

THE GENERAL COURSE OFFER PACK 2016/17



THE LONDON SCHOOL
OF ECONOMICS AND
POLITICAL SCIENCE ■



The General Course



TERM DATES – LSE ACADEMIC YEAR 2016/17

MICHAELMAS TERM

Thursday 22 September – Friday 9 December 2016
(Welcome Week begins Monday 19 September 2016,
Teaching begins Monday 26 September 2016)

LENT TERM

Monday 9 January – Friday 24 March 2017

SUMMER TERM

Monday 24 April – Friday 9 June 2017



CONGRATULATIONS ON YOUR OFFER OF ADMISSION TO THE GENERAL COURSE!

I am pleased to enclose your official Offer Pack for the General Course, 2016/17.

The information that follows is intended to make your preparations for arrival in London and your first days and weeks at the School as stress-free and enjoyable as possible. Consequently, you should read this Pack carefully, consulting the internet where indicated.

LSE is one of the world's foremost centres for the study of the social sciences. It attracts students from over 150 countries, and it offers you a unique blend of leading academic teaching and research. Our identity and character are closely linked with our location in central London, an exciting and lively place to live, work and study. This benefits the School in many ways, not least because we enjoy relationships with national and international government institutions and ministries, whose headquarters are based here. We also provide a unique forum for debate; every week sees many high-profile speakers come to the School.

While you are here, you will be part of a vibrant and stimulating community with societies representing hundreds of different interests and national groups available for you to join, making your student experience as diverse and exciting as you want it to be.

I'm confident that your time at LSE will be both enjoyable and rewarding, providing you with knowledge and experience that will prove hugely beneficial in your future academic, personal and professional careers.

I am delighted we have made you an offer and look forward to welcoming you to the School in September.

Yours sincerely

Mark Hoffman
Dean of the General Course



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“THE GENERAL COURSE IS A WINDOW THAT LEADS TO A WORLD OF OPPORTUNITIES”

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SUMMARY OF KEY DATES AND ACTIONS

BELOW IS A SUMMARY OF IMPORTANT DOCUMENTS, ACTIVITIES AND DATES (WITH RELEVANT PAGE REFERENCES) FOR THE START OF YOUR YEAR AT LSE AS A GENERAL COURSE STUDENT:

	ACTION	DATE 2016	DONE
	Return Financial Undertaking Form to Student Marketing and Recruitment (page 11)	Within 28 days of receipt	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Apply for a place in LSE or University of London accommodation (page 8)	By Thursday 30 June	<input type="checkbox"/>
	If necessary, arrange visa with UK Embassy or Consulate (page 14)	Mid-July	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Return Course Choice Form to Student Marketing and Recruitment (page 10)	By Friday 22 July	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Apply for an internship (page 34)	In the Summer	<input type="checkbox"/>
	The New Arrivals website will be available (page 6)	Early August	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Attend a pre-departure event or make contact with your fellow General Course students – there is an official General Course Facebook group you can join (page 6)	June – September	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Arrive to locate private rented accommodation if you have not been allocated a room in an LSE or University of London hall of residence (page 9)	Sunday 28 August – Saturday 17 September	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Set up your LSE personal email (page 28)	Early September	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Enter your course choices online (page 10)	Early September	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Obtain sufficient UK currency or an international credit/debit card to last you until you open your UK bank account (page 12)	Mid-September	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Access to rooms in halls of residence (page 9)	From Sunday 18 September	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Campus tours (page 18)	Monday 19 September	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Register with your local GP (page 20)	Once you have a settled address	<input type="checkbox"/>

	ACTION	DATE 2016	DONE
	Undergraduate School Welcome Week (page 18)	Between Monday 19 September and Friday 23 September	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Inductions to student support services (page 18)	Between Monday 19 September and Friday 23 September	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Departmental meetings and meetings with academic advisers to discuss your study year at LSE (page 18)	Between Monday 19 September and Friday 23 September	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Students' Union "Fresher's Fair" – join societies! (page 18)	Between Monday 19 September and Friday 23 September	<input type="checkbox"/>
	General Course Orientation (page 18)	Tuesday 20 September	<input type="checkbox"/>
	General Course Welcome Party (page 18)	Tuesday 20 September	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Registration (page 18)	Wednesday 21 September	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Open a bank account once you have registered – you will need your certificate of registration (page 19)	Wednesday 21 September onwards	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Coach tour of London (page 26)	Friday 23 September	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Cumberland Lodge residential visit (page 26)	Friday 7 October – Sunday 9 October	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Teaching begins (page 24)	Monday 26 September	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Take a tour of the Library (page 30)	October	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Update your term-time address and other contact details on LSE for You (page 6)	By mid-October	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Pay either your first instalment or your full tuition fees (if you or your home university have not already paid them) (page 11)	By Friday 28 October	<input type="checkbox"/>

WELCOME - TO LSE AND THE GENERAL COURSE!

We look forward to seeing you and some 330 other General Course students from universities all over the world when you join us in September.

We want you to experience a challenging and rewarding year in London and past experience tells us that this is very likely to happen. London is a remarkable city and we believe that LSE, its location, its faculty and particularly its students, make up a remarkable institution; you will be a full member of this exceptionally international academic community.

On arrival, you will be joining more than 4,600+ full-time undergraduate and 5,200+ postgraduate students. Like you, the majority of these students will be newly arrived "overseas" students who are spending just one academic year at LSE. This means that none of you will be identified as "international" students. You will be a "student" just like all the others at the School.

This is because the General Course is not a separate programme. You will share the LSE experience with our undergraduates in their very specialized three-year degree programmes, share the same housing and social life, follow

the same courses of study, attend the same lectures and classes, and sit the same end-of-year exams!

The only differences are that you will choose the four courses you want – "they" will have to follow courses dictated by their degree regulations – and you will receive a grade for your coursework in addition to the grade for your exam – "they" only get a mark for their exams.

**ACADEMICALLY
CULTURALLY
AND SOCIALLY,
LSE OFFERS
THE BEST
STUDY ABROAD
EXPERIENCE
OUT THERE**

**MATTHEW FRISCH
UNIVERSITY OF PENNSYLVANIA**

NEW ARRIVALS WEBSITE AND LSE FOR YOU



Information on a range of topics relevant to your year at LSE will be available on the New Arrivals web pages (lse.ac.uk/newArrivals) in August 2016. You should check these on a regular basis.

In early September, you will be sent guidance on setting up your LSE email account through LSE for You. LSE for You provides access to a range of LSE services including timetable information, your tuition fee account, accommodation, address maintenance and password change. The site uses an encrypted connection to ensure that your data remains confidential. Once you are enrolled as a student, your LSE email address and the LSE for You portal are used by the School as the main methods of communication. Use LSE for You to keep your address up-to-date – this is extremely important.

MAKING CONTACTS NOW

"DESTINATION LSE" PRE-DEPARTURE EVENTS

LSE alumni groups around the world will hold pre-departure events in July and August. These events give you the chance to meet LSE alumni as well as other offer holders before you arrive at the School. Further information will be available on our website closer to the time: lse.ac.uk/preDepartureEvents

FACEBOOK AND TWITTER

Join the LSE-General Course Facebook page, LSE General Course 2016-2017 Facebook group and Twitter account to connect with the General Course team and your fellow General Course students.

EMAIL AN ALUM

The Email an Alum service connects you with our former students, giving you the opportunity to hear personally from those with first-hand experience of studying at LSE. Further information can be found on our website: lse.ac.uk/emailAnAlum

LSE STUDENT BLOGS

Want to know what it's like to be a student at LSE before you arrive? Our LSE student bloggers have been sharing their experiences over the last year, discussing such topics as workloads, lectures and classes, and the social scene. To read their past and continuing entries visit blogs.lse.ac.uk/studentsAtLSE





IN 2008, Her Majesty The Queen opened the New Academic Building at the School. The £71 million building houses the School's departments of Management and Law.

BEFORE YOU ARRIVE



STUDENT ACCOMMODATION

All General Course students who accepted their offer of a place and applied for housing by the deadline of 30 June 2016 are guaranteed to be offered a place in LSE or University of London accommodation (though the School cannot guarantee that your offer will be for your preferred residence or in a single room).

Applications open in March 2016 and applicants are encouraged to apply as soon as possible from this time.

Housing applications are reviewed and offers distributed through our online platform, Hallpad.

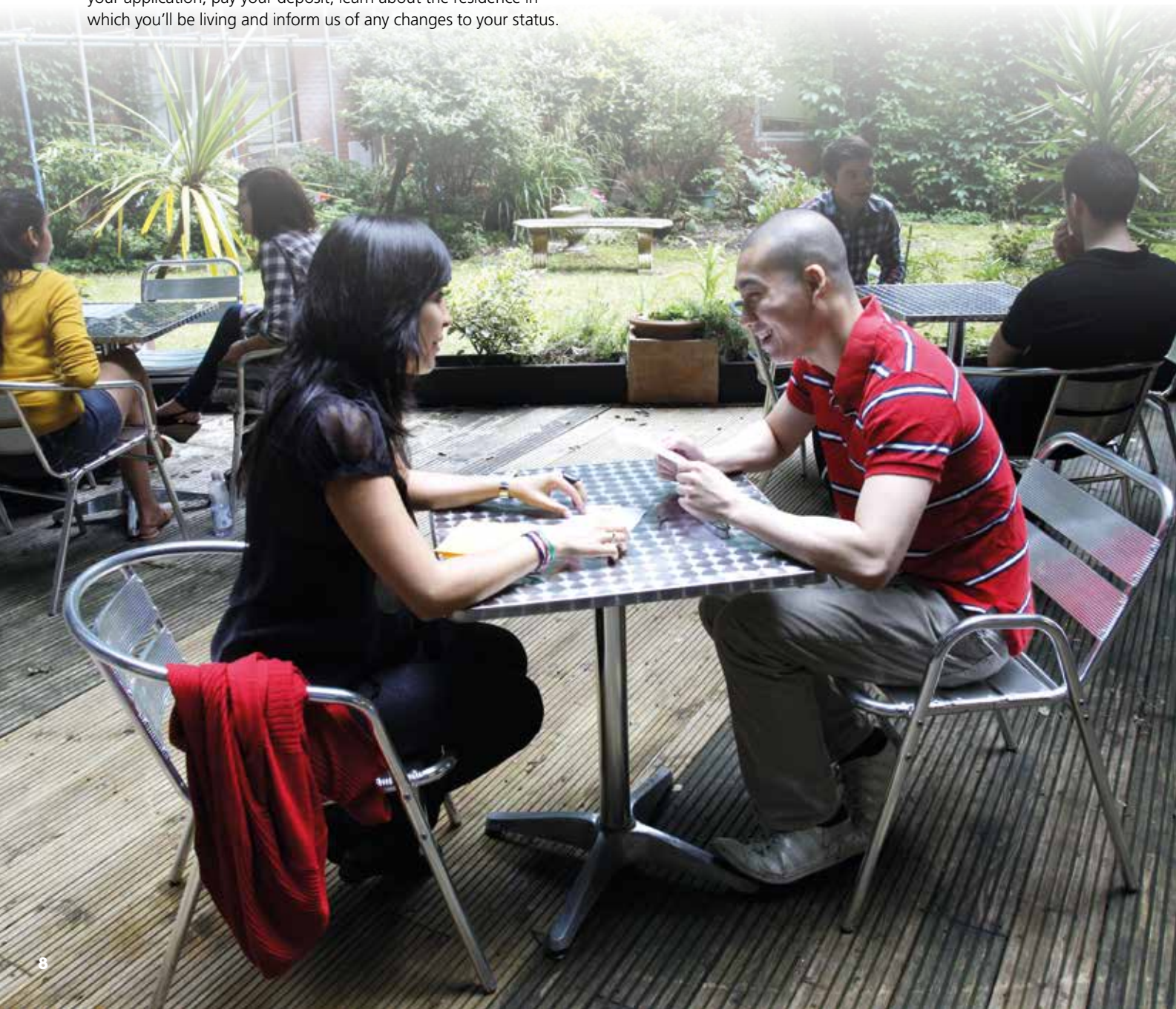
Using Hallpad and your unique student ID number, you can submit your accommodation application, check the progress of your application, pay your deposit, learn about the residence in which you'll be living and inform us of any changes to your status.

If you are allocated a place in LSE/Intercollegiate housing, then it will normally be available to you from Sunday 18 September 2016. If you wish to arrive earlier, there will be an opportunity for you to book additional nights' stay nearer the time.

LSE halls of residence require a £250 pre-payment to be paid on acceptance of an offer (per person). This is held as an advance payment on future rent. As well as a deposit, other halls of residence such as University of London Intercollegiate Halls, Urbanest King's Cross and Urbanest Westminster Bridge, and Lilian Knowles Hall require a registration fee on acceptance of an offer.

Please check your written offer carefully for the details of what to pay, and when. More information can be found below in the "Payment for LSE accommodation" section.

Further details of all LSE and Intercollegiate halls of residence, including location, rates and how to apply, can be found at: lse.ac.uk/accommodation



PRIVATE ACCOMMODATION

General Course students who missed the application deadline for university housing or who choose to rent in the private sector are strongly recommended to arrive in London prior to the start of term to allow themselves time to find housing.

Both LSE and the University of London Housing Services offer a comprehensive support service to students seeking housing in the private sector. This might be a room in a family house, a studio/flat or a share in a flat or house.

Please visit lse.ac.uk/accommodation for further information and advice about the services offered. LSE Studentpad is a platform listing potential properties from private landlords screened by LSE to ensure that they meet our expectations, provide good information and sign up to our Code of Practice. Please see lsestudentpad.co.uk/accommodation for further information on how to register. In addition, you can also visit the Residential Services Office in 3.02 in the Saw Swee Hock Centre to speak to an advisor in person.

During your housing search temporary accommodation will be available on a nightly basis in a number of LSE's residences. This will be available from August 2016 up until 17 September 2016 (the day before general arrival date for students moving into halls of residence for the 2016/2017 academic session). Dates may vary between residences and are subject to availability so please check online at lsevacations.co.uk

Temporary accommodation is useful for finding potential flatmates with whom to search and for providing a base in London to view potential private accommodation.

You'll be prompted to book accommodation for short stays through your Hallpad account. Plan to arrive no earlier than Sunday 28 August 2016 to make use of this facility. Before this date, the halls are very quiet, which can damage your prospects of finding flatmates.

Experience tells us that this system works extremely well, so please be reassured that if you choose to seek private accommodation, there is plenty of support available to you.

If you have any questions regarding private accommodation, you can check our website at: lse.ac.uk/accommodation

PAYMENT FOR LSE ACCOMMODATION

If you have a place in LSE housing, please note that the housing contract start date for LSE residences will be **Sunday 18 September 2016** and you will be expected to pay rent from that date – even if you arrive later – for your entire contract stay.

Payment is required termly by the second Friday of each term. Your payment status becomes active on the day of check-in and can be reviewed in your Hallpad account.

If anybody else is helping you meet these payments (eg, your university or a scholarship fund), then you will need to arrange for them to make these payments by forwarding invoices or having them pay you directly so that you can make payment yourself. Invoices can be requested by contacting residences.fees@lse.ac.uk

YOU CAN PAY FOR YOUR LSE ACCOMMODATION IN THE FOLLOWING WAYS:



Preferred method of payment is online via Hallpad by credit card or debit card (Visa or Mastercard, Delta)



An online bank transfer via Hallpad



A cheque (drawn on a UK bank account payable to the London School of Economics)



Banker's draft denominated in pounds sterling



But not by cash

Whichever way you choose to pay – or if somebody else is paying on your behalf – ensure that your payment is clearly identifiable as yours. Make sure that your payment instructions include your full name and your LSE student ID number. **Please note: Accommodation payments are made to the residences – not to LSE's Fees Office.**

If you have any queries about your accommodation payments contact residences.fees@lse.ac.uk

Contact us at Residential Services
SAW 3.02, Saw Swee Hock Student Centre
1 Sheffield Street
London WC2A 2AP
Tel: +44 (0)20 7955 7531
Email: accommodation@lse.ac.uk
Web: lse.ac.uk/accommodation

ACADEMIC MATTERS

CONFIRMING LSE COURSE CHOICES

Your initial course choices on your General Course Application Form helped us in the selection process. To determine your departmental allocation, we require you to once again indicate the courses you would like to take.

In June, you will receive by email a Course Choice Form on which you will need to identify the four year-long courses (or the equivalent in half-unit courses) that you will follow during the 2016/17 academic year. This needs to be filled in and returned to Student Marketing and Recruitment by Friday 22 July 2016.

Course details can be found at lse.ac.uk/resources/calendar/generalCourse.htm. From mid-September, details of provisional timetables for courses will be available via the Timetables web pages at lse.ac.uk/intranet/diaryAndEvents/timetables

If you hope to take economics or econometrics courses during your year at LSE you should read the following guidance first at lse.ac.uk/gcEconomicsGuide and lse.ac.uk/gcEconometricsGuide

In teaching over 250 undergraduate courses consisting of lectures and classes each week (with only 55 teaching hours in the week), there will inevitably be some timetable clashes – but in practice they are rare. The School makes every effort to ensure that courses are offered as described to students and that any subsequent changes would add to, rather than detract

from, students' opportunities. However, circumstances beyond the School's control may, very occasionally, make this impossible and for that reason the School reserves the right, according to circumstances, to alter or withdraw particular courses or course syllabi. However, we will do everything possible to ensure that you can join the courses you choose. So, you should work on the assumption that you will get into the courses you want.

In early September, you will need to enter your course choices online via LSE for You. The online course choice process will enable you to be automatically allocated to the classes for your selected courses. Your personal teaching timetables (lectures and associated classes) will be available to you when you arrive at LSE.

You will be able to change your course choices up to the end of the third week of the Michaelmas Term (Monday 10 October 2016).

It is your responsibility to ensure that the courses you have chosen fit with your home university's academic requirements. LSE does not decide which courses will gain you "credit" – this is always the decision and responsibility of your home university. If in doubt, contact your university's foreign study advisor, the dean of your faculty, or the head of your department or degree programme.

**THIS YEAR
IN LONDON
CHANGED MY
LIFE. PRIOR
TO STUDYING
AT LSE, I
HAD A MUCH
MORE LIMITED
KNOWLEDGE
OF CRITICAL
GLOBAL ISSUES**

**AKHILA KLISETTY
NORTHWESTERN UNIVERSITY**





FINANCIAL MATTERS

LSE FINANCIAL UNDERTAKING FORM

The Financial Undertaking Form is enclosed with this Offer Pack.

Please ensure you submit the Financial Undertaking Form (FUF) to Student Marketing and Recruitment within 28 days of receiving this Offer Pack.

If your college is paying some or all of your LSE tuition fee, it is important you indicate this on the FUF. When we are informed that your college is responsible for paying your LSE tuition fee, we will send them an invoice accordingly. Failure to notify us of this could ultimately result in you being recorded as a debtor and affect your access to the Library and other School facilities.

JOHN C PHELAN GENERAL COURSE SCHOLARSHIPS

LSE is pleased to offer four John C Phelan General Course Scholarships, worth £15,000 each for students accepted to the General Course in 2016/17. The Scholarships are open to all nationalities and will be awarded on the basis of academic merit and financial need. To apply, you must download and complete an Undergraduate Scholarship Application Form and return it, together with an academic reference, to the Financial Support Office. The deadline for the receipt of applications is 24 May 2016. See lse.ac.uk/financialSupport for further details.

GENERAL COURSE TUITION FEE

The General Course tuition fee covers examination entry; use of the Library; access to all LSE social, health and welfare facilities, and Students' Union membership. It does not cover housing/rental payments, meals etc.

The tuition fee for all General Course students in the academic year 2016/17 is £18,240.

PAY IN FULL

You can pay the full fee at the start of your programme, or earlier. General Course students paying all or part of their tuition fee before the end of September may qualify for an early payment reward on their LSE "sQuid" card. Further details will be sent to you in the coming weeks.

PAY IN INSTALMENTS

You can pay the General Course tuition fee in three equal parts starting before October 2016 and ending by April 2017. If you do not pay in full at the start of the academic year (or before), we will assume that you intend to pay one third of your fees each term. These must be paid by the following dates:

28 October 2016
28 January 2017
28 April 2017

HOW TO PAY

Payment method	Time taken	Notes
Credit Card	Allow two days.	Only available online. If you have difficulty paying your fees online, for example if a large payment is declined, please contact your card provider for information on any security restrictions.
Cheque Banker's Draft Cashier's Cheque	Allow seven days from the UK/EU. Allow three weeks from outside Europe. Immediate if handed over the counter (see below).	Make sure you quote your LSE student number on the back of the cheque.
Bank Transfer	Allow at least one week from UK/EU. Allow at least three weeks from outside Europe.	For further details, please download lse.ac.uk/bankTransferForm
Cash	Allow five days.	You are advised not to carry large amounts of cash around with you on campus. Cash can ONLY be accepted by National Westminster Bank on the corner of Houghton Street.

Students who elect to pay by cheque can visit the Student Services Centre (SSC) (on the ground floor of the Old Building) and deposit their cheque in the Fees drop-box. The Centre is open between 11am – 4pm each weekday.

If you have a query that cannot be answered by the general SSC counter staff, the Fees Office hold a drop-in session daily between 2-3pm or you can contact the LSE Fees Office directly (it always helps if you can quote your LSE student number – the one beginning 2016XXXXX – that appears on your offer letter).

US FEDERAL (STAFFORD) LOANS

If you have a Stafford Loan, this will continue to be administered by your home (US) college. If you are asked to arrange a “Consortium Agreement”, please ask the Financial Aid Adviser at your college to contact Student Marketing and Recruitment at LSE.

ESTIMATED LIVING COSTS

As a guide, you should budget for the following over the 38 weeks you are likely to be in London but bear in mind that this is only a guide and excludes one-off costs such as flights:

Accommodation	£6,800
Food	£2,400
Travel	£800
Books	£400
Personal	£1,600
Total	£12,000

LSE students usually make savings on local travel costs and those who cater for themselves, eat at LSE or in their residence will have lower “household expenses” than those quoted. It is perfectly possible to live a well-nourished and entertaining life within the budget quoted.

Contact the Fees Office
Houghton Street
London WC2A 2AE
Tel: +44 (0)20 7955 7765
Fax: +44 (0)20 7955 7427
Email: fees@lse.ac.uk
Web: lse.ac.uk/feesOffice

**YOU DON'T JUST READ
THE MOST INFLUENTIAL
BOOKS AT LSE, YOU
LEARN ABOUT THEM
FROM THE AUTHORS
WHOSE OPINIONS
SHAPE THE WAY
CONTEMPOARY GLOBAL
LEADERS THINK.**

CHRIS BOSTOCK
TRINITY COLLEGE, HARTFORD, CT



John Atta Mills
Former President of Ghana

35 PAST OR PRESENT world leaders have studied or taught at LSE, and 31 current members of the UK House of Commons, together with 42 members of the House of Lords, have also either taught or studied at the school.

VISAS AND UK IMMIGRATION REQUIREMENTS

Please note, this information was written in January 2016 and is a general guide only. Immigration rules change frequently and it is essential that you check on LSE's International Student Immigration Service (ISIS) website at lse.ac.uk/isis/newstudents and the official UK Visas and Immigration website (UKVI) website gov.uk/tier-4-general-visa for up-to-date detailed information. The LSE website also contains a step by step guide to completing the visa application form. If you have any queries about the Tier 4 (General) visa application process, please contact LSE directly using the ISIS web query form: lse.ac.uk/study/informationForInternationalStudents/visasAndImmigration/ISISwebqueryform.aspx

DO I NEED A VISA (ENTRY CLEARANCE) BEFORE I TRAVEL TO THE UK?

If you are a non-European Union (EU/European Economic Area (EEA)) national and you want to come to the UK as a student, you must apply for a Tier 4 (General) Student visa before you travel to the UK. You can apply at a Visa Application Centre or the British Embassy nearest you. You can only apply from a country you are living in. To find out where to apply, go to the UKVI website gov.uk/find-a-visa-application-centre

Important note: If your Tier 4 visa is for a different UK institution you must apply for a new visa for LSE before you can register at the School.

WHEN DO I NEED TO APPLY?

The application process can take several weeks (or months in some countries) and our advice is to apply as soon as it is possible to do so. You can apply for a Tier 4 (General) Student visa up to three months before your programme starts – you should therefore aim to apply as early as possible within this three month period – but you must wait until you hold an unconditional firm offer and have received your Confirmation of Acceptance for Studies (CAS) statement from LSE.

WHAT TYPE OF VISA DO I NEED?

You should apply for entry clearance as a Tier 4 (General) Student. Please note you will not be able to register for your programme if you enter as a "Standard Visitor" and you cannot switch from a visitor visa to a Tier 4 (General) Student visa inside the UK.

WHAT ARE THE REQUIREMENTS FOR OBTAINING A TIER 4 (GENERAL) STUDENT VISA?

You need 40 points to be eligible to apply for the Tier 4 (General) student visa:

30 points = holding a valid Confirmation of Acceptance for Studies (CAS)

10 points = meeting the financial requirements of the visa

Total = **40 points**

The sections below provide more information on each of these requirements. You will need to satisfy both elements to obtain your visa. The UKVI will check your application against these criteria and check your documents for authenticity.



CONFIRMATION OF ACCEPTANCE FOR STUDIES (CAS)

The CAS is a unique reference number issued to LSE by the UKVI after we supply them with your course, admissions and personal details. It can only be issued to you by LSE once you have firmly accepted an unconditional firm offer. Once your CAS number has been assigned by the UKVI, the School will send your CAS statement by email. This email has no legal function; it is simply a note of the information we have supplied to UKVI so that they can issue us with a CAS number. Crucially, the CAS statement lists the evidence that we assessed when making the decision to offer you a place. You may need to submit evidence of these qualifications (in the form of your certificates or transcripts) along with your visa application. Once you receive your CAS statement email, you should immediately check that your name, nationality, passport details and qualifications listed on the statement are correct. If you notice an error, you should contact us immediately at gc@lse.ac.uk

Important note: It is vital that you provide us with your correct passport details as well as the correct spelling and order of your name before we issue your CAS statement. Failure to do this can result in delays to, or even a refusal of, your application. We will confirm your details with you before we begin issuing CAS statements, but it is advisable that you keep us up-to-date with any amendments you make or if you notice an error. Your CAS number is valid for six months and it can only be used once. You can apply for a visa from up to three months before the start date of the programme, which for General Course students is from 22 June 2016. We strongly recommend that you apply as early as possible in the three month window. We also recommend that you do not arrange any personal travel until you have obtained your Tier 4 (General) visa, as you may be required to attend an interview as part of the process.

WHAT ARE THE MAINTENANCE/FINANCIAL REQUIREMENTS?

You will have to prove that you have:

- Funds to cover your LSE General Course tuition fee
- Maintenance for up to nine months of your programme (for 2016 UKVI set this at £1,265 a month. $9 \times £1,265 = £11,385$).



Important Notes: You are required to have had the necessary funds in your bank account for a 28 consecutive day period from the closing balance of your bank statement before you apply for a visa. UKVI will only accept specific documentation (for example, UKVI will only accept cash accounts and only certain formats with specific detailed information) and it is essential that you read our guidance and the policy guidance from UKVI to ensure that you obtain the appropriate documentation. In 2015, mistakes in this area were the most common reason LSE students' Tier 4 (General) Student visa applications were refused.

MONEY PAID TOWARDS TUITION AND MAINTENANCE COSTS

LSE will update the UKVI visa database with details of any tuition fee payments you or your home institution make. This enables the UKVI to take such payments into account when calculating your ability to finance your studies and living costs. It is advisable not to pay for your accommodation until you have obtained your Tier 4 visa. Please see the ISIS website for details on this. If you make a payment towards your fees, we will issue you with an updated CAS statement approximately 48 hours after the money has cleared with the bank. You must wait for the updated CAS statement before applying if you need to show that you have paid money to LSE.

Important note: It can take up to two weeks for monies to clear depending on how you pay (you can contact the Fees Office for payment timeframes). Because of this you should not make a fees or accommodation payment if you have a visa appointment within the next two weeks, as it is likely that we will be unable to issue you with an updated CAS statement before your appointment.

ENGLISH LANGUAGE REQUIREMENTS

The UKVI requires sponsoring institutions to verify that students have achieved the necessary level of English proficiency. LSE will assess your English language qualification(s) and inform the UKVI as appropriate. If you are taking the IELTS or TOEFL test we encourage you to sit the exam as early as possible, as test dates can be fully booked by mid to late summer.

Important note: The UKVI will not accept IELTS or TOEFL results that are more than two years old. If your results are dated prior to 24 September 2014 you will need to resit the test.

HOW DO I APPLY FOR A TIER 4 GENERAL STUDENT VISA?

This is a general guide and the order you do things in varies between countries.

Step 1 LSE provides you with a CAS once you have firmly accepted an unconditional offer.

Step 2 You prepare your evidence of your finances before completing the UKVI application forms.

Step 3 You complete the online application form and submit the required documents (as specified on the visa application form), which will include your passport, LSE CAS number, evidence (original certificate or transcript) of the qualification(s) listed on your LSE CAS statement and financial documents to the local visa application centre. If you are a "low risk" national, you do not need to submit evidence of your finances or qualification, but you must still prepare these before you apply as they can be requested as part of the application process. Don't take the risk of relying on them not being requested. You can only benefit from being a "low risk" national if you are applying in the UK or your country of nationality.

Step 4 You attend your biometric appointment and provide your biometric data.

Step 5 Once your biometric data has been provided, your visa application will be assessed by UKVI.

Step 6 You may be asked to attend an interview as part of your application.

Step 7 UKVI will return the documents to you with the decision on your visa application. Check your visa when you receive it as it may be easier to get errors corrected outside the UK.

WORKING IN THE UK

As a Tier 4 General Student, you are able to work a maximum of 20 hours a week during term time and full time during the vacation. General Course students will usually have a Tier 4 visa that expires two months after the end of the programme. You can work full time between the end of term and the expiry date of your visa. Our own advice is that you work no more than 15 hours per week during term time and that you make no "job" plans at all until you know the details of your LSE schedule and the extent of the academic demands that we will be making of you. If you do take paid employment, you must ensure that it does not interfere with your studies, which are, after all, the reason you are coming to LSE. For details of internships available to General Course students please see page 34.

**Contact the International Student
Immigration Service**

**LSE Student Services Centre
Ground Floor, Old Building
Houghton Street
London WC2A 2AE**

Email: (go to the page for prospective students and if you can't find the answer to your question, you can email ISIS using the web form)

Web: lse.ac.uk/isis/newstudents

ARRIVING IN THE UK

GETTING FROM THE AIRPORT

When you arrive in the UK, you are likely to come into either Heathrow or Gatwick airports – two of the world's busiest international airports. Each is some 25/30 miles (30/40 kilometres) from the city centre, but both have good public transport links to central London.

THERE ARE SEVERAL OPTIONS FOR TRAVEL FROM HEATHROW AIRPORT INTO CENTRAL LONDON:

- Take the Underground/Tube (Piccadilly Line, every five minutes) into central London. A single one-way ticket costs £6. We recommend you head for one of the Tube stations close to your residence with easy access to local taxi services (for the final few minutes of your luggage-laden journey). Please note: not all Tube stations have escalators. See tfl.gov.uk for further information.
- There is also a regular National Express coach (bus) service (nationalexpress.com) to Victoria Coach Station (a single/one-way ticket costs £6); both modes of transport will take from about 50 minutes. Then get the Tube or a taxi for the final stage of your journey to your residence (the London black cabs operate with standard fares and are very reliable).
- An alternative is the Heathrow Express train link from the airport to Paddington rail station (a 15 minute journey, every 15 minutes; single fare £22 when bought online at heathrowexpress.com). Paddington station is very convenient for Tube connections (it is on the Circle, District and Bakerloo lines) or taxis to any of the halls of residence.

FROM GATWICK AIRPORT, THERE ARE ALSO SEVERAL POSSIBILITIES:

- Take the mainline train Gatwick Express (single/one-way ticket price £17.80 when bought online at gatwickexpress.com). There is a train every 15 minutes into Victoria railway station – which takes about 30 minutes. Then proceed by Tube or taxi on the final stage of your journey to your residence.
- Alternatively, you can take Southern or First Capital Connect trains, which leave approximately every 10 minutes for central London. The journey time is 30-40 minutes and single/one-way tickets start from £12. For more information, see nationalrail.co.uk

FROM BOTH HEATHROW AND GATWICK:

- A London “black cab”, although these can prove expensive as you pay by distance and time (there are no fixed fares from the airport). The expense can be cut if you share a cab with someone else. Ask the driver for the estimated cost, make sure you have sufficient cash and/or ask whether you can pay by credit card.
- Taxi companies who offer “fixed price” pre-bookable meeting services will meet you from your flight and then drive you direct to your residence; prices from about £40, but this same charge would be made if there are two (or more) of you.

European flight arrivals may also bring you into Luton, Stansted or, closest of all, London City airport. The first two have excellent cheap high-speed rail links into central London (nationalrail.co.uk);

City airport is a simple cab ride to any residence.

If you come into the country by rail – via the Eurostar (eurostar.com) – then you will arrive at St Pancras International station, a short cab ride to any residence.

Information on timetables and prices for all mainline railway services throughout the UK can be obtained by phoning +44 (0)8457 484950. For information on London Transport, including the underground and bus services, tel: +44 (0)34 3222 1234.



GETTING AROUND

STUDENT OYSTER CARDS

Public transport in London is covered by a contactless ticketing system called the Oyster Card. The card can be used on all forms of public transport, including Tube, bus, Docklands Light Railway (DLR), trains and some river boats.

You can get a variety of tickets on your Oyster Card; the best one for you will depend on the number of journeys you make, and which zones you use. If you use public transport regularly, then an 18+ Student Oyster Card is likely to be the best option. The Student Oyster Card gives you a 30 per cent discount off adult travel cards, bus passes and tram passes valid for seven days, one month or longer periods up to one year. Full details of eligibility and how to apply are available at tfl.gov.uk/corporate/privacy-and-cookies/18-student-oyster-photocard, along with a side by side comparison of whether the Student Oyster Card is the right one for you. You should be aware that it may take a few weeks for your Student Oyster Card to be processed, so it's worth applying as soon as you know your UK address.

A wallet for your Oyster Card is included with this Pack.

You can also now use your contactless payment card for pay as you go travel on bus, tube, tram, DLR, London Overground, TfL Rail and most National Rail services in London.

If you need further information on travel services in London and outer London, please see Transport for London: tfl.gov.uk

SANTANDER CYCLE HIRE

A relatively new addition to the London transport network is the Santander Cycle Hire scheme. Access fees range from £2 for 24 hours to £90 for an annual pass. Apart from the first 30 minutes which is free, you will then need to pay a usage charge dependent on length of use. There are three docking stations on campus.

SAFETY

London is generally a safe place to live. As with any city, it is sensible to be aware of your personal safety and to take simple precautions. Some things to remember:

- lock your door when leaving your room, even for a short time, and keep valuable personal items out of sight
- keep your personal information, credit cards, mobile phone etc safe, and be aware of your valuables when out and about
- take care at cash points – protect your PIN (Personal Identification Number) and put both your cash and card away as soon as possible
- on a night out, never leave your drink unattended nor accept a drink from a stranger. Don't take risks getting home – avoid illegal minicabs. Use Transport for London's Cabwise service (text CAB to 60835) to find licensed minicabs/taxis in your area
- when walking at night, stick to well-lit/populated areas as much as possible. Plan your route in advance.

If you need to report a crime, you can dial 999 in an emergency (if a crime/incident is happening now, or if someone is in immediate danger) to contact the police. Non-emergency calls should be made to 101.

WHAT TO BRING WITH YOU, WHAT TO LEAVE BEHIND

WHAT TO BRING WITH YOU IF YOU ARE TRAVELLING FROM OUTSIDE THE UK

DOCUMENTATION

The following should be carried in your hand luggage in case hold luggage is delayed or lost:

Passport, visa and entry clearance papers, your offer letter, scholarship/funding information documents, travel insurance documentation, cash, travellers' cheques, credit cards, contact details and directions for your accommodation when you arrive in London.

MONEY

We recommend you carry only a small amount of cash with you for the journey. Please use the information in this booklet to estimate how much you will need for your journey and your first few weeks at LSE.

CLOTHING

The weather in the UK is changeable. Temperatures may go down as low as -3 degrees Celsius in the winter months (January, February and March), and rise as high as 32 degrees Celsius in the summer months (June, July and August). London tends to be a little warmer than the rest of the UK. Rainfall is common, but is often only light. We recommend you bring with you a sweater and/or a light (ideally waterproof) jacket or a small umbrella for your journey to London in September. A pair of comfortable waterproof shoes is also recommended.

There is no dress code at LSE. Generally, students dress informally (jeans, T-shirt, trainers) on campus. Smart clothing (shirt, tie, blazer, and smart shoes) is occasionally worn by students at recruitment events held at LSE by potential employers. There may also be club or society events where you want to dress formally.

BOOKS

Full reading lists may not be provided until the start of term.

If you want to get a head start, you can look up the courses you plan to take in the course guides in the School Calendar, available at lse.ac.uk/calendar. Indicative reading lists will be listed under each course description.

WHAT NOT TO BRING

RESTRICTED AND BANNED GOODS

You should not bring illegal drugs into the UK. There are severe penalties for anyone found carrying drugs into the UK.

There are restrictions on the amount of alcohol and cigarettes you can bring into the UK. You should also note that smoking is banned in all public buildings. See hmrc.gov.uk for a full guide on what you can bring to the UK.

SOME FOOD AND PLANT BASED PRODUCTS

If you are travelling from a country outside the EU, you will not be allowed to bring certain food items into the country. Carrying restricted goods may lead to delays, fines or prosecution. You should check the full guide on the UK Government's website before travelling: gov.uk/bringing-food-animals-plants-into-uk. Many food products can be bought in the UK from specialist shops or ordered online.



YOUR FIRST DAYS AT LSE

WELCOME WEEK AND REGISTRATION

WELCOME WEEK

During Welcome Week (Monday 19 September – Friday 23 September 2016), you are expected to attend the following:

- General Course Welcome Presentation and Boat Party
- Registration
- Welcome Week events
- departmental meetings and initial tutorial appointments.

You must arrive in time to attend these meetings. Exact dates and details will be sent to you by email and will be displayed on the New Arrivals website (lse.ac.uk/newArrivals).

GENERAL COURSE WELCOME PRESENTATION AND BOAT PARTY

The General Course Dean will host a Welcome Presentation on Tuesday 20 September. Attendance is compulsory. This will be followed by the General Course Boat Party which is not compulsory, but you won't want to miss it! This popular icebreaker is a great way to meet your fellow students before you settle down to the serious work of studying and exploring London!

REGISTRATION

To formally become a student at LSE, you must register with the central administration in person. Registration requires you to prove your identity and to collect and activate your student card. The card gives you access to some LSE buildings, including the Library, and examinations.

What to bring with you to registration

For EEA (European Economic Area – this includes the EU) students:

Photographic identification that verifies your EEA nationality, such as your passport, identity card or birth certificate.

For non-EEA students entering the UK with a visa:

Your passport showing evidence of your entitlement to study at LSE and the period for which you have permission to remain in the UK. Please note that the School is required to make a copy of this at registration.

LSE “WELCOME WEEK” EVENTS

Welcome Week will be held from Monday 19 September to Friday 23 September. Welcoming and festive events are organised by the School, its academic departments, student support services, and the Students' Union, and numerous student social, political and athletic societies will be hunting for new members during the Freshers' Fair. You are not obliged to join anything but there is a strong tradition of General Course students getting actively involved so sign up for everything you are interested in and decide later what to focus on.

Campus tours are also offered throughout your first week at the School, current LSE students will show you the LSE campus, so you will know where to find classrooms, restaurants and bars, the Library, and Students' Union facilities.

DEPARTMENTAL MEETINGS AND INITIAL TUTORIAL APPOINTMENTS

You will be assigned to one of 16 academic departments. The assignment is based on your course selection and will not necessarily coincide with your major or your department at your home university. The department will assign you to one of their faculty who will act as your academic adviser for the year. As departments make these allocations during September, you will not be given the name of your academic adviser until you arrive at LSE. You will need to meet with your academic adviser to discuss your programme of study for the academic year, and in particular to confirm your course selections. Your academic adviser will explain to you what tutorial support will entail, how to get in touch with them, and various aspects of the department you are assigned to. The emphasis of these meetings will vary, but all will give you some insight and sense of “belonging” to the department and LSE. Most departments will schedule these first tutorials for either Wednesday 21 September, Thursday 22 September or Friday 23 September 2016. In addition, most will hold introductory parties/receptions during these first few days. The details of these will be available on the New Arrivals web pages (lse.ac.uk/newArrivals) in early September.

THE DEAN OF THE GENERAL COURSE

Once you have settled in at the School, the services and support you have received from the Dean of the General Course and Student Marketing and Recruitment will be complemented by those of a range of additional offices and individuals. Your academic adviser, academic department, lecturers, class teachers and fellow students, along with staff in the Student Services Centre, will become significant influences in your LSE academic life.

However, the Dean will expect to see you once each term and if you are unable to get the information, advice or assistance you need from other means, you should always feel free to arrange a meeting with him.



OPENING A UK BANK ACCOUNT



Opening a bank account can take several weeks, and some banks will only open an account for you after you are a registered student. It is important that you bring enough funds to cover your expenses, especially if you plan to move to London before your designated Registration date. LSE is unfortunately unable to register you early.

Steps to opening an account:

RESEARCH THE BEST BANK ACCOUNT FOR YOU

It is highly recommended that you select a bank before you arrive in London to save time after you arrive. Although LSE is unable to recommend a bank, we have compiled a list of local bank branches to help you get started. This can be found at: lse.ac.uk/bankAccounts

KNOW WHAT DOCUMENTS YOU NEED TO OPEN AN ACCOUNT

This is the most important step! Different branches of the same bank often have different documentation to open accounts, and can be very specific about the format of the documentation they will accept. Bank requirements change very frequently, so always confirm what you will need directly with the bank branch where you plan to open your account.

Check in advance to see if your bank at home has a branch near LSE, or if they have a special relationship with a bank in London. If you plan to transfer money into your new account, remember that transferring funds will depend on your home bank's procedures. This can take more time than you expect. Discuss this with your home bank before you leave and remember to bring sufficient funds, such as cash, travellers' cheques or credit cards to cover any delays. Always avoid travelling with large amounts of cash.

MAKE AN APPOINTMENT

Many banks require that you book an appointment to set up an account. Many students will also be setting up bank accounts at the same time and appointments near LSE fill up quickly. Some banks may allow you to book an appointment before you arrive in London, which can save you a great deal of time. If you book in advance, you may want to schedule your appointment at least a day or two after your registration date, or you may not have access to all the necessary documents to open an account. Some banks insist that you must know your room number if you will live in a hall of residence before opening an account, so you may need to schedule your appointment for a date after your moving in day. Be sure that your bank appointment does not clash with mandatory General Course events, lectures or seminars/classes. Always give yourself enough time to obtain the documentation you will need. You may find that it is easier to book an appointment at a bank branch further away from LSE or halls of residence. Once your account is set up, you can usually do business with any branch of your bank. However, branches further

away from LSE may not always accept the same documentation that branches close to LSE will accept, so check before your appointment to ensure that you have everything you need.

GET A LETTER FROM LSE TO CONFIRM YOUR ADDRESS AND STUDENT STATUS

Some banks require a letter of introduction from LSE which specifies that you are a student and which includes your permanent and home addresses. This letter is available only to unconditional offer holders who have submitted all required documents to the General Course admissions team. You can request this letter from mid-September by following these steps:

- 1) Update your addresses in LSE for You as soon as possible. Banks will reject the letter we provide to you if it does not include your up-to-date contact and home addresses. Update your address in LSE for You as soon as you have an address in London. Be careful to list the address you live at during term-time (usually in London) as your Term-time Address and your address at home (or international address) as the Permanent Address. Banks also require that your room number be included if you are living in halls of residence.
- 2) Wait at least one hour before visiting the Student Services Centre to give your address change time to update in their database.
- 3) Visit the Student Services Centre during our opening hours with your passport or student ID card. Let the member of staff know that you would like a bank letter and specify the name of the bank, as most banks require that their name be printed on the letter. A letter will be printed immediately for you. Bank letters can only be collected in person.

ADDITIONAL TIPS

- Read the information on the Monetos website (monetos.co.uk/service/open-account/uk/) and/or UKCISA's tips for opening a bank account in the UK (ukcisa.org.uk/Information--Advice/Living-in-the-UK/Opening-a-bank-account).
- Some banks may charge international students an initial or monthly fee. The additional services provided will vary between each bank. Some banks will also offer a free, but more basic account.
- If you are expecting to receive money from overseas, you should ask what charges may apply and how long it will take to make the money available in your account.
- If you plan on using a credit or bank card from your home country while you are in the UK, check before you leave home that your card is compatible with UK bank machines, and whether there will be any additional charges.
- If you will be cashing cheques issued in other countries into your UK account (for example, US Loan Cheques), then be sure to check that this will not trigger your bank's anti-fraud procedures, which can result in your account being frozen for extended periods during an investigation. Some banks will refuse to cash cheques in a foreign currency for all new account holders.

BANK BRANCHES NEAR LSE

Bank	Address	Telephone
Barclays Bank	366 The Strand, London WC2R 0JZ Website: barclays.co.uk	+44 (0)845 755 5555
Citibank	Unit 3 and 5, Paternoster House, St Paul's Churchyard, London EC4M 8AB Website: citibank.co.uk	+44 (0)20 7500 5500
Halifax	51-55 The Strand, London WC2N 5LS Website: halifax.co.uk	+44 (0)845 607 0810
HSBC Bank	Charing Cross Branch, 455 The Strand, London WC2R 0RH Website: hsbc.co.uk	+44 (0)845 740 4404
Lloyds TSB Bank Ltd	Law Courts Branch, 222 The Strand, London, WC2R 1BB Website: lloydstsb.co.uk	+44 (0)845 300 0000
National Westminster Bank	PO Box 221, Connaught House, 65 Aldwych, London WC2B 4EJ Website: natwest.com	+44 (0)845 605 1605
Nationwide	415 The Strand, London WC2R 0NS Website: nationwide.co.uk	+44 (0)20 7599 0600
Santander	Kings Chambers (on Campus) 29-31 Portugal Street London WC2A 2HE Website: santander.co.uk	+44 (0)800 707 6692

REGISTERING WITH A GP

THE NATIONAL HEALTH SERVICE (NHS)

All students who live in the UK for at least six months are eligible for free NHS primary care by a general practitioner (GP). However, the provisions of the Immigration Act 2014 mean that students and their dependents on a Tier 4 visa are likely to be charged £150 per year of stay for NHS treatment, payable at the point the visa application is made.

However, if you have a long-term medical condition and/or receive regular prescribed medication, there is no guarantee that you will be able to get the same medication as prescribed in your home country. In order to get medication in the UK, you need to be assessed by a doctor who will decide what medication you need.

The NHS aims to provide comprehensive, free, in and out-patient medical care for anyone who is registered with a doctor. You should note that some services are not automatically provided by the NHS, eg, private medical certificates for insurance.

The provision of NHS services works on the basis of "catchment areas". In order to have access, upon your arrival in the UK you must formally "register" with a doctor in the area where you are living. Do not wait until you are ill to do this. Further information on registering with a GP is available at nhs.uk. If you have an ongoing medical condition which requires regular prescription medication or treatment, you should bring any relevant medical notes with you, including contact details of your current doctor.

Eye testing is available at a small charge from opticians, but spectacles are not normally subsidised by the NHS. Standard charges are made for medicines prescribed by a doctor and for such things as dental treatment, but these charges are generally too small for insurance against them to be worthwhile.

Thus, private health insurance is not generally needed whilst in the UK. However, visiting students may wish to retain their existing insurance coverage for any periods that they spend outside the UK, eg, travelling during term-time and in vacations.

Students who study at UK institutions are strongly advised to have a number of different vaccinations before (or as soon as possible after) arriving at university. It is especially important to confirm that you have been vaccinated against Tetanus/Diphtheria/Polio/Meningitis C. Most students will have received these vaccinations from their own doctors during the course of their childhood/schooling. The exception to this is Meningitis C. Many countries do not routinely offer this vaccination to their population. It is recommended that all students be vaccinated against Meningitis C before they arrive in the UK. The vaccine is safe and will effectively protect an individual against the C-type meningitis bacteria. Remember that all these vaccines will reduce the chances of contracting an infectious disease in the UK (and elsewhere). They are normally available free of charge from your GP.

HEALTH SERVICES AT LSE

The St Philips Medical Centre is situated on the LSE campus. It provides full NHS services to registered patients and medical care to anyone who becomes ill while at LSE.

Most LSE students who live in London are eligible to register as patients with the St Philips Medical Centre. This can be done after you arrive in late September by either visiting the Centre on the second floor of Clement's Inn Tower 3, or online at lse.ac.uk/medicalCentre

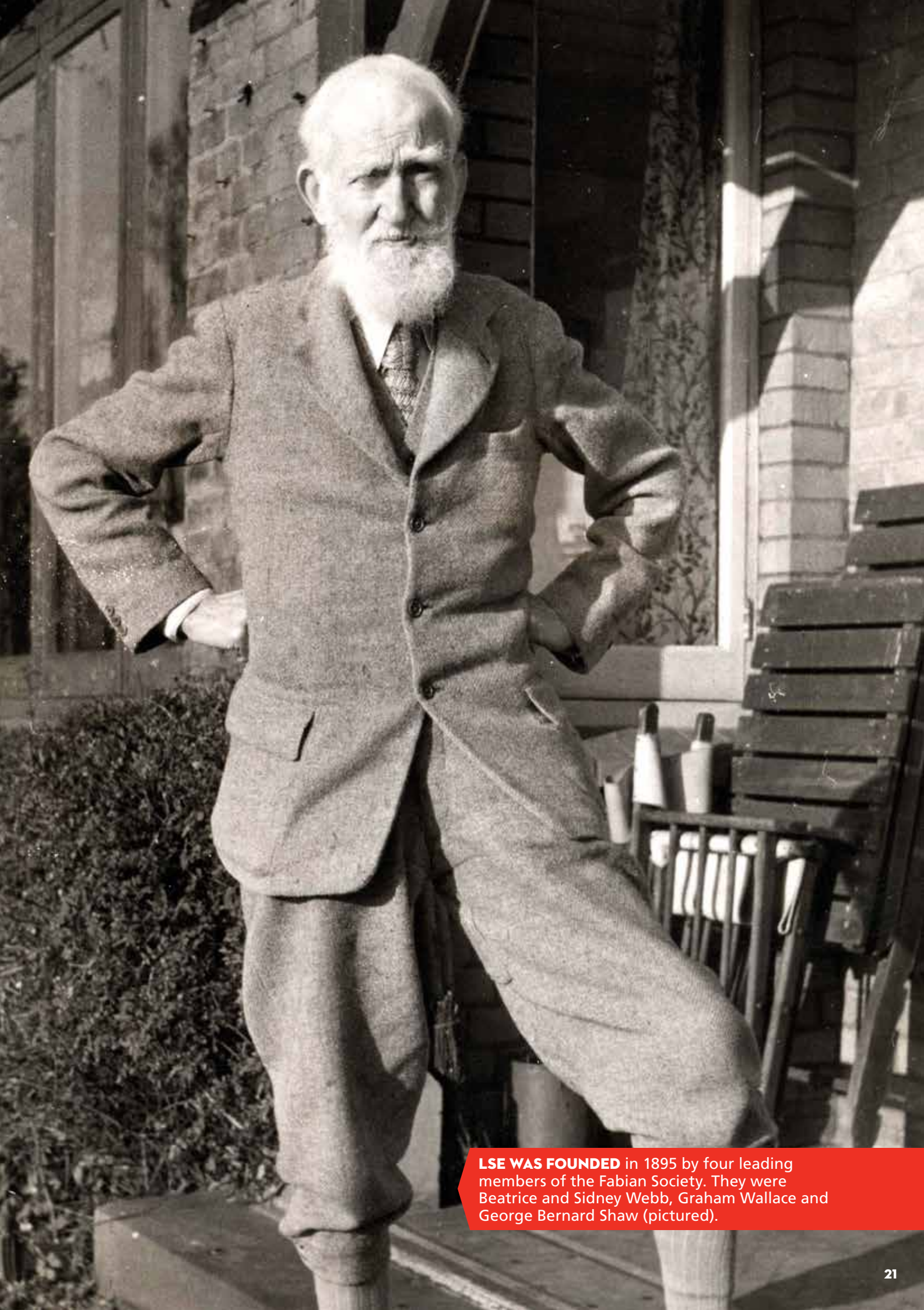
Contact the St Philip's Medical Centre

Location: St Philips Medical Centre, Floor 2, Tower 3, Clement's Inn, London WC2A 2AZ

Tel: +44 (0)20 7611 5131

Email: spmc@nhs.net

Web: lse.ac.uk/medicalCentre



LSE WAS FOUNDED in 1895 by four leading members of the Fabian Society. They were Beatrice and Sidney Webb, Graham Wallace and George Bernard Shaw (pictured).

YOUR YEAR OF DISCOVERY

DIFFERENCES BETWEEN STUDYING OVERSEAS AND AT LSE

BEFORE YOU JOIN US AS A GENERAL COURSE STUDENT, IT MIGHT BE USEFUL TO HIGHLIGHT SOME OF THE DIFFERENCES BETWEEN STUDYING OVERSEAS AND AT LSE, TO HELP YOU SETTLE INTO LIFE AS AN UNDERGRADUATE AT THE SCHOOL. BASED ON THE EXPERIENCE OF PREVIOUS GENERAL COURSE STUDENTS, HERE ARE THE MAIN DIFFERENCES YOU ARE LIKELY TO ENCOUNTER WHILE AT THE SCHOOL:

DIFFERENCES IN THE STRUCTURE OF THE YEAR

Overseas the academic year may be organised into two semesters, often of 16 weeks running from September to May. At LSE the year is organised into three terms running from September through June. The first two terms at LSE are each 11 weeks long and have ecclesiastical names (Michaelmas and Lent) but the third, lasting seven weeks, is called simply "Summer Term". This final term is devoted to exams.



DIFFERENCES IN THE RHYTHM OF THE YEAR

Overseas the workload may be spread fairly evenly across the year. In the UK, the academic year is characterised by intensive periods of work separated by lull periods with seemingly substantial amounts of "down time". Don't allow this to fool you into slacking off. You will need to maintain a fairly constant engagement with your studies if you don't want to fall behind.

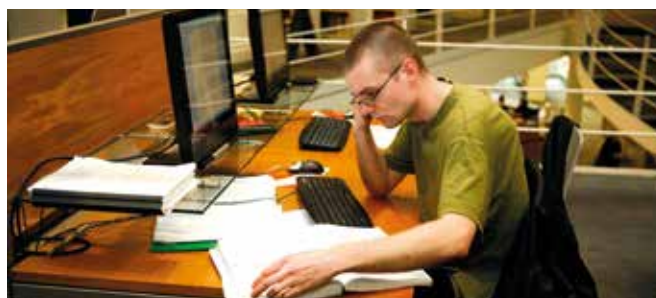


DIFFERENCES IN THE APPROACH TO TEACHING

Perhaps one of the most striking differences is the smaller number of courses you will take and the fewer direct contact teaching hours you will have. You will be taking the equivalent of four full-unit courses that usually run for the full year, rather than five a semester before changing to a new set of courses halfway through the year. As with most UK universities, the contact teaching hours for undergraduate courses at LSE are usually limited to a one hour lecture each week and an associated one hour class. So over the year, the total amount of direct teaching at LSE may be about half that of your home university. Again, don't be fooled into thinking this means less work – quite the opposite! There is an expectation that you will spend a considerable amount of time outside of these contact hours engaging with the material for each course.

DIFFERENCES IN THE APPROACH TO LEARNING

At your home institution the teaching of a particular course may be tightly structured with clearly demarcated expectations of what work you should have completed and by when. At LSE, the approach is less directed and more guided. You will be steered in the direction of a topic by the lecturers and class teachers but then expected to navigate your own way around the issues and relevant literature, producing your own analysis of it. A number of past General Course students have characterised the approach at LSE as more theoretical, conceptual, analytical than they experienced at their home university, aimed at teaching you how to think and learn rather than telling you what you should know.



DIFFERENCES IN THE STRUCTURE OF DEGREE PROGRAMMES

Many overseas degrees run for four years with your first two years devoted to a broad liberal arts education in which you will have been required to take a wide range of courses outside your intended major. At LSE, degree regulations are more tightly structured and students often don't have the opportunity to take courses that are not related to their major. An important implication of this is that for some second and third year courses there will be a level of assumed knowledge that you should either already have or must catch up on.

DIFFERENCES IN ASSESSMENT

At your home university, your final grade will often be based on your class attendance, participation, a number of multiple choice or pop quizzes, a term paper, and mid-term and final exams with marks awarded as a letter grade – with expectations of B+ or A grades. At LSE you will encounter a very different form of assessment. For most LSE students on most courses, assessment will often be based entirely on the exam at the end of the year. The work done over the course of the year – class presentations, essays – is “formative” (helping you to come to grips with an understanding of the subject) rather than “summative” (counting towards the overall mark for the course). Rather than letter grades, marks are given as percentages. And while this notionally extends to a 100 per cent, marks above 70 per cent (a First in UK terms) are rarely given out. Getting a mark in the mid or upper 60’s (an Upper Second or 2.1 in UK terms) is considered very good. However, to provide a more comprehensive reflection of your achievement, as a General Course student your transcript will have two letter grades – one reflecting your “formative” work over the year; the other reflecting your performance in the end of year exam.



DIFFERENCES IN SOCIALISING

As with most UK universities, the social life at LSE is very extensive – from the Students’ Union bars on campus, to the pubs and clubs on your doorstep in London. Lots of activities are organised through the wide range of student societies – which stretch from the rowdy sports and athletic societies to more mundane academic societies, into the off-beat, bordering on bizarre (note, there are no fraternities or sororities at UK universities). For many General Course students, joining these provides the easiest way of meeting and mixing with non-General Course students. Superficially, UK students seem to devote much more of their time to social activities rather than their studies. Don’t be misled by this. While seeming to socialise non-stop, LSE students will be putting in serious hours on their studies – they just won’t admit it as they don’t want to appear to be a “swot” (a British slang term which means to “study assiduously” – and never used as a compliment). And, of course, the drinking age is 18 rather than 21. You need to enjoy this freedom responsibly.



DIFFERENCES BETWEEN THE CULTURES

The cultural scene in London is very lively with General Course students characterising it as diverse and eclectic. And unless you come from a major city overseas, the sheer density of what is on offer can be overwhelming. Frustratingly, the release of films and TV programmes can lag several months behind their US release. And it is worth mentioning the “language thing”. In addition to the wide range of accents, it will take you a while to come to grips with similar words meaning different things. Perhaps the most important is learning to refer to “trousers” rather than “pants” (the latter is what you wear under your trousers)!



DIFFERENCES IN THE WEATHER

Finally, it is worth highlighting the weather (a favourite topic of conversation for the British). Depending on where you are from, you will have to get used to grey, overcast, often rainy weather for much of November through April. Luckily, from May onwards, the days lengthen and the weather is often glorious. Unfortunately, this coincides with the point at which you will be “swotting” for your exams.

NO DOUBT YOU WILL ENCOUNTER OTHER DIFFERENCES DURING YOUR YEAR AT LSE. THE IMPORTANT THING IS TO TREAT THEM AS PRECISELY THAT - DIFFERENCES TO BE ENGAGED WITH AND ENJOYED. IF AT ANY POINT YOU FEEL YOU NEED HELP OR ADVICE TO DEAL WITH THEM, DON'T HESITATE TO CONTACT YOUR DEPARTMENTAL ACADEMIC ADVISER OR THE DEAN OF THE GENERAL COURSE.

YOUR LSE ACADEMIC PROGRAMME

LECTURES AND CLASSES

As a General Course student at LSE, you are required to undertake the same workload as our other full-time undergraduates. This means that you will be enrolled in four year-long courses or the equivalent in half-units (two half-units = one whole!) and take the examinations for all those courses (even if your home university does not require this). Unlike our regular undergraduates, your LSE experience lasts just a year so be prepared to find yourself working harder than some of your peers!

Courses consist typically of one-hour lectures – which are “public” and open to everyone – and one-hour classes (small discussion groups led by a member of faculty or teaching assistant), to which you are formally allocated. You are expected to spend at least 3-4 hours of preparation (reading and writing) in support of each class hour. Lectures will commence on Monday 26 September 2016 but most classes will not be scheduled to begin until the second or third week of term.

All LSE lectures (there are some 600 of them, undergraduate and graduate, each week) are open to all students and you are welcome to attend any that you wish. Classes, however, are only accessible via formal enrolment in the course. Since no record is kept of attendance at lectures, we cannot “certify” that you have “audited” a lecture series.

Please note that General Course students are not permitted to take graduate level courses.

Your assignment to particular class groups will be displayed in your personal timetable (accessible via LSE for You). Provided you have registered your course selections online in early September, this will be posted to your personal timetable prior to your arrival at LSE. After your initial enrolment you have until the end of the third week of the Michaelmas term (Monday 10 October 2016) to explore what is on offer at LSE and change your mind on any or all of your courses. You are strongly advised to attend the lectures of all courses in which you have any interest during the first weeks of the academic year, until you have settled your course choices.

When selecting your courses, you should bear in mind the following:

100 level courses are taught to LSE’s first year degree seeking students. They are introductory level courses that have no specific prerequisites in their own subject but may require some mathematics or other related subjects. General Course students normally select these courses when they have no previous background in the subject and want to gain experience in a new academic field.

200 level courses are taught to LSE’s second year degree seeking students. They are intermediate level courses that have prerequisites in the form of university level introductory courses in the same, or a closely related, subject. These courses are the equivalent of Junior year courses at four year degree institutions and, as such, are usually the most appropriate for General Course students.

300 level courses are taught to LSE’s third year degree seeking students. They are advanced and equivalent to either final year undergraduate or first year graduate courses. They have prerequisites of university level intermediate courses. In the case of quantitative courses, the technical skills required are very demanding and will require a very strong background in maths and stats. General Course students should ordinarily only select one of these courses when they have a minimum of three semesters background and very high grades in the relevant field.

The majority of General Course students find they are sufficiently stimulated by one (or at the very most two) 300 level courses when combined with those offered at the 200 and 100 levels. The optimum combination for a serious student is usually one 300 level and three 200 level courses. Unless you have declared your major sometime ago and have a very strong background in the subject, it is unwise to take more than one 300 level course. If you are in any doubt, please speak with the Dean of the General Course.

UNDERGRADUATE EXAMS

Like all undergraduate students, General Course students must take the examinations in all of the undergraduate courses they have followed during the year. Even if your home university requires less than four courses or you don’t need the course for credit, you will still be required to sit the exam for each of your courses. The examination papers that you will sit are the same as those sat by all other undergraduate students, taken at the same time and under the same conditions. They are usually three-hour unseen papers, covering the whole of the year’s work on each subject.

The vast majority of exams at LSE are held at the academic year’s end, usually over a four-week period, in May. However some courses are examined in January. The detailed examination timetable will be announced at the end of the second (Lent) term and these dates are then fixed and non-negotiable – exams are to be taken at LSE on the days and times set. There are no resits or special sittings during the academic year.

In 2016/17, the exam dates may run to Friday 9 June 2017. This means you should not make any arrangements or commitments – including internships – prior to this date until you know your detailed exam schedule. You will not be allowed to withdraw or make alternative exam arrangements on the basis of taking up an internship prior to the date of your last scheduled exam paper.

GENERAL COURSE ASSESSMENT

Your General Course academic assessment comprises two components:

- A class grade for each course. This is a summary letter grade obtained from your class teacher at the academic year's end and is often used by home institutions in conjunction with the mark for the end of year exam in determining credit transfer. Class grades are distinct from the final mark General Course students (and regular degree students) receive for their examination performance and form part of the transcript you receive from LSE at the end of the year.

The class grade provides an overall assessment of your work over the course of the year. Class teachers award class grades based on:

- attendance
- class participation (taking into account the level of engagement in and the quality – as distinct from the volume – of contributions to the class discussion)
- any presentation(s) you made in your class
- the marks received for your essays and/or problem sets.

There is no fixed algorithm on the weighting of these different components. These will vary from course to course. It is the responsibility of each student to confirm with their respective class teachers what is expected of them.

- An exam grade for each course: This is a separate letter grade based solely on your examination results for each course.

If you do not sit your scheduled exams and this has not been approved prior to the exams by the Dean of the General Course, your transcript will list "Absent" under the exam mark for that course. If, in exceptional circumstances, you have been given permission to withdraw from an exam, your transcript will state "Withdrawn" under the exam mark for that course.

All General Course students are reminded that it is their home institution that determines if and how credit is awarded, not LSE. We provide grades that your home university can then decide how to use.

The marking scheme employed is shown in the table below.

SAMPLE TRANSCRIPT - GENERAL COURSE 2016/17

This is to certify that G B Shaw was registered as a full-time undergraduate student at the London School of Economics and Political Science for the academic year from September 2016 to June 2017 in the General Course for visiting students. The courses pursued were:

Course Title	Class Grade	Exam Grade
GV262 Contemporary Political Theory	B+	B+
EH225 Latin America and the International Economy	A-	B+
LL278 Public International Law	A-	C+
IR302 The Ethics of War	B	B+

Please note: General Course students receive only an electronic transcript at the end of their time at the School. This is the same for all LSE students.

TRANSFERRING TO AN LSE DEGREE

It is not possible to transfer to complete your degree at LSE on the basis of studying on the General Course.



Degree Class equivalent	% mark equivalent	Written Work	Class Contribution	Summary Class Grade
First	75+	A+	A+	A+
First	70-74	A	A	A
Upper Second	65-69	A-	A-	A-
Upper Second	60-64	B+	B+	B+
Lower Second	55-59	B	B	B
Lower Second	50-54	B-	B-	B-
Third	45-49	C+	C+	C+
Third	40-44	C	C	C
Fail	0-39	F	F	F
Incomplete – insufficient class work submitted		I	I	I

THE GENERAL COURSE SOCIAL CALENDAR

THROUGHOUT YOUR YEAR AT THE SCHOOL, YOU WILL BE ABLE TO EXPLORE THE UK AND EUROPE ON A RANGE OF DAY TRIPS AND SHORT BREAKS. ARRANGED IN COLLABORATION WITH A PRIVATE COMPANY, SOMEWHERE NEW.COM, PAST EXCURSIONS HAVE COVERED THE DELIGHTS OF PARIS, THE RUGGEDNESS OF THE SCOTTISH HIGHLANDS, THE THRILL OF HORSE RIDING IN WALES, AND THE JOYS OF AN ENGLISH BREWERY! EACH TRIP IS SUBSIDISED BY LSE AND OFFERED TO YOU AT A SIGNIFICANT DISCOUNT, HELPING YOU GET THE MOST OUT OF YOUR TIME WITH US.

COACH TOUR OF LONDON

As part of your General Course induction you are invited to join us for a coach tour of central London on the morning of Friday 23 September 2016. Accompanied by a knowledgeable guide, the tour will take in all the city's major landmarks and will allow you to familiarise yourself with your new home. The trip is free of charge but places are limited. Further details will be sent over the Summer.



CUMBERLAND LODGE RESIDENTIAL VISIT

The Dean, together with Student Marketing and Recruitment, organises an annual visit to Cumberland Lodge specifically for General Course students. The 2016/17 visit will take place over the weekend 7-9 October 2016 and will include a variety of interesting talks.

The visit is optional and open to around 50 students each year, with the cost subsidised by the School. Combining a mixture of academic and social activities, it's a great introduction to your fellow students and a piece of old England!

Further details including information about purchasing tickets will be sent during the Summer.



SCHEDULED GENERAL COURSE EVENTS

Several "seasonal" events are held during the year for General Course students. These typically include a Thanksgiving Dinner, Re-orientation Event, New Year Social Event and a Summer Ball. You will receive further details during the course of the year.



TEMBO

Tembo is the General Course newsletter, produced weekly during term time. It contains up-to-date General Course information, Social Calendar events, LSE events and London events. You will also receive a few issues prior to your arrival in London, providing you with useful information and advice before you land in the UK. These editions will also include details of how you can get involved; all budding journalists and amateur photographers are encouraged to contribute.



LSE SUPPORT SERVICES

LSE SUPPORT SERVICES

STUDENT SERVICES CENTRE

The Student Services Centre (SSC) is located on the ground floor of the Old Building. The Centre offers an advice service for students, giving general information regarding registration, payment of tuition fees and immigration rules. In addition to this, the Centre offers advice on examinations, support services available at the School and all aspects of studying at LSE.

Contact the Student Services Centre
Ground Floor, Old Building
Houghton Street
London WC2A 2AE
Web: lse.ac.uk/studentServicesCentre

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY SERVICES AT LSE

Information Management and Technology (IMT) provides a wide range of IT services, facilities and support, including secure network access, high specification PCs, and quality help, advice and training. This information is correct at the time of press, but is subject to change before October 2016. For the latest information, please visit the IMT website at lse.ac.uk/imt

COMPUTERS

There are around 1,000 PCs available for students to use in open access areas around the School and in the computer classrooms. Over 550 of these PCs are located in the Library. Log on to any networked PC for access to common desktop applications and specialist software, including:

- Microsoft Office (Word, PowerPoint, Excel, Access)
- Microsoft Outlook
- Internet Explorer, Firefox and Chrome
- quantitative analysis software (eg, SPSS, SAS and Stata)
- qualitative analysis software (NVivo)
- geographical and mapping software (ArcGIS, Google Earth)
- computer based training (VTC video tutorials).

Laptops are also available for students to borrow and use in the Library. The laptops provide access to personal file space, Office software and the internet. More information can be found at lse.ac.uk/iroom

PRINTERS

There are laser printing facilities in all open access areas and computer classrooms on campus. It costs 4p per side for black-and-white prints and 20p for colour. You can top up your printing account online using the LSE Wallet service and transferring the money to your print account, via one of the value loaders on campus or in person at the Library Copy Shop.

Your print account can also be used to pay for photocopying in the Library. This costs 4p per A4 copy and 8p per A3 copy. A4 microform printing costs 4p. The Copy Shop, on the ground floor of the Library, also offers printing/copying and binding services.

You can also print directly from your own laptop or mobile phone using the LSE Mobile Printing Service: lse.ac.uk/mobileprinting

FACILITIES FOR STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES

Specialist facilities are available for students with disabilities, including dedicated computer workstations around campus, and screen reading and voice recognition software for blind and visually impaired students. Visit lse.ac.uk/imt/accessibility for more information.

USING YOUR OWN COMPUTER AND MOBILE DEVICE

IMT provides information and help with connecting your computer to the LSE IT environment and accessing services and resources both on-campus and off-site. Visit lse.ac.uk/imt/remote for more information.

If you bring your own PC to the UK from overseas, it must be able to handle the UK power supply (220-240 volts) or you will need to purchase a voltage converter. You will also need an adaptor for the three pin UK power sockets. These can be purchased very cheaply – airport shops have them in abundance.

All LSE residences are wired for direct connection to the internet and the School network. You may use your own computer either by plugging in to a network point in your study bedroom, or using the wireless internet service provided by StudentCom.

IT HELP DESK

The IT Help Desk, located in the IMT Walk In Centre on the first floor of the Library, is the first point of contact for students with IT-related queries who need information and help with IT facilities, student IT accounts, common desktop applications and specialist software. See page 28 for contact details.

IMT CUSTOMER PORTAL

The IMT Customer Portal is an easy to use system which allows you to log, track and update your IT support calls yourself: imtcustomerportal.lse.ac.uk/





Log in using your normal LSE network username and password to request a service or report IT issues, and to view the status of your requests.

OUT-OF-HOURS SUPPORT

A telephone helpline service provides out-of-hours support, overnight, weekends and public holidays, 365 days a year. If you call the number of the IT Help Desk (020 7955 6728) after normal hours, your call will be redirected to this service. This service can answer most general IT queries, although LSE-specific questions may need to be referred to the daytime IT Help Desk service.

LAPTOP SURGERY

The Laptop Surgery, located on the first floor of the Library, offers advice and hands-on assistance to students and staff with problems connecting to LSE resources from laptops and mobile devices. The surgery runs daily on a drop-in basis. For advice and free tools to protect and disinfect your laptop, visit lse.ac.uk/imt/antivirus

LSE PERSONAL EMAIL ACCOUNT

Prior to your arrival at the School, you will be sent information on how to set up your LSE email account. This will assign you a personal email address of the form **i.j.surname@lse.ac.uk** (which is not open to change) and password (that you should change to something more secure). Once you set this up, you will then be able to register for your courses online and also access the whole of LSE's website. In addition, you will be able to access the School's email service via the Web at **mail.lse.ac.uk**. You will be able to use your LSE email address for the duration of your time at LSE.

YOUR LSE PASSWORD

In order to keep passwords strong and data secure, LSE has a policy that all passwords must be changed annually. You will be prompted to do this via your LSE email when your password is due to expire.

You can change your password by logging into an LSE campus PC (<Ctrl>+<Alt>+ | Change Password) or via LSE For You: **lse.ac.uk/lseforyou** (Account Management | Change Password). Remember to also set your security questions and provide a personal email in LSE For You (Account Management | Update Security Questions) to enable the self-service reset option should you forget your password.

Once you have submitted these details, you can reset your password by either clicking the Forgot username and password link on the LSE for You login page or we will send a reset link to your personal email address. For more information about your LSE password including our policy, rules and tips for creating a strong password, please see lse.ac.uk/password

IT TRAINING

IT training at LSE is delivered in a number of ways, allowing students to enhance and improve their IT skills. Training is delivered free or, in the case of Microsoft Office Specialist (MOS) certification, on a cost-reduced basis. MOS certification is available in a range of Office applications, including Word, PowerPoint and Excel. These industry-recognised qualifications are recognised internationally as proof that you have the knowledge, skills and abilities to use Microsoft Office effectively. For more information see lse.ac.uk/imt/mos

While IT Training specialises in enhancing your Microsoft Office skills, we also provide access to over 900 online video tutorials covering a wide range of topics including Dreamweaver, Photoshop and a range of programming languages. For more information on services provided see lse.ac.uk/imt/training

MOODLE

Moodle is a course management system used at LSE to provide web-based support for courses and programmes. In a Moodle course, teachers can bring together a range of activities, tools and resources for their students. Some courses will have a range of features such as online discussions and quizzes, RSS feeds to interesting sites and blogs, video lectures and the ability to submit assignments online. The content of Moodle is the responsibility of your teacher and so it will vary from course to course.

You can access Moodle anytime, anywhere via the internet at **moodle.lse.ac.uk**. Log in using your LSE network username and password. If you have any problems with Moodle, contact the IT Help Desk.

YOUR RESPONSIBILITIES

As a member of LSE, you are bound by the School's Policy Statement on the use of Information Technology and the Conditions of Use of IT facilities at LSE. In particular, you must not distribute or access offensive material, illegally copy software, breach copyright or send mass unsolicited email messages. Misuse may result in the withdrawal of your access rights. Full conditions are available at lse.ac.uk/imt/conditions-of-use

Contact Information Management and Technology
IMT Walk In Centre
Library, First Floor
10 Portugal Street
London WC2A 2HD
Tel: +44 (0)20 7955 6728
Email: IT.Helpdesk@lse.ac.uk
Web: lse.ac.uk/imt



LONDON is the largest city in Europe with a population of over 8.2m. It has 300 museums, 250 art galleries, 200 theatres and 5 Premier League football Clubs.

LSE LIBRARY SERVICES

The LSE Library was founded in 1896 as the British Library of Political and Economic Science and is the major international library of the social sciences. It has been recognised by the Higher Education Funding Council as one of five National Research Libraries in England and its collections have been designated by the Arts Council as being of outstanding national and international importance.

The Library's collections cover the social sciences in the widest sense; being particularly strong in economics, sociology, political science and the social, economic and international aspects of history. The Library's services extend well beyond its physical walls – the vast majority of its electronic resources can be used anytime and anywhere, and virtual enquiry services provide support to students wherever they are. The Library's exceptional online content includes 60,000 ebooks and 108,000 ejournals alongside material that is collected and preserved in digital formats via the LSE Digital Library. These are available alongside rich printed collections of government publications, a wealth of statistical materials, manuscripts, archives and rare books that total over four million separate printed items, including the collections of The Women's Library, Europe's largest collection of material on the history of women's lives.

All items can be easily located via Library Search. The Library provides multiple copies of textbooks on LSE reading lists, and supplies online course materials of key readings for many courses through Reading Lists @ LSE.

The Library is open seven days a week in term time and is open for 24 hours from the beginning of the Lent Term until the end of the examination period, excluding Easter week.

The Library offers a superb study environment, with 1,844 seats including 500 networked PCs and wireless access, i-Room macbooks available for loan, several group study rooms and different zones for group, quiet and silent work. The "Escape" area in the Library entrance allows students to take a break from their studies, relax with friends and have something to eat. Students can bring drinks into the Library to enjoy as they study.

The Library's orientation programme at the start of each academic year will help start your academic career at LSE, and throughout the year training is provided on finding, assessing and using information relevant to your studies. Additional assistance and services are provided for disabled students.

Contact the Library
10 Portugal Street
London WC2A 2HD
Tel: +44 (0)20 7955 7229
Email: Library.enquiries@lse.ac.uk
Web: library.lse.ac.uk

THE SHAW LIBRARY

This is a small and restful space with a lending collection of general literature and recorded music. There are also daily newspapers and magazines. It is housed in the Founders' Room (sixth floor, Old Building) and serves as a quiet reading room. The room is also used for regular lunchtime concerts (most Thursdays during term time) and for the rehearsals and performances of LSE's Orchestra and Choir.

TEACHING AND LEARNING CENTRE

Studying at LSE is a stimulating and rewarding experience. You'll meet other students from all over the world, have the opportunity to attend excellent debates and hear great speakers, and be able to experience one of the most vibrant cities in the world.

However, some students may find the structure of their programme, the methods of assessment, the style of argument and ways of structuring essays to be different from what they have experienced in other educational systems. Many find the long reading lists a challenge and some need to adapt to the particular pressures that a strongly examination-based assessment system creates.

New students should be reassured that there is a solid support system in place at LSE, both within and outside your department. This includes your class tutors and academic advisers; the Dean for the General Course; the Students' Union; the Language Centre, and the Teaching and Learning Centre, all of whom can help you with many aspects of your studies.

The Teaching and Learning Centre offers learning development opportunities throughout the year, designed to complement your academic studies and help you make the most of your time at LSE:

- the Learning Development Programme – a year round series of free workshops and lectures on topics such as effective reading strategies, essay writing, presentation skills, time management, preparing for exams, dealing with stress and much more: see lse.ac.uk/tlc/ugldp
- LSE Study Toolkit – lse.ac.uk/studytoolkit – a web resource designed to help students tackle LSE style study with confidence
- Learning Development – a dedicated Moodle site containing many resources and materials.

ONE-TO-ONE ADVICE

If you need more personalised support for any subject, your first port of call should be your class teachers and academic adviser. The Teaching and Learning Centre offers a limited number of one-to-one and small group advice sessions with qualitative study advisers (who can discuss written work, reading lists, etc.), quantitative study advisers (for support with core mathematical understanding) or a Royal Literary Fund Fellow (who can give guidance on writing style, structure, logic and argument).

PERSONAL DEVELOPMENT AIDE MEMOIRE (PDAM)

LSE offers General Course students the opportunity to create a record of the skills they develop through extra-curricular activities such as attendance at learning development events, volunteering and holding positions of responsibility in student societies. A completed PDAM is designed to complement your academic record and support applications for work and career development. Find out more at lse.ac.uk/apd/PDAM

Contact the Teaching and Learning Centre
5th floor, 20 Kingsway
(opposite Peacock Theatre)
London WC2A 2AE
Tel: +44 (0)20 7955 3627
Email: tlc@lse.ac.uk
Web: lse.ac.uk/tlc
twitter: @LSETLC

LSE LANGUAGE CENTRE

The Language Centre at LSE (Ground Floor, 20 Kingsway) provides English and modern foreign language tuition to LSE's students.

LSE's Language Centre is unique – no other centre specialises in creating courses targeted to the needs of students and practitioners in the field of social sciences and related areas of study. All LSE Language Centre courses utilise the specialist talents of lecturers who relate their own expertise to the teaching of languages for specific purposes.

For students whose first language is not English, the Centre offers English language courses. Language Foundation Courses run throughout the year, as well as Pre-Sessional Intensive Courses in English.

The Language Centre also offers a very broad range of language tuition, in 11 languages, especially on its "Certificate" courses. Many General Course students choose to pursue a language course in addition to their four regular courses – some taking on a wholly "new" language while others have maintained or developed existing language skills.

If you wish to pursue a language course in addition to your four LSE courses, you will need to make a separate payment to the Language Centre for this. It is not included in your tuition fees to the School. The cost of a certificate course is approximately £235.

Please note: "Certificate" courses will not appear on your LSE General Course transcript; you will be issued with a separate certificate by the Language Centre.

Contact the Language Centre
Ground Floor, 20 Kingsway
London WC2A 2AE
Tel: +44 (0)20 7955 6713
Email: languages@lse.ac.uk
Web: lse.ac.uk/language

LSE FAITH CENTRE

The LSE Faith Centre welcomes all staff and students to use the Centre as a space for prayer, religious worship, interfaith dialogue and as a place for quiet reflection on a hectic campus. The LSE Faith Centre is based on the second floor of the Saw Swee Hock Student Centre and includes a large room for events, a social space, a quiet area for prayer and meditation, Islamic prayer rooms, and the Chaplain's office. More information on what is going on in the Faith Centre and religious provision at LSE can be found online at lse.ac.uk/faithcentre and any questions can be emailed to faithcentre@lse.ac.uk. The Faith Centre is open all day and everyone is welcome, you do not need an LSE card to enter.

Contact the Faith Centre
2.01, Saw Swee Hock Student Centre
1 Sheffield Street
London WC2A 2AP
Tel: +44 (0)20 7955 7965
Email: faithcentre@lse.ac.uk
Web: lse.ac.uk/faithCentre

**LSE GAVE ME THE
INTELLECTUAL
FIREPOWER
TO CRITIQUE
AND QUESTION
ACADEMIC
MATERIAL**
ANDREA GALLEGO
STONY BROOK UNIVERSITY

LSE STUDENT COUNSELLING SERVICE

This is a free and confidential service for all LSE students, which aims to help you cope more effectively with any personal or study related difficulties. The service offers around 100 sessions each week, delivered by a team of qualified and experienced counsellors, as well as group sessions and workshops on issues such as exam anxiety and stress management. Further detailed information and links to self help resources for students can be found on the website.

Contact the Student Counselling Service
5th floor, 20 Kingsway
(opposite Peacock Theatre)
London WC2A 2AE
Tel: +44 (0)20 7852 3627
Fax: +44 (0)20 7955 6625
Email: student.counselling@lse.ac.uk
Web: lse.ac.uk/studentCounselling

DISABILITY AND WELLBEING SERVICE

LSE celebrates diversity, views disability as a valued diversity strand and is committed to offering appropriate assistance to all disabled students. Students with dyslexia /neurodiverse profiles (including Autism and Asperger syndrome) have access to the Disability and Well-being Service (DWS) as do students with long term medical conditions, mental health issues, sensory or mobility difficulties. DWS co-ordinates processes but disability equality is a shared responsibility. If you indicated on your application form that you are disabled, you will be asked in June to complete a confidential questionnaire for the DWS. Its purpose is to assist us to assist you. You may also like a phone or face to face chat about your requirements. If you feel reluctant please be reassured that the purpose of disclosure is to enable LSE to make reasonable and appropriate provision to assist you. This may not happen if we are unaware of your requirements. You are welcome to make contact with the DWS at any time during your period of study at LSE. The staff combine expertise and friendliness. If you feel like your enquiry is rather vague, or you don't really identify as disabled, it's fine to just talk to them. Students who think they might be dyslexic are offered a "drop-in" initial interview, screening and help in arranging a full assessment.

All disabled students are invited to a Welcome Day during the week before term starts, as part of an induction programme designed to make your introduction to LSE as smooth as possible. From the outset DWS will work with you to generate an Individual Student Support Agreement (ISSA) which will summarize your requirements, and will be sent (only with your agreement) to relevant parts of the School. Services you may access include: individual tutorials; small group sessions on specific topics; advice on applying for special exam arrangements; free photocopying facilities; extended Library loans; and use of specialist IT software. For full details of School provision for students with disabilities/dyslexia, please see the DWS website.

If you need to be considered as a priority for LSE accommodation, you should follow the instructions on the online accommodation application form.

There is an LSE Equality and Diversity Consultative Forum which meets once a term and provides an opportunity to discuss disability issues at LSE. It is chaired by the Dean of Graduate Studies and attended by representatives of service staff from around the School. Contact DWS if you are interested in attending or would like to suggest agenda items.

LSE POLICY ON DISABILITY

LSE's Equality and Diversity Action Plan, which sets out how the School will enhance its equality practices to reflect the requirements of the Equality Act 2010, can be viewed at lse.ac.uk/equalityanddiversity

Contact the Disability and Well-being Office
Room G.23, Old Building
Houghton Street
London WC2A 2AE
Tel: +44 (0)20 7955 7767
Fax: +44 (0)20 7955 7649
Email: disability-dyslexia@lse.ac.uk
Web: lse.ac.uk/disability

ADVISERS TO WOMEN AND MALE STUDENTS

The School has advisers to women and male students who generally deal with personal and often private matters. They are:

Dr Bingchun Meng (Adviser to women students):
b.meng@lse.ac.uk, extension 5020

Dr Jonathan Hopkin (Adviser to male students):
j.r.hopkin@lse.ac.uk, extension 6535

LSE STUDENTS' UNION (LSESU)

As an LSE student, you're automatically a member of the Union, meaning that you're connected to campus life outside the classroom, with thousands of students using the award-winning Saw Swee Hock Student Centre as a place to work, rest and play throughout their time at LSE.

The Saw Swee Hock Student Centre is where you can get food and drink at student-friendly prices from the not-for-profit cafes and Three Tuns Bar. It's also where you can drop in to get help from the SU Advice service, sign up to one or more of their 200 student-run societies (who do everything from Rethinking Economics to Beekeeping) and discuss issues with the elected officers - fellow students who represent your interests to the School and run national campaigns on things that affect you.

LSESU is a democratic organisation, and you have the power to change its policies at the weekly Union General Meetings. This forum is unique to LSESU, and is a space where any student can propose a motion, debate its merits and get it passed through a popular vote. And if you are passionate about improving LSE and the Union for you and your coursemates, you can run to be the General Course President in the Michaelmas Term student elections.

LSESU also has a proud sporting tradition; over 1,500 students are members of the Athletics Union sports teams, and the SU's Focus Team programme gives elite players the support they need to win. Students looking for a relaxed way to work on their fitness can sign up to use the SU gym's Olympic standard equipment and their bespoke ActiveLifestyle drop-in classes.

Find out more about LSESU at llesu.com, and keep up to date with campus activities on Twitter, twitter.com/llesu; Tumblr, llesu.tumblr.com; Facebook, facebook.com/llesu; and Instagram, instagram.com/llesu

Contact the Students' Union
Saw Swee Hock Student Centre
1 Sheffield Street
London WC2A 2AP
Tel: +44 (0)20 7955 7158
Email: su.info@lse.ac.uk
Web: llesu.com

GYM/FITNESS

The LSE Gym is well equipped with cardiovascular and resistance machines, and fully qualified staff. Membership for LSE students is very reasonable but places are capped so join early to avoid disappointment. For more information, see llesu.com/gym. In addition, the School has some 25 acres of sports grounds at New Malden in Surrey. Nearer by are the facilities of the University of London which also include a swimming pool. The LSESU has a variety of sporting clubs and teams who welcome members at all levels up to and including high level inter-university competition. For more information, see llesu.com/activities/sports

CATERING FACILITIES

Services on the LSE campus include the 4th Floor Restaurant, the Bean Counter and the LSE Garrick. The Students' Union Café is on the 6th floor of the Saw Swee Hock Student Centre. There are also cafeteria/restaurant/bar facilities in Passfield Hall, Rosebery Avenue Hall, Carr-Saunders Hall, and Bankside House.

SQUID

sQuid (an eMoney payment network) on your LSE card allows you to conveniently and safely pay for food, drink and other items across the campus. You can use the card wherever you see the sQuid "Q". You can view a statement of your transactions and top up your funds through an online account: squidcard.com/LSE



LIFE AFTER THE GENERAL COURSE

LSE CAREERS

LSE Careers exists to help guide you through the careers maze with a comprehensive range of careers and employment services. As well as online information, LSE Careers offers personalised appointments and events to support you in securing part-time work, internships, voluntary positions, graduate employment and further study.

LSE CAREERHUB

Once you have officially registered and been given your LSE IT username and password, you will be able to use the LSE Careers online services to book appointments and events, and search for jobs. You can also update your profile with your career preferences to receive relevant information and job vacancies direct to your inbox.

SERVICES AVAILABLE

LSE Careers run a number of events and services have been developed to help LSE students find and successfully gain employment during and after university. These include:

- Careers seminars, covering a wide range of topics to help you in your job search and applications.
- A variety of careers fairs and employer presentations where you can meet employers and find out about industries that interest you.
- One-to-one advice appointments with careers consultants – to help you decide which career path to take or give advice on CVs, application forms, further study and other topics.
- One-to-one CV and cover letter checks with a CV consultant.
- One-to-one practice interview sessions and interview feedback from a careers consultant.
- Free access to extensive online careers libraries and resources.

The experienced team of careers consultants and student experience staff are committed to the personal and professional development of every LSE student, including those on the General Course.

Contact LSE Careers

Location: 5th Floor, Saw Swee Hock Student Centre
Opening hours: Monday to Friday 9.30am-5pm, throughout term time and vacations (except when LSE is closed)

Tel: +44 (0)20 7955 7135

Email: careers@lse.ac.uk

Web: lse.ac.uk/careers

CareerHub: careers.lse.ac.uk

Facebook: [facebook.com/lsecareers](https://www.facebook.com/lsecareers)

Twitter: @LSECareers

Blog: blogs.lse.ac.uk/careers

INTERNSHIPS

The General Course team have negotiated a special deal with The Intern Group allowing you to undertake an internship during your time on the programme.

For an exceptional price of £590, you can apply for an internship totalling eight weeks, from the end of November to early December 2016 and mid-February to early March 2017, within a sector of the economy of your choosing – from blue-chip firms, to fast growing small and medium-sized business, to non-profit organisations and government departments.

The Intern Group provides proprietary training materials and videos, a physical office in London and 24 hour support, lifetime membership of their alumni network, and support in obtaining academic credit from your home institution (should this be possible).

You are encouraged to apply to The Intern Group before you arrive in London.

Contact The Intern Group

Tel: +44 (0)20 7193 4188

Email: info@theinterngroup.com

Web: theinterngroup.com

GRADUATE STUDIES AT LSE

Just over half of our student population is engaged in graduate work and LSE is one of the major world centres for the advanced study of the social sciences. The School offers tuition for graduate diplomas, for taught Masters degrees (MSc, MA, MPA, LLM) and research programmes (MRes, MPhil, PhD). Former General Course students enjoy a ten per cent discount on graduate tuition fees.

OFFICE OF ALUMNI RELATIONS

Whilst you'll be returning to your home university at the end of your time at LSE, the School recognises its ongoing commitment to current and former students, including those on the General Course. We operate a highly effective alumni relations programme that is administered by School staff and a network of volunteer alumni across the world.

The Office of Alumni Relations

Houghton Street

London WC2A 2AE

Tel: +44 (0)20 7955 7361

Fax: +44 (0)20 7955 7567

Email: alumni@lse.ac.uk

Web: alumni.lse.ac.uk

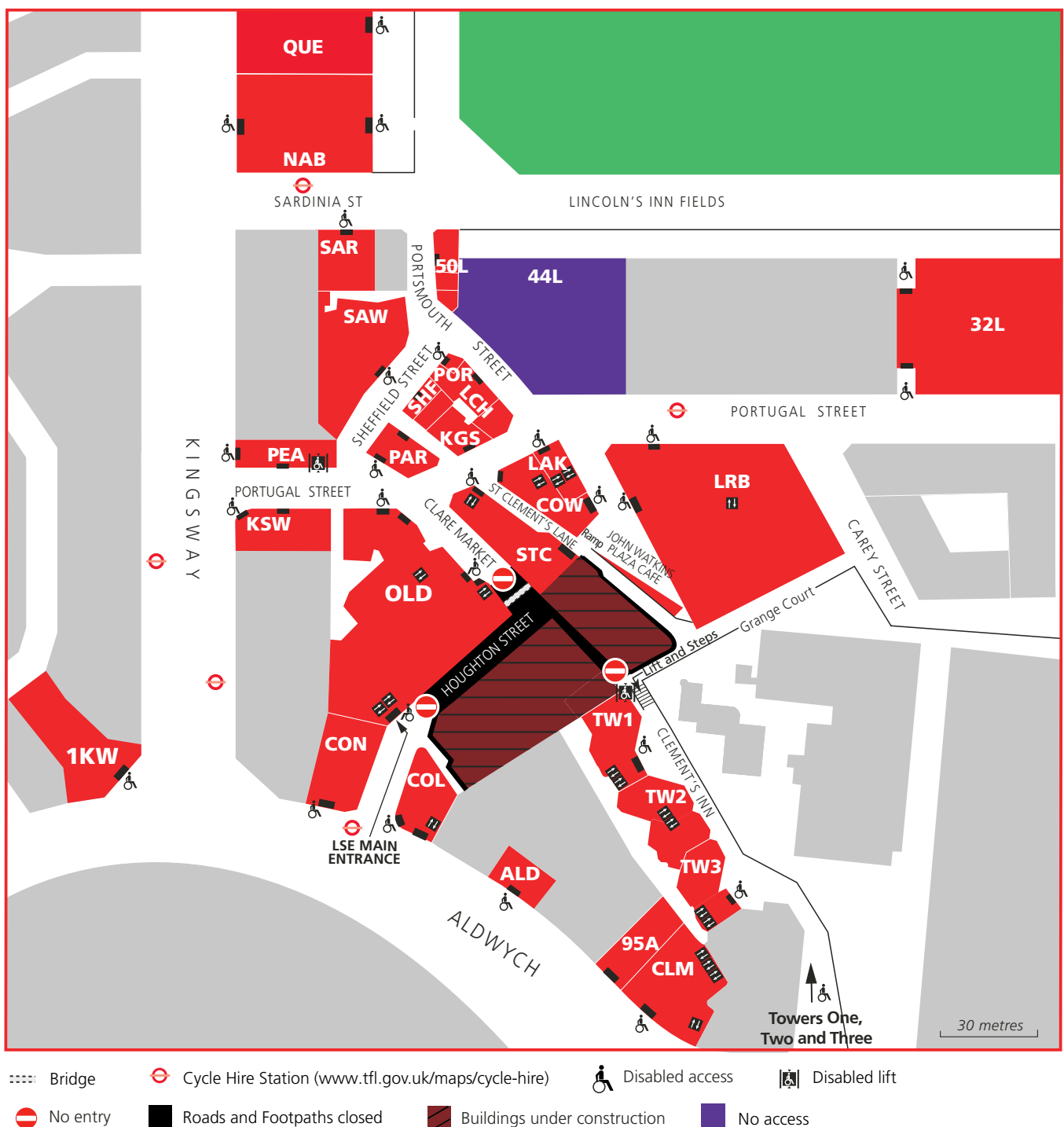
LSE AND LONDON

CAMPUS DEVELOPMENTS

At LSE we are always striving to improve the campus environment for our students.

Two new buildings – 32 Lincoln's Inn Fields and the RIBA Stirling Prize-shortlisted Saw Swee Hock Student Centre – have opened on campus in recent times, providing our community with fantastic new teaching, learning and social spaces. However, the work does not stop there. From now until 2018 LSE will continue to improve and develop its campus with the redevelopment of the

Centre Buildings on Houghton Street. While this will be an exciting time to be an LSE student the project may also cause some disruption in and around Houghton Street, as the building phase progresses. Of course, we aim to keep disruption to an absolute minimum for everyone, with a view to unveiling an impressive new centre for the study of the social sciences in the heart of campus in 2018. More information about campus developments can be found lse.ac.uk/estates



AROUND LSE

As you can see from the map below, LSE is located in central London with many familiar landmarks within easy walking distance. Our Virtual Tour at lse.ac.uk/aboutLSE/virtualTour/Home.aspx will help you find your way around.



London has an enormous amount to offer you, whatever your interests. As a centre for culture, the arts, government, law and finance, it is unparalleled. It would be impossible to list all of London's sights and attractions in the limited space available in this Pack. The following is a small sample of the attractions within a short distance of the LSE campus. If you are new to London, you may also find it useful to visit: lse.ac.uk/intranet/students/campusLondonLife/home.aspx

HISTORIC BUILDINGS

If you turn left from Houghton Street, you will walk past the Royal Courts of Justice, opened by Queen Victoria in 1882. Opposite the Royal Courts of Justice you will find Inner Temple – one of London's four medieval Inns of Court. Many Inns of Court still function as offices for barristers. Within the grounds of Inner Temple is the Temple Church, familiar to anyone who has read Dan Brown's *The Da Vinci Code*. A short walk along Fleet Street will take you past the historic homes of some of the best known British newspapers and periodicals (now mostly moved to the east of the City) and up towards St Paul's Cathedral. Built after the first cathedral was destroyed during the Great Fire of London, the Christopher Wren dome provides one of London's most distinctive landmarks, as well as being a truly spectacular building.

MUSEUMS AND GALLERIES

Tate Modern; the National Gallery and National Portrait Gallery; the British Museum; the Courtauld Institute of Art and the Museum of London are all within a short distance of the LSE campus. Slightly further away, in Knightsbridge, you will find the Victoria and Albert Museum, the Science Museum and the Natural History Museum. Many of London's museums have free entry.

SHOPPING

London is a shopper's paradise. Covent Garden, with its famous Piazza and market stalls, is only a few minutes walk from LSE. London's other famous shopping streets are only a few stops further on the Underground. At the weekends, you can enjoy London's many markets in different parts of the city, selling a wide variety of goods from fresh fruit and vegetables to vintage clothing, crafts and antiques.

MUSIC AND THEATRE

London is home to a wide range of music and theatre venues. From opera and ballet at the Royal Opera House to cutting edge theatre at the Young Vic; from Shakespeare at the Globe Theatre to musicals in the West End, and from jazz and soul at the legendary Ronnie Scott's to the latest indie, pop and dance at Koko – there is something for every taste.



GREEN SPACES

London is one of the world's greenest cities, boasting a surprising number of green spaces for the public to enjoy – whether you prefer an energetic game of football or a leisurely amble amongst well-tended flower beds. See the Royal Parks website for information on activities, events and seasonal highlights: royalparks.org.uk

SPORT

London is home to a number of world famous sporting events, teams and venues. Fans of more unconventional sports will be pleased to know that London has much to offer, from indoor climbing to dance.

USEFUL LINKS

visitlondon.com

timeout.com/london

londonnet.co.uk

viewlondon.co.uk

studylondon.ac.uk



SOURCES OF FURTHER INFORMATION

lse.ac.uk/newArrivals

Information for students joining LSE for the first time in 2016/17.

lse.ac.uk/generalCourse

The homepage of the General Course, providing information on all aspects of the programme for both prospective, current and past students.

lse.ac.uk/calendar

Online publication containing the Undergraduate Handbook and full details of all the courses offered by the School.

lse.ac.uk/accommodation

Details of LSE and University of London accommodation.

ukcisa.org.uk

Homepage of the UK Council for International Student Affairs, with information on many aspects of studying overseas, including visas.

educationuk.org

British Council website featuring welfare information, links to colleges and universities and other information about coming to the UK to study.

lse.ac.uk/feesOffice

For information and advice on paying your tuition fees.

lse.ac.uk/disability

The first point of contact for students with disabilities.

lsesu.com

Homepage of the LSE Students' Union, including the Athletic Union.





ENVIRONMENTAL STATEMENT

Student Marketing and Recruitment is committed to minimising its impact on the environment. Initiatives are in place to reduce energy consumption in the Office and the number of flights taken, and others continue to be developed. This Offer Pack has been printed on 100 per cent recycled paper using vegetable inks.

At the end of your year at the School, please think of the environment and recycle it.

This information can be made available in alternative formats, on request.

Please contact:

Student Marketing and Recruitment

tel: +44 (0)20 7955 6613

email: gc@lse.ac.uk

Design: LSE Design Unit (lse.ac.uk/designunit)

Photography: Nigel Stead, LSE Photographer.

The London School of Economics and Political Science is a School of the University of London. It is a charity and is incorporated in England as a company limited by guarantee under the Companies Acts (Reg No 70527).

The School seeks to ensure that people are treated equitably, regardless of age, disability, race, nationality, ethnic or national origin, gender, religion, sexual orientation or personal circumstances.

Freedom of thought and expression is essential to the pursuit, advancement and dissemination of knowledge. LSE seeks to ensure that intellectual freedom and freedom of expression within the law is secured for all our members and those we invite to the School.

On rare occasions, UK universities experience industrial action by staff which may prevent the full range of services, including teaching, being offered to students. The right to take industrial action is permitted by law and the members of staff concerned have legal protection if acting within the law. If services are affected by industrial action or other events beyond the School's control, the School will use its best endeavours to provide alternative facilities, not necessarily at the time of the action or event. Students should be aware that the School will not issue refunds of fees where industrial action or other events beyond the School's control affect teaching or other services.

Contact information

lse.ac.uk/generalCourse

Student Marketing and Recruitment

The London School of Economics and Political Science

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Contact information

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LSE-General Course



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