WELCOME

International Students’ Guide 2018
Welcome to Goldsmiths

As a new member of the Goldsmiths community you’re taking your place in a creative, progressive and supportive body of staff, students and alumni – congratulations!

We embrace and encourage creativity, critical thinking and distinctiveness across all of our programmes to help you reach your full potential at Goldsmiths and beyond. Outside of studying, the many clubs, societies and events organised by Goldsmiths Students’ Union offer great opportunities to get involved with campus and London life.

We’re a diverse and inclusive community that sees everyone as an individual with their own strengths and needs. Because we’re a single-campus university, you should never be too far from friends, facilities and support.

It’s normal to have lots of questions before you arrive. Whether you need to know more about enrolment, what you need to bring to the UK or how to find the Library, this guide should provide you with all the information you need.

If there’s anything else you need help with in the meantime, you can visit gold.ac.uk/welcome or email welcome@gold.ac.uk

We look forward to welcoming you to Goldsmiths.

Patrick Loughrey
Warden & Chief Executive Officer
Goldsmiths, University of London
Before you arrive

We’re sure you’ve already begun to make all necessary arrangements ahead of coming to Goldsmiths but we’ve put together a list to make sure you don’t miss any important steps. These are the things you need to do before you arrive.

☐ **Arrange your visa**

If you need a visa to study, the Goldsmiths Immigration Advisory Service (IAS) will help you with the process and will have already sent you lots of information about how and when to apply for your visa. They will continue to offer guidance before you arrive, so please keep checking for emails from Goldsmiths.

The service also runs regular drop-in sessions throughout the year for ongoing support with visa-related enquiries. You can contact them by emailing immigration@gold.ac.uk

gold.ac.uk/immigration

☐ **Remember to pack your academic certificates**

You’ll need to bring your current academic certificates and passport with you to campus for enrolment, which may include your English language certificate or your diploma and transcript – these must be originals, not copies or scans. However, it’s a good idea to make photocopies and keep them safe in case your originals become damaged or lost.

☐ **Arrange accommodation**

You’ll need somewhere to live when you get to London. If you haven’t already arranged this, go online for details about university and non-university accommodation.

gold.ac.uk/accommodation

☐ **Pre-enrolment**

We will email you instructions on how to complete online pre-enrolment in late August. If you don’t receive this or have any questions about what to do email enrolment@gold.ac.uk

Completing your online pre-enrolment will give you access to your Goldsmiths IT account which you can use to log into lots of university services including your university email account and the library.

☐ **Plan your journey to Goldsmiths**

We advise that you book travel to arrive in London during the daytime on Friday 21 or Saturday 22 September, particularly if you are living in university accommodation. Enrolment will take place on Sunday 23 September, along with a range of activities and events to help you settle in.

For advice on how to travel from major airports to campus and to book onto our free transfer service from London Heathrow Airport (LHR), which runs on Friday 21 September, see page 6.

☐ **Have a medical and dental check-up**

Arrange check-ups with your local doctor and dentist and let them know you will be studying in the UK. You should also check with your doctor for advice on vaccinations.

If you have an ongoing medical condition, bring sufficient supplies of any prescription medications you may need. You should also request a letter from your doctor detailing your health condition/s, your prescription medication, including its generic name – not just the brand name, and a copy of your prescription. You may need to show this at UK customs and immigration.
What to pack

Clothing
British weather is often unpredictable - average temperatures range from 3°C in the winter to 27°C in the summer and it rains in every season, so consider this when packing.

Toiletries
Bring enough to get you through your first few days in London.

Electronics
Laptop, phone, chargers, UK travel adapter.
Differences in power ratings between countries could mean that some of your equipment may not work properly in the UK.

Cash
You should bring about £500 in UK currency (British pounds) to use ahead of setting up a UK bank account. It might be safer to bring this on a prepaid credit card from your home country which enables you convert any funds to British pounds (GBP).

Originals and photocopies of all required documentation: Academic and immigration/visa

Prescription medicines
These should be accompanied by a letter from your doctor if stored in unlabelled containers, see page 3.

A dual-language dictionary

Your driving licence (if you have one)

Your passport

Your national ID card
(if your home country issues them)

Things to remind you of home

What you can buy in London

Bedding
Sheets, duvets/blankets, pillows.

Kitchenware
Cutlery and plates, pans, a rice cooker.

Cleaning products
Washing up liquid, sponges, wipes.

Stationery
All the pens and writing paper you’ll need.

Food
Many international cuisines are catered for in local shops.

Many of the items above are available in shops near to Goldsmiths or from UK online stores. See page 17 for a guide.

Amazon lockers are available on campus next to the Library for deliveries from amazon.co.uk

What is provided in Goldsmiths accommodation

Communal kitchens of Goldsmiths-managed accommodation are equipped with cookers, refrigerators, freezers, kettles, microwave ovens, irons and ironing boards. All student bedrooms have a bed, desk, wardrobe, drawers and a chair. The university does not provide small electrical items such as bedside lamps, however some rooms have built-in lights above desks.

You can order essential items online to be delivered to your room through UniKitOut, Click2Campus or other online stores.

unikitout.com

click2campus.com

Books
We advise you not to buy textbooks before arriving in the UK. Many required texts are available in the university library or in digital formats. If you do need to buy any texts it may be cheaper and easier to buy them after you’ve arrived in the UK.
Getting to Goldsmiths

You should aim to arrive in London on Friday 21 or Saturday 22 September for your enrolment session and international orientation, and for Welcome Week. International enrolment will take place on Sunday 23 September on campus.

If you have booked Goldsmiths accommodation you will be able to move in from 12.00 (midday) on Friday 21 September.

The university’s address is:
Goldsmiths, University of London
Lewisham Way
New Cross
London
SE14 6NW
+44 (0)20 7919 7171

If you will be living in Goldsmiths-managed accommodation you should go directly to:
Loring Management Centre
Goldsmiths, University of London
St James
New Cross
London
SE14 6AD
+44 (0)20 7919 7133

Making your own way here
Goldsmiths is well connected to London’s public transport network. You can use the official journey planner online at tfl.gov.uk for travel to and from anywhere in London. Google Maps can help you plan from outside of London.

Once you are in London we recommend downloading the Citymapper app for finding your way around and using public transport.

The university is less than five minutes’ walk from both New Cross and New Cross Gate railway stations.

Find out more about travelling in London on page 18.
Travelling from London airports

From London Heathrow Airport (LHR)

Free airport transfers
(About 2 hours to Goldsmiths)
You can book a free coach transfer from London Heathrow Airport on Friday 21 September.
explore.gold/AirportTransfer

Using London Underground
(About 70 minutes to Goldsmiths)
Take the London Underground (Tube) Piccadilly line eastbound to Green Park. From there take the Jubilee line to London Bridge. At London Bridge take a National Rail train to New Cross or New Cross Gate.

Using Heathrow Express
(About 70 minutes to Goldsmiths)
The Heathrow Express offers fast, frequent trains from all Heathrow Terminals to London Paddington. The journey time is approximately 15 minutes from Heathrow Central (located between Terminals 2 and 3) and 20 minutes from Heathrow Terminal 5. Shuttle trains connect Terminal 4 to Heathrow Central. Tickets for the Heathrow Express are expensive unless pre-booked online weeks in advance.
heathrowexpress.com
From London Paddington take the London Underground Hammersmith & City line train eastbound to Whitechapel and transfer to a southbound London Overground train to either New Cross or New Cross Gate.

Other Airports

From London Gatwick Airport (LGW)
(About 60 minutes to Goldsmiths)
London Gatwick Airport’s railway station offers direct train services to and from central London. From Gatwick Airport station travel to East Croydon or London Bridge where you should transfer to a National Rail service to New Cross Gate.

From London City Airport (LCY)
(About 45 minutes to Goldsmiths)
Take the Docklands Light Railway (DLR) from London City Airport station to Shadwell station. Transfer there to the London Overground and travel southbound to either New Cross or New Cross Gate.

From London Stansted Airport (STN)
(About 100 minutes to Goldsmiths)
Take a train from Stansted Airport station to London Liverpool Street. From there take a London Underground Hammersmith & City line train to Whitechapel. Change there for the London Overground and travel southbound to either New Cross or New Cross Gate.

From London Luton Airport (LTN)
(About 100 minutes to Goldsmiths)
Shuttle buses connect the airport terminal with Luton Airport Parkway railway station. Tickets for the shuttle bus can be purchased at the airport. From Luton Airport Parkway station take the train to London Bridge where you should transfer to a National Rail service to New Cross Gate.
When you arrive at Goldsmiths there will be lots of new things to try out and enjoy, including many events on campus in Welcome Week (Friday 21 to Friday 28 September). During this time you’ll meet your tutors and fellow students. However there are a few things you need to do during this first week. For full dates and times check [gold.ac.uk/welcome](http://gold.ac.uk/welcome).

- **Enrol as a Goldsmiths student**
  You are required to formally enrol as a student of the university. To do this you should first complete your online pre-enrolment - you will be emailed a link for this before you arrive in the UK.

  You should formally enrol on Sunday 23 September. Check your allocated enrolment time online at [explore.gold/EnrolmentTimetable](http://explore.gold/EnrolmentTimetable)

  If you are unable to make your allocated enrolment session visit the student helpdesk in the entrance of the Richard Hoggart Building during Welcome Week.

  When you enrol we will check we have a correct record of all your details, verify your certificates and immigration status, and if all is correct we will issue you with your student ID card.

  Please make sure you bring originals of all documentation we need to see to your enrolment day.

- **Attend an international orientation session**
  International student orientation sessions will be held during Welcome Week to introduce international students to Goldsmiths and to London. You will be emailed a Welcome Week schedule with more information and timings.

- **Attend your departmental induction**
  Your departmental induction is where your tutors will provide you with key information about your programme of study, how teaching will be delivered at Goldsmiths and what will be required of you. It’s vital you attend your session.

- **Register with the police**
  Students from some countries may need to register with the police - you can check if you need to register by visiting: [explore.gold/Policeregistration](http://explore.gold/Policeregistration)

  If you are required to register with the police you will need to do so within seven days of arriving in the UK or receiving your new visa, if you applied after you arrived in the UK. At Goldsmiths, the Immigration Advisory Service (IAS) can help with this process and will be present to support you at your enrolment event.

- **Take a Goldsmiths library tour**
  Find out how to use the library on campus and meet the staff who can help you make the most of its facilities - including your specialist subject librarians. Regular library tours run daily throughout Welcome Week.

- **Set up a UK bank account**
  A UK bank account will help you manage your money, see page 8 for more information.

- **Register with a doctor and dentist**
  You should register with a local doctor and dentist as soon as possible after you arrive in the UK so they can provide medical services if you need them. - for more information.

- **Connect to the university’s free Wi-Fi network**
  Once you have your Goldsmiths email address and password (following pre-enrolment) you will be able to access the university’s free Wi-Fi across campus and in Goldsmiths-managed accommodation. Instructions on how to connect are online: [gold.ac.uk/wifi](http://gold.ac.uk/wifi)

- **Sign-up for in-sessional English classes**
  If English is not your first language or you want to improve your academic English skills, we can support you with free sessions at the English Language Centre.

- **Download the Goldsmiths Student App**
  Our dedicated mobile app for Goldsmiths students contains lots of useful information, access to your emails and timetable, and much more. Search for ‘Goldsmiths Students’ in the Apple App Store or Google Play Store.
Setting up a UK bank account

A UK bank account is the best way to pay your bills, manage your money and keep it safe. It can also help you avoid unnecessary exchange rate charges.

Before you can open a UK bank account you will need to formally enrol as a Goldsmiths student. After you’ve enrolled you will be able to request a statement of student status, which includes proof of your address which is a mandatory requirement for UK bank accounts.

There is a Santander bank located on campus. Staff there will be able to help you open you an account during Welcome Week.

explore.gold/bankaccounts
Registering with a local doctor

We recommend that you register with a local doctor in the New Cross area or close to where you’ll be living during your time as a Goldsmiths student.

You should do this as soon as you can after arriving in the UK to avoid any delays in being able to receive medical treatment should you need it.

Healthcare you can access in the UK

Public healthcare in the UK is provided by the National Health Service (NHS) and may work differently to the system in your home country.

If you are from a country in the European Economic Area (EEA) or Switzerland, you are currently entitled to free NHS care* - please ensure you order your European Health Insurance Card (EHIC) from your home country and bring it with you to the UK.

If you are studying in the UK for six months or less

If you are studying in the UK for six months or less and you have a short-term study visa, you will need to pay for any NHS healthcare you receive. Private healthcare is also available in the UK and providers offer different packages - you are advised to get private medical insurance before you travel to the UK if you need this cover.

If you are studying in the UK for more than six months

If you are from outside the EEA or Switzerland and will be studying on a Tier 4 student visa for six months or more, you will be entitled to free NHS healthcare as part of the immigration health surcharge you are asked to pay during your visa application. You may also wish to consider taking out insurance to cover you for other medical-related costs which are not covered by the NHS. You can also purchase private medical insurance after you arrive in the UK.

The university cannot endorse or recommend a specific insurance company, however the UK Council for International Student Affairs can offer further guidance.

ukcisa.org.uk/information--advice

Hospital Accident and Emergency (A&E) departments will treat all patients who require emergency care free of charge (you will have to pay for any follow-up treatment as a private patient) - you can call an ambulance in an emergency by dialling 999 from any phone.

If you need urgent medical assistance or advice, you can call the NHS helpline by dialling 111 from any phone.

Recommended doctors surgery

Goldsmiths has partnered with the Amersham Vale Medical Practice to provide medical services to Goldsmiths students close to campus.


+44 20 3049 3600

amershamvale.co.uk

The surgery provides a full range of services including a mental health service, travel health service and immunisations (including meningitis, measles, mumps and rubella).

Sexual health clinic

The Waldron Health Centre, in which the Amersham Vale Practice is based, provides a sexual health walk-in service, including the provision of contraception. The centre provides a confidential service and it’s usually quicker to visit the centre rather than your doctor.

+44 20 3049 3500

explore.gold/LewishamSexualHealth

Dentists

We recommend you visit your local dentist for a full check-up before travelling to the UK.

Some dental practices in the UK provide NHS treatment but many do not. If you are entitled to receive NHS treatment you should check whether your chosen surgery accepts NHS patients before agreeing to any treatment.

If you are entitled to NHS treatment you may still have to contribute to the cost of any dental work, which can be very expensive in the UK.

If you do not qualify for NHS treatment, or the dentist you choose does not accept NHS patients, you will need to pay for the entire cost of your treatment.

You can find your nearest dentist on the NHS website.

explore.gold/LocalDentists

You can receive face-to-face guidance on all of the above at the Student Life Fair, which will take place on Monday 24 and Tuesday 25 September - find out more on page 20.
The Student Centre

The Student Centre at Goldsmiths can provide confidential and practical advice about being a university student in the UK.

The centre supports students by offering information and advice on:

- General enquiries
- Registration and fees
- Disabled Student Allowance applications
- Letter requests (Schengen, bank, council tax, proof of enrolment)
- Student financial support queries
- Signposting to other services

The Student Centre is open 9am-5pm on Monday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday, and 10am-5pm on Tuesdays throughout the year (excluding university holidays).

RHB (Richard Hoggart Building) 117
+44 (0)20 7919 7050

gold.ac.uk/students

studentcentre@gold.ac.uk
Wellbeing staff can offer confidential and practical advice on a variety of issues such as goal setting and planning, mental health and extenuating circumstances. They can also refer you to other sources of help including our Counselling Service.

The team operates a daily Wellbeing drop-in service through the Student Centre. Find out timings and how to contact them: gold.ac.uk/student-centre

**Counselling Service**

Short-term counselling services are available at Goldsmiths and can help if you are experiencing anxiety, depression or emotional difficulties. Talking and thinking with a professional counsellor often allows for more clarity and new perspectives, which can help and view things differently.

All counselling services offered at Goldsmiths are confidential. If at any point you feel like you need support you can attend a Wellbeing drop-in session for an initial discussion.

gold.ac.uk/wellbeing

**Disability Service**

If you have a disability and require additional support or adjustments, including with exams, you should contact the university's Disability Service. The team can discuss available options and support with you. At Goldsmiths we have an inclusive approach to disability and it is our job to make arrangements to help you.

gold.ac.uk/disability

You can register with the service by completing the online registration form:

explore.gold/RegisterDisability

**Multi-faith chaplaincy**

Goldsmiths is proud of its multicultural community and recognises the importance that faith and spirituality play in the lives of many people.

Through our multi-faith chaplaincy service we offer pastoral care - a confidential listening and spiritual support service to anyone in the university community, irrespective of whether or not you consider yourself to be religious.

The multi-faith chaplaincy represents a range of different faiths. Here you can get in touch with faith advisors who can provide you with information about local resources, meetings and prayer groups for your particular faith.

A multi-faith prayer room is available in RHB (Richard Hoggart Building) 206, and a multi-faith chaplaincy centre and yurt are located in Laurie Grove Gardens, offering a space to relax, meditate or pray.

gold.ac.uk/chaplaincy
chaplaincy@gold.ac.uk

**Campus Support Officers**

If you need out-of-hours support, our team of friendly Campus Support Officers are on hand to help with anything and everything between the hours of 6pm and 6am.

+44 (0)20 7919 7284

gold.ac.uk/students/cso

campus-support@gold.ac.uk
Study support

You will be assigned a personal tutor at Goldsmiths and each offers regular office hours during which you can ask them questions and discuss any academic support you might need. Some academics require you to book these sessions by email while others operate them as a drop-in service. You should check with your personal tutor which system they use.

The university also offers a range of other support resources and services to help you succeed academically.

Goldsmiths Library

The Library on campus is open 24 hours a day, every day, except on Tuesday 25 and Wednesday 26 December 2018 and Tuesday 1 January 2019.

The Goldsmiths Library website provides online access to specialist subject resources and a wide selection of e-books. For further help you can chat online with library staff or visit the library helpdesk.

gold.ac.uk/library

Goldsmiths has a team of specialist Subject Librarians who can help you find the resources you require in the library. Find out who your Subject Librarian is:
explore.gold/SubjectLibrarians

Senate House Library

Goldsmiths students can join the University of London's Senate House Library free of charge. Located at the heart of the UoL campus, this beautiful and historic library is a perfect place to study when in central London.

Senate House
University of London
Malet St
London
WC1E 7HU
020 7862 8500

senatehouselibrary.ac.uk

English Language Centre (ELC)

If English is not your first language or you want to improve your academic English skills, we can support you with free sessions at the ELC. The centre can also provide subject-specific modules tailored to assignments from your programme of study.

explore.gold/in-sessional

Find out more during your departmental induction or by contacting elc@gold.ac.uk.

Academic Skills Centre (ASC)

Develop the key academic skills to achieve your best by attending one of the many workshops organised by the ASC team. Topics include researching, essay writing, lectures and seminars, and time management.

gold.ac.uk/eas

Peer Assisted Learning (PAL)

PAL is a student-led support project designed to help with your studies. You can meet weekly with Student Leaders from your subject area and take part in activities tailored to your study needs.

PAL sessions provide a friendly and confidential space where you can feel comfortable to ask questions, make mistakes, and receive advice and support from students who have been in the same position as you.

gold.ac.uk/pal

Royal Literary Fellows

Whether you’re an undergraduate or postgraduate, if you need help with any aspect of essay writing you can book an appointment with one of our Royal Literary Fellows.

explore.gold/RoyalLiteraryFellows
Phones and calling home

Staying in touch with home and connecting with new friends is a key part of embracing student life at Goldsmiths.

Mobile phones

If you’re arriving from outside of the European Union (EU), a monthly or pay-as-you-go/pre-pay contract with a UK mobile network will almost always be less expensive than paying international roaming charges from your home country’s networks.

EU roaming charges were abolished in 2017 so if you are coming from another EU country you will be able to use your phone free or charge in the UK.* This will be applicable until the UK leaves the EU in March 2019.

There are several mobile network providers in the UK, including 3, O2, EE, Vodafone, Tesco Mobile and GiffGaff, who provide similar services in different packages for you to choose from. SIM cards are readily available to buy at major airports, in supermarkets and in many local shops.

Keeping in touch with home

Being able to contact home whenever you want is important. However, making international calls and sending texts to non-EU countries can be very expensive if you do not look for a mobile deal that offers them as part of their service.

Companies such as Lebara and Lycamobile specialise in international calling and texting packages. Many UK providers also offer international call packages which can be added to UK mobile phone contracts.

With free Wi-Fi on campus and in Goldsmiths-managed accommodation, Skype, WhatsApp and other messaging apps offer free or inexpensive alternatives for contacting home from the UK.

*Your EU network provider may have a limit on the amount of time you can use your phone outside of your home country before you incur roaming charges. Please check before you arrive in the UK.
Making friends

We know that coming to a new city where you don’t know anyone can be challenging. The good news is that Goldsmiths is a friendly, welcoming place and that you’ll be surrounded by people who want to get to know you.

Here are a few tips and ideas to help you settle in.

**Try something new**
Take part in a Welcome Week event you might not have tried before.

**First impressions aren’t everything**
Try not to worry about things you think you said or did that were embarrassing - everyone is going through the same period of adjustment and might be just as nervous as you about making good first impressions.

**Don’t be shy about your English**
Goldsmiths is an international community and you will find many different ways of expressing yourself and connecting with others.

**Meet the neighbours**
A lot of students are keen to get to know their neighbours in university accommodation, so don’t be shy - knock on doors, say hello and see what people’s plans are.

**Get involved in the university community**
Make plans to go to events with other students. Welcome Week events are a great place to start talking to people who have also just arrived at Goldsmiths.

**Find your niche**
Goldsmiths has a wonderful mix of people - seek out those with similar interests through your course or a Goldsmiths Students’ Union society to help you feel at home - see page 15 for more information.

**Invite people to join you**
Inviting other students around for food can be a great way to make friends and exchange cultures, while meeting for a coffee or tea after class can be a good way to get to know your classmates better.

**Don't be shy to ask for help if you need it**
Friendship often comes from helping others and being helped.

**Remember:**
- Welcome Week is only the start of meeting new people - you'll meet more people and make friends as the term progresses
- Almost everybody starting life at a new university will feel shy or awkward at some point
- Try to include others in what you are doing if you see them struggling
- It's okay to find university life difficult at times - most people will experience this
- If you need support adjusting to life at Goldsmiths visit the Student Centre or the Students’ Union
As a Goldsmiths student you have automatic, free membership to the Union. They are here for you throughout your student life, providing activities, events, sports and societies, as well as support and advice if you experience tough times. They also support networks of student representatives who work to improve your academic experience, and run campaigns to improve the issues that matter to you.

The SU is led by a team of Officers who have been elected by students. They work full-time or part-time in the Union, and are supported by a large team of staff. As a member of the Union you can stand and vote in the elections and therefore shape what it does.

The SU is the perfect place to meet new people and make friends, whether through a student activity group or through one of hundreds of events they support each year.

It also runs a bar, shop, cafe and nursery to provide you with spaces to socialise in, as well as affordable food and drink, and student supplies like stationery and art materials.

Find out more about the SU and how to get involved in events and activities at goldsmithssu.org

Goldsmiths Students’ Union

Goldsmiths Students’ Union (SU) is a separate organisation to the university and exists to make student life better, by representing, supporting and providing activities for every student.

JT (Joseph Tema)
President
jt@goldsmithssu.org

Mona Mounir
Welfare and Diversity Officer
mona@goldsmithssu.org

Joe Leam
Campaigns and Activities Officer
joe@goldsmithssu.org

Taylor McGraa
Education Officer
taylor@goldsmithssu.org
Social and shopping map

Goldsmiths is located in one of the most interesting areas of London. There are plenty of cafes, pubs, restaurants, parks and museums nearby. We’ve listed a few places on campus and within walking distance.

For more information visit explore.gold/LocalGuide

On campus
1  The Refectory and Roosters at the Balcony
2  Thirty Five
3  SU Cafe and Bar
4  Professor Stewart Hall Cafe
5  Library Cafe
6  New Cross House and Fat Slice
7  Out of The Brew

Restaurants/cafes
8  Beirut Canteen
9  SOLinn London
10  Red Lion Coffee Co
11  Birdie Num Nums
12  Thailand
13  Chinwag
14  Goldsmiths Cafe
15  Mughead Coffee
16  The London Particular

Bars
17  The Fat Walrus
18  Marquis of Granby
19  The Amersham Arms
20  The Rose

Supermarkets and shopping
21  Sainsbury’s Local
22  TK Maxx
23  Sainsbury’s
Local shopping guide

You’ll be able to buy almost everything you need in shops near Goldsmiths.

Essential places

Sainsbury’s
(5 minute walk from Goldsmiths)
Stocks a large range of food and groceries from around the world. It also sells toiletries, kitchenware, bedding and clothing, and it has a pharmacy.

TK Maxx
(5 minute walk)
Large clothing store that is also good for kitchenware.

SU Shop
(Inside Richard Hoggart Building)
Has a wide range of stationery, art materials, everyday essentials, meal deals and Goldsmiths merchandise at student-friendly prices.

Deftord Market
(5 minute walk)
Outdoor market selling international foods including fruit, veg, meat and fish. It includes Halal butchers and African food specialists. Clothes, antiques, plants and homewares are also available.

International food stores
There are many specialist food stores selling international food goods near Goldsmiths. See explore.gold/FoodStores

Lewisham Shopping Centre
(10 minute bus or train ride)
Lewisham Shopping Centre has about 65 shops selling UK and international products of every description.

London’s West End
(30 minute train ride and walk)
One of the world’s premier fashion and shopping destinations including Oxford Street, Regent Street and Soho.

Shoreditch
(15 minute train ride)
Great for independent stores that offer a range of vintage clothes and accessories. Make sure you visit Brick Lane Market, open on Sundays.

Westfield Stratford City
(25 minute train ride)
You will find almost every fashion, beauty, lifestyle and food retailer at Westfield Stratford City - one of the largest shopping malls in Europe.

Student discounts

As a student at Goldsmiths you can save money by signing up to a student discount scheme.

NUS extra
Make the most of more than 200 discounts by purchasing an NUS extra card. One, two and three-year memberships are available, costing between £12 and £32. Membership also comes with a one-year International Student Identity Card (ISIC), which offers discounts across more than 130 countries.

UNiDAYS
A student-focused lifestyle website and app. Register for free access to a range of discounts across fashion, food and more.
Travelling around London

London has an extensive public transport network. It is made up of the Underground (Tube), Overground train network, Tfl Rail, Docklands Light Railway (DLR) and London Buses. Transport for London (TfL) manages all of these services. There is also a large suburban railway network across London which is managed by individual rail companies.

Goldsmiths is well-connected to the public transport network and is located very close to both New Cross and New Cross Gate railway stations. The city is split into nine fare zones (1-9) - most of central London is in zone 1, and Goldsmiths is in zone 2. London Heathrow Airport is in zone 6.

London Overground runs a 24-hour rail service to and from New Cross Gate from Friday evenings to Sunday mornings.

If you prefer walking, Lewisham, Greenwich, Peckham, Brockley and Deptford are all within easy walking distance of campus.

To help plan your way around London you can use the official TfL journey planner on tfl.gov.uk or the CityMapper app on your mobile or online at citymapper.com. Google Maps can help you plan from outside of London.

Every location in the UK has a postcode (Goldsmiths’ is SE14 6NW) – searching by postcode will help you easily find your way to a specific destination.
Oyster cards
When you arrive in London you should buy an Oyster card - a smartcard which can hold pay-as-you-go/pre-pay credit and season tickets for travel around London, as well as any student railcard you may choose to purchase.

Oyster cards can be purchased from major airports, tube stations, and major railway stations, as well as in many local shops. You will be charged a £5 deposit for the Oyster card - that is the official price and you should not pay more than that. You must then add pre-pay credit or a season ticket to your Oyster card as required before you can travel.

You can use your Oyster card to travel on most public transport in London, including buses, the Underground (Tube), the Overground, the Docklands Light Railway (DLR) and most National Rail services.

You should register your Oyster card using the website printed on the reverse of your card. Doing this means you will be able to easily replace any lost cards and season tickets at a minimal cost.

Travel discounts
As a full-time student you can apply for discounted travel with a student Oyster card or a 19-25 railcard. See the options and choose what is best for you.
explore.gold/TravelDiscounts

Taxis and minicabs
London’s black cabs (taxis) are iconic but are very expensive to use. They are easy to spot - if the orange light on top of the car is illuminated, they are available to hail. It is easy to pick up a black cab in central London but less so in New Cross. These are the only taxis you should take in London without pre-booking.

You can also use minicabs, but these must be booked in advance, either via an app, on the phone or at a minicab office. Never use a non-booked minicab - they are illegal and unsafe.
explore.gold/Taxis

Contactless payment cards
If your UK bank account issues you with a contactless credit or debit card it can also be used to pay for travel in London if you register it with TfL. This is often the cheapest payment method if you do not want to purchase a season ticket.
contactless.tfl.gov.uk

Buses in London do not accept cash for travel - you must use either an Oyster or a contactless payment card.
Welcome Week is a time to celebrate your arrival at Goldsmiths. Our College Green will be taken over by a giant marquee with events, activities and music throughout the day. In the evenings Goldsmiths Students’ Union will host club nights, gigs and a whole variety of different events to bring everyone together.

Enrolments begin on Sunday 23 September – you will notified by email when you need to enrol.

Your department will hold an induction and a social event where you’ll get to meet staff and students on your programme.

At the Student Life Fair on Monday 24 and Tuesday 25 September you’ll find everything you need to make the most of your time as a Goldsmiths student, ranging from free bike checks to information on our year abroad scheme.

At the Student Union’s Welcome Fair on Wednesday 26 and Thursday 27 September you’ll be able to check out the amazing range of clubs and societies and find out about getting involved in everything else the Students’ Union can offer.

Welcome Week is when you really become a Goldsmiths student. It’s a time to make new friends, enjoy new experiences and begin the journey to becoming the person you want to be.
Autumn term
24 September–14 December 2018
Teaching begins 1 October 2018
(Reading/study week: 5–9 November 2018)

Christmas holiday
You are not required to be at Goldsmiths between 17 December 2018 and 4 January 2019
Goldsmiths buildings will be closed between 24 December 2018 and 1 January 2019, excluding the library which will remain open between 26 and 31 December.

Spring term
14 January–29 March 2019
(Reading/study week: 18–22 February 2019)

Easter holiday
You are not required to be at Goldsmiths between 1 and 26 April 2019
Goldsmiths buildings will be closed between 18 and 23 April 2019, excluding the library which will remain open throughout this period.

Summer term
29 April–21 June 2019
(Standard postgraduate term ends 27 September 2019)
You should check with your academic department if your course has reading/study weeks.
Some programmes operate slightly different term dates. The full list is at: gold.ac.uk/term-dates