

Fact Sheet 2026-27

Incoming Study Exchange Student Information Loughborough University

School of Social Sciences and Humanities

Study Areas: Media & Communications; Criminology, Sociology & Social Policy; Geography & Environment; English; International Relations, Politics and History



Contact Information	
For any questions regarding the application process, arriving at Loughborough University, timetabling issues or general enquiries please contact us:	
Placements and Study Exchanges Manager Sarah Taylor	+44 (0)1509 228329 Sshexchanges@lboro.ac.uk
Placements and Study Exchanges Administrator Yesmin Choudhury	+44 (0)1509 228275 Sshexchanges@lboro.ac.uk
School Director of Study Exchange Dr Duncan Depledge	Sshexchanges@lboro.ac.uk
For any academic questions regarding module options and module assessments, please contact the relevant Department Study Exchange Tutor:	
Media & Communication Dr Taeyoung Kim	T.Kim2@lboro.ac.uk
Criminology, Sociology & Social Policy Dr Masahiro Suzuki	M.Suzuki@lboro.ac.uk
Geography & Environment Dr Azmeary Ferdoush	M.Ferdoush@lboro.ac.uk
English Dr Paul Jenner	p.a.jenner@lboro.ac.uk

Location

The town of Loughborough is located at the heart of England in the county of Leicestershire. Main line road and rail networks link Loughborough directly with the rest of the country, and the town itself is served by excellent bus services. Students can easily access some of the UK's larger cities (London, Nottingham, Birmingham) by train. There are regular scheduled flights from European and international destinations to East Midlands Airport, which is approximately seven miles away.



University history

In 1909, a small Technical Institute in the centre of Loughborough was established, which provided local facilities for further education and offered courses in technical subjects, science and art. In 1966, Loughborough was awarded its Charter and became the country's first technological university known as Loughborough University of Technology. In 1996, it was renamed Loughborough University and has since become one of the leading universities in the United Kingdom. The Loughborough campus stands on a 523 acre single site providing a home to student accommodation, academic buildings and world-class sporting facilities as well as offering plenty of open spaces and gardens.

Academic Calander

Semester dates for academic year 2026/27

Semester 1: 28 September 2026 – 05 February 2027
 Semester 2: 8 February 2027 – 4 June 2027

Term dates for academic year 2026/27

Autumn Term: 28 September 2026 – 18 December 2026
 Spring Term: 11 January 2027 – 19 March 2027
 Summer Term: 12 April 2027 – 04 June 2027

Main holiday periods (no classes):
 Christmas 2026-27: 21 December 2026 – 08 January 2027
 Easter 2027: 22 March - 09 April 2027

[Term dates and semesters](#) | [Student Handbook](#) | [Loughborough University \(lboro.ac.uk\)](#)

Induction dates

For Semester 1 and Full Year students, there will be an induction and welcome event in the week commencing 28 September 2026.

For Semester 2 students, there will be an induction and welcome event in the week commencing 8 February 2027.

Further information about induction and welcome events will be sent directly to students. General information can be found here:
<https://www.lboro.ac.uk/students/welcome/international/induction/>

Assessment dates

Modules are examined at the end of the semester in which they are taught. These are usually scheduled in Weeks 13 - 15 of each semester.

Examinations are not scheduled on Sundays or Bank Holidays.

Should reassessment be required, the Special Assessment Period is from late August to early September 2027.

<https://www.lboro.ac.uk/students/handbook/assessments/exams/>

Application Information and Deadlines

Application deadlines

Where possible, we would prefer nominations for all dates (including Semester 2) to be made during the first nomination window. However, this is not compulsory. Any nominations for Semester 2 made during the first nomination window would not be asked to complete an application under the semester 2 application window.

The nominations and application windows are as follows:

For Semester 1 and Full Year exchanges commencing 28 September 2026:
 Nominations: 15 March – 30 April 2026
 Applications: 1 May – 15 June 2026

For Semester 2 exchanges commencing 8 February 2027:
 Nominations: 15 August – 30 September 2026

	<p>Applications: 1 October – 15 November 2026</p> <p>Please note that applications cannot be accepted after the deadlines of 15 June and 15 November 2026.</p>
Application information	Students are required to complete and submit an Incoming Exchange Student Application Form which will be emailed to nominated students.
Supporting documentation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Copy of passport personal details page. - Certified and official transcript from home institution. - Learning agreement. <p>Coming to study in the UK for more than six months? <i>Unless you have a UK or Irish passport, you will need to apply for a Student visa, and will need to submit certified evidence that your English language competency meets the University's requirements. Further details can be found in the section on English language requirements:</i> English language requirements International Loughborough University (lboro.ac.uk)</p>

Academic Information

Courses available to exchange students	<p>Exchange students are required to be hosted by one Department and to take at least 20 ECTS credits from that department.</p> <p>Please refer to the Module Catalogue which can be found at: https://www.lboro.ac.uk/study/overseas-exchange/incoming/applying/modules-credits/.</p> <p>Each Department has a Study Exchange Tutor who can provide academic advice on module choices.</p>
Credits and course load	The normal workload for a full-time student is 120 Loughborough credits per academic year (i.e. 60 credits per semester). For incoming exchange students, Loughborough has adopted ECTS as its credits system. Students are expected to participate in credit-bearing modules totalling 60 ECTS credits per academic year or 30 ECTS credits per semester.
Language of tuition	English
English language requirements	<p>For single-semester (less than six month) exchanges: It is advised that your proficiency in English language should be at least at the level of CEFR Level B2 (independent user); however, no formal language qualification is required during the application process.</p> <p>For full year (more than six months) exchanges: You will need to provide certified evidence that your English language competency meets the University's requirements to support your student visa application.</p> <p>For an approved list of English language qualifications, see: https://www.lboro.ac.uk/international/apply/english-language-requirements/</p>
Intensive language courses	<p>The Academic Language Support Service offers a range of support to students, including academic writing, study skills and pre-sessional courses for international students, who have not yet reached the required level of English for their chosen degree programme. Further information can be found here: https://www.lboro.ac.uk/services/student-services/topics/pre-sessional-programmes/</p>
Grading system	<p><i>Undergraduate degree classifications:</i> 70%+ First Class Honours 60%+ Second Class Honours Upper 50%+ Second Class Honours Lower 40%+ Third Class Honours At undergraduate degree level, the pass mark for a module is 40 or above.</p> <p><i>Postgraduate taught degree classifications:</i> 70%+ Distinction</p>

Accommodation	
General information for Loughborough campus	<p>All applications for on campus accommodation are submitted online. Once your application to study has been approved, you will receive an acceptance letter from the Central Study Exchanges Administration team and this will have your University ID number. You will then be able to apply for on campus accommodation.</p> <p>Please note that on-campus accommodation is limited. Rooms are allocated on a first-come, first-served basis until the maximum capacity has been reached. This means that there is no guarantee that incoming exchange students will be allocated rooms in Halls of Residence, therefore you must be prepared to live off-campus if required.</p> <p>Further information can be found at: https://www.lboro.ac.uk/services/accommodation/.</p> <p>There are rooms available in the local town, in both private house shares and private halls. For year-long exchange students, these are opportunities that you may want to consider as an alternative to living on campus.</p> <p>https://www.lboro.ac.uk/services/accommodation/off-campus/</p> <p>Availability of local accommodation for a single semester can be more difficult to find, but the private halls have been known to offer rooms on that basis.</p>
Accommodation application deadline	<p>For Semester 1 and Full Year exchanges commencing in September 2026, students can apply for a room on campus when they have received their formal study exchange acceptance letter from the University (usually during the months of July and August).</p> <p>Please note that the process of offering students a room in on-campus accommodation does not usually take place until the end of August/beginning of September.</p> <p>For Semester 2 exchanges commencing in February 2027, applications for on-campus accommodation can be made once students have received their formal study exchange acceptance letter (usually at the end of November and during December, before the University closes for the Christmas holiday).</p> <p>Accommodation offers will be sent out by email in December 2026/January 2027.</p>
Accommodation for students with specific requirements	<p>Loughborough University can accommodate students with specific requirements (e.g. cultural, dietary, medical, religious, etc.).</p> <p>Further information can be found at: https://www.lboro.ac.uk/services/accommodation/faq/specific-requirements/</p>
Cost of living	<p>Loughborough is not an expensive town to live in by UK standards, but students must consider the cost of accommodation, food, study materials, local travel and other general living expenses. It is estimated that, when students budget for the duration of their studies, they should allow approximately £900 - £1,100 month, but personal expenditure will vary from student to student.</p>
	<p>60%+ Merit 50%+ Pass At postgraduate degree level, the pass mark for a module is 50 or above.</p>

Immigration Information	
Visa and entry requirements	<p>It is recommended that students:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Check carefully for any visa requirements in accordance with the UK Government website: https://www.gov.uk/check-uk-visa. - Ensure that they meet the requirements for entering the UK: https://www.gov.uk/uk-border-control. <p>The Student Advice and Support Service at Loughborough University also has a dedicated website which provides advice to international students on matters such as visas. Further information can be found at: https://www.lboro.ac.uk/services/student-services/category/international-students/.</p>

Arrival	
Nearest airport to Loughborough	East Midlands Airport (approximately seven miles)
Other UK airports	Birmingham Airport Gatwick Airport Heathrow Airport London Luton Airport London Stansted Airport Manchester Airport
Does the University offer a free airport pick-up service?	Yes, but only from Terminal 2 at London Heathrow Airport at the start of the academic year. Please note that this service is not available to Semester 2 exchange students. For further information, see: https://www.lboro.ac.uk/international/locations/loughborough/travel-information/heathrow-coach-service/ .
Travelling from the airport	There are a number of ways to get to Loughborough from each airport with widely varying times and costs. It is, however, recommended that you look at the options for travelling either by coach or rail. Further details can be found in the Incoming Exchange Student Handbook: https://www.lboro.ac.uk/international/travel-information/

Travel Insurance and Healthcare	
Travel insurance	You are advised to take out adequate travel insurance to cover your journey, including cover for medical expenses and personal possessions.
Healthcare	<p>EU, EEA and Swiss nationals coming to study in the UK <i>for less than six months</i> are not eligible for free healthcare under the NHS and will have to pay the full cost of medical treatment. However, if you are an EU, EEA or Swiss national with a European Health Insurance Card (EHIC), you will be exempt from some medical costs, therefore it is important that you apply for an EHIC in your own country and bring it with you.</p> <p>EU, EEA and Swiss nationals coming to study in the UK <i>for more than six months</i> must apply for a Student visa. As part of the visa application process, you will have to pay the Immigration Health Surcharge, which is based on the maximum length of visa that could be granted, i.e. for each year and each part year between 6-12 months.</p> <p>International students (i.e. non-EU, non-EEA and non-Swiss nationals) coming to study in the UK <i>for less than six months</i> as a Visitor cannot receive treatment on the National Health Service (unless it is an emergency).</p> <p>International students (i.e. non-EU, non-EEA and non-Swiss nationals) coming to study in the UK <i>for more than six months</i> must apply for a Student visa. As part of the visa application process, you will have to pay the Immigration Health Surcharge, which is based on the maximum length of visa that could be granted, i.e. for each year and each part year between 6-12 months.</p> <p>For further information, see: https://www.gov.uk/healthcare-immigration-application.</p>
Are healthcare facilities available at the University?	The University's Medical Centre is located centrally on campus, but you can only register as a patient if you are studying in the UK for a full academic year. If you are studying at Loughborough for one semester only and you become unwell, it is recommended that you seek the advice of the University's pharmacist, who has premises located outside the Students' Union. Alternatively, you could visit the NHS Urgent Care Centre in Loughborough Hospital which is situated very close to the University campus.
Support for students with disabilities	Students with physical, mental or long-term health conditions are encouraged to disclose them on the Incoming Student Application Form so that any requisite assistance and support can be put in place. For details of the support services offered to students, see: https://www.lboro.ac.uk/services/student-services/ .

Peer Mentor Scheme

All incoming exchange students coming to Loughborough University are assigned a peer mentor – a current LU student who will be a contact throughout the study exchange. At the start of the academic year exchange students are invited to meet with their peer mentors. Following the introductory meeting, students can contact their peer mentor to discuss any issues, and the peer mentors check in with their mentees at regular intervals to see if they are OK.

