



University of
HUDDERSFIELD
Inspiring global professionals

Your

UK Guide





What to do in your first week?



Not sure about any of the following?
Ask the International Office at:

international.office@hud.ac.uk





✓ Set up a bank account



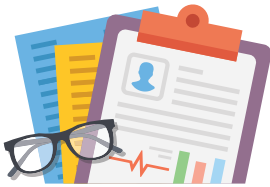
✓ Check if you need to register with the police



✓ Manage your money



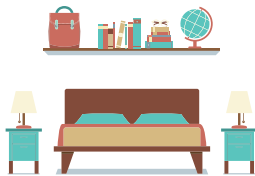
✓ Sort out your mobile phone – be careful with contracts



✓ Register yourself with the NHS (visit the University Health Centre)



✓ Understand your bills (Council Tax exempt)



✓ Queries with your accommodation? Contact DIGS or HudLets (Students union)



✓ Find out what events and trips are coming up



Understand your money



1p

One pence

Also known as a **'penny'**



2p

Two pence



5p

Five pence



10p

Ten pence



20p

Twenty pence



50p

Fifty pence



£1

One pound

Also known as a **'quid'**



£2

Two pounds

Also known as a **'two quid'**



£5

Five pounds

Also known as a **'fiver'**



£10

Ten pounds

Also known as a **'tenner'**



£20

Twenty pounds

Also known as a **'twenty'**



£50

Fifty pounds

Also known as a **'fifty'**



Transport in the UK





Bus

- Tell the driver where you are going and pay on the bus
- Weekly tickets – pay on the bus or online
- Try to use exact change and don't pay with £10, £20 or £50
- Late at night – it is safer to avoid the top floor
- Press the bell on the bus before the stop you want



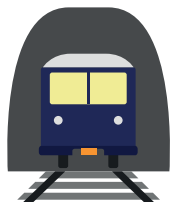
Taxi

- Often cheaper to pre-book
- Ask for a price before you book or travel
- Convenient to book with mobile apps
- Always check that the taxi is licenced
- Do not put your hand out on the road to stop a taxi



Train

- Cheaper if booked in advance
- Keep your ticket until exiting station of destination
- Book online, use ticket machines or buy at the ticket office
- Ask the ticket office about the 16-25 railcard – save up to a 1/3 off the standard ticket price



London Underground

- Pay for single or daily tickets, Oyster or contactless card
- Different lines in London have different colours
- **tfl.gov.uk** has up-to-date information for delays and travel plans

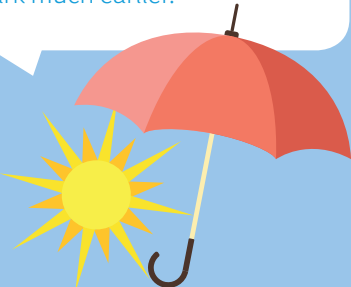


Culture Shock



The weather

The weather can change quickly in the UK and people can find it difficult to adapt to these changes. It can rain a lot, so be sure to have a waterproof coat and an umbrella no matter what the season. Dress up warm in the winter months where the weather can get extremely cold and the sky gets dark much earlier.



The food

You may find British food strange at first. It may taste different, or be cooked differently, or it may seem bland or heavy compared to what you are used to. Try and find a supplier of familiar food, and eat plenty of fresh fruit and vegetables.



WHAT IS IT?

'**Culture Shock**' describes the impact of moving from a familiar culture to one which is unfamiliar. It is an experience described by people who have travelled abroad to work, live or study; it can be felt to a certain extent even when abroad on holiday. It can affect anyone, including international students. It includes the shock of a new environment, meeting lots of new people and learning the ways of a different country.

The language

People might speak quickly or with a strong regional accent, so you may find it difficult to understand. Don't be embarrassed to ask somebody to repeat what they have said.



The behaviour

Social behaviours may be different to what you are used to, and you may find that people seem busy, distant or appear cold especially in the large cities.

You may be surprised to see public displays of affection, differences in what people wear and differences in same sex social contact and relationships. We are a very open nation, and it is important not to laugh, stare or point at things you may not be used to seeing.

British slang



Just when you thought you understood the English language, **here are some popular slang words used in daily life...**

“Cheers”

Meaning to celebrate when toasting a drink, but also another way to say **‘thank you’**.

“Chuffed”

Meaning to be very **‘happy/pleased’**.

“Dodgy”

Meaning something or someone is **‘untrustworthy’**.

“Fortnight”

Meaning **‘two weeks’**.

“Gutted”

Meaning **‘saddened or devastated’** about a situation.

“Knackered”

Meaning **‘tiredness or exhaustion’** in any given situation.

“Mate”

Meaning a **‘friend’** but also used as **‘a friendly greeting’** in conversation.

“Naff”

Meaning something is rubbish or **‘not very good’**.

“Okie Dokie”

Meaning another word to say **‘OK’**

“Sarny/Butty”

Meaning another way to say **‘sandwich’**.



Do's...



Get involved with campus events/societies



Get active, participate in class and make new friends



Queue and respect it – it's a British art form



Respect animals and nature



Respect everybody around you, and respect their opinions, personal space and privacy



Respect equality – everybody should be treated the same regardless of race, disability, gender, sexuality or religion



Pay attention to your surroundings, especially when crossing the road – remember we drive on the left



Dont's...



Swipe any other student card other than your own*



Miss class – your attendance is monitored and very important*



Spit



Swear or use abusive language



Throw rubbish on the floor



Cross the road until the green man is displayed



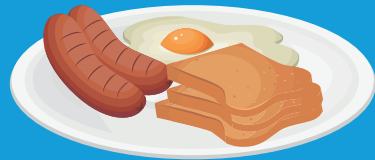
Smoking indoors or public places (cafes, restaurants, shopping centres – anywhere indoors)



* Visit <http://hud.ac/dja> for more information



Get to know your British dishes





English breakfast



Beans on Toast



Fish, chips and mushy peas



Coleslaw or cottage cheese with jacket potato



Pie and mash



Strawberries and cream



Sunday roast



Everything with a cup of tea (Cuppa)!



Eat and drink - the rules



Paying the bill

If you are invited out, generally the bill is split evenly between everybody there. Sometimes, the host will pay for everything – but not always. You are certainly expected to offer to pay your share.



Paying for drinks

When out for drinks with a group, it's common for one member of the group to buy a drink for everyone (called a 'round'). Once everyone has finished that drink, another person in the group takes a turn to buy everyone a drink. This will go on until everyone has bought a drink for everyone.



Tipping

Tipping is not a big custom in the UK but there are certain situations where it is regarded polite to do so. Restaurants are a prime example. Some restaurants will include a 12.5% service charge on the bill, so you need to check in order not to tip them twice.



UK alcohol law

The law in England states that you have to be over 18 years old to buy alcohol from a pub, off-licence, supermarket or other outlet. If you look under 18 years of age then you will be asked for some ID with your date of birth written on it.





Keep calm...



The UK is generally a safe place with low levels of crime. But whenever you travel to a new country, it is vital you look after yourself.



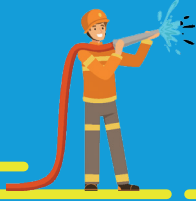
Avoid displaying expensive items such as watches, jewellery or mobile phones in busy public places.



Try **not to carry large amounts of money** with you.



If you have lost a key or just moved into a new property, it is a good idea to **change the locks** after speaking with your landlord.



...stay safe in the UK

Stay safe whilst in the UK. Important contact numbers:



999 – Emergency (police, fire and ambulance)



112 – Emergency (UK Mobile)



111 – Non-Emergency for health



101 – Non-Emergency for police



Your first day in class





Rumana India

“Socialise with your classmates as much as possible. This will help you in the long run”



Nam Vietnam

“Get involved by asking questions, and remember your course leaders are there to offer support and give advice during your course”



Babatunde Nigeria

“Its important to know your timetable and get to know your coursemates, this will help you integrate”



Silje Norway

“Join societies, and be active. Having something for the off days really helps you focus”






Supporting you...



Accommodation

Get support from the DIGS office (Ashenhurst/Storthes Hall) or ask Hud Lets in the Students' Union to check your contract before signing

 Visit us in the Schwann Building or Student Central

Careers and Employability

Get support with CVs, interview techniques, preparing yourself for work

 Visit us in Student Central

International Office

Immigration advice, tuition fees and guidance on living in the UK

 Visit us in Student Central

Use the **FREE**
support available
to you on campus.

Don't be shy – it's there for you!



iPoint

Get help with student cards, certificates, letters and changing details

 Visit us in Student Central

Students' Union

Get independent help and advice on University life and activities

 Visit us in Student Central


University Safety Officer

Visit the Safety Officer on campus for advice

 Ask at the iPoint for more details

Wellbeing and Disability

Homesickness, personal problems and advice

 Visit us at iPoint

Explore Huddersfield...



Marsden Standedge Tunnel



Castle Hill/Jubilee Tower



Yorkshire Sculpture Park



Huddersfield Town Football Club



Harold Wilson statue



Holmfirth



National Coal Mining Museum



Beaumont Park

...and beyond



Knaresborough



Haworth



Chatsworth House



Buxton



Lake District



Northumberland



Whitby



London



Edinburgh



Important dates





October

31 October: Halloween



November

5 November: Guy Fawkes Night
(Bonfire Night)

11 November: Remembrance Day

30 November: St. Andrew's Day

December

25 December: Christmas Day

26 December: Boxing Day

31 December: New Year's Eve

January

1 January: New Year's Day

25 January: Burns Night

February

14 February: Valentine's Day

25 February: Shrove Tuesday
(Pancake Day)



March

1 March: St. David's Day

17 March: St. Patrick's Day

22 March: Mother's Day

April

10 April: Good Friday

12 April: Easter Sunday

13 April: Easter Monday
Bank Holiday

21 April: Queen Elizabeth's Birthday

23 April: St. George's Day

May

8 May: May Day Bank Holiday

25 May: Spring Bank Holiday

June

16 June: Trooping the Colour

17 June: Father's Day



August

31 August: Summer Bank Holiday

Events in Huddersfield to look out for:

Huddersfield Food and Drink Festival

Huddersfield Town Football Club

Huddersfield Contemporary Music
Festival

Holmfirth Festival of Folk

Holmfirth Film Festival

Holmfirth Duck Race

Holmfirth Food and Drink Festival

Marsden Jazz Festival

Marsden Cuckoo Festival

Emley Show

Honley Show

Meltham Memories: 1940s Wartime
Weekend

Moonraking Festival

Welcoming students for 175 years

International Office

University of Huddersfield
Queensgate
Huddersfield
HD1 3DH
United Kingdom

Telephone: +44 (0)1484 472048

Email: international.office@hud.ac.uk

Web: www.hud.ac.uk/international

 UoHInternational

 huduniint

 huddersfieldint

 huduniint QR Code



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