

Choosing Newcastle University for an exchange is a fantastic idea for many reasons. First off, the university is really good at teaching, and you'll learn a lot from some of the best teachers in the world. They're big on research too, so you'll get to be part of some cool projects.

But it's not just about studying! Newcastle is an awesome city with lots to do. There's history all around, like the old Newcastle Castle, and the city itself is buzzing with life. Whether you're into exploring, partying, or just hanging out with friends, you'll find plenty to keep you busy.

And don't worry about feeling lost or alone – Newcastle University goes out of its way to help international students. They have people who can give you advice, if you want to subscribe there is also a study abroad buddy program in which you will be assigned to a group with other international students, and they will plan weekly activities for you. Moreover, there are tons of clubs and activities to join. So, you'll feel right at home in no time.

Overall, Newcastle University offers a great mix of top-notch learning and a fun, welcoming atmosphere. It's the perfect place to have an amazing experience while you're studying abroad.

**A. Your program of study (courses, assignments, course format). Add the exact number of class hours per course.**

*I am an international Management student, however while doing your exchange you will have plenty of courses to choose from. For my exchange I was required to COMPLETE 30 ECTS. At Newcastle university some courses are worth 5 ECTS and others are worth 10 ECTS depending on how heavy the workload for each course is.*

- *The courses I decided to take are listed below:*

<b>Course Name</b>	<b>ECTS</b>	<b>Class Hours</b>	<b>Seminar hours</b>	<b>Independent Study hours</b>
<i>MKT 3100</i> <i>New service development</i>	<b>5</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>48</b>
<i>BUS 3078</i> <i>Advanced Global Strategy</i>	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>167</b>
<i>MKT 2045</i> <i>Services Marketing (semester 2)</i>	<b>5</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>84</b>
<i>Por 1066 Level A (HE Entry level)</i> <i>Portuguese II</i>	<b>10</b>	<b>33</b>	<b>44</b>	<b>123</b>

For POR 1066, 90% of the grade comes from a written examination and the other 10% comes from a presentation. It is important to notice that there are weekly assignments, but they don't count towards your final grade.

For MKT3100 and MKT 2045, 100% of the grade comes from an essay of 200 words.

For BUS 3078, 60% of the grade comes from a 1600 words essay and the other 40% from a simulation-based group presentation.

(It is important to notice that there are weekly assignments and readings).

***B. The timetable (academic calendar, registration dates, orientation, beginning and end of classes, exams, holidays, number of semesters, etc.) Please submit the precise dates so students will know when to book their flights next year.***

- ***31 october 2023 → Semester 2 application deadlines***

The deadline for submitting your online application if you are planning to study for Semester 2 (Spring) only.

- ***23 january 2024 → Provisional recommended arrival date***

It is recommend that you arrive on the Monday or Tuesday of this week so that you can take part in the International Welcome Week. Please wait until you receive your acceptance and visa (if applicable) before making any travel plans.

- ***21 January 2024 → Unite Students rent instalment 1***

- ***24 – 26 January 2024 → International Welcome Week***

A short week of activities, help and support to help international students get settled into Newcastle and meet new people. These dates are provisional and will be confirmed in your acceptance letter.

- ***31 January 2024 → Unite Students rent instalment 2***

- ***29 January 2024 → Semester 2 classes begin***

The teaching start date for Semester 2 (Spring)

- ***22 March 2024 Classes end for Spring Break***

Students will have a month for travelling, socialising, relaxing and preparing for any upcoming exams.

- ***22 April 2024 Classes resume after Spring Break***

Spring Break ends and classes will continue for the rest of Semester 2.

- ***5 June 2024 → Unite Students rent instalment 1***

- ***7 June 2024 Semester 2 classes end***

The teaching end date for Semester 2 (Spring).

**C. Procedures to follow upon arrival. List and description of services offered by the International Exchange Office of the host institution. Registration and course selection. Social activities.**

Before your arrival when you are completing your application in terraDota before your arrival you will have the opportunity to register to the “**study abroad buddy program**”, there you will meet other international students from around the world and you will be assigned to a group in which you will have activities almost every week.

When you first arrive, you have two important tasks to complete, the first thing you have to do is your “right to study check” there you will need to bring your passport and airplane tickets so that the university verify your presence on campus. The second thing you have to do is get your student card, this is very important because you will have to tap your card for every class to confirm your assistance that day. Moreover, I would suggest you register with a family doctor as soon as possible. (this two tasks can be completed in the same building → **KING’S GATE**)

After a few days you will have the international welcome week, during this week they will plan events in which they will explain how the modules work, they will welcome you to the campus and they will answer any of the questions you may have.

A few days before the semester starts you will have to attend a workshop in which you will have to confirm the modules you will be taking, it is important to know that there might be a clash between your original preselected course sequence so you might have to pick other modules instead and send the new courses to the university of Ottawa so that they can check if the courses meet their criteria.

Through the study abroad buddy program I made a friend that invited me to join a football league that is played at NUcastle building. I believe this activity is not associated to the university. However, I highly recommend it since it is a very good way to make new friends and exercise during the week.

**D. Budget outlining the cost of studying abroad (i.e. airplane tickets, housing, vacation and daily travel costs, textbooks, meals, etc.).**

**1) Travel expenses:**

To get to Newcastle I had to pay 951 cad and it was a two way ticket from Ottawa to London the airline I used was Air Canada. To get from London to Newcastle (One way) I had to pay 120 cad the airline I used was British airways and the Uber from the airport to my accommodation costed me 50 cad. However, if you buy your tickets with more anticipation you can definitely get better prices. Now that I have more experience I would also suggest taking a bus from London to Newcastle with Flexbus since the price is usually around 30 cad. If you want to travel around Europe or even north Africa I would suggest to use Ryanair since it is a very affordable airline. For example; you can find airplane tickets from Newcastle to Milan, Ibiza or Paris for as cheap as 30 cad.

**2) Housing: (check in 20<sup>th</sup> Jan 2024 – check out 21<sup>st</sup> Jun 2024)**

I decided to decline my accommodation offer from the university since I wanted a private bathroom. I used a Facebook group called NUSU to find housing and ended up choosing Unite students accommodation on Welling street (**Right next to the Newcastle stadium St James Park and 1 minute away from the business school**). There I am paying 151 GBP per week and I was required to pay in three installments.

Installment 1 → 1320.17 GBP OR 2248.4 CAD

Installment 2 → 1320.17 GBP OR 2248.4 CAD

Installment 3 → 660.09 GBP OR 1124.36 CAD

### **3) Daily expenses**

Eating in Newcastle can be either very expensive or fairly cheap. If you go out and do takeouts you can expect to pay an average of 15 GBP per meal. On the other hand if you cook for yourself you can prepare meals for as cheap as 3 GBP per portion. What I do is I take the metro to go to ALDI since you can find cheaper prices on food. The metro ticket cost me 3 pounds and I usually spend 45 GBP every time I go and the food last me around two weeks. I usually buy chicken thighs since 1 KG costs 3 gbp and I buy 1 kg of fish for 5 GBP. I also buy eggs from there since its cheaper than other places.

I would also suggest becoming a member of Tesco and acquire a club card since it gives you access to discounts on a lot of stuff by using it. Tesco is super helpful for picking up little bits and pieces and its very convenient because they have multiple locations. I have one right next to my accommodation. I buy my milk and bread from them. They also have a discount section in which they include the food that is going to expire soon.

#### **4) I didn't have spend money on books since I was able to find them for free at the University library.**

5) Laundry costs 5 GBP for clean and dry at my accommodation. Fortunately I have a friend from high school that is also studying full time at Newcastle University and lives on the accommodation next to mine so I bring my clothes there and its free for them.

6) During the Spring break I went back to Canada for two weeks and I paid 810 cad for a two way from London to Ottawa. This time I took the bus from Newcastle to London and that trip cost me 30 cad.

7) I am a regular gym user so I am going to the "GYM group" and with the student discount it costs me 32 cad per month.

### **E. Application procedures before your arrival (visa deadlines, documents required for visa, course registration, housing deposit, etc).**

Since I am Peruvian and I was only staying in England for less than 6 months I didn't have to apply for a visa and as I explained above my rent was divided in three installments and the course registration took place at the business school three days before classes started.

### **F. Address and description of housing.**

I am living at Unite students - Wellington street plaza (NE4 5SA) it is a private room with a private bathroom, I have 5 other flatmates and we all share the kitchen and a living room with a TV. The location is extremely convenient since it is located right next to the business school and its also 1 minute away from St James park if you are a football fan. Moreover, there is a little tesco that is super convenient when you want to grab little bits and pieces. All my roommates are from the UK and have been very welcoming and friendly. We usually go out together on weekends and hang around during the week at the kitchen.

It is important to consider that the accommodation where I am staying is a first-year student accommodation since the upper year students usually live in Jesmond which is 20 min away from campus.

### **G. Work term (if applicable):**

NOT APPLICABLE

## **H. Other comments or recommendations.**

**Immerse Yourself in the Culture:** Take advantage of the diverse cultural scene in Newcastle. Attend local festivals, explore museums, and interact with locals to fully experience the city's vibrant atmosphere. Newcastle has a very good nightlife so don't miss out on that.

**Join Student Organizations:** Get involved in student clubs and societies to meet new people and engage in activities that interest you. It's a great way to make friends and enhance your university experience.

**Explore the Region:** Newcastle is situated in a beautiful part of England with stunning countryside and historic towns nearby. Take day trips to places like Hadrian's Wall, Durham, or the Northumberland coast to make the most of your time in the region.

**Stay Organized:** Keep track of important deadlines, assignments, and events to ensure a smooth transition and successful academic experience.

**Seek Support When Needed:** Don't hesitate to reach out to university staff or fellow students if you encounter any challenges or need assistance. Newcastle University offers various support services for international students, including academic guidance, counseling, and healthcare resources.

## **I. Add a description of about five to seven sentences summarizing your experience.**

My time at Newcastle University has been absolutely incredible. From day one, I felt like I belonged here. The academic side of things has been top-notch – challenging but super rewarding. I've had some amazing professors who really know their stuff, and the research projects have been eye-opening.

Beyond the books, Newcastle itself has been a blast. There's always something going on, whether it's exploring the city's historic spots like Newcastle Castle or just chilling by the Quayside with friends. The music scene here is unreal, and the food... let's just say I've had some seriously good eats.

But more than anything, it's been the personal growth that's blown me away. Living in a new place, meeting people from all over the world, and figuring things out as I go – it's been a journey, to say the least. But I've come out the other side feeling more confident, independent, and ready to take on whatever comes my way. Newcastle University has been more than just a school – it's been an experience I'll never forget.

Pictures:

