



INTERNATIONAL ORIENTATION 2018

September

10th - 22nd

Living & studying in the UK...



Please note that this programme is always subject to change due to circumstances beyond our control

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 - to give you the chance to meet new people and make friends, get settled and organised, become familiar with the RAU campus, the staff, and the local area, for non-native speakers of English to improve both oral and written academic English language skills, and for all students to prepare for studying at university in the UK, whilst acclimatising to English life and the culture, having fun and visiting some amazing places – all ahead of the academic year beginning.



As well as providing you with a warm and friendly atmosphere, my English for Academic Purposes sessions throughout the fortnight will prepare you for your studies:

- 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 Harvard 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?



Best wishes, Michelle

PLEASE NOTE: there is always the possibility that some events may have to be amended or cancelled due to inclement weather or other circumstances beyond our control

08.00 – 08.30	<i>Breakfast - Dining Hall</i>
08.45 – 10.15	Meet Michelle outside the Porters' Lodge <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Welcome & introduction to the programme• Making effective presentations
10.15 – 10.45	Student Services Hub <i>Coffee-break</i> – Meet the student welfare team and SU International Officer and the STARs
10.45 - 11.30	SU Campus Orientation: Group Challenge & Treasure Hunt With Elena Scates – SU International Officer
11.30 – 12.30	REGISTRATION: Clinic, Finance Office & Registry, George Wing Medical Registration with RAU nurse Anna Thompson; University fees information update with Student Ledger Clerk Mark Irving-Phillips; issuance of Biometric Residence Permits by Asst. Registrar Katerina Emmanouilidou <u><i>Bring your completed Medical Registration forms</i></u>
12.30 – 13.30	<i>Lunch - Dining Hall</i>
13.30 – 15.30	Meet Michelle outside the Porters' Lodge to walk into town via the Phoenix Surgery to learn the route and hand in medical registrations A guided walking tour of Cirencester with local guide, William Cooper, beginning at the Church Porch on Market Square
15.30 – 17.00	Open bank accounts at Lloyds Bank in Cirencester town centre
17.00 – 17.30	STARs – will meet you at Lloyds bank and show you where various shops and places that you need to know are located in the town, then walk back to campus together in time for supper in the Dining Hall
18.00 – 18.30	<i>Supper – Dining Hall</i>

08.00 – 08.30

Breakfast - Dining Hall

08.45 - 10.00

EJ PG1 – **English for Academic Purposes:**

- Student news summaries
- Academic writing: planning & structure (I)

10.00 – 10.30

coffee-break & Accommodation on & off-campus:

Q&A with RAU Accommodation Officer, Sarah, re on-campus accommodation and meeting local agents for those without

10.30 – 11.15

English for Academic Purposes:

- Academic writing: planning & structure (II)

11.15 – 12.15

EJ PG1 – Introduction to IT at the RAU

Introduction to using the RAU's *Gateway* and IT services with one of our IT team -; includes any self-registration queries and uploading of photographs for ID cards.

12.15 – 13.15

Lunch - Dining Hall

13.20 – 13.50

RAU Speaker and Q&A - Porters' Lodge: meet **Dr Ian Grange: Senior Lecturer in Countryside & Environmental Mgmt., Centre for Environment** who has extensive academic expertise in soil science with research experience in the UK, Australia and Thailand; current teaching and research interests include habitat management and ecological connectivity at the landscape scale.

<https://www.rau.ac.uk/about/news-and-events/news/raus-very-own-springwatch>



14.00 – 16.00

RAU Farm Tour - walk to RAU Equestrian Centre at Fossehill Farm - the RAU equine facility: includes an all -weather Martin Collins arena, a 1 km chipped bark gallop, horse walker and an American barn stabling block with 24-hour observation equipment, all enabling work on equine nutrition, behaviour, gait analyses and standard exercise regimes. We work closely with the equine industry and are continually investigating how new products and management systems affect the physiology, health and welfare of the horse.



18.00 – 18.30

Supper – Dining Hall

WEDNESDAY 12TH SEPTEMBER TEAM-BUILDING DAY: FOREST OF DEAN

07.30 – 08.00 *Breakfast - Dining Hall*

08.15 **Porters' Lodge:** meet Michelle to depart - ***Please dress appropriately: wear stout shoes and bring a waterproof jacket***

09.30 – 12.30 Forest of Dean Adventure, Bracelands site: assault course; adventure challenge; high ropes; archery etc.

<http://www.forestofdeanadventure.co.uk/>

12.30 – 13.30 **Symond's Yat Rock Viewpoint:** an area of Outstanding Natural Beauty
- packed lunch provided -



14.00 **Kerne Bridge:** 2.5 hour guided Canadian canoe trip along the River Wye to Symonds Yat, (www.wyecanoes.com: Ross-on-Wye HR9 6BN)



17.00 **Depart for return to RAU**

18.00 – 18.30 *Supper – Dining Hall*

08.00 – 08.30

Breakfast - Dining Hall

08.45 - 10.30

English for Academic Purposes:

- Student news summaries
- student presentations – *Forest of Dean Team-building*
- Introduction to Harvard Referencing
- Paraphrasing (I)

10.30 – 10.45

coffee-break

10.45 – 11.15

Meet in the Library Foyer for RAU Library Orientation

11.30 - 12.30

**RAU Speaker and Q&A: meet at the labs - Simon Daniels, Lecturer in Equine Nutrition & Parasitology, Centre for Equine Management & Science**, whose research interests include Equine parasitology; Anthelmintic resistance; Sustainable parasite control methods; Parasites and intestinal health; Equine nutrition and gastrointestinal health; Oxidative stress

<https://www.rau.ac.uk/about/news-and-events/news/delivering-equine-expertise-african-symposium>

12.30 – 13.30

Lunch - Dining Hall

13.30 – 14.00

Sports at the RAU: A tour of the gym with Mark Long, and introduction to other on-campus sporting facilities

14.00 – 15.30

Meet outside the Porters' Lodge:An introduction to croquet *with* Robert Moss & Cirencester Croquet Club

16.00 – 17.00

Drumming Workshop – Student Lounge

17.00 – 18.00

Welcome Dinner – informal BBQ (*weather permitting*)

08.00 – 08.30 *Breakfast - Dining Hall*

08.45 **Porters' Lodge:** meet Michelle to depart for Avebury: the largest prehistoric stone circle in Europe

Please dress appropriately: wear stout shoes and bring a waterproof jacket

10.30 – 11.30 guided walking tour of the stone circles

❖ *Enjoy a cream tea in the cafe*



❖ *Packed lunch provided*

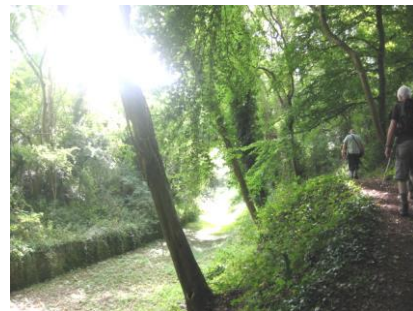
11.30 – 14.15 **explore the Manor, Gardens and Alexander Keiller Museum**

Avebury Manor was refurbished for each room to reflect a period in which the residents lived, the furniture and objects were either recreated by modern craftsmen, or genuine antique furniture restored, and made strong enough to be used, sat on and touched. Uniquely, visitors are encouraged to sit on the furniture, lie on the beds and play snooker in the Billiard Room.

The Alexander Keiller Museum, in the Stables Gallery, houses one of the most important prehistoric archaeological collections in Britain

14.00 **Meet at the coach park** to return to the RAU

18.00 – 18.30 *Supper – Dining Hall*

08.00 – 09.00*Breakfast - Dining Hall***MORNING FREE****12.00 – 12.30***Lunch - Dining Hall***13.00 – 16.00**

an introduction to 'rambling' English style by Richard Holmes of Cirencester Ramblers:

- Footpaths & Rights of Way
- The *Kinder Scout Trespass* story
- Using Ordnance Survey Maps and compasses
- Ramblers & walking groups

...followed by a local country walk finishing at a local pub, The Tunnel House.

*We will be driven back to the RAU - **Please wear stout shoes and bring a waterproof jacket***

18.00 – 18.30*Supper – Dining Hall***SUNDAY 16th SEPTEMBER****FREE DAY****08.00 – 09.00:** Breakfast; **12.00 – 12.30:** Lunch; **18.00 – 18.30:** Supper

.00 – 08.30

Breakfast - Dining Hall

08.45 - 10.00

English for Academic Purposes:

- Student news summaries
- Paraphrasing (II) & Summarising

10.00 – 10.15

coffee-break

10.15 – 11.15

English for Academic Purposes:

- Paraphrasing (II) & Summarising
- student presentations: *Avebury, Rambling* and *Week 1 at the Royal Ag*

11.30 – 12.00

Lunch - Dining Hall

12.15

Depart from the Porters' Lodge for Woodchester Valley



13.00 – 14.00

Tour & talk: Woodchester Valley Vineyard & Winery

Upper Atcombe Farm, Convent Lane GL5 5HR – a family owned boutique vineyard and winery in the South Cotswolds which produce a range of white, rose and sparkling wines. www.woodchestervalleyvineyard.co.uk

Walk to the Woodchester Lake

Please wear stout shoes and bring a waterproof jacket

15.00 – 17.30

Tour & talk: Bottlegreen Drinks Co. Frogmarsh Mills,

Sth Woodchester GL5 5ET - this team of winemakers are using their acute understanding of the adult palate to make beautiful soft drinks. Kit and Shireen Morris established the company in 1989 with the dream of making English wine from the locally abundant elderflowers. However, the couple adapted their plans to produce non-alcoholic drinks from the finest ingredients using traditional production techniques and the exceptionally pure natural spring water which rises from a spring beneath the factory drawing rainfall from aquifers below the Cotswold Hills. Now Bottlegreen's drinks are enjoyed across the UK and around the world - much loved for their unique blend of intense flavours, and equally praised for their distinctive glass bottles.

www.bottlegreendrinks.com

18.00 – 18.30

Supper – Dining Hall

08.00 – 09.00

Breakfast - Dining Hall

09.00 - 10.15

English for Academic Purposes:

- Student news summaries
- Student presentations – *Woodchester Vineyard; Bottlegreen Drinks Ltd.*

10.15 – 10.30

coffee-break

10.30 -11.15

English for Academic Purposes:

- Writing a Literature Review; Reading for information

11.15 – 12.00



RAU Speaker and Q&A: hear from a member of the Royal Ag's academic staff about their work, teaching and research: **Dr Chang Xianmin; School of Agriculture, Food & Environment**, on his work on daffodils as a source of important alkaloids, particularly the compound galanthamine, with acknowledged potential for the future treatment of Alzheimer's disease and some brain disorders

12.15 – 13.15

Lunch- Dining Hall

13.30 – 15.30

RAU Farm Tour Meet at the Porters' Lodge to depart for Harnhill farm

17.00 – 17.30

An early supper – Dining Hall

18.00 – 21.00

Meet outside the Porters' Lodge to depart for Gifford's Circus:

A magical village green circus that tours England throughout the summer: "...it's not your average big tent affair but a wonderland! It's the best live show I've ever seen." Rachel Weisz Harper's Bazaar



WEDNESDAY 19TH SEPTEMBER DAYTRIP: WINDSOR CASTLE & MERL

08.00 – 08.30

Breakfast - Dining Hall

08.45

Meet outside the Porters' Lodge - depart for Windsor



11.00 - 13.30

Windsor Castle: Changing of the Guard

Audio-guide tour of the oldest and largest inhabited castle in the world: originally built by William the Conqueror in the eleventh century, today this is the official residence of her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II and the richly furnished State Apartments house some of the finest works of art in the Royal Collection. Enjoy the castle, its grounds and the town.

❖ *Packed lunch provided*

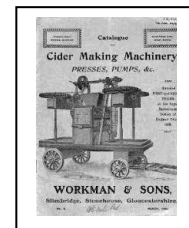
13.30

Depart Windsor Coach Park for Museum of English Rural Life (MERL) at Reading University

14.30 – 15.30

Museum of English Rural Life, University of Reading

MERL challenges perceptions of rural England by revealing the historical and contemporary relevance of country life – discover interactive, immersive galleries which explore questions of identity, environment, technology, culture and health



15.45

Depart for RAU

18.00 – 18.30

Supper – Dining Hall

08.00 – 09.00 *Breakfast - Dining Hall*

- 09.00 - 10.00** **English for Academic Purposes:**
- Student news summaries
 - Student presentations – *Gifford's Circus; Windsor*

10.00– 10.15 *coffee-break*

- 10.30 – 12.30** **English for Academic Purposes:**
- Coursework Briefs – breaking them down for clarity
 - Group work: prep for tomorrow's final presentation

12.30 – 13.30 *Lunch - Dining Hall*

13.30 – 19.30 **Clay pigeon shoot with STARs – Hollow Fosse**

...this is the art of shooting a firearm at special flying targets, known as clay pigeons or clay targets. The terminology relates to times past, when live-pigeon shooting competitions were held.

Sausage-sizzle campfire supper - Selsley Common

A joint outing with the STARs, after the shoot we will drive to Selsley Common, near Stroud, for a sausage-sizzle campfire supper with a view



08.00 – 09.00 *Breakfast - Dining Hall*

09.00 - 11.00

English for Academic Purposes:

- Student news summaries
- Student presentations – *Clay Pigeon shoot; Selsely Sausage Sizzle*
- Quiz
- Feedback
- Induction week and the beginning of term

11.00 – 11.15

coffee-break

11.15 – 12.30

Group work session: final preparation for your group presentation

12.30 – 13.30

Lunch - Dining Hall

13.30 – 14.00

Bathurst Lounge: Group presentation set up & equipment check

14.00 – 14.45

Bathurst Lounge: RAU IO 2018 closing reception & students' presentation

International Orientation 2018 – a reflection on our experience as international students arriving at the RAU

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=uaYU7qX8g-0&t=22s>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=a1qQm0TC-5s>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bHN6fVYt6yg>

15.00 – 16.00

Photo shoot (International Recruitment & Marketing): location tbc



18.00 – 18.30

Supper – Dining Hall

SATURDAY 22nd SEPTEMBER

08.00 – 09.00

Breakfast - Dining Hall

Students moving off-campus move out today by 09.30am

SUNDAY 23rd SEPTEMBER

FREE DAY



MONDAY 24th SEPTEMBER

RAU INDUCTION WEEK BEGINS

