Summer Academic Experience Courses
Ages 16-18
10-31 July 2021
Overview

The University of St Andrews pre-university Summer Academic Experience Courses are the only ones of their kind officially run by a Scottish university.

The Summer Academic Experience Courses give you the opportunity to broaden your knowledge of your chosen academic subject in an intellectually stimulating environment and to experience university-level teaching and learning in the distinctive Scottish system. Unless otherwise noted, all courses include sessions designed to develop your academic writing, as well as research and presentation skills relevant to the academic subject being studied. You will also have the opportunity to meet with Admissions staff and to find out about application to UK universities.

The academic courses are further enhanced by extensive field trips and visits to places of cultural and historical interest.

Courses available this year:

- Arts and Social Sciences
- Biological and Earth Sciences
- Creative Writing
- Making Scotland: Many Stories, One Nation
- Management, Economics and Entrepreneurship
- Medicine
- Physical Science, Mathematics and Computer Science
- Psychology and Neuroscience
- Sustainable Development
The University of St Andrews

The University of St Andrews is located in the medieval town of St Andrews, a thriving, close-knit community of around 20,000 people.

Beautiful old stone buildings, quaint narrow lanes and broad, tree-lined streets contribute to the unique, safe and tranquil atmosphere.

The town nestles atop a rocky headland on the east coast of Scotland, with breathtaking views, and is located just north of the capital city Edinburgh.

There are regular flights to Scotland from London, Europe and international destinations. The nearest international airports are Edinburgh (one hour) and Glasgow (two hours). All students are met on arrival by our staff and transferred directly to St Andrews.
Summer Academic Experience Courses

**Arts and Social Sciences**
This course is designed to give you an introduction to the study of subjects in the Arts and Sciences at university level. The course will typically consist of contributions from the Schools of Art History, Philosophical, Anthropological & Film Studies, International Relations and English.

**Biological and Earth Sciences**
This course in the Faculty of Science comprises academic input from the Schools of Biology, Geography & Sustainable Development, and Earth & Environmental Sciences. Field trips and laboratory sessions add additional elements to this exciting course.

**Creative Writing**
Writers and poets give masterclasses and workshops in fiction, non-fiction, performance poetry and life writing, as well as in editing and printing your own poetry. You will also produce a play-in-a-day! Dedicated tutors conduct small group tutorials and give critical feedback on your writing.

**Making Scotland: Many Stories, One Nation**
What makes a nation? This course looks at the ways in which Scotland was forged from a rich diversity of competing local identities, languages, ethnicities and international interactions. Contributions from scholars across the humanities will help you to understand how national identity is created and sustained through histories, visual arts and music.

**Management, Economics and Entrepreneurship**
With contributions from the Schools of Management and Economics & Finance you will explore current business issues and questions, take part in simulated business scenarios, undertake a marketing project and discover how businesses of the future could become more sustainable.

**Medicine**
This course in the School of Medicine gives you an insight into the practice of medicine in the UK, the unique application process, the UCAT testing and a chance to practise for MMIs (multiple mini interviews). You will attend lectures, conduct experiments and collect data in our laboratories, as well as visit the Royal College of Surgeons in Edinburgh.

**Physical Science, Mathematics and Computer Science**
This course in the Faculty of Science comprises academic input from the Schools of Chemistry, Physics & Astronomy, Mathematics & Statistics and Computer Science. Laboratory sessions, a computer science project, field trips and a visit to the University Observatory add to this popular course.

**Psychology and Neuroscience**
From biological brains to social minds: this course delivers contemporary teaching across a broad range of areas, led by researchers from the School of Psychology & Neuroscience. We will cover topics such as developmental and cultural psychology, cognition, perception, the biology of neurons and disorders of the nervous system. You will also have a chance to complete a research project, during which you will engage with hypothesis formation, research design, data collection and interpretation.

**Sustainable Development**
How can we identify and meet the needs of people across the planet whilst also thinking about our ecosystems and the planet at large? The School of Geography & Sustainable Development is at the cutting-edge of sustainable development theory and offers you a chance to explore the key challenges facing our world and how we can discover pathways to a better, more sustainable future.

Please see [www.st-andrews.ac.uk/go/saec](http://www.st-andrews.ac.uk/go/saec) for more detailed course descriptions.
Facilities

Halls of residence
You will be housed in comfortable bedrooms in a University hall of residence. Dedicated staff members are on hand to provide pastoral care, emergency first aid response and to ensure your safety and wellbeing. The team is also there to organise extracurricular activities and ensure you have a whole lot of fun!

Sports Centre
You have free access to the University Sports Centre, including the gym, playing fields and indoor and outdoor courts.

Library
All students are able to use the superb University Library with over a million volumes. There is free access to computers and Wi-Fi in the halls of residence and around the University. Your student ID card will allow you to use printers throughout the University.

DID YOU KNOW?
In 2019 the Summer Academic Experience Courses welcomed 222 students from over 30 countries.
Social and cultural activities

Classroom teaching on all courses is complemented by cultural excursions and outings to a number of sites of historic, cultural and scientific importance. These usually include but are not limited to:

- Day trips to explore the cities of Edinburgh and Glasgow
- A visit to the Cupar Deer Centre / Glamis Castle / Fife fishing villages and hiking the coastal path / Falkland Palace / Captain Scott’s RRS Discovery, Dundee

There is also an ongoing programme of informal activities in the evenings and at weekends:

- The Talent Show / Sports / Beach activities / Quiz nights / Movie nights / Karaoke night / The Slam Poetry event / Ceilidh / Highland games / Creative Writing plays / Night out at Club 601 in the Students’ Union / International Exchange night / Pick & Mix activities to suit all interests

We offer an extensive social sporting programme for students subject to the availability of supervisory staff where appropriate:

- General access to the Sports Centre playing fields, courts and gym / Beach volleyball / Mini golf at the famous Himalayas links course / Beach boot camp / Table tennis / Zumba / Urban obstacle course / Yoga
How to Apply

Apply online:
www.st-andrews.ac.uk/go/saec

Applications should be submitted online where you will be asked to provide supporting documentation.

The Summer Academic Experience Courses operate a rolling admissions policy so early application is strongly advised, as places are limited and do fill up quickly.

Upon receiving an offer of a place a non-refundable deposit of £250 is payable in order to accept your offer and reserve your place.

The all-inclusive fee for the Summer Courses covers:

- **Tuition / Accommodation** in University halls of residence
- **Three meals** per day
- **Textbooks and reading material**
- **Field trips and excursions**
- **Sports Centre membership**
- **All social and cultural events** and activities
- **Airport transfer** to and from St Andrews on arrival and departure

Please see our website for 2021 fees.
Curriculum Development
As a research intensive institution, the University ensures that its teaching references the research interests of its staff, which may change from time to time. As a result, programmes are regularly reviewed with the aim of enhancing students’ learning experience. Our approach to course revision is described at: www.st-andrews.ac.uk/media/teaching-and-learning/policies/course-revision-protocol.pdf

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