

Mini Guide

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This is your place

Welcome to our Mini Guide. Here you'll learn more about studying at Aberystwyth University, including how to apply, our subject areas, student life, student support and more.

For a real insight into studying at Aberystwyth, come along to an Open Day. You'll meet staff and students, tour our campus, see our facilities and more. Register here: aber.ac.uk/openday



Our Subjects

University study opens up a whole new world of enquiry, allowing you to be guided by your interests, a wide selection of subjects and modules, and the expertise of world-renowned research and teaching.



▲ Accounting & Finance

Accounting and Finance involves the concepts of money, business and management, with an emphasis on professional careers in these areas. Accounting relates to information analysis for different aspects of a business, while finance solely concerns a business' monetary funds. Our multi-accredited courses will help you develop the professional knowledge and skills needed from the global accounting and finance sector.

▲ Agriculture

The world needs talented, highly skilled farmers, managers and advisors to ensure this vital, diverse and technological industry is ready for the challenges ahead. At Aberystwyth, our students benefit from the great diversity of farmland and agricultural terrain, which is commercially managed by the University, and is being used for teaching and research purposes.

▲ Animal & Aquatic Sciences

Animal and Aquatic Sciences at Aberystwyth includes Animal Behaviour, Animal Science, Equine and Veterinary Bioscience, Equine Science, Marine and Freshwater Biology, Wildlife Conservation and Zoology. You will be studying in a world-class department whose research is contributing towards solving global issues such as the prevention of deadly diseases, food security and crop growth in drought-prone soil, developing sustainable and environmentally friendly fuels, and studying the effects of climate change on ecosystems.

▲ Art & Photography

Our School of Art is housed in a magnificent Grade II-listed building where history and tradition meet contemporary practice. Here, Art is made and debated, exhibited and experienced. You will become immersed in artistic and curatorial practices, and historical art research.

▲ Biochemistry & Genetics

To study genetics is to study the basis of life, diversity and evolution, whether human, plant or animal. Biochemistry focuses on the chemical processes that occur within living organisms. Both disciplines intersect in important areas such as medicine, nutrition, biotechnology and pharmaceuticals, leading to career opportunities in vital fields, where scientific advances are continually sought.

▲ Biosciences

The rich ecology of Wales provides the perfect environment in which to develop and hone your skills as a biologist. Combining scientific theory and practical lab and field work, this fascinating subject will give you a greater understanding of the world around you and how it works.

▲ Business & Management

Business and Management is both a practical and academic discipline that covers topics ranging from leadership, organisational behaviour and information technology, to data analytics, supply chain management and global logistics. Degrees in Business and Management usually contain elements of other disciplines, such as Accounting and Finance, Marketing, Economics and Tourism.

▲ Computer Science

From developing cameras for use in space missions to developing better ways of screening cancers, our research has contributed to some of the most important events in history.

▲ Criminology

Criminology is a fascinating broad-ranging subject that examines the causes of crime, the effects of crime, crime management and prevention. Ultimately, in understanding what causes crime, criminologists look for ways in which we can prevent crime and mitigate the harms caused. It explores the consequences of being labelled 'criminal', and how society responds to criminal behaviour by detecting, punishing and rehabilitating individuals who commit offences.

▲ Drama & Theatre

At Aberystwyth, we approach the subjects of Drama and Theatre in the most expansive way possible. Here, we build on your existing interests, your knowledge and skills in drama, theatre and performance, whilst challenging your preconceptions and expectations in order to expand what you might consider drama and theatre to be.

▲ Ecological Sciences

Ecology is the study of how organisms interact with each other and the natural environment. There is an urgency for us to have a new generation of ecologists that can respond to the environmental challenges we face. These include habitat destruction, climate change, micro plastics, diseases and more.

▲ Economics

Economics is the study of choice; at Aberystwyth, we provide students with the opportunity to investigate how these choices are made. Whether they are examining consumers and corporations or analysing groups and governments, our students develop skills to analyse the world in front of them and formulate conclusions about what is likely to happen in the future.

▲ Education & Childhood Studies

Education is the study of how we learn – how we think, absorb and process information, understand new concepts and develop new skills. It's also about studying how learning is most effectively supported by schools, teachers, parents and communities, so that children and young people can achieve their full potential. Childhood Studies is about how children learn and develop, but also about how childhood is understood in different contexts and cultures, and how various services for children and families are organised and delivered.

▲ Engineering

As we push towards net zero, Engineering at Aberystwyth has sustainability at its core. In studying with us, you'll gain an appreciation of the importance of low carbon solutions for our future world, and develop the appropriate skills for the workplace and the growing renewable energy markets.

▲ English & Creative Writing

We offer flexible courses that combine the very best elements of traditional literary studies with exciting and innovative approaches to our subjects. From Chaucer to Twitter, writing has the power to inform, challenge and change our perceptions. At Aberystwyth you can channel your own passion for reading and writing, and make your own contributions to our long literary heritage and to the literature of the future.

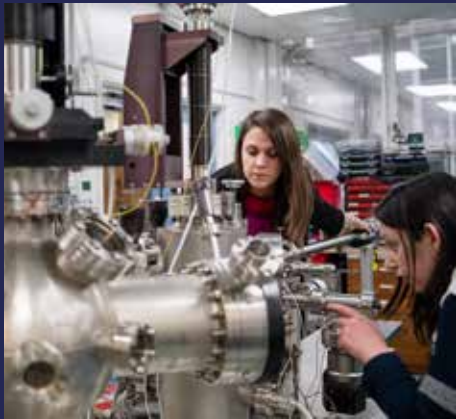
▲ Film & Television

Whether you are interested in the moving image as an art form or an industry, creating films, or studying film and television texts themselves, our diverse degree in Film and Television Studies at Aberystwyth University will give you the space to explore different creative, technical and critical approaches in a vibrant community.

▲ Geography, Earth and Environmental Sciences

Aberystwyth is the perfect place to study Geography, Earth and Environmental Sciences. Located between the Cambrian Mountains and the coast of West Wales, you will benefit from all the natural resources that will aid your study. Our Geography, Human Geography and Physical Geography courses are accredited by the Royal Geographical Society (RGS) (with the Institute of British Geographers).





▲ History

History has been taught at Aberystwyth University since the 1870s, making us one of the oldest History departments in Wales. We study a wide variety of historical periods that will appeal to your interest and hone your historical desires.

▲ Human Biology & Health

Biomedical scientists study the function of the human body and apply their scientific knowledge to the prevention and treatment of medical conditions. At Aberystwyth, you can study a broad curriculum of biological disciplines to develop a sound understanding of the main conditions that influence human health in the 21st century. These include physiology, biomechanics, microbiology, immunology, genetics and exercise science, all of which will furnish you with an appreciation of how diet, alongside physical activity and regular exercise, plays a significant role in maintaining health and well-being.

▲ Information & Library Studies

Established in 1964, the Department of Information Studies provides a world-class education for those working in or planning a career in libraries, archives and the fast-developing world of digital information.

▲ Law

Law has been taught at Aberystwyth since 1901. The Department has a proud tradition of scholarship and research, and has prepared generations of people from all over the world for professional careers in the legal sector. All our undergraduate law degrees offer a good foundation for entry into the legal professions and those preparing for the new Solicitors' Qualifying Examination.

▲ Marketing

Marketing is a dynamic and vibrant career choice, full of innovation, creativity and data-driven intuitive decision-making. Our accredited courses are designed to help you succeed in these fast-paced and ever-changing industries, and lead to a successful career in a variety of settings.

▲ Mathematics

Mathematics is the science of numbers and their operations. Mathematics finds applications in all branches of science and many areas of business and finance. It is at the heart of all modern technology. We have a range of degree schemes including single honours in mathematics, pure and applied mathematics, mathematical modelling and statistics.

▲ Modern Languages

There has never been a more exciting time to study languages. With other languages competing with English to be the main language of global communication, there are more reasons than ever to become bilingual or multilingual. Here at Aberystwyth, we offer a range of courses in the study of French, Spanish, German and Italian, either as single or joint honours degree programmes.

▲ Nursing

We offer BSc Adult Nursing and BSc Mental Health Nursing courses. Our Nursing courses offer a bespoke and intimate learning experience. The Healthcare Education Centre is newly established and houses the Clinical Skills Unit, a state-of-the-art simulation suite where you can learn clinical skills in a safe and supportive environment.

▲ Physics

Our physicists are some of the UK's leading experts and are involved in projects ranging from engineering new materials and instruments, to planetary missions and ground-breaking studies of the Sun's activity. The majority of our Physics courses are accredited by the Institute of Physics (IOP).



▲ Politics & International Relations

Founded in 1919, our Department of International Politics is the first of its kind in the world. With strands covering intelligence and security, climate change and global development, our International Relations programmes provide an outstanding environment in which to study the most significant issues and concepts that shape politics and international relations today.

▲ Psychology

Psychology is the Science of Mind and Behaviour; it is a broad subject that aims to understand human behaviour from the biological explanations of how the brain works, to the social understanding of how we interact and adapt with our environment or change cognitively as we get older.

▲ Sociology

By examining the political landscape and considering contemporary issues such as crime, education, social welfare, inequality, religion, race and gender, and through adopting theoretical and evidence-based stances to critique society, sociologists can bring about transformative change to create a better world for all.

▲ Sport & Exercise Science

Combining disciplines such as Physiology, Psychology and Biomechanics, Sport and Exercise Science at Aberystwyth provides you with the applied skills, knowledge and competences that will act as the foundation for your future career. Sports and Exercise Scientists have worked with athletes who have competed at European and world championship level.

▲ Veterinary Studies

Aberystwyth University is the only university in Wales to offer a BVSc in Veterinary Science. Our jointly-hosted degree offers you a unique opportunity to train at two world-leading scientific and educational institutions: the Royal Veterinary College (RVC) and Aberystwyth University. Aberystwyth also offers a foundation degree in Veterinary Nursing. Both courses deliver an in-depth theoretical, academic and practical understanding of veterinary care.

▲ Welsh & Celtic Studies

Aberystwyth offers unique opportunities for its students to learn Breton, Irish or Scottish Gaelic alongside Welsh - from beginners to confident and fluent speakers. Aberystwyth is the home of Professional Welsh, and this sector-leading scheme is popular with students and employers who seek a 'gold standard' in the language.



Choosing your degree



When you start looking at universities, you may hear a lot of unfamiliar terms. Here we explain the types of undergraduate degrees offered at Aberystwyth University.

▲ Single honours degrees

If you're interested in just one subject, this might be the right path for you. A single honours degree means you'll study just one subject, like Biology or History.

▲ Combined / Joint honours degrees

Students on combined honours degrees study two subject areas. This is a great way to develop your learning without restricting yourself to one subject.

You can study each subject equally (joint honours), or you can choose to focus more on one (your 'major') than the other (your 'minor'). Combined honours degrees are designed to be flexible, so throughout your course you'll be able to decide for yourself how it is structured.

▲ Single honours with integrated year of foundation study

Our single honours with integrated year of foundation study courses are a great route into subjects you're passionate about, but have less experience in. They're perfect if you want to change direction from what you've studied at school or college, or if you didn't quite get the grades you were hoping for.

▲ Integrated year in industry / study abroad

Some of our degrees give you the chance to spend a year working for an organisation in an industry related to your degree, or study at one of our many partner universities globally. This is a great opportunity to get some practical experience, to see if a particular type of work is for you, to start making professional contacts, or to immerse yourself in another culture.

An integrated year in industry / studying abroad turns your degree into a four-year programme. Our students come back from their year in industry / study abroad refreshed, newly focused and inspired to take the next steps on their academic and professional journeys.

▲ Foundation degrees

Usually two or three years in duration, foundation degrees combine academic study with practical skills, which you can apply in the workplace. Successful completion can also lead to direct entry onto the final year of some courses. At Aberystwyth, we currently offer foundation degrees in Agriculture and Veterinary Nursing.



The department made sure we were ready for working in industry by hosting many events aimed at practising applications, assessment centres and picking up skills.

They also encourage students to do a placement year in industry - I worked at the Walt Disney Company Europe headquarters in London!



Natalia Miller, Computer Science



Studying through the medium of Welsh

We offer a range of opportunities for students wishing to study through the medium of Welsh.

The University will also allocate you a Welsh-medium Personal Tutor, and you can submit all of your assessments in Welsh. Take a look at our online course list for information about courses and modules available through the medium of Welsh.

Students studying partially or wholly through the medium of Welsh could also be eligible for Aberystwyth and Coleg Cymraeg Cenedlaethol scholarships.

Find out more at aber.ac.uk/scholarships

Scholarships and Bursaries

Financial Support at University

Scholarships and Bursaries provide additional funding to support the cost of living and studying at university.

At Aberystwyth, we have a range of generous scholarships, bursaries and awards to support our students with their living costs. Some are automatically awarded, some are competition based and others require an application that will assess your eligibility.

Please visit our website to see the full range of Scholarships, Bursaries and Awards available: www.aber.ac.uk/scholarships





Careers and employability

We aim to ensure our students graduate with the academic, professional and practical experience to help them stand out in the job market and secure meaningful employment.

Our Careers Service is on-hand to offer support and guidance on developing skills, gaining professional experience and applying for positions.

▲ The Service:

- Provides support in developing CVs, applying for positions and interviewing
- Holds large careers events where students can meet potential employers
- Runs employability workshops and a dedicated Career Readiness Support programme
- Assists students to explore entrepreneurship and enterprise
- Provides lifelong support and guidance, post-graduation, whenever needed.

▲ Work experience

A number of courses offer an integrated year in industry and students can access the Careers Service's Year in Employment Scheme, both of which provide learners with relevant professional experience that complements their studies. The Service can also assist in identifying shorter-term work experience opportunities, such as summer internships, work placements and part-time employment.

The University has industry links with a range of local, national and international employers, enabling our students to connect with leading employers, across sectors.

Explore the world at Aberystwyth

Studying or working abroad enhances your education, offering unique experiences and valuable skills that distinguish you in the job market.



▲ Opportunities include:

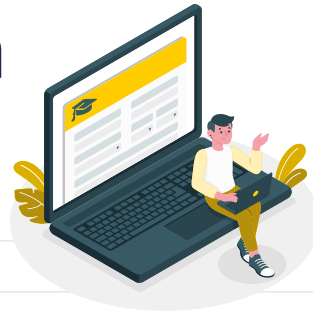
- Short-term study or work abroad (from three days to eight weeks)
- Studying at a partner University for a semester or year
- Work abroad during an industrial year placement

▲ Tailored support

We ensure that you're supported before departure, while overseas and when you return. We assist you in securing funding, and all Aberystwyth students receive free travel insurance to cover their time abroad.

Learn more here: aber.ac.uk/global

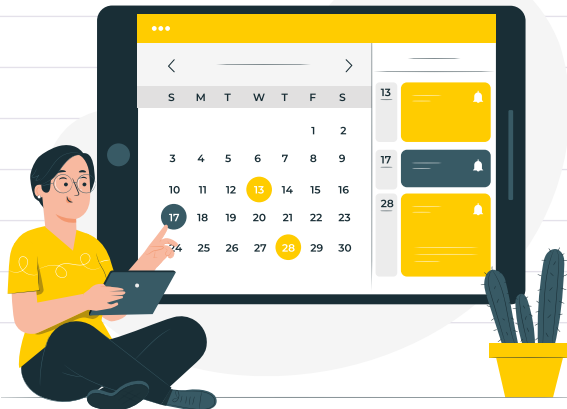
The Application Process



Year 12

Year 13

Mar	March - April		
Apr	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Start researching universities, attending UCAS conventions, register for university Open Days, Summer Schools, Taster Days etc. 		
May		May - August	
Jun	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Apply for work experience. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Attend University Open Days, Summer programmes. Gain some work experience. Start thinking about the Personal Statement you'll add to your UCAS application. 	
Jul			
Aug			
Sep	September		
Oct	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Start the UCAS application process, and refine your Personal Statement. 	October	
Nov		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mid-October is the UCAS deadline for applying to Oxford and Cambridge, and for most courses in Medicine, Veterinary Medicine / Science and Dentistry. 	
Dec	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Attend university Open Days. 		
Jan		January	
Feb		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mid / Late January is the UCAS deadline for applications to most university courses. 	Feb - March
Mar			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Attend Applicant Visiting Days and / or interviews.
Apr			
May			April- June
Jun		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Deadline to apply for many university-awarded Scholarships, Bursaries and Awards. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> UCAS Extra opens in February. Apply for Student Finance.
Jul			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Review UCAS application responses. All universities have to respond to applicants by the end of March.
Aug			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Confirm your Firm and Insurance choices.
Sep			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The deadline for Student Finance is usually during May.
Oct			July - October
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Clearing - if you change your mind about the courses or universities you've applied to, you don't hold any offers or you didn't meet the conditions of your offer, you may want to apply through Clearing.



Life on campus

Aberystwyth University's campus has everything that you need on your doorstep. The campus is also within walking-distance of town and the famous Aberystwyth seafront.

Our campus is home to our accommodation, restaurants and cafes, the Students' Union, teaching and studying facilities, including two libraries, the Arts Centre and Sports Centre. The National Library of Wales (a copyright library) is adjacent to campus.





Student life at Aberystwyth

▲ On campus

Being a campus university means that social spaces, as well as accommodation and our teaching and learning facilities, are all within easy walking distance. The Students' Union is at the heart of the campus and is home to a bar, café, shop and spaces in which to meet friends and socialise. The Union has over 100 clubs and societies, meaning that our students are able to pursue lifelong passions and explore new interests.

The campus is also home to one of Wales' largest Arts Centres, with a theatre, cinema, exhibition spaces, studios, a restaurant and bar; and the Sports Centre, which has an innovative self-powered gym, pool, 3G pitch, running track, climbing wall and more (all of which is free for students living in University accommodation).

▲ The town

Aberystwyth itself is a friendly and lively student town. With a host of shops, restaurants, cafes and bars, the town offers an inclusive and welcoming environment in which students can socialise, explore their independence and be who they want to be.

▲ The surrounding area

Aberystwyth is located right on the coastline, and students spend much of their spare time socialising on one of our three beaches. We're also surrounded by countryside and not far from the Cambrian Mountains, meaning that Aberystwyth is the perfect location for students interested in outdoor activities such as paddleboarding, hiking, mountain biking and climbing.



Your home from home



Going to university may be your first time away from home, so we want to make sure you find the right accommodation for you.

Living in university Halls is the best way to settle in and make friends, and we have a range of options to suit all needs and budgets, including en-suite or shared facilities, catered or self-catered and self-contained studios.

Our accommodation is voted **amongst the best in the UK**, with social and learning spaces on site, and within easy walking distance of the campus, Students' Union, Arts Centre and Sports Centre. Our accommodation fees also **include Sports Centre membership**, meaning free and unlimited access to all classes and facilities.

We **guarantee accommodation** to all first-year students and our Halls are amongst the most affordable in the UK. Learn more here: aber.ac.uk/accommodation



Meeting your study needs

The University continually invests in facilities in order to ensure our students have access to modern, accessible and high-end resources.

In addition to subject specific and specialised resources within departments, the University has two libraries on-campus, one of which is open 24/7, and a dedicated workspace in the town centre. We have over 800 open access computers across our network and provide fast, reliable wifi across our site. The University also has a range of dynamic study spaces, including informal study lounges (which are ideal for group work) and bookable private rooms.



Our Blackboard virtual learning platform means that students can access course material anywhere, anytime. Students can also borrow equipment, such as laptops, E-book readers, photography and video equipment free of charge, and printers, scanners and photocopiers are available across our campus.



The Students' Union

The Students' Union (SU) is at the heart of our campus and is the centre point for student life.

The SU enables students to have their say on the running of the University, and provides free, impartial advice on a range of issues. The Union is a focus for social activities, and is home to over 100 clubs and societies, ranging from Gaming to Taylor Swift. And if you can't find a club or society that suits you, the Students' Union will help you set one up.



Sport & Fitness

Aberystwyth is an excellent choice for students interested in sport, fitness and outdoor activities.

Our Sports Centre is located on-campus and offers a range of facilities and equipment, including a pool, running track, climbing wall and self-powered gym. Students living in University accommodation benefit from free membership, meaning there's no cost for classes or using Sport Centre facilities.

Our students also access the range of sports clubs hosted by the Students' Union - from Archery to Ultimate Frisbee, there's something to suit all interests and levels of ability.

Aberystwyth's location, between the mountains and the sea, is also the perfect setting for students that enjoy outdoor activities, such as paddleboarding, mountain biking and hiking.



Arts and Culture

▲ Aberystwyth Arts Centre

Aberystwyth Arts Centre is one of the largest in Wales. Located at the heart of our campus, the Centre offers a wealth of opportunities for our students to take part and enjoy the arts. The Centre is home to a cinema, theatre, studio and gallery spaces, as well as a bar, restaurant and shop.

Music at Aberystwyth

Music provision at Aberystwyth is open to all students. Whatever subject you're studying you're invited to become part of a vibrant musical community.

The University offers rehearsal spaces, opportunities for tuition and a range of Music Scholarships. Our students and members of the community come together as ensembles, orchestras, concert bands and choirs, as well as in smaller groups dedicated to particular instruments.



Supporting our students

Our students' wellbeing is a priority at Aberystwyth University and we offer a range of services to support our students. We offer advice and guidance on academic matters, financial concerns, physical and emotional difficulties, and more.

▲ Personal Tutors

Each student is allocated a personal tutor who is an academic member of staff based in the student's department. The role of the personal tutor is to:

- help the student settle into life at Aberystwyth
- discuss and guide their academic progress
- support and encourage them during their studies.

▲ Student Support and Well-being

Our team of expert advisers provide a safe, confidential space where students can talk about any issues which might be affecting their ability to study. Our Support Services include:

Advice and Money Service

Providing support on a wide range of issues, including finances, academic progress and university life.

Accessibility Service

Making university life accessible to everyone, with support for disabled students, those with specific learning needs, care leavers and other unsupported individuals such as trans and non-binary students.

Student Well-being Service

Using solution-focused techniques to build students' resilience and help them manage their well-being while at university and beyond.

Signpost Mentoring

A friendly and confidential peer-mentoring scheme for all new undergraduates that offers one-to-one advice to help students settle in and enjoy their time at university.

Visa and Immigration Advice

Providing specialist advice on study visas for prospective and current international students.

Nightline

An independent listening service run by students for students, offering a confidential helpline, email and instant messaging service.

▲ Accommodation support

In our accommodation, our dedicated team of Residence Assistants (RAs) are fellow students who provide support and guidance, with the aim of creating a positive living and learning environment. If the RAs are unable to help, they will signpost to someone who can.



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