



Your Guide to Studying in the UK *in a post-Brexit world*

From writing your application to building a career after you have graduated, read our complete guide to studying in the UK if you're from the EU.





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A warm welcome is waiting



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Welcome

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A lot has changed in a short time in the United Kingdom, following the UK's departure from the European Union.

Whatever your reasons for considering studying in the UK, nothing should stand between you and your university aspirations.

That's why we've put together this simple guide. Here, you will find expert insights on everything from applying for a visa, going to a lecture and even finding work after you've graduated.

Read on to discover what could be your future in the UK.

Applying to university in the UK

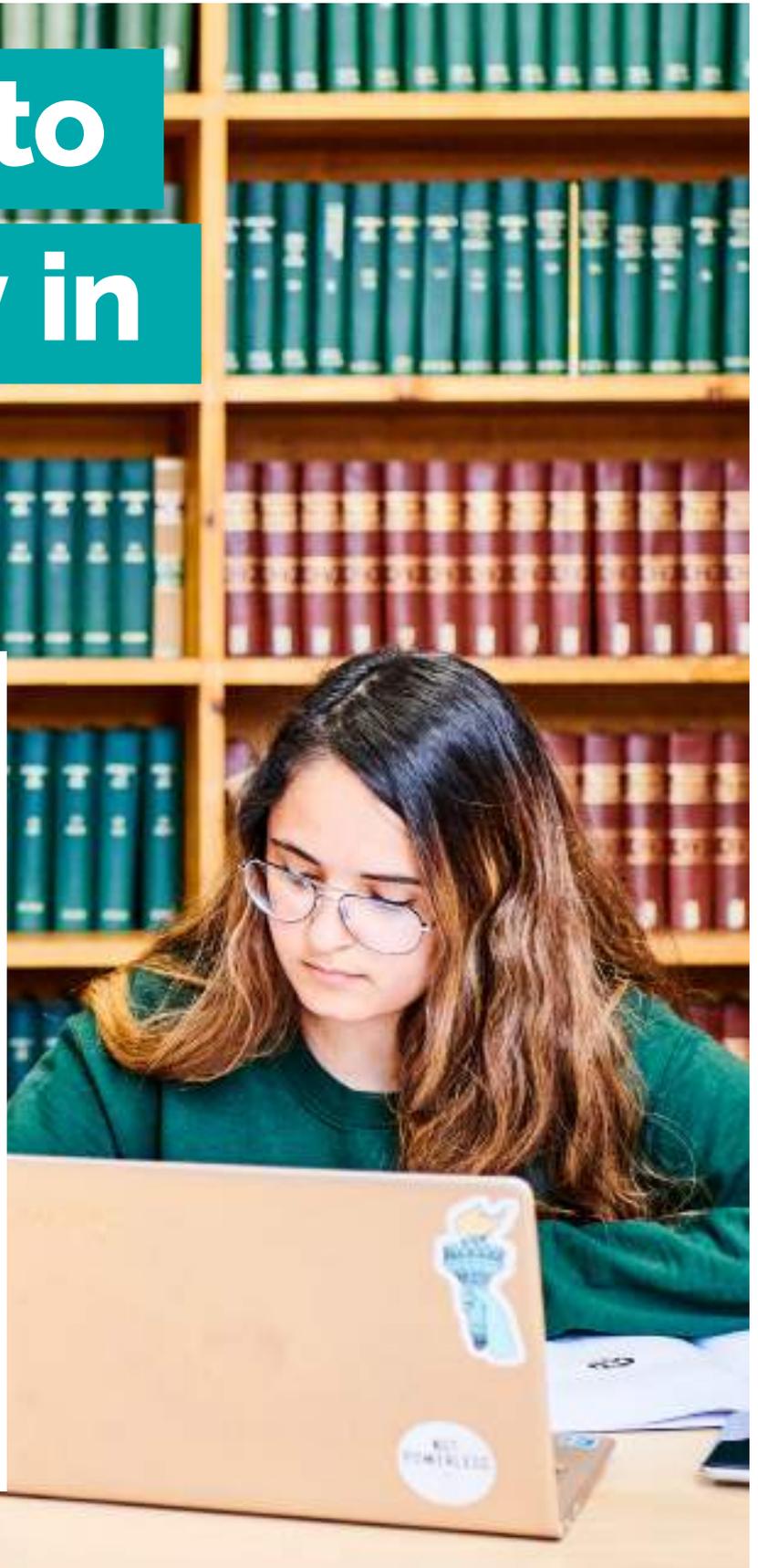
Are you considering a future in the UK? According to the UK's Higher Education Statistics Agency, over 500,000 EU and international students are currently studying here, so you won't be alone.

British universities hold a number of top spots in the world university league tables. In fact, nearly a fifth of the world's top 50 universities are in the UK, according to the QS World University Rankings 2020.

Academic standards in the UK are very high, and the skills and learnings from a UK degree will provide you with a solid foundation to build your career.

In order to study in the UK, you will need to take [the IELTS test, or one of the many other tests we accept](#). IELTS is an English language test that's widely recognised by employers, universities, schools and immigration bodies in the UK.

Once you know that you can meet our [entry requirements](#), you can then start your application.



The UK application process

Most students choose to apply to university independently through [UCAS](#). However, you might choose to get help from an adviser. This might be either a member of staff at a school, college, advisory service or agency that can give you information about studying in the UK.

It's up to you whether you apply independently or through an adviser. Though they can provide valuable support, **you won't be disadvantaged in any way if you don't apply through one.**

Whichever way you choose to apply you will usually follow the same process.

Undergraduate

Postgraduate

Choose your course

Take your time and do your research into the kind of career you want, and what you need to study to get there. Make sure to read about the entry and English language requirements!

Universities will often hold Open Days throughout the summer, and many students find these a helpful way to see if a university is right for them and to get a feel of the city or town where the university is located. At the moment this might be an online Open Day or, in the future, you might be able to visit in person.

Register to apply with UCAS

As the UK's national admissions service, UCAS is for all students who wish to apply to a university or college in the UK.

You will need to make your application on the [UCAS website](#).

Register to apply directly through the university

Unlike undergraduate degrees, to apply for a postgraduate course you usually have to go directly through your university of choice

You'll be able to find where to apply on your chosen university's website.

You can set up an account to apply to Newcastle university here.

Complete your application

The UCAS online application system usually opens in September for entry to university the following year. Once you're registered, you can login and start your application.

You can complete the application form in stages, so there is no need to complete it all at once.

Your application will need to include:

- personal details and qualifications
- course choices (up to 5 options)
- **personal statement**
- a reference from a teacher, adviser or professional who knows you academically

Complete your application

While some universities will have specific deadlines, many will accept applications throughout the year.

At the latest, you should be making your application around June/July for a course that starts in September.

Your application will need to include:

- personal statement
- academic transcripts
- two or more references
- your CV
- if a creative course, your portfolio
- research proposal, if required

Use UCAS to track your application

Once you have submitted your application, you will get a welcome email from UCAS with details of how you can track your university offers.

At this time, admissions tutors will be busy reviewing your application, taking into account your personal statement, references, evidence of relevant skills and any special circumstances which may affect your application.

Track your application, and wait for a response

Once you have submitted your application, it's time to wait for the university to respond.

Wait times can vary depending on the university.

You should be able to track the success of your application using your account on your chosen university's website.

Here at Newcastle University, we aim to respond to your application within 15 working days although at certain times of the year this may be longer.

[Find out more about our application process.](#)

Receive the outcome of your application

You will be notified via email that your application has been updated, so you can log in to UCAS and view any changes or offers.

The deadline for universities to make all of their offers is **Thursday 20 May 2020**, however it's likely you will hear back before this date.

Reply to your offer

Congratulations on receiving an offer to study at Newcastle University. To respond to your offer log into the Applicant Portal.

Pay your deposit

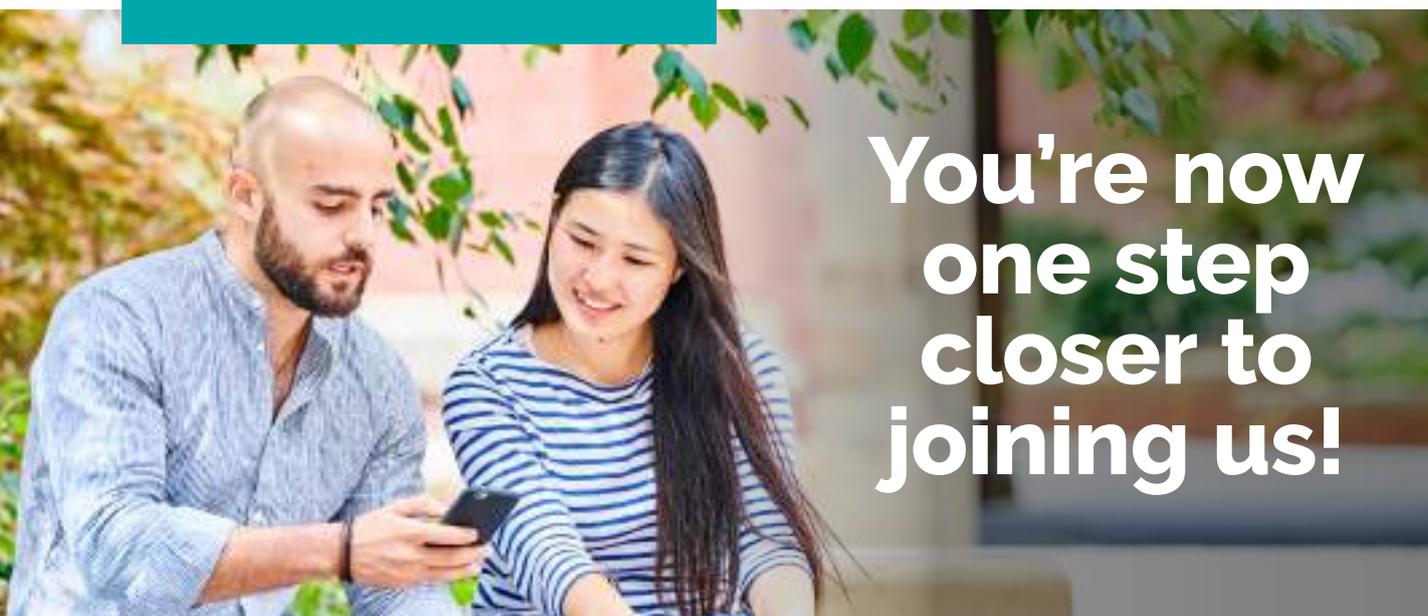
Some postgraduate courses require a deposit of £1,500 to secure your place, you'll find this information in your 'Terms and Conditions of your Offer' section of your offer letter.

Alternatively, if you need a student visa to study in the UK, you'll need to pay your deposit as soon as you accept your unconditional offer.

Reply to your offer

Once all of your offers have been added in UCAS, you will receive an email confirming this.

At this point, you can log back into 'UCAS Track' and reply to your offers by either accepting or rejecting them. You need to make one firm choice, and one insurance choice.



**You're now
one step
closer to
joining us!**

Applying for a student visa

In order to study in the UK, you will need to apply for a visa. A visa is an official document that lets you enter another country.

Once you have a Confirmation of Acceptance for Studies (CAS) from the university, you can apply for a Student Visa.

A CAS number is unique to every individual, and must be quoted on your visa application.

In order to be eligible to apply, you must be 16 or over and you must:

- have been offered a place on a course by a licensed student sponsor (this means a university)
- have enough money to support yourself and pay for your course
- be able to speak, read, write and understand English

You can apply for your Student Visa using [gov.uk](https://www.gov.uk)

If you're applying for a Student Visa outside the UK, this usually costs £348. You will typically get a decision about your application within 3 weeks. Make sure you apply for your visa at least 3 months prior to your University start date, but no earlier than 6 months before.

As part of your visa application you will need to pay the Immigration Health Surcharge which will allow you to use our National Health Service (NHS). This cost of this per year is currently £470.



Funding your studies in the uk

What fees will I be paying?

Due to Brexit, EU students aren't eligible for Home fees or UK student loans.

However, if you're an EU national with settled or pre-settled status under the EU Settlement Scheme - and you meet the eligibility requirements in place at the time of your course commencing - you will still have access to home fee status and student financial support throughout the duration of your studies.

What financial support is available?

Here at Newcastle University, we're passionate about keeping our university a welcoming space for EU students, despite the changing fees. This is why we have created our EU scholarships to help you fund your studies.

We offer both partial and full awards, depending on course and subject.

Some of these scholarships are awarded automatically at the point of your offer, whereas others require you to make an application before **Thursday 27th May**.

[Find out more about our scholarships for EU students.](#)



Studying in the UK

The British education system specialises in teaching students to think critically, independently, and analyse freely. This method may be one of the reasons why British scientists and institutions have won almost 100 Nobel prizes.

Most university courses in the UK rely on a mix of lectures and seminars, with some specialist subjects branching out into lab or field work.

When you start your degree, you will get a timetable of lectures and seminars for each module to go to every week.

A module is just another way of saying a subject. For example, if your degree is dentistry, you might have a module about the anatomy of the head and neck, and a different module about nutrition and diet.

What are lectures, and what will they be like?

Your lectures will take place in large halls or lecture theatres, and will often have lots of students from different courses in there who share some modules with your course. They can be as short as an hour, but sometimes longer for more in-depth topics.

The lecturer will present to you and teach you about their research topic, and students are expected to take notes. As the semester progresses, the lectures will get more challenging and detailed.

It's unlikely that you will need to talk or interact during a lecture. However, you may be asked to do some reading beforehand to help your learning.

If there's anything you don't understand, you will usually get the chance to ask questions at the end. Or, if you're uncomfortable with the idea of talking in front of people, you can always stay behind after the lecture has finished to speak to the lecturer personally.

What are seminars, and what will they be like?

Seminars are a bit different from lectures, as they're a lot more interactive. This is your chance to talk about the things covered during the lecture, and chat with your fellow students.

You will often have to do some seminar preparation. This can be anything from reading a few chapters of a book, answering some questions or even preparing a presentation.

Don't let this part scare you! Seminar groups are usually very small, with students from lots of different backgrounds. They are a safe space for you to share your ideas and ask questions about the teaching material or any upcoming assignments.

How are students assessed?

If you're an undergraduate student, each year you can earn up to 120 credits. Students on Bachelor degrees usually have 6 modules, worth 20 credits each.

Alternatively, postgraduate degrees can vary quite a lot in terms of grading and assessments.

A taught Master's degree is 180 credits, whereas a Research Master's is split between traditional assessments and your own research. A PhD – a doctoral research degree – is one of the highest levels of academic qualifications you can achieve, and PhD students don't receive credits. Instead, the outcome of their studies is either simply pass or fail.

How you build up credits is by doing your assignments. You will have assignments for each module, and they can take any of the below forms:

- Coursework
- Exams
- Group work
- Essays
- Reports
- Presentations
- Dissertations
- And more

How you will be assessed is up to your module leader. But you will find out all the details of your assignment with plenty of notice, so you have time to plan and prepare.

Here at Newcastle University, we have a [writing development centre](#) to help students perfect their academic writing skills. We also have free English language support for those who need it.

Studying or working overseas during your degree

Many students choose to study abroad during their degree, to improve their confidence and enhance their learning.

The UK government has introduced the Turing Scheme to provide funding for international opportunities in education and training across the world.

The scheme allows universities to offer their students life-changing experiences to study or work abroad. Students can choose to work or study overseas for between 4 weeks and 12 months during their degree.

[Find out more about the Turing Scheme with Newcastle University.](#)

Living and working

If you decide to study in the UK, you will find lots to stimulate you.

The UK has a unique mix of different cultures, activities and interests to get involved with. No matter where you are in the UK, you will find a diverse mix of restaurants, nightlife, shops, galleries, cinemas and a rich history and heritage.

And here at Newcastle, we're ranked joint 1st for student affordability, which means you can expect lower than average living costs compared to every other UK city.

Can I access UK healthcare services?

If you have been granted settled or pre-settled status, you will be able to use the National Health Service (NHS) in England free of charge.

Alternatively, if you're arriving in the UK on a Student Visa, you will need to pay the Immigration Health Surcharge as part of your Student Visa application to be able to use the UK's National Health Service.

This costs £470 per year of study, and you'll pay this when you apply for your visa. This allows you to use the National Health Service (NHS) as soon as you arrive in the UK and includes visits to a doctor or hospital without charge.

However you will still need to pay for certain types of services, such as prescriptions, dental treatment, and eye tests.

When you access healthcare in the UK, you may need to prove your status online using a share code, if you have a digital immigration status.

[Find out more about the Immigration Health Surcharge.](#)



The EU Settlement Scheme (EUSS) explained

What is the EUSS?

The European Union Settlement Scheme was launched by the Home Office to process the registration of EU citizens in the United Kingdom, prior to leaving the European Union.

Should I apply for the EUSS?

We do recommend you apply to the EUSS if:

- you were resident in the UK on or before 31 December 2020 and plan to remain in the UK after 30 June 2021
- you were resident in the UK on or before 31 December 2020 and plan to leave and re-enter the UK after 1 January 2021
- you were previously resident in the UK but have recently been absent for certain reasons (for example if you have been remote studying in Semester One)

Having pre-settled status means you keep your rights to live, work and study as an EU national and will give you the option of remaining in the UK for up to 5 years.

If you are currently living in the UK, you can submit the EUSS application up until 30 June 2021.

We recommend you apply as soon as possible. If you are granted Pre-Settled Status, you will be able to travel out of and return to the UK without obtaining further immigration permission after 1 January 2021.

[Visit the government website for further information.](#)

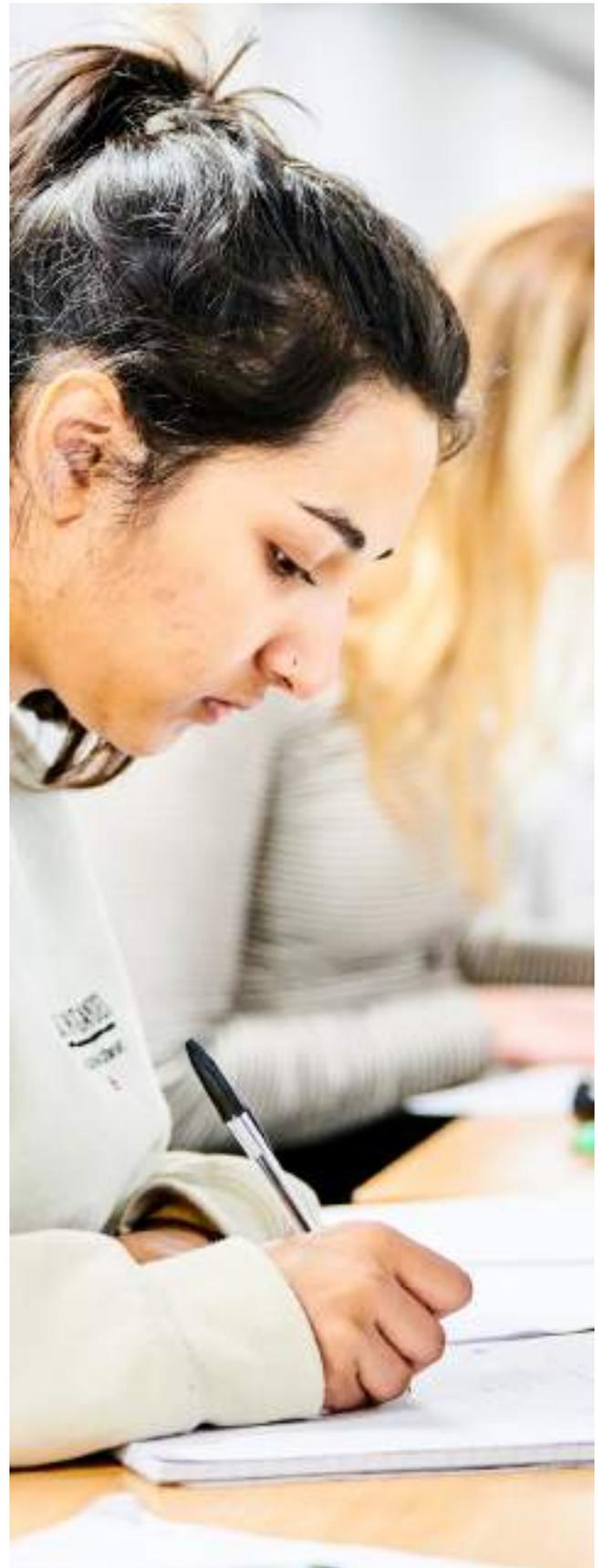
UKCISA (UK Council for International Student Affairs) have also published information about EU Settlement Scheme and absences from the UK due to Covid-19.

[Find out more here.](#)

If you're not eligible to apply for EUSS and you're looking to travel to the UK, you can still join us to study this year.

If you're a new EU/EEA/Swiss student intending to travel to the UK for six months or more visit our [Visa Team](#) pages for more information.

If you're an EU/EEA/Swiss exchange student intending to travel to the UK for less than six months, [find out more about short term visas.](#)



Working in the UK after study

What is the Graduate Route visa?

From 01 July 2021, once you've graduated from an eligible course, you will be able to apply for a Graduate Route visa.

You'll then be able to work or look for work in the UK.

There will be no minimum salary requirements nor limit on numbers. As a graduate on this route, you'll be able to work flexibly, switch jobs and build your career in the UK.

[Find out more about the Graduate Route.](#)



For students with settled/pre-settled status, you will be able to live and work in the UK without needing to apply for this visa.

Award-winning careers support

UK universities offer award-winning careers services to support their students throughout their degrees, and beyond.

What support is available at Newcastle University?

Newcastle University's Careers Service has been recognised as one of the best higher education careers services in the UK. We have won seven national careers awards, and we're the first to be awarded a quality mark for high standards of information, advice and guidance.

Our graduates are in-demand, and they continue to be among the most employable in the country.

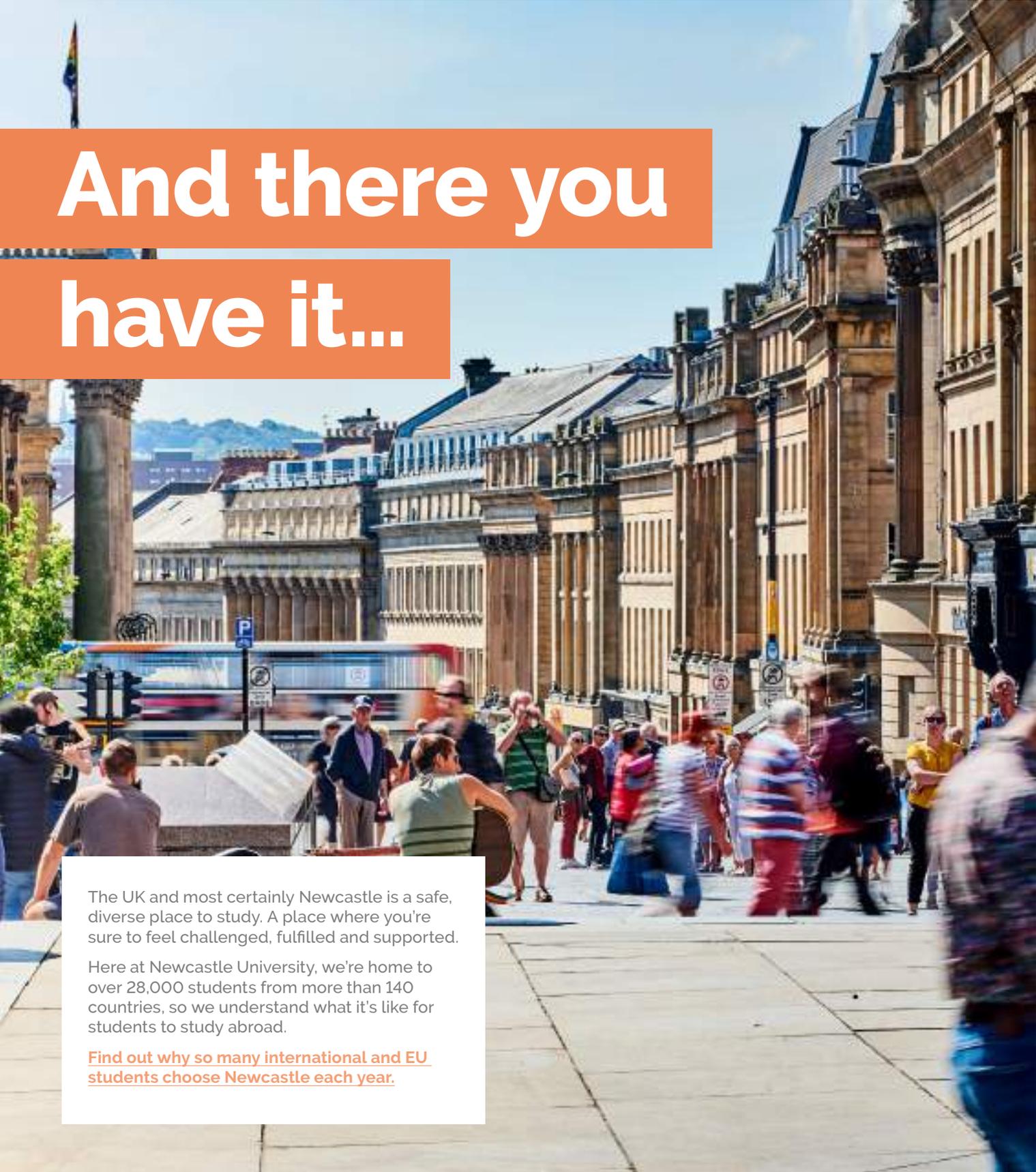
Our Careers Service offers extensive support to equip you with all the skills and experiences you need to be a competitive candidate in your chosen field.

When you study with us, you will have access to:

- a business start-up service with one-to-one coaching and funding opportunities
- careers fairs where you can meet national and multinational employers
- advice and guidance on CV writing
- interview techniques and simulated interviews to practice your skills
- an extensive jobs database to find employment opportunities
- Newcastle Spark platform to link up with Newcastle graduates around the world

Could you be the next EU student to benefit from these services?





And there you have it...

The UK and most certainly Newcastle is a safe, diverse place to study. A place where you're sure to feel challenged, fulfilled and supported.

Here at Newcastle University, we're home to over 28,000 students from more than 140 countries, so we understand what it's like for students to study abroad.

[Find out why so many international and EU students choose Newcastle each year.](#)