



Exchange Information Fact Sheet Academic Year 2023/24

The University of Essex, based at Wivenhoe Park, Colchester, received its Royal Charter in 1965. It is one of the UK's leading academic institutions and has an international reputation for the quality of its research and teaching. The University has 17 departments spanning the Humanities, Social Sciences and Science & Engineering.

University of Essex

Address

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Wivenhoe Park
Colchester
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CO4 3SQ
United Kingdom

Websites

University of Essex - www.essex.ac.uk
Essex Abroad - <https://www.essex.ac.uk/study-abroad>
Essex Abroad Incoming Exchange Students
<https://www.essex.ac.uk/study-abroad/incoming-students/exchange-programme>

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Admissions

Nominations **October entry** for Autumn Term only and Full Year: **1 March to 30 April 2023**
January entry for Spring/Summer Term and Calendar Year: **1 July to 31 August 2023**

Applications **October Entry** open on **1 May 2023** and close on **31 May 2023**.
January Entry open on **1 September 2023** and close on **30 September 2023**.

We may be able to accept late applicants so please contact the Incoming at Essex Abroad for more information.

Application Requirements **All applicants MUST** provide us with clear colour copies of the following documents:

- Passport
- Academic Transcript in English
- English Language Certificate (where applicable)

Please see our [website](#) for the full list of the language documents we accept
Students will not need to provide a language certificate if English is the national language of their home country or if their current course is taught in English
See 'Language Requirements' section below for more information.

Language Requirements

Full year students from EU/EEA and Non-EU/EEA countries

- IELTS: 6.0 overall with a minimum of 5.5 in each element
- TOEFL iBT: 76 overall with a minimum of 17 listening & writing, 18 reading, 20 speaking
- A list of other accepted language certificates can be found [here](#). Please refer to the 'First Year Entry' section.

Term only students from EU/EEA and NON-EU/EEA countries

- We may be able to accept a letter or certificate confirming the student has reached the minimum B2 level from EU/EEA institutions.
- A list of accepted language certificates can be found [here](#). Please refer to the 'First Year Entry' section.

Visa Information

Full Year students (over 6 months)

- Need to apply for [Student Visa](#)
- Visa fee from outside the UK can be found [here](#)
- Students may be able to work
- Student will be required to pay [Healthcare surcharge](#)
- Essex will provide student with [CAS \(Confirmation of Acceptance for Studies\)](#) in order to apply for Student Visa.

Term only students (under 6 months)

From EU/EEA

- Do not need to apply for a visa
- Student will be provided with a standard visitor letter by Essex Abroad to show at the UK border
- Students are NOT allowed to work
- Students are permitted to undertake volunteering (for a registered Charity organisation / no more than 30 days in total)
- Health surcharge not required – if students are eligible under the [government healthcare rules](#). If not eligible, any NHS treatment will be payable unless it's a [free service](#)
- [Students must ensure they have adequate health cover before leaving their home country.](#)

From Non-EU

- Students **MUST** check [here](#) if they need to apply for a [Standard Visitor Visa](#). Not all Non-EU/EEA students will require a visa.
- Student will be provided with a standard visitor letter by Essex Abroad to show at the UK border
- Students are NOT allowed to work
- Students are permitted to undertake volunteering (for a registered Charity organisation / no more than 30 days in total)
- Health surcharge not required but the student will need to pay for any NHS care they get at the point they use it - unless it's a [free service](#).
- Students must ensure they have adequate health cover before leaving their home country.

Please refer to our [immigration page](#) for up to date guidance from the University of Essex.

Semester dates: Autumn Term, 2023-24 Academic Year

Arrival Date	Sunday 1 October 2023
Orientation Week	Monday 2 October to Friday 6 October 2023
Classes Start	Monday 9 October 2023
Classes End	Friday 15 December 2023
Exam Period (Autumn Students only)	<p>Students may have in-person exams, online exams or a combination of both.</p> <p>For modules with in-person exams, these will run from Monday 18 December to Thursday 21 December 2023 and will take place on campus.</p> <p>For modules with online exams, these will run from Tuesday 2 January to Friday 12 January 2024 and can be taken from any location with an internet connection.</p> <p>More information will be available to students in due course.</p>
Departure Date	<p>Saturday 16 December 2023 (Provisional date)</p> <p>This will depend on whether students have in-person exams after the end of the term, in which case they will need to leave later. We strongly advise students not to book their return flight until they are sure about when their exams will be taking place.</p>

Semester dates: Spring/Summer Term, 2023-24 Academic Year

Arrival Date	Wednesday 10 January 2024 (Spring/Summer students)
Orientation Days	Thursday 11 January to Friday 12 January 2024
Classes Start	Monday 15 January 2024
Classes End	Friday 22 March 2024
Easter Break	Saturday 23 March to Sunday 21 April 2024
Summer Term Revision/Classes Start	<p>Monday 22 April 2024</p> <p>It is very important to note, only modules with exams will have teaching sessions in the Summer Term. Students need to be aware that accommodation contracts run until the end of June 2024 even if they do not have revision classes/exams in the Summer Term. Further information can be found in the Holiday Arrangements section below.</p>

End of Summer Term	Friday 28 June 2024
Exam Period	Mid May – Beginning of June 2024 (exact dates to be confirmed in March 2024)
Departure Date	Saturday 29 June 2024

Academics

System of assessment	Assignments and tests with exams at the end of the academic year. Autumn students will have exams (where required) at the end of December or beginning of January.
Teaching methods	Lectures, seminars, tutorials, and self-directed study
Language of instruction	English (other than in foreign language modules)
Restrictions for international students	<p>The online module directory indicates which modules are available to study abroad/exchange students.</p> <p>Students are only permitted to take Incoming Essex Abroad modules from the Colchester or Southend campus, it is not possible to take modules from across both campuses. Students are not permitted to take non-credited modules.</p>
Standard credit load for term	All students are required to take 60 Essex credits per term (Autumn or Spring/Summer)
Standard module load for an academic year	All students are required to take 120 Essex credits per year
Division of academic years	<p>Academic Year: October – June</p> <p>Autumn Term: October – December</p> <p>Spring/Summer Term: January – June</p>
Module Directory	http://www.essex.ac.uk/modules/

Accommodation

Types of University maintained accommodation	<p>Students staying with us for a full academic year will be accommodated on campus so long as they apply for it before the relevant deadline.</p> <p>We offer single study bedrooms with shared kitchen facilities and either shared or en-suites bathroom. If students are studying at Colchester they must only select accommodation at our Colchester campus, students wishing to study at Southend must only select accommodation at our Southend campus.</p> <p>Due to limited availability, we cannot guarantee on-campus accommodation for students studying for one term unless we have an agreement in place with the partner university. Term only students may need to source their own accommodation, but we will provide them with guidance on alternative options.</p> <p>https://www1.essex.ac.uk/accommodation/</p>
Private accommodation	<p>If students do not wish to apply for campus accommodation, the Student Union may be able to offer assistance to find private local accommodation options.</p> <p>https://www.essexstudent.com/suhomes/</p>

Holiday Arrangements	Accommodation remains open during the Christmas and Easter holidays. All students are required to vacate their rooms at the end of the Summer term. Students are able to leave their accommodation early if their exams finish before the end of term but they will be liable to pay their fees until the end of their contract at the end of the summer term.
Accommodation application deadline	Accommodation is arranged via Essex Abroad and students will be notified in August/September for October entry and in December for January entry. Students are not permitted to apply for on-campus accommodation other than through Essex Abroad.
Accommodation fee	We offer a range of different types of accommodation, from shared facilities to ensuite rooms. The costs of each type of accommodation varies. Accommodation payment will be due within the first month of arrival/beginning of each term. The Accommodation team will manage this. http://www.essex.ac.uk/accommodation/payments/rent/default.aspx

Student Services

Computer Services	14 computer laboratories with over 600 computers, 100 of those are accessible 24 hours a day. There is university wide Wi-Fi included in all campus accommodation.
Students Support	We offer a range of services open to all students. Student will need to let us know in advance if they have an on-going issue that will require support so that we can make arrangements prior to their arrival. https://www1.essex.ac.uk/students/health-and-wellbeing/default.aspx
Security&Safety Centre	Centrally located on campus and open 24 hours a day/7 days a week.
Sports Facilities	We have a great range of facilities, both indoors and outdoors at our Colchester Campus. Essex Sports Membership is included in student's on-campus accommodation fee. Students living off-campus can also pay for Essex Sports Membership. https://www.essex.ac.uk/sport
Arts Events	The Lakeside Theatre frequently runs professional and student productions. Art Exhibitions and Music events are held regularly. https://lakesidetheatre.org.uk/about/university-of-essex/
Students' Union	Students automatically become members of the Students Union when they register at the University of Essex, there are no fees for this. The SU also run the on campus shops, nightclubs and bars. http://www.essexstudent.com/ There are over 120 clubs and societies, volunteering opportunities, radio station and a student newspaper. https://www.essexstudent.com/volunteering/ https://www.essexstudent.com/societies/
Airport Transfer Service (Autumn Term only)	On Arrivals Day in October (Autumn term and full year students only), the University operates a direct airport transfer service to the Colchester and Southend campuses from some London Airports. Students will be provided with the details on how to book this at a later date. Ticket fees apply. There is no direct coach service on Arrivals Day in January. https://www.essex.ac.uk/student/travel-and-transport/airport-transfer

Finance

Tuition fees	https://www.essex.ac.uk/study-abroad/incoming-students/study-abroad-programme (Not applicable to Exchange students)
Pre-Sessional English Programs	If students have not reached the required English language level, we offer a range of Pre-Sessional English Language (PSE) courses delivered by expert teachers at the University of Essex International College (UEIC), a Kaplan International Pathways partner. https://www1.essex.ac.uk/forms/pre-sessional/
Additional fees	There may be laboratory fees depending on modules chosen.
Insurance	All insurance should be organised by students prior to their departure. https://www.essex.ac.uk/study-abroad/incoming-students/before-you-arrive

About Colchester

Location	Colchester is in Essex, in the East of England. Situated by the River Colne, Colchester is 50 miles (80 kilometres) northeast of London.
Climate	Spring/ Summer Average Temperature: 11°C-25°C Autumn/Winter Average Temperature: 0°C-11°C One of the driest regions in the United Kingdom
Colchester City Tourism Website	http://www.visitcolchester.com/
Transportation	Excellent transport links around the United Kingdom and to Europe. Approximately an hour away from London by train and half an hour from London Stansted Airport by car. Regular bus service to town centre and local destinations with stops on campus.
University Location Information	https://www.essex.ac.uk/life/colchester-campus/how-to-get-here

Promotional Videos & Social Media

Videos	A short film of some previous incoming exchange students A tour of our Colchester campus from our Student Union President University of Essex Colchester Campus Virtual Tour Essex Accommodation
Facebook	Facebook Essex Abroad Facebook University of Essex
Instagram	@EssexAbroad (general) @AbroadatEssex (incoming specific)