

Pre-university Summer School  
Information booklet  
Summer 2023



York Global  
Summer Schools

# WE ARE ALL GLOBAL YORK



# PRE-UNIVERSITY SUMMER SCHOOL



## Get a taste of university study

Our pre-university programme is open for all students aged 16-18 in secondary or further education who are planning to enter higher education and are ready to get a taste of what it means to study at a top university in the UK.

This two-week summer school is a unique combination of serious **academic study** and **fun-packed social activities** – all in an **international community**, based on our beautiful **parkland campus**, delivered by the University's **academic departments**. It's the perfect opportunity to get to know us, our city and our students.



# DISCOVER THE CITY OF YORK



## Explore our great, historic city

Halfway between London and Edinburgh, in the **North of England**, York is a **contemporary city** of contrast. Renowned for its **rich history and heritage**, York is full of culture. You can still walk around the city on the **city walls**, and enjoy the spectacular views of York Minster, the **majestic cathedral** which dominates the city.

York is regularly named **one of the best places to live and visit in the UK**, and with a population of 200,000, it's big enough to feel lively but small enough to feel like home. Join us to experience it in person.



# EXPERIENCE OUR RUSSELL GROUP UNIVERSITY



The **University of York** is one of the **success stories** in UK higher education.

Since our foundation in 1963, we have powered our way to a **consistently high ranking** in the UK and are one of just six post-war universities to have appeared in the **world top 100**.

## University of the Year shortlisted

We're proud to have been shortlisted for two prestigious **University of the Year** awards:

- Times Higher Education Awards 2021
- The Times and Sunday Times Good University Guide 2022

## Top 20 in the UK

- **Joint 18th overall** in the Guardian Good University Guide 2022
- **19th overall** in the Complete University Guide 2023 with nine subjects ranked in the top 10
- **19th** in the The Times Good University Guide 2022 with six subjects ranked in the top 10



# ACADEMIC PROGRAMME

## Subject specific sessions

In the heart of our Pre-University Summer School sessions are the 16-hour academic options. These are **designed and taught by research and teaching staff** from relevant academic departments at the University. Sessions comprise a mixture of **lectures, seminars and practicals**, with plenty of groupwork and hands-on experience: a true reflection of **university-level study**.



## Skills sessions

Complementing the study options are our carefully selected **academic** and **intercultural skills** sessions, as well as a taster of the **York Strengths employability skills** programme. These are designed to introduce you to some of the **key skills** that will support you through university – and beyond. They also help you do well at the final **group presentation** challenge too.



# 100%

of our students agree that they learned a lot from the subject specific academic options in 2022.\*

\*End-of-programme feedback, 2022



# SUBJECT SPECIFIC ACADEMIC OPTIONS

## Developing Solutions to Environmental Challenges Session 1

*Department of Environment and Geography*

There's never been a more important time to study environmental issues. Climate change is having major impacts on agriculture and wildlife. Air pollution is affecting human health and reducing life expectancy. Plastic waste is clogging our waterways and disrupting ocean ecosystems.

On this short course, you will learn about pressing environmental issues and the ways in which we are trying to solve them through research, education, policies and innovations. You will participate in discussions about the best ways to solve environmental problems, and what we need to do now to protect and repair our planet.

## Exploring the World with Psychology Session 1

*Department of Psychology*

Psychology can be found within all aspects of daily life and society. Join us to explore just a small part of what psychology can tell us about the worlds of technology, health and wellbeing, neurodiversity and prejudice.

On this short course, you will learn how technology has changed the way we interact with one another and how psychology can help us to understand these new interactions. You will take a look at the psychology that explains why people have negative attitudes towards others and what we can try to do about this. You will investigate the impact that our gender, childhood, personalities and stress levels can have on our health and wellbeing. You will also discover what it really means to live and grow up being neurodiverse, trying to navigate the world with, for example, dyslexia or ADHD, and why listening to lived experiences can help improve research and our understanding.

## Exploring the Universe and Engineering the Future Session 1

*School of Physics, Engineering and Technology*

From the most fundamental building blocks of the universe to cutting edge technologies, physics and engineering help us to both understand the world around us and make positive changes to our environment.

On this short course, you will explore the full scale of the cosmos, from the smallest particles to stars and galaxies. You will learn about cutting edge research that may offer solutions to some of humanity's most pressing issues, from climate change to healthcare. You will discover how new technologies are changing our everyday lives, from immersive audiovisual experiences to space robotics. You will also have the opportunity to put your learning into action with hands-on lab experiments and engineering challenges, giving you an insight into what studying physics and engineering at university is like.

## Literature on Location: Exploring Literary Yorkshire Session 2

*Department of English and Related Literature*

Yorkshire has an extraordinary literary history that stretches from the medieval period and even before up to the present day. How has Yorkshire's glorious landscape influenced some of the most important works of English literature? And what does it mean to think about novels, poems, drama and more in the place they were imagined and created?

On this short course, you will learn about literature written in and about Yorkshire, taking in the novels and poems of the Brontë sisters, Wilkie Collins' groundbreaking detective novel, *The Moonstone*, Lawrence Sterne's weird and wonderful literary experiments and contemporary writing from Kate Atkinson and A. S. Byatt, among others.

## Feeding the Future Session 2

*Department of Biology  
Department of Chemistry*

As the global population grows, we face a range of challenges, including an increasing demand for food and other resources. Scientists are working to develop solutions to the problems that threaten our food supply, such as unsustainable farming practices and a changing climate. We need more nutritious and resilient crops, alongside circular processes where food waste is used to make valuable products to reduce the demand for non-renewable resources.

On this short course, you will learn about recent research that aims to better understand and tackle these challenges. You will hear from the people carrying out this important research and gain hands-on experience of laboratory work. As part of a small team, you will also have the opportunity to develop possible solutions to these global challenges

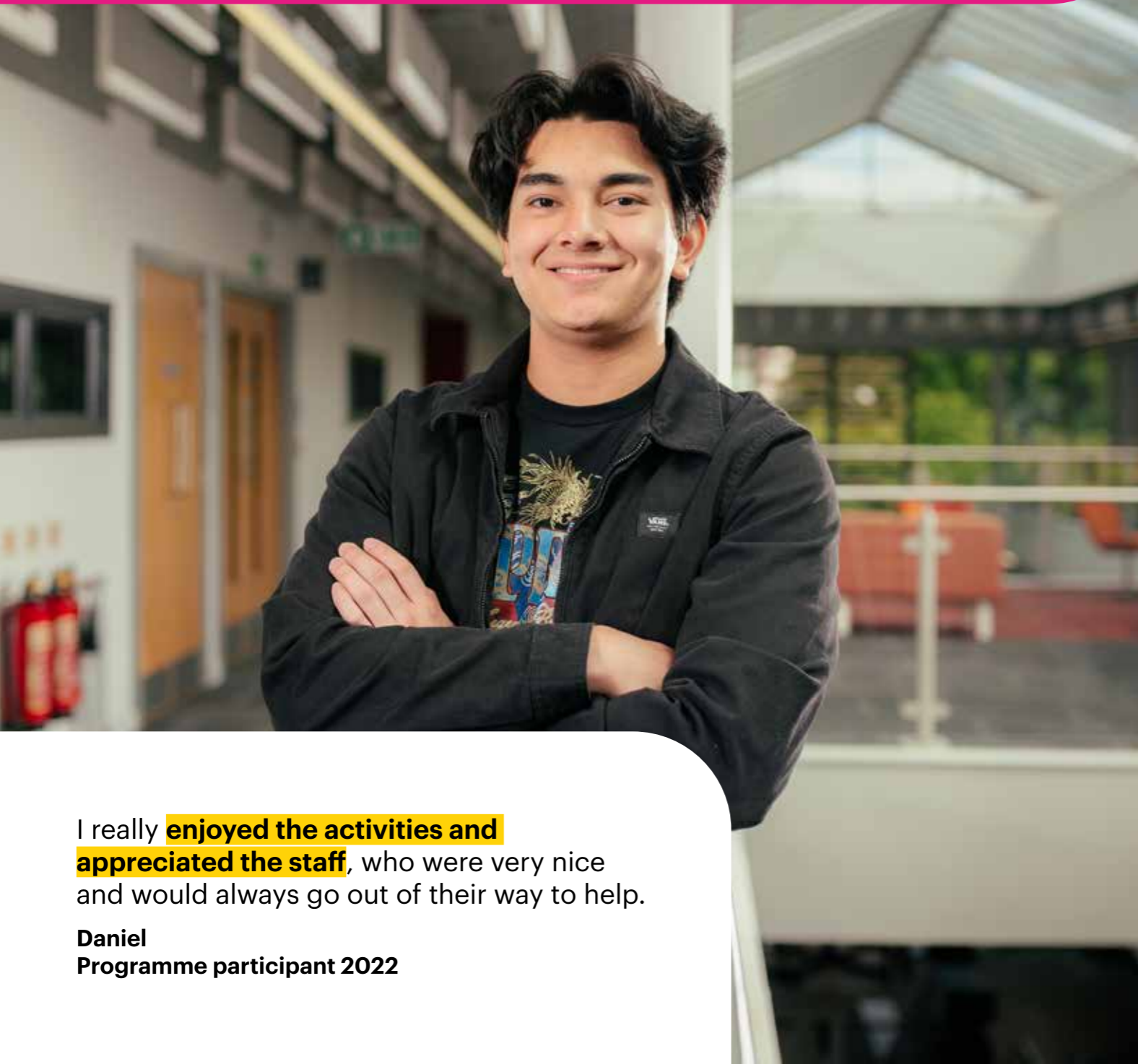
## Business and Society: Developing a Social Enterprise Session 2

*Centre for Global Programmes*

Communities, now more than ever, need support to thrive. The need for 'social good' initiatives is greater than ever in the turbulent world we live in, with climate catastrophe on the horizon, widening pay gaps between the rich and poor, and a growing digital divide.

On this short course, you will learn how to develop your ideas for a better world into something tangible such as a social enterprise, community interest company or co-operative. You will learn about how to market the initiative, get funding, reach your audience and make an impact on your communities, and will have the opportunity to develop plans for your own social enterprise.

# INDEPENDENT MINDS.



I really **enjoyed the activities and appreciated the staff**, who were very nice and would always go out of their way to help.

**Daniel**  
Programme participant 2022



I liked how **we got to travel and see York** and places around it and how I got to **meet people from all around the world**.

**Tarmeet**  
Programme participant 2022

# COLLECTIVE POWER.





# FREE TIME ACTIVITIES

## Day trips

From **great cities to the seaside**, you'll get to discover the North of England on **three fabulous day trips** in two weeks.



## Field trips

Once a week, we'll visit places in Yorkshire that are of **cultural** or **scientific** interest: these days combine **learning** and **having fun**.



## Activities

From sports to games, quizzes, sightseeing and shopping, you'll take part in **exciting free time activities daily**, led by York students.





# SESSION 1 TIMETABLE

Wednesday 5 July	Thursday 6 July	Friday 7 July	Saturday 8 July	Sunday 9 July
	Breakfast	Breakfast	Breakfast	Breakfast
Arrivals	Orientation	Subject specialism (academic option)	Field trip Yorkshire Dales National Park	Day trip Manchester
	York Strengths employability skills			
	Lunch	Lunch		
	Subject specialism (academic option)	Cultural visit: York Minster and sightseeing		
Dinner	Dinner	Dinner	Dinner	Dinner
Games night	City Walls	Quiz night	Sports night	Free night

# SESSION 2 TIMETABLE

Wednesday 19 July	Thursday 20 July	Friday 21 July	Saturday 22 July	Sunday 23 July
	Breakfast	Breakfast	Breakfast	Breakfast
Arrivals	Orientation	Subject specialism (academic option)	Field trip Medieval cathedrals	Day trip Liverpool
	York Strengths employability skills			
	Lunch	Lunch		
	Subject specialism (academic option)	Cultural visit: York Minster and sightseeing		
Dinner	Dinner	Dinner	Dinner	Dinner
Games night	City Walls	Quiz night	Sports night	Free night

Monday 10 July	Tuesday 11 July	Wednesday 12 July	Thursday 13 July	Friday 14 July	Saturday 15 July	Sunday 16 July
Breakfast	Breakfast	Breakfast	Breakfast	Breakfast	Breakfast	Breakfast
Academic study skills	Subject specialism (academic option)	Day trip Scarborough	Academic study skills	Subject specialism (academic option)	Field trip Drax Power Station and National Railway Museum	Day trip Durham and Beamish, the Living Museum of the North
Intercultural skills			York Strengths Employability Skills			
Lunch	Lunch		Lunch	Lunch		
Subject specialism (academic option)	Academic study skills		Academic study skills	Academic study skills		
	Cultural visit: Jorvik Centre		Cultural visit: sightseeing			
Dinner	Dinner	Dinner	Dinner	Dinner	Dinner	Dinner
Ghost Walk	Games night	Talents night	Sports night	Quiz night	Games night	Free night

Monday 24 July	Tuesday 25 July	Wednesday 26 July	Thursday 27 July	Friday 28 July	Saturday 29 July	Sunday 30 July
Breakfast	Breakfast	Breakfast	Breakfast	Breakfast	Breakfast	Breakfast
Academic study skills	Subject specialism (academic option)	Day trip Whitby	Academic study skills	Subject specialism (academic option)	Field trip Yorkshire Sculpture Park	Day trip Leeds and Lightwater Valley
Intercultural skills			York Strengths employability skills			
Lunch	Lunch		Lunch	Lunch		
Subject specialism (academic option)	Academic study skills		Academic study skills	Academic study skills		
	Cultural visit: York Dungeon		Cultural visit: sightseeing			
Dinner	Dinner	Dinner	Dinner	Dinner	Dinner	Dinner
Ghost Walk	Games night	Talents night	Sports night	Quiz night	Games night	Free night

Monday 17 July	Tuesday 18 July	Wednesday 19 July
Breakfast	Breakfast	Breakfast
Academic study skills	Subject specialism (academic option)	Departures
Intercultural skills		
Lunch	Lunch	
Subject specialism (academic option)	Final group presentations	
Dinner	Dinner	
Study night	Farewell night	

## Session 1 academic options 5 to 19 July 2023

**Developing Solutions to  
Environmental Challenges**  
Department of Environment  
and Geography

**Exploring the World  
with Psychology**  
Department of Psychology

**Exploring the Universe and  
Engineering the Future**  
School of Physics, Engineering and  
Technology

Monday 31 July	Tuesday 1 August	Wednesday 2 August
Breakfast	Breakfast	Breakfast
Academic study skills	Subject specialism (academic option)	Departures
Intercultural skills		
Lunch	Lunch	
Subject specialism (academic option)	Final group presentations	
Dinner	Dinner	
Study night	Farewell night	

## Session 2 academic options 19 July to 2 August 2023

**Literature on Location:  
Exploring Literary Yorkshire**  
Department of English  
and Related Literature

**Feeding the Future**  
Department of Biology  
Department of Chemistry

**Business and Society:  
Developing a Social Enterprise**  
Centre for Global Programmes

While this timetable reflects our general plans and includes components and activities intended to be part of the programme, it is subject to change due to availability, student numbers, weather and other factors beyond our control.

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## Eligibility

This programme is open to all students aged 16 to 18 in secondary or further education who are planning to enter higher education and are ready to get a taste of what it means to study at a top university in the UK.

Applicants must have had their 16<sup>th</sup> birthday before starting to study on our programme.

We welcome students from all nationalities and backgrounds. We accept a limited number of participants from each nationality to make sure we have a diverse international student body.

### Academic requirements

Our summer school is designed for students with a keen academic interest. While we do not have formal academic requirements and will not ask for a school transcript, you'll be asked to demonstrate your interest at an informal interview with our staff.

### English requirements

The programme is suitable for both native speakers of English and for students who have been learning English as a second/foreign language.

Although there is no formal language requirement, we strongly recommend that applicants have a good upper-intermediate level of English (ca. CEFR B2 or IELTS 5).

## Accommodation and catering

You will be staying in a single room in one of 11 colleges situated on our wonderful parkland campus. Your fellow students will be staying in the same accommodation block, but you'll be able to have privacy in your own room. University of York students working as house parents will also be available any time you need help. Rooms have shared bathrooms (the average room:bathroom ratio is 5:1). Your room will have a sink.

You'll have three meals a day on our campus, and we provide a packed lunch for excursions.

## Welfare and security

Students' safety is our utmost priority. Therefore, we provide 24/7 supervision on our pre-university programme.

We also operate an emergency phone line to support students who need help during their stay with us.

[Our Safeguarding and Welfare Procedures are available online.](#)

## Insurance

As part of our programme package we provide free student travel insurance including additional Covid-19 cover. [Full insurance terms and conditions are available on our website.](#)

## Programme fees

The programme fee per two-week session is £3,407.

It is inclusive of the academic and free time programme, accommodation, three meals per day and travel insurance.

## Transfer options

We offer a convenient airport transfer service that will take you from any airport in the UK directly to the University. Your taxi driver will meet you at the arrivals hall of the airport, so you don't need to worry about finding your way.

Alternatively, you can arrange your own transport to York.

## Scholarships

We offer five different scholarships:

- York Global Widening Participation Scholarship
- York Refugee and Asylum Seeker Scholarship
- North America Scholarship
- Europe Tuition Scholarship
- Academic Excellence Scholarship

The application deadline for scholarships is 17 February 2023.

## Guaranteed offer

If you successfully complete our programme, we guarantee that you will receive a typical offer for a place to study on an undergraduate programme at the University. Details of eligibility and exclusions are available on our website.

## Terms and conditions

When applying to study on this programme, you will have to accept the [Terms and Conditions, as set out on our website.](#)

## Application

Places on our programme are limited, and are available on a first-come-first-serve basis. We recommend booking early to avoid disappointment.

[You can find our application form on our website.](#)

## Contact

Our friendly team is available to help with any queries.

**Email:** [global-summer@york.ac.uk](mailto:global-summer@york.ac.uk)

**Phone:** +44 (0) 1904 322846





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**York Global  
Summer Schools**

**Learn more and apply  
[york.ac.uk/global-summer](http://york.ac.uk/global-summer)**