

NYU London

FALL 2013 PRE-DEPARTURE AND ARRIVAL INFORMATION

Congratulations on your acceptance into the NYU London programme for the Fall 2013 semester. We have been working hard to prepare for the new semester and are looking forward to your arrival in London. We hope you are excited about spending some time getting to know our city, and are looking forward to an exciting educational experience.

In order to prepare you for your time in the United Kingdom, we will provide you with a handbook upon arrival that will complement the information you have already received from the NYU-based staff. Following is some additional information regarding arrival, housing, and orientation and classes.

The NYU London staff are here to assist you in finding answers to any questions you may have. We encourage you to benefit from the educational, cultural and social possibilities that the university and city offer, and we look forward to helping you make the most of your semester in London.

Should you have any questions prior to your arrival, please consult the What's Next London blog (<http://nyulondonfall2013.wordpress.com/>) and the NYU London Study Away website: (<http://www.nyu.edu/global/global-academic-centers/london.html>) or contact us by e-mail or telephone.

Please also be sure to befriend us on Facebook (<http://www.facebook.com/nyu.london.5>), follow us on twitter [@nyuinlondon](https://twitter.com/nyuinlondon) and on tumblr <http://nyuinlondon.tumblr.com/>.

Best wishes

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NYU London makes no endorsement of external agencies, businesses, etc. listed in this booklet. Their inclusion is based upon feedback and experiences from students and operations.

INDEX**PART ONE: PRIOR TO DEPARTURE**

TRAVEL TO LONDON

WEATHER AND PACKING

PART TWO: ARRIVAL IN THE UK

AIRPORT ARRIVAL

PASSPORT AND VISA

FOLLOWING IMMIGRATION CONTROL

GETTING FROM THE AIRPORT TO THE ACCOMMODATION

REGISTERING WITH THE POLICE

PART THREE: NYU LONDON RESIDENCES

HOUSING LOCATION: OVERVIEW

NYU IN LONDON MANAGED RESIDENCES

NIDO KINGS CROSS

OTHER INFORMATION

PART FOUR: ACADEMIC INFORMATION

NYUL ARRIVAL & ORIENTATION POLICY

ORIENTATION OUTLINE

NYU LONDON STAFF

NYU LONDON ACADEMIC CENTRE

ACADEMICS AND BOOKS

EVENTS AND PROGRAMMES

PART FIVE: HEALTH & WELL BEING

HEALTHCARE

PREPARING FOR LONDON AND CULTURE SHOCK

PART SIX: PRACTICAL INFORMATION

COMMUNICATION

MONEY AND BANKING

TRAVELLING IN LONDON

FINAL TIPS AND REMINDERS

PART ONE: PRIOR TO DEPARTURE

- **Programme dates**
- **Average temperatures / rain**
- **General packing advice**

TRAVEL TO LONDON

Check in and arrival on 28 August

Check in times vary at the 3 different residences which will house NYU London students this Fall:

- **Byron Court** – please check in between 8:00 a.m. and 3:00 p.m.
- **Guilford House** – please check in between 8:00 a.m. and 3:00 p.m.
- **Nido King's Cross** – check in from 3:00 p.m. (students are very welcome to arrive any time before 3pm and will be able to store luggage and use communal areas such as the café until your room is ready)

You will receive a housing assignment email approximately 14 days prior to the start of the semester containing details of which residence hall you have been assigned to, and the address where you should check-in.

Early arrival

“I am planning to fly in to London on August 24th and stay in a hostel for a few nights. Do you know of any cheap/safe hostels to recommend, preferably near NYU housing?”

If you've booked a flight to arrive in London prior to 28 August, sadly we cannot open the residences up prior to this date. Please find some information to follow about some options should you need to find a place to stay before you check in to housing on 28 August.

The best hostel to stay in that is close to NYU housing is called the Generator (see: <http://www.generatorhostels.com/en/london>. It is very well located (for everything) and near to Russell Square Tube Station which gives direct access to London's Heathrow Airport, via the Piccadilly Line.

If you are looking for a convenient budget hotel (as opposed to a hostel) take a look at the Celtic Hotel on Guilford Street. The Celtic Hotel has just gone through a major refurbishment – actually changing its name, from the St. Margaret's Hotel, in the process – so don't be confused when you access its website on: http://www.stmargarethotel.co.uk/i_n_s_i_d_e.html.

We believe it is now a very nice hotel and very good value, especially for the Bloomsbury area of London. It is literally, 100 metres from our Guilford Street residence building and a mere 10/15-minute walk to Byron Court, Nido and the NYU Academic Centre. So it can't really be beaten.

In Bloomsbury I think the Celtic Hotel would be the best budget option, but if you don't mind being outside this area, take a look at these other budget choices:

- The Columbia Hotel is <http://www.columbiahotel.co.uk/> is cheap (for its location) but is looking tired these days
- The Ace Hotel in Kensington would be a good value option <http://www.acehotel.co.uk/>
- As would the Easy Hotel off the Cromwell Road http://www.easyhotel.com/hotels/london_earls_court.html
- The Holiday Inn Express at Southwark is brand new <http://www.exhisouthwark.co.uk/>

- We've heard good things about the Gate Hotel <http://www.gatehotel.co.uk/> in Notting Hill, if you want something a bit more "individual"
- Similarly about the Mitre House Hotel <http://www.mitrehousehotel.com/> in Paddington.

Finals, Departure

Please note that the **academic programme end date** is **Thursday 12th December 2013**. Do not make arrangements to leave earlier than the end of this day as exams and class meetings may be scheduled up until that day and may not be held on the same day that your class is normally held.

Check out

The housing lease period ends on the **departure date of Saturday 14th December 2013**. NYU London does not have any available housing after this date, but can provide contact details for local housing providers. NYU London will provide baggage storage space for those travelling after the program, and for those who are returning in Spring 2014.

WEATHER AND PACKING

The weather in London can be unpredictable. London has a 'temperate maritime' climate with few extremes, though moderate summers and mild, damp winters would be typical. Summer temperatures can reach the 80's, though 70's would be typical. Autumn and Spring are generally in the 50's and winter in the 40's. Snow has traditionally been rare; however, London has experienced heavy snowfalls during the past few winters. It is always worth being prepared for a rain shower, whatever the time of year. The following table shows average temperatures in London for the academic year:

| Month | Avg. Temp. (C/F) | Avg. Rain (mm/in) |
|-----------|------------------|-------------------|
| September | 16/60 | 49/1.9 |
| October | 11/52 | 57/2.2 |
| November | 7/45 | 64/2.5 |
| December | 5/41 | 48/1.9 |
| January | 5/41 | 45/1.8 |
| February | 6/43 | 30/1.2 |
| March | 7/45 | 43/1.7 |
| April | 9/48 | 37/1.5 |
| May | 13/55 | 47/1.9 |

To get updates on the weather, visit www.bbc.co.uk/weather/

We cannot stress enough that you should pack as lightly as possible. You should try to limit your luggage to one large suitcase and a carry on bag. You will no doubt be carrying all of your belongings at one point, and have even more on your way home! ***Excess baggage charges are high and there is very limited storage in your rooms at the residence.*** Standard advice is to pack what you think you need, and then remove half of it. Remember to bring clothes for the winter months (clothes you can layer are a good idea) and - of course - a raincoat and umbrella.

Make certain that each bag is marked clearly with the following information:

- 1) Your Permanent home address in U.S.
- 2) Your London Address (see below).
- 3) The airline and flight you are taking.

We advise you to put essentials for 24 hours into your carry-on bag, in case of loss of baggage during transit. Please ensure that all medication remains in its original packaging to avoid problems at customs.

We do recommend students to bring laptops - most laptops will have a convertor (rectangular box) built into the cable which will allow you to plug it into a UK socket. You will need to purchase a travel adapter plug to enable your electrical items to use 3-pin UK power sockets (see the image to the right). You may also need to buy a voltage converter to ensure your equipment can be used safely in the UK: please see <http://gouk.about.com/od/tripplanning/ss/powerconverter.htm> for further guidance.



We advise students NOT to bring electrical goods such as hairdryers or hair straighteners – the UK uses a stronger current than the US and will therefore explode when plugged into a UK socket. Items suitable for a few months can be bought cheaply in London, and shared between room-mates. Please note that stationary and school supplies work on a different sizing system in the UK, so please do not bring these either.

Bringing a few things from home might help you out in an essay crisis, but almost all types of food, toiletry and personal products can be found easily in central London – just ask a RA or a member of NYUL staff for ideas if you have trouble!

PART TWO: ARRIVAL IN THE UK

- Immigration control
- Passport and Visa
- Customs control - goods to declare/ nothing to declare
- Travelling to your residence from the airport

AIRPORT ARRIVAL

During the flight, you will be given a Landing Card (pictured right) by flight attendants. You must complete this and keep it with the other important documents listed below to present to immigration officers. You can use the NYU London address as your UK address on the card:

NYU London, 6 Bedford Square, London WC1B 3RA.

After exiting the plane, passengers will initially go through passport control. There are usually two different lines - one for European Economic Area and Swiss nationals, and one for everyone else. Make sure you join the right queue.

PASSPORT AND VISA

Unless you have a passport issued by a European Economic Area country (which is the EU countries plus Iceland, Norway, Liechtenstein) or Switzerland, you need a visa to enter the UK as a student.

You will have been sent information on immigration (visas) by NYU's Office of Global Services (OGS). For further details visit the "What's Next London" blog at: <http://nyulondonfall2013.wordpress.com/> or the Outbound Immigration and Mobility Services section of the NYU OGS website: <http://www.nyu.edu/global/international-immigration-services/students/outbound-from-nyc.html>.

There are two visa options:

1. **Student Visitor**
2. **Tier 4 (General) for adult students**

Student Visitor

If you're a US passport holder, you can apply for this on arrival in the UK. There is no charge for doing this.

You will need:

- A printed copy of your Student Visitor Support Letter from NYU confirming your student status (you will have been sent this from the Study Abroad admissions office).
- A passport, valid for at least 6 months after your programme end date
- Evidence of your departure date from the UK (confirmation of your return flight)
- Evidence of funds (usually a recent bank statement) to support yourself without working or recourse to 'public funds'. You should allow \$4800 for this purpose.

You are **not permitted** to take employment or an internship with a Student Visitor visa, whether paid or unpaid. If you inform the Immigration Officer that you are planning to work under a Student Visitor visa, you will not be permitted to enter the UK.

If you are not a US national you may need to apply for your Student Visitor visa before departing for the UK, for which there is a charge. Check with your local British Embassy.

Tier 4 (General) for adult students

To obtain a Tier4 (General) visa, you must have already received a CAS letter from NYU and applied for your visa. This is a visa you **MUST** have in your passport before leaving for the UK. By this point, it is now too late to apply for a Tier 4 (General) visa and to receive it before classes start.

The Tier 4 (General) Visa allows you to work up to 20 hours per week during term-time, provided this is specified on your visa. It does not guarantee you employment. NYU in London is your Tier 4 Sponsor for immigration purposes. That means we have a duty to monitor your compliance with your visa restrictions, such as working hours restrictions, class attendance and length of stay compliance, and report any infractions to the UK Government. All Tier 4 students will be required to bring their passport into the Academic Centre to have a copy of the Tier 4 Visa and picture page during the first week of classes.

FOLLOWING IMMIGRATION CONTROL

After clearing immigration control, you should collect your luggage. If any of your luggage does not come through, find a representative of the airline you travelled on and fill in a lost baggage form. You must report lost luggage before leaving the baggage reclaim area, otherwise you may not be covered by your insurance. Once you've reported the loss of your luggage proceed to housing and advise NYU London staff about the problem so that they can provide you with assistance and advice.

Next you must pass through customs control. You will have to join queues for the **green** channel if you have **nothing to declare**, the **red** channel if you have **goods to declare**, or the **blue** channel if you have arrived from an airport within the European Economic Area.

To check restrictions on what you are entitled to bring in to the UK visit <http://www.hmrc.gov.uk/customs/>. **NOTE:** Even if you pass through the green channel the customs officer may ask you to open your luggage for checking.

GETTING FROM THE AIRPORT TO THE ACCOMMODATION

Students are required to make their own way to their assigned residence from the airport. Detailed instructions for getting to the residences from Heathrow airport will be placed on the Fall 2013 Blog around the same time that housing assignments have been emailed out (approximately 2 weeks before the semester starts).

Member(s) of NYUL staff (wearing NYUL t-shirts) will be available at Heathrow airport Terminal 3 from 7.30am until 1.00pm on Wednesday 28th August. Staff will be located close to the Meeting Point (look for this sign in the arrivals hall in terminal 3) and can help students with general transportation questions. Staff will not be able to buy tickets or make transportation bookings on your behalf. **Please ensure that you plan your journey from the airport prior to your departure for the UK.**



Please note that if you are planning on arriving in London before Wednesday 28th August, you will need to arrange alternative accommodation for these days.

If you have to arrive later than 3:00 p.m. on Wednesday 28th August you **MUST** contact NYU London immediately to discuss your plans and to make arrangements to gain access to your residence. **Please note that attendance at NYU London orientation is mandatory - see below.**

If you experience delays, missed flights etc, which will mean you arrive after 3:00 p.m. on Wednesday 28th August or experience any difficulties at the airport, you can get in touch with NYUL staff by:

- Emailing nyu.in.london@nyu.edu.
- If the situation is urgent, calling the NYU London Freephone Number on 011-44-800-316-0469 (from US) or 0800 316 0469 (from inside the UK) and select option 2. This number is free from UK payphones.

REGISTERING WITH THE POLICE

Some non-US passport holders may be required to register with the police at the Overseas Visitors Registration Office within seven days of arrival in the UK. This requirement will be stamped in your passport by the immigration official and NYU staff will be happy to assist affected students. If you are having difficulty, please contact the NYU Study Abroad Admissions Office for guidance.

Overseas Visitors Registration Office (OVRO)

Ground Floor, Brandon House, 80 Borough High Street, London SE1 1LH

Telephone: 020 7230 1208

Opening hours:

09:00 - 16:00 (Monday to Friday) - arrive early

Except Public and Bank Holidays

You will need:

Passport or travel document

£34 exact money cash, or you can pay by debit / credit card (not American Express)

Directions:

Take the Northern Line southbound from King's Cross St. Pancras underground station (using the Bank branch), exiting at Borough station

PART THREE: NYU LONDON RESIDENCES

- **NYU London managed residences (Byron Court & Guilford House)**
- **NIDO King's Cross**
- **Other information about all housing facilities**

HOUSING LOCATION: OVERVIEW

The NYU London managed residences are located in **Bloomsbury**, an attractive and multi-dimensional central area, bordering the commercial area of Holborn, the lively west end, and the cosmopolitan area of Camden. It is London's academic district, containing most of the central departments and colleges of the University of London, including Birkbeck College, UCL, the School of Oriental and African Studies, and the University of London's School of Advanced Study. As well as being the focal point for student life in London, many restaurants, bars, pubs and clubs can be found just minutes from the residence, as well as the incredible collection at the British Museum. Bloomsbury is also one of London's best areas for green space, with several public squares to choose from.

The area is well served by public transport, with Russell Square, Euston, King's Cross St. Pancras and Goodge Street tube stations a short walk away, and many bus routes nearby. It is also a short walk away from the shops of Oxford Street, the nightlife of Soho, and most west end theatres.

NYU LONDON MANAGED RESIDENCES

NYU London manages two recently renovated residences – Byron Court and Guilford Street. Both are approximately 15-20 minutes walk away from the NYUL academic centre in Bedford Square.

Apartments are single-sex. They contain between 1 and 3 bedrooms, shared by between 2 and 9 students in a combination of twin, triple and quadruple rooms. There are shared bathroom facilities in each apartment, with at least one shower (not baths). Each apartment differs slightly in terms of layout and facilities. Apartments are cleaned regularly.

Students can prepare meals in the apartment kitchens or eat out at the numerous restaurants in the nearby neighbourhood. Apartments contain fully furnished kitchens, with a shared refrigerator / freezer, oven, stove, kettle and a microwave, as well as dishes, cutlery, pots/pans and utensils.

Each student will have their own single bed, bureau, desk and chair. Bed linens are provided (one fitted sheet, a duvet / comforter, a duvet / comforter cover, a pillow and pillow case per bed). **Towels are not provided.**

Wireless internet in the buildings can be accessed in the apartments and communal areas. Apartments have both heating and air-conditioning. Utilities included in the room rate include gas, water, heat and electric.

All housing facilities and areas, including bedrooms, will be strictly non-smoking.

Bedroom options within shared apartments

- Standard bedrooms are twins, and triples.
- There are also some quadruple bedrooms at Guilford House.
- A very limited number of single rooms are available. Priority will be given to students who submit documentation of their medical need for this accommodation to NYU's Moses Center for Students With Disabilities, and receive authorisation. Should you wish to apply for a single room for any other reason, please provide any supporting information relating to your need for a single room (if any) on your housing form.

Communal facilities & Residential Staff

- The residences also feature communal areas for study and leisure, and on-site laundry facilities. Communal areas are no the same within the two NYU London managed residences.
- Residential life staff live on site and work during regular office hours providing advice, guidance, support, and residential life activities.
- There is also 24-hour security staff, as well as a controlled, electronic entry system and CCTV.

House rules

- Further information about residence rules will be available upon arrival at Orientation.

NIDO KING'S CROSS

Overview

The residence is in the King's Cross area of central London, a thirty minute walk or fifteen minute bus ride north east of the NYU London Academic Centre.

NYU London students will be living within a diverse community of over 1000 young people from all over the world who have chosen to study in London.

King's Cross is a lively and diverse central area, bordering residential Islington, Bloomsbury (the academic district), the City financial district and the cosmopolitan area of Camden. This leads to a vibrant atmosphere, and many interesting and fashionable restaurants, galleries, shops, bars, pubs and clubs can be found just minutes from the residence.

The area is well served by public transport, with King's Cross St. Pancras National Rail and Underground stations a short walk away, and many bus routes nearby and last (but not least) the Eurostar terminal at St. Pancras.

- There are a very limited number of single bedrooms. Priority will be given to students who submit documentation of their medical need for this accommodation to NYU's Moses Center for Students with Disabilities, and receive authorisation.
- All other bedrooms accommodate 2 people, are single-sex, have en-suite facilities (with showers, not baths) and central heating, but no air conditioning.
- Bed linens are provided; all rooms will receive a basic weekly cleaning service.
- Towels are NOT provided.
- Utilities included in the room rate include gas, water, heat and electricity, plus wired (via Ethernet cable) and wifi internet access in bedrooms.
- All students will have access to maintenance services.
- Students can rent a house phone from Nido to make internal and external calls (at additional cost) from their room, or purchase a mobile phone to use for making and receiving calls instead.
- NYU London and affiliated housing providers shall not be liable or otherwise responsible in any way in the unlikely event of loss of, or damage to, any personal property belonging to students. Taking out additional personal property insurance is strongly recommended.

Single Rooms

- These rooms contain a single bed, a desk and a chair, a noticeboard, a bookshelf, and a wardrobe. A safe can be rented from NIDO if required.
- Equipped with kitchenettes in the bedroom.
- The kitchenette is equipped with a refrigerator with freezer shelf, a two burner hob, a kettle and a microwave.
- These rooms have their own dish packs consisting of dishes, cutlery, pots/pans, utensils.
- NOTE: these rooms do not have access to communal kitchens.
- Total room size: 16.7 meters squared.

Twin Room w/in-room Kitchenette

- These rooms have two single beds, two desks and two desk chairs, one set of bookshelves, a noticeboard, two wardrobes, plus a safe per student. The rooms also contain a small kitchenette space with burners, microwave and fridge shared between the two occupants.
- Kitchen supplies such as cutlery, pots/pans and utensils are provided and shared between the two room occupants.
- Total size of bedroom – 16 meters squared.

Communal Facilities

NIDO has a range of facilities for you to use all within your residence – most of these are free to use, others you can choose whether you want to pay extra for them or not.

On-site communal facilities include:

- Study rooms
- Screening room
- Regular Residential Life events
- Cafeteria (food available at additional cost)
- Laundry facilities (at additional cost)
- Wireless internet in the lobby and cafeteria
- Access to NIDO's on-site gym – free after taking an initial induction class (the cost for this is £10).
- Includes: *Synchro Excite Running Machines* • *Cable Crossover Trainer*, *Bike Excite units* • *Leg Extension Trainer*, *Run Excite units* • *Chest Press Trainer*, • *Concept II Rower's* • *Leg Curl Unit*, *Pulldown Trainer* • *Shoulder Press*
- Games spaces with jukebox, pool table and table football.
- Intranet to access housing services such as maintenance, laundry facility booking, and more.
- There is access to bike storage if needed.

Housing rules

- Further information about residence rules will be available upon arrival at Orientation.

OTHER INFORMATION ABOUT ALL HOUSING FACILITIES

- There are no on-site gym facilities available within Byron Court or Guilford Street. If you want to join a gym, there are a number of local facilities available for which you should budget approximately £35 per month.
- There are no meal plan options at any of the residences; kitchen facilities and utensils are supplied. Nido has an on-site café that serves meals (at additional cost)
- NYU London and affiliated housing providers shall not be liable or otherwise responsible in any way in the unlikely event of loss of, or damage to, any personal property belonging to students. Taking out additional personal property insurance is strongly recommended.

PART FOUR: ACADEMIC INFORMATION

- **NYUL Arrival & Orientation Policy**
- **Orientation outline**
- **NYU London staff and Academic Centre details**
- **Class registration**
- **Class books – book sale during Orientation**
- **Don't make any travel plans prior to attending the first week of classes**
- **NYU London absence policy**
- **Friday / weekend co-curricular excursions**

NYUL ARRIVAL & ORIENTATION POLICY

- **Initial Orientation takes place over the period Wednesday 28th August to Monday 2nd September and is mandatory for all new students.**

NYUL Arrival & Orientation Policy

Orientation is mandatory and all students must attend. Late or partial attendance is not permitted.

The first few days and weeks in a new environment are crucial. The orientation provides essential information and activities to introduce you to life at NYU London and to your fellow NYUL students and staff.

Students will only be allowed to miss Orientation for serious (and documented) reasons, which are communicated to NYU London staff (via email at nyu.in.london@nyu.edu) well in advance of the start of the programme.

ORIENTATION OUTLINE

Orientation will begin on **Wednesday** afternoon – **28th August** - with tours of the local area around your residence. Mandatory orientation sessions will be held on Thursday 29th August to Friday 30th August, before classes begin on Monday 2nd September. A provisional schedule is given below. A complete schedule will be given to you upon arrival.

| | |
|---------------------|---|
| Wednesday afternoon | Local area tours from your residence. |
| Thursday | Group Orientation |
| Thursday evening | Social Event |
| Friday morning | Tisch Orientation Freshman Orientation Session Book Sale (all students except Tisch) Lunch |
| Friday afternoon | London Student Fair – Chance to meet with representatives from local organisations, including: Health Centre, Police, Community Service opportunities, Student Organisations, Religious and Social groups, gyms and sports clubs, retailers, travel resources, etc. Small group sessions (choice of talks and presentations) |
| Weekend | Evening Social |
| | Half day panoramic coach tour of London |
| Monday | Classes begin |

NYU LONDON KEY CONTACTS

Head of Wellness Services Donna Drummond-Smart donna.smart@nyu.ac.uk 020 7907 3230

To contact a member of Student Life staff (non-Academic Questions): resourceroom@nyu.ac.uk

To find out more about Volunteering: volunteering@nyu.ac.uk

Academic queries: academics@nyu.ac.uk

NYU LONDON ACADEMIC CENTRE

NYU London

6 Bedford Square
London WC1B 3RA

Telephone: 020-7907-3200

Fax: 020-7907-3350

(nearest tube stations: Tottenham Court Road, Russell Square and Holborn)

Map link: <http://tinyurl.com/2qs3sw>

| | | |
|----------------|-------------------|-------------------------|
| Opening hours: | Monday – Thursday | 8:00am – 12:00 midnight |
| | Friday | 8:00am – 9:00pm |
| | Saturday | 12:00 noon – 5:00pm |
| | Sunday | 12:00 noon – 5:00pm |
| | | |

The NYU London Centre is located on Bedford Square in central London at the heart of the higher education community. A converted Georgian house, the London centre has classrooms, two computer labs, administrative, and faculty offices. Most classrooms are located in 4 & 5 Bedford Square, accessed via number 6 Bedford Square. The building has a reception / security desk in the lobby, manned by guards and porters through all opening hours, and a number of CCTV cameras. Most classes are held in the Academic Centre, but some are held in University of London facilities close by. All faculty and staff have office space. The building is a non-smoking facility, though there is a patio area (accessed through the Quiet Study Lounge) where smoking is allowed. The computer labs are located on the basement level. One is designated for silent study. In total they hold over 40 networked Macs with similar software to that available in NYU labs, and are linked to digital printers which also function as photocopiers for student use. Each workstation has the ability to run on OSX or Windows. The Academic Centre has full wireless for students to use upon arrival. The Tisch programme has an administrative base in Senate House Library.

ACADEMICS AND BOOKS

You should have registered for your classes in London at this point. If you have not, please do so as soon as possible. All non-Freshman students on the NYU London programme are required to register for 'Global Orientations: British Culture', which is graded on a pass/fail basis. Several classes are full with wait lists. Full details of all courses and provisional syllabi for all NYU London classes are available on the NYU web site <http://www.nyu.edu/global/global-academic-centers/london/academics/courses-fall-2013.html>. If you have any issues or questions regarding academics at NYU London, please get in touch.

You are welcome to purchase your books independently but we have also arranged with Blackwell's bookshop to have a Book Fair during orientation, so you will be able to purchase your books from them then. In the event of any exceptions students will be contacted directly (please note that some Stern and Science classes use NYU customised textbooks, only available from the NYU-NY bookstore). However you choose to get your books, you must be sure you have your own copies of your required textbooks and that you bring them to classes.

You are very welcome to shop around yourself and find the best priced coursebooks for the classes you are taking from suppliers other than Blackwells (Amazon, Waterstones, etc). If you wish to order your books in advance and have them delivered to the UK, please use the following delivery address and we will keep them for you until you arrive:

Your name
 NYU London
 6 Bedford Square
 London WC1B 3RA
 UK

There are additional fees associated with a number of courses at NYU London – details are available at <http://www.nyu.edu/global/global-academic-centers/london/academics/courses-fall-2013.html>. Students will be billed for these additional costs via the NYU Bursar's office. Some classes take regular field trips, and some classes are held in classrooms beyond the NYU London academic centre. Please note that students will be expected to pay any transportation costs involved in travelling to classes in external locations within public transportation zones 1-6.

Please note that there are four Friday "make-up classes" taking place during the Fall semester. There will also be a programme of trips and visits on remaining free Fridays (and some on weekends), which may be required for your classes. Do not plan any weekend trips until you arrive and receive your full syllabi at each of your first class meetings, as you will not be excused from a required excursion.

In addition to the Friday excursions, many classes have required co-curricular field trips held during class time. Again, please note that all students are expected to pay their own transportation costs to and from trips and excursions within Zones 1-6 of London.

Final exams are generally held in exam week at the same day/time as your class, but there are exceptions to this. You also may have a class meeting during exam week even if you do not have an exam to take. Therefore, it is vital that you do not make any travel plans during exam week. There can be no re-scheduled exams.

NYU London Class Attendance Policy

NYUL has a strict policy about course attendance. **No unexcused absences are permitted.** Absences due to illness must be reported on the day of absence and subsequently discussed with the Assistant Director for Student Life or the Wellness Counsellor within one week of your return to class. Absence requests for non-illness purposes must be discussed with the Academic Affairs Office **prior** to the date(s) in question. Class teachers should not be approached regarding class absences, other than to catch up with any missed work. Each unexcused absence will be penalized by deducting 3% from the student's final course mark. NYUL also expects students to arrive to class promptly (both at the beginning and after any breaks) and to remain for the duration of the class. If timely attendance becomes a problem it is the prerogative of each instructor to deduct a mark or marks from final grades for each late arrival and each early departure.

TISCH IN LONDON STUDENTS SHOULD NOTE THAT THEIR ATTENDANCE POLICY WILL BE SET BY THE TISCH IN LONDON ADMINISTRATION, AND DETAILS WILL BE SUPPLIED DURING ORIENTATION.

EVENTS AND PROGRAMMES

Over the course of the semester NYUL offers a programme of co-curricular and extra-curricular events that will be both educational and social. These events will help you learn more about the city of London and British culture as well as complement what you are learning in class. Events will include excursions to the towns of Cambridge and Bath, historical sites such as Stonehenge, sporting and artistic events, and tours of various interesting areas of London. These events are subsidized by NYU. Students are responsible for the cost of travel within the London area, but transportation to excursions out of town will be paid for by NYU.

PART FIVE: HEALTH & WELL BEING

- **Details of health care provided to NYU London students**
- **Preparing for London and culture shock**

HEALTHCARE

All students are provided with Primary Care and Emergency Room services free of charge in the UK.

You have already received information regarding health insurance while you are abroad. **If you know you will require regular ongoing medical attention while in London, please consult with your doctor prior to departure** to obtain necessary referrals and medicine and alert the NYU London staff upon arrival if you need assistance. It is wise to bring prescriptions with you. Please ensure that – before leaving the US - you understand your insurance and how to make claims against your policy while abroad, and have all the relevant paperwork.

All students participating in the NYU London program are able to register with the Gower Street Health Centre (<http://www.gowerstreetpractice.org.uk/>) for their day-to-day healthcare needs. The practice is located at 20 Gower Street, just a block away from the NYU London Academic Centre. Students are provided with quality medical care including primary health services, counselling, prescriptions, and women's health issues for no charge. You have additional healthcare options while on the NYUL programme, provided by HTH (<http://www.hthstudents.com>). This includes access to a number of local general practitioners, as well as more specialised services. You will be sent an email prior to arrival in London which provides you with further information about your HTH insurance coverage and individual membership details – please read this, print off your HTH membership card, and keep it safe in case you need to use it during the semester.

Counselling

NYU London has a full-time Wellness Counsellor on site. She works at the NYUL Academic Centre Monday to Friday, 10am to 6pm and is available to you whether you just want to drop in for a one-off chat or if you would like ongoing emotional support. If you'd like to set up a time to meet with Donna, or if you have any questions or concerns ahead of your arrival, please contact her at: dds4@nyu.edu

PREPARING FOR LONDON AND CULTURE SHOCK

We are pleased that you have chosen to spend a period of your academic career studying in London, and hope that your motivation is, at least partly, to experience something new, and to challenge and learn more about yourself. In some ways London and New York (and the UK and the USA) are similar, but coming to London expecting to replicate the NYC experience could lead to either shock at the differences, or an experience of living in London without getting to know the city.

“Culture shock” describes the impact of moving from a familiar culture to one which is unfamiliar. Initially, this can be exciting or scary, but many people go through a stage of finding the differences aggravating, before learning to accept, and then value them. At NYU London we aim to provide students with the support and resources they need to explore these differences, to learn about London, and reflect on situations they are more familiar with.

Differences do abound in terms of language, dress, food, drinking, transport, personal interactions, social roles, music, entertainment, weather, media. It is possible to live in London, but eat only at McDonalds, watch only Jersey Shore, drink only Coke (or Budweiser/ Starbucks), follow only baseball, listen only to American music, read only New York Times, log on to CNN, and surround yourself with other American students. We would encourage students to interact with London to a greater degree than this, although it is important to remember that maintaining contact with 'home' can help students deal with a new situation.

The best way to prepare for culture shock is to prepare for being in London by finding out as much as you can about the city, and to think about yourself. Why do you want to come to London? What excites you, what do you fear, what do you want to do, what will help if you're having a bad day? Talk to people who have been to London, or have lived abroad. Buy a guide book, novel, CD or newspaper about London, surf the web for people in London chatting, listings, recommendations or anything else! A few recommendations are included below:

Music

(**NYU London maintains a massive spotify "Best of British" playlist here:** [ow.ly/nsQQj](https://open.spotify.com/playlist/19nsQQj))

Adele – 19/21

Arctic Monkeys - Whatever People Say I Am, That's What I'm Not/
Favourite Worst Nightmare/ Humbug/ Suck it and See

Amy Winehouse – Frank/ Back to Black

Biffy Clyro – Puzzle/ Only Revolutions

Coldplay – Parachutes/ X and Y/ Viva la Vida / Mylo

Dizzee Rascal – Boy in da Corner/ Maths + English/ Tongue N' Cheek

Elbow – The Seldom Seen Kid/ Build A Rocket Boys!

Ellie Goulding - Lights

The Enemy – We Live and Die in These Towns

Florence + The Machine - Lungs

Franz Ferdinand – You Could Have It So Much Better / Franz

Ferdinand/Tonight

Girls Aloud - Chemistry / What Will the Neighbours Say? / Out of Control

Hot Chip – The Warning/ Made in the Dark

Jessie J – Who You Are

Kaiser Chiefs – Employment/ Yours Truly, Angry Mob

KT Tunstall – Eye to the Telescope/Drastic Fantastic

Klaxons – Myths of the Near Future

Libertines – Libertines/ Up the Bracket

Lily Allen – Alright, Still/ It's Not Me, It's You

Muse- Black Holes and Revelations/Absolution

Plan B – The Defamation of Strickland Banks

Snow Patrol – Eyes Open / Final Straw

Stereophonics – Keep Calm & Carry On

The Vaccines – What Did You Expect From the Vaccines? / Coming of Age

Films (Movies?)

Casino Royale/ Quantum of Solace / Skyfall

Harry Brown

Atonement

Control

In The Loop

This is England/ Dead Man's Shoes

Attack the Block

The Queen

Love Actually/ Notting Hill/ Four Weddings

The King's Speech

28 Days Later/ 28 Weeks Later

Shaun of the Dead/ Hot Fuzz / World's End

Snatch / Lock, Stock & 2 Smoking Barrels

Human Traffic

Down Terrace

Withnail & I

Four Lions

Harry Potter Series

TV

Doctor Who

Downton Abbey

The Office/ Extras

Gavin and Stacey

Little Britain

Peep Show

The Thick Of It

The Inbetweeners

Books

Bill Bryson – Notes from a Small Island

Zadie Smith – On Beauty / Autograph Man / White Teeth

Monica Ali – Brick Lane

Peter Ackroyd – London The Biography / Hawksmoor

Jeremy Paxman – The English

Jane Austen / Shakespeare / D.H. Lawrence / Mary Shelley

/ Dickens / Wordsworth

A guide book – Lonely Planet, Time Out, Rough Guide, Michelin, or another, and a map book (eg A-Z London)

Newspapers/Magazines/Radio

The Guardian – www.guardian.co.uk

The Independent – www.independent.co.uk

The Telegraph - www.telegraph.co.uk

Evening Standard - www.thisislondon.com

The Sun – www.thesun.co.uk

NME - www.nme.com

Q magazine - www.q4music.com

OK magazine - www.ok-magazine.com

Hello! Magazine - www.hellomagazine.com

Gay Times - www.gaytimes.co.uk

Diva – <http://www.divamag.co.uk>

Radio 1 – www.bbc.co.uk/radio1

Capital Radio - www.capitalfm.com

Xfm - www.xfm.co.uk

Kiss 100 - www.kiss100.com

Important websites

Time Out London website - www.timeout.com

Official Tourism site – www.visitlondon.com

Mayor of London - www.london.gov.uk

BBC website – www.bbc.co.uk – includes 11+ live radio links

BBC America – www.bbcamerica.com

PART SIX: PRACTICAL INFORMATION

- **NYU Exchange**
- **Laptops / internet services at apartments and Academic Centre**
- **NYU communication policy**
- **You MUST take out insurance for your laptop and any other expensive items**
- **How to carry your money in the UK**
- **London's transport system**
- **Local accommodation**

COMMUNICATION

The NYU London Exchange

The NYU London Exchange is free to call from any public or 'landline' phone in the UK on 0800 316 0469, or from outside the UK (chargeable) on +44 20 7907 3298. This provides access to the NYU in London and Tisch in London offices, plus local health, student support, advice and referral services including London Nightline, and NYU's Wellness Exchange. If calling from a mobile (cell) you may incur a charge from your service provider.

Payphones

British pay phones are very similar to U.S. pay phones, and have a minimum charge of 30 pence.

Cell phones

Many students choose to purchase a cell phone (known as a 'mobile' phone in the UK) during their time in London. Whilst it is not usually possible to enter into a contract (usually 12 month minimum term, and proof of permanent residency required), it is simple to buy a 'pay-as-you-go' phone, where you simply charge credit onto your phone, run it down, then recharge it. There are no charges to receive a call on a mobile phone in the UK, and call rates for making a call start from around 10p per minute. Please be aware that calling internationally to another mobile phone can be expensive.

Have a look at the Carphone Warehouse website: <http://www.carphonewarehouse.com/>. The good thing about the Carphone Warehouse is that they are not owned by any phone company, so they can give impartial advice on what type of phone would work best for your needs and the facilities you would require (e.g. ability to contact the USA). We bought a "Pay As You Go" (PAYG) phone the other day from the Carphone Warehouse on Tottenham Court Road (5-minute walk from the NYU Academic Centre) and it cost just £4.95 (\$6)! So, you can easily pick up phones these days for very little money.

Another Independent major retailer (like Carphone Warehouse) you might want to check out is www.phones4u.co.uk.

Internet and E-mail and Communication Policy

There are two computer labs in the NYU London Academic Centre on Bedford Square, and this building also has wireless internet access. Students can access their NYU e-mail accounts via <http://home.nyu.edu/> by entering their Net ID and password.

All students should be aware that NYU London will use your official NYU London email address as the primary method of communication with you prior to your arrival and during the semester. It is the responsibility of every student to check their NYU email regularly (set up a forwarding facility to another email account if you wish) and to be aware of the content of emails sent by NYU London.

Most students who own a laptop bring it to London as the Academic Centre has set hours and is not open 24 hours. Students should also have a suitable method of backing up their work – flash drives can be loaned from the Student Resource Room for the semester is needed. If you bring your personal laptop, please consult your

manual and/ or a technician to make sure you have the appropriate converters and transformers before plugging into the UK electricity supply, which is a higher voltage than the US.

Any abuse or misuse of IT services will not be tolerated, and will result in the service being suspended, disciplinary measures being taken by NYU London and possibly contact with outside agencies.

In the residences, internet provisions vary but will connection will be via either Wi-Fi or wired connection (please check the handbooks or guides relevant to your residence for more details).

We remind all students intending to bring any personal items of significant value to London with them – including laptops – to make sure that these items are adequately insured.

CSI Insurance Agency can provide personal property/effects insurance for you while abroad – this is the same company that offers a similar policy for students personal items on the NYU campus in New York. Questions about this coverage should be directed to CSI Insurance Agency directly:

<http://www.collegestudentinsurance.com/>

MONEY AND BANKING

Please remember to take extra care with your money and valuable items. London is a relatively safe city but alike most big urban conurbations petty crime is not uncommon. Be alert, careful, and sensible. NYU London offers students the option to store money and any other valuables in a safe at the Bedford Square academic centre.

BE SURE TO INFORM YOUR BANK THAT YOU WILL BE IN THE UK FOR A FEW MONTHS, AND ENSURE THAT YOU ARE ABLE TO USE YOUR ATM AND/OR CREDIT CARDS INTERNATIONALLY.

Be very careful about your spending the first couple of weeks. It is better to be frugal in the beginning and be sure you have enough money to be comfortable during the second half of the program – especially if you are planning on travelling during or after the semester. When considering how to budget your money or how much money to bring, keep in mind these costs: transportation (the Tube, buses and taxis), food and beverages, sightseeing and other entertainments, travel, souvenirs, everyday items (e.g. toiletries), and emergencies. The cost of living in London – for basic food needs and toiletries - will be higher than you are used to, even in NYC.

Currency

The British pound sterling (£) is divided into 100 pence (p). Coins are issued in denominations of 1p, 2p, 5p, 10p, 20p, 50p, £1 and £2; notes are issued in denominations of £5, £10, £20, and £50. The term “quid” is slang for pound or pounds (similar to the use of “buck” for a dollar - say both ‘one quid coin’ and ‘twenty quid note’). The exchange rate for the British pound currency, in early August 2013 is:

$$\begin{aligned} 1 \text{ US Dollar} &= 0.65 \text{ British Pound} \\ 1 \text{ British Pound (GBP)} &= 1.53 \text{ US Dollar (USD)} \end{aligned}$$

Since rates fluctuate considerably, confirm them throughout your stay by checking a national newspaper, a local bank or on-line at <http://www.xe.com/>

Credit Cards

Many students bring a credit card for either everyday or emergency spending. Visa and MasterCard are the most commonly accepted cards. Many (but not all) places will also accept American Express and Diners cards. Please be aware that some students have had difficulty using credit cards for mail order if the delivery address (in London) is different from the billing address (in the US). Debit cards are also widely accepted, and can be used to get ‘cash back’ at many stores. A cash advance on a credit card can be taken from many cash machines,

but may be very expensive. Credit card exchange rates are often competitive, but many card issuers will add an additional commission for the card being used in a different currency – check with your issuer, or shop around. Most large US banks do not operate in the UK – the ones which do (such as Citibank) do not have the same personalized facilities you'll be used to.

Chip and Pin

All British credit cards have “Chip and Pin.” This is a chip on the front of the card which contains the customer’s information and which has the advantage of being much more secure than the magnetic strip at the back of the card. When paying for an item in a store, cardholders enter a 4-digit security number (as you would at an ATM machine) rather than signing for the card. Although US cards do not have this technology, don’t worry as you will still be able to sign for your card as usual.

Cash Machines

Automated-teller machines (ATMs in the U.S. and “cashpoints” in Britain) are common across the UK. They allow you to withdraw money from your checking account with a bankcard, or to get cash advances on a credit card. Contact your bank to find out the names of affiliated cashpoint networks or actual cashpoint locations in London. If your card does not work, contact your bank in the U.S. about making your card valid for international use. You should also find out if there are any fees for international use, regardless of whether the bank operates under the same name. Students who bank with Bank of America can take out money at cashpoints owned by Barclays Bank without being charged.

Most students use cashpoint cards as their main source of cash, but we do recommend that you bring some other form of currency in case you have problems with your card. Students should be especially careful when withdrawing money from cashpoints, as it is not uncommon for thieves to operate around these areas, or for more complex scanning equipment to be fixed to external ATMs to scan card details and create cloned cards for illegal use. We suggest that students use ATMs **inside** banks during regular opening hours whenever possible, or to use cashback facilities which are available from most grocery stores when paying for goods, to avoid these potential problems.

Exchanging Money

Cash and travellers cheques can be exchanged at banks, post offices, travel agencies, and a wide range of bureaux de change, from small independent stalls to reputable national chains. To get the best deal, be sure to compare rates, fees and commission. Often the only accessible exchange businesses at the weekend or late at night will be those which give you a poorer rate than is usually available. When exchanging money get small notes (nothing larger than a £20 note). Do not convert more money than you need, because it may be difficult to change it back to your home currency, but remember some places charge you per transaction.

Traveller’s Cheques

Although you will want to carry cash when you travel, traveller’s cheques are preferable because they can be refunded if stolen. The most widely recognized are *American Express*, *Thomas Cook’s* and *Visa*. If you use American Express traveller’s cheques, you have the benefit of not having an extra exchange charge if you cash them at an American Express Office (there is an office close to the NYUL centre). It is easier to cash traveller’s cheques at a bank than to pay with them in a shop – they are not widely accepted in stores or restaurants. If you do carry traveller’s cheques, you should consider purchasing them in pounds sterling rather than in dollars. Be sure to carry some in small denominations (£20 or \$50 or less), especially for times when you are forced to exchange money at disadvantageous rates. Always bring your passport and one other form of identification when you plan to use your cheques. To expedite the refund process in the event of loss or theft, be sure to keep your cheque receipts separate from your cheques and store them in a safe place.

TRAVELLING IN LONDON

London has an integrated transport system, with a network of underground trains (the tube), buses, trains, plus a light railway and boats. **All students will be given an Oystercard - an electronic pre-pay charge card which**

saves money on each trip – upon arrival. This card will be loaded with £5 for students to use towards their first travel on the London transport network. Once this money has been used, students will need to purchase extra credit for subsequent journeys using their Oystercard.

London Underground, or “The Tube” <http://www.tfl.gov.uk/tube/>

The colour-coded Underground (Subway) system is an easy way to cover considerable distances around London. The system runs on tickets (not tokens), which you can buy from a ticket machine or teller. You must use this card to enter the station and to exit the station at the end of your journey, so make sure you hang onto your ticket. The cost depends on how many of the 6 concentric zones your journey covers – most students spend the majority of their time in the central Zone 1, and rarely go further than Zone 2.

Be aware that the tube shuts down at around 12:30am, and runs less frequently on Sundays and Bank Holidays. All transfers between tube lines are free. For more information, call the 24-hour London Travel Information line for help on 020-7222-1234.

Buses <http://www.tfl.gov.uk/tfl/gettingaround/maps/buses/>

London’s bus network is extensive, runs 24 hours a day, and, relative to the Underground and taxis, is inexpensive. The efficiency of the buses is dependent on the traffic flow. If you are in a rush during peak travel times, you might want to consider other options. A number of buses in central London offer excellent sight seeing opportunities (e.g. 10 from Bloomsbury St or Oxford St to Knightsbridge or 12 from Oxford Circus to Waterloo). The night buses are also good for late night travel when the tube has closed down. Most of the bus shelters at busy stops have night bus maps. To find out more on schedules and routes, call (020) 7222-1234.

Student travel discount scheme

If you are going to be making regular journeys on tube and bus (more than 2 single journeys per day), you should consider applying for an 18+ Student Photocard. All NYU in London students are eligible to apply for a student discount Oyster Card which gives 30% saving off all travel cards of 7 days or longer. For more information about this scheme, go to: <http://www.tfl.gov.uk/tickets/14312.aspx>

Things to consider before you apply:

- Travel Cards are period tickets (one week, one month) which give unlimited travel during that time period.
- Single, daily, 3 Day tickets and Oyster single fares are not available at student-rate.
- Only worthwhile applying if you are planning to make regular journeys on London Transport (more than two per day). Otherwise, a regular Oystercard will give you the best rates when you travel automatically.
- The Student Oyster Card itself (that you can use to obtain these discounts) costs £10.00

Apply online (from 1 September 2013) at <https://photocard.tfl.gov.uk/tfl/gotoApply.do?type=student&from=home>

When prompted to enter the name of your university, college, school, or establishment, complete as follows:

NYU in London

You will need:

- Your NYU ID number (N # # # # # # # # #)
- Your course dates
- A digital photo
- A debit or credit card to pay the £10 application fee

Once completed and a photo is added, your application will be approved by a staff member. Your card will arrive in around one week (not including weekends).

To conclude, unless you know for sure that you'll be making at least 2 journeys per day on public transport, we'd advise you to wait until you've arrived in London and gauge the frequency with which you'd use local transportation. You can always apply after arrival if you think this scheme will save you money. But you might not know that at this stage and if you hardly ever use the student oystercard you'd have thrown £10 away.....

Taxis

There are two types of cab in London – black cabs (though not all are black in colour) and mini cabs (salon cars). The quintessential black cabs have an orange 'For Hire' sign on their windshield; when it is lit up, they can be hailed in the street. Radio Taxi 020-7272-0272 and Dial-a-Cab 020-7253-5000 are two dispatchers for black cabs. Black cabs are licensed by the police and are generally very safe and reliable. Drivers train for about three years to get their licenses, so they know London inside out.

When you get to London you can use a nifty service called Hailo to get a London black cab from anywhere in just two taps on your iPhone or Android. Pay by cash or card and receive instant receipts via email. Visit hailocab.com/london

Mini cabs, although generally less expensive, are not all vetted by the Police. Lady Cabs (only women drivers and passengers) (020-7272-3019), Airport Express (020-7722-2700 or airportexpress@eminicabs.net) and justairports (0800-096-8096 or justairports@btinternet.com) are some companies that students often use. Addison Lee (<http://www.addisonlee.com/cars.html>, 020 7387 8888) offer a despatch service aimed at business users, a little cheaper than a black cab, but with good service and reliability. Text CAB to 60835 to get the numbers of one taxi and two licensed minicab firms in the area you are texting from.

A car offering taxi services off the street is breaking the law and you should **NEVER** get in such a vehicle. It is potentially very dangerous for you to ride with someone about whom you know nothing. People have been known to serve as a street cab driver without a driving license or insurance, and in an unfit car. If you wish to use a mini cab, you should use one of the numbers listed above or you can ask the proprietor of a restaurant, bar or pub you are in to phone one or provide you with a number.

FINAL REMINDERS AND TIPS

- Arrive at your residence to check in on Wednesday 28th August 2013. Let us know if you might be delayed.
- Make sure you have your entry letter and all the required documentation to show at immigration control when you enter the UK.
- Don't forget to complete the online forms so we have your arrival and passport details.
- Work out how you are getting to the residence hall from the airport.
- Be prepared to deal with any ongoing medical situations whilst abroad. Please ask NYU London staff for assistance with any medical needs you might have.
- Don't plan time away or visitors until you have had your first class meeting for each class – trips and make-up sessions are required course components.
- No unexcused absences are permitted. Missing any classes without being excused will result in a 3% grade reduction.
- Early exams will not be permitted – don't plan to leave until after the exam period ends.
- Come prepared to stay in touch with people back home.
- Make sure you have copies of all your important documents.
- Work out how you are going to access the funds you need whilst abroad, and budget carefully - the end of the semester is no fun if you blow your money in the first few weeks!
- If you're bringing a laptop, check that it is totally up to date, has virus protection and that you have all the converters etc. you need. Also make sure you have adequate personal insurance to cover loss, theft or damage of such an expensive item.
- Pack light! Virtually everything you could ever need is easily available in London, and apartments are well fitted out. Storage space is limited, excess baggage costs are high, and you are likely to acquire more stuff during your time abroad.
- Do your research about London, and come prepared to make the most of it.
- Look out for e-mails from the programme as situations change, plus keep checking the Fall 2013 Blog regularly for updates and background information.
- Contact us if you have any questions!