

You made it.

Welcome to Lancaster

Your guide to undergraduate life 2015–2016





Congratulations.

All the hard work has paid off. You have been accepted to study at Lancaster University – one of the top 10 universities in the UK with a global reputation for excellence. We can't wait for you to join us.

How this guide works

This guide contains all the information you need to begin your university life. It explains the next steps you should take in becoming a Lancaster student and gives a taste of what life will be like. We've also added plenty of tips and advice, so you can make the most of your experience from the moment you arrive. And where more in-depth information is available online, we've provided the links. See you in September.

What happens now?

We've tried to make joining Lancaster as simple as possible. Take a look at what comes next, including registration and Welcome Week.

What do I need to do before I arrive?



Pay your fees

Many students arrange for their fees to be financed by Student Finance England. Simple instructions are also available for international and self-funding students



Arrange accommodation

If you plan to live on campus, you will need to apply for accommodation. Unless you are a late applicant, you should receive an offer from us by mid-September



Begin registration

30 days before the start of your course you will be sent an email inviting you to begin registration online. Simply follow the prompts



What happens when I arrive?



Find your accommodation

If you choose to live on campus, student volunteers will be on hand when you arrive to help you collect your keys and settle in



Connect to our IT systems

There is a campus-wide Wi-Fi network, as well as a network for use in our halls. Find out how to get your login details and connect your devices



Complete registration

This is the final step to becoming a Lancaster University student. We've put together a list of what you need to bring, and added details of where to go and when



What about during Welcome Week?

There are lots of events and opportunities open to you during Welcome Week (28th September-4th October). To make life simple, we've created an online timetable that makes clear which events are essential, and which are optional.

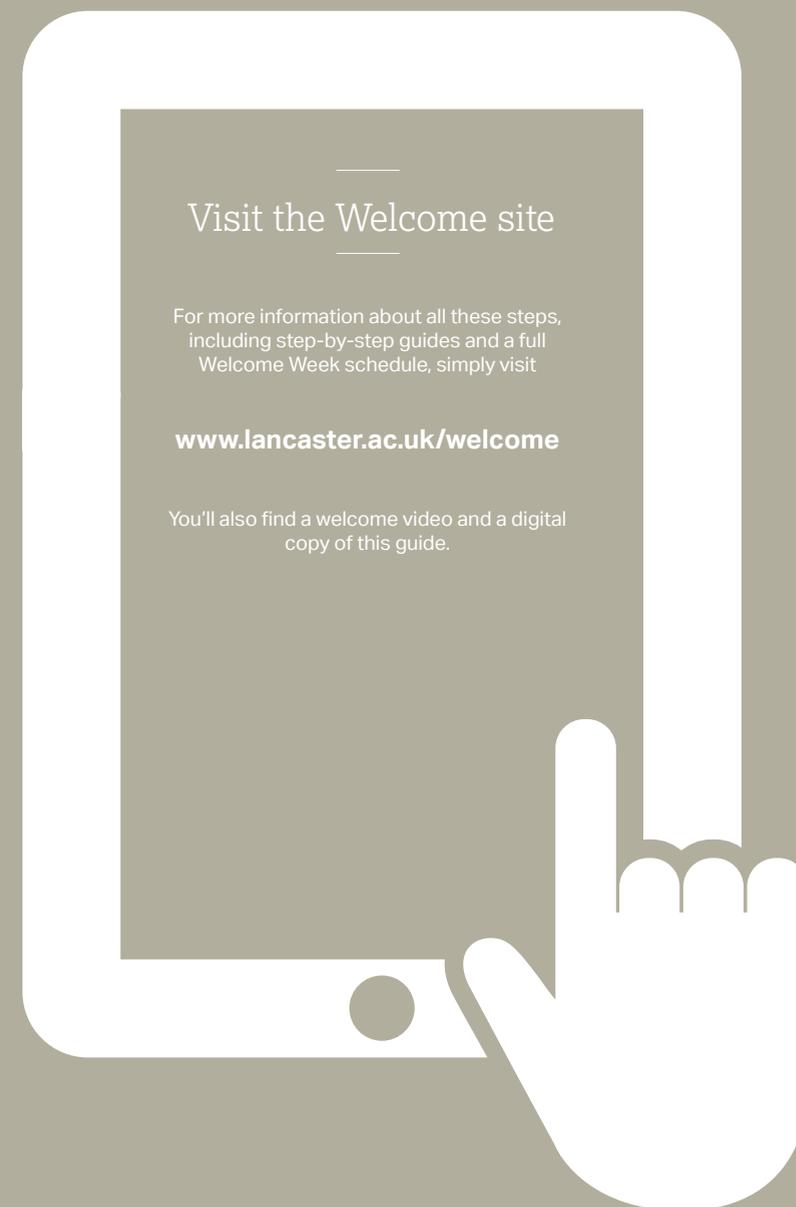


Visit the Welcome site

For more information about all these steps, including step-by-step guides and a full Welcome Week schedule, simply visit

www.lancaster.ac.uk/welcome

You'll also find a welcome video and a digital copy of this guide.



Study.



1,500+

ACADEMIC
STAFF



1,200

STUDY SPACES IN
THE REFURBISHED
LIBRARY FROM
LENT TERM 2016



83%

OF RESEARCH
IS INTERNATIONALLY
EXCELLENT AND
WORLD LEADING



300,000+

AVAILABLE
eBOOKS



1,000+

COMPUTERS
AVAILABLE
FOR USE ON
CAMPUS

Part One

Your undergraduate studies are divided into Part One (your first year) and Part Two (your second, third, and sometimes fourth years). Here are seven things you need to know about Part One.

1 You may have the chance to choose some of your modules

You will be automatically enrolled on compulsory modules, and your department will advise you whether there are others to choose from.

2 In some courses you can take a minor subject

Many degree programmes enable you to study minor subjects alongside your major in Part One. However, your course structure does not allow for this if you are studying Law, Medicine, Engineering or Physics.

3 Struggling to decide which minor to take? Help is available

You can find a full list of modules in the courses handbook at www.lancaster.ac.uk/OnlineCoursesHandbook. All Part One module numbers begin with '1', such as FREN100: Part I French Studies.

On the Tuesday of Welcome Week, you'll also be able to find out more about minor modules by attending department talks.

4 Your modules must add up to 120 credits

Each module is worth a set of credits. The credit total needed for Part One for most degree programmes is 120. Most modules equate to 40 credits, which would mean you need to enrol in three. Some are worth fewer credits, which would mean you would need to enrol on more to reach the total.

5 There are some limitations to the modules you can choose

Certain subjects are not available to study as minor subjects. Some study combinations may cause timetable clashes, and popular subjects may have restrictions or reach capacity.

6 Part One choices can affect your Part Two options

Some Part One courses enable you to change your major for Part Two. However, you can only do this if you also meet the criteria for that subject.

7 You must pass Part One

You must pass all of your Part One modules to proceed to Part Two. However, your marks from Part One do not count towards your final degree classification.

Undergraduate study

Learning at university is designed to challenge and inspire. Take a look at what to expect and the types of support available to you.

Teaching

In your first year you can typically expect to receive nine to 15 hours of tuition per week. Staff will support you in all aspects of learning through lectures, seminars in groups of up to 15 students, practical classes, one-to-one meetings and online resources.

Guidance

You will also be expected to do plenty of individual study. However, you won't be left unsupported. Here are the three main places to go for guidance:

1 Course tutors

Tutors on each of your courses will provide you with advice on what you should be doing during your independent study time.

2 Your academic tutor

You will also be assigned an academic tutor, who will provide you with guidance on academic matters throughout your studies.

3 Student learning advisers

Each of the University's faculties has a dedicated student learning adviser. Find yours at [lusu.co.uk/academic](https://www.lancaster.ac.uk/academic)



Assessment and feedback

Assignments can take various forms, from essays and exams to group research projects. Whatever category it falls within, your assessed work will be marked by academic staff and returned to you promptly with feedback designed to help you develop. As well as written comments and grades, feedback can also take the form of comments in class and one-to-one meetings.

Study abroad

Most Lancaster undergraduate students have the opportunity to study abroad for a year. Some departments also have one term study abroad options, and your students' union offers a range of short trips. To find out more visit

[lancaster.ac.uk/study-abroad](https://www.lancaster.ac.uk/study-abroad)



[lancaster.ac.uk/study](https://www.lancaster.ac.uk/study)

Community of scholars

Students and academics learn together at Lancaster, where ground-breaking research and cutting edge teaching go hand-in-hand. Here are a few of our latest research projects to hit the headlines in 2015.



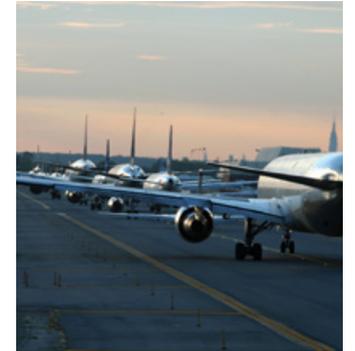
Alzheimer's breakthrough

Professor Christian Holscher made a major breakthrough when he discovered that a drug used to treat diabetes may be able to reduce the damage caused by dementia.



5G future

Professor Zhiguo Ding, from the School of Computing and Communications, is currently helping speed up the development of 5G wireless communications.



Clear skies

A team at Lancaster University Management School is leading a £2.8 million project to find ways to reduce the UK's airport congestion without relying solely on airport building and expansion.



Wordsworth the war poet

Professor Simon Bainbridge, of the Department of English and Creative Writing, helped turn our view of Romantic poets on its head by co-curating the first exhibition to present Wordsworth as a war poet.



Ebola-proof tablet device

Corinne Pritchard, a Design Visualiser at Imagination Lancaster, has helped create the software for a tablet device to help medics treating patients with Ebola.



[lancaster.ac.uk](https://www.lancaster.ac.uk)



LancasterUniversity



@LancasterUni

Study space

You have three main areas to choose from – the Library, Learning Zone and Study Zone. They offer a choice of quiet and group spaces, as well as technology, resources and support.

Choose the right study space for your needs



Library

Individual study spaces, with group work areas available from Lent term 2016
Open 24/7 during term time
Network PCs, laptop loans and Wi-Fi



Learning Zone

Group study spaces and presentation facilities
Open 24/7 throughout the year
Network PCs, laptop loans and Wi-Fi



Study Zone

Individual study spaces
Open Monday to Friday 9am–7pm and 10am–5.30pm on weekends until Lent term 2016
Wi-Fi

What else is on offer?

Thousands of eBooks and digital resources

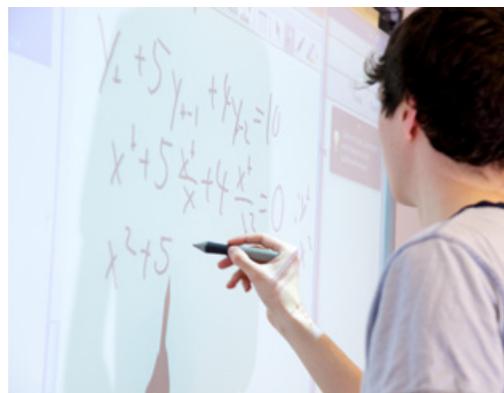
Access a huge range of library content from your phone, tablet or laptop.

Information skill sessions

Check out Training and Events on the Library website.

Refurbished library

To be completed in Lent Term. The Library is fully functional in the meantime, and additional study space is available in the Study Zone.



Want to know more?

Attend an Introduction to IT and the Library talk on Tuesday of Welcome Week.

Visit lancaster.ac.uk/welcome/welcome-week for more details.



lancaster.ac.uk/library



[LancasterUniversityLibrary](https://www.facebook.com/LancasterUniversityLibrary)



[@LancasterUniLib](https://twitter.com/LancasterUniLib)

Play.



6TH IN THE UK

FOR OUR SPORTS FACILITIES



9

COLLEGE BARS ON CAMPUS PLUS THE STUDENTS' UNION CITY CENTRE NIGHTCLUB



18

SPORTS FOR £1 A SESSION THROUGH THE JUST PLAY SCHEME



4 VENUES

IN OUR OWN CUTTING EDGE INSTITUTE FOR CONTEMPORARY ARTS



230+

UNION-AFFILIATED SOCIETIES

Sport

Lancaster has a lot to shout about when it comes to sport. Look forward to elite level facilities and a huge variety of teams to choose from.

Get competitive

If you want to play sport then there are lots of different ways to get involved.

Lancaster provides the unique chance to compete for your college in our Carter Shield event, play Inter Varsity (BUCS) fixtures against other UK universities or take on the University of York in our annual Roses tournament. And if competitive sport isn't your thing, you can join our friendly Just Play sessions for just £1 per session.

For more ways to save money on sport at Lancaster, turn to page 14.

Want to know more?

Free Sports Centre taster sessions are available throughout Welcome Week, while Activities Showcases and the Welcome Fair are the perfect way to meet sports teams and societies.

Visit lancaster.ac.uk/welcome/welcome-week for more details.

 lancaster.ac.uk/sport

 [SportsCentreLancaster](https://www.facebook.com/SportsCentreLancaster)

 [@SportLancaster](https://twitter.com/SportLancaster)

Facilities for all

Sports facilities on campus include:



an eight-lane, 25m swimming pool



a fitness suite with a 100-station gym



an 8.5m climbing wall



a sauna and a steam room



a physio/sports injuries clinic



a 3G artificial pitch



eight tennis courts



Activities and interests

Whatever you're into, you're bound to find like-minded people at Lancaster, where you can pick from more than 230 societies affiliated to Lancaster University Students' Union.

Once you've arrived at Lancaster, you will have the opportunity to choose from a range of groups that cover:

- shared interests from baking to free running
- causes such as Oxfam and LGBTQ*
- different countries, cultures and religions
- political groups across the spectrum.

And if there isn't a society that matches your interest, the Students' Union can help you to set one up.

 lusu.co.uk/get-involved

Eat and drink

Choose from dozens of places to eat and drink, including cafés, restaurants and college bars.



Start exploring

Lancaster has nine college bars on campus. There are also plenty of University owned cafés and award-winning restaurants, as well as a host of independent outlets and franchises.

For after hours, the Lancaster University Students' Union (LUSU) offers student nightclub the Sugarhouse: Lancaster's biggest and best venue. There are also plenty more bars, pubs and nightclubs in the city centre, where live music is a major draw.

Insider advice

5 ways to have fun for less:

Get a Purple card

Lancaster's own student discount card will save you money on campus, in the city and online.

purple.lusu.co.uk

Save at the Sports Centre

Student membership is available at a reduced rate and you can also get a 5% discount by booking online using your Purple card during Welcome Week and Week 1.

lancaster.ac.uk/sportscentre

Sign up for the Lancaster Arts Under 26 Supporter Scheme

Join before the end of Week 1 for just £26 and get a free daily cuppa and be eligible for free tickets.

lancasterarts.co.uk/students

Get the student EAT card

It offers a 10% discount on food and drink in University restaurants, cafés and bars.

lancaster.ac.uk/eat/eat-student

Sign up for the Meet, Eat, Drink newsletter

Get up-to-date information on all the latest offers.

lancaster.ac.uk/eat



 lancaster.ac.uk/eat

 LancasterCampusLife

 @LUCampusLife

 lancastercampuslife

Retail and culture

Lancaster Arts brings cutting edge culture to campus, while Lancaster city offers a mix of history and tradition.



Arts and theatre

Lancaster University has much to offer when it comes to culture. The Peter Scott Gallery, the Nuffield Theatre, the £10 million LICA Building and concerts in the Great Hall are brought together under the banner of Lancaster Arts - a programme that brings you the best in visual and performing arts.

Lancaster Arts features in the city centre too, where you'll also find Lancaster Castle, the city's museums plus The Dukes and Lancaster Grand Theatre.



 lancasterarts.co.uk

 @lancasterarts



Retail therapy

Lancaster city centre has all of the major shops, as well as lots of independent stores and boutiques. Meanwhile, the shops of Manchester, Preston and Liverpool are all just short trips away.

The campus also boasts supermarkets and general stores, two banks, a Post Office, pharmacy, seven laundrettes, a hairdresser, a book shop and a travel agent.



Lancaster and beyond

Explore your city and what the rest of the region has to offer

lancaster.ac.uk/explore



Work.



£1.5M

WORTH OF PART-TIME
EMPLOYMENT
FOR OUR STUDENTS
HANDLED BY OUR ON-
CAMPUS RECRUITMENT
SERVICE EACH YEAR



3

MAJOR
CAREERS FAIRS,
ATTRACTING
TOP GRADUATE
EMPLOYERS



97%

OF OUR GRADUATES ARE
IN WORK OR FURTHER
STUDY WITHIN SIX
MONTHS OF GRADUATING



TOP 15

IN THE UK FOR
GRADUATE
EMPLOYMENT
PROSPECTS

Careers

Preparing for life beyond university is an important part of being a Lancaster student. The Careers team works with the Students' Union and academic departments to support you every step of the way.

We can help you to...



Find employment (before and after graduation)

The Employment and Recruitment Service is our own professional recruitment agency run by the university for students and graduates. It can help you find temporary work while you study, as well as your perfect graduate role.



Meet graduate recruiters

We run a range of careers fairs throughout the year – the Autumn Careers Fair will be the first big one after you arrive – and we host employer presentations and workshops throughout term-time. More opportunities are available through faculties and colleges.



Earn a Lancaster Award

Achieving The Lancaster Award is a major advantage when applying for jobs or further study. You can complete the award by participating in activities such as campus events, community development and work experience. Register through the Student Portal.



Develop your skills

Careers workshops can help you develop. They include CV writing sessions, interview skills workshops, tips on searching for jobs, and how to prepare for assessment centres.



Start your own business

If you are looking to create your own business, our enterprise events will help you realise your goal.



And pretty much anything else that will help you achieve your ambitions

If you need one-to-one advice simply book a consultation with the Careers team.

Insider advice

How to get a step ahead in the careers market:

Start planning

Your time at university will pass quickly. Plan now and see the benefits when you graduate.

Get work experience

Internships are highly valued by employers. Talk to us about your options.

Go online

All careers information is available via our website and Knowledge Bank, exclusive to Lancaster University students and graduates.

Want to know more?

Career Development sessions take place on the Tuesday and Wednesday of Welcome Week.

Visit lancaster.ac.uk/welcome/welcome-week for more details.



lancaster.ac.uk/careers



LancsCareers

Support.



1-STOP

STUDENT
ENQUIRY DESK
PROVIDED BY
THE BASE



1,500

HOURS OF STUDENT
SUPPORT PROVIDED
BY STUDENTS' UNION
ADVISERS IN 2014



24/7

ON-CAMPUS
SECURITY
PROVIDED IN
EACH COLLEGE



6 YEARS

AS WINNER OF
BEST UNIVERSITY
HALLS IN THE UK



1 TO 1

APPOINTMENTS
OFFERED BY TEAMS
SUCH AS THE DISABILITY,
COUNSELLING AND
VISA AND IMMIGRATION
SERVICES

Student services

Going to university can be daunting, so it's good to know that professional help is here if you need it.

The Base

The Base is your one-stop enquiry desk – if you need advice, check with them. The staff on the desk are your gateway to specialist support in a range of areas. They are located in Alexandra Square next to the Library and can help with issues such as:



Money

Advice is available on all aspects of student funding, financial awards and budgeting.



Academic matters

Get guidance on academic records, enrolment and exam-related issues.



Visas and immigration

The Base can arrange appointments with our experts in the Visa and Immigration team.



Disability

All students with declared disabilities including dyslexia can receive support from our dedicated team.



Wellbeing

A team of counsellors and welfare advisers can provide confidential support.



Documents

Visit the Base to request documents such as confirmation of study and council tax exemption.



Spiritual wellbeing

Our campus has a multi-faith Chaplaincy Centre, with facilities for the Baha'i, Buddhist, Christian, Hindu and Jewish faiths. There are also new Islamic prayer rooms in Ash House



Nightline

Lancaster Nightline is a listening and information service run by students, for students. All calls are confidential and anonymous.
Call **01524 594 444** or email **nightline@lancaster.ac.uk** during term-time from 10pm-8am



Accommodation

The University Accommodation team can assist with on- and off-campus accommodation. Visit **lancaster.ac.uk/sbs/accommodation**



lancaster.ac.uk/student-based-services



LancasterSBS



@Lancaster_Help

IT access

At Lancaster you'll have access to a wide range of IT services. We'll also provide you with the support and training you need to make the most of them.

Get connected

Access university information on the go:

iLancaster mobile app

Our free mobile app, iLancaster, gives you University resources on the go, including personal timetables, maps and local bus times.

Wi-Fi

Laptops and mobile devices can be connected to the secure eduroam Wi-Fi service across campus.

ResNet

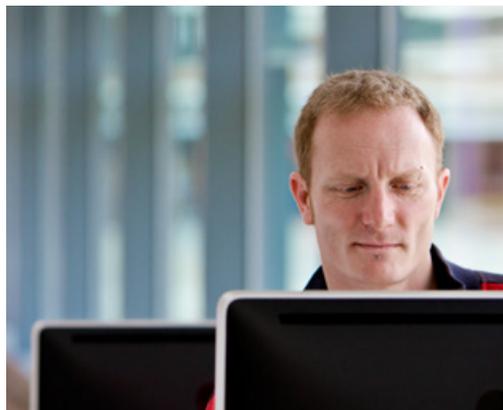
If you live on campus, you can use the Residences Network (ResNet) wired connection in your room to access the web.

Visit lancaster.ac.uk/welcome for more details.

Get support

The IT services and facilities at Lancaster are provided by Information Systems Services (ISS). If you need support you can choose from the following options:

- Visit the ISS Service Desk in the Learning Zone
- Call the desk on 01524 510987
- Email on iss@lancaster.ac.uk
- Search for solutions at answers.lancaster.ac.uk



Insider advice

Make the most of IT offers and facilities:

Get free software

As a Lancaster student there's a range of software you can install at no cost, including Office applications and antivirus software

lancaster.ac.uk/iss/software

Access software on demand

Application Jukebox (AppJ) enables you to access a range of University software on Windows PCs and laptops as and when you need it

appj.lancaster.ac.uk

Get your info in one place

The Student Portal provides you with easy access to your University email, course and exam timetable, and modules

lancaster.ac.uk/portal

Develop skills

Use free training sessions and workshops to help you improve your IT skills

lancaster.ac.uk/iss/training



lancaster.ac.uk/iss

[@ISSLancaster](https://twitter.com/ISSLancaster)

Your college

Every Lancaster student can rely on the support of their college - a supportive community separate from your academic studies.

Lancaster is proud to be one of only a handful of UK universities to have a collegiate system. We have nine colleges in total; eight for undergraduates and one for postgraduates. Every student is a member of a college, and each one has its own distinctive character and community. Take a look at how your college can support you:



Personal support

Every student is assigned a college adviser, who is on hand to provide guidance.

Safety

24/7 safety and security is offered by your college porters.

Social activities

Elected students in each college form the Junior Common Room Executive. They work together on social, sporting and welfare activities.

Plus...

Although every college is different, they all provide a range of facilities including Wi-Fi-enabled social spaces, games rooms and bars. Get in touch with your college for more details.

Your health

A doctor, dentist and pharmacy are all available on campus.



Health Centre

Everyone must register with a doctor, and most choose our on-campus Health Centre. The practice also has a surgery on King Street in Lancaster city centre.

Dental clinic

Our on-campus dental clinic offers DENPLAN-accredited private treatment.

Pharmacy

We have a pharmacy that can provide advice and dispense prescriptions.

Emergencies

In case of an on-campus emergency, please dial 01524 594 541 or 999 on an internal telephone. This service is always available.

Your union

Everything LUSU does contributes to one big vision: inspiring and supporting you to love Lancaster.

Visit LUSU

Based in Bowland College, Lancaster University Students' Union (LUSU) offers services crucial to the Lancaster experience. Feel free to drop in to see them. Their student-run welcome desk is open six days a week.

Representing you

LUSU is an independent charity that represents the student body. You will have the chance to choose fellow students to lead the union as officers or act as your departmental reps.

lusu.co.uk/represent



Education and support

LUSU offers students free academic and welfare advice from a team of professional advisers. Support is available either face-to-face or via email and Skype, weekdays between 9am and 5pm.

lusu.co.uk/advice

LUSU living

Many Lancaster students move off campus in their second year, and LUSU provides a managed accommodation service to help you.

lusu.co.uk/living



Get involved

LUSU offers a range of volunteering opportunities. Through Green Lancaster you could play a part in an environmental project. There are also opportunities to volunteer overseas, and every year LUSU helps hundreds of students learn skills to help them set up and run their own businesses.



lusu.co.uk



[LancasterSU](https://www.facebook.com/LancasterSU)



[@LancasterSU](https://twitter.com/LancasterSU)

Travel advice

Our campus has excellent transport links with the highest bus frequency of any UK campus university and quality off-road cycle routes.

Getting here

For detailed instructions on how to reach campus by road, rail and air, visit lancaster.ac.uk/travel



Getting around



Buses

There are regular bus services from campus to the city centre and beyond, as well as hourly services from campus to Preston and Blackpool.

lancaster.ac.uk/bus-travel



Cycling and walking

There are numerous cycle racks around campus, and most colleges also have secure cycle stores. It takes 15-30 minutes to cycle to the city centre.

lancaster.ac.uk/cycling



On campus

Get your bearings and find facilities by using the campus map. You can access it on iLancaster (see page 20) or at the following link:

lancaster.ac.uk/maps/campus

Insider advice

How to make the most of transport links at Lancaster:

Save money

UniRider bus season tickets are good value. You can buy them from the LUSU Welcome Desk in Bowland College.

Never miss your bus

Bus timetables are available on the iLancaster app, and there are display screens in Alexandra Square and the Underpass showing departure times.

Get free bike maintenance

The University provides a free 'Dr Bike' service every two weeks during term-time in Alexandra Square.



Want to know more?

Attend a Transport and Environment Talk on Tuesday of Welcome Week.

Visit lancaster.ac.uk/welcome/welcome-week for more details.



Lancaster University, Lancaster, LA1 4YW
T: +44 (0)1524 65201
lancaster.ac.uk