The University of Aberdeen

Founded in 1495, Aberdeen is an international University built on the high quality of its teaching and research.

Over the centuries, Aberdeen graduates and scholars have changed the world in many fields of human endeavour. Their legacy and inspiration lives on today in wide-ranging museum collections, and in uniquely-rich historic collections and archives, available to a wide audience in the new University library.

Today, the University is at the forefront in many areas of art and social sciences, in science, oil and gas, renewable energy, computing, engineering and technology, and in ground-breaking disciplines focused firmly on the 21st century, such as bio-medical computing science.

Everything is done to provide students with the very best in support services and facilities. To this end, the University has made an unprecedented multi-million pound investment to provide its students with some of the very best facilities available anywhere in the UK. These include an Olympic standard sports village, the largest wireless campuses in Europe, a state-of-the-art medical teaching facility on Europe’s largest health campus, and, our fantastic new £57 million Sir Duncan Rice Library opened in 2012.

Key facts

- Five Nobel Prizes have been awarded for work started or carried out here.
- Ranked in the Top 1% for teaching and worldwide.
- New £57 million investment in a 21st century library.
Teaching at the University of Aberdeen is organised across three colleges, those of Arts & Social Sciences, Life Sciences and Medicine and Physical Sciences. Students benefit from being taught by academic staff who are active in research, many involved in international collaborations at the forefront of discovery in their respective discipline.

Over recent years many internationally-renowned professors have come to Aberdeen from the world’s leading universities to take up newly established Sixth Century Chairs. This has helped attract ambitious staff at all levels who are keen to develop their careers as members of our thriving teaching and research community.

Aberdeen has a long tradition of welcoming students from all over the world. The University is proud to have a large international community with students and staff, drawn from over 120 countries.

The University has created a number of specially designed International Foundation Programmes, which can help students enter the University. Pathways are available in Biological Sciences, Chemistry, Computing Science, Engineering, Mathematics and Psychology.

The University is embarking upon an exciting period of internationalisation, building upon a long established record of engagement with fellow academic colleagues, universities and research institutes from all over the world. Students already benefit from comprehensive exchange opportunities throughout Europe, North America, Canada, Hong Kong and Japan which provide a fantastic opportunity for students to gain an international dimension to their Aberdeen studies.

In terms of future collaboration, the Business School will shortly be launching an MBA programme delivered in Singapore alongside cutting edge ‘cloud’ teaching online. Many other programmes are now available purely by distance learning, including Subsea Engineering and Project Management.

The University has an outstanding track record in pioneering discoveries which have changed thinking and practice in medicine, science and humanities over five centuries, including work that has contributed to five Nobel Prizes.

The latest 2008 Research Assessment Exercise results find almost 90 per cent of Aberdeen’s research judged to be of international quality, and 55 per cent classed as world-leading or internationally excellent.

Total research income has more than trebled over the last ten years, and funding from competitively-won research grants has grown 35 per cent over the last four years.

Aberdeen’s three distinct research centres have a broad-based research platform, focusing on global issues including health, social organisation, environmental sustainability and energy, including renewable energy and oil and gas. Researchers investigate the challenges to modern life from technological and scientific advances to modern culture and thought, and apply expertise derived from addressing local, regional and national issues to develop multidisciplinary teams to tackle global issues.

The University of Aberdeen has a proven track record in helping graduates take the first steps on the ladder of their chosen career. Aberdeen graduates are highly sought after and can earn some of the best starting salaries in the UK.

The University’s team of professional Careers Service staff offer access to personal career advice and guidance from day one. It also gives unparalleled access to local, national and international opportunities.

The University is committed to producing graduates for the 21st Century and has recently taken bold new steps to enhance the student experience.