

Visiting Student Guide



UNIVERSITY
of York

NEXT STOP YORK



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If you would like a large-print copy of this publication, or to enquire about other formats, please email visiting-students@york.ac.uk



GET TO KNOW US

The best way to get to know us is to meet us. Chat to staff and students and discover what life at York is really like.

Chat with a student

Talk online with current students who will be happy to speak to you about their experience in York: york.ac.uk/chat

Take an online campus tour

Explore York from the comfort of your own home with our new whistle-stop virtual Open Day experience. Watch videos, 360s and take a tour of campus and the city: york.ac.uk/virtual-visit

Get the student view

Get the inside view on life at York – the fun stuff and the challenges – from our student blogs: blogs.york.ac.uk

Follow us

Follow our social media channels for the latest updates and join our Q&As to get your questions answered.

  [uniofyork](https://www.instagram.com/uniofyork)

 [universityofyork](https://www.facebook.com/universityofyork)

 [university of york](https://www.youtube.com/universityofyork)

FIND OUT MORE

Visiting Student Team
visiting-students@york.ac.uk

CHOOSE YORK

Discover life at York as part of our diverse community of students from over 150 countries.



17th

overall in the Times Good University Guide

The Times and The Sunday Times Good University Guide (2023)

10th

out of 155 higher education institutions for research impact

in the Times Higher Education's ranking of the most recent Research Excellence Framework (REF 2021), excluding specialist institutions which submitted fewer than four units of assessment

Get an outstanding education

Let's create. Let's innovate. Let's build a brighter future, together.

Join our global community

York is regularly voted one of the best places to live in the UK due to its high quality of life. With 27 per cent of our students from outside the UK, you can make friends from all over the globe.

Shape your future

Enhance your career prospects through exciting opportunities that help you stand out from the crowd. Our graduates are highly sought after – 93 per cent of York graduates entered work or further study within 15 months of graduating.**

Have space to think

Benefit from our £500m investment in new student accommodation and state-of-the-art facilities.

“MY DAYS AT THE UNIVERSITY OF YORK HAVE BEEN A REALLY EXCEPTIONAL AND LIFE-CHANGING EXPERIENCE. YORK HAS EVERYTHING – EXCELLENT ACADEMICS, BEAUTIFUL NATURE ON CAMPUS, A DIVERSE ENVIRONMENT AND FRIENDLY PEOPLE.”

Abdikarim, Somalia



Feel at home

Live and study in our beautiful, green parkland campus and make friends through our college system – it provides an instant social life and a secure, supportive environment.

Try something different

Meet interesting people and enjoy a vibrant social life through a variety of activities on campus. There are over 200 social, cultural, international and religious student-led societies and over 60 sports clubs to choose from.

Explore our city of contrasts

Discover our student-friendly, contemporary city, which is rich in history and regularly named as one of the best places to live in Britain.

*Undergraduate and postgraduate student headcount, 2022/2023.

**HESA Graduate Outcomes Survey 2020/21, International graduates.

Explore the UK

York is one of Britain’s best connected cities. It is easy to get to and a great base for exploring the UK. You can be in London in two hours and Edinburgh in just two and a half hours by train.



FIND OUT MORE

Visiting Student Team
york.ac.uk/visitingstudents

CITY OF YORK

Our idyllic parkland campus is within walking distance of the bustling city centre, which means you can enjoy the best of both worlds.

York is a contemporary, student-friendly city, renowned for its rich history and heritage. With a population of 200,000, it's a buzzing city that's big enough to feel vibrant and small enough to feel like home.

Nightlife: creative hotspots and impressive venues

From quirky pubs to popular clubs, York has a diverse mix of venues

that showcase aspiring musicians and established acts. The city is also home to a range of museums and galleries, as well as theatres and a choice of cinemas.

Shopping and eating: high-street favourites and cosy cafés

Major retail chains and independent stores share York's iconic medieval streets. And if you need a bite to eat, the city boasts a thriving street food scene, high quality restaurants and quirky coffee shops.

“I FEEL BLESSED TO BE ABLE TO LIVE IN YORK. I LOVE HAVING THE COMFORT AND SAFETY OF THE CITY COMBINED WITH MANY TOURIST ATTRACTIONS AND AMAZING LUSH GREENERY. THIS IS A CITY LIKE NO OTHER!”

Weng Lum, Malaysia





Picturesque city: green spaces and interactive attractions

York is filled with magical scenes: the serene York Museum Gardens; winding cobbled streets like the world-famous Shambles; and fascinating historic sites like York Minster, which offers free student entry. All this and more is surrounded by ancient, walkable city walls.

Well connected: idyllic countryside and sweeping coastlines

York's central location is perfect for exploring other UK and European cities. London is only two hours away by train and you can reach Edinburgh in two and a half hours. The beautiful Yorkshire countryside and coastline are also on our doorstep.

Travel independently or as part of a group to make friends and memories. Our Students' Union often arranges trips to cities, national parks and the coast.

“YORK IS ONE OF THE MOST CULTURALLY VIBRANT CITIES IN THE UK. WALKING THROUGH COBBLED STREETS FULL OF HISTORICAL GEMS, EXPLORE THE CITY’S ENDLESS ARRAY OF INDEPENDENT PLACES TO SHOP, EAT AND DRINK. IT’S A GREAT CITY TO ENJOY WITH FRIENDS, SHOW OFF TO VISITORS FROM HOME, OR SIMPLY UNWIND AFTER A BUSY DAY AT UNIVERSITY.”

Charaspat, Thailand



FIND OUT MORE

York city guide
york.ac.uk/city

CAMPUS LIFE

Our beautiful parkland campus provides everything you need to make the most of your university experience.



Colleges

You will join one of 11 colleges at York. These small, distinct communities will become your home from home. Your college will provide you with a network of support, friendship, facilities, and a full calendar of events and activities to help you settle in.

Culture and entertainment

It's important to unwind during your studies. Whatever you're interested in, you'll find something to enjoy. On-campus, we have:

- our very own student-run theatre, The Drama Barn
- a cinema run by students, for students, staff and the public
- a whole host of student societies dedicated to music, dance, drama and comedy
- a rich programme of free open lectures and inspirational events such as YorkTalks, our annual research showcase
- York Festival of Ideas, featuring hundreds of free events to educate, entertain and inspire, including talks, exhibitions, theatre, music and film.

The Students' Union

Run for, with, and by students, the Students' Union makes sure you get the most out of your university experience. They oversee student-run sport and social societies, host a variety of events on campus, provide welfare support and volunteering opportunities and campaign on issues decided by you. Find out more: yusu.org

“STUDENT SOCIETIES ARE PROBABLY ONE OF MY FAVOURITE THINGS AT UNIVERSITY. WITH OVER 200 DIFFERENT SOCIETIES AT YORK, YOU ARE SURE TO FIND SOMETHING THAT YOU ENJOY. FROM SPORTS SUCH AS NETBALL OR FOOTBALL TO SOMETHING AS SPECIFIC AS HUMMUS MAKING, THERE’S A GROUP FOR EVERYTHING AND EVERYONE.”

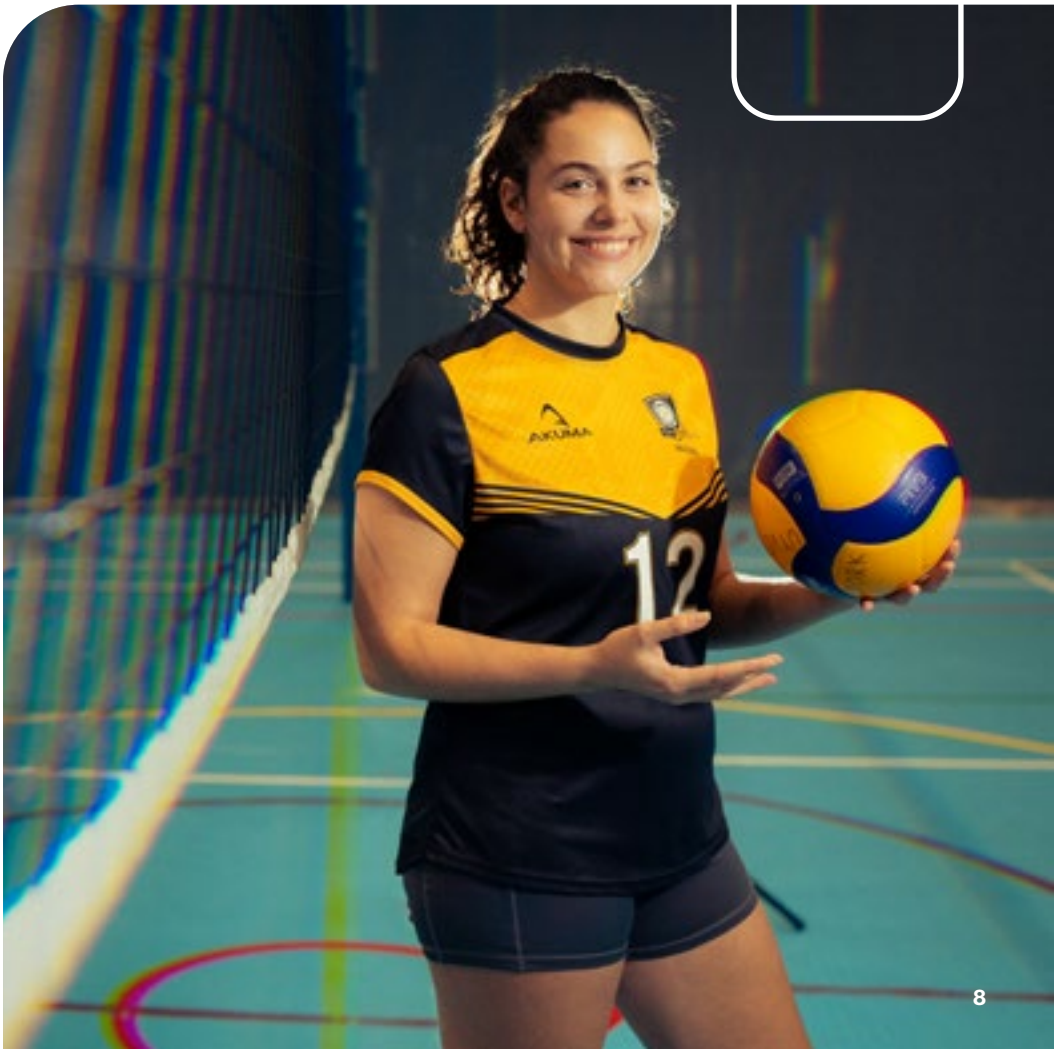
Colombe, Switzerland

Societies and sport

There are over 200 student-run societies and over 60 sports clubs for you to get involved in. From cultural, faith and international societies to gaming, arts and music, there are societies for everyone. You don't have to be an expert or pro to join – it's all about new experiences, making friends and having fun. York Sport Village and York Sports Centre also provide a choice of excellent sports facilities.

Food and drink

The campus is packed with places to eat and drink and we cater for a diverse range of dietary requirements. There is also access to convenience stores, where you can pick up your groceries and essentials.





Getting around

We're situated just outside York city centre, and everything is within walking or cycling distance. You can also use the fast and frequent bus service that runs between both parts of campus and on to the city centre and station, or hire an e-scooter or e-bike to whisk you into town. York is one of the UK's most cycle-friendly cities and we have plenty of cycle racks on campus. Explore campus highlights at york.ac.uk/campus-tours



“I LOVE WRITING POETRY AND WAS DELIGHTED WHEN MY POEMS WERE PUBLISHED IN THE UNIVERSITY’S ANNUAL POETRY MAGAZINE – THE LOOKING GLASS ANTHOLOGY. BEING PART OF THE SOCIETY HELPED ME MEET OTHERS WHO ARE PASSIONATE ABOUT LITERATURE AND I GAINED VALUABLE EXPERIENCES WHICH I HOPE WILL HELP ME IN PURSUING A CAREER IN THE PUBLISHING INDUSTRY.”

Arundhathi, India

Our commitment to equality, diversity and inclusion:

Being an international, research-led university relies on equality in participation, progression and success for all. We are committed to creating a working, learning, social and living environment that will enable all our staff and students to achieve their potential, while they experience and celebrate diverse cultures, knowledge and identities and are encouraged to make a positive contribution to the city, region and beyond.



YORK IN PICTURES





**Discover why you'll
love our vibrant
student life and
beautiful city.**

  uniofyork
 universityofyork

ACCOMMODATION

All our accommodation is located on or very near campus and is centred around our colleges. Each college has a welcoming, supportive community, so you will soon feel at home.



What are my room options?

Price bands

Prices often reflect the size of the room, as well as the number of people sharing kitchen and bathroom facilities.

Catered or self-catered

We offer self-catering and catered options. Our self-catered accommodation on Campus East offers a weekly college meal included as part of the rent cost. All options include access to a shared kitchen.

En-suite or shared bathroom

Our rooms either have an en-suite bathroom or they have a washbasin in the room with access to a shared bathroom.

Let lengths

Whether you're joining us for a full academic year or just a semester, we'll try our best to match your let lengths to your study period as closely as possible.

Additional requirements

We have rooms suitable for students with health or disability requirements.

Costs

Single, self-catered rooms cost from £99 to £208 per week, with catered rooms available from £143 to £226 per week (prices are for 2023/24 entry and may change). Rent is usually paid in two instalments (one per semester).



What is included?

- Bedroom, shared kitchen and shared bathroom or en-suite
- Wifi and 100Mbps wired internet access with no download limit in every bedroom
- Shared kitchens are cleaned once a week and shared bathrooms are cleaned regularly
- Electricity, heating, water, and contents insurance
- 24-hour campus security presence.

Living off campus

There is a wide selection of private sector accommodation within walking distance of the University. Rents vary and usually do not include bills for water, electricity, heating or internet access.

Colleges

You will be a member of one of our 11 colleges throughout your time here. Your college will provide you with a network of support and a calendar of events and activities to help you settle in, make friends and explore interests. Find out more at york.ac.uk/college-life



FIND OUT MORE

Accommodation Services

york.ac.uk/vs-accomm

accommodation@york.ac.uk

+44 (0)1904 322165



Find out what to bring with

you: york.ac.uk/students/new/international/what-to-bring

SUPPORT AND WELLBEING

Our support network is here if you need it and we offer dedicated services for international students.



International student support

We will help you settle in through a range of orientation events and support sessions. We offer a free collection service from Manchester Airport for Semester One starters, a Welcome Week for new students, and academic study skills courses and workshops. We also provide immigration advice, specialist support for international students, facilities for practising your faith, and much more. You can also get to know other students through the student-run International Students' Association.

College team

Each college has a wellbeing team of staff and students. They will welcome and support you and help you make the most of college and university life.

Academic supervisor

An academic supervisor will support you through your studies. You will meet regularly and they will advise you on your academic progress and personal development.

Students with children

Our family network will help you meet and socialise with other parents. Further information on local schools, childcare options and the York Campus Nursery: york.ac.uk/nursery

Open Door and Disability

Open Door is a team of mental health professionals providing support to students. Our Disability Advisers offer support, advice and guidance to students with a diagnosed disability.

Study support

We provide a range of services and resources to help you develop the skills you need for academic success. From one-to-one sessions with our tutors at the Writing Centre, to help understanding maths and statistics at the Maths Skills Centre.

Independent advice

Students' Union

If you need guidance relating to your course or personal matters you can talk

“THE UNIVERSITY OFFERS A RANGE OF SUPPORT FOR INTERNATIONAL AND HOME STUDENTS ALIKE. PROGRAMMES LIKE THE STUDENT BUDDYING SCHEME EXIST TO CONNECT YOU WITH CURRENT STUDENTS AND HELP YOU SETTLE INTO UNIVERSITY LIFE. ONE OF MY BIGGEST FEARS WAS THAT I WOULD FEEL ISOLATED, BUT THE YORK COMMUNITY GREETED ME WITH OPEN ARMS.”

Quinn, USA



to staff in the Students' Union Advice and Support Centre (ASC).

Careers Support

Our Careers and Placements team offers a range of opportunities to enhance your career prospects, including:

- our unique York Strengths programme to help you identify what you're good at and enjoy most (for first year undergraduates, postgraduate taught students and visiting students)
- networking at regular careers fairs and events (on campus or online) and the chance to explore job opportunities
- volunteering, to broaden your leadership and organisational skills that fit in with your visa requirements
- advice on part-time work and internships that fit in with your visa requirements
- lifelong access to careers support and networking opportunities as part of our global alumni community - launching early 2024 on our new platform York for Life
- support to understand your options for working in the UK or preparing to find

work back home if these fit in with your visa requirements.

Discover more about how we can help you prepare for your career: york.ac.uk/study/international/careers-support

Chaplaincy

The Christian chaplains at the University are available to people of all faiths and none. There is also a network of contacts from other world faiths and dedicated spaces for prayer and reflection on campus.

Health services

The health centre closest to campus, Unity Health, offers General Practitioner (GP) appointments, a repeat prescription service and walk-in clinics.



FIND OUT MORE

Student support
york.ac.uk/support

PREPARATION AND ARRIVAL

Once you've accepted your place there are a few things you need to know before you arrive.

Before you leave home

Visa information

Check the type of visa that you need to study in the UK. If you require a student visa you can apply for your visa from three months before your course start date. We can also provide support with your application, see york.ac.uk/immigration

Healthcare

You will need to pay an immigration health surcharge if you require a student visa. This entitles you to receive free health services from the National Health Service (NHS). On arrival at York you can register with doctor/GP at Unity Health, next to campus. If you require medical treatment in the UK, a full up-to-date vaccination record (in English, if possible) will help you get the best care possible. There are additional charges for dental treatments available on the NHS. There is no health surcharge if you come to the UK on a Standard Visitor Visa, but we recommend that you have your own health insurance in place.



Arriving at York

Airports

We recommend that you arrive at Manchester Airport, if possible. We offer a free Manchester Airport collection service for Semester One starters, where you will be welcomed by University staff and students. You can book your place online after completing enrolment. Alternatively, you can get a train from the airport which takes around two hours. Other nearby airports are Leeds-Bradford and Newcastle International.

The first week

During the first week of Semester One, the Students' Union and colleges organise activities and events to help new undergraduates settle in. There are also different events specifically for international students. During Welcome Week, you will be invited to a Visiting Student Orientation and an Icebreaker Social. Colleges and Departments also hold welcome events. If you are joining us at another point in the year, you can check with your Department to see what you can get involved with.

Semester dates

Our academic year is split into two 16-week semesters. A vacation in each semester gives you two or three weeks away from your studies to revise and relax.

Semester One:

16 September 2024 – 31 January 2025

Winter vacation:

16 December 2024 – 3 January 2025

Semester Two:

3 February 2025 – 6 June 2025

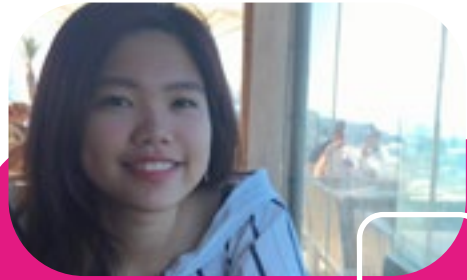
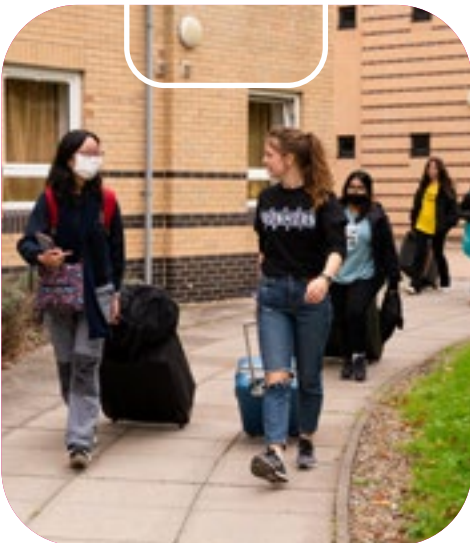
Spring vacation:

7 April 2025 – 22 April 2025

For future dates visit

york.ac.uk/about/term-dates

Detailed pre-arrival information, including guidance about visa applications, banking, healthcare, airport pick-up and more can be found at york.ac.uk/international-new



STUDENT VIEW

Moving to the UK

International student Yan, from Hong Kong, shares her top tips to help you prepare for studying in the UK.

Weather: If you don't know already, it can rain quite a bit in the UK. But most of the time it's just drizzle. Therefore, instead of umbrellas, I would recommend bringing some hooded waterproof coats to deal with the weather.

Transport: If you are planning to visit other places whilst you are studying in the UK, remember to apply for a 16-25 Railcard! You can enjoy a discount on most rail fares.

Homesickness: Making yourself busy is definitely a way to deal with homesickness. I had one kind of weird way to deal with it, which was to bring some of my favorite local snacks. So remember to pack some of them in your luggage.



FIND OUT MORE

Arriving in York

york.ac.uk/international-new



VISITING STUDENT PROGRAMME

We welcome visiting students from across the world. You can join us through university exchange partners, third party providers and country-specific government initiatives, or as an independent applicant.

Taught students

As an undergraduate or postgraduate taught visiting student, York offers you:

- study for a full year, or for a single semester
- college membership and access to a wide range of extra-curricular activities
- full integration into university life
- an academic supervisor to support you through your studies
- academic credit for modules to the equivalent of 60 credits per semester
- an academic transcript at the end of your studies.

Research students

We have excellent opportunities for graduate students to come and share our commitment to inspirational and life-changing research. These options should be discussed on an individual basis so that we can connect you with the right Department. You can contact us at visiting-students@york.ac.uk.



“STUDYING AT THE UNIVERSITY OF YORK WAS A TURNING POINT IN MY LIFE. IF YOU ARE GIVEN THE OPPORTUNITY, AND WANT TO BEFRIEND PEOPLE OF DIFFERENT CULTURES, WIDEN YOUR HORIZONS AND TRY TO LIVE DIFFERENTLY FROM THE WAY YOU ARE USED TO, THEN STUDYING ABROAD OR IN A UK UNIVERSITY MIGHT BE FOR YOU.”

Twiggy, Hong Kong

Hear more from our students via Student Voices, our popular student blog platform: blogs.york.ac.uk/student-voices



FIND OUT MORE

Information for
visiting students
york.ac.uk/visitingstudents

STUDY OPTIONS

At York you will be fully integrated into academic life at our world-class, research-led university.

Subject areas

We have a wide variety of subjects that you can study across the University. The interdisciplinary nature of our teaching and research means you can apply to study in one or more departments, subject to acceptance and timetabling. Some of the possible subject areas you can select modules (classes) from may include:

Archaeology

Archaeology and Heritage

Bioarchaeology

Historical Archaeology

Biology

Biochemistry

Biomedical Sciences

Biotechnology

Ecology

Genetics

Molecular Cell Biology

Chemistry

Atmospheric Chemistry

Biological and Medicinal Chemistry

Green Chemistry and Sustainable Chemistry

Computer Science

Computer Science

Computer Artificial Intelligence

Cyber Security

Embedded Systems Engineering

Economics and Related Studies

Economics

Econometrics and Finance

Education

Education

Psychology in Education

Sociology and Education

English and Related Literature

World and Foreign Literatures

Medieval Literature

Environment and Geography

Environmental Geography

Environmental Science

Environment, Economics and Ecology

Human Geography and Environment

History

History of Art

History of Art

Curating and Art History

Language and Linguistic Science

Linguistics

Language and Culture

Mathematics

Mathematics

Mathematics and Statistics

Law

International Human Rights Law

Law and Criminology

Philosophy

Politics

International Relations

Global Development

Psychology

Neuroscience

School of Arts and Creative Technologies

Business of the Creative Industries

Music - vocal and instrumental studies

Music and Sound Recording

Interactive Media

Film and Television Production

Theatre: Writing, Directing and Performance

School for Business and Society

Accounting, Business Finance and Management

Actuarial Science

Marketing

Business and Management

Social Policy, Crime and Criminal Justice

Social and Political Science

School of Physics, Engineering and Technology

Electronic and Electrical Engineering

Electronic and Computer Engineering

Electronic Engineering with Business Management

Micro - mechanical Engineering

Music Technology Systems

Medical Engineering

Robotic Engineering

Physics

Theoretical Physics

Astrophysics

Sociology

Criminology

Sociology

Social Psychology

Postgraduate students

For postgraduate students we also offer study opportunities in our interdisciplinary research centres:

Centre for Eighteenth Century Studies

Centre for Medieval Studies

Centre for Women's Studies

Pre-sessional English courses

Unconditional offer

Short courses are available if you have an unconditional offer but want to practice your English language skills. You'll learn new study skills and get to know the University before you start your studies.

Conditional offer

We also offer tailored courses for visiting students who need to meet a language condition for entry to a degree-level course. The length of the course you need to take depends on your current IELTS scores and the English language requirements for the subjects you wish to study.

More information

If you're applying for a pre-sessional English language course and require a Student visa, you must take a UK government-approved Secure English Language Test. Only IELTS for UKVI (Academic) or Trinity ISE can be accepted for entry to pre-sessional courses.

After you have accepted your offer to study at York, we will confirm which pre-sessional course you should apply to online via You@York.

For further information visit york.ac.uk/presessionals



APPLYING

Before applying, read our guidance and find out about your study options at york.ac.uk/vs-apply

1 Check our application deadlines

Don't miss out – check our application deadlines at york.ac.uk/vs-apply/undergraduate and york.ac.uk/vs-apply/postgraduate

2 Research our module (class) options

Discover the module options we have on offer at york.ac.uk/vs-apply

3 Check entry requirements

Find out about our academic and English language requirements at york.ac.uk/vs-apply

4 Prepare your supporting documents

You must provide the following supporting documents along with your application:

- academic transcript from your home university
- name and email address of a referee
- english language certificate. You will need a recognised English language certificate if English is not your first language
- some departments may ask you to submit additional supporting materials with your application
- postgraduate research students will also need to supply a research proposal of 250–300 words, and the name and email address of a second referee.

5 Complete your application

Submit an online application and upload your supporting documents via You@York, our online application management system.

6 Track your application

Track your application, upload supporting documents and receive information online via You@York.

7 Accept your offer

Accept your place at York using You@York.

8 Apply for your visa

If you require a student visa to study in the UK, you will need a Confirmation of Acceptance for Studies (CAS). You can only apply for your CAS once you have accepted your place at York.

9 Enrol online

After you have accepted your offer, we will email you about how to set up your University of York IT account and how to complete enrolment.

10 Prepare to join us at York

We'll email you about what you need to do before you get here. Find out more at york.ac.uk/international-new

If you are applying to a research degree you should visit department web pages and contact potential supervisors to discuss research areas before you apply. This will help to ensure a proper match between you and your prospective supervisor.

FEES AND EXPENSES

Tuition fees

If you apply through one of our exchange partner universities you won't need to pay any tuition fees to the University of York.

If you apply independently you will need to pay tuition fees. Find out more at york.ac.uk/vs-courses

Living costs

We have living cost guides online to help you plan your budget. See york.ac.uk/living-costs

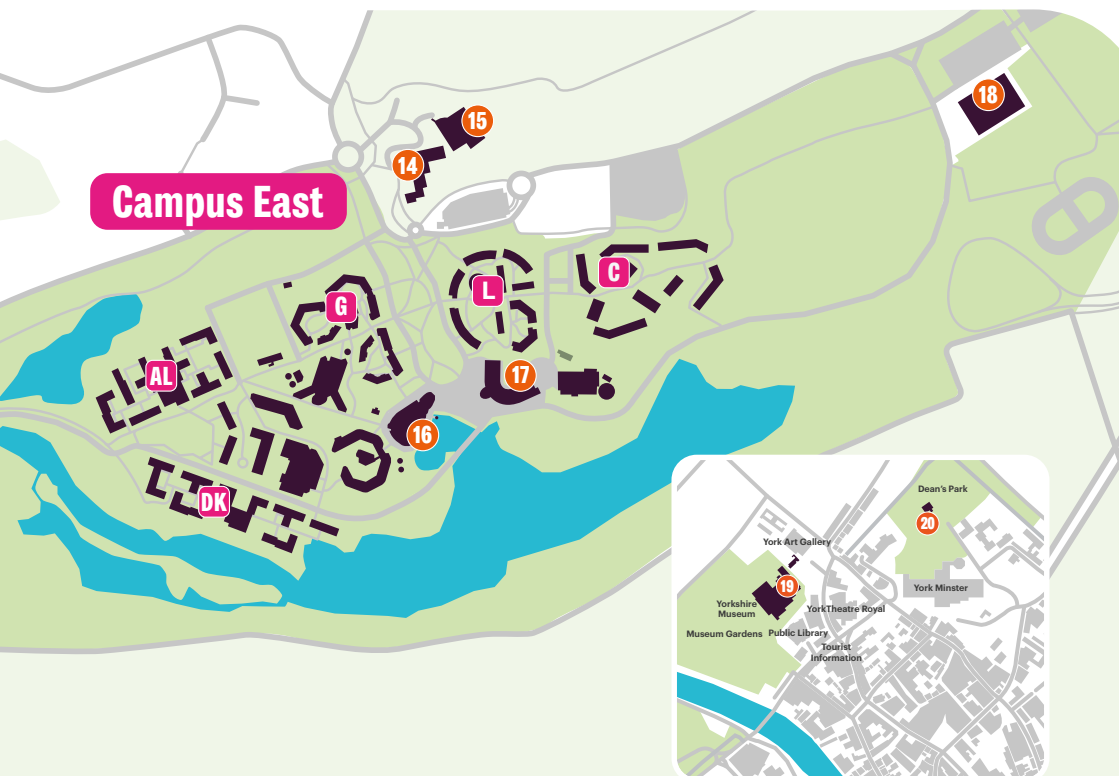


FIND OUT MORE

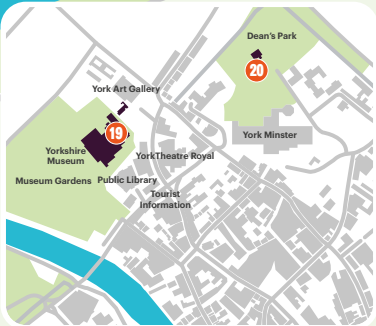
Applying
york.ac.uk/vs-apply

CAMPUS MAP





Campus East



King's Manor, York city centre

Key buildings

- | | |
|--|---|
| <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Jack Lyons Concert Hall 2. Information Centre and Student Hub 3. Market Square shops 4. Library and Archives 5. Spring Lane Building 6. Greg's Place 7. Central Hall 8. Exhibition Centre 9. Roger Kirk Centre 10. YUSU – Students' Union 11. York Sport Centre | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 12. Heslington Hall 13. Student Recruitment and Admissions 14. Kimberlow Hill shops 15. Medical Centre 16. Ron Cooke Hub 17. Piazza Building and International Pathway College 18. York Sport Village 19. King's Manor (city centre) 20. York Minster Library (city centre) |
|--|---|

Colleges

- | |
|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A Alcuin College AL Anne Lister College C Constantine College D Derwent College DK David Kato College G Goodricke College H Halifax College J James College L Langwith College V Vanbrugh College W Wentworth College (postgraduate) |
|--|



WHAT NEXT?



TALK TO A STUDENT

york.ac.uk/chat

MEET US

york.ac.uk/meet-us-online

CONNECT

  [uniofyourk](https://www.tiktok.com/@uniofyourk)

 [universityofyork](https://www.facebook.com/universityofyork)

 [University of York](https://www.youtube.com/UniversityofYork)

EXPLORE

york.ac.uk



TRAVEL TIMES BY TRAIN

London 2 hours

Manchester 1½ hours

Leeds 20 minutes

Birmingham 2 hours

Edinburgh 2½ hours

Visiting Student Team

International Recruitment
Partnerships and Mobility
University of York
York

YO10 5DD

United Kingdom

visiting-students@york.ac.uk

york.ac.uk/visitingstudents

The information in this guide is correct at the time of going to press (August 2023) and does not form part of any contract. The University hopes to provide the programmes and facilities described in this Guide but reserves the right to withdraw or to make alterations to courses and facilities if necessary.