Incoming Exchange Fact Sheet 2024/25

GCU
Glasgow Caledonian University

601–800th in Times Higher Education World University Rankings

Top modern University in Scotland, across all UK University league tables

Top 40 in the 2024 Guardian Uni Guide

Top 50 Universities in Times and Sunday Times Good University Guide 2024

1001-1200 QS World University Rankings 2024

GCU Campus – Annie Lennox Building

About Glasgow Caledonian University (GCU)

GCU – the largest and leading modern university in Scotland - is a vibrant, values-led university with a campus in the heart of the city of Glasgow.

GCU is the top performing modern university in Scotland. This year we rocketed into the top 40 universities in the UK in the highly coveted Guardian University Guide, were ranked the UK's 2nd top performing modern university in the inaugural Daily Mail guide, and entered the top highly regarded 50 UK universities in the 2024 Times and Sunday Times Good University Guide for the first time.

GCU is the University for the Common Good. GCU contributes to society in a way that goes beyond the traditional role of a university. Our commitment to the Common Good is brought to life through our Strategy 2030 and the actions of our staff, students and alumni around the world.

Equality and Diversity. GCU is committed to providing a culture and environment which is inclusive of all sections of society and responsive to the needs of individuals. We do this by promoting equality, valuing diversity and communicating the importance of dignity at work and study.

The City of Glasgow

Glasgow is a great place to live – and it's just small enough that you'll feel at home right away. It's bursting with cafés, museums and galleries, bars and clubs, world-class sports facilities, shopping and theatres. There's definitely something for everyone, and you'll find plenty of student discounts and offers.
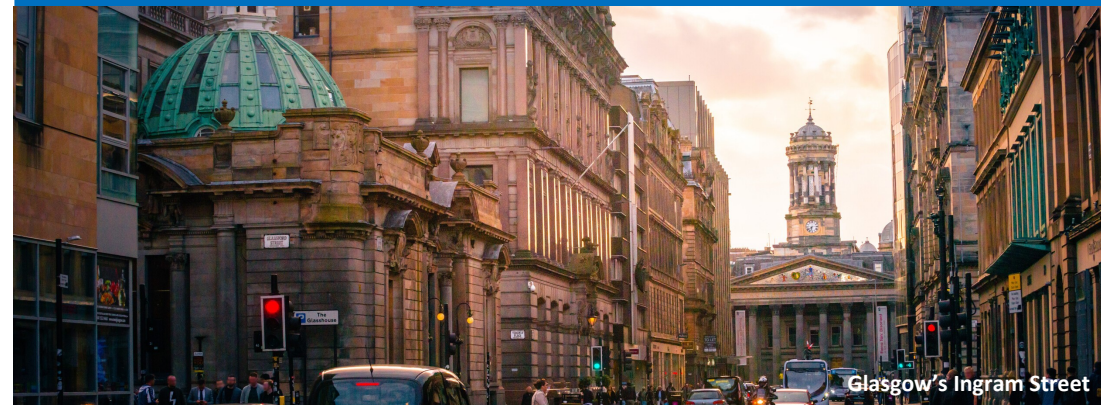
A compact city that's easy to explore from GCU's city-centre campus, Glasgow boasts world-famous architecture and plenty of green spaces. Plus, our great air, rail and coach connections make it easy to explore Scotland's stunning countryside and cities, the rest of the UK or even Europe.

Things to do in Glasgow

- Go shopping! Glasgow is the second largest retail centre in the UK

- Visit one of the city's 13 free museums

- Watch a sporting event at Hampden Park Stadium

- Enjoy a famous band at one of the city's popular music venues

- Admire the elegant "Glasgow Style" architecture across the city centre Visit one of our 90 stunning green spaces

Scotland's Scenic Setting

With a beautiful landscape filled with mountains, hills, lochs and rivers, Scotland is the perfect place for getting outside. You'll never be short of things to do when you're not studying.

Glasgow's Ingram Street

River Clyde

Nomination Procedure

Students from partner universities must be nominated by their home institution using the online form.

Partner Universities: please ensure you have confirmed the number of available spaces for your institution **prior** to submission of nominees.

Upon nomination, the International Partnerships Office will confirm receipt directly to the partner contact via email.

Nomination Deadlines

- Tri A or Full-Year Exchange: **1st May**

- Tri B Exchange: **1st October**

Nomination Requirements

- Student must have completed one full-year of studies prior to joining GCU

- Student must be at least 18 years of age

Term Dates

Tri A: September - January

Tri B: January - May

Application Procedure

Application Deadlines

- Tri A or Full-Year Exchange: **15th May**

- Tri B Exchange: **15th October**

Application Requirements: Completion of the online form in addition to submission of supporting documents:

- Copy of Active Passport

- Transcript of Records

- Letter of Motivation (500 words)

- English language certificate

  ◊ For students studying for a *single semester (less than 6 months)*, we can accept a supporting letter from the sending institution that confirms appropriate English language levels (CEFR equivalent of B2 or above).

  ◊ For students studying for *over 6 months,* please see our webpage for the certificates we can accept.

Drop-In Sessions with the International Partnerships Office During the application round, the IPO host bookable drop-in sessions for applicants to guide them through the process.

Application Response: Students will receive confirmation of receipt of an application once the application deadline has passed.

Application Review: Applications will be reviewed during the week after the application deadline. Formal acceptance letters will be sent to students who have completed the application in full within 2 weeks of the application deadline.

Schools and Subject Areas

GCU offers a full range of UG and PG programmes from the following subject areas:

Glasgow School for Business and Society (GSBS)

Fashion, Marketing, Tourism & Events, Economics and Law, Finance, Accounting and Risk, Management and HRM, Media and Journalism, Social Sciences.

School of Computing, Engineering and Built Environment (SCEBE)

Applied Computer Games, Applied Science, Civil Engineering and Environmental Management, Computing, Construction and Surveying, Cyber Security and Networks, Mechanical Engineering, Electrical and Electronic Engineering.

School of Health and Life Sciences (SHLS)

Biological and Biomedical Sciences, Nursing and Community Health, Occupational Therapy and Human Nutrition and Dietetics, Physiotherapy and Paramedicine, Podiatry and Radiography, Psychology, Social Work, Vision Sciences.

Modules at GCU

Terminology
At GCU, we use the term **module**; however, your home university may refer to these as 'components' or 'courses'.

Credits
- GCU uses the SCOTCAT credit system, where 1 ECTS = 2 SCOTCAT credits.
- Most modules at GCU are worth 20 SCOTCAT credits (10 ECTS)
- A full workload for a semester is 60 SCOTCAT credits = 30ECTS (3 modules)

Module Lists
After you have applied to GCU using the online form, you will be provide the list of available modules on offer for your exchange period. This list of modules has been approved by academics at GCU and students are only able to choose modules that are noted on these lists, unless prior permission is sought.

Module Choices
Using the list of available modules, and the links to the module catalogue, students will be asked to submit an online form noting 6 preference modules (per semester).

Module Choice Review
After submission, students 6 module preferences will then be reviewed by academic members of staff using the transcript of records provided at application stage. The timetabling team will also review preferences to ensure that there are no clashes.
You will then receive confirmation for **3** of your module preferences from GCU's Central Academic Support Team.

GCU Govan Mbeki Building

Visa and Immigration Requirements

For students of any nationality studying for 6 months or more—a student visa is required.

For students studying for 6 months or less, you should enter the UK on a Standard Visit Visa. Dependent on your nationality, you may be required to apply for this in advance of travel:

- Visa Nationals—apply in advance
- Non-Visa Nationals—apply on entry to the UK

The above notes have been provided for information purposes only. Upon successful application, students will receive visa advice specific to their individual situation.

Visa and Immigration Support

GCU has a dedicated Visa Immigration Support and Advice Team (V.I.S.A.) who provide support for all international students.

Email: visa@gcu.ac.uk

Accommodation

University-Run Halls of Residence

GCU has an on-campus residence - 'Caledonian Court'.

- Home for 660 students
- Friendly, multicultural atmosphere
- Self-contained, fully-furnished flats for six to eight people
- Heating, electricity and internet included in rent

Whilst we cannot guarantee an offer, we would strongly recommend that incoming exchange students apply for a place. Accommodation details and the corresponding application forms ware sent to all nominated student's along with application information and access.

Private Accommodation

There are a number of privately run purpose built student accommodations in the city, in addition to properties which are privately rented by individual owners or let (rented) by letting agents on behalf of owners.

You can find further information about off-campus accommodation on the dedicated private accommodation webpage.

Contacting the Accommodation Office

Email: accommodation@gcu.ac.uk

GCU's International Partnerships Office

International Partnerships Office (IPO)

The International Partnerships Office (IPO) at GCU is the central team at responsible for student exchange and maintaining international partnerships.

Support we offer:

- Pre-application information sessions (in March, April, August & September)
- Application webinars (during the application period)
- Pre-arrival session (Tri A: August & Tri B: December)
- Induction on arrival

Contact Us

E: incomingstudents@gcu.ac.uk (incoming exchange)

E: internationalpartnerships@gcu.ac.uk (partnerships)

internationalpartnershipsgcu

GCU Exchange & Study Abroad

Additional Support Services on Offer at GCU

Wellbeing: The Student Wellbeing team provides a free and confidential advice and support service, including counselling and mental health support.

Email: studentwellbeing@gcu.ac.uk

Disability Services: The Disability Team provides advice, information and services to disabled students and applicants.

Email: disability@gcu.ac.uk

Faith and Belief Centre: Faith and Belief Centre The Faith and Belief Centre is here for students of any faith or none to use for prayer, meditation or social gatherings.

Email: faith@gcu.ac.uk

GCU Library: Our award-winning library, the Sir Alex Ferguson Library, gives access to more than 270,000 books, 350 open-access PCs and a huge range of online resources including databases, e-books, journals and more.

Email: Library@gcu.ac.uk

Learning Development Centre (LDC): Each School in the University has a LDC which provides academic writing support for international students, ICT support, advice on study skills and other academic support and guidance.

General Student Support: studentsupport@gcu.ac.uk

Sir Alex Ferguson Library