



University of  
St Andrews

---

FOUNDED  
1413

---

International  
Foundation Programmes  
2024-2025

# About St Andrews

The University of St Andrews is a world top 100 university (*QS University World Rankings 2023*), ranked first in the UK according to the *Guardian University Guide 2024* and *The Times and Sunday Times Good University Guide 2024*.

St Andrews is a leading university with a world-class reputation for academic excellence and student satisfaction; it is also a unique place to study and live. Welcoming hundreds of international students each year, the coastal Scottish town of St Andrews is compact –

just two square miles – and the University's buildings are spread throughout the oldest and newest parts of town, making the town and University interconnected and highly cosmopolitan.



St Andrews from St Salvador's Tower

# About our International Foundation programmes

International Foundation programmes (IFPs) at the University of St Andrews are International Pathway courses that enable students to meet the demands of a degree programme in the UK, and at St Andrews in particular. The programmes combine academic subjects with English language development and the skill set required for successful undergraduate study.

Our International Foundation students:

- are 'overseas' for fees purposes.
- have a high school qualification (or mixed curriculum) not recognised for degree entry.

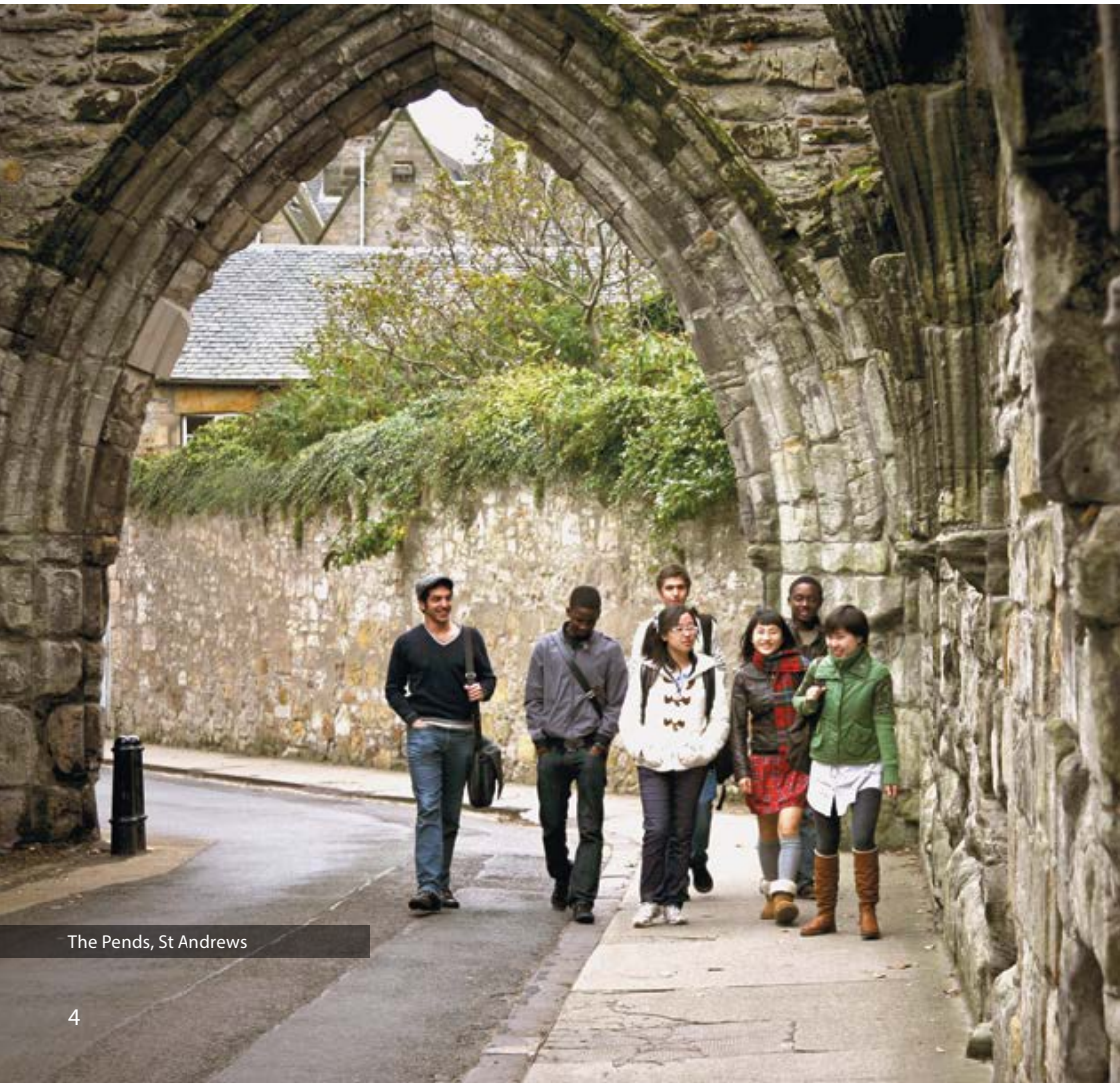
To check your eligibility for International Foundation programmes at St Andrews, please email [ifp@st-andrews.ac.uk](mailto:ifp@st-andrews.ac.uk).





# International Foundation programmes

International Foundation programmes at St Andrews prepare high-achieving international students for the demands of an undergraduate degree at St Andrews or another UK university. The programmes offer both September and January entry dates and deliver modules in a range of academic subjects, providing routes onto a wide variety of degree programmes.



The Pends, St Andrews

## Why study foundation at St Andrews?

Our class sizes are small – typically a maximum of 16 students – and we monitor the progress of our students closely, providing individual support and guidance, including regular meetings with a personal tutor.

Students typically have 16-18 hours of contact time each week and we teach through a mixture of lectures, seminars, tutorials and classes. Students on the Science and Medical Sciences programmes may also have practicals including laboratories.

### After the International Foundation programme

Students who meet the progression requirements of their International Foundation programme are guaranteed a place on an undergraduate course at the University of St Andrews.

---

## Arts subjects

### Business – Management, Economics and Finance (International Year Zero)

#### September and January entry

This business-orientated programme facilitates the transition from high school to the first year of undergraduate study through a unique blend of communication skills and academic skills integrated with business-related topics. Students can progress onto a range of degrees including Management, Economics, and Financial Economics.

### Social Sciences and Humanities (International Year Zero)

#### September and January entry

This programme will introduce you to some of the underlying political, philosophical and cultural ideas which underpin many of the Arts subjects you can study at St Andrews. Students will be equipped with the intellectual and linguistic skills appropriate to the demands of degrees such as Psychology, History, International Relations, and Philosophy.

**International Foundation programmes:** [www.st-andrews.ac.uk/subjects/ifp](http://www.st-andrews.ac.uk/subjects/ifp)



*“The programme is highly focused on skills, which are useful in order to be able to study at the University as an undergraduate. These skills include essay writing skills, time management, citation and references, research skills, etc. From personal experience, these skills have never been taught in my school in Dubai (at least not as deeply). And many of my friends feel the same way. The IFP helped to smooth the transition between the curriculums in our home countries and the curriculum of the University.”*

**Adyl** (Dubai, UAE)

# Medicine

## Medical Sciences (International Pre-Med)

### September entry

### (Extended International Pre-Med)

### September and January entry

We have three Medical Sciences programmes designed to prepare you for success in our Medicine degree. Eligibility for each programme is based on different entry criteria, including English language proficiency and academic requirements.

In the first phase of your programme, you will focus on studying sciences as you build knowledge about Medicine. Later, you will work more independently on science for Medicine and we will encourage you to develop your professional communication skills.

Our interactive teaching and learning experiences will help you understand what

it means to study medicine and to be a doctor. Central to the Medical Sciences programmes is an ethos of co-operation and collaboration amongst the students. This is achieved through group work and projects in the context of a supportive environment for personal and academic growth.

You are guaranteed a place on the Medicine degree at St Andrews if you successfully pass the International Foundation programme and the additional School of Medicine criteria.

Check the current criteria online:

[www.st-andrews.ac.uk/subjects/ifp/medical-sciences-september](http://www.st-andrews.ac.uk/subjects/ifp/medical-sciences-september)

You can learn more about the entry and progression requirements for each of our Medical Sciences programmes online:

[www.st-andrews.ac.uk/subjects/ifp](http://www.st-andrews.ac.uk/subjects/ifp)

Medical Sciences Programme	Duration	Semester 1 (Sept)	Semester 2 (Jan)	Semester 3 (Sept)	Semester 4 (Jan)	Sept
<b>International Pre-Med</b> (September entry)	1 academic year					
<b>Extended International Pre-Med</b> (January entry) Intensive Study	1.5 academic years					Start BSc Medicine
<b>Extended International Pre-Med</b> (September entry)	2 academic years					



*"For me the whole experience of the IFP at St Andrews has been an adventure I have cherished, and I am pretty sure that the experience will have a huge impact on my future life. I find myself very lucky to have spent such an amazing time with wonderful teachers and students who were very supportive and a big joy to be around!"*

**Bohyun** (Busan, South Korea)

## Science subjects

### Science (International Year One)

#### September entry

We offer nine International Year One programme for a range of science subjects, which enable students to progress directly onto the second year (Y2) of a science degree at the University of St Andrews.

Your programme will be specific to your intended degree and include pre-degree and Year 1 level modules.

All students on the above programmes are taught a range of skills in communicating, researching and writing for academic purposes, ensuring that they are able to join their intended degree programme with all of the skills required. Students also take a range of subject-specific modules, depending on their chosen subject. Details of these specific modules are available on our website.

[www.st-andrews.ac.uk/subjects/ifp](http://www.st-andrews.ac.uk/subjects/ifp)

International Year One programme	Potential future degrees
<b>Chemistry</b>	Chemistry, Chemical Sciences, Chemistry with Medicinal Chemistry, Materials Chemistry (options with External Placement also available)
<b>Computer Science</b>	Computer Sciences
<b>Environmental Biological Sciences</b>	Animal Behaviour, Ecology and Conservation, Evolutionary Biology, Zoology, Marine Biology
<b>Geography</b>	Geography
<b>Geology and Environmental Sciences</b>	Geology, Earth Sciences, Environmental Earth Sciences
<b>Mathematics and Statistics</b>	Mathematics, Applied Mathematics, Pure Mathematics, Statistics
<b>Molecular Biological Sciences</b>	Biology, Biochemistry (with External Placement option), Cell Biology, Molecular Biology
<b>Physics and Astronomy</b>	Physics, Astrophysics, Theoretical Physics, Mathematics and Physics, Mathematics and Theoretical Physics
<b>Psychology</b>	Psychology

### Science (International Year Zero)

#### September entry

For students who are unsure about which science subject they wish to specialise in, or who wish to study Neuroscience or a Joint Honours degree, we offer the Science

(International Year Zero) programme. This provides foundational teaching in academic English, academic skills, mathematics, statistics and chemistry and, upon successful completion, students enter the first year (Y1) of their intended degree.

# Student experience

As well as International Foundation programmes, the University of St Andrews offers undergraduate, Masters and doctoral-level programmes, and we provide summer school courses that enable high-school students (16-18 years old) to experience life as a student at a top British university.

The University of St Andrews has more than 600 years of history, so student life is rich with traditions and extracurricular options that combine to offer a strong sense of community and an outstanding student experience.

Learn more about the St Andrews student experience at: [www.st-andrews.ac.uk/study/why/experience](http://www.st-andrews.ac.uk/study/why/experience)

## Summer School Courses

To experience St Andrews for yourself before studying on an International Foundation programme, why not try a three week taster of life as a student by enrolling on a Summer Academic Experience course?

[www.st-andrews.ac.uk/subjects/non-degree-courses/summer-courses/academic-experience](http://www.st-andrews.ac.uk/subjects/non-degree-courses/summer-courses/academic-experience)

In St Andrews you will find more than you would ever expect in a town of our size. There are at least 180 societies and sports clubs, opportunities to get involved in music and theatre, evening languages, volunteering and more. This, together with our internationally renowned teaching system, has resulted in St Andrews being named the UK's top mainstream university for student experience for the fourteenth time in the past 16 years. (National Student Survey 2022).

Studying at St Andrews offers you the opportunity to learn at one of the most extraordinary universities in the world.

Highly ranked across league tables and with a global outlook, St Andrews offers you a high quality, passionately taught education in a historic and welcoming setting.

*“Student life is a key part of your university experience here; it is a time to explore and have fun alongside your studies. There are hundreds of activities to engage with, so try something new and find your niche!”*

**Avery Kitchens**, Director of Student Development and Activities, Students' Association





Music in Rector's Café



University climbing wall



May Dip



Rector's Café



# Accommodation

We recommend that our students stay at **David Russell Apartments (DRA)** during their pre-degree programme. Being in one of the University's halls enables international students to make friends quickly and it enhances their learning and acculturation experience.

The DRA award-winning eco-friendly apartments are just a short walk from the International Education Institute and Faculty of Science buildings.

Every apartment has five study bedrooms, each with its own private shower and toilet, and a shared living space and fully equipped kitchen. There is high-speed internet and free telephone

access to all Schools and Departments within the University. DRA's Wardennial Team encourages a sense of community across all apartments and is the first point of contact for any problems as well offering support for students.

See more information about DRA at: [www.st-andrews.ac.uk/study/accommodation/halls/foundation](http://www.st-andrews.ac.uk/study/accommodation/halls/foundation)



Kitchen in David Russell Apartments



# Fees and how to apply

Current programme fees can be found online at:

[www.st-andrews.ac.uk/subjects/study-options/foundation/fees](http://www.st-andrews.ac.uk/subjects/study-options/foundation/fees)

The tuition fee includes:

- Access to all University facilities
- A transfer from Edinburgh or Glasgow airport, or Leuchars train station, when you first arrive
- The use of course books, handouts and other course materials
- laboratory coats and dissection kits, as required.

Applications are online and direct to us and there is no application fee. If you send us your most recent transcript and a personal statement when you apply, we aim to give you a decision within two weeks. We make offers when we believe a student has the potential to succeed and we may invite you to an interview by Skype or telephone to find out more about you.

Applications for September entry are open from early October to mid-July. For January entry, you can apply between early March and late-November.

Apply online at: [www.st-andrews.ac.uk/subjects/study-options/foundation/apply](http://www.st-andrews.ac.uk/subjects/study-options/foundation/apply)



St Mary's Quad

## **International Education Institute**

Kinnessburn, Kennedy Gardens  
St Andrews, Fife, KY16 9DJ, Scotland (UK)

**T:** +44 (0)1334 46 2255

**E:** [ie@st-andrews.ac.uk](mailto:ie@st-andrews.ac.uk)

[www.st-andrews.ac.uk](http://www.st-andrews.ac.uk)



### **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/policy/academic-policies-curriculum-curriculum-at-st-andrews/curriculum-at-st-andrews.pdf](http://www.st-andrews.ac.uk/policy/academic-policies-curriculum-curriculum-at-st-andrews/curriculum-at-st-andrews.pdf)

Photographs by: Spencer Bentley, broad daylight, Nick Callaghan, Marcell Kovacs, Gabrielle Levey, Mevist, Caroline Trotter and Laurence Winram.

Produced by Print & Design, University of St Andrews, January 2024.

The University of St Andrews is a charity registered in Scotland, No: SC013532.