



Royal
Agricultural
University



International Orientation 2020

1 – 12 September

"An awesome experience for every international student"

Hello



I am delighted to welcome you to the International Orientation programme at the Royal Agricultural University. I hope this experience will be as enjoyable for you as for previous students. My aim is to help you feel prepared to begin your time studying at the Royal Ag by giving you the chance to meet new people and make friends whilst having fun; to become familiar with the RAU campus, staff and the local area whilst acclimatising to English life and culture; to get settled in and organised – all ahead of the academic year beginning. My English for Academic Purposes sessions not only help our non-native speakers of English to improve academic English language skills, but also benefit all students in preparing them for study at university in the UK by covering skills such as:

How to deliver presentations and take part in seminar discussions

Scan reading, presenting and discussing that information

How to plan and structure your academic writing

An introduction to the APA Referencing system used at the RAU

How to locate research materials and reference your sources

How to paraphrase and summarise effectively

How to write a literature review effectively

Understanding Coursework Briefs – what are you being asked to write about?

I am really looking forward to meeting you – it is going to be a great fortnight!

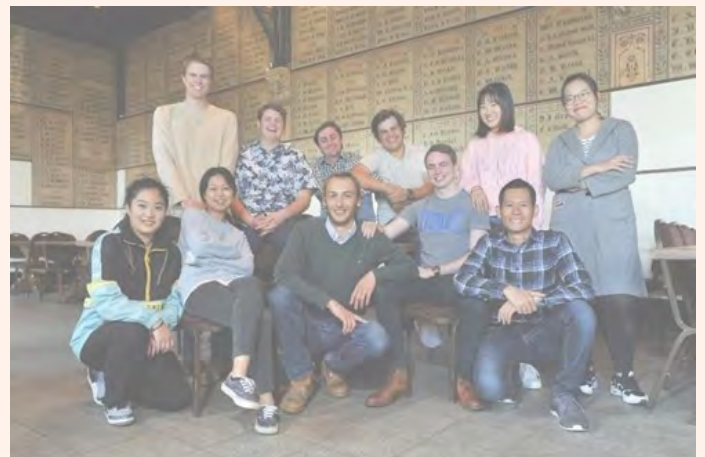
Michelle Tutty, International Student Support

"It's a great way to meet new people and settle in before term starts, get a move ahead of the rest."

Tuesday 1 September

Online orientation

10.00 – 10.45	History of RAU. You will learn how the the Royal Agricultural University (RAU) has been at the forefront of agricultural education and a key contributor to the land-based sector for 175 years.
11.00 - 12.15	Academic Skills. Academic skills will include writing skills, paraphrasing, summarising and referencing skills to support the start of your journey.
12.15 – 13.00	Mental Health Awareness. This session will raise your awareness of mental health, and give help tips, strategies to maintain a positive mental wellbeing.
13.00 - 13.45	Lunch
14.00 – 15.00	Interactive activity





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Wednesday 2 September

Online orientation

10.00 – 10.45	IT at the RAU. This will include essential information related to IT like connecting your device, Office 365 and how to access the service desk/appointments.
11.00 - 12.15	RAU new approaches (Covid-19). This session will include pertinent information regarding what RAU has put in place to ensure the safety of students at all times.
12.15 –13.00	Lunch
13.00 – 13.45	Teaching and learning. We will be discussing how teaching and learning will take place at RAU in 2020 and the tutorial system.
14.00 – 15.00	Finance questions and answers



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"We are family – group work, visiting, eating together... students from abroad will never feel lonely."

Thursday 3 September

Online orientation

10.00 – 10.45	Living in the UK. In this session we will discuss the NHS, public transport, bank accounts, currency, the weather and much more.
11.00-12.15	Academic skills. Academic skills will include writing skills, paraphrasing, summarising and referencing skills to support the start of your journey.
12.15 – 13.00	Lunch
13.45 - 13.45	Visa compliance. In this session we will be informing you of the next steps related to your student visa.
14.00 – 15.00	Interactive activity.



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Friday 4 September

Online orientation

10.00 –10.45	Academic skills. Academic skills will include writing skills, paraphrasing, summarising and referencing skills to support the start of your journey.
11.00 – 12.15	Academic skills. Academic skills will include writing skills, paraphrasing, summarising and referencing skills to support the start of your journey.
12.15 - 13.00	Lunch
13.00—13.45	Farms at the RAU. A comprehensive session regarding the farms at the RAU and the functions that they deliver.
14.00 – 15.00	Interactive activity

“The IO is well structured to help students from all countries fit into the RAU and England and also make new friends before your course begins.”

Monday 7 September

Online orientation

10.00 - 10.45	Cirencester and the local area. This session will be about Cirencester, known as the 'Capital of the Cotswolds' and the local area. Cirencester has a thriving student town with a great sense of history awash with museums, art galleries, speciality shops, boutiques, delis and antiques and collectables markets.
11.00—12.15	Academic skills. Academic skills will include writing skills, paraphrasing, summarising and referencing skills to support the start of your journey.
12.15—13.00	Lunch
13.00 - 13.45	Students' Union and STARS. You will be introduced to the Students' Union and what it can offer to you. You will also hear about the STARS who are a friendly student mentor team.
14.00 - 15.00	Interactive activity





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Tuesday 8 September

Online orientation

10.00—10.45	Places to visit around the UK. We will introduce you to vibrant, beautiful cities/regions around the UK like London, Cornwall, York and more.
11.00 - 12.15	Academic skills. Academic skills will include writing skills, paraphrasing, summarising and referencing skills to support the start of your journey.
12.15—13.00	Lunch
13.00—13.45	Policies to support students at the RAU
14.00 - 15.00	Interactive activity



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Wednesday 9 September

Online orientation

10.30—11.15	Your expectations at the RAU. This session is an opportunity for you to inform RAU of your expectations while you study with us.
11.00—12.15	Academic skills. Academic skills will include writing skills, paraphrasing, summarising and referencing skills to support the start of your journey.
12.15—13.00	Lunch
13.00 - 13.45	Student Support Services. You will receive a presentation from Student Support Services who will inform you of the range of services on offer to support your academic journey.
14.00—15.30	Interactive activity



Thursday 10 September

RAU campus and Cirencester town

9.00 – 9.30	Introduction to the day's schedule and introduction to STARS
9.30 – 10.45	Visas with Katerina Emmanouilidou
11.00–13.00	Tour of Cirencester and the Banks
13.00–14.00	Lunch
14.00 - 14.30	Campus orientation
14.45–15.45	Clay Pigeon Shoot/croquet
15.45–16.00	Questions and answers and photoshoot





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"I feel so impressed by the IO – I am confident to start university life... the lessons will help tremendously in preparation for university."

Friday 11 September
RAU campus

9.00 – onwards

Moving day!





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MONDAY 14 SEPTEMBER

RAU Induction Week begins

