Faculty of Arts and Humanities
School of American Studies
Undergraduate Courses
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www.uea.ac.uk/ams
We are one of the top universities in the UK for American studies, providing an understanding of the United States through a study of its culture, literature, history and politics. Our goal is to create independent thinkers who take pleasure in learning about their subjects and who graduate fully prepared for their future careers. Our members of staff are all actively engaged in research and are at the forefront of new developments within the discipline, meaning that our teaching is always up to the minute.

You will consider the ways in which Americans have constructed and defined their own identities – through race, class, ethnicity, gender, and sexuality. You will touch on crucial themes in US culture, such as civil rights and the idea of freedom, migrant and immigrant experiences, power, authority, conformism and rebellion, and American foreign relations. You will have the opportunity to study early American literature and contemporary fiction, and examine American literature in global and transnational contexts, such as the Pacific, Latin America, and the Caribbean. You will encounter the work of a wide variety of authors, such as Mark Twain, Toni Morrison, Philip Roth, and Leslie Marmon Silko. You will explore American culture from the time before Columbus to the present, taking in the experiences of the first peoples and the first European settlers, the lives of enslaved men and women, and the dramatic events of the “American century”, from the days of Jim Crow segregation, through the Cold War, to 9/11 and beyond.
Why Study American Studies with Us?

The School of American Studies is recognised as one of the best American studies departments in the UK. As a vibrant and dynamic School we are ranked joint first for student satisfaction in the National Student Survey 2012 and second in the UK according to the Guardian University Guide league table 2013.

**Best American Studies Department for Student Satisfaction**
Each year our final year students participate in the National Student Survey (NSS) to feedback on their academic experience. The School consistently excels in this and in the most recent survey we were rated joint first for overall satisfaction.

**Excellent Reputation**
As a vibrant and dynamic School, we are one of the top American Studies departments in the UK, according to the Guardian University Guide league table 2013 and the most recent national Research Assessment Exercise.

**Unrivalled Year Abroad Programme**
We have more exchange partners than any other university in the UK, which means that students on our four-year degree programmes have got the largest choice of where they would like to study on their year abroad. Most recently we have added a new exchange partnership with the University of Hawaii. It is also possible to split your year between universities in the USA and Canada and – for students interested in taking in a Pacific perspective on America – Australia, New Zealand and, now, Hong Kong. See page 04 for further information.

**Student Choice**
We offer a wide range of topics including American culture, literature, history and politics. This means that students can choose from modules on topics as diverse as the cultural history of American music, US political history and foreign relations, the trans-Pacific and trans-Atlantic worlds, African American and Native American history and culture, poetry, the classic novels of the nineteenth and twentieth centuries, and much more besides.

**Internationally Renowned Literary Festival**
Each year, we bring major writers from the USA and around the world to our International Literary Festival, open to the public and, of course, our students, too. Visitors have included Norman Mailer, Toni Morrison, Elmore Leonard, Gore Vidal, Richard Ford, Jonathan Franzen and Margaret Atwood.

**Our Teaching**
The School prides itself on achieving the highest standards in its provision of course information, grading and feedback to students on their work, and in generally creating an environment where teaching is the very best. Our teaching is monitored internally by a comprehensive programme of reporting by the students themselves, and by an annual review of these reports. We use a variety of innovative teaching methods ranging from lectures, seminars and tutorial groups to public “discussion cafés”, internet blogging and filmic “visual essays”. Each approach engages different styles of learning to develop your skills throughout your studies and to enable your active participation in your own learning. Our commitment to first-class teaching means that you can be sure you will receive the support you need as you develop the skills that today’s employers desire.

**The Arthur Miller Centre**
The Arthur Miller Centre for American Studies is unique to the University of East Anglia. The Centre is an initiative designed to further interest in the study of the United States, to promote major new research projects and facilitate the movement of people between Britain and America.

**Careers and Employability**
Our degree courses teach students a range of skills which they can apply to the world of work. We challenge our students to think critically and to approach situations from different perspectives to develop their cultural awareness and to enhance their powers of evaluation and their written and oral communication skills. With a specific focus on employability, we offer students the opportunity to gain experience of working in the medium of film, for example, and organising local exhibitions, or engaging with the public in “discussion cafés”.

The interdisciplinary nature of the degree offers a wide choice of career paths and our graduates work in fields as diverse as acting, travel and speech therapy. A large number go on to gain postgraduate qualifications. After academia, the most popular choices are management training, journalism and the media and teaching.

The Careers and Employability Team works in partnership with academic Schools to plan and deliver a comprehensive programme covering career management, employer and industry focused events and one-to-one guidance. Building links with employers, industry and start-up enterprises is central to our work, enabling us to provide students with a wealth of internship, voluntary, mentoring, graduate and job opportunities. We encourage enterprise, innovation and aspiration throughout your time at UEA.

www.uea.ac.uk/careers
Study Abroad

From New England to California, Alaska to Louisiana, and not forgetting Vancouver to Ontario, Sydney to Hong Kong, we have more exchange partners than any other university in the UK.

If you select a four-year degree, your third year is spent in the United States, Canada, Australia, New Zealand or Hong Kong. We also offer our students the option of splitting the year to study in two different countries. The year abroad allows students to approach American literature, history, and creative writing from the perspective of another culture. In some institutions there are also opportunities for students to undertake internship placements in publishing, or with newspaper companies and TV stations.

This great opportunity provides students with an invaluable academic and cultural experience, one often cited as a highlight of the degree.

Our exchange programme, which has been running for over 30 years, has long-established links with outstanding institutions. These range from small private colleges, such as Middlebury in Vermont, to large state universities, such as the University of California. Most of our students are allocated their first or second choice of exchange institution (from a list of five). A full list of institutions can be found at: www.uea.ac.uk/study/study-abroad/UEAabroad/infohum/hum/sainstitutions

While you are enjoying the USA, Canada, Australia, New Zealand or Hong Kong, and making the most of all the opportunities and facilities of their universities, you are also completing work for your degree at home. Half of the course you take will centre on American topics (for example, American history, literature, sociology, religion, politics, music, journalism, film and art) and the remainder can be in any subjects that you choose. All students research their dissertation during their year abroad, which is written on their return to us with the support of a supervisor.

Year Abroad Scholarships and Fees

Scholarships of £1,000 each will be awarded to the top 50 per cent of students at A level (or equivalent qualification) who are studying on a programme in the School of American Studies that requires a year abroad. This will be paid at the end of their second year of study with the idea of assisting students with travel and other related costs.

The advantage of our exchange programme is that you do not pay tuition to your exchange institution. These costs are covered by the tuition fees you pay here, and moreover, for the year you are overseas you only pay a percentage of your standard tuition fee (currently 15 per cent for Home/EU students and 25 per cent for international students)*. Accommodation costs must be paid and vary in each institution.

*Please note that fees are subject to annual review.
As an American studies student, Gareth spent one year in Santa Cruz studying at the University of California. With a 10 minute bus journey between the campus and beach, he spent as much time as he could learning to surf, as well as studying of course!

What did you study and how different was it to studying in the UK?
I studied American literature at the University of California, Santa Cruz, although I also found time for Pre-Revolutionary American History, the History of Jazz and a course dealing with the cultural impact of the Beatles in America.

The choice to take non-American studies modules whilst abroad was a brilliant opportunity. The teaching is structured very differently to England – there are considerably more classes each week, all of which had weekly homework assignments. Whilst this was daunting at first, essays were generally shorter than those at UEA, so the workload was the same in the long run.

Where did you live?
I lived on campus, and there were eight of us in the apartment. On-campus accommodation was guaranteed for all year abroad students, although I had to apply specially for my building, as it was themed for aspiring writers.

Did you undertake an internship whilst you were there?
I worked for a newspaper which was based on campus. The internship was very full on – I had to submit at least one article per week, which had to be fully sourced. Whilst rather stressful at the time, in hindsight the experience taught me time management skills, along with being directly responsible for some of the more entertaining trips I took.

How do you think your year abroad helped with your development?
My dissertation was almost entirely influenced by my year abroad, so it certainly helped my academic development. From a personal perspective, the experience has made me far less dependent on others.

What were your best experiences on your year abroad?
Becoming part of another culture, and being invited to family occasions with one of my housemates, learning to surf, and going on a very cheap weekend of white water rafting will always stick with me. Like many year abroad students, I took the opportunity to travel as much as I could, eventually taking a road trip from California to New Orleans.

What advice would you give to students who are about to embark on their year abroad?
If you have room, pack some of your favourite English comfort foods. This helps you adjust to living on the other side of the world, and will make you extremely popular with housemates who’ve never eaten things like it before!
A Graduate’s Experience

Attracted to study by the excellent reputation of the School of American Studies and the impressive array of study abroad institutions, Drew graduated from the BA American and English Literature degree in 2006.

Tell us about your career to date

After graduating from UEA, I completed a Master’s in Print Journalism. However, my real interest was in continuing my investigations into American social inequality, which I had started during my third year at UEA when I was living in New Mexico.

During that year, I won an essay prize from the British Association of American Studies taken from my dissertation on attitudes towards homelessness in Albuquerque, and I received the BAAS Teaching Fellowship to undertake a Master's in American Studies at the University of Wyoming. Here, I taught at university level for the first time, and wrote my first one act play.

In 2009 I entered the department of Comparative Cultural Studies at the Ohio State University in Columbus, where I have advanced through my PhD coursework and final candidacy exams. Whilst at OSU I have been teaching my own classes in cultural studies, critical thinking, race, social justice and the humanities, which is something I greatly enjoy. I have also spent my summers back out in Wyoming, teaching and advising in a high school programme for low income students.

I am currently Visiting Scholar of Ethnic Studies at the University of Colorado, Boulder, where I am conducting ethnographic field work for my doctoral dissertation exploring attitudes towards homelessness and mobility in the American west.

What was studying at UEA like?

It was a really exciting place to study. The faculty are some of the leading researchers and teachers in their fields, and brought together a diverse range of scholars and interests from around the world.

Seminars were challenging, and I enjoyed the interdisciplinary nature of studying at UEA which remains quite cutting edge – students are able to experiment with classes from outside of their focused degree which makes for a far more fulfilling education. There was always a great atmosphere, and I had fantastic advisers who encouraged me to attend conferences with them, join professional organisations, and enter essay competitions which have led to my trajectory in academia today.

Why did you pick this course?

I had already spent a year living in the US as an exchange student, and had developed an interest in American cultural history and knew UEA’s reputation as a leading institution in this field. The opportunity to spend a year abroad at a truly impressive array of institutions was also very attractive.

What did you think about your lecturers, teaching and the facilities?

We started with larger lectures, which was a good way to build a common base and academic community across the degree programmes in the School. We then splintered into much more specialised interests and smaller discussion classes, which was a rewarding way to learn. I had some great teachers and a lot of the faculty are very respected in their fields. I really appreciated the academic freedom and the chances I had to explore new interests as I developed them, and after UEA I really couldn’t imagine learning any other way.

How has your course helped you in your career so far?

I’ve stayed in academia, which has led to an array of teaching jobs that I believe the material and teaching styles I was exposed to at UEA prepared me very well for. I still teach texts I was introduced to at UEA, and enjoy strong professional connections with the staff who taught me during my undergraduate years.
BA American Studies

The American studies programme is an interdisciplinary course, enabling students to combine the studies of American culture, literature, history, politics and film.

Year 1
American studies at UEA begins with introductory year-long modules that provide an introduction to the core texts of American literature and the defining events in American history: Imagining America, parts I and II, and Containing Multitudes, parts I and II. In addition you will take Reading Cultures, which focuses on American Icons in the first semester, and Ideas and Ideologies in the second, to deepen your understanding of the United States and, at the same time, to focus on the critical and writing skills essential for success at university.

Year 2
In your second year you are invited to choose from a wide range of interdisciplinary seminars which may include classes such as: American Masculinities, Borderlands of the American Southwest, American Music, Looking at Pictures: Photography and Visual Culture in the USA, American Material Culture, which might approach subjects such as the US environment, adolescence in American culture, the Harlem Renaissance, the punk movement or 1980s cinema. We also offer literature options covering, for example, nineteenth century, twentieth century, and contemporary American or Cuban American writing, comparative American and Australian writing, or poetry, the Beat movement, American writers in Paris between the wars, and more. Our history options span the breadth of the American past, taking in the aftermath of the Civil War, the dawn of the American century, the history of New York City, the Civil Rights Movement, US foreign policy, and much else besides.

Year 3
Students on a four-year programme spend their third year studying in America or Canada – with the option of spending one of those semesters in Australia, New Zealand, or Hong Kong. For further information please see page 04.

For those following the three-year programme, the final year involves a choice of advanced modules which could include topics such as: American Violence, The American Body, The New American Century: Culture and Crisis – and many other possibilities from the literature and culture of the 1960s, of the Pacific, or of the nineteenth century, for example, multi-ethnic writing or Native American writing and film, or poetry and the environment, and more. Should you wish to emphasise history, you may choose from options covering, for example, the history of the CIA or of immigration and migration, or choose to take a two-semester documents-based “special subject” which could include options such as American slavery or the politics and culture of the 1960s, Native American history or, the Cold War.

Year 4
In your final year, you will write a research dissertation on a topic of your choice, inspired by your year abroad, and under the guidance of your UEA supervisor after your return. You also choose from a selection of advanced modules, such as those listed above.
The foundation year provides students who still need to achieve the entry requirements for the three-year BA American Studies degree the opportunity to gain the skills and knowledge necessary to progress on to this course. Our aim is not just to prepare you for your honours programme but to develop you into a confident and independent learner with the skills to excel at university and become a highly employable graduate.

**Foundation Year**

**Semester 1**

In the first semester you will take two compulsory modules: Humanities: Techniques and Methods and Humanities: The Key Concepts which will introduce you to a wide range of texts, theories and research methods and allow you to explore the various uses of humanities research. You will also take a beginners’ language module of your choice in this semester which will give you the opportunity to develop valuable new skills or further develop existing language skills.

**Semester 2**

In the second semester you will continue to study Humanities: Techniques and Methods and will be able to choose two additional modules from the following options: Literature and the Humanities, History and Society and Introduction to Visual Cultures. This will allow you to tailor your studies to your interests and your chosen progression route.

All of the modules incorporate a variety of assessment methods such as presentations, essays and critical summaries which will prepare you for the different type of assessments you will undertake in your continuing study. You will receive detailed feedback on all of your work, and some assignments are formative and will not be graded so that you have the opportunity to identify and work on any areas which you find more challenging. At the end of the year you will undertake an individual research project in which you will be able to demonstrate the knowledge and skills you have developed over the year.

To progress to the BA American Studies degree from the foundation year, you need to achieve a minimum of 40 per cent overall with a pass (40 per cent) in all modules (120 credits).

For details of the three-year BA American Studies degree (UCAS code T701) please refer to page 07.

**Skills Development**

A key aim of the foundation year is to equip you with the study skills you will need to succeed in your chosen degree programme. Through group tutorials, interactive training sessions and formative feedback you will be able to develop skills in areas such as: essay writing, research, preparing and giving presentations, understanding and evaluating scholarly arguments, time management, teamwork, revision and examination techniques.

You will benefit from the expertise of tutors who regularly teach in higher education and who have a detailed understanding of the expectations and challenges of undergraduate study. Our aim is not just to prepare you for your honours programme but to develop you into a confident and independent learner with the skills to excel at university and become a highly employable graduate.

**Teaching Methods and Student Experience**

The foundation year is an intensive course which offers an average of 18 hours per week of guided learning to ensure you are given the support you need to achieve your goals. You will also benefit from smaller class sizes and individual tutorials which will help you to get the most out of the course.

Modules will be taught via lectures, presentations, seminars, reading groups and study sessions. In addition there will be opportunities to participate in field trips to the East Anglian Film Archive and the Sainsbury Centre for Visual Arts where you will be able to take a more practical approach to learning.

Of course, you will also be part of UEA’s thriving undergraduate community and will be able to take advantage of the many varied activities and events that take place throughout the year.
This four-year degree programme in American and English literature offers a distinctive emphasis on the literature of the United States alongside the study of English literature, enabling you to develop and pursue areas of particular interest.

Year 1
In the first year you take two semester-long modules which introduce you to the major writers and works in American literature – Imagining America parts I and II. Your classes also include, among other things, the introductory course Reading Cultures which focuses, in part I, on American Icons and, in part II, Ideas and Ideologies to deepen your understanding of the United States and, at the same time, to focus on the critical and writing skills essential for success at university.

Year 2
In your second year you will take a range of specialist American literature seminars from a broad choice of topics, which could include, for example: nineteenth century, twentieth century, and contemporary American or Cuban American writing, comparative Australian and American writing, or poetry, the Beat movement, American writers in Paris between the wars, and more. You may also choose from a range of interdisciplinary modules which may include classes such as: American Masculinities, Borderlands of the American Southwest, American Music, Looking at Pictures: Photography and Visual Culture in the USA, American Material Culture, or which might approach subjects like the US environment, adolescence in American culture, speech and oratory, the punk movement or 1980s cinema.

Year 3
Your third year is spent abroad at an American or Canadian university, with the option of spending a semester in Australia, New Zealand, or Hong Kong, if you should choose. For further information please see page 04.

Year 4
In your final year, you will write a research dissertation on a topic of your choice, inspired by your year abroad, and under the guidance of your UEA supervisor after your return. You also choose from a selection of advanced literature and interdisciplinary American studies modules, which could include, for example: American Violence, American Autobiography, Mark Twain and the Gilded Age, The American Body, The New American Century: Culture and Crisis – and many other possibilities from the literature and culture of the 1960s, of the Pacific, or of the nineteenth century, for example, multi-ethnic writing or Native American writing and film, or poetry and the environment, and more. In addition, you can choose from the wide range of English literature modules on offer, on subjects that take in everything from the classics through medieval literature to William Shakespeare, to modernism.

“UEA is a great university to study at and Norwich is a great place to live giving a great all round experience to students. It gives you the opportunity to create fond memories that will stay with you after you enter the working world as a prepared and satisfied graduate!”

Amanda Pargin, American Studies Graduate

UCAS code TQ73
A level (typical offer): AAB
International baccalaureate: 33
Preferred entry qualifications: A level English Literature
Length of course: 4 years
Study abroad: Yes

Typical offer grades are for guidance only – please refer to www.uea.ac.uk/ams/courses for more detailed and up-to-date course information.

Gertrude Stein.
The American Literature with Creative Writing degree provides an introduction to the demands and challenges of creative practice.

In this degree, creative writing is offered as a subsidiary subject taken in conjunction with the study of American literature. UEA has a long tradition of providing courses in the writing of fiction, poetry and drama and has close and active links with the world of contemporary writing.

The year abroad programme provides a unique opportunity to develop a comparative understanding of creative writing as it is practised in both British and American contexts. Students can take advantage of the many writers brought to the campus by the Arthur Miller Centre for American Studies.

**Year 1**

In the first year you take two semester-long modules which introduce you to the major writers and works in American literature – Imagining America parts I and II. Your classes also include the introductory course Reading Cultures which focuses, in part I, on American icons and, in part II, ideas and ideologies to deepen your understanding of the United States and, at the same time, to focus on the critical and writing skills essential for success at university. As a creative writing student, you will also take Creative Writing and Identity and another module from a range of choices outside the School of American Studies.

**Year 2**

The creative writing element of the degree is taught in seminar workshops designed to help you improve your skills as a writer under the guidance of experienced practitioners. They increase your ability to initiate and develop new creative material through technical exercises, group discussion and the exploration of strategies for drafting and re-drafting new work. You can choose from modules that could include, for example, the writing of poetry, fiction, drama, and journalism. You also study literature modules from a wide range of choices in the School of American Studies, which might include, for example: nineteenth century, twentieth century, and contemporary American or Cuban American writing, comparative Australian and American writing, or poetry, the Beat movement, American writers in Paris between the wars, and more. You may also choose from a range of interdisciplinary modules such as: American Masculinities, Borderlands of the American Southwest, American Music, Looking at Pictures: Photography and Visual Culture in the USA, American Material Culture, or which might approach subjects like the US environment, adolescence in American culture, speech and oratory, the punk movement or 1980s cinema.

**Year 3**

Our year abroad programme offers a unique opportunity to develop a comparative understanding of creative writing as it is practised in both British and American contexts and is spent in the United States or Canada, with the possibility of a second semester in Australia, New Zealand, or Hong Kong. See page 04.

**Year 4**

You will write a research dissertation on a topic of your choice, inspired by your year abroad, and under the guidance of your UEA supervisor after your return. You also take a creative writing module and, in addition, you have the option of choosing from a range of literature and interdisciplinary seminars such as: American Violence, American Autobiography, Mark Twain and the Gilded Age, The American Body, The New American Century: Culture and Crisis – and many other possibilities from the literature and culture of the 1960s, of the Pacific, or of the nineteenth century, for example, multi-ethnic writing or Native American writing and film, or poetry and the environment, and more.
This four-year degree course allows you to focus your studies on the history of the United States and its people, its emergence as a world superpower and its influence on global culture. It tracks the American story from the Revolution through the years of slavery and Civil War, the settlement of the West, and the development of modern society. You have the opportunity to find out everything from Native American history to the world of enslaved communities in the Old South, the struggles of black Civil Rights activists to the crucial decisions of the presidents – who, by the atomic age of the Cold War, held the fate of humanity in their hands. By the end of your degree, you will know the American story in depth – but you will also have a keen understanding of how much of the modern world in which we live today has been shaped by this young nation, and how the history of the United States has been intimately connected with that of the rest of the globe.

### Course Structure

In your first year you will study introductory modules that take you through America’s past to the present day and introduce you to the major themes in US history – from the meaning of ‘freedom’ and ‘liberty’ and ‘democracy’ to the importance of, for example, the flag or the idea of the frontier. In addition, a year-long module, Reading Cultures, gives you the critical and writing skills essential for success on this course.

In the second year, you have a wide range of more specialist options offering the opportunity to look at, for example, the Cold War and American foreign interventions, the 1960s and the Vietnam War, Native American history, slavery and the Civil Rights Movement, and to consider the significance of gender, race, or class in America’s past. There is also a range of interdisciplinary options, allowing you, should you wish, to choose from thematic American studies modules on, for example, urban culture, music, film, and so on.

You spend your third year studying at an American or Canadian university, or, if you choose, at an institution in Australia, New Zealand, or Hong Kong.

In your final year, you write a research dissertation on a topic of your choice, guided by your UEA supervisor. You also have a range of final-year classes to choose from – these could include a year-long documents-based ‘special subject’ – topics in the past have included the Cold War, slavery, Native American history, and the Civil Rights Movement. You also have a choice of advanced history modules taking an in-depth look at major topics on – for example – the Supreme Court or the CIA, or gender in America. You can also choose from a range of interdisciplinary modules on subjects such as violence, the American city, land and culture, popular music, or crisis and culture in the 21st century.

### Year Abroad

Your third year is spent in the United States, Canada or Australia. We currently have exchanges with approximately 40 North American universities including institutions in California, Miami, Vancouver, Philadelphia, Washington DC and New York State. You will be asked to decide which one you would most like to attend, though not all students can be assigned to their first-choice university. While in North America, you will be required to write a dissertation on a topic agreed with the year abroad coordinator, besides taking courses alongside North American students. As the year abroad is a requirement of the course, those qualifying will continue to be eligible for local education authority support.
What have you particularly liked about life at the University?
The on-site facilities like the post office, laundrette, Student Union, LCR, book shop and medical centre were so comprehensive that sometimes I wouldn’t realise I hadn’t left campus in weeks.

What was your main reason for choosing this course?
The fact that it offered a year abroad was a big attraction. I didn’t take a gap year between school and university but wanted to travel. UEA provided great support and security, and offered so many exchange institutions that it was difficult to pick where to go!

What have you particularly enjoyed about your course?
I always know that there is a member of staff I can talk to if I have any issues (academic or otherwise), and I have found almost all of my lecturers inspiring, they have a genuine passion for what they teach. Areas I didn’t think I would be interested in completely turned around for me because of the enthusiasm of certain professors. I have also had the freedom to research and write on areas that interest me that I feel a more rigid course structure would not allow. I honestly don’t think I could find a better university for my academic area than UEA.

How did you find living on campus during your first year?
In my first year, I lived in Nelson Court, and had a brilliant time. I lived with people from all kinds of backgrounds, and found the conversation and company infinitely rewarding. The kitchens were spacious and easy to clean and there was more than enough storage space for all of our food. I was quite lucky in that I lived very close to everything: the LCR, the laundrette, and all of my classes.

What is living in rented accommodation like after your first year?
My second year at university was one of the greatest years of my life. I moved into a rented house in West Earham with four of my friends and the dynamics of our house was inimitable. We each cooked one night a week, made cleaning rotas to save any petty arguments, and generally got on brilliantly.

When you first arrived at the University, how easy did you find it and why?
I met the friends I have now within the first week or so of university. The icebreakers in the department corridors helped everyone to mingle and although I didn’t attend many of the welcome week events, I found that all of us were in the same boat so it was easy to approach each other. I met some of my closest friends now on the steps for our department photo in the first couple of days.

Tell us about your year abroad
I’ve just returned from my year abroad at Occidental College in Los Angeles, California. As I mentioned, UEA was fantastic in helping us all to prepare for the trip. It was so rewarding – I’ve seen things and visited places I never dreamed I would, and it was so exciting to be there for the whole year. The workload in America is very different to...
Stephanie has just returned from her year abroad at Occidental College in Los Angeles. Now back at UEA for her final year, she takes some time to reflect on her experience so far.

back home and learning to be academically adaptable has been a difficult lesson to learn, but one that I know will benefit me now I’m back at UEA in my final year, and beyond university in adapting to postgraduate research or to a working environment.

**Are you a member of any of the UEA societies?**

I took part in a couple of the Creative Writing Society open mic nights, and a workshop or two. Although I didn’t fully commit to the society, I found CWS very accepting of a range of styles and I think their events are a great opportunity for people to get feedback on their work.

**How would you describe Norwich?**

I love Norwich! The city has so much culture and so much history, and I felt at home right away. One of my interests is live literature, and Norwich has a thriving live literary scene with events on somewhere in the city every week. It feels very safe, even at night, and whether you’re looking to party all night or just a quiet drink in a local pub, Norwich has it all and more.
Life at UEA

The University of East Anglia is an internationally renowned university based on a spacious campus that provides top quality academic, social and cultural facilities to more than 15,000 students. The latest National Student Survey showed once again that our students are among the most satisfied in the country. The University has been in the top 10 English mainstream universities for student satisfaction ever since the survey began eight years ago. We came first in the most recent What Uni Student Choice Awards and first in the Times Higher Education Student Experience Survey 2013.

Our student accommodation has twice been ranked first in the UK by the What Uni Student Choice Awards.

Students outside Paston House, one of the University’s en suite residences.

An Ideal Location
Built on 130 hectares of beautiful parkland on the outskirts of the historic city of Norwich, our campus is one of the most innovative in the country, combining natural beauty with architectural flair. The campus has won more than 20 architectural awards and ongoing multi-million pound investment continues to enhance teaching and research facilities. Virtually no part of our campus is more than a few minutes’ walk from anywhere else, and almost every student need is catered for on site – there’s a large food shop, a newsagent, a post office, a bank, a pharmacy, two launderettes, a Waterstones bookshop, restaurants, bars and even a travel agent. There are good public transport links into the city, which has a mainline railway station with regular services to London and all other parts of the country. Norwich also has an international airport.

Accommodation
Our accommodation has achieved the joint highest score in the most recent Times Higher Education Student Experience Survey and has twice been ranked first in the UK by the What Uni Student Choice Awards. First year undergraduates, who live outside a 12 mile radius of Norwich and who have selected UEA as their firm choice are guaranteed one of our 3,500 study bedrooms (many en suite). You will need to apply by the deadline which is published on our website.

www.uea.ac.uk/accommodation

Learning Resources
Our library is an impressive 24 hour-a-day, seven days a week facility housing more than 800,000 books and journals, as well as extensive collections of specialist materials. We provide a wide range of IT services including IT areas across campus equipped with networked PCs offering standard office software with additional specialist software available where appropriate, campus internet access via a wireless network which you can connect to from University residences or from external locations. Networked printing facilities allow you to print directly from your own laptop and tablet.

www.uea.ac.uk/is
Language Learning for All
Whichever programme you choose, you also have the opportunity to improve or learn another language, although there may be an additional charge for this. We currently offer classes in Arabic, British Sign Language, Mandarin Chinese, French, German, Greek (Modern), Italian, Japanese, Russian and Spanish.
www.uea.ac.uk/lcs/learning-a-new-language

Student Support
We offer a wide-range of advice and guidance to any student who wishes to make the most of the opportunities available to them whilst at UEA or who is experiencing difficulties. From counselling to childcare, money matters to our chaplaincy, it’s good to know there’s help available whenever you might need it. We have financial advisers, an international student advisory team, learning enhancement tutors, an excellent nursery and a disability team. We also have a purpose built campus Medical Centre, a Boots pharmacy and a dental service offering NHS treatment to students and their families.
www.uea.ac.uk/services/students

Sporting Facilities
The University’s £30 million Sportspark is one of the finest sports complexes in Britain, boasting a state of the art Olympic-sized swimming pool, athletics track, climbing wall, superbly equipped gym and an extensive range of sports and leisure activities, from dance classes to five-a-side football. In the Independent’s Complete University Guide our sports facilities and services attained the highest overall ranking in any British university.
www.sportspark.co.uk

Arts and Culture
We are home to the Sainsbury Centre for Visual Arts which provides access to permanent exhibitions of world art and a diverse range of touring exhibitions unrivalled by other universities. UEA also hosts an International Literary Festival which has included famous names such as Ian McEwan and Kazuo Ishiguro – both alumni of UEAs creative writing course.
www.scva.ac.uk
www.uea.ac.uk/litfest

Gigs and Events
The Independent says our Student Union gig roster is “like pop music’s roll of honour, with the biggest names performing each year and other students’ unions wondering how on earth we manage it”. As well as regular film screenings, weekly club nights, balls and fashion shows, the LCR plays host to a wide range of popular bands, with around 60 gigs on campus each year. Recent gigs include Coldplay, Bombay Bicycle Club, Ed Sheeran, Rizzle Kicks, Wretch 32, Professor Green, Kaiser Chiefs, Example, Fun, Jake Bugg and Noah and the Whale.
www.ueastudent.com
www.ueaticketbookings.co.uk

Clubs and Societies
We have over 200 clubs and societies at UEA, which are a great way to meet people with shared interests and relax after studying. Employers also value students who have interests outside their degree course. Please see the website to find out more about the activities you can get involved in.
www.ueastudent.com/clubsoc

Ellie Goulding at the LCR venue on campus. Voted best student venue in the country by the music industry’s Live! Magazine. Each year more than fifty live bands grace its stage.” The Virgin Guide to British Universities 2012

*The Sainsbury Centre for Visual Arts is perhaps the greatest resource of its type on any British campus.* The Times Good University Guide 2013

*The excellent sporting facilities are based around the £30 million Sportspark, which has an Olympic-sized swimming pool, fitness centres, athletics track, climbing wall, courts and pitches.* The Times Good University Guide 2013

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Norwich and the Region

Norwich is the perfect student city. Lively, and with a real character all of its own, it has a charming mix of the historical and the new. The history of the city is visible for all to see, whether it be the medieval Norman Castle which dominates the skyline, the two cathedrals or the city walls themselves. Norwich has superb facilities ranging from countless cafés, restaurants, retail outlets, shopping malls, entertainment venues and the stunning Millennium Library ‘The Forum’. There are plenty of opportunities to catch live music or theatre and the city is teeming with modern and traditional pubs. The local football team, Norwich City, is a top-flight club and suitably befitting such a wonderful county which was recently ranked as the safest place to live in the UK. Our students love Norwich so much, many stay long after their studies.

“Norwich… has been voted one of the best small cities in the world.”
The Times Good University Guide 2013

Shopping

Norwich was voted one of the top 10 shopping destinations in the UK and it’s no wonder. With modern shopping malls and chain stores sitting alongside stunning arcades, cobbled streets and the UK’s largest open-air market, Norwich is a joy to walk around. As well as four department stores, Norwich has plenty of small independent stores, vintage second-hand shops and exciting new ‘pop-ups’.

Nightlife

Norwich has a thriving club and bar scene with new establishments opening all the time. There are also a number of live music venues such as the Norwich Arts Centre and UEA’s very own LCR and The Waterfront. There are hundreds of pubs dotted around Norwich, which at one time was said to have had a tavern for every day of the year. Many pubs host comedy and quiz nights whilst real-ale fans will not want to miss the famous Norwich Beer Festival.

“The cathedral, castle and Elm Hill are the old and beautiful places to visit, where there are lovely cafés and incredible architecture, whilst you can go to Chapelfield, Gentleman’s Walk and the market for a massive selection of shops, restaurants and café chains. The variety in Norwich is amazing.” Naomi Newell, current student (pictured left).

Norwich is England’s first UNESCO City of Literature.
“I think Norfolk is the most beautiful and perfect place on Earth.”

Stephen Fry, actor, writer and UEA Honorary Graduate

Art and Culture
There are four cinemas in Norwich including the art-house Cinema City and six theatres that regularly host performances of everything from Shakespeare to Jimmy Carr. There are also many museums and galleries in the city centre as well as annual events such as the arts-driven Norfolk and Norwich Festival.

The carnival and firework display for the Lord Mayor’s celebration every July is also not to be missed while the Royal Norfolk Show is the country’s largest two-day county show which celebrates all that is great about this diverse county from its agricultural heritage to its gourmet food producers.

Food and Drink
Norwich has plenty of choice when it comes to eating out. Japanese, Thai and Italian sit alongside traditional English restaurants and pub grub. Celebrity chefs Delia Smith and Jamie Oliver both have restaurants in the city. Delia’s is an established restaurant situated alongside Norwich City’s football ground, whilst Jamie’s Italian has only recently opened for business in the Royal Arcade. You’ll be pleased to know that many Norwich eateries also offer student discount.

Perfect Location
The University of East Anglia has a unique location. Situated on the edge of both the city and countryside, you are perfectly placed to explore both. The Norfolk coastline is home to world famous bird reserves and beautiful beaches, as well as ever-changing countryside interlaced with sleepy medieval villages, bustling market towns and stately homes. One of England’s most beautiful national parks, The Broads, is also right on your doorstep for sailing, walking and cycling while paintballing, amusement parks, a trip to the zoo or a day at the races are all within easy striking distance of the University.

Travel
Norwich has excellent public transport with trains every 30 minutes to London. Norwich International Airport is only 15 minutes from the city centre and has links worldwide via daily flights to Amsterdam. National Express and Megabus also operate services directly from the University.
Applying to UEA

Applications
All applications for full-time undergraduate degrees should be made through the Universities and Colleges Admissions Service (UCAS). The UCAS code name and number for the University of East Anglia is EANGL E14. Please visit their website to apply and for further information regarding the application process.
www.ucas.com

International Applicants
We are home to more than 3,000 international students from 100 countries across Europe and the world. We offer a high quality British educational experience, and welcome the cultural diversity our international students bring to the University. For information about all aspects of life as an international student at UEA including English language requirements and help improving your English, please see our websites.
www.uea.ac.uk/international
www.intohigher.com/uea

Students with Disabilities
We welcome applications from students with disabilities. Our Disability Team offers information, advice and the co-ordination of support required by students both before and during their studies. The more information we have in advance of your arrival, the easier it is for us to make any necessary preparations. This can include any reasonable adjustments which are required for your studies or accommodation. We would be happy to arrange an informal visit to the University for you.
www.uea.ac.uk/services/students/disability

Mature Applicants
We welcome students of all ages and backgrounds and operate a flexible admissions policy, which takes into account your life and work experiences. We are always pleased to advise you on the most suitable way forward if you do not have standard qualifications. Please contact us for an informal chat.
www.uea.ac.uk/return

Financing Your Studies
We are committed to ensuring that tuition fees do not act as a barrier to those aspiring to come to a world-leading university and have developed a funding package to reward those with excellent qualifications and assist those from lower income backgrounds. For up-to-date information on tuition fees, maintenance grants, student loans, scholarships and bursaries please see our website.
www.uea.ac.uk/finance

“UEA has been one of the big winners in the National Student Survey.”
The Times Good University Guide 2013
Visiting Us

We are always delighted to meet prospective students, either before or after their applications through UCAS. The best way to assess a university is to visit and experience what it has to offer. We warmly invite you to come and meet us.

Open Days
These give you the chance to find out about student life here, the courses we offer, student finance and graduate careers. You will be able to talk to lecturers and current students as well as taking a tour around campus. For more information and upcoming dates please see our website.
www.uea.ac.uk/opendays

Visit Days
Each year we hold a series of Visit Days where you are invited to visit the University to learn more about the course you have applied for, meet current students and staff and tour our campus. If you wish your parents to accompany you, we have a programme specifically developed for their interests including finance and welfare issues. For more information see our website.
www.uea.ac.uk/visitdays

Norfolk is the safest place in the country according to recent statistics issued by the Home Office 2013.
Disclaimer
We have taken great care in compiling the information contained in this brochure, which we believe to be accurate at the time of going to press. However, the provision of courses, facilities and other arrangements described in the brochure are regularly reviewed and may, with good reason, be subject to change without notice. Applicants for undergraduate programmes will be notified immediately of any material changes likely to have a bearing on their application, such as cancellation of, or major modification to, degree programmes or modules offered; changes to the delivery or location of courses, changes to accommodation provision, changes to entry requirements; or changes to fees and charges to be levied by the University.

Should industrial action or other circumstances beyond the control of the University occur, and this interferes with the University's ability to deliver programmes or other services in accordance with the descriptions provided, the University will use all reasonable endeavours to minimise disruption as far as it is practicable to do so. Provided the University complies with its obligations set out above, it shall not be liable to students or applicants, for any loss, costs, charges or expenses arising out of the information set out in this brochure, changes to that information or any disruption or interference of the type described above.

The University operates an Admissions Complaints Procedure. If you feel that you have a well founded complaint regarding your application, please contact your Admissions Office in the first instance.

Equal Opportunities
The University of East Anglia operates an equal opportunities admissions policy. It aims to ensure that no applicant will receive less favourable treatment on the grounds of sex, age, marital status, race, colour, nationality, ethnic origin, sexual orientation, or political or religious belief. The University welcomes applications from candidates with disabilities. Information contained in this brochure may also be made available in other formats, to ensure access for everyone. Please call (+44) (0)1603 593753 to discuss.

Ethical Investment Policy
The University of East Anglia operates an Ethical Investment Policy.

Acknowledgements
Produced by UEA Marketing and Communications Design and Production by Emma Bailey Photography by The Photographic Unit, Andi Sapey, David Kirkham and Ricky-Joe Burrage. Library Images: Getty Images, iStockphoto, Visit Norfolk Printed by Swallowtail Print, Norwich. This brochure has been printed on an FSC accredited paper, produced from sustainably managed forests, using vegetable based inks. Produced July 2013

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UEA Achievements

“UEA consistently ranks among the best universities in the country for student satisfaction. Its well taught degree courses and excellent facilities combined with a great social life and a nice place to live all on one stunning campus gives students the best of all worlds.”
The Sunday Times University Guide 2013

“The university consistently makes the top 10 in the National Student Satisfaction Survey and was voted top English university in the latest What Uni Student Choice Awards.”
The Guardian Good University Guide 2013

“This excellent university is among the best on virtually any grounds you care to mention.”
The Virgin Guide to British Universities 2012

“A top 20 university.”
The Guardian University Guide 2014
Further Information
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facebook.com/AmericanStudiesUEA
twitter.com/AmericanStudies