My semester abroad at the University of Hertfordshire was one of the best experiences of my life, I learned not only what they taught me in classes but also outside of them. Being able to meet people from all around the world improved my social skills and those friends I made, I intend to keep for life.

I got into societies and extra classes like yoga and zumba which made living on campus even greater. I enjoyed living among other students and going to every activity the Students Union planned. This opportunity has made finding a good job in my country easier. Thanks to this semester abroad on my CV, I got the job I wanted, so from every point you look at, I gained a lot more than I expected. I am very grateful to everyone at the Hertfordshire University for making my semester abroad so wonderful.

Mercedes Cervera, Universidad Anahuac Mayab, Mexico

UH is the place to go if you want to experience an incredible time. Being so close to London, there is no shortage of things to do and it’s an adventure I would repeat in a heartbeat.

Suhail Pathan, Central Connecticut State University, USA

During my time at the University of Hertfordshire I enjoyed the whole experience in general, meeting new people and having a sense of community with the ACS society.

Anne Okwuofu Western Sydney University, Australia

“Living my best life” is UH’s most accurate quote. You will have the time of your life there and will not want to go back home. GO HERTS!

Sol Jofre, Universidad Nacional de Cuyo, Argentina

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Why choose Hertfordshire?

World class facilities
We aim to provide the best possible facilities for you to learn, live and enjoy your time with us. Our modern teaching and learning facilities include two 24/7 learning resources centres and industry-standard tools and support. In addition, we have invested in your social life, by providing a variety of leisure activities, fake advantage of the gyms, pool and exercise classes at our Sports Village or make friends while having fun at the on-campus nightclub.

Green and safe environment
Your wellbeing and safety is paramount. The University provides a 24/7 security, an on-campus medical centre pharmacy and a wellbeing centre to cater for your health needs. In addition, Hatfield has been rated as one of the safest university towns. We are also recognised as a leader in terms of environmental management and performance and we work continuously on improving the environmental policy within. We have achieved certificates such as the eco-campus label, recognising the hard work we do to create more sustainable ways of teaching, learning, and living.

London, the UK and Europe on your doorstep
The University has an ideal location, being 25 minutes from London, one of the most cosmopolitan cities in the world. It also has easy access to Luton, Stansted and Gatwick airports, enabling you to take weekend trips or spend holidays around Britain and Europe. If you wish to travel by rail, you can access Kings Cross and St Pancras International in less than half an hour and whisk yourself to dozens of locations nationally and internationally by train.

Wide choice of study areas
You can study from a huge range of modules from subjects across the University. So whether it’s astronomy, business or music, fashion, history or sports, you will find just the right courses to study with us. See all the possible areas of study on the subjects areas page.

A county steeped in history
Around the county, you can find plenty of historic landmarks from different eras, including churches, palaces, ruins and stately homes. Interestingly, this county has some of the oldest continuous settlements in Europe (which we believe shows it’s always been a great place to live in).

Gold Teaching Excellence Framework
The University has achieved the top gold ranking in the UK government’s Teaching Excellence Framework (TEF) 2018. Some of the areas highlighted is the commitment of the university to its level of investment in physical and digital resources, a curriculum informed by research, businesses and professions and engagement with students as partners in teaching and learning.

A friendly place to study
Our values are FACES: Friendly, Ambitious, Collegiate, Enterprising and Student-focused. We live these values, meaning you will have a friendly and supportive environment to study and live in.

International community
We have students from over one hundred countries and different backgrounds and we love the impact it has on our campus life! We celebrate different cultures in many ways, for example by celebrating international festivals like Diwali and Chinese New Year and by having themed events and different cultural societies. You will feel right at home regardless of where you come from and get the chance to meet people from all around the world.
Location

• Only 25 minutes from London by train, but surrounded by lush greenery. Hertfordshire is a diverse county that can cater to any tastes. Whether you want to be surrounded by the buzz of the city or escape to the countryside, it has both.

• Hatfield has excellent links to elsewhere in the UK and Europe. You can easily reach most London airports and major train stations offering both national and international links.

Local area

• Hatfield is a town of 28,000 people. It is known for Hatfield House and gardens, a Jacobean stately home, and the Old Palace, dating back to 1485, once the home of Queen Elizabeth I. These impressive places have served as locations in a variety of films and TV shows, including The Crown, Wonder Woman and Harry Potter just to name a few, so definitely worth a visit!

• Hatfield has a number of shopping areas catering for all of your daily necessities including a hypermarket, pharmacies, restaurants and cafes. In between the two campuses you can find The Galleria, a large outlet shopping centre, selling many fashion and homeware brands as well as including a multi-screen cinema complex.

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• St Albans is a charming traditionally English city, 4 miles (6 km) from Hatfield, with a history dating back over 2000 years. In St Albans, you can find shopping, dining and leisure facilities, as well as a Norman cathedral, many historical buildings and the remains of a Roman city. This vibrant city with a thriving cultural life is a firm favourite for off-campus activities amongst University students.

• Nearby, you will also find the Warner Bros studios where you can dive into the world of Harry Potter and a little further away the Silverstone racetrack, famous for the British Grand Prix.
London on your doorstep

- London, one of the most buzzing capitals and a city of infinite opportunity, is less than half an hour away from the University of Hertfordshire.
- With four world heritage sites, some of the best known landmarks in the world, world-class venues and an abundance of entertainment, there is something for everyone in London.
- You can enjoy culture by visiting the many museums, palaces and stately homes, seeing the famous theatre shows, attending events such as the Fashion Week and Pride and by seeking out some of the famous street arts, whether it be a Banksy graffiti or a live performer.
- London is home for many premier league football clubs and rugby teams, while also hosting some of the most famous events such as Ascot horse races and Wimbledon, so sports fans will definitely not get tired of this city.
- Foodies can enjoy cuisines from most countries in London. Try some of the street food favourites such as Brick Lane, Borough market and Dinerama, or indulge in one of the many Michelin star restaurants around London. If you want to get deeper into the traditional food culture, you can find afternoon teas, cozy pubs and fish and chips shops anywhere.

When a man is tired of London, he is tired of life; for there is in London all that life can afford.

Samuel Johnson

Campus life and facilities

The University of Hertfordshire is a campus university, hosting two of its largest campuses in Hatfield and a third smaller one nearby in Bayfordbury. We are proud to offer state of the art facilities that cover your needs, be they academic, social or fitness.

Our schools of study ensure you get access to the tools you need to learn and our learning resources centres enable you to study when and how you like. The LRCs feature private rooms, group study areas, Mac suites, coffee shops and an abundance of space to study by a desk or on a sofa or beanbag chair, however you prefer.

Once all the work is done, you can enjoy our on campus pubs, where you can find pool tables and enjoy live performances or our on-campus nightclub The Forum, which hosts an impressive range of events throughout the week, with student friendly prices.

For keeping fit, you can choose one of our two gyms, take part in a fitness class, enjoy a refreshing swim in our swimming pool or join a sports team to play your favourite sport regularly.

Our restaurants and coffee shops serve you with both traditional and international cuisine, as well as takeaway favourites like toasts, burgers and ramen. There’s something for everyone!

Facilities
- Two gyms
- Swimming pool
- Two 24/7 Learning Resources Centres
- One night club and two pubs
- Laundrettes
- Restaurants
- Student Union shops
- Coffee shops
- Free shuttle bus
- Communal spaces with pool and football tables, television and lounge areas
Accommodation

- Moving to a new country can be stressful as much as it’s exciting. We offer our exchange students the option of campus accommodation, mostly single en suite study bedrooms with self-catering facilities. Over 4700 students can live on campus with 2500 brand new bedrooms completed in 2016. It offers a range of rooms and prices.

- On-campus you will be close to your lectures and two 24/7 learning resources centres, have a free shuttle bus between campuses, enjoy regular nights out at The Forum nightclub on campus and be able to exercise 24/7 at the state of the art sports facilities. The campuses also have 24/7 security, which can be accessed by phone or in person at any time.

Find out more about accommodation www.herts.ac.uk/life/student-accommodation

Student life

The Forum

- The Forum Hertfordshire is a £38-million multi-functional venue, hosting the biggest nightclub in Hertfordshire. The venue, right on your doorstep, will host themed nights out most days of the week at student-friendly prices.

Societies

- Hertfordshire Students Union offers 120 different societies. They range from academic and cultural to music and social so there’s something for everyone. These societies are a great way to form friendships and have interesting activities outside the lecture halls. Have you always wanted to learn snowboarding? Join the skiing society? Are you your own life’s MasterChef? Start baking and host your own competitions with the baking society! Or perhaps start your own?

Buddy System

- We are committed to making you feel at home here, which is why we have the buddy system, a local student mentor group, to help you settle down, get to know your surroundings and meet new friends. The buddy system matches you with our home students, most of whom have previously studied abroad and will understand what being an exchange student is like. Your buddy will become your friend, guide and point of contact when you most need it, they will introduce you to new people, hobbies, places and even languages. You can register to our buddy programme easily online at https://buddysystem.eu/en/.

Trips

- Travelling is one of best ways to learn more and experience new and extraordinary things! The University’s International Student Support team organises some trips across the country. Europe is a travel-friendly and diverse continent and London is at the heart of it with easy access to many incredible places, so do take advantage of this opportunity!

"It has been a year full of excitement. Meeting new people, laughs, adventures... I would say, choosing University of Hertfordshire was the best choice I have ever made!"

Andrea Martinez Sevil, University of Valencia, Spain
Study areas

- You can study hundreds of modules from dozens of different subject areas and create your own individually tailored programme to meet your personal interests or home programme requirements.
- You can choose to study for one or two semesters. We also offer a full orientation and induction at the start of the programme.

What can you study:
We offer our exchange students a wide range of modules in the following subject areas:

- Art and design
- Astronomy
- Biosciences
- Business and management
- Criminology
- Computer science
- Economics
- Engineering
- English literature
- Environmental sciences
- Fashion
- Film and media
- Geography
- History
- International relations
- Law
- Mathematics
- Music
- Philosophy
- Physics
- Politics
- Psychology
- Sports science
- Tourism and event management

Credits:
- The normal workload of a student at Hertfordshire is four modules per semester, with modules rated at 15 UK credits, that is, 7.5 ECTS or 3 US credits. Some modules, rated at 30 UK credits, span two semesters and are only open to whole year students.
- Find out more about our subject areas and see example modules online at https://www.herts.ac.uk/international/overseas-study/study-abroad/inbound-study-abroad

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It has been a great experience doing a year abroad at Herts. I loved having the opportunity to be with students from all backgrounds and different studies. I met people that came from all around the world and it was amazing to share that experience with different cultures. Being able to have free sport classes and all sorts of events on the campus was amazing.

Anne-Claire De Villard, Kedge Business school, France
Sports at Herts

- We are committed to providing physical activity to all, so whether you prefer to compete and represent the University in a sports team or just play for fun while making new friends, you are more than welcome to join the HertsSquad. Our HertsSquad has something for everyone, from pro to beginner!
- Our state of the art Sports Village has facilities including gyms, swimming pool, racquet courts, studios and an impressive 12 metre high climbing wall.
- Active Students offers you a chance to try something new and make friends while having fun. It offers free group sports on a daily basis, including activities such as yoga, badminton, roller skating, fencing, HIIT, ball games and much more. There is always something new and exciting for you to try!
- Campus Sports: For the more competitive students, campus sports offers the possibility to compete against other teams on campus in badminton, football and netball.
- Athletic Union: Want to be a part of a union of likeminded sports enthusiasts? This is your place! Our Athletic Union offers opportunities for students to participate, compete and represent us in a wide variety of sports, both on a university and national level.

See more about sports at the University of Hertfordshire on our website https://sport.herts.ac.uk/

International community

At Hertfordshire, we value every background and culture and take pride in our extensive international community. We host students from all around the world, with exchange students arriving from over 30 countries each year.
How to apply

- To be an exchange student, you must be a student at your home university and have satisfactorily completed at least one year of study. Exchange is normally at undergraduate level only.
- You should have a sufficient command of English to be able to study in English. We do offer non-native speakers English language support during the semester. Students on a Tier 4 visa must be able to provide proof of sufficient level of English, usually IELTS 6.0 (with no less than 5.5 in any band) or equivalent.
- You may need a visa to study at the University if you are from outside of the European Union and EEA. If you are here for a semester, you can obtain a UK short term study visa. However, if you are here for a whole year, you will require a Tier 4 visa. Once nominated, you can talk to us about this.
- To apply, talk to your home university’s office of international programmes. We only accept students nominated by their home university. Once nominated you will receive the relevant application forms by email.
- If your university is not a partner of the University of Hertfordshire, you can apply to study here as a fee-paying exchange student. Fee-paying exchange students pay the regular tuition fees of the University of Hertfordshire and can be enrolled for one or two semesters as an exchange student.
- Before arriving to the University of Hertfordshire for your year abroad, you should ensure you have completed all the required forms, acquired any necessary travel documentation, such as passport and visa, and confirmed your accommodation.
- You can choose to fly into any London airport and reach the University by coach or train connections. However, for Heathrow we also offer a shuttle bus pick up service during the arrival weekend. If you choose to fly to another airport, you can reach the university by public transport or taxi.
- If you are a short term study visa or a Tier 4 visa holder, you should not use e-passport gates, but see a border officer, who can give you the appropriate validation stamp on your passport.
- To ensure a smooth arrival, any incoming exchange students get to move in to their on-campus accommodation and enjoy a week of orientation, before the home students arrive for the beginning of the semester.

Arrival information

- Herts has a treasure, and it is its people and the culture around them. They encourage your personal growth and put you, not as a student but as a human being, first and foremost. I’d love to come back someday, maybe to pursue further studies after I finish my undergraduate degree.
  -- Sebastian Torres Sagredo, Universidad Mayor, Chile

- I loved my time at Hertfordshire! The kicker was the program and lecturers. They were incredible and extremely accommodating to me. My only regret is not going earlier!
  -- Kei Matsuo, California State University, USA
Orientation

We host a separate orientation week for all our exchange and international degree-seeking students every year, to help you settle down to your new surroundings.

Information: We will provide sessions where we tell you more about important things such as healthcare, safety, opening a bank account and experiencing the UK. These sessions will set you up for a smooth transition to the British culture and life.

Local area: You will probably want to explore your new area as soon as possible and we are there to help guide you to all the important places by offering tours to join.

Shopping: In order to get everything you need for your new home, we will help you by organising group trips to local shops and IKEA.

Social life: To help our new international students make friends, we organise a variety of social events throughout the week, where you can meet students from all over the world.

Freshers Week: After the orientation week, we host a Freshers Week, when the home students will arrive on campus. During this week you can attend a large number of exciting events, activities and parties and get to know our student community better, while making friends with the local students. Do not miss this!

Staff Tips

I recommend having a look through the local charity shops in Hatfield. I often find inexpensive books there and for students, it is a treasure chest filled with course books, homework, kitchen equipment and much more for a very good price.

In a little nook in St Albans, you can find my favourite comic shop: a two-storey treasure filled with good finds, indie or big label. They have back issues and the latest, so it’s easy to get your feet wet. After collecting a comic or two, there’s a milkshake shop nearby, selling elaborate milkshakes (Retro ‘66 is my favourite) and refreshing smoothies. If you pass through a little alley next to it, you can go straight to the Cathedral. I like to walk round to the green and sit with my new comics and milkshake and enjoy some sunshine.

I enjoy the easy access to all the museums in London. My favourites are the Natural History Museum and Science Museum. You will have plenty to see and do when it comes to museums in London. Best of all, most of them are free!

One of my favourite things to do is to have a Sunday roast lunch in a traditional pub in St Albans. It’s a hearty meal for a very affordable price, and a true British tradition. Go early or book in advance.

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Get in touch

For more information on studying abroad, see our website:

herts.ac.uk/studyabroad

University of Hertfordshire

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