

IMEX Students Information:
LSE FACTSHEET
Michaelmas term
Academic year 2014-15



THE LONDON SCHOOL
OF ECONOMICS AND
POLITICAL SCIENCE ■

About the LSE

Located in the heart of London, the London School of Economics and Political Science (LSE) is one of the foremost social science universities in the world. LSE is a specialist university with an international intake and a global reach. Its research and teaching span the full breadth of the social sciences, from economics, politics and law to sociology, anthropology, accounting and finance. Founded in 1895 by Beatrice and Sidney Webb, the School has an outstanding reputation for academic excellence. 16 Nobel prize winners have been LSE staff or alumni.

LSE frequently appears in the top reaches of international and national league tables, and was recently listed as London's top university for the third year in a row.

About the Department of Management

Our mission is to become the premier management department in Europe, and one of the top departments in the world, in both teaching and research.

The department was established in the academic year 2006/2007 and unites four academic units at the School - Employment Relations and Organisational Behaviour; Information Systems and Innovation; Managerial Economics and Strategy and Management Science - into a single department. The objective is to create a world-class environment for multi-disciplinary research on management issues.

For more information about the department please visit: <http://www2.lse.ac.uk/management/home.aspx>

LSE IMEX Exchange Contacts

IMEX Coordinator	Laura Gnata
IMEX Programme Director	Prof. Diane Reyniers
School address:	Managerial Economics & Strategy Group Department of Management London School of Economics & Political Science Houghton Street London WC2A 2AE

Term dates for the 2014-15 Academic Year:

<p>Michaelmas Term (Fall) 2014</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Thursday 2nd October - Friday 12th December 2014. • LSE Orientation week (for all students) starts on Monday 29th September • Exchange Students Orientation: Monday 29th September (time and room t.b.c.) • Exchange Students Registration: Monday 29th September 15.30-16.30
<p>Lent Term (Winter) 2015</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Monday 12th January – Friday 20th March • Exchange students Orientation: tbc • Exchange Students Registration: tbc

Orientation and Registration

Students are required to register with the School before they start attending classes, a session dedicate specifically to exchange IMEX students is arranged as per the dates above. We recommend that exchange students arrive at least a day or two before the start of orientation.

Students' attendance to the Orientation session is compulsory. This session is aimed at helping you to settle in quickly to your term at LSE. It will give you the opportunity to learn in detail about the programme and to meet with the other exchange students.

Visas:

US citizens do not need to apply for a Tier 4 General Student Visa for a period of study of less than 6 months unless you intend to work; instead, you can apply to come to the UK as a 'Student Visitor'.

Please refer to our webpages for information on how to apply for a Student Visitor's visa:
<http://www.lse.ac.uk/study/informationForInternationalStudents/visasAndImmigration/studentvisitor.aspx>

If you are not a US citizen please check the UK Border Agency website link to see if you are a 'Visa National'. If you are, you will require a short term visa.

<http://www.ukba.homeoffice.gov.uk/visas-immigration/visiting/student/visa/>

Please read the information on the LSE International Student Immigration Service webpage carefully:
<http://www2.lse.ac.uk/intranet/students/studentServicesCentre/ISIS/Home.aspx>

You can also get information and advice from:
[UK Council for International Student Affairs \(UKCISA\)](#)

As this is an exchange programme based on reciprocal arrangements there are no fees to pay to LSE so I suggest you put 'reciprocal exchange agreement' in the fees section.

This session is aimed at helping you to settle in quickly to your term at LSE. It will give you the opportunity to hear more about the courses being taught and to familiarise yourself with what needs to be done in terms of registration and assessment. This meeting will be followed by lunch with the LSE exchange students. There will also be an evening get together with all MSc students and faculty members of the MES Group. Your attendance on this day is strongly recommended.

Language of Instruction:

All courses are taught in English.

Course Selection:

Whilst at LSE you will be taking 3 courses (half units). The teaching style at LSE is normally in the form of lectures (with the entire class) and also smaller seminar groups (maximum 15 students) for more in-depth discussion and analysis. Each course has 30 contact hours and runs for 10 consecutive weeks. Attendance to all lectures and seminar groups is compulsory.

The graduate course guide is available here (the link will take you to the 2013/14 calendar):

<http://www.lse.ac.uk/resources/calendar/courseGuides/graduate.htm>

Timetables:

The timetable is made available in mid-September (the link will take you to the 2013/14 timetable):

<http://www2.lse.ac.uk/intranet/diaryAndEvents/timetables/Home.aspx>

Certain combinations of courses may not be possible due to the timetable so it is your responsibility to check the timetable and ensure that your combination of courses will not cause any problems.

Assessment:

The LSE exam period is May/June, long after you will have returned to your home school. Therefore assessment for visiting exchange students is based on coursework and attendance and contribution at class/seminar discussions. The assessed course work will usually consist of one or two essays, possibly an exam and/or class presentations. Once you have firmly decided on the courses you wish to be assessed on I will contact the teachers concerned to ensure that they are able to provide a suitable form of assessment. Grading of work takes several weeks so you will not receive your grades until after your return to your home school. Transcripts will be sent to your home school showing grades based on a scale of A – E (A, B and C being a pass).

Grading

Students are generally assessed by coursework (mostly essays) or may have an end of term test in some cases. We grade on the basis of Distinction, Merit, Pass and Fail.

Distinction = over 70% (A)

Merit = 60 - 69% (B)

Pass = 50 - 59% (C)

Fail= Below 50% (D)

Accommodation:

LSE has a limited amount of accommodation to offer students and priority is given to those who are here for the whole academic year, rather than for just one term. Therefore, it will be necessary for you to find a room/flat in the private sector. I can't pretend this is the easiest of things to do but the nearer it gets to the start of term the easier it becomes. The reason for this is that short term lets are not popular with landlords but as the start of term approaches they begin to think it's better to have someone renting their place for one term than not all.

Here are some good sources to help you find short term lets:

- www.loot.com. Be sure to find the short term lettings section though as the regular lettings are for a minimum period of 6 months.
- www.gumtree.co.uk
- www.easyroommate.co.uk
- www.spareroom.com
- www.britanniatravel.com/halls.html has some short term housing in student halls.
- www.airbnb.com
- www.nidostudentliving.com Nido housing is quite expensive but several students have stayed there and been pleased with the quality and location of their student housing. They say they don't offer short term accommodation but in reality they do as it gets closer to the start of the academic term

The LSE website has a section on housing and tips for finding places in the private sector:

<http://www.lse.ac.uk/accommodation>

Students coming to LSE are eligible to use the University of London accommodation website too which also has some good tips: <http://www.lon.ac.uk/accom>

Most students are anxious to find somewhere to live which is very close to LSE. However, the area around LSE is not particularly residential and the more immediate areas which do have housing tend to be on the expensive side. Bear in mind that a short bus journey or a few stops on the tube will not take long. Distances between tube stops is fairly short so being 3 or 4 stops away is only around 5 to 8 minutes in time.

Please be cautious when using accommodation websites, there are a number of scams around. Be suspicious of anything which seems very reasonably priced and appears to be central and luxurious. Do not part with any money unless you are absolutely sure of where it is going. If you have any doubts don't hesitate to contact us for advice.

Insurance

Exchange participants must arrive with their own health insurance that covers all international incidents. More information about health insurance can be found here:

<http://www2.lse.ac.uk/intranet/students/studentServicesCentre/newArrivals/healthIssues.aspx>

<http://www.lse.ac.uk/collections/medicalCentre>

Living Expenses

The following links give more detailed information about the cost of studying in the UK.

<http://www.studentcalculator.org.uk/international/>

<http://www.ukstudentlife.com/Ideas/Articles/Cost.htm>

<http://www.monetos.co.uk/service/student-life/>

The LSE's very general estimate of minimum living costs for the 2011/12 academic session is £1000 per month. This would mean a total of £9,000 for a 9 month programme and £12,000 for a 12 month programme. However, this can only be a very general estimate as how much you spend is up to you.

Housing: Depending on the area, costs can range from £120 per week (for a room in a shared house further out of London) to £200 (for a room which is more central). A small apartment near to the centre of London can be found for around £300 per week. Transport links in London are excellent so we recommend students consider looking at areas not right in the centre. The University of London website has information on various areas around London and the transport zone they are in.

<http://housing.london.ac.uk/cms>

Transport: Costs for the underground and buses vary from one zone to another, with zone one being the most central. A monthly travel pass in zone 2 would be approximately £81.50 per month and in zone 3 about £95.70 per month with a student Oyster card. Once fully registered at LSE students may apply for a student travel card which will reduce fares by around 30%.

More information can be found on the Transport for London website: <http://www.tfl.gov.uk/>; for information on Student's Oyster card: <http://www.tfl.gov.uk/tickets/14312.aspx>

Food and Entertainment: It is extremely difficult to be specific about living costs as London is a very tempting place to spend a lot of money on eating out and entertainment. It is possible to live reasonably cheaply if you shop wisely by using local markets for fresh foods and supermarkets for basics. Local 'corner shops' are much more expensive on the whole.

Student support services and Social Activities

- **Saw Swee Hock Student Centre**

The LSE is seeking to transform the student social experience by building the best students' centre in the UK. The site has become a student hub at the heart of LSE's campus and should add significant value to the student experience at LSE. The Saw Swee Hock Student Centre includes:

- the **Students' Union** reception
- the advice and representation centre
- sabbatical and general manager's offices
- internet café and large venue spaces
- a pub
- a media centre
- a fitness centre including gym and dance studio
- faith centre
- the LSE accommodation, sales and marketing office
- the LSE Careers Service

Take a tour of the brand new Student Centre here:

<http://www.lse.ac.uk/intranet/students/campusLondonLife/sweeHockStudentCentre/Home.aspx>

- **Internship/Careers**

Exchange students have access to all the services offered by the LSE Careers Service during the term that they are here.

This includes careers information on the website, the online vacancy board, one-to-one careers advice, CV feedback, careers seminars and practice interviews.

You can access these services once you have formally registered at the LSE (usually in late September).

Students are encouraged to take advantage of the range of events organised by the Careers Service, including career fairs, workshops, company presentations and skills sessions and to apply for internships which are promoted by the School.

Most internships are posted on our online vacancy board which you can access via My Careers Service.

LSE Careers

Floor 5, Saw Swee Hock Student Centre
1 Sheffield Street
London
WC2A 2AP

- **Library**

Your LSE student card is also your Library card. No additional registration with the Library is required. The Library collects social sciences material in the widest sense, with the collections particularly rich in economics, statistics, political science and public administration. Visit the Library Welcome Point at the beginning of term for general information, your student guide, and other freebies. Staff are available to answer your questions.

You can download a podcast and get started with all the information you need on the Library website at: <http://www.lse.ac.uk/library/orientation/>

Use our Library Catalogue to locate books and journals. Locations are illustrated on an electronic map: <http://catalogue.lse.ac.uk>

Sign up to a course about how to find items from your reading list, and other training events from across the School, at <http://training.lse.ac.uk/>.

Staff at the Help Desk on the first floor are available for any enquiries about using our collections and electronic resources. You can also contact the Library with the online enquiry form: <http://www2.lse.ac.uk/library/enquiriesandfeedback/email.aspx>

- **International Student Immigration Service (ISIS)**

We provide detailed advice on our website which is updated whenever the immigration rules change and you can also come to our drop-in service in the Student Services Centre reception. We run workshops to advise students applying to extend their stay in the UK and in complex cases we can also arrange an individual appointment for you.

We can advise you on the following:

- Applying to extend your stay in the UK
- Applying to come to the UK to study from overseas
- Switching immigration categories
- Immigration implications if you need to interrupt your studies or retake your exams
- Correcting the end date of your visa if there has been a mistake
- What to do if your visa application is returned as invalid or is refused
- Registering with the police
- What to do if your passport is lost or stolen
- Travelling in and out of the UK

For more information including drop in times and dates of workshops go to: www.lse.ac.uk/isis

More information:

You can find more information on the students' pages of the LSE website:
<http://www2.lse.ac.uk/intranet/students/home.aspx>

Useful contacts

<p>Accommodation LSE Accommodation Office (V210) - deals with everything related to LSE Halls of Residence, and can assist students in finding private-sector accommodation. T: 020 7955 7531 E: accommodation@lse.ac.uk</p>	<p>Legal Affairs Citizens Advice Bureau (CAB) - offer free, confidential, impartial advice. www.nacab.org.uk http://www.citizensadvice.org.uk or www.adviceguide.org.uk/</p>
<p>University of London Accommodation Office - information and advice about private accommodation in London. T 020 7862 8880 www.lon.ac.uk/accom/</p>	<p>British Council - more information about studying in the UK. www.britishcouncil.org.uk T 0161 957 7755 general.enquiries@britishcouncil.org</p>
<p>Health NHS Direct - nurse-led helpline providing confidential healthcare advice and information. 24 hour service. T 0845 4647 www.nhsdirect.nhs.uk</p>	<p>The Department for Education and Skills (DFES) - information about fee status and government policy on international students. www.dfes.gov.uk/international-students</p>
<p>Samaritans - offers confidential, emotional support to any person who is suicidal or despairing. 24 hour service. T 08457 909090; jjo@samaritans.org</p>	<p>Money Worries LSE Financial Support Office - for students experiencing financial hardship. T 020 7955 7751 financial-support@lse.ac.uk www.lse.ac.uk/admin/financial-support</p>
<p>Nightline - Confidential listening support and information for students in London 020 7631 0101 listening@london-nightline.org.uk</p>	<p>Commission for Racial Equality - can provide advice and assistance in cases of racial discrimination. www.cre.org.uk</p>
<p>Relate - advice about relationships. Check the website to find your local centre. T 0845 1 30 40 16 www.relate.org.uk</p>	<p>Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual & Transgender (LGBT) Students London Lesbian and Gay Switchboard - 24-hour information, support and referral service. 020 7837 7324</p>
<p>Sexual Health- The Family Planning Association UK's leading sexual health charity working to improve the sexual health of all people throughout the UK. www.fpa.org.uk; T 0845 310 1334 National Aids Helpline: T 0800 567123</p>	<p>International Students UKCOSA - www.ukcosa.org.uk the best advice service for international students.</p>