



### Program Information

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**Name of host institution:** University of Sunderland

**Location:** Sunderland, England, UK; there are two campuses, City Campus (housing applied sciences, business, education & society, dance and performing arts) and St. Peter's campus (housing visual arts, Design and Media)

**Website:** [www.sunderland.ac.uk/studyabroad](http://www.sunderland.ac.uk/studyabroad)

**Accreditation/Recognition by:** The University of Sunderland is a Higher Education Corporation established by Order of the Secretary of State under Section 121 of the Educational Reform Act, 1988, which included provisions that existing Polytechnics, including Sunderland Polytechnic, should become Higher Education Corporations

**Number of international students:** 2400    **home/EU students:** 11,000

**Most convenient way to reach host country from Atlanta:** It is recommended to fly into Newcastle Airport. British Airways and Air France fly from Atlanta and one stopover prior to arriving in Newcastle.

**How students reach host institution from airport:** A Metro train runs from the airport to 'University' station. Journey takes approximately 1 hour and costs approximately £4.00. On arrival at 'University' station, students can walk the short 5 min journey to the halls of residence or take a taxi for about £4.00. Alternatively, take a taxi from the airport directly to halls of residence approximately £40.00

**Visa information:** Tier 4 required for internships, work, volunteering

**Residence permit:**

**Point of contact in International Student Office:** Lucy Dixon, +44 191 515 3544 [lucy.dixon@sunderland.ac.uk](mailto:lucy.dixon@sunderland.ac.uk)

**# of staff in International Student Office:** 2

**After hours emergency phone number:** Contact Campus Security: +44 91 515 2000, ext. 4444  
Sunderland is in the top ten safest universities in England and Wales, according to [official police data](#) published in June 2012.

**Terms of study:**

fall     spring     summer     other (explain)

**Approximate dates of terms:** September-December with alternative assessment; January – May with regular assessment

### **Application Process**

**Application form** (online, paper, how to obtain): fillable PDF or hard copy

**Requirements for participation** (gpa, references): minimum 2.75 GPA, statement of purpose, transcript, academic reference

**Application fee:** none

**Deadlines:** fall: end of June; spring: end of October. If student does not need a visa, applications can be submitted last minute. There is usually a one day turnaround for acceptance.

**Other:**

### **Academics**

**Credit system** (e.g. ECTS) & **US equivalent:** fulltime is 60 credits, 10 Sunderland credits = 3 Berry credits

**Academic advising** (how do students register for classes): students list 6 first choice and 6 alternatives on the application form. They are in touch with the department advisor prior to arrival to finalize classes as much as possible. Students are registered once they arrive.

**Course articulation** (relationship to Berry curriculum: gen ed fulfillments, major courses; classes especially for international students): A list of modules for STA students is available at <http://www.sunderland.ac.uk/images/mainwebsite/international/documents/Study%20Abroad%20Module%20Guide%202015-16.pdf>. Nursing is now also available to visiting students.

**Are there any courses/departments study abroad students are excluded from?** No, see modules list. It is not possible to take half of a year-long module, however.

**Do any classes require additional fees?** no

**Average courseload** (# of courses & credits): Students take 60 credits per semester (= 18 Berry credits)

**Instruction** (lecture, seminar, tutoring, online): most classes will have weekly lectures and tutorials or labs

**Internship opportunities:** depends on department: media studies can find internships by working with the student experience coordinator

**Form of course assessment:** there are few assessments; the grade might depend on two or three items. Media and arts will have practical assessments

**Support** (“learning center,” etc.): writing center, tutoring services available. All student services are centralized at the Gateway, which is an impressively run organization

**Resources** (library, IT): students can bring their computers to the library if there is a problem; there are stations with IT administrators to assist

**WiFi accessibility & where:** campus, Res hall

**Major differences in educational system:** greater emphasis on self study than students might be accustomed to. Less in-class time and greater expectation of outside research

**Average size of classes:** lectures can have a few hundred, tutorials 25

**Transcript & grading system** (explain US equivalents, avg. length of time between end of term and issuing of transcript)

Fall transcripts issued in February; spring transcripts issued in July

### **Student Support & Life**

**On-site orientation** (length, items covered): in fall, 4 days by international office and department. Intro to university, safety, academics, Sunderland. In spring, orientation is 2 days without departmental orientation

**Does institution have crisis management plan? (attach)** There are procedures which would be automatically implemented in times of crisis; the Head of Business Assurance will follow up.

**What is the level of interaction between students and host country nationals?** This takes place in classes and student societies. The fall departmental orientation helps with this so students meet others in the faculty

**Excursions/activities (indicate additional fees):** some offered by international office at the beginning of the year. Student union offers excursions throughout the year

**Is there a language partner program? If so, describe:** for nonnative English speakers

**Health/counseling facilities:** students visiting less than 6 months will not have access to National Health Service; their own insurance is required. All students are registered with a GP upon arrival to expedite future appointments. Counseling services are available on campus. The health and welfare service provides confidential advice and guidance to all students. Registered nurses are available to offer advice and treatment each weekend, 9 AM – 5 PM (no appointment necessary). Alternative times can also be arranged. The service supports students with ongoing health problems.

**Are these available in English?** yes

**Accommodation for students with disabilities:** there is a strong disabilities office on campus. Those with learning disabilities are accommodated. Students with physical disabilities should disclose in detail their needs so international office can prepare. Students are asked about disabilities on the application form, but this information is not considered in the admission decision. Upon arrival, students are expected to provide written verification of their disability or specific learning difficulty, compiled by a recognized expert.

**Required/recommended vaccinations:** as required for Berry College

**Student societies:** Over 50 societies available and students are encouraged to become involved as a way to meet local students [www.sunderland.ac.uk/studentlife/clubsandsocieties/societies/](http://www.sunderland.ac.uk/studentlife/clubsandsocieties/societies/)

**Sport/Recreation (indicate additional fees):** gym facilities are located in main admin building and available to students for a fee: 3 month membership (fitness suite only): £35.00; 3 month membership (fitness suite and studio classes): £45.00

Students can join sports clubs, from Aikido to Water Polo:  
<http://www.sunderland.ac.uk/studentlife/clubsandsocieties/sportsclubs/>

**Drinking policy:** Drinking is permitted; there is a Students' Union bar on campus

**May students work?** Yes, up to 20 hours/week. **If so, what restrictions are there and what is the process** (special visa, work permit, etc.)? Tier 4 visa required

**Opportunities for volunteer service:** Our voluntary projects enable students to gain valuable work-related skills with local organisations, charities and community groups. The opportunities offered are varied and include working with children and young people, the elderly or people with learning disabilities in a range of roles, working on conservation projects, website design, public relations and more.

**Other:** The Students' Union is run by students, for students, and performs a number of functions. As well as organizing entertainment it also provides advice and support for its members. Membership of the Students' Union is free for all students at the University of Sunderland, and members can apply for a Campus Card, which doubles as your student ID and library card.

The University has a chaplaincy which works with a number of Associate Chaplains from local churches. They organize weekly meetings and worship and from time to time social activities.

The North Shore is the venue of the University of Sunderland Students' Union. It hosts student productions, club nights and live bands. Based at the Sir Tom Cowie Campus at St Peter's, The North Shore is a multi-purpose student hub featuring a theatre, a Bar & Grill, the Green Centre (featuring a swapshop, book exchange and organic roof garden) and bookable meeting and rehearsal spaces.

### **Housing**

**Application process:** Students are sent an Accommodation Application Card from the international office with the confirmation offer. It should be completed and returned as soon as possible. For more information, <http://services.sunderland.ac.uk/facilities/residentialservices/apply/>

**Damage deposit:** none, but an initial deposit of £300.00 is applied to the housing charge.

**Options:** all study abroad students are housed in the same hall, Clanny House; there are 6-8 students in an apartment. Most are single rooms but there are a few twins. Shared bathroom (2) and kitchen.

Clanny House <http://www.sunderland.ac.uk/ug/accommodation/clannyhouse/>

Peacock Street West, Sunderland

Blocks 1-9 SR4 6US      Blocks 10-14 SR4 6UH

Tel: 44 0191 515 3654

Email: [clannyresidentialservices@sunderland.ac.uk](mailto:clannyresidentialservices@sunderland.ac.uk)      RSA: [clannyrsa@sunderland.ac.uk](mailto:clannyrsa@sunderland.ac.uk)

Clanny House has medium single rooms, large single rooms, extra-large single rooms and self-contained two-bed units.

**If host family, how are families selected?** N/A

**If residence hall, are intl. & host country students mixed?** no

**Are genders mixed?** Yes, but students may request a same-gendered apartment

**Is there a curfew?** No, but there is an 11:00 PM noise cut-off all residents are expected to honor

**Internet access:** wi-fi    **Additional fees:**

**Furnishings** (linens, pillow, etc.): Free linen pack can be pre-ordered; Kitchen Essentials pack can be ordered for £37.50. Laundry facilities on site. Starter cleaning kit provided. Students are responsible for keeping their room and communal areas clean.

**Avg. distance between institution and student housing:** 15 minutes walking; there is also a public bus which students can ride free with ID. Free Campus Connect minibus takes students to nearest Metro station in the mornings and evenings. Timetable is available at the Students' Union in the Gateway.

**Atmosphere of neighborhood where students live:** residential area with shops and amenities

**Safety information:** we were told there have been no security issues; 24 on-site security patrols, Hall Manager, Senior Resident Tutor and Resident Student Assistants. Staffed reception in early evening.

A guest is able to stay with you in your room for up to three nights on occasion, with certain conditions. See <https://docushare.sunderland.ac.uk/docushare/dsweb/Get/Document-6115/1140%20SU%20Residential%20Code%20of%20Practice%20Booklet.pdf> for the Residential Code of Practice containing more information on this and all aspects of residence hall living.

**Financials** – *estimated and subject to change*

**Tuition:** students pay Berry tuition

**Housing:** £300-540/month or £1200.00-2160.00 per fall semester or £1500-2700 per spring semester, depending on size of room

**Utilities:** included

**Do students pay additional housing costs during orientation?** no

**Housing deposit:** £300    **Is this refundable?** It is applied to the housing payment

**Meals:** students do their own cooking in the residence hall

**Other** (lab, materials, computing fees): Fees for CitySpace fitness centre (see above)

**Personal expenses** (books, spending money, etc. – approximate): does not include internal travel

	Avg. cost per month
Food	£150
Books & materials	£32
Miscellaneous	£35
Social life	£95

**Scholarship opportunities:** N/A

**Refund policy:** [http://services.sunderland.ac.uk/images/Extract%20from%20Regulations%20Policies\\_2014.pdf](http://services.sunderland.ac.uk/images/Extract%20from%20Regulations%20Policies_2014.pdf)  
Students are not charged a tuition deposit to receive the CAS, the document necessary for applying for a Tier 4 visa.