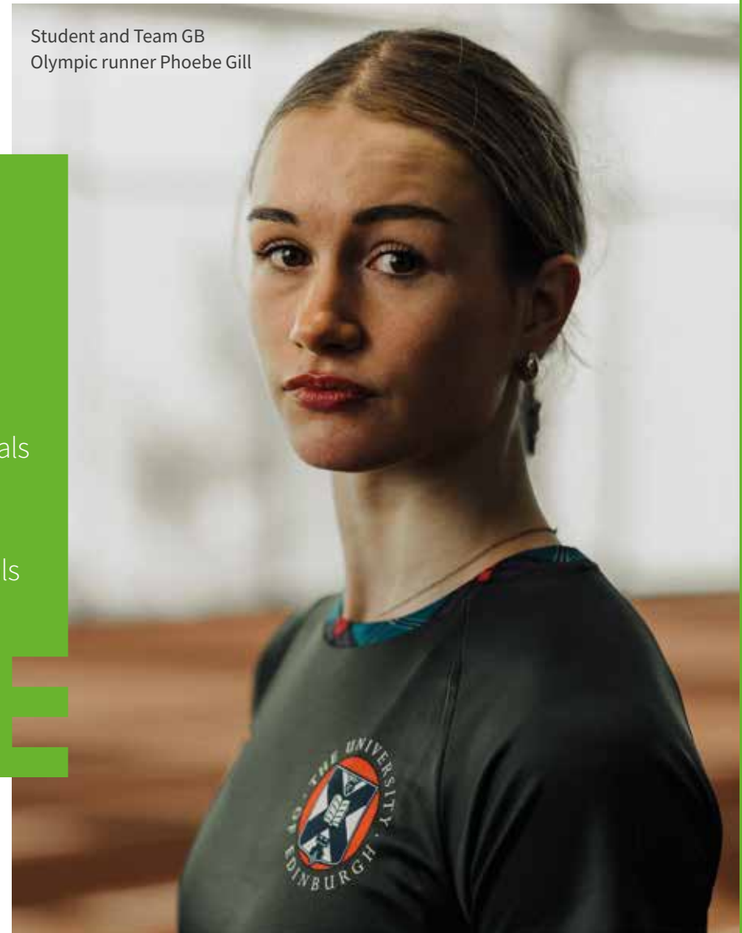
Sporting success

Our students and alumni have claimed:

33
Olympic and Paralympic medals

48
Commonwealth Games medals

135
students represented their countries in 2024/25


Student and Team GB Olympic runner Phoebe Gill

A home away from home

We realise you need more than just a place to live. You need an environment in which you can thrive. That's why we guarantee accommodation for as many new undergraduates as possible.

If you're from outside Edinburgh, intending to study for the full academic year, and apply by the deadline, our accommodation guarantee is open to you. We also aim to provide accommodation for as many students as possible who are studying for just part of the year with us. We guarantee accommodation to undergraduate students who are care experienced or estranged from their families.

University accommodation is just a short walk or bus ride from the city centre of one of Europe's most vibrant capitals. Our undergraduate accommodation typically includes:

- all heating, hot water and electricity costs;
- wi-fi in your study-bedroom and in common areas;
- contents insurance;
- secure bike storage; and
- laundry facilities.

Pollock Halls provides catered accommodation for around 2,000 students. You will typically live in a single study-bedroom, more than half of which are en suite, with shared common rooms, an on-site bar and a state-of-the-art Technogym at Oxygen Fitness Studios. The meal plan included in your rent provides breakfast and dinner every weekday, with brunch and dinner at weekends, in our award-winning restaurant. We were the first university in Scotland to win the Food for Life and Food for the Brain awards.

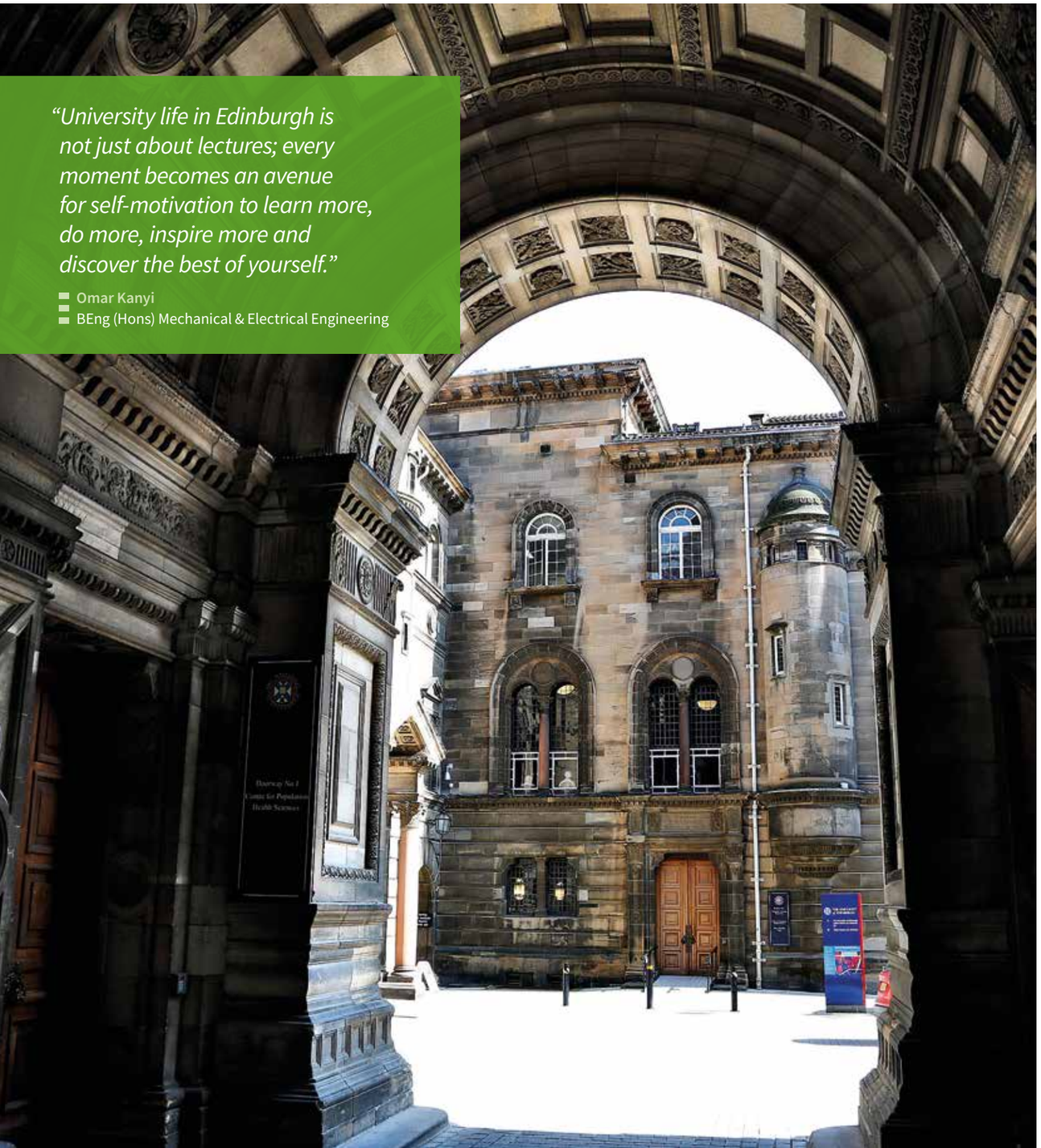
Our range of self-catering flats and houses is a convenient alternative to catered accommodation, should you prefer to prepare your own meals, but still delivers a sociable and supportive environment. Most residents have a single study-bedroom with an en suite or shared bathroom and shared kitchen facilities. Flats are typically shared with four to six other students.

All our students have access to our Residence Life team, including Wellbeing Advisers and Resident Assistants who live with you in your accommodation. They offer a full range of events and activities to help you settle in to life in Edinburgh and to create a supportive and inclusive community in which to live.

Accommodation info online:
www.accom.ed.ac.uk

"The rankings and course accreditations were important but, for me, it was more about feeling like I belonged somewhere. Edinburgh felt like that place."

Bipsita Lohani
MA (Hons) Business with Human Resource Management



"University life in Edinburgh is not just about lectures; every moment becomes an avenue for self-motivation to learn more, do more, inspire more and discover the best of yourself."

Omar Kanyi
BEng (Hons) Mechanical & Electrical Engineering

Individual support

While university life is full of extraordinary opportunities, it can also be overwhelming. We appreciate that coming to university can be challenging, and we're committed to helping you access consistent information, guidance, care and support when and in the way you need it.

Your first point of contact for navigating teaching, academic advice and guidance will be your Student Adviser within your School of study. Through them, the University will support you with a combination of academic and dedicated student experience and administrative staff who will be able to direct you to the appropriate support for any challenges you face, whether directly related to your learning and teaching or arising from life situations. You will also have access to a variety of peer-to-peer learning networks as well as student societies.

Your Student Adviser will refer you to a Wellbeing Adviser if you need more specialist support. Our wellbeing support includes the Chaplaincy, Disability and Learning Support Service, Student Counselling, the Listening Service, and the Student Wellbeing Service. Our vision is to empower the University community to flourish by providing you with responsive, evidence-based support from which everyone is able to thrive. All our services are based in and around our award-winning Health & Wellbeing Centre in Bristo Square, which includes a wellbeing lounge for quiet time on campus.

On campus and online, EdHelp provides straightforward access to key services where you can find answers to common support questions and raise any issues with the team. They will work with areas across the University – including student administration, finance, the libraries, and Information Services (IT) – to help you resolve these.

In addition, Edinburgh University Students' Association runs The Advice Place, a free, professional and confidential advice service open to all our students. The Advice Place can advise on a range of issues such as academic or accommodation concerns, and safety and wellbeing. We also have Peer Learning and Support programmes in all our Schools. Student leaders, trained by the Students' Association, will support peer assisted learning and offer mentorship.

Whatever your ambition,
we are here for you.

Your University community

Total students (2024/25)
49,640

Undergraduates
29,905

Undergraduates coming from:

Scotland
9,445 (31.5%)

Other UK*
8,570 (28.5%)

International (inc. EU)
11,890 (40%)

9,500
academic staff
More than 9,500 academic staff employed across the University.

180
countries
Students from 180 different countries have studied here in the last 10 years.

*Includes Channel Islands and Isle of Man

What's next?

Click

There's far more information online.
Visit: **www.ed.ac.uk/undergraduate**

Alternatively, skip straight to our degree finder and choose your perfect programme: **www.ed.ac.uk/undergraduate/degrees**

Contact us

Our prospective students' Enquiry Team can advise you about admission to specific degrees or help if you have general enquiries about applying to the University:

futurestudents@ed.ac.uk

International students

If you are an international student with specific questions about your application, please email our enquiry team or check online for additional information: **www.ed.ac.uk/studying/international**

Open Days and events

We offer many opportunities for you to find out more about the University, including Open Days **(on 22 June, 26 September, or 24 October in 2026)** and campus visits, as well as online information sessions you can access from the comfort of your own home. For further information on any of these options: **www.ed.ac.uk/undergraduate/visiting**

Chat online

Wherever you are in the world, our online platform gives you the chance to chat to a current student about their experiences. You will be able to connect with a range of students studying different subjects: **edin.ac/student-chat**

Our visits to you

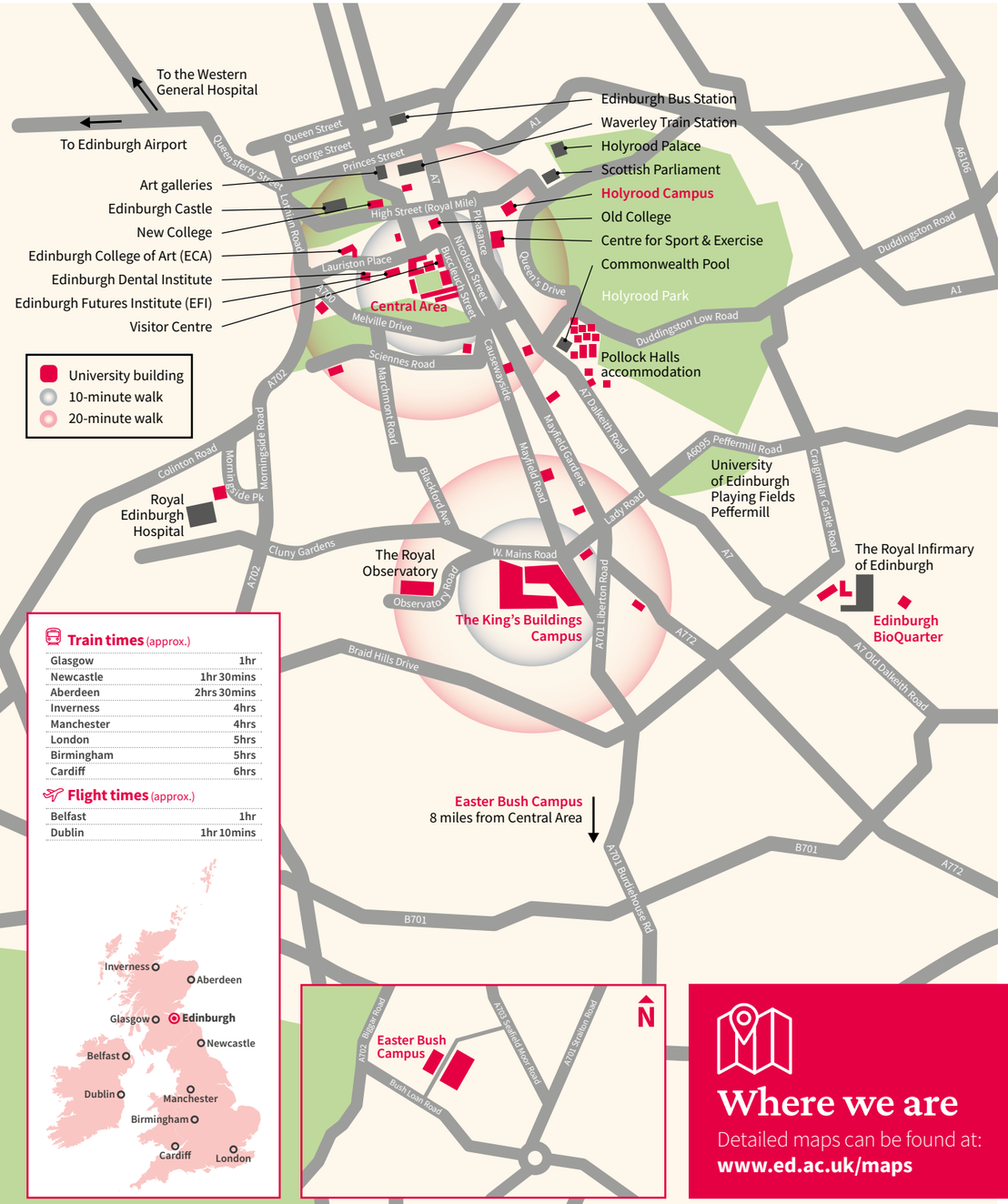
If you are unable to visit the University, we attend events worldwide whenever possible during the year. Find out about your next opportunity to speak to us in person: **www.ed.ac.uk/undergraduate/visiting**

Our overseas representatives

We also work with education agencies around the world, who provide application support and guidance. For a list of our approved representatives: **edin.ac/international-agents**

Get social

instagram.com/edinburghuniversity
youtube.com/EdinburghUniversity
facebook.com/UniversityOfEdinburgh
linkedin.com/school/university-of-edinburgh



Where we are

Detailed maps can be found at:
www.ed.ac.uk/maps

TOP 50

We're consistently ranked one of the top 50 universities in the world. We're 34th in the 2026 QS World University Rankings.

7TH

Edinburgh is ranked the seventh best student city in Europe and 15th in the world.[1]

4TH

We're ranked fourth in the UK for research power, based on the 2021 Research Excellence Framework.[2]

£2.4M

We awarded £2.4 million in undergraduate living costs support in 2024/25.

34TH

Our graduates are ranked 34th in the world by employers.[3]

18TH

We're ranked 18th in the world's most international universities.[4]

4TH

We're second in the UK, third in Europe, and fourth in the world in the QS World University Rankings: Sustainability 2026. We will be net zero by 2040, and a Nature Positive University.

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[1] Equal with Boston. QS Best Student Cities 2026
[2] Times Higher Education, Overall Ranking of Institutions (REF 2021)
[3] QS World University Rankings 2025
[4] Equal with National University of Singapore. Times Higher Education, Most International Universities in the World 2025

Visit us

Take part in an Open Day on **22 June, 26 September, or 24 October 2026**, campus visit, or online information session:

www.ed.ac.uk/undergraduate/visiting

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