Visiting Students, Researchers and Academics

Academic Visitors

Highly qualified individuals within their own fields (e.g. academics) who are employed at a higher education institution overseas in teaching or research type roles coming to the UoH to undertake:

- their own private research.
- take part in an arranged exchange programme.
- taking part in a conference that is not a commercial venture

Academic visitors cannot be:

- Recent graduates
- Retired personnel
- People on sabbatical leave from private research companies,
- Individuals intending to undertake paid or unpaid work, get public funds or live in the UK for long periods of time through frequent visits
- Those being paid to give a/ series of lecture(s) – See Sponsored Researcher section →

Visa information:

- Can apply visa for 6 months, or up to 12 months
- Must apply for <u>Standard Visitor Visa</u> to enter the UK – 6 months or up to 12 months.
- Can bring dependants (also as visitors)
- School to issue visa letters –
 I&C team can provide template

Sponsored Researchers

Academics coming to the UoH to collaborate with University staff on University-hosted research projects. It applies to researchers, who are being paid from a research council or overseas institution to carry out research that will mutually benefit both the individual and their sponsor.

These individuals could be:

- Employed by an overseas higher education institution or a research institution
- Working (as a researcher) under the full or partial control of the institution which will directly benefit from the research
- Taking part in or leading 'funded' research as part of a formal research project hosted (but not necessarily funded) by a UK research institution

Visa information:

- Cannot apply as an Academic Visitor and must apply for a <u>Tier 5 visa</u> (Government Authorised Exchange)
- HR to issue visa letter or Certificate of Sponsorship (CoS)
- Can obtain visa for up to 24 months
- PhD students and members of staff overseas may come under the Tier 5 route if it is clear that the employment is independent of the PhD studies (and will continue beyond the PhD studies) and that the funding provided is for work and not studies

Visiting Researchers / Research Exchange Students

International students/scholars undertaking PhD study at an overseas institution (equivalent to UK degree) intending to undertake a period of research at the UoH.

These individuals must:

- Formally apply for admission and obtain a UoH Student Number
- Meet University's English language requirements.
- Can be fee paying or funded by UoH
- No formal UoH qualification awarded
- Cannot undertake a full degree programme (unless switches to a formal Research degree – subject to applying a Tier 4 visa from home)
- Provide copy of their visa to the International Office upon arrival.

Visa information:

Applying for more than 6 months

- Must apply for a <u>Tier 4 visa</u>
- ATAS clearance may be required
- PGR Admissions (Int'l Office) to issue CAS

Applying for 6 months or less:

- Must apply for Short-term study visa
- International Office to issue all visa letters

See visa conditions -

Short term study (i.e. Erasmus Exchange, re-sit exams)

International students (new applicants or current students) coming to the UoH to undertake short period of study.

These individuals could be:

- Part-time/distance learning students.
- UoH students re-sitting exams, resubmitting coursework or undertaking PhD viva exam
- Coming to study a short course or an English language course with a duration of up to 11 months.
- Studying at an overseas institution and coming to study a semester at UoH e.g. Exchange student
- Provide copy of their visa to the International Office upon arrival.

New applicants

- Must formally apply for admission and obtain a UoH Student Number
- Must meet University's English language requirements.
- Must apply for Tier 4 visa if coming for more than six months

Visa information:

- Must apply for Short-term study visa
- International Office to issue all visa letters

Visa conditions

- Cannot extend or switch into a different visa category in the UK
- Must return home within 30 days at the end of the study period.
- · Cannot bring dependants.
- Cannot work (paid or unpaid), or undertake a work placement.