

England: Lancaster University

Lancaster, England

<http://www.lancs.ac.uk/depts/international>



2008-2009

Program Information:

Language of Instruction: English

Program Length: Long Term

Program Dates: Early October to late March

Enrollment: Maximum of 4

Class Standing Requirement: Junior (17 credits)

GPA Requirement: Minimum of 2.7

Non-K Program: An institution other than Kalamazoo College operates this program. Program is approved for transfer of academic credit. Only state and federal financial aid transfers to this program—Kalamazoo aid and scholarships do not transfer.

Program Fee: \$25,444 (2008-2009); Includes tuition and fees, food and housing while classes are in session, several excursions, and round-trip international airfare from a designated point of departure. Does not include books, personal spending money, food or housing during vacation periods, or independent travel.

NOTE: The sponsoring institution has provided the CIP with the latest information on expenses, however the program fee must be regarded as an estimate of total program charges. Any changes that are beyond the control of Kalamazoo College could cause a participant to pay more than the estimated costs.

Housing: Dormitory. Students live in sing rooms grouped around a communal lounge and kitchen area. Common space is shared by English and other international students. Meals can be cooked in the kitchen or eaten in the campus dining halls. A supermarket and bakery are located on the campus. During holiday breaks, students may remain in the university dorms for a fee.

About the Location:

Lancaster lies on the west coast of Britain, close to the urban centers of Manchester and Liverpool. London is three hours away by train and Scotland is only one hour away. Ashley Arnold, who studied at Lancaster in 2007-8, describes Lancaster as "a great place to roam and get out into the country. It is a small town and has a small town feel. You can easily notice this as you observe people greet each other on the buses (public transport is amazing!), and on market days when the donut man begins to recognize you. The shop workers are friendly and helpful and will even at times invite you out for a night." For sightseeing she recommends the Lancaster Castle, "which is the only castle still in operation in England. Other great trips include the Lake District. By train Windermere is easiest. If you know someone with a car, Keswick is the place to go. Also, Edinburgh in Scotland is amazing. Manchester is an easy train ride away as well, and offers some great nights out, and a great shopping mall."

At the University of Lancaster, all students and faculty belong to a college. In addition to being the residence hall of the students, the 'colleges' are also the main focus of student recreation and social life. Each college has its own undergraduate meeting and reading rooms and may have snack bars, game rooms, and other facilities. Students are eligible to participate in all University and college-supported activities and are encouraged to join one or more of the 80+ clubs and organizations at the University or in the city.

To learn more about Lancaster and its academic program, contact a CIP Peer Advisor in person or at cippa@kzoo.edu. They will be able to put you in touch with returned students who have experienced Lancaster first-hand!



Program is geared towards but not limited to: English, Mathematics, Natural & Computer Science, British, and Women's Studies Majors

Having a kitchen to cook in was amazing—it was also a gathering area. Students hang out in the kitchens every night, talking. It is the friendships with the locals that made my experience, especially as I traveled to their houses, allowing me to see even more of England.

— Ashley Arnold K'09



Lancaster Castle:
Photo provided by Ashley Arnold K'09

Questions?
Contact the Center for International Programs
Location: First Floor Dewing
Phone: 269-337-7133
E-mail: cip@kzoo.edu

England: Lancaster University

Lancaster, England

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About the University:

Courses/Credits

Students on the Long-Term program must enroll in the equivalent of 6 K-Units of credit. In order to be counted as one K-Unit of credit, a course must be within the liberal arts tradition and have 40-45 contact hours. One K-Unit is equivalent to 4 Lancaster credits. No partial credit is given. In cases where students must combine courses to achieve the minimum number of contact hours for a unit of credit, both courses must be from the same discipline. Students take part in a comprehensive orientation prior to registration and the commencement of classes. During the orientation, academic advisors assist students with course selection and registration. Students typically enroll in 3 courses during both the Michaelmas and Lent terms. Students may select courses from a wide range of disciplines, however, courses that are not within the liberal arts tradition are not eligible for transfer of academic credit. It is therefore the student's responsibility to consult with his/her academic advisor at Kalamazoo College concerning course selection. A list of courses at the University of Lancaster is available in the Center for International Programs.

Credit Transfer

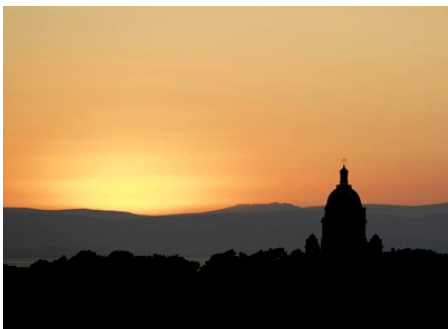
Grades from all study abroad courses will appear on the Kalamazoo transcript but are not included in the Kalamazoo grade point average. Students must earn the equivalent of a C in the local grading system to receive credit for coursework completed abroad. Coursework must be completed and turned in before the end of the academic program or no credit will be given.

Courses approved for Cultures Credit: *Art after Modernism (ARTX), Literature 1890-1945 (LIT), Modern British Politics (POLS), and Women in Society (SOCSCI).*

"Make sure to try all the local foods—they are good! But be ready to eat hearty foods. They love potatoes. One of my favorite meals in England was bangers and mash, which is basically sausage on mashed potatoes. The steak and ale pies are to die for and the fish and chips a must. But tartar sauce is considered the wimpy way to eat fish, so if you want to be a real Brit order yours fish with vinegar, a feat I never was able to accomplish."
— Ashley Arnold K'09



Furness courtyard and residence halls:
Photo provided by Ashley Arnold K'09



Ashton Memorial at sunset:
Photo provided by Ashley Arnold K'09

Advice from Past-Participants

One hint about taking the trains—often only the final destination is listed on the departure board. Therefore look at the times and know the time of your train

Make friends with the freshers. In England it is very common to take a gap year before entering university so they are only a year younger and generally mature enough. In addition they are new as well and eager to make new friends.

You will have international orientations, but while they are nice and somewhat helpful I would make sure you also go to the freshers orientations. They are more interesting and the chance of meeting locals is much more likely. Go to as many events as you can—don't be shy. Especially helpful is your college's big night out. Do not miss this. It was during this night out that I meet almost all of my friends, who I am still in touch with today.

Revolutions is the place to go on Monday - it has places to sit and a dance floor. My personal favorite was Hustle. Hustle is place that loves to do themed nights. These range from foam parties, to covering the floor in sand for beach parties. There is never a dull night at Hustle. Though smaller than most places the music is less mainstream as they have Indie night and play some oldies as well. Liquid was also a great place to go, especially Thursdays when ladies got in for 5 pounds.

Before Christmas Holiday each college holds a Christmas ball. Go. This was one of my favorite nights. You get to feel like royalty, have a good three course meal, live entertainment, Christmas crackers, and dancing.

People there hang out much more often. Life runs at a slower pace and therefore less stressful. There are no worries about rigid schedules (except classes). Public transport allows you to go wherever you would like, whenever you would like. There is no need to worry about gas prices as you don't have a tank to fill. You don't have to worry about having enough space as you can easily load all your friends on one bus.

While uncommon, do not be surprised if people hear your accent and decide to come over to talk to you. Usually they are enthralled and love America, though they may have misconceptions.