Welcome Presentation 2022 – Transcript

The video for this transcript can be found on the following link:

Warwick | Student Immigration | Immigration Responsibilities - Yours and Ours | Welcome Presentation 2022 Video.mp4

Transcript

00:00:01 Narrator

Hello and welcome to this information session provided by the university's Immigration and compliance team.

00:00:11 Narrator

What will this session cover?

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In this session, we will introduce Warwick’s immigration advice team, who we are and what we do, how you can contact us and what we can help you with.

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We will also look in more depth at what your student visa allows you to do while you’re in the UK.

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We'll also cover your obligations and responsibilities as a student visa holder and look at the new graduate route to post study work visa.

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Meet the team.

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The UK immigration system can be difficult to understand at times. That's why our friendly and helpful team are here to help completely free of charge.

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We're regulated by the Office of the Immigration Services Commissioner and are fully qualified to advise on all matters relating to the student visa route, whatever stage you're at in your student journey, whether you've just arrived and need advice on bringing your dependent family members to the UK, or you're already thinking ahead to post study work options theme are here to help.

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We offer individual appointments, workshops, group Q&A, and a reliable E advice service backed up by a fully comprehensive website. We're sure whatever your question, we have the answer.

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Our website. Not to brag, but we are pretty proud of our website.

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Recently redesigned to be more mobile friendly. It covers all aspects of student immigration, allowing you to find the information you need quickly and easily.

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We work hard to ensure that our online information is always up to date and reflecting the current UKVI and university regulations.

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It's really easy to find to, just search immigration from the Warwick homepage and you'll have access to everything visa related from arrival to graduation.

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What can we help you with?

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Cramming what we do onto just one slide isn't easy, but here are just some of the ways in which we're here for you.

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We can assist with any student visa application to study at Warwick, whether made inside the UK or overseas. We even assign CAS to enable you to complete your course if you require a visa extension.

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We'll make sure that the visa you hold allows you to enrol and study with us, therefore protecting your immigration status and the university's right to sponsor students.
This is called a right to study check.

We take delivery of thousands of BRP’s for new incoming students, check them and arrange for any errors to be corrected.

We then keep these safe until you are able to collect them at one of our enrollment events.

We provide a variety of different status letters for immigration purposes, all of which can be requested by you via our website.

We don’t just advise on the student route either. We assist our current students on other visa types too, such as dependent leave and the visitor visa route.

We offer basic advice relating to the EU settlement scheme and we provide information about work visa options.

Finally, if you find that your circumstances change while you’re at Warwick, maybe you want to change course or take a study break.

We’re here to guide you through what that might mean for your visa so that you understand your options and can make an informed decision.

It is important that as an international student you comply with the UK immigration regulations during your time with us. Please familiarise yourself with your responsibilities as a visa sponsored student.

As you might expect, this important subject is covered in much greater detail on our website, but here are the headlines.
You must provide the university with a copy of your passport, visa and evidence of entry to the UK and ensure that this information is always up to date.

Tell us if you get a new passport.

If your visa does not cover the full duration of your course, it is your responsibility to apply for an extension. This includes obtaining fresh ATAS clearance if this applies to your course.

You must inform the university and the Home Office of any change to your contact details.

You must take responsibility for your own academic journey. You're expected to be an active and engaged participant in your studies, and to seek appropriate support if at any time you feel unable to engage fully with your course.

If your circumstances change, for example, you take a study break or change course.

You are responsible for taking the correct action with regards to your immigration permission, whether that means applying for a new visa or leaving the UK while not actively engaged in study.

And perhaps most importantly, you must not breach the conditions of your student visa by claiming public funds working more than the permitted number of hours or working in a restricted profession.

As a student sponsor, the university also has its fair share of responsibilities and these too are covered on our website.
Engagement with your studies.

00:06:00 Narrator

Actively engaging with your studies is really important.

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Academic engagement can take many forms, such as attendance at seminars or lectures, submission of work, independent research or reflection, and of course, examinations.

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Throughout your Warwick journey, your engagement with your course will be monitored by your department to ensure that you are actively participating and to help identify where there might be a cause for concern. This applies to both international and home students. Your course handbook will go into this in more detail.

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Where there are concerns about your attendance or engagement, your academic department will contact you. If a pattern of non engagement persists, the university is required to withdraw sponsorship in accordance with our obligations to the UKVI.

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Studying at university away from home can be hard. There is no shame in seeking help. If you find yourself struggling, please contact your personal tutor or the university’s well-being team if for whatever reason you find you are unable to engage fully with your studies.

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Full details of your work rights as a student visa holder can be found on our website. However, here are some important headlines. You are restricted to the number of hours you may work and you cannot take a permanent role.

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There are also restrictions on the type of work you can do.

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Remember, you hold a student visa because your main purpose for being in the UK is to study, not to work.

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How many hours can you work?
Degree level Students, whether you’re doing an undergraduate or postgraduate course, are permitted to work no more than 20 hours a week, Monday to Sunday.

Undergraduate students follow term dates and so can also work full time during official university vacation periods.

Post graduate courses do not follow strict term dates. Therefore, post grad students can only work up to 20 hours throughout the duration of their course.

Post graduate’s who require additional time to complete their course due to academic extension will continue to be limited to no more than 20 hours work a week while there is academic engagement.

Before and after the course end date on your CAS you can work more than 20 hours.

Postgraduate research students are entitled to annual leave for the purposes of holiday and full time work.

If you are enrolled on an undergraduate course with an integrated work placement, you will be permitted to exceed 20 hours a week during the placement only.

The most common type of placement is a one year integrated year for undergraduate students.

More information.

Our website covers this huge subject in much greater depth, while you’ll be able to find information specific to your individual circumstance, whether you’re wanting to work during your PhD or hoping to start a summer internship at
the end of your bachelors? We also offer advice on how you can evidence your right to work to employers and what sanctions you could face if found in breach of your visa conditions.

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There is also information about the skilled worker route and of course the graduate work route which opened last year.

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Changes in your circumstances.

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If any of your details or circumstances change while studying at Warwick, you must let us and the Home Office know.

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Some changes might mean you also need to obtain a new student visa and the immigration team can help you with that.

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Our website goes into much more detail so you can be sure that you know what action needs taking according to your individual circumstances.

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Whenever we inform the Home Office about a change to your circumstance, for example if you decide to take a break in study, you will receive a copy of that report by e-mail, so you are always kept up to date.

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The graduate route, what is it?

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The graduate route is an unsponsored post study work visa. If approved, leave is granted for two years on completion of a Bachelors or Masters, or three years for doctoral graduates.

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You can only apply for the graduate route visa once. Therefore, if you are considering further studies in the UK you may wish to postpone applying for the graduate routes until you have completed all desired academic studies.
The scheme doesn’t lead to settlement.

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You can switch from the graduate route to the skilled worker route if you secure a job offer with a sponsor. You may also be able to switch to a startup visa if you are interested in setting up your own business?

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The graduate Route eligibility criteria.

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You must meet the eligibility criteria to apply for the graduate route, including having held a student visa for 12 months or more?

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If you have studied the majority of your course under a different visa category, then please check with us about your eligibility.

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There is no financial evidence required, but you will need to pay the immigration health surcharge but each year of leave granted. Please note the IHS payment for this visa category is much higher than that of the student route.

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The university will notify the Home Office when you have successfully completed your studies and your qualification has been awarded.

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This is likely to be some time after your official course end date once the exam board decisions are available. You will receive confirmation by e-mail once this report to the Home Office has been made.

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Only then can you apply to the graduate route, provided of course you meet all the other application requirements.

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Everything you need to know about the graduate route is covered on our website. We also run weekly Q&A sessions on teams which you can self book via our immigration web portal or directly through my advantage.
The graduate route when to apply this timeline is available on the Graduate route section of our website, along with rough approximations of exam board dates per level of study.

The important thing to remember is that you cannot apply until we have notified the Home Office of your successful completion, and that this is likely to be some weeks after your course end date has passed.

Traveling, finally, a quick note about travelling while a student.

If you wish to take a trip overseas to mainland Europe, you will most likely need a Schengen visa. We cannot assist with these visa applications but there is lots of information on our website and you can request a special status letter to support your Schengen application.

While travelling, please stay safe and be mindful of popular tourist traps. Your BRP is small and easy to lose, pickpockets are sadly everywhere. Only carry your BRP and passport when travelling to and from the UK and ensure that they are kept in a safe place at all other times.

Be aware of the process should the worst happen and your passport or visa goes astray.

It’s all covered in detail on our website and while it is possible to obtain a single entry visa to return to the UK, it is neither quick nor cheap and you will have to apply for a replacement BRP once you are safely back in the UK.