University of St Andrews
Scotland’s first university – 1413

BA (International Honours) Students’ Orientation Guide
Whether you are studying Classical Studies, Economics, English, Film Studies, History or International Relations, as a BA (International Honours) student you are part of a unique and truly international joint degree programme between the College of William & Mary and the University of St Andrews. You are a member of a very special community which transcends borders and fosters a global outlook, enriching both universities with fresh ideas and perspectives.

BA (International Honours) students experience a number of transitions throughout their degree programme, and we believe these transitions help you to develop agility and adaptability, a confident and flexible approach to your learning, and a broad and international perspective, all of which will help you to prepare for employment in a global market.

In the following pages, you will find information to help you make the transition to St Andrews – from advice on planning your travel to a guide to Academic Advising and information to help you make the most of your time at St Andrews.

We offer a range of support services to ease the transition and to help you settle into your new home in St Andrews, and we look forward to welcoming you to our lively community.

Professor Lorna Milne
Master and Deputy Principal
Student profile

“Journeying to St Andrews, I was worried about everything that could go wrong; I’d miss my connecting flight in Newark, my luggage full of enough clothes to last me through a temperamental winter would be lost, there was something wrong with my visa and I wouldn’t be allowed into Scotland. Despite the fact I did lose my luggage for a day, I made it through all these feared wrongs and, upon setting foot in St Andrews, figured out how right everything was.

St Andrews is a welcoming university space, with a vivacious and unique student body that has so many personalities, there’s a place for everyone. I found mine among the University’s Save the Children organisation, the friends I’ve made from around the world, and my role as the BA (International Honours) Intern.

One of the best things about St Andrews is that it promises an adventure. Whether that’s simply exploring the Fife Coastal Path on a sunny day or attending extravagant balls or using its quick access to mainland Europe for weekend travels, St Andrews provides students with opportunities, not only at an academic and professional level, but for our own self-growth and independence.

The transition can be challenging, but any great change is. However, settling into St Andrews is like moving into a new home. It might look a little different than your old one, you might get a little lost around new halls and spaces, but it becomes as cosy and beloved as the old one before you know it. So welcome to your new home!”

Alyssa (California, USA)
How to get to St Andrews
The closest airports to St Andrews, which offer plenty of connections both nationally and internationally, are Edinburgh (48 miles), Aberdeen (84 miles), Glasgow (90 miles), and Glasgow Prestwick (113 miles).

From Edinburgh airport there is an Airlink bus that runs roughly every 10 minutes to the centre of Edinburgh. It takes around 30 minutes and you can get off either at Waverley or Haymarket Station. Alternatively, you can take the tram service to Edinburgh Gateway, Haymarket or Waverley which operates every 8-10 minutes Monday to Saturday and every 12-15 minutes on a Sunday. From there you catch a direct train to Leuchars, which is the station closest to St Andrews. The train journey takes approximately an hour. Full details can be found at: www.nationalrail.co.uk

From Leuchars you get to St Andrews by bus (the 94, 96 and 99 lines) or taxi. You can also buy a Fife Dayrider+ when you board the Jet Service 747 from Edinburgh Airport to the Halbeath Park & Ride, where you have to change onto the X24 or the X59 to St Andrews. To determine whether or not taking the bus fits with your itinerary, full schedules can be found at: www.stagecoachbus.com

There are also several taxi share services offering competitive rates for a transfer from Edinburgh airport to your hall of residence. There are special rates for the weekends prior to both semesters as well as the days at the end of each semester for your return to the airport. Check their webpages for more information: www.standrewsdirect.com www.standrewsshuttle.com

The website, www.studentuniverse.com, is a great resource for students to find cheap or discounted flights. Just sign up with your William & Mary email address to make getting to St Andrews that much easier.

Living in St Andrews
St Andrews is located in a breath-taking position. It is set on a rocky headland overlooking the dramatic waters of the North Sea. Inland are the rolling fields and wooded hills of the Kingdom of Fife.

Contrasts are everywhere – with local quirky shops and boutiques alongside well-known supermarkets, bakeries, stationers, bookshops, mobile phone outlets and a range of high street fashion and shoe shops.

There is a friendly, cosmopolitan vibe pulsating through St Andrews. Most students get around by walking or cycling and so it is not necessary to have a car.
Further afield
Thanks to the train link, as well as our proximity to Edinburgh and Glasgow, it is very easy to make St Andrews the base for your exploration of other parts of Scotland, the UK and regions further afield.

The Scottish Highlands are a particular favourite amongst international students and there are several companies which offer all-inclusive bus tours.

From Leuchars you can catch a direct train down to London. If you are planning to do a lot of travel by train it may be worthwhile getting a Railcard, which can save you a third off the price of each ticket you buy. For more information visit: www.nationalrail.co.uk/

If you are thinking about hiring a car for weekend trips there are certain conditions that affect if you can drive, and what you can drive in Great Britain. In general you can only do so if you are over the age of 21 and have held your licence for at least 12 months. Full information can be found here: www.gov.uk/driving-in-great-britain-on-non-gb-licence

Matriculation
Matriculation is the process where students register with the University each academic year. This includes online matriculation, and attendance at the matriculation and advising events during Orientation Week in September. Information about matriculation is available at: www.st-andrews.ac.uk/students/academic/advising/matriculation

It is important to complete the full matriculation process within the time-frame prescribed otherwise it will result in the implementation of our Failure to Matriculate policy. Full details can be found at: www.st-andrews.ac.uk/students/rules/matriculation/failuretoregisterpolicy/

Immigration
In the spring, you will receive an email from Registry about your Confirmation of Acceptance of Studies (CAS) that you will need to make an application for your Tier 4 student visa. It is essential you have a passport prior to applying for your visa or you risk not receiving it in time to commence studies in September. Your application will follow the same procedures as any other visa application, details of which can be found here: www.gov.uk/tier-4-general-visa
Students entering the UK for the first time with a Tier 4 student visa should bring their joint degree programme acceptance letter to show the immigration officer at the border. Those with visas should not take connecting flights through Dublin during initial entry as your visa will not be stamped. The Republic of Ireland has a ‘Common Travel Area’ with the UK. This means there is no immigration presence on arrival in Edinburgh or Glasgow from the Republic of Ireland.

Students studying at the University under a Tier 4 visa are required to have their passport and visa documentation verified twice each academic year. Verification will take place at Matriculation and as part of a visa confirmation event held early in the second semester. Failure to attend the events may result in the University considering you absent. That absence will be reported to the UKVI and may ultimately result in your studies being terminated and your visa being curtailed.

Students who are on a Tier 4 visa and given a Leave of Absence for personal or medical reasons must leave the UK and apply for a new visa when they return to their studies. This change in circumstance will be reported to the UKVI and your visa will be curtailed.

If you have any queries regarding passport/visa checks, please contact: visas@st-andrews.ac.uk

ID cards

Your student ID / matriculation card is valid for the duration of your studies and serves a number of important functions:

1. Personal identification and confirmation that you are a student at the University of St Andrews for purposes of voting in student elections and to gain access to the University Library and Students’ Union.
2. Swipe card for access to many University buildings, for example our 24-hour computer classrooms and your own hall of residence.
3. Library card. The barcode and ten-digit number on the rear of the card is used by the Library to allow access to the Main Library building and to manage your Library record, including the issuing of books.
4. Printers are located in each hall of residence as well as the University Library. Funds can be added to the card, allowing you to swipe and print once you run out of credit.
5. Student ID cards also give you access to the gym. Gym membership can be purchased throughout the year. Use of indoor facilities, outdoor fields, courts and equipment require presentation of your matriculation card.
“One of the things you will hear joint degree programme students talk about the most is the initial transition between the two universities. However, these challenges and quirks are what make the programme so unique. I have learned so many skills as a result of having such an international education, so while the initial transition may be difficult, you will be given countless opportunities that you may not have had otherwise!”

Laura (South Queensferry, Scotland)

Although we ask students to upload an image for their ID Card, it is possible to have your photograph taken during matriculation by our ID Card team.

More information about the ID Cards can be found at:
www.st-andrews.ac.uk/students/IDcards

Fees and Funding
As a student who started their degree at William & Mary you will pay tuition fees to your home institution. However, you are responsible for paying your accommodation fees to St Andrews. You can pay these in full or by instalment either by international wire transfer, bank giro credit (BGC) or credit/UK debit card. See www.st-andrews.ac.uk/students/money/ tuitionfees/howareyoupaying

There are several banks which have branches in St Andrews, and most of them offer special deals if you open an account with them. The steps needed to set up a bank account as an international student can be found here: www.st-andrews.ac.uk/students/money/bankaccounts/bankinternational

Opening an account and transferring money from another country into the UK can take some time, so you should ensure you bring enough money for living expenses for the first few weeks. It is advisable to bring some cash (but not large sums) and either traveller’s cheques (Sterling) or a credit card that will allow you to take money from a cash machine until funds have been transferred. Phone your home bank a few weeks prior to departure to notify them of international travel and to request a pin for your credit card. Some banks will also mail you a new card with a chip (all European cards have chips) free of charge, making it much easier to use machines. Be mindful of the fact that American Express is only accepted by a few businesses in St Andrews, whereas Visa and Mastercard are widely accepted.

In terms of how much spending money is needed per week, there is an approximate guideline to be found here (look under International Students): www.st-andrews.ac.uk/students/money/internationalstudents/ugcoa
**Academic matters**

The Pro Dean Curriculum (Arts and Divinity), Dr David Evans, is the academic director of the BA (International Honours) programme. He provides academic advice generally to our BA (International Honours) students as well as being the Adviser of Studies for the first and second year students. He works closely with academic colleagues in each of the Schools in the programme as well colleagues at William & Mary. He can be contacted here: prodeanarts-curr@st-andrews.ac.uk. You will meet him during the advising process and throughout the year at various social and academic events. ([www.st-andrews.ac.uk/about/governance/faculties-deans/pro-deans/](http://www.st-andrews.ac.uk/about/governance/faculties-deans/pro-deans/))

The University works on a semester system, consisting of two semesters per year. Holidays, teaching and study periods are not evenly distributed within the academic year. Please note that you are required to remain in St Andrews for the full duration of the examination diets.

As a BA (International Honours) student you may find the way courses are structured here completely different to what you are used to.

- A module is a course in a particular subject that is usually taught through a combination of weekly lectures and tutorials or seminars.
- Tutorials are small group discussions that cover material taught in lectures.
- Seminars are a mixture of lecture and tutorial in small groups.

As a rule full-time students should take 120 credits of modules per year, 60 credits per semester.

It is normal for students to only take three modules per semester in their sub-honours years (first and second year). You must take sub-honours modules in the subject area of your intended degree programme. In addition to compulsory modules you may be able to choose other modules from a wide range of subjects, some of which might fulfil your breadth requirements.

Our online Course Catalogue also provides detailed information about all the modules that are available: [www.st-andrews.ac.uk/coursecatalogue](http://www.st-andrews.ac.uk/coursecatalogue)

Although you may have fewer contact hours than you are used to at William & Mary, you should be prepared for a lot of guided independent study.
Your University of St Andrews user ID and password will enable you to log into the Student Portal ‘MySaint’ through the University website and choose the modules you wish to take. This is known as ‘pre-advising.’ During Orientation Week you will receive an email with a time and location to meet the Pro Dean for the programme (see page 6). In the meeting you will discuss your module choices for the year and make any final adjustments if necessary. Full information on the advising process can be found here: [www.st-andrews.ac.uk/students/academic/advising](http://www.st-andrews.ac.uk/students/academic/advising).

At St Andrews, work is marked on a 20-point scale. A guide to the standards expected can be found in the BA (International Honours) regulations document, available on our website (see link below).

Each academic School that you will be attending during your time at St Andrews will make available online a handbook which outlines the School’s marking and assessment criteria. You should read the handbooks for each of the Schools where you will be attending courses to make sure that you are fully aware of expectations and requirements.

For more information about the BA (International Honours) programme please look at the regulations document available on our website: [www.st-andrews.ac.uk/students/academic/ba-international](http://www.st-andrews.ac.uk/students/academic/ba-international)

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**CAPOD**

The Centre for Academic, Professional and Organisational Development (CAPOD) provides a comprehensive range of academic skills and student development services for undergraduates.

CAPOD coordinates the Academic Skills Project; a programme where postgraduate students deliver optional workshops on a range of subject-specific academic skills such as essay writing, citation and critical thinking. CAPOD also offers a one-to-one tuition service where postgraduate tutors provide study skills and mathematics and statistics support to students.

You are invited to engage with the Professional Skills Curriculum which provides training in over 30 skills topics that employers value. We also support you in developing your IT skills via access to the Microsoft IT Academy. Finally, we have a range of academic skills booklets and other resources in the CAPOD offices. Information is available at: [www.st-andrews.ac.uk/capod/students/studentdevelopment](http://www.st-andrews.ac.uk/capod/students/studentdevelopment)

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“I’ve found that the programme’s greatest challenge is also its greatest opportunity: changing places. As students of a joint degree, we have the difficult task of locating ourselves in two distinctly different environments and ways of life. We must learn to become comfortable with foreign experiences and to grow from them.”

Lincoln (New Hampshire, USA)
Library
The University has several libraries throughout the town. The Main University Library, located in the centre of town, is open for more than 100 hours per week during the semester with a wide range of studying options, including group study rooms, silent study areas as well as more informal and relaxed areas, as well as a café.

The King James Library is located on South Street in St Mary’s College with opening times from Monday to Friday. Find out more about library services at: www.st-andrews.ac.uk/library

IT Services
If you bring your own laptop, you should get a power lead for it once in the UK. It is easier and safer to buy a new UK model. Each room in halls of residence has a data point which allows you to connect to the internet via an Ethernet cable (which will be provided to all students arriving during Orientation Week, at no extra charge). Our wireless service is Eduroam (www.eduroam.org), which is available throughout the public areas, Schools and libraries around the University and also in the bedrooms of halls of residence. Printers are available in the Main Library as well as in the individual computer rooms of the halls of residence, but it is also possible to buy them from stores in town. Information on printing costs can be found on our website at: www.st-andrews.ac.uk/students/uniprint/printingprices

Our IT Helpdesk in the Library can help with any issue related both to University computer equipment and your personal laptop. You can get free advice without booking an appointment, or alternatively you can call them or send them an email: helpdesk@st-andrews.ac.uk

They also run a PC Clinic Service where you can hand in your laptop for any problems. Turnaround time for repairs is usually 48 hours. Since it is a University subsidised service the prices are very competitive. More details about the current services are available at: www.st-andrews.ac.uk/itsupport/pcclinic

IT Services also work in partnership with Getech and participate in a national procurement agreement to secure very competitive prices for students to buy computers through the student store.
Accommodation
Our accommodation webpages are the best starting point for all related questions: www.st-andrews.ac.uk/accommodation/ug/residences

There are ten different undergraduate halls of residence in St Andrews, each offering a unique experience. From historic to modern, large to small, there is something for everyone. As each hall is located in a different part of town and hall events vary, there is no standard experience of hall life. Nearly all have an annual ‘Hall Ball’ and also have sports teams, which compete in an annual inter-hall tournament. The cost of living varies between halls so check the webpages for the current accommodation fees.

There are several different options to choose from our residences:
• Single or shared room. If you are in a shared room you will not find out in advance the name of your roommate. However, students in the past have used social media to connect prior to the start of semester.
• Standard (hall-style) or en-suite (you have your own toilet and shower).
• Catered (with meals) or self-catered (cooking for yourself).

Catered residences:
• Provide 19 meals a week (no weekend dinners), 14 meals a week if in David Russell Apartments (no weekday lunches or weekend dinners) or 15 meals a week at Agnes Blackadder Hall (no meals at weekends).
• Students may only eat meals in their own halls of residence.
• Meals in most halls have a duration of one hour, with the offer of a ‘packed’ lunch or dinner alternative. Students are allowed to select one entrée, one dessert, and one piece of fruit, however, you may take as much salad and sides as desired. There is always a vegetarian option and catering staff are happy to discuss other dietary requirements.
• All Catered halls with the exception of Agnes Blackadder and David Russell Apartments close during the Christmas vacation, but your belongings may remain in your room. Rooms must be vacated at the end of Semester 2 in May.

Self-catered residences:
• Are equipped with kitchens, but students must purchase their own cooking utensils.
• Halls remain open during the Christmas vacation, but must be vacated at the end of Semester 2 in May.
All rooms are equipped with:
- A bed
- Wardrobe
- Desk
- Chair
- Lamp
- Telephone
- Datapoint
- All residences have washing machines and tumble dryers. You will be able to purchase a laundry card and top it up online.

The University does not provide storage during the summer holiday, but there are several companies which provide storage facilities, such as:
- The Big Space ([www.thebigspace.co.uk](http://www.thebigspace.co.uk))
- Flexistore ([www.flexistore.co.uk/student-storage](http://www.flexistore.co.uk/student-storage))

Online accommodation applications and Move-in:
- Application forms open 1 April and must be completed by 30 June. You can rank your preference for en-suite, single, shared, catered or self-catered, but you cannot choose the hall itself.
- Accommodation offers will be released in July or August with specific hall and room assignments.

- The earliest that you can move into a hall of residence is the first Saturday of Orientation Week.
- Students pick up keys at the reception of halls of residence.
- Any items shipped to halls must arrive AFTER you have moved into accommodation. The University cannot guarantee secure storage and belongings will not be covered by the University’s block insurance policy until the student is in the residence. Note that all goods shipped to the UK are subject to Customs Excise examination. You should complete the form C3 – ‘Bring your personal belongings into the UK from outside the European Community,’ at: [www.hmrc.gov.uk](http://www.hmrc.gov.uk)

**Mobile phones**
You may want to invest in a British mobile (cell phone). There is a phone shop in town where you can purchase a mobile phone and several in Dundee and Edinburgh. Alternatively, if you have a smartphone, contact your provider prior to your departure for St Andrews to confirm whether or not your phone is already unlocked. If it is not, request to unlock your phone so you can purchase a UK sim card upon arrival.

“The duality of this programme is truly remarkable in that it pushes you to leave behind the comfort of a familiar academic system and group of friends only to encourage you to adapt to a new academic environment and to forge new, genuine friendships.”

**Layal (Jeddah, Saudi Arabia)**
Student life
St Andrews has a large number of coffee shops, restaurants, pubs and bars. The Students' Union provides a great meeting point for the student population, with the lowest prices in town. It puts on events throughout the year, from live gigs to comedy nights.

There are a vast number of student societies and you are free to start your own if you feel that your personal interests are not represented. During Orientation Week a Freshers' Fayre will be held, which gives you the opportunity to meet representatives of the societies, find out what they are all about and to join the ones you like.

There is also a Sports Fayre organised by the Athletic Union, which introduces you to all the different sports that are on offer in St Andrews, and is a great opportunity to meet like-minded people and make new friends. The Sports Centre has recently updated its facilities and offers an impressive range of courses and classes, in addition to the Cardiovascular Suite and Free Weights Room. Students can purchase membership for either a semester or a year. More information can be found here: www.st-andrews.ac.uk/sport

St Andrews has a very prominent drama scene, with plays, musicals, and comedy acts performed on a regular basis, as well as an active Music Centre, which organises lunchtime concerts and evening concerts. At the Byre Theatre, there are numerous arts festivals, film screenings and special guest talks throughout the year, so there will always be something for you to attend.

Halls of residence organise their own annual hall ball, but in addition there are a multitude of other balls and dances taking place each semester. So make sure to bring some formal wear with you, unless, of course, you need an excuse to go shopping in Dundee or Edinburgh.

There will be a special welcome event held for you and your fellow joint programme students, organised by the Pro Dean for the BA (International Honours) programme. An invitation will be sent to you by email.
Every year in the first semester one of St Andrews’ unique traditions takes place, Raisin Weekend. On Raisin Sunday academic parents host parties for their children to celebrate their introduction to the St Andrews community. Traditionally, children would present their parents with a pound of raisins, hence the name. On Monday morning your academic mother will dress you up in fancy costumes and your academic father will present you with a Raisin Receipt, which could be anything from a teddy bear to a door. You will make your way through town carrying the receipt and end up with all the other academic children in the foam fight near St Salvator’s Quadrangle!

On 1 May many students brave the freezing waters on the North Sea in celebration of the

“Joining the programme has been one of the best decisions of my life. The friends I have made on both campuses and amongst my WaMStA peers, the places I have explored, the materials I have studied in a subject I love dearly in two different academic styles, and the lessons I have learned transitioning between continents have changed me for the better in a way no study abroad opportunity could. I am a more well-rounded and knowledgeable person because of this programme, and I could not be more thankful for the chance to serve both institutions as a proud WaMStA student.”

Liam (Virginia, USA)
heroic efforts of John Honey who, in 1800, saved five people from a sinking ship off the St Andrews pier, swimming out and back with one person at a time. The May Dip sees its culmination at the first light of dawn and the screams of the students as they enter the cold North Sea can be heard for quite a distance!

Throughout the semester you will see students wearing the traditional red undergraduate gown. Gowns are not compulsory, but highly desirable in certain situations. Whilst not everyone will buy one (their price can be a little steep – try and get a secondhand one at the Students’ Union shop) you can always borrow one if you need it. Formal hall dinners, University Chapel services (followed by the Pier Walk) and any sort of ceremonial events are good times to wear a gown. They are also rather cosy and can help you stay warm during the winter.

Support Systems
Student Services provide a comprehensive support system for all students, with specialised advice and counselling in areas of finance, disabilities, international student service, academic issues, health concerns, mental health issues, personal and emotional concerns. Student Services as well as the other departments involved in dealing with the joint programme have great experience dealing with international students and their transition to the UK higher education system, so you will be in good hands.

For any queries that you may have whilst at St Andrews you can go along to the Advice & Support Centre (ASC), 79 North Street, where staff will be able to listen, give advice or refer you on to appropriate services. The Advice & Support team will provide advice on all welfare matters including overseas student issues, flatmate problems, financial matters/problems or any matter of concern to a student. If they cannot help then they will refer you to an appropriate person either within or outwith the University.

Semester dates for the coming years can be found here: www.st-andrews.ac.uk/semesterdates/2018-2019
In addition, the Collaborations & Study Abroad (CSA) team run daily consultation hours during term time (2-4pm, Monday to Friday), which are designed to provide an extra resource for joint programme students while in St Andrews. Whether you would like advice about a practical matter, or just want to have a chat about your experience in St Andrews, the CSA team will be happy to see you. The office is located in St Katharine’s West on The Scores, just next to the Arts Building.

The BA (International Honours) Intern has an important role to play in the CSA office and will be in touch with you during your time at St Andrews via email and through our Facebook group: www.facebook.com/groups/sawmjp. You are also welcome to contact the Intern directly: csaintern@st-andrews.ac.uk

Our Intern also coordinates our Buddy Scheme which pairs an Honours student (third and fourth year) in the programme with a Sub-Honours student (first and second years). For students who are new to the University of St Andrews the scheme is a terrific opportunity to meet somebody who has had a similar experience of transitioning between the University of St Andrews and the College of William & Mary and who already knows St Andrews. It’s also a good way to meet people and make friends.

Nightline is another resource that provides students with a listening ear and relevant information. Nightline is run by students and is completely confidential. Nightline runs every night that halls of residence are open and operates from 8pm until 7am. For more information about contacting Nightline and its work, please see: www.st-andrews.ac.uk/nightline

Students with disabilities should contact an adviser as soon as possible to ensure that the University can put in place appropriate support and provide advice. To get in touch with an adviser, please email: disability@st-andrews.ac.uk

The Wardens and their teams, many of whom are postgraduate students, provide practical help on advice and welfare matters to students in halls of residence. The Wardennial Team takes responsibility for encouraging a sense of community and are your main contact within the residence. They actively encourage you to join in with your fellow residents organising games nights, activities and excursions. Your Wardennial Team will be the first point of call if an issue occurs, or if you have a personal problem. They keep order in halls of residence and are responsible for student discipline.
However, they are not in loco parentis; their roles are as mentors, advisers and supporters. More information can be found here: www.st-andrews.ac.uk/accommodation/ug/current/residents/wardens

Our Out of Hours Emergency Service provides cover for emergency situations, such as liaising with the National Health Service for ill health or personal crises. More information can be found here: www.st-andrews.ac.uk/contacts/emergency/university/outofhours

The University of St Andrews, in accordance with the Data Protection Act of 1998, is subject to strict laws that forbid the release of information about students to any external party. However, guidance for parents can be found on webpages: www.st-andrews.ac.uk/studyabroad/bainternationalhonoursjointdegree

In the summer preceding the start of your studies at St Andrews you will receive information via email about various things such as:
• Arrival and airport pickup service
• Orientation Week
• Getting your student ID
• Fee payment
• Health and disability
• Activating your University email address
• Online matriculation
• Module choices
• Parents’ Reception
• William & Mary – St Andrews Student Partnership

The WaMStA Student Partnership organises social gatherings for WaMStA students while also providing BA (International Honours) students with the opportunity to gain leadership skills by serving on the organisation’s board. The Partnership acts as both a social outlet and support system, connecting students across institutions, degrees and years. The Partnership’s Facebook group is home to helpful blog posts and other resources geared for BA (International Honours). This is a closed group called WaMSTA Student Partnership.

“At first, it can be hard to transition back and forth between the universities. But if you embrace all of the opportunities and new horizons that studying at both universities opens up, you will find that this unique experience will shape you in ways that are otherwise unimaginable.”

**Mariana** (Belo Horizonte, Brazil)

Join the BA (International Honours) Facebook group and connect with other joint programme students at both St Andrews and William & Mary. See: www.facebook.com/groups/sawmjp
Health Service
As part of your Tier 4 student visa application, you will be required to pay an Immigration Healthcare Surcharge so that you have access to the National Health Service (NHS), which provides routine or emergency medical treatment. For information about the current charges please see our webpages: www.st-and.ac.uk/go/tier4

If you require regular medication you should ensure that you arrive in St Andrews with at least one month’s supply. You should then have time to consult a doctor here before you need to obtain further supplies.

If you are an international student on prescribed medication from a doctor in another country you may be unable to get this in the UK. Speak to your doctor who can advise you if your medication is licenced in the UK. If not, then you may bring medication into the UK but please check for advice about the paperwork requirements that you need. www.st-andrews.ac.uk/students/advice/health/medication/

The NHS will not repatriate you to your home country if you become very ill or are seriously injured, so it is strongly recommended that you maintain some limited insurance cover in your home country.

Further information on medical and dental care can be found at: www.st-andrews.ac.uk/students/advice/health

The Careers Centre
The Careers Centre has a variety of tools and resources that are available to all students, and also runs specific events aimed at BA (International Honours) students seeking to highlight their unique educational experience to employers in the UK, the US and across the world.

The Centre offers one-on-one career advising sessions with a dedicated careers adviser for joint degree programme students, CV and interview workshops, and it hosts a variety of events that are designed around job application preparation. The Centre hosts regular webinars and seminars specifically for Joint Degree programme students that focus on networking, LinkedIn profile development, alternative CVs, and etiquette practice, among other subjects.

There are also regular virtual events that feature American employers, as well as physical US-focused events in St Andrews and in the United States. These include Networking Nights, Alumni Career Forums, Work-Shadowing Placement, and sector-specific trips (Treks) to relevant companies.
within the US to meet with recruiters. Further, the Careers Centre webpages have career sector guides and information about US and UK labour markets.

As a service to BA (International Honours) students, the Careers Centre can also seek out and connect you with alumni who are already working in interested sectors or companies. This also includes researching specific sectors as well as making email introductions. The Centre helps to organise undergraduate business cards and has a Video-Interview Suite available for virtual interviews that can be booked by students.

Students may consult directly with Kristyn Emmer, the International Opportunities Manager who organises events and resources for joint programme students. For more information, or for any questions, please email kme20@st-andrews.ac.uk.

Students are also strongly encouraged to join Saint Connect, the Career Alumni Network that brings together St Andrews alumni and current students. Within Saint Connect, students on the joint degree may join a special group for BA (International Honours) students and alumni that can be found by searching ‘WaMStA Joint Degree Programme’. To join Saint Connect, please see: www.st-andrews.ac.uk/saintconnect

**Beyond Graduation – the Continuing St Andrews Connection**

**While you are at St Andrews**
Parents/guardians of St Andrews students are important members of the University’s extended community. For this reason, Development runs a Family Programme which aims to keep families up to date with news and developments at the University and provides them with a range of benefits and services. For further information, please visit: www.st-andrews.ac.uk/development/family-programme

**Once you leave St Andrews**
Leaving St Andrews does not mark the end of your association with the University but the beginning of a lifelong relationship with the University as St Andrews alumni. When you leave, you will receive a SPARC alumni benefit card which will provide access to a range of benefits and online services. The University will keep in touch through the annual alumni magazine, Chronicle, and through a monthly St Andrews in the News e-newsletter. We hope that you will be interested in any alumni activities in your area and that we might welcome you back to St Andrews in the future.

For further information about the full range of programmes and services run by Alumni Relations, please visit: www.st-andrews.ac.uk/development/alumni