

PRE-ARRIVAL GUIDE 2019/20

STUDY ABROAD & ERASMUS +

“It is fantastic that you’re joining us as a Study Abroad or Erasmus student. For over 40 years students have been coming to Goldsmiths for a few months or a year, quickly becoming full members of the community and returning home with experience, insights and personal connections that they take with them throughout their lives.

We hope you take advantage of all Goldsmiths has to offer during your time with us, including our excellent student support services, the Academic Skills Centre, our creative facilities, and our Students’ Union with its wealth of societies and sports teams you can be part of.

New Cross is a brilliant place to study, with an arty and multicultural character and a huge array of social activities and events going on. We look forward to welcoming you to London and to Goldsmiths so you can discover these things for yourself.”

Charley Robinson
**Head of International
Recruitment & Global
Opportunities**

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MEET THE GLOBAL OPPORTUNITIES TEAM

The Global Opportunities team are your main point of contact at Goldsmiths. They can assist with anything from advice about London, to help with navigating Goldsmiths. If you have any questions it's best to contact the Global Opportunities team and they can point you in the right direction.



From left: Tom, Jack, Shannon, Ed, and Charley

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BEFORE YOU ARRIVE

ACCEPT YOUR OFFER

You can accept your offer of study here: bit.ly/acceptoffer2019.

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.

ARRANGE YOUR VISA

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, or email immigration@gold.ac.uk.

PRE-ENROLMENT

You will be emailed instructions on how to complete online pre-enrolment in late August.

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

If you have any questions about this, or you don't receive the email, please contact enrolment@gold.ac.uk.

Once you arrive at Goldsmiths you will also need to enrol in person (for more information about this please see page 10).

PLAN YOUR JOURNEY TO GOLDSMITHS

We advise that you book travel to arrive in London during the daytime on Friday 20 or Saturday 21 September, particularly if you are living in university accommodation.

If you have already arranged to arrive on a later day or time don't worry – Goldsmiths accommodation is staffed 24 hours a day so you will still be able to move in. Please note you won't be able to move in earlier than 20 September. See page 9 for advice on traveling to campus from London's major airports.

CHOOSE YOUR MODULES

You must complete the online form sent to you via email in July in order to choose your modules. If you did not receive this email, or you'd like to change the modules you've chosen please email studyabroad@gold.ac.uk (for Study Abroad students) or goabroad@gold.ac.uk (for Erasmus students).

We will be in touch before the start of term to confirm what modules you have been allocated. Unfortunately, there may be changes in availability and some modules do have space restrictions so we cannot guarantee you a space on your first choice modules.

For more information about modules see page 15.

DISABILITY ADJUSTMENTS

If you have a disability and require adjustments or support during your time at Goldsmiths please get in touch with our disability team as soon as possible via disability@gold.ac.uk (see page 13 for more information).

WHAT TO BRING

We recommend only to pack essential items. Things like bedding, towels, and kitchenware can be bought in London to save space. There is a large supermarket near campus where you can purchase these items.

CLOTHING

The weather can be unpredictable and it can rain at any time, 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

We recommend bring some money in cash with you just in case. We also advise that you set up a bank account in your home country that does not charge international withdrawal or exchange fees. For more information about bank accounts see page 11.

PRESCRIPTION MEDICINE

These should be accompanied by a letter from your doctor if stored in unlabelled containers.

YOUR PASSPORT

THINGS TO REMIND YOU OF HOME

WHAT TO BUY HERE

BEDDING

Sheets, duvets/blankets, pillows

KITCHENWARE

Cutlery and plates, pots and pans

CLEANING PRODUCTS

Washing up liquid, sponges, wipes

STATIONARY

You can buy all the stationary you need in the Student Shop on campus

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.

WHAT IS PROVIDED

The communal kitchens in 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. You also have access to free wifi, and 24-hour security.

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](#). For more information about accommodation see page 10.

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. There is a bookshop on campus called The Word, and you can also buy books second-hand from Amazon.

GETTING TO GOLDSMITHS

The university's address is:

*Goldsmiths, University of London
Lewisham Way
New Cross
London
SE14 6NW*

Tel: +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*

Tel: +44 (0)20 7919 7133

From Heathrow Airport (about 80 minutes from New Cross)

Take the Piccadilly line (blue colour line) eastbound to Green Park. At Green Park change and get the Jubilee Line (silver colour line) southbound to Canada Water. At Canada Water change and get the Overground (orange colour line) to New Cross Gate.

From Gatwick Airport (about 45 minutes from New Cross)

Take the train from Gatwick airport to London Bridge. At London Bridge change platforms and take a train to New Cross Gate.

From City Airport (about 45 minutes from New Cross)

Take the DLR to Westferry. At Westferry change trains and take the DLR to Deptford Bridge. Deptford Bridge station is around a 15 minute walk to Goldsmiths campus or a 5 minute bus ride. You can take the 53, 177, or 453 bus and get off at the Marquis of Granby Goldsmiths stop.

From Stansted Airport (about 80 minutes from New Cross)

Take the Stansted Express to Liverpool Street station. Leave the station and walk 10 minutes to Shoreditch High Street station (alternatively take the 388 or 8 bus – approximately 5 minutes) and board the Overground (orange colour line) to New Cross Gate.

From Luton Airport (about 80 minutes from New Cross)

Shuttle buses connect the airport to Luton Station. Take the train to London Bridge, then change platforms and take another train to New Cross Gate.

Taxis

Taxis in London are expensive, and there is often a lot of traffic so journeys can take a long time. However, if you'd prefer to travel by taxi we recommend you book one in advance from a trusted company such as Addison Lee.

ACCOMMODATION

All students who are studying for a single term will be housed in Loring Hall. Full year students are also likely to be housed in Loring Hall, unless you have made a different selection during your accommodation application.

LORING HALL

You will have a single room with an ensuite bathroom. The kitchen will be shared with the others members of your flat. There are usually six to eight students in a flat.

All of our halls of residence are self-catered, meaning that there is no meal plan available.

For more information about what is provided in Goldsmiths accommodation see page 7.

LAUNDRY

You will have access to coin or smart phone operated laundry facilities. Loring Hall laundry is situated by St James Hall Garden.

WHEN YOU ARRIVE

ENROL AS A GOLDSMITHS STUDENT

You will be invited to attend an enrolment session at Goldsmiths. It's very important that you attend, as this is the process by which you officially become a Goldsmiths student. **YOU MUST BRING YOUR PASSPORT WITH YOU.** You will receive your student ID card at this session.

You must ensure that you complete your online pre-enrolment before attending the enrolment session.

Please note that the enrolment session is NOT related to module enrolment.

ATTEND STUDY ABROAD AND ERASMUS ORIENTATION

We will send out further details of this session closer to the start of Welcome Week.

TAKE A LIBRARY, CAMPUS, AND LOCAL AREA TOUR

This is the best way to familiarise yourself with the campus and your new home.

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. See page 12 for more information.

TAKE PART IN WELCOME WEEK ACTIVITIES

There are lots of activities and events taking place during Welcome Week. This is a great opportunity to get involved in Goldsmiths life, meet other students and try something new! Make sure you head to the Student Life fair to sign up to the large variety of clubs and societies.

Further details about Welcome Week will be sent via email over the coming weeks.

SETTING UP A UK BANK ACCOUNT

Many students who are studying in the UK for a short amount of time can't set up a UK bank account. Instead you can set up an account in your home country that does not charge any international fees.

If you are eligible to set up an account in the UK you will need to bring your passport, proof of UK address, and proof of your student status. You can get a confirmation of enrolment letter from the Student Centre.

There is a Santander bank located on campus. Staff there will be able to help you during Welcome Week. You can also set up a Santander account online.

HEALTHCARE

REGISTERING WITH A LOCAL DOCTOR

If you are from a country within 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.

If you are from outside the EEA and are studying for less than six months then you should make sure you have private health insurance from the beginning of your stay. You will not be entitled to free access to the NHS and you will need to pay for any medical care at the point of use.

It's very important you register with a doctor as soon as you can when you arrive in the UK. Please do not wait until you are ill to do so. You can register at the New Cross Health Centre if you live within two or three miles of Goldsmiths:

*New Cross Health Centre
Suite 3, Waldron Health Centre
Amersham Vale
New Cross
London
SE14 6LD
Tel: 020 3049 2249
newcrosshc.co.uk*

DENTISTS

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 bit.ly/findadentist2019.

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
- Letter requests (Schengen, bank, 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, DISABILITY AND SUPPORT

WELLBEING TEAM

Wellbeing Advisers are specialist practitioners who offer mental health advice and support to students with personal, emotional or mental health issues. They can help with a wide range of issues including (but not limited to): academic pressure, anxiety, sexuality and/or gender issues, trauma, depression, and family and relationship issues.

Wellbeing Advisers can support you by helping you register or make an appointment with a doctor, navigate NHS mental health services, help you develop a Staying Safe plan to prepare for times of crisis, advise on applying for extenuating circumstance, and external mentoring. They can also signpost and refer students to other services.

You can access the Wellbeing Advisers by attending a drop-in session in the Richard Hoggart Building room 123, or book an appointment by emailing wellbeing@gold.ac.uk. More information can be found at gold.ac.uk/students/wellbeing/wellbeing-service.

DISABILITY TEAM

The Disability Service arranges adjustments and provides support for students who have a disability, long term health condition, mental health condition or Specific Learning Difficulty (SpLD). We endeavour to put the same adjustments in place that you receive at your home university.

Disability Advisers can provide confidential advice, identify and organise appropriate academic support, arrange for support workers, provide information about equipment or assistive technology, and signpost to other support services.

You must provide evidence of your disability and meet with a Goldsmiths Disability Adviser in order to arrange adjustments. There are dedicated visiting hours every Tuesday, or you can email disability@gold.ac.uk. If you require support or adjustments for a disability please let our disability team know as soon as possible.

More information about the service and making an appointment is at gold.ac.uk/students/disability-support.

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. More information can be found at gold.ac.uk/chaplaincy.

CAMPUS SUPPORT OFFICERS

The Campus Support Officers provide out of hours support. They are available from 6pm to 6am every day of the week and are the first point of call for absolutely anything. They are based in Loring Hall Management Centre and can be reached on 020 7919 7284 or campus-support@gold.ac.uk.

For more information about Campus Support Officers, visit gold.ac.uk/students/cso.

PHONES AND CALLING HOME

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 order a UK SIM card through giffgaff (giffgaff.com). They offer SIM only monthly deals for a reasonable price. You're also free to leave when you want, or change your plan.

BUYING A MOBILE PHONE

Carphone Warehouse is the largest independent store, but you can even buy a phone from supermarkets. It's a good idea to shop around.

MODULES, TIMETABLES, AND STUDY SUPPORT

There is a big network of academic support in place at Goldsmiths to help you adjust to a new academic system.

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.

ADD/DROP

The first two weeks of teaching are an add/drop period. You will be able to change modules during this period, but please be aware that modules may have become full by this point and not every module will work with your timetable. If you want to change modules it's very important to speak to the Global Opportunities team – you can email studyabroad@gold.ac.uk if you are a Study Abroad student or goabroad@gold.ac.uk if you are an Erasmus student, or you can visit the team in person at their Batavia Road office. You must speak to the team first before you can change modules.

Please note that any module changes will take a few days to be reflected in your timetable. Your name will not be included on module registers until the end of the add/drop period.

INTERNATIONAL LIAISON OFFICERS (ILOs) AND ERASMUS ACADEMIC COORDINATORS (EACs)

For Study Abroad students, ILOs are the main point of contact within each department. For Erasmus students, the 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. We will provide a list of these closer to the start of term.

ACADEMIC SKILLS CENTRE

The Academic Skills Centre is based in the library. They offer workshops, online resources, and one-to-one sessions to help support you in areas such as academic writing, referencing, managing your studies, reading, and researching. For more information, and to book spaces on workshops and sessions please visit gold.ac.uk/asc.

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 (ull.ac.uk).

GOLDSMITHS STUDENTS' UNION

As a Goldsmiths student you have automatic, free membership to the Students' Union (SU). 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.

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.

The SU also runs hundreds of different societies at Goldsmiths which all cater to different interests, so you can be sure to find a new hobby or settle into an old passion. Joining a society is the best way to meet new people and make new friends so we strongly encourage you to get involved. There's a society for everything - from debating, to fashion, to photography, to drama.

There are also all types of sports teams, including basketball, hockey, ultimate Frisbee, and tennis. You can choose if you want to take part in the team recreationally or competitively.

Find a full list of societies and sports teams at goldsmithssu.org/activities/list.

WELCOME WEEK

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 22 September – you will be notified by email when you need to enrol.

The Global Opportunities team will also hold a mandatory orientation session, as well as extra events specific to Study Abroad and Erasmus students. You will receive a schedule of these via email.

TRAVELLING AROUND LONDON

Goldsmiths is less than a five minute 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 smart card 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. If you have a contactless bank card you can use this instead.

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 Overground runs a 24-hour rail service to and from New Cross Gate from Friday evenings to Sunday mornings. You can use apps like Citymapper and Google Maps to help plan your journeys.

IMPORTANT GOLDSMITHS DATES

20 SEPTEMBER

You can move into Goldsmiths accommodation from this date

22-27 SEPTEMBER

Welcome Week ends

30 SEPTEMBER

Teaching begins

11 OCTOBER

Add/drop ends

W/C 4 NOVEMBER

Reading week

13 DECEMBER

End of term

15 DECEMBER

Goldsmiths accommodation move-out date

CHECKLISTS

BEFORE YOU ARRIVE

- Accept your offer
- Arrange your visa
- Arrange accommodation
- Pre-enrolment
- Plan your journey to Goldsmiths
- Choose your modules
- Disability adjustments

WHEN YOU ARRIVE

- Enrol as a Goldsmiths student
- Attend Study Abroad and Erasmus orientation session
- Take a library tour, a campus tour, and a local area tour
- Register with a doctor and dentist
- Take part in Welcome Week activities