

Study Abroad and Erasmus+ Handbook, 2018/19



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HELLO AND WELCOME

We are delighted that you have decided to study at Goldsmiths, University of London, and look forward to you joining us soon.

We know that there are many things to arrange before arriving in London, and hope this guide will help you in your preparations and give you an idea of what to expect.

We can't wait to welcome you and share all London and the university has to offer! From the wide range of module choices to suit your academic interests, as well as a huge variety of social and leisure pursuits for you to take part in, we're sure your time at Goldsmiths will pass in a flash of activity, enjoyment and adventure!

Need help?

If you are uncertain about what to do, have any worries in the first few weeks of term or want advice before arriving in London, please get in touch and we would be happy to help!

Erasmus+ students

Email: erasmus@gold.ac.uk
Tel: +44 (0) 20 8228 5918
gold.ac.uk/erasmus/incomingstudents

Study Abroad students

Email: studyabroad@gold.ac.uk
Tel: +44 (0) 20 7919 7260
gold.ac.uk/studyabroad

The Study Abroad and Erasmus+ Office is on the third floor of the Caroline Graveson Building on Batavia Road, and is staffed 9am to 5pm, Monday to Friday.

Arrival checklist

Before you arrive

- Accept your offer of study
- Confirm your accommodation
- Book transport to London
- Book airport pick-up service
- Enrol online
- Plan your budget
- Pack your suitcase and hand luggage
- Prepare for your studies

When you arrive

- Tell your family you have arrived
- Complete enrolment
- Access the internet
- Get your student ID card
- Register with the police (if applicable)
- Open a bank account
- Register with a doctor and dentist

JOINING GOLDSMITHS

Everything you need to know to register and enrol with us, plus information on how to arrange your visa

Accepting your offer

If you are a Study Abroad student, you can accept your offer here: <http://bit.ly/sa-goldsmiths>

You cannot apply for accommodation or begin your visa process until you have accepted your offer so it is wise to accept as soon as possible.

Registering online

To become a Goldsmiths student you will need to register online, preferably before you arrive. To do this you will need your username and PIN number, which you will receive by email. You will also be asked for your student number and your date of birth.

We will email instructions on how to:

- Complete your online registration
- Access your Goldsmiths Campus Account and email address
- Upload a photograph for your student card

Don't forget to check all email addresses you have provided to Goldsmiths, as well as your junk/spam email folders.

If you have any problems with registering online, please email studentrecords@gold.ac.uk

Goldsmiths enrolment

Once you have registered online you will need to enrol in person at an enrolment session.

Please bring your passport or national identity card with you. You don't need to show any qualifications at enrolment.

Goldsmiths Student ID Card

If you upload a photograph of yourself when you register online you will be given your Student ID Card after you have enrolled in person. If you have not uploaded a photo, at enrolment you will be given a provisional card to take to security in the Richard Hoggart Building. They will then take a photograph and produce a card for you. You are required to carry your Student ID Card on campus. The card also allow you to use the Students' Union, sports facilities, library and IT rooms.

For International (non EU) students: In order to comply with the UK government's immigration rules, you must bring your passport, visa and any visa documentation with you when you pick up your student ID card. University staff will make a copy of these documents.



Your timetable

When you arrive at Goldsmiths you will receive a bespoke online timetable, which you can access through your Goldsmiths Campus Account at mytimetable.gold.ac.uk/login.aspx

Make sure you have 'pop ups' enabled on your internet browser when accessing timetables.

Before you arrive and receive your timetable you can access the online timetable as a guest and search for individual modules. Please note that is not a final version so timings of lectures and seminars could change.

Visa and Immigration

If you will be studying in the UK for less than six months and are from outside the EU/EEA, you will need to request a Short-term Study Visa from our Immigration team (unless you already have a valid visa for the UK that would permit study). This visa allows a maximum of six months stay in the UK, for the purpose of studies, but does not allow any employment in the UK (paid or unpaid, including internships).

Please note that obtaining a tourist visa would not permit you to enrol on the Study Abroad programme.

In order to request a short-term study visa please go to: gold.ac.uk/immigration/before-you-arrive/stv

If you are studying for the full academic year and are from outside the EU/EEA you will likely need a Tier 4 study visa. To find out more please go to: gold.ac.uk/immigration/before-you-arrive/tier4

Should you have any specific visa questions, please email immigration@gold.ac.uk



ACCOMMODATION

As you'll soon find out, there's more to being at Goldsmiths than lectures, essays and assessments. Living in halls of residence gives you a great opportunity to really immerse yourself in life here



Key fact

We have some of the lowest costs for university halls of residence in the capital



Find out more

gold.ac.uk/accommodation/halls

If you have formally accepted your place at Goldsmiths, you will be eligible to apply for accommodation

How to apply

Goldsmiths is proud to offer single rooms, most of which have en-suite bathrooms. All of our halls of residence are co-ed and self-catered (no meal plan option). It is likely that you will be sharing a flat with other Study Abroad and Erasmus+ students but you will be housed in an accommodation block where there will be a mix of home, EU and international students.

1. In order to apply you need to have accepted your offer onto the Study Abroad/Erasmus+ programme.
 2. Apply for accommodation by registering here: https://occam.gold.ac.uk/Goldsmiths_Portal/Account/Register
- To register you will need your Goldsmiths student number and your date of birth (in the UK format - DD/MM/YYYY)
3. Once you have registered you will be able to make your application by selecting the appropriate option.

Our Accommodation team will contact you directly to confirm that your application has been received, and will tell you what to do next.

Other options

For students who choose not to live in Goldsmiths accommodation, advice on other options can be found at gold.ac.uk/accommodation/alternative

Frequently asked questions

How do I let you know if I have a special requirement for accommodation? Part of your accommodation application includes a section that asks for any medical issues as well as an area to indicate any additional notes. We will try to accommodate requests as much as possible.

When will rooms be allocated and how will I be notified? The room allocation process begins as soon as applications are received. Once you have been allocated a room, we will email you to confirm this.

Will I have my own bathroom? Nearly all Study Abroad and Erasmus+ students live in Loring Hall, which has en-suite bathrooms.

What is provided in student residences? Each shared kitchen has an ironing board and iron, mop and bucket, kettle, toaster and bin as well as fridge/freezer and cooker. You also have free wifi and 24-hour security.

What should I bring with me? You will need your own kitchen utensils, plates, cutlery, pots and pans as well as bedding and towels. It's best to buy any kitchen items and bedding from a local shop after you arrive. Don't forget you will also need travel adapters for any electronics, and maybe a voltage converter.

If you have any more questions please email: accommodation@gold.ac.uk

TRAVELLING AROUND LONDON

Using public transport

Goldsmiths is under five minutes' walk from New Cross and New Cross Gate train stations. These stations are both served by National Rail trains and the London Overground Network.

Make sure you get an Oyster Card when you arrive in London. This is a smartcard that you top up with credit to use on buses, trains, the Tube and even riverboats. It will make travel a lot cheaper than buying paper tickets.

Travelling from London airports

From Heathrow Airport (LHR)

About 80 minutes from New Cross

Take the Bakerloo underground line to Baker Street station. Change here to catch the Jubilee line to London Bridge, and then catch a national rail train to New Cross or New Cross Gate.

Alternatively you can catch the Heathrow Express train to Paddington Station. From there take the Bakerloo underground line to Charing Cross mainline station and catch an overground train to New Cross or New Cross Gate. You can catch a 436 bus from Paddington to New Cross Gate. This will usually take longer than the underground, but can be easier if you are carrying luggage.



From Gatwick Airport (LGW)

About 45 minutes from New Cross

Catch a London-bound train from the airport station to East Croydon Station. Change there and catch the train to New Cross Gate.

From City Airport (LCY)

About 45 minutes from New Cross

The airport is five miles from Goldsmiths so you may consider it worth taking a taxi. If you want to travel on public transport, take the DLR train westbound to Lewisham or Deptford Bridge.

From both these stops there are many buses you can catch to New Cross.

From Stansted Airport (STN)

About 80 minutes from New Cross

Catch the train to Liverpool Street, then travel by Hammersmith and City Line to Whitechapel. Change onto the London Overground line to New Cross or New Cross Gate.

From Luton Airport (LTN)

About 80 minutes from New Cross

Shuttle buses connect the airport to Luton Station. Catch the Thameslink to London Bridge, then travel to New Cross or New Cross Gate stations by mainline train.

Taxis

Taxis in London are expensive, but if you have some money to spare you could take a taxi from the airport to campus. Always use a licensed taxi; black cabs can be hailed in the street and found outside airports, but all other taxis and minicabs should only be used when booked in advance, for your safety.

COMMUNICATIONS

Letters and parcels

Sending post

If you need to send a lightweight letter within the UK then you can simply stick a postage stamp appropriate to the size of the letter and put it in any post box. If you are unsure of how much the postage should be then go to www.postoffice.co.uk/price-finder, or take your letter to a Post Office for them to weigh it and advise how much it will cost to send. Parcels should always be taken to a Post Office for weighing and dispatching. If you are sending a parcel overseas you will need to complete a customs form, available in the Post Office.

Receiving post (at Loring Hall)

Letters will go to the communal letterbox situated near to Loring Hall reception and packages will be held at the reception of Loring for you to collect. If you are ordering packages that require a signature please speak to reception first in order to discuss arrangements.

IT Services

If you need access to a desktop computer the Rutherford Building is the best place to find one: it's well-equipped with both PCs and Macs, as well as a Digital Media Suite with video and audio editing equipment. Help Desk staff are available to answer any queries you may have, and there's a Media Equipment Centre where you can borrow audio visual equipment including cameras and projectors.

You will also be able to access Print Services, based near the Richard Hoggart Building.

The in-house print room offers digital printing and finishing services.

Our campus wifi network is eduroam, which enables you to access the internet, your College shared files, and email. You can connect across most of the Goldsmiths campus. During your orientation week you will find leaflets helping you connect to the wifi network. If your home university uses eduroam too, your phone or laptop may connect automatically.

If you experience any issues, please visit the IT Service Desk on the first floor of the Library.

Email

You will be given a Goldsmiths email address when you enrol, and university staff will use email as the main way of communicating with you. You are expected to access your Goldsmiths email account regularly to ensure you keep up-to-date with important communications.

Mobile phones

You will need to ensure your mobile phone is GSM compatible to roam in the UK, and you will find using a UK SIM card to be much cheaper. To use a UK SIM card you will probably need to 'unlock' your phone. You can then use a pay-as-you-go system to pay for the calls you make.

Pay-as-you-go mobiles

Pay-as-you-go is the no contract, no credit check, no commitment, no monthly bills way of getting a mobile phone. The biggest advantage of this is that it is impossible to run up a huge phone bill as you can only make calls once you have already paid for them. However, you always pay a lot more to buy the initial phone, and calls are generally more expensive than on contract mobile phones. You can buy this type of mobile phone from a lot of shops without needing a 'proof of enrolment letter' from the university.

Buying a mobile phone

Often mobiles phones are cheap to buy, but expensive to use, especially if you are calling another country. Carphone Warehouse and Phones4u are the largest independent stores, but you can even buy a phone from supermarkets. It is a good idea to shop around.





STUDYING AT GOLDSMITHS

You may find the pace and level of academic work different to what you have been used to when you start your course but there is plenty of support available

Developing your study skills

Your academic study skills are a vital foundation for your time at university. These may include areas such as:

- Academic writing
- Research skills
- Referencing and citations
- Critical thinking
- Reflective writing
- Revision and exam techniques
- Report writing
- Presentation skills

There are a number of different ways you can access this support and tailor it to the modules you are studying. Take a look here: gold.ac.uk/careers/skills/academic-study-skills

If you want to talk about your concerns, it would be wise to initially have a conversation with your academic tutor. They will be able to advise you on how to resolve any problems that you're experiencing, and may be able to offer additional support. Don't forget you can also come and speak to the Study Abroad or Erasmus team in the Batavia Road offices.

Additionally there are schemes at Goldsmiths, as well as online, designed to help support you.

The Frame: Skills for Success

Develop the key academic skills to achieve your best at Goldsmiths. This is a new series of workshops offered collaboratively by The Careers Service, Library, English Language Centre and Inclusion and Learning Support. These free workshops are designed to help you unlock your full potential, be the best you can academically and achieve success in your chosen subject.

Attend one or all of these workshops to learn about:

- How to get the most out of lectures and seminars
- Research skills and effective use of learning materials
- How to plan and write great essays
- How to use the library and online resources

Visit The Frame: Skills for Success on learn.gold for details on how and when to attend. You can also use the Enhancing Academic Skills webpage to help improve your marks: gold.ac.uk/eas

Peer Assisted Learning

Peer Assisted Learning (PAL) is student-led mentoring. The PAL scheme provides regular weekly review sessions where mentors introduce activities tailored to your study needs. It's a safe 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. Find out more at gold.ac.uk/eas/peer-assisted-learning

Erasmus and Study Abroad Student Advisors

Student Advisors are available for Erasmus and Study Abroad students to contact with queries and for pastoral peer support and guidance. Our advisors are from a range of countries and departments, and are there to help you with anything from local London knowledge to guidance on academic referencing.

ILOs and EACs - departmental support

For Study Abroad students, International Liaison Officers (ILOs) are the main point of contact within each department. For Erasmus students, the Erasmus Academic Coordinator (EAC) is your go-to person in your department. They are usually the person who signed your Learning Agreement. You can approach ILOs and EACs with any academic issues you have, including questions about assessments and classwork.

Facebook group

We also have a Facebook group at www.facebook.com/groups/erasmusstudyabroadgoldsmiths where you can get in touch with other incoming students as well as current Goldsmiths students who will be doing an Erasmus+ term abroad. It's a good place to ask other students for advice.

Assessments

You will be expected to complete all the necessary assessments for your modules in order to gain credit. Your assessments will be communicated to you by your department(s). Modules are usually assessed through essays, exams, reports, and presentations.

Virtual Learning Environment

'Learn.gold' is the name of the Goldsmiths Virtual Learning Environment (VLE), which gives you access to online learning activities and module materials. Your course tutors will tell you how to join relevant module areas, and how you can make best use of the VLE. For many departments and modules, submission of assignments is also through the use of TurnItIn, via the VLE. Make sure you look at the VLE before teaching begins. It can be accessed at learn.gold.ac.uk

Library

The Library is located in the Rutherford Building, and holds an extensive collection of printed and electronic resources, special collections and archives. The Library is open 24 hours a day, seven days a week during term time. To search the catalogue, access your account or to access any of the library services, visit gold.ac.uk/library

As a Goldsmiths student you will also be able to borrow books from Senate House Library in central London, which is part of the University of London: www.ull.ac.uk



Meet your lecturers

Goldsmiths is known for its friendly staff. If you want to see one of your lecturers you can email them directly to arrange a meeting.



LIVING EXPENSES

Goldsmiths is situated in the centre of New Cross, South-East London, an area that offers some of the lowest costs in London for accommodation and going out



Your living expenses at university will vary according to your personal circumstances and choices. Basic prices for groceries and travel, etc, will be fairly consistent wherever you study, but things like going out locally to eat and drink, however, are some of the cheapest in London.

There are resources available online to help with budgeting, including the Study London website (www.studylondon.ac.uk/application-advice/cost-of-studying-in-london), which offers you tips on how to save money in London. For more information on your Goldsmiths budget and rough estimates of what you might be spending, take a look here: gold.ac.uk/local/costs

Student discount cards

You will find that a lot of things, from cinema tickets to clothing, DVDs to travel, can be bought at discounted cost if you are a student and have one of the following cards:

Goldsmiths Student ID Card

Your Student ID Card, which is issued to you at enrolment, is very useful! In addition to giving you access to university buildings, the card allows you to vote in Students' Union elections.

It may make sense for you to get an NUS Extra card, as many shops, cinemas and restaurants offer student discounts if you show this. The NUS Extra card is the most widely used student discount card in the UK. You can find out more at www.nus.org.uk/en/nus-extra

International Students' Identity Card (ISIC)

This card enables you to obtain discounts on flights, accommodation, IT software and internet products, food and drink. You can apply online for the ISIC. For more information and details of the documents you need to obtain this card go to www.isic.org

Student travel reduction cards

– Student Oyster Card. You are eligible for this if you are studying at Goldsmiths for more than 14 weeks. It gives you 30% off the price of adult-rate Travelcards and bus and tram pass season tickets. This means most journeys made on the Tube or bus are significantly cheaper.

You can apply for your Student Oyster photocard online. Full details about the card and the application can be found at tfl.gov.uk/fares-and-payments/adult-discounts-and-concessions/18-student

– The Young Person's Coach Card. If you are thinking about travelling around the country while you are here, this could save you a lot of money. It can be bought at National Express coach offices or online. It costs around £10 for one year or around £25 for three years, and gives you 30% off all coach travel in the UK. To get one you simply need proof that you are a student. For details see www.nationalexpress.com

– A Young Person's Railcard gives you a third off your rail travel in the UK. It costs around £30 for one year. To get this you will need proof you are a student, your passport and a passport-size photo. The card can be purchased online or at any train station ticket office. For further information see: www.16-25railcard.co.uk



Working in the UK

Whether or not you can work in the UK will depend upon the type of visa that you have. Your visa will confirm whether you are permitted to work. It is very important that you follow the conditions of your visa.

Short-term study visa

If you have a Short-term study visa, you are not permitted to take paid or unpaid employment nor are you able to undertake a work placement as part of your course.

Tier 4 (General) Students

Generally students studying at degree level or above or who are on a Study Abroad programme for more than six months can work a maximum of 20 hours per week during term time and full-time during vacations - this will also be stated on your student visa.

If you need information about visas or whether you have permission to work, please visit gold.ac.uk/immigration or email the immigration team on immigration@gold.ac.uk



Find out more
For guidance on how much it will cost you to live in London go to gold.ac.uk/local/costs

STAYING SAFE AND HEALTHY

Our top priority is making sure you receive all the support and help you need before, during and after you arrive at Goldsmiths. You will have access to a wide range of services and facilities, many of which are highlighted here



Support at Goldsmiths

The Wellbeing Service

gold.ac.uk/students/wellbeing

A drop-in service, workshops and counselling that is freely available to all Goldsmiths students. The aim is to help students whose concerns may be impacting their ability to engage with teaching and learning, and impeding their academic progress.

You can meet with our Wellbeing Officers for confidential and practical advice about things like mental health difficulties, extenuating circumstances, goal setting and planning. They can also refer you to other sources of help including our Counselling Service.

The drop-in takes place in the Student Centre, Mon-Thu, 2.30-3.30pm and Fri 9.30-10.30am.

Campus Support Officers

gold.ac.uk/students/cso

Campus Support Officers provide out of hours support for students. They are available every night from 6pm-6am and can help with almost anything, whether it's essay stress, mental

health difficulties, or if you're worried about a friend. They are based in the Loring Hall Management Centre and can be reached on 020 7919 7284 or campus-support@gold.ac.uk.

Inclusion and Learning Support

gold.ac.uk/disability

This service provides advice on adjustments and support that can be offered to disabled students including those with long-term health conditions and specific learning difficulties such as dyslexia. The service is confidential, so information will not be passed on without consent. If you haven't registered a disability on your application and think you may need additional support, we encourage you to register with the Inclusion and Learning Support service as soon as possible.

Chaplaincy

gold.ac.uk/chaplaincy

The Chaplaincy is a multi-faith team for everyone, regardless of what your beliefs and practices may or may not be. They welcome all students looking for someone to talk to or be with. The Multi-Faith Prayer Room, open to all, is in the Richard Hoggart Building.

Finding a dentist

You do not need to live close to the dental practice you choose, but you need to be registered with a dentist before you receive treatment from them. If you are entitled to NHS treatment, you may still have to make a contribution towards the cost of your dental treatment. If you are not entitled to NHS treatment, or the dentist you choose does not take NHS patients, you will have to pay a higher cost for your treatment.

To find a list of NHS registered dentists (these are considerably cheaper than private dentists) see www.nhs.uk/NHSEngland/AboutNHSservices/dentists/Pages/find-an-NHS-dentist.aspx

Registering with a doctor

If you are from a country in the European Economic Area (EEA), you can access NHS treatment during your stay in the UK with a European Health Insurance Card (EHIC).

If you are from outside the EEA and studying here for more than six months, you pay an immigration health surcharge as part of your visa application. This means you are entitled to NHS treatment and you can register with a local doctor after you arrive. Please do not wait until you are ill to do so.

You can register with the Amersham Vale Practice if you live in a hall of residence or within two or three miles of Goldsmiths.

Amersham Vale Practice

Suite 5, Waldron Health Centre,
Amersham Vale, New Cross, SE14 6LD
Tel: 020 3049 3600
amershamvale.co.uk

If you live at an address that's not covered by this practice, you will need to find a doctor who is local to your address. You can continue to see your family doctor at home during vacations.

If you are from outside the EEA and are studying here for less than six months you cannot register with a doctor, but you can still visit one as a temporary patient if you want advice. We recommend you take out private medical insurance to cover you while in the UK.



Key fact

In a medical emergency, always call 999



Find out more

You can find a nearby doctor or find out more about NHS services at www.nhs.uk

Useful contacts

Goldsmiths switchboard

020 7919 7100

Security

Residence (general line – 24 hours)
020 7919 7192

Students' Union

020 7717 2511
reception@goldsmithssu.org
www.goldsmithssu.org

Study Abroad and Erasmus+

Main contact for Erasmus students:
Tom Challen (International Mobility Assistant)
t.challen@gold.ac.uk/erasmus@gold.ac.uk

Main contact for Study Abroad students:
Shannon Stowers (International Mobility Coordinator)
studyabroad@gold.ac.uk/shannon.stowers@gold.ac.uk

Jack Selby (International Mobility Officer)
j.selby@gold.ac.uk

Eduardo Lees (International Mobility Manager)
e.lees@gold.ac.uk

