



International Undergraduate Prospectus

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Every effort has been made to ensure that all of the information contained in this prospectus is correct at the time of going to press. Please note that The University of Northampton accepts no liability for the accuracy of statements in this and other marketing publications.





Welcome to The University of Northampton

We are delighted that you have expressed an interest in studying at The University of Northampton. This prospectus has been compiled to meet your particular needs and interests. We hope it answers all your questions. However, if you require any further information before making your decision, please do not hesitate to contact the International Office at our dedicated e-mail address: international@northampton.ac.uk

The University of Northampton welcomes international students. We value the richness and cultural diversity you bring to our academic community. We now have over 1,000 students from more than 100 different countries studying with us and provide for them a high-quality university experience with well-structured courses, top-quality teaching and a first-class environment. We are committed to supporting our students throughout their time with us – from your first enquiry to graduation and beyond.

I look forward to welcoming you to The University of Northampton in the near future.

Yours sincerely,

Delia Heneghan

Director, International Office

Why Choose The University of Northampton?

With a well established reputation as a forward thinking and modern university, The University of Northampton offers a vibrant and stimulating environment to further your studies. Our undergraduate programmes are designed to meet your educational need to study a subject or group of subjects in greater depth and to extend your knowledge and skills thus enabling you to pursue your career ambitions.

As an undergraduate student at The University of Northampton you will find a great combination of high quality academic provision, first-class resources and a friendly supportive learning environment.



Programme choice

We offer a wide variety of courses and our qualifications are particularly tailored to meet the needs of industry and commerce. We have established links with a number of professional and industrial bodies and constantly review our portfolio to ensure that it meets our students' requirements and employers' needs.

International Scholarship Scheme

The University of Northampton is very pleased to offer a generous scholarship to international students with a strong academic background. Scholarship awards are based on academic merit. All undergraduate courses fall within the scheme and all students are, therefore, eligible to apply. Full details of the application process and deadlines can be found on the 'International Students' section of our website www.northampton.ac.uk



Employability

We make sure that our graduates are equipped with the knowledge and skills required for a successful career in their chosen field. We constantly review and tailor our qualifications to meet the needs of industry and commerce. Input is provided from researchers, current practitioners, professional bodies, commerce and industry to ensure that the curriculum and content is up-to-date and relevant.

Value

Thanks to the low cost of living and studying here, The University of Northampton proves to be great value. Course fees are competitive and Northampton is one of the least expensive places to live in the UK. You will also benefit from the very high level of academic and professional support we provide and from the excellent modern facilities which create an environment designed to enable you to maximise your achievements.

Facilities

Our two campuses offer the perfect setting for you to achieve your full potential. In recent years we have invested £73m in our estates and learning resources. This has enabled us to extend our specialised teaching areas and to provide a purpose-built Student Centre.

Support

We support students through effective learner information, advice, guidance, counselling and other services. The Student Centre provides a one-stop-shop for all student support needs. In addition to the general services accessed through the Student Centre, individual course teams offer in-depth support pertaining to particular programmes of study. Our students often comment on the friendly, approachable nature of our staff.

Location

Northampton is centrally located and within easy travelling distance of London, Birmingham and other major centres. We are served by 5 international airports and excellent road and rail links to all parts of the UK and Europe.



Which Course?

Choosing the right course is one of the most important decisions students will make, so we are committed to making this process as straightforward as possible with an extensive range of study options and combinations to choose from.



BA/BSc (Honours)

We offer a wide range of undergraduate degrees, most of which take three years to complete. The two most common degree formats are Bachelor of Arts (BA) which includes subjects such as Business, English, History and the Arts; and Bachelor of Science (BSc) encompassing subjects such as Biology, Computer Science, Engineering etc.

In the UK the designation of your degree as either BA or BSc is determined by the subject (or subjects) you study. It is not an indication of the status or value of the award. All undergraduate programmes in the UK system are equal in terms of academic level and status whether titled BA or BSc.

Many of our degree courses offer opportunities for students to gain work experience. This might involve a one-year full-time work placement, a shorter placement or individual work-based learning modules. For a full list of all available Single Honours courses please refer to pages 24-25.

Joint Honours Degree Programme

We also offer an extensive Joint Honours degree programme where students can choose to study two subjects together. For full details, including available course combinations, please see pages 6-7.

Higher National Diploma

If you wish to study a work-related subject, then a two-year Higher National Diploma (HND) could be the right choice. HNDs have a vocational focus and, when completed successfully, can be 'topped-up' to an Honours degree with an additional year of study. For full list of all available HND courses please refer to page 65.

BA/BSc Top-Up Degree

Top-up degrees are one-year courses, modelled on the final year of our BA/BSc undergraduate programmes. They are designed to enable students to progress from courses such as EDEXCEL, Higher National Diplomas (HND), Foundation degrees or Advanced Diplomas as offered by ABE or NCC, or from similar qualifications in other countries, and to obtain a BA or BSc (Honours) qualification. They are also suitable for students whose qualification is assessed as not equivalent to a UK Honours Bachelors degree. Students who successfully complete a top-up degree at an appropriate level can progress to a Masters degree. Top-up courses can have two intakes a year. You can start in either September or January. For full details of all available Top-up courses please refer to page 65.



Joint Honours

Flexibility, breadth and adaptability are the main features of our Joint Honours programme. You can build a course that suits your particular needs, plays to your strengths and/or prepares you for the career of your choice.

The structure within which you make your choice ensures that your degree is a coherent and credible award and that it will provide you with a breadth of expertise leading to a flexible and valuable qualification.

The focus of your degree is two named subjects. They can be either closely related or contrasting subjects – the choice is yours. The table (on page 7) lists the 50+ subjects available and you can choose any pair of subjects, provided they are shown in different blocks. Your degree may emphasise one of these subjects more than the other or you may study them more equally. However, you don't have to make this decision until the second year of the course (stage 2) and our staff are on hand to guide students through all the possible choices.

On graduating with a BS or a BSc (Honours) in two named subjects, you will be eligible to enter a wide range of careers or postgraduate programmes. There are also opportunities to

acquire employment related skills as part of your degree and many subjects offer work experience modules or involve students in career relevant project work. Joint Honours graduates are very attractive to employers, being able to demonstrate flexibility and strong organisational and communication skills.

The programme is designed to offer students maximum flexibility to capitalise on their personal strengths and interests, with options to acquire vocationally relevant skills and experience if desired.

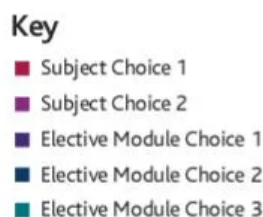


The choice is yours – just pick two subjects from different blocks and we can provide a joint degree in those subjects with a range of options to suit you.

Combine your subjects in any one of a range of options to suit you.

Depending on your stage one module choices there are three options to choose from at stage two.

Depending on your module choices at stages one and two you will complete your Degree at stage three to gain either a Major/Minor or Joint Degree.





Campus Life

Based on two campus sites set in attractive green open spaces, The University of Northampton offers an exciting and vibrant environment in which to further your studies.

Both campuses have a library, 24-hour IT suite, bookshops, restaurants, bars and a convenience store. A frequent bus service links the campuses and both are within easy reach of shops, entertainment and leisure facilities.

Avenue Campus

Avenue Campus provides the best of both worlds. It is surrounded by green spaces whilst being close to a thriving urban area. The town centre is within walking distance and the campus is situated adjacent to one of Northampton's largest parkland areas. Recognised regionally as a major centre for creative arts and technology, students benefit

from state-of-the-art facilities and an established innovative environment. The University has recently invested in a multimillion pound Technology Realm enabling our computer programmes to benefit from a state of the art facility in 3D visualisation and immersive technology. The Campus hosts art gallery viewings, with theatre performances and exhibitions taking place throughout the year.

An impressive range of creative and technological facilities are available to students, including workshops, laboratories, computer-aided design suites, television and radio studios, dance and drama spaces, a cinema and digital music studios.

Park Campus

Set in over 80 acres of open, green park and woodland, Park Campus is the larger of the two campuses. Integrating beautiful landscapes with brand-new facilities, the campus provides a vibrant and exciting atmosphere in which to study and live. You will find everything you need for studying and socialising on campus, from an extensive library and modern IT facilities to bars, a nightclub and sports facilities. The Pavillion, a dedicated bar and catering facility for students and staff, is also on campus and provides the ideal opportunity to socialise with other like-minded people. The University continues to invest significantly in the campus and recent developments include a new Student Centre and specialised teaching areas.



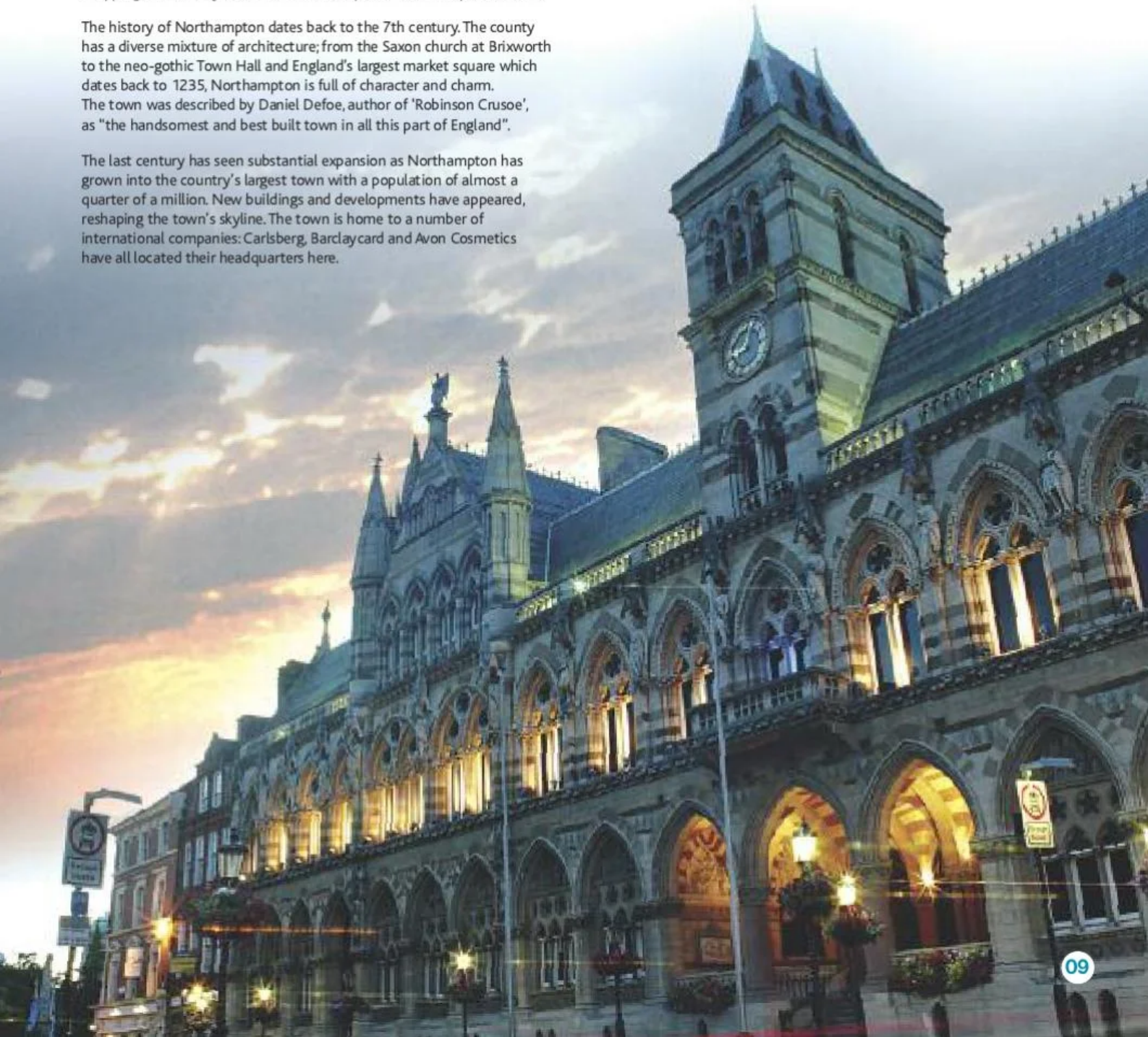
Living in Northampton

Situated at the heart of England, Northampton has excellent sports and leisure facilities, great entertainment and shopping and is easily accessible via a comprehensive transport network.

Northampton is one of England's most attractive towns, steeped in history but with a 21st century outlook. Situated at the heart of England, it has excellent sports and leisure facilities, great entertainment and shopping and is easily accessible via a comprehensive transport network.

The history of Northampton dates back to the 7th century. The county has a diverse mixture of architecture; from the Saxon church at Brixworth to the neo-gothic Town Hall and England's largest market square which dates back to 1235, Northampton is full of character and charm. The town was described by Daniel Defoe, author of 'Robinson Crusoe', as "the handsomest and best built town in all this part of England".

The last century has seen substantial expansion as Northampton has grown into the country's largest town with a population of almost a quarter of a million. New buildings and developments have appeared, reshaping the town's skyline. The town is home to a number of international companies: Carlsberg, Barclaycard and Avon Cosmetics have all located their headquarters here.





Art and Culture

Northampton is home to a number of galleries, museums and creative organisations, with the University playing a central role in the rising growth of the creative industries in the region. Avenue Campus has established an excellent reputation as an open, regional 'arts centre for all'. The campus is a venue for film lovers with our cinema showing both art house and commercial films. There are also art gallery viewings, theatre performances and exhibitions taking place throughout the year. Theatre lovers will be spoilt for choice in Northampton following the recent £14m redevelopment of the Royal and Derngate theatre complex. The University and Theatres have a close relationship. Graduation ceremonies and the annual Fashion Show are held in the main auditorium. The town offers two multi-screen cinema complexes.

Sport

If you are interested in sports then why not watch world class rugby at the Northampton Saints' ground, or cheer on our local football teams: the Cobblers and Rushden & Diamonds. Cricket fans will enjoy national and international matches at the County Ground. Northamptonshire is the home of British motor sport. Both the world famous Silverstone race track and Rockingham Motor Speedway stadium are within easy travelling distance from the town. For adrenalin junkies the surrounding area offers access to flying, sky diving, gliding, skiing and snowboarding, not to mention a vast selection of water sports.



Teaching Excellence

One of the main reasons why international students choose to study in the UK is the high quality of teaching and research. All UK universities are subject to very strict quality controls on course curriculum, academic standards, teaching staff and on facilities and resources. The QAA (Quality Assurance Agency) is the UK Government body which oversees academic standards and the overall quality of Higher Education in UK universities.

As a student of The University of Northampton you will have the benefit of academic staff who are experts in their field and who are active researchers in their particular area. Many of our staff are also engaged as consultants, working both within the UK and internationally for private companies, voluntary and charitable organisations as well as for local and national government departments such as the Quality Assurance Agency (QAA), Department for the Environment, Farming and Agriculture (DEFRA), HM Treasury, the European Union and overseas governments.

The University consistently performs in the top 10 of UK universities for the quality of our teaching in the i-Graduate International Student Survey.

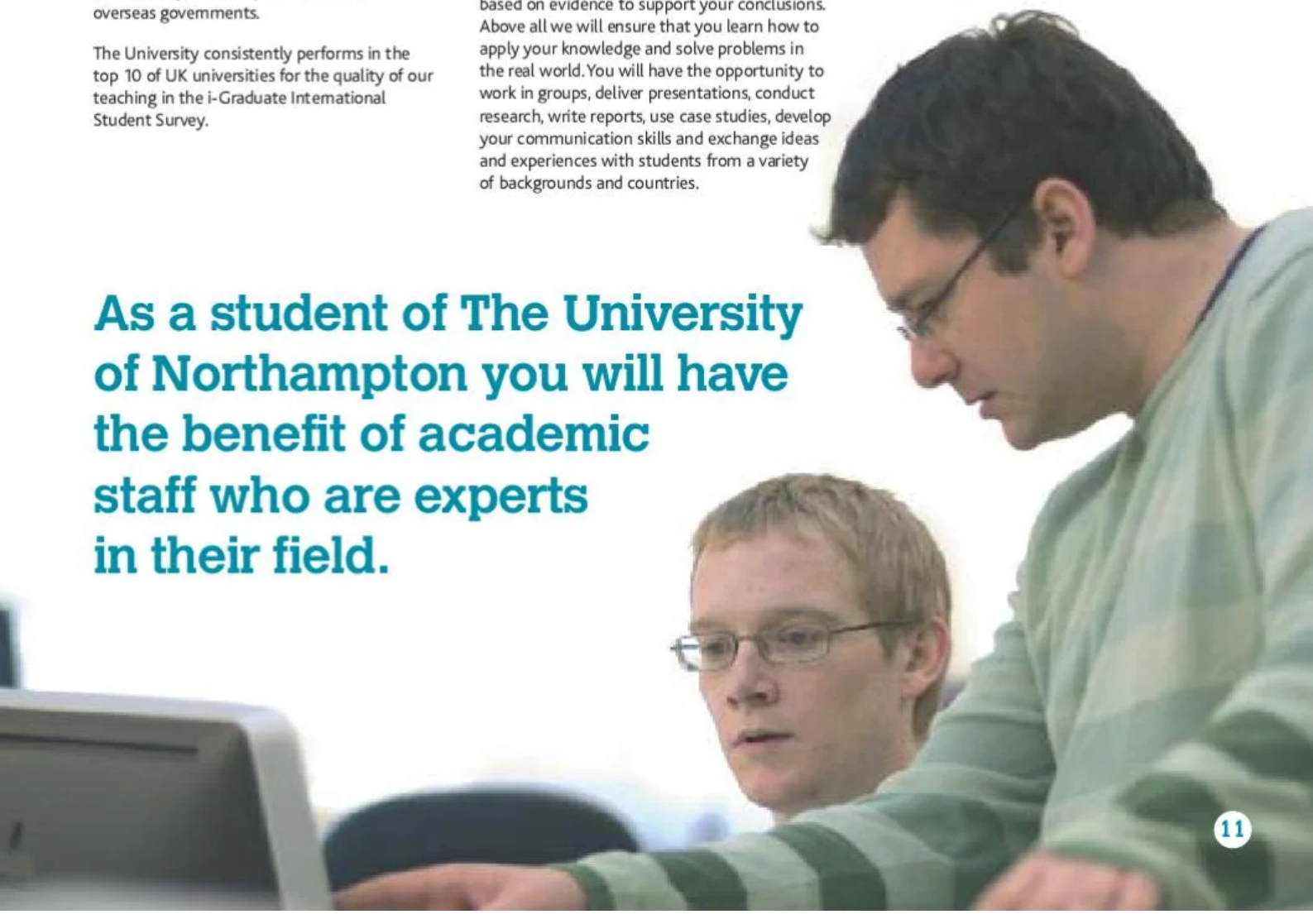
Teaching, learning and assessment styles


At the University of Northampton your teachers will use a variety of teaching styles and methods, many of which may vary from those used in your home country. The main focus of our methods is to develop you to think and work independently. We will teach you how to research and source information, how to analyse and question ideas and how to think creatively and construct logical arguments based on evidence to support your conclusions. Above all we will ensure that you learn how to apply your knowledge and solve problems in the real world. You will have the opportunity to work in groups, deliver presentations, conduct research, write reports, use case studies, develop your communication skills and exchange ideas and experiences with students from a variety of backgrounds and countries.

Teaching Excellence

The University of Northampton has always prided itself on teaching excellence. This has been recognised nationally in the UK National Teaching Awards. Since these awards were established, five of our university staff have been recognised as National Teaching Fellows. This prestigious award recognises the contribution of individuals to the development of innovative teaching at the highest level nationally and internationally.

As a student of The University of Northampton you will have the benefit of academic staff who are experts in their field.





Our dedicated team of careers advisors are on hand to assist you to develop the skills needed to be successful in the employment market.

Employability

UK qualifications are recognised world-wide as a bench-mark of quality and employers throughout the world recognise and have confidence in the high standards which underpin our postgraduate qualifications. They also appreciate that undertaking a postgraduate qualification in the UK demands a high level of motivation and commitment as well as a very significant investment in terms of time and resources.

During your time with us you will gain a wealth of experience which employers will value highly: the experience of living, studying and working in the UK, the opportunity to enhance your English language and communication skills to a high standard and the chance of meeting and interacting with fellow students from all corners of the world. Many of our alumni find the network of contacts which they establish during their time with us is invaluable when they return to full-time employment.

Many courses at The University of Northampton have a strong practical and vocational orientation with opportunities to visit local, national and multi-national companies and organisations, to meet with

local and regional employers and to apply the knowledge and skills which are embedded in the course curriculum to the real world of work. Our dedicated team of careers advisors are on hand to help you to develop your career management skills, to assist you in acquiring the skills needed to be successful in the selection process and to provide advice and guidance through the process of job search and career planning.

All types of work experience can enhance your employability; volunteering or even your part-time job can show an employer what you are capable of achieving. The University has a department which is dedicated to helping you find voluntary work if you are interested in

pursuing that opportunity. Under the terms of your student visa you will be able to work for up to 20 hours per week during term time and full time during University vacations.

Current UK immigration regulations mean that international students, after successful completion of their degree, will be eligible to extend their stay in the UK for an additional 2 years and to undertake full-time paid employment. This will provide an excellent opportunity to gain valuable experience and insight into the world of work and will significantly enhance your CV and future prospects.



Student Profiles

We appreciate that coming to study in the UK involves a significant commitment on your part in terms of finance, time and change of lifestyle. We are, therefore, always delighted by the many messages we receive from our students, both past and present on how they have found their time with us. Here are a few profiles of our students which show how they feel they have benefited from studying at The University of Northampton.



Naomi Alesworth, PAKISTAN

BA (Hons) Sociology and Third World Development

There are a number of important reasons I chose to study at The University of Northampton. The combination of subjects really appealed to me as well as the scholarship I was offered. I applied directly to the University, and although there was quite a bit of paperwork, I found it quite an easy process, and the University office in Karachi was really helpful.

Living in the UK can sometimes seem expensive for international students new to the country, but I found Northampton to be a more cost effective place to live than many other towns and cities in the UK. Most students have a job at the same time as studying and I would definitely recommend this approach to other international students. The University itself is a good place to find work, especially for student ambassador roles or working at one of the campus shops.



Abdul Al-Oudah, SAUDI ARABIA

International Foundation Programme;
BSc Paramedic Science

Abdul came to Northampton through a scholarship to study for a BSc (Hon) in Paramedic Science. Before starting this programme Abdul studied The University of Northampton International Foundation Programme for a year. Now in the second year of his BSc, Abdul is full of praise for the courses which he has studied.

"The International Foundation Programme gave me the skills I need to succeed in my Bachelors Degree and the teacher gave us lots of support."

"My course is really great because it gives me the knowledge I need to be a paramedic as well as the experience through my placement at a local ambulance station. My experience at The University of Northampton has been really positive and the staff at The International Office have been very helpful throughout my time here."



Ming Zheng, CHINA

BA (Hons) Information Systems (top up)

I have been studying at The University of Northampton for more than two years. In these two years, I have made lots of friends come from many different countries, including France, Germany, Turkey, Ghana, and Nigeria. It is amazing that we have different cultures, different mother languages, different backgrounds, and everyone likes to share the experiences, we are just like a big family. The environment in Park Campus is wonderful, there are many green spaces, and you can walk wherever and whenever you want, it just feels like home. The lecturers and tutors are very helpful and they answer all of my questions with great patience and understanding. I just want to move ahead with an incredible student life here, I received a lot of help and I'm very grateful.



Tuan Phan, VIETNAM

Pre-sessional Academic English

My experience at The University of Northampton was one of the most exciting and memorable years of my life. The English tuition and support at the University helped me to overcome the challenge of study in a country with a very different culture to my own. The enthusiasm and teaching methods of the tutors improved my skills and, most importantly made me more confident.

I came from a background of accounting and auditing KPMG Vietnam. This prior experience has helped me a lot when I became a student on the MSc Accounting and Finance. Basic and advanced book keeping, auditing, the global financial strategy are key areas that I have gained knowledge in through studying at The University of Northampton.

Finally, I would like to give special thanks to all of the enthusiastic lecturers and helpful staff at the Business School for the added value I got when studying here.



Daniela Porto, BRAZIL

BA (Hons) Fashion Marketing

Studying in the UK is a great experience in terms of the level of education and also the advantage that a UK university Degree is going to give me wherever I apply for employment.

I chose the BA Fashion Marketing course due to the popularity and therefore good quality of the course at the university. It is one of the only universities that offer this course in a quickly expanding and important career area.

The application process for the University was simple and when I arrived here the process of accommodation and settling in was made surprisingly easy by the International Office team, who provided an easy-going and safe environment where I felt at ease to ask for any help needed.



Tahnia Kapoor, INDIA

BSc (Joint Honours) Psychology and Human Resource Management

One of the main reasons which put The University of Northampton on top my list was the interview I had with the International Officer and Director. They were very forthcoming, honest about the University and also had no qualms in repeating or re-iterating a few points or queries which I had in mind. Northampton not only focuses on the academic aspect but also encompasses many others such as the creative one.

The benefits of living in Northampton is because everything is not too far off and easily accessible, commuting is not a big deal. The University campus is lovely and compact. I remember how nervous and lonely I was the first week I got here, but the student ambassadors changed that for me. They are so helpful and will go out of their way to assist you with any difficulties you are facing.

I am enjoying every bit of my student life here at Northampton.



Rispah Okelo, KENYA

BSc (Joint Honours) Human Bioscience and Health studies

Studying at The University of Northampton has been an unbelievable experience both in academics and social life. My course enables me to gain both theoretical and practical knowledge in the field which will prove valuable when I get back to my country. I have found the whole atmosphere very friendly, my fellow students as well as the lecturers are very helpful. I would definitely recommend The University of Northampton; it's the best place for life and study.



Supporting You

The University has an excellent reputation for all aspects of student support. QAA audits have repeatedly given the highest possible score for this aspect of our provision and student feedback consistently praises the friendly and approachable nature of our staff. At The University of Northampton you will not just be one of the crowd.

Academic Support

The University provides a variety of services specifically aimed at supporting your studies with us. Each student is allocated a personal tutor whom they meet on a regular basis. These tutors are academics who are members of the course team. Their main concern is to see that you are studying effectively and to ensure that there are no obstacles blocking your path to academic success. They are also concerned with your personal well being and can help you to obtain more specialist advice and support if you need it.

English Language Support

We recognise that even though you have met the University's English language requirements, you may need some additional support at some time during your course. As an international student you will be able to access free English language support throughout your studies. This takes the form of weekly seminars covering areas such as reading, writing, listening and speaking. The seminars are designed to support students in areas where they feel they have weaknesses. Individual tutorial times can also be arranged with our EFL team who are there to help students wherever possible.

The Centre for Academic Practice

The Centre for Academic Practice (CfAP) is an open learning and teaching centre with bases on both campuses. It is staffed by academic tutors who can assist students in developing all the key skills which are relevant to their course. These might, for example, include analytical thinking, statistical analysis, critical reading and dissertation preparation.

Settling In

In addition to academic support the University provides a range of personal support services to ensure that you are supported in all aspects of your university life.



Meet and Greet

The University offers a free 'Meet and Greet' service at London Heathrow Airport for international students arriving in September. Students who sign up for this service will be met at the airport by a university representative and brought directly from the airport to the university by coach, thus avoiding the problems and expense of finding your own way to Northampton. Further details about this service will be sent to you with your offer.

Welcome Week

We recognise that many of our international students will be visiting the UK for the first time. To ensure that you settle in quickly and receive all the practical advice and guidance you need, you will be invited to join our International Welcome Programme which takes place immediately prior to the start of your course. During this programme you will be given detailed information about issues such as opening a bank account, obtaining a part-time job, getting a National Insurance Number, registering with a doctor etc. We also organise a range of social activities during this week which will enable you to relax and to meet up with other international students.

Accommodation

The University has a range of on-campus accommodation available for students. International students are guaranteed on-campus accommodation provided they return the appropriate paperwork by the relevant deadline. Help can also be provided in finding private sector accommodation for those who wish to live off campus.

Student Health Service

All international students who are studying with us for more than six months are entitled to free health care under the UK's National Health Service and to assist you with any possible health-related problems, we have a Doctor's surgery on Park Campus for all students living on campus or close to the University. You can make an appointment to see either a nurse or doctor and there is a number for out of hours emergencies.

Visa Advice

The University provides advice and support in relation to immigration matters. For example, if you need to extend your visa or apply for a Post Study Work Visa, advice is available.

Career Guidance

We are aware that you have made a substantial investment in your education in order to enhance your career prospects. Our Careers Guidance team will provide advice and support throughout your time with us in order to achieve your career goals. As well as assisting you to identify and develop the skills needed to promote yourself effectively in the job market, they will also help you to hone your career management skills in order to plan ahead for the future.

Chaplaincy/Religious Provision

The University has a multi-faith Chaplaincy which serves the whole University community. The chaplains are drawn from a number of denominations and faiths and have contacts with other faith communities throughout the area. A prayer room is also provided for Muslim students.

International Office

The International Office provides advice and support throughout the application process. The team at the International Office have extensive experience in supporting international students and can provide guidance on all aspects of qualification equivalents, English language requirements and immigration and visa applications.

Campus Facilities

At The University of Northampton we provide extensive learning and research resources to support postgraduate programmes as well as a range of other campus facilities.

Libraries

The University has two libraries, one on each campus. They hold more than 375,000 books and provide access to over 15,000 printed and online journals. We have a dedicated team of academic librarians that provide subject-specific support for postgraduate students via the Enquiry Desks in the day time and an online Virtual Librarian service which can be accessed

24 hours a day. The Academic Librarians offer a range of support for learning and developing key skills in finding and using information resources, including online, one-to-one and class based tutorials. Both libraries have a Help Desk where students can ask for information and help. Help Desk staff can help with anything from finding a book to support on the computers.

IT Centres

A comprehensive computer based service is available across both campuses for staff and students. There are over 500 work stations available for student use and wireless enabled laptops can also be borrowed. Student Apple

Macs (Macs) are also available at Avenue Campus. Just like the two libraries, the IT Centres provide students with networked and wireless computer systems with printing and copying facilities. As well as full Microsoft Office packages, each machine also allows access to the World Wide Web (internet) and electronic mail (email). Many PCs and Macs offer specialised software such as Photoshop.

The IT Centres offer open access to students 24 hours a day, seven days a week. If you are new to computing there is a range of support available, from computer based tutorials to free training courses, organised on site to help you learn and develop. Personal friendly advice is available at each Help Desk.





Student Union

There are Student Union buildings on both Avenue and Park Campuses. These provide an informal venue where you can meet with other students in a relaxing environment. The SU offers a competitively priced menu of bar snacks as well as a shop selling a range of goods including phone cards, stationery, newspapers etc. At night they offer a varied entertainment programme. The Students Union also organises a wide range of clubs and societies. These are run by our students and vary from year to year, depending on student interest. Current sports clubs include Football, Rugby, Hockey, Netball and Table Tennis as well as more specialist interests such as Lacrosse, kickboxing and Tae Kwondo. The growing number of societies includes the International Student Society, the Chess Club, Afro-Caribbean Society, Christian Union, Islamic Society and the Law Society.

Restaurants

There are restaurants serving students and staff on both campuses. They provide a good range of hot and cold food and drink to suit most tastes.

Campus shops

There are mini-supermarkets and bookshops at both Park and Avenue campuses. The supermarkets stock a range of general basic foodstuffs including fresh fruit and vegetables, groceries, chilled and frozen food, dairy products, bread, newspapers etc. whilst the bookshops liaise with lecturers to stock all the prescribed and recommended titles for your course as well as general stationery, phone cards, postage stamps, etc.

Sports Facilities

The university has a number of outdoor football/rugby pitches and a fully equipped sports hall and gym. The adjoining King's Centre offers facilities for many sporting activities. In the town there are numerous sport and leisure centres, both municipal and private, three excellent swimming complexes, several golf courses in and around the area, as well as opportunities for sailing, water-skiing, canoeing and flying.





Accommodation

Living on campus at either Avenue or Park is a great way of being close to your study, making new friends and making full use of campus facilities.

Halls of Residence

The University has over 1,600 places in Halls of Residence on both campuses and our Halls of Residence provide a friendly and lively community in which to live. We have a guaranteed place scheme for students who are new to the University and who complete all the necessary documents and payments by the closing date as given in your offer letter.

You will have your own single room (there are a limited number of double rooms, but as these are cheaper, demand usually exceeds supply) and will share kitchen facilities with five or six other students. All our on-campus accommodation is self-catering. Many rooms have en-suite facilities. There is also the opportunity to select a room in a female only Hall of Residence.

The rooms are furnished with bed, desk, wardrobe, bookshelves and chair. The rent which you pay includes all utility bills (heating, lighting, water and electricity). On arrival you will be provided with a pack containing bed linen, duvet cover, pillow and kitchen equipment. This will cost approximately £50.

The Halls of Residence provide a friendly and lively community in which to live. The University Residential Life Team provide fulltime members of staff who are available to provide advice and support for students 24 hours per day. In addition, there is a team of student Assistant Wardens who can help residents with any queries or problems. Internet access is available in the vast majority of our rooms for a small additional charge. Those rooms which do not have internet access are within a short distance of a computer suite which is available 24/7.

Private Rented Accommodation

Whilst we strongly recommend that all postgraduate students seek accommodation in our Halls of Residence, you may wish to seek accommodation in the Private Rented Sector. Information about vacancies in student houses are on our database which can be accessed via Accommodation Services Home Page: <http://www.northampton.ac.uk/info/20163/accommodation>

Accommodation Costs

Living costs in Northampton are lower than in most major centres in the UK. Despite being only one hour by train from London, you can expect to pay approximately 30% less for your accommodation in Northampton than elsewhere.

Virtual Tour

We realise that it may be very difficult for you to choose which type of accommodation you would prefer to apply for from a distance. To assist you with this the University web site has a virtual tour facility showing our accommodation. Please visit <http://www.northampton.ac.uk/info/20163/accommodation/243/halls-of-residence>



Working in the UK

Northampton offers many opportunities for part-time work and most of our students have part-time jobs in local businesses.

While you study

International students who come to study on a full-time programme in the UK for more than 6 months will be allowed to work part-time during their studies. Your student visa will allow you to work for up to 20 hours per week during term time and full-time during the University vacations.

Job Shop

The University provides a 'Job Shop' which is based in the Student Centre and is dedicated to helping students find suitable work which they can fit around their studies. The UK has minimum wage legislation which means that you cannot be paid less than the amount set by the Government. On average, our students earn between £5.00 and £6.00 per hour. The money you earn from part-time work is, of course, useful in helping you to meet some of your expenses, but you cannot rely on part-time work for the payment of your tuition fees and accommodation.

To assist you in this area, the University provides advice in obtaining employment and guidance about tax and National Insurance matters.



After graduation

Recent changes to the UK immigration rules (The Post Study Work Visa) mean that undergraduate students will be allowed to stay in the UK and work for up to two years after successful completion of their course of studies. This opportunity could, of course, provide a valuable insight into working in the UK and will significantly enhance your CV and future employment prospects when you return to your home country or seek work anywhere in the world. Our careers service will be able to provide advice and guidance about job-search techniques and tools and you can obtain up-to-date information about any changes to the visa regulations from our Student Services.

How much will it cost?

Living costs in Northampton are lower than in most major UK cities making student life more affordable. On average you should budget for between £6,000 and £7,000 per annum, for accommodation, food, clothing, travel, books etc. This amount is in addition to your tuition fees.

Tuition Fees

The tuition fees for individual courses vary. Please refer to the 'International Students' section of the University web-site for up-to-date information about fees for international students: www.northampton.ac.uk

Living costs

Living in Northampton offers excellent value for money. One of our BA (Hons) Information Systems (top up) students, Ming Zheng, kindly provided an estimate of his living costs for a year as follows-

University Halls of Residence accommodation	£2,750
Food and toiletries	£1,500
Books and stationery	£250
Travel (excluding international flights)	£200
Laundry	£150
Mobile phone	£150
Insurance	£50
Clothes	£350
Social life	£1,000
Estimated living costs for 12 months in Northampton	£6,400

This is a guide only. Obviously life style and preferences vary from student to student.

International Scholarship Scheme

As the University is committed to widening participation in Higher Education, particularly for international students, we make every effort to ensure that our courses are affordable and offer value for money. To support this mission we have established a Scholarship Scheme which provides financial support for international students with strong academic backgrounds. These awards are merit based and can reduce your tuition fees by 25%. All undergraduate courses fall within the scheme and all students are, therefore, eligible to apply. Full details of the application process and deadlines can be found on the International Students section of our web-site www.northampton.ac.uk

Other sources of funding for international postgraduate students

The majority of students who come to the UK for their undergraduate studies support themselves through private means, usually from a combination of savings, loans or family support. Some international students seek assistance via scholarships provided by their home country, the UK government, international organisations or charitable trusts. Competition for these funds is very fierce. For further help and guidance on other sources of funding please contact your local British Council office or visit the British Council web-site: www.britishcouncil.org or visit the UKCISA web-site at www.ukcisa.org.uk