



## Heriot-Watt University Exchange Fact Sheet 2024-2025

Edinburgh Campus, Riccarton

Edinburgh, EH14 4AS Scotland [www.hw.ac.uk](http://www.hw.ac.uk)<sup>1</sup>

**Ready to keep you safe - Heriot-Watt University ([hw.ac.uk](http://www.hw.ac.uk))<sup>2</sup>**

### **Main contact details:**

Sarah McGuire - Global Student Advisor

Steven Ross - Global Student Assistant

[hwuexchange@hw.ac.uk](mailto:hwuexchange@hw.ac.uk)<sup>3</sup>

Nicola Forrest - Global Student Assistant (SOSS)

[exchange.soss@hw.ac.uk](mailto:exchange.soss@hw.ac.uk)<sup>4</sup>

### **Inter-institutional Agreements contact:**

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<sup>1</sup><http://www.hw.ac.uk/>

<sup>2</sup><https://www.hw.ac.uk/coronavirus/return/stay-safe.htm>

<sup>3</sup><mailto:hwuexchange@hw.ac.uk>

<sup>4</sup><mailto:exchange.soss@hw.ac.uk>

Sarah McGuire - Global Student Advisor

hwuexchange@hw.ac.uk<sup>5</sup>

**Accommodation Office advice** (on and off campus):

Accommodation Team<sup>6</sup>

halls@hw.ac.uk

Tel: +44 (0) 131 451 3385/8019

## Academic Calendar

**Academic calendar:**

Welcome sessions will differ per School

School of Social Sciences (SOSS) specific info: SOSS Exchange Students - Languages and IBM/L<sup>7</sup>

**Academic calendar 2024/2025**

- *2–6 September 2024: Welcome Week*
- *9 September – 29 November 2024: Semester 1 Teaching*
- *14 October – 18 October 2024: Semester 1 Consolidation Week*
- *2–13 December 2024: Semester 1 Exam and Assessment Diet*
- *16 December 2024 – 10 January 2025: Semester 1 Break*
- *13 January 2025 – 4 April 2025: Semester 2 Teaching*
- *17 February 2025 – 21 February 2025: Semester 2 Consolidation Week*
- *7–18 April 2025: Semester 2 Break*
- *22 April – 2 May 2025: Semester 2 Exam and Assessment Diet*

## IMPORTANT DATES & DEADLINES:

***Nominations (from a Partner University) and Applications (from a Student) deadlines for Incoming exchange students:***

**Semester 1 and full academic year:**

Nominations: 15 May 2024

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<sup>5</sup><mailto:hwuexchange@hw.ac.uk>

<sup>6</sup><https://www.hw.ac.uk/uk/edinburgh/accommodation.htm>

<sup>7</sup><https://www.hw.ac.uk/uk/schools/social-sciences/students/ug/exchange-students.htm>

Applications: 15 June 2024

## Semester 2

Nominations: 15 September 2024

Applications: 15 October 2024

### Application process:

Once nominated by your University, the students will be sent an Application Form link with instructions on how to apply. We will also require **a copy of their passport, proof of English language and the latest transcript of records.**

- Your Certificate of Arrival and Departure will be signed by [hwuexchange@hw.ac.uk](mailto:hwuexchange@hw.ac.uk)<sup>8</sup>
- Your Learning Agreement (course choices) will be signed by your School Exchange Coordinator.
- **Proof of English** should be either an approved test **English language requirements - Heriot-Watt University (hw.ac.uk)**<sup>9</sup> (for full academic year placements) OR a letter from the Home University confirming the student meets the required minimum B2 level by studying and being examined in English (just passing an English course will not suffice) (for single semester placements). Native speakers do not need to prove their English.

## Visa and Immigration Information



### In a nutshell.....

Staying in the UK for less than 6 months = Standard Visitor Visa.

<sup>8</sup><mailto:hwuexchange@hw.ac.uk>

<sup>9</sup><https://www.hw.ac.uk/study/entry/english-language-requirements.htm>

Staying in the UK for more than 6 months = Student Route Visa (CAS letter required - issued by the Global Student Office).

*Gov.uk website - check what kind of visa you need Browse: Study in the UK - GOV.UK (www.gov.uk)<sup>10</sup> and calculate the total cost (including the healthcare surcharge)*

*You can also check the visa information here UKCISA - international student advice and guidance - Student immigration: the basics<sup>11</sup>*

If you need more information on applying for a visa for your exchange programme then please contact us on [hwuexchange@hw.ac.uk](mailto:hwuexchange@hw.ac.uk)<sup>12</sup>.

## Course catalogue (all Schools)<sup>13</sup>



School of Social Sciences only : the most up-to-date version of the special course catalogue for exchange students in LINC (Languages) is available **here**<sup>14</sup>

**For specific information on course selection, programme specifics, academic related issues** please contact an **academic Exchange Coordinator per School**<sup>15</sup>

### **Credits required per semester:**

The workload of a full time student is 60 Heriot-Watt credits (or 30 ECTS) per semester, which is normally achieved by taking 4 courses per semester (each course is worth 15 Heriot-Watt credits or 7.5 ECTS).

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<sup>10</sup><https://www.gov.uk/browse/visas-immigration/student-visas>

<sup>11</sup><https://www.ukcisa.org.uk/Information--Advice/Visas-and-Immigration/Student-immigration-the-basics>

<sup>12</sup><mailto:hwuexchange@hw.ac.uk>

<sup>13</sup><https://www.hw.ac.uk/study/international/visiting-exchange/course-catalogue.htm>

<sup>14</sup><https://www.hw.ac.uk/uk/schools/social-sciences/students/ug/exchange-students.htm>

<sup>15</sup><https://www.hw.ac.uk/uk/students/studies/exchange/european.htm>

## English Language Courses



The primary language of instruction at Heriot-Watt is English and students can access the link below to enquire about preparatory/additional English courses available.

**Academic English<sup>16</sup> (English courses available for international students)**

### Pre-arrival Info Sessions

Individual schools will host their own information sessions prior to arrival and also during Welcome Week. You will be notified by email of when these sessions will take place.

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<sup>16</sup><https://www.hw.ac.uk/study/international/english.htm>

## Living in Edinburgh



- **Maps and directions to our Edinburgh campus** <sup>17 18</sup>

**How to find a room in Edinburgh ?**

**Living on our beautiful Edinburgh campus<sup>19</sup> or off-campus:**

- **Facebook** - search 'Find a flatmate' —Heriot-Watt Edinburgh' and join the group.
- **Search on the following websites:**
- **[www.studentpad.co.uk](http://www.studentpad.co.uk)**<sup>20</sup>
- **[www.accommodationforstudents.com](https://www.accommodationforstudents.com)**<sup>21</sup>
- **[www.athomeinedinburgh.co.uk](http://www.athomeinedinburgh.co.uk/)**<sup>22</sup>
- **[www.easyroommate.com](http://www.easyroommate.com/)**<sup>23</sup>

**Adjusting to life in the UK** <sup>24 25</sup>

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<sup>17</sup><https://www.hw.ac.uk/uk/edinburgh/maps-directions.htm>

<sup>18</sup><https://www.hw.ac.uk/uk/edinburgh/maps-directions.htm>

<sup>19</sup><https://www.hw.ac.uk/uk/edinburgh/accommodation.htm>

<sup>20</sup><http://www.studentpad.co.uk/>

<sup>21</sup><https://www.accommodationforstudents.com>

<sup>22</sup><http://www.athomeinedinburgh.co.uk/>

<sup>23</sup><http://www.easyroommate.com/>

<sup>24</sup><https://www.hw.ac.uk/uk/students/international/uk/adjusting-to-life-in-the-uk.htm>

<sup>25</sup><https://www.hw.ac.uk/uk/students/international/uk/adjusting-to-life-in-the-uk.htm>

## Information for International Students



**Living in the UK<sup>26</sup>**

**Managing Your Money<sup>27</sup>**

**UKCISA - international student advice and guidance - Opening a bank account<sup>28</sup>**

**Entitlement to healthcare<sup>29</sup>** including insurance information and medical services available. The University Health Service on Campus is available to students living within the Edinburgh city boundary or students can register with a General Practitioner in their area.

## Student Portal

**Student Portal (myHWU) - download our app myHWU - Heriot-Watt University<sup>30</sup>**

**New student checklist<sup>31</sup>**

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<sup>26</sup><https://www.hw.ac.uk/uk/students/international/uk/living-in-the-uk.htm>

<sup>27</sup><https://www.hw.ac.uk/uk/students/money/uk/budgeting.htm>

<sup>28</sup><https://www.ukcisa.org.uk/Information--Advice/Studying--living-in-the-UK/Opening-a-bank-account>

<sup>29</sup><https://www.ukcisa.org.uk/Information--Advice/Studying--living-in-the-UK/Opening-a-bank-account>

<sup>30</sup><https://www.hw.ac.uk/uk/students/studies/myhwu.htm>

<sup>31</sup><https://www.hw.ac.uk/uk/students/new-students/uk.htm>

### **Student support contact**<sup>32</sup>

Advice on: settling into university life, money, accommodation, disability, personal safety, counselling.

## Careers Advice

### **Your career – How can we help ?**<sup>33</sup>

#### **Internships/jobs available:**

Please see Careers Advisory Service for information on jobs and internships – Careers Advisory

Service **Careers@hw.ac.uk**<sup>34</sup>

***We hope that you find this Guide useful! If you have any additional questions, please contact us at [hwuexchange@hw.ac.uk](mailto:hwuexchange@hw.ac.uk)***

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<sup>32</sup><https://www.hw.ac.uk/uk/student-support.htm>

<sup>33</sup><https://www.hw.ac.uk/uk/students/careers/uk/help-options.htm>

<sup>34</sup><mailto:Careers@hw.ac.uk>