
An International Freshers' Guide to the University of Cambridge

A brief introduction

Presented by

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**GRADUATE
UNION**

AT THE UNIVERSITY OF CAMBRIDGE

What to do and what to bring/get:

ID with a Photo: College registrations

Passport Photos: Club and society memberships

National Insurance Number(from job center): take shifts at college bar or work over holidays.

GP registration. NHS number. DBS check(voluntary work with kids).

Take a photo of both sides of your BRP and have it on your phone just in case.

Travel cards(16-25 Young person rail card)

Bike(optional): Bank Account and Online banking.

Gowns/UK phone number

The Graduate Union (GU) is the University-wide representative body for graduate and mature undergraduate students at the University of Cambridge, and is one of the only students' unions in the UK that works exclusively with graduate students. It is a registered charity in England and Wales, number 1147864.

The GU is run by a Board of elected sabbatical and student officers, and in the interest of representing graduate and mature undergraduate students, our focus is on four key areas: **representation, services, welfare** and **events**.



Gowns

- Gowns are to be worn to some formal dining events + matriculation photos
- Costs around 50-100 pounds depending on the material and manufacturer.
- Available at GU shop and Ryder and Amies right across King's college.
- 20 pounds to upgrade MA gown to a PhD gown.
- GU gown hire : 1week = 55pounds. Upon return 50pounds deposit is returned.

1 academic year (Return date:31st of July)=65pounds.

50pounds deposit is returned. Costs 15.

**Deposit is Lowered to 40 if gown is 2nd hand (Subject to availability)

Bikes

-For international students with incomplete cycling etiquette knowledge: the law requires that your bike has **working front and rear lights** when cycling between sunset and sunrise. If the police catches you without these you can get a fine!

-A helmet is not compulsory but recommended especially if you come from a country with right-hand traffic.

-Insurance available for Bikes. You can get a Good coverage for only 10-20pounds per year.



WHERE TO GET WHAT

Groceries

Aldi - very cheap and great coffee

Sainsbury's

M&S and Waitrose for something fancier, a bit pricy but you can get good discounts

Home things

Save: Primark & Wilkos

Invest: M&S, John Lewis

Plants

Homebase, a bit further away but a good selection

The Flower House, opposite Magdalene for cute and quirky plant things - also pricier

Toiletries & Medicine

Boots has everything ever produced on this Earth of ours

Lush has a nice range of cosmetics, shampoo etc., also a good selection of products available for vegans as they don't test on animals

Books

Heffers is the only true bookshop in Cambridge
There is also a Waterstones but who needs it when you have Heffers
Cambridge University Press bookshop, you get a discount with your uni card as well!

Stationery

WHSmith
Rymans, good basics
Paperchase, cute but pricey
Staples, a large selection
Heffers has some unique things too

Shopping

Lion Yard, the main shopping centre in the city centre
Grafton Centre, although you get a sense that this is also about what's around it rather than inside

Academic & Career Support

- Personal and Professional Training
 - Courses Include: CV Writing, Public Speaking, Leadership & Management, Teaching Students with Disabilities.
 - CU Training: <http://www.training.cam.ac.uk/>
- Cambridge University Language Centre (CULP)
 - Free Academic Reading Courses (Spanish, German, French & Italian) for postgrads.
 - General Language Courses (Arabic, Chinese, French, German, Greek, Italian, Japanese, Persian, Portuguese, Russian, Spanish & Swahili). Bursaries available for PhDs.
 - From Basic to Advanced.
 - Resources: [Academic Reading Courses](#); [General Language Courses](#)

Alternative Academic Support:

University of Cambridge Writing Group

Closed group

About

Discussion

Chats

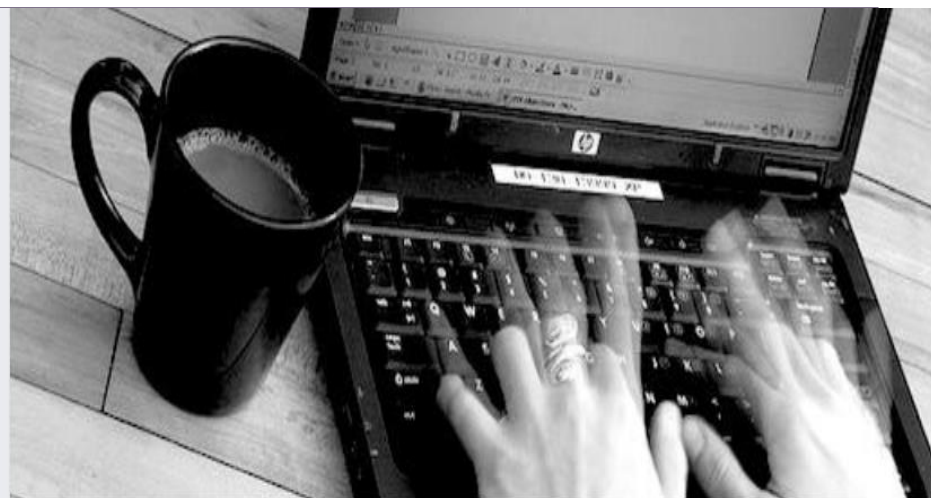
Announcements

Members

Events

Photos

Files



Joined ▾ ✓ Notifications [Share](#) [More](#)



Royal Literary Fund

Home [Helping Writers](#) [Education](#) [Resources](#) [Showcase](#)

[Fellowship Scheme](#) [Universities](#) [Fellows](#) [Consultants](#) [Reading Round](#)

RLF Fellowship Scheme

The Royal Literary Fund Fellowship scheme was conceived with the intention of placing professional writers in higher education institutions to offer writing support to all students. The principal aim of the Fellow's work is to foster good writing practice across disciplines and media. Each post is hosted by a particular department, which may be an academic department/faculty (either in Arts or Sciences) or a central department such as learning development.



Nayla Aramouni Fletcher shared a link.

Admin · June 12, 2017

This group offers peer support and working structure. We repeat a 75-minute cycle throughout the day: 10 minutes socialising (tea and coffee are (sometimes) available, bring your own mug and snacks), five minutes discussing your goals with a partner, 60 minutes writing/working session. You can drop in an out whenever it suits you, but please come in and set up quietly if others are in the middle of a session. The times and places the group meets are in the attached Google Document. This group is self-run, so please feel free to book a room if you can and add it where you find a gap in the schedule.

Cambridge & College Societies

- Societies Fair
- Sports Teams
 - University Blues
 - University Half-Blues
 - Intercollegiate
- Charitable Societies
- Cultural Groups
- Religious Groups



The screenshot displays the Cambridge University Students' Union (CUSU) website. At the top, the CUSU logo is visible, along with a navigation menu containing links for ABOUT, SUPPORT, TAKE ACTION, COMMUNITIES, TEACHING AWARDS, and NEWS. Below the navigation, a breadcrumb trail shows the path: Home > Support > Services We Offer. The main heading is "Clubs & Societies Directory", with a note indicating the user is not currently logged in. A toolbar below the heading includes buttons for "Clubs and Societies", "Other groups", "Categories", "Add new", "Manage mine", and "events@cam". There is also a "» Colleges" link. The main content area begins with a welcome message: "Welcome to the premier source of information about Societies and other groups at Cambridge University!". Below this, a section titled "Societies and groups at Cambridge" features a search bar and a "SEARCH!" button. The search bar contains the text "Search:" followed by a magnifying glass icon and the word "Search".

University-Wide Events

- Agora Website: www.joinagora.com
 - Search for University of Cambridge
 - Log-In with Raven Username/Password
 - Facebook Group Pages.
 - College Ents pages.

Travel & Railcards

- Railcard for 16-25 year olds or “Mature Student” (older than 25, but still studying full-time) – there is also a new 26-30 railcard
 - Costs 30 pounds
 - Discounts 1/3 off most fares across Britain
- Traveling to London
 - It is a lot cheaper to travel into London Liverpool Street (rather than London King’s Cross).
 - Travel on off-peak times to save money (weekends, holidays, and non-rush hour)
 - The Tube (London’s underground subway system) is very easy to navigate. Contactless debit card accepted



Further Support & Guidance

- Graduate Union (GU):
- Cambridge University Student Union (CUSU): <http://www.freshers.cusu.co.uk/>
- Students' Unions' Advice Service: <http://www.studentadvice.cam.ac.uk/>
- International Student Team: <http://www.internationalstudents.cam.ac.uk/>

- College
 - Welfare Committee
 - Tutors
 - Grad Buddies

Need a quiet place to study?

<https://spacefinder.lib.cam.ac.uk/>

- Faculty
 - Course Director
 - Supervisor
 - mentors
- Online International Student Orientation
- PDF “International Student Guide”
http://www.internationalstudents.cam.ac.uk/files/international_student_guide.pdf

Mental & Physical Health

- Mental Health
 - [University Counselling Service](#); [SANE Hotline](#)
- Sexual Health
 - If you are sexually active, practice safe sex. [Sexual Health Advice \(NHS\)](#)
 - Free condoms, dental dams, pregnancy tests from [CUSU](#)
- Eating Disorders
 - 1 in 20 people have an eating disorder during their life. [Eating Disorders](#) (Student Advice Service).
- Drugs
 - Information regarding Drugs and Narcotic Laws in the UK: [Home Office Narcotics Info](#).
 - [Emergency Advice for Drug/Alcohol Use](#) & [Student Advice Service – Drugs](#)

U of Cambridge Jargon

- BOP
- JCR
- MCR
- Pidge
- Plodge
- Stash
- UL
- KFC
- Fellow
- Buttery



GRADUATE UNION

AT THE UNIVERSITY OF CAMBRIDGE

International events:



FEB 12 RAG Blind Date 'First Dates': Reality TV Edition
Public · Hosted by Cambridge Rag



JAN 26 Tour de Brunch XIV: Christ's
Public · Hosted by The Cambridge University Czech & Slovak Society

Interested Going Share

Saturday at 11:10 AM - 2 PM
4 days from now · 1-7°C Rain

Christ's College, Cambridge
St Andrew's Street, CB2 3BU Cambridge, Cambridgeshire



FEB 2 Italian - Czech & Slovak Society Formal Swap
Public · Hosted by Cambridge University Italian Society and The Cambridge University Czech & Slovak Society

Interested Going Share

Saturday, February 2, 2019 at 7 PM - 10 PM
Next Week

Emmanuel College
St. Andrews Street, CB2 3AP Cambridge, Cambridgeshire



FEB 7 Belgian-Spanish formal swap
Public · Hosted by Cambridge University Belgian Society and Cambridge University Spanish Society

Interested Going Share

Thursday, February 7, 2019 at 7 PM - 10 PM

St Catharine's College Cambridge
Trumpington Street, CB2 1RL Cambridge, Cambridgeshire

Chinese New Year Gala 2019

SATURDAY 26 JANUARY 2019

Cambridge Corn Exchange - CB2 3QE



星滿
康橋

2019
农历乙亥猪年
剑桥春晚

7.15 PM 26 JAN, 2019
CORN EXCHANGE
2 WHEELER ST.
CAMBRIDGE CB2 3QB



Welcome to the University of Cambridge