

Focus on...

- Libraries, Museums & Study Facilities
- Student Experience (Volunteering & Team Durham)
- Performing Arts (Music & Theatre)
- Durham Students' Union
- Placement Years
- Study Abroad
- International Office



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Find out more about...

Libraries, Museums and Study Facilities

The Bill Bryson Library (Map Ref 17:E6) is the largest of the University's libraries and provides access to resources for all subjects. It has 1800 study spaces including individual and group study rooms, collaborative and quiet study areas as well as a café. Access is provided to 1.6 million printed books, 19,000 e-journals and over 400,000 e-books and other digital items. Many Colleges also have small libraries and study rooms. You can visit the Bill Bryson Library to take a self-guided tour between 9.30 am and 1.30 pm.

There is a library at Durham University Business School, and Leazes Road Library supports the School of Education and provides study space for all students.

We also have a further two locations to mention, boasting Durham University's world-class collections of art, archaeology, archives, rare books and manuscripts:

Palace Green Library, located between the Castle and Cathedral, (Map Ref 37:D3) was once the main University Library, it incorporates buildings dating back to the 15th century. It now houses the University's extensive archives and special collections, accessed in the Barker Research Library, which also provides 60 quiet student study spaces, galleries with both permanent and changing exhibitions, and events for families and school groups throughout the year.

The Oriental Museum, just off Mill Hill Lane opposite Van Mildert College (Map Ref 69:B8). It is home to galleries with both permanent and changing exhibitions, and events for families and schools groups throughout the year.

Galleries and collections in both venues support the University's research and teaching across the faculties, from foundation studies to doctoral level. Students are entitled to free entry to galleries and some enlist as volunteers or take up placement opportunities as part of their career development. A diverse programme of special events and temporary exhibitions ensures that there is always something new to see and do.



Find out more about... Student Experience Directorate

Alongside academic excellence we place high value on providing experiences that will stretch and develop you. Experiences may happen inside colleges, through intercollege competitions, within the Students' Union or as part of the multitude of activities co-ordinated under the Student Experience Directorate.

The Directorate is responsible for co-ordinating university sport, staff and student volunteering and outreach, student theatre and music. Take a look at the sections below to find out how to explore more of each aspect.



DU Student Volunteering and Outreach

Students have endless opportunities to get involved with volunteering activities either within the University-wide, student-led, volunteering programme or with their college, department, society, or club. Last year more than 2500 students volunteered in the community, supporting over 500 opportunities, across the themes of culture, education, environment, social action, and sport and wellbeing. The direction and focus of volunteering at Durham is driven by an elected student executive committee. DUSVO (Durham University Student Volunteering and Outreach) is the largest volunteering organisation at Durham with over 25 student-led, community focussed projects and more than 50 student leadership opportunities.



Supporting over 100 local schools, charities and organisations, there are a wealth of opportunities available to students, but if you do not find what you are looking for, you can propose a new initiative, which you will be supported with.

To round up each year of success, we hold an annual celebration for all of our volunteers at the Durham University Volunteer Awards, where we recognise volunteers' achievements and the positive impact they have had on the community. Why not pop along to speak to representatives at the Sports and Wellbeing Park (Map Ref 19/17) between 9.30 am - 1.00 pm.

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Team Durham

Sport at Durham focuses on the core strands of performance, leadership, participation and community outreach. More than 75% of our students take part in sports on a regular basis. Our philosophy is to provide opportunities in sport to enable exceptional people to do exceptional things.

If you are a high-performance athlete, aspiring to play in University first teams, then please contact Albert Potts (a.d.potts@durham.ac.uk) for further information.

More details available at durham.ac.uk/colleges-and-student-experience/team-durham

You can take a look around our Sports and Wellbeing Park located at Maiden Castle (Map Ref 19:H7) any time between 9.30 am to 4.30 pm. We will also have representatives available for you to speak to about Team Durham Sport at the Sports and Wellbeing Park between 9.30 am - 1.00 pm.



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Performing Arts

Music Durham

Durham's musical life is so active and diverse that it is hard to escape it. From orchestras, bands, and opera, to gospel choirs, gamelan ensembles, African drumming, and chamber choirs, there is something to cater for every musical taste. Music Durham is the umbrella organisation that oversees Durham University's music societies, chapel choirs and college music ensembles.

Come along to speak to representatives at the Sir Thomas Allen Assembly Rooms Theatre (Map Ref 45/D4) between 9.30 am - 1.00 pm, to find out more about how you can continue with your musical life, or start your journey.



Durham Student Theatre

One society looks after all the theatre here at Durham, encompassing over 30 different theatre companies, Durham Student Theatre showcases upwards of 90 shows a year to 15,000 audience members. Student theatre is brimming with creative, like-minded individuals who come together to perform a diverse range of shows.

Whether you want to be onstage, backstage, in the tech box or directing the whole show, Durham Student Theatre aims to provide varied opportunities and support its membership doing what they love.

Sir Thomas Allen Assembly Rooms Theatre (Map Ref 45:D3) is the spiritual home for the theatrical scene, our very own proscenium arch venue that is only one of dozens in which we perform. Do come visit us between 9.30 am and 1.00 pm for a short tour of the theatre, or to speak to representatives who will be able to answer any of your questions that you might have about getting involved with theatre at Durham!



Find out more about...

Durham Students' Union

Since 1899 Durham Students' Union has been bringing students together to make their education and life better and champion their rights. Here, you'll meet different people and find a warm welcome to the things you care about and the new things you want to try. Durham SU gives you a chance to meet new people from across the University, whatever your college or department.

The Students' Union is home to over 250 student groups. Whether you're a fan of crocs or have a flair for journalism, whatever your interest there's a society for you. Associations bring together students from underrepresented groups to provide safe spaces to meet, make friends, lobby for change, and make sure that everyone feels at home in Durham

Durham SU is housed in Dunelm House (Map Ref 35:D4), the iconic concrete building on New Elvet, overlooking the Cathedral, the River Wear and Kingsgate Bridge. In the building you'll find wonderful events and activities run by students, as well as plenty of study space.

Kingsgate Bar & Café will be ready to fuel your day with coffee (or tea) that does good (every penny of profit goes back to students). Whether you're after a lunch break from your hectic schedule, a hot chocolate on a cold afternoon, a glass of fizz to celebrate the good times, or cake, because we never need an excuse for cake!

If you need a helping hand while at Durham, the Union's Advice Service is there for you, offering independent support and resources across a variety of issues. They are the only independent student advice service for Durham students, and provide support on a range of issues, like academic, housing, and financial advice.



Kingsgate Bar & Café has its own sun terrace and one of the best views in the city!



Find out more about...

Professional Support Services

Durham Centre for Academic Development (DCAD)

DCAD offers a range of educational services for Durham students and staff. Of particular interest to Post-offer Visit Day participants will be 'Academic Development for Students': a suite of courses, classes and consultations in academic study skills (e.g. academic writing; time management; strategies for being productive; etc). Come and chat with us at the Information Hub, located in the Teaching and Learning Centre, top floor (Map Ref 50:D6) between 9.30 am - 1.30 pm for more details.

Scholarships and Bursaries

There are a range of scholarships and bursaries available to Undergraduate students which are either funded by the University, through partnerships with external organisations or through generous donations from alumni and friends of the University. Staff will be available in the Teaching and Learning Centre (Map Ref 50/D6) between 9.30 am and 1.30 pm to offer advice and guidance on university funding and to signpost to relevant opportunities.



Disability Support

Disability Support aims to support students in achieving their academic potential by offering advice and guidance and arranging appropriate provision. They offer support to those who may have a specific learning difference. If you feel you may benefit from their advice or support why not pop along to the department.

Counselling and Mental Health Service

The Counselling and Mental Health Service offers specialist support at any time during your studies if you are struggling with academic or personal challenges. It operates as an addition to the support offered in colleges and academic departments. Our Counsellors and Mental Health Advisors will help identify and overcome barriers to achieving your potential, promoting the development of self-awareness and a range of life skills.

These services are located in the Palatine Centre (Map Ref 18:E6) and are open for drop-in from 9.30 am until 4.00 pm.

Find out more about...

Placement Years

A placement year offers you the opportunity to spend a year gaining valuable work experience during your time at Durham University. It is a fantastic opportunity to immerse yourself fully within an organisation, applying the knowledge from your studies in a practical setting. You can choose to do a placement anywhere in the world so long as it is located in a country that is safe to travel to. The majority of departments offer placement years as an option which you will opt to take once at Durham University (except for Chemistry and Business degrees with embedded placements). The placement year will occur in the penultimate year, extending your degree to either 4 or 5 years. Want to find out more? Come along to the Information Hub on the top floor of the Teaching and Learning Centre (Map Ref 50:D6) between 9.30 am - 1.30 pm.

Still time to spare?

Why not visit some of the city centre visitor attractions?

- Museum of Archaeology
- Durham Cathedral
- World Heritage Site Visitor Centre
- Botanic Garden
- Durham Riverside Walk.

Find out more before you visit Durham at:
thisisdurham.com



Study Abroad

Durham University has 300 student exchange agreements under our European and non-European Exchange programmes. Our partner institutions are spread across the globe from Austria to New Zealand! Almost 300 Durham students every year take the opportunity to study abroad and we welcome over 400 students to Durham from our partner institutions each year. It really is the opportunity of a lifetime and will add something unique to your CV.

Advice and support will be on hand in the Information Hub (Map Ref 50:D6) in the morning between 9.30 am - 1.30 pm.

International Office

Staff and students from our International Office will be available in the Teaching and Learning Centre to help with any questions you may have about studying in Durham.

Advice and support will be on hand in the Information Hub (Map Ref 50:D6) in the morning between 9.30 am - 1.30 pm.





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Enquiries

durham.ac.uk/study/askus



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