



Durham
University

Insights Into Postgraduate Study At Durham: Teaching And Learning

Postgraduate Student
Ambassadors

Megan's Experience

LLM Medical Law and Ethics

About Me

- Undergraduate degree in Scots & English Law at Aberdeen, graduated in 2024
- Specialise in Medical Law, experience a new place and meet new people
- Traineeship starting in 2026 with a Scottish Law Firm
- Work part-time alongside my studies – through the university & in retail.



Teaching

- First semester: 5-7 teaching hours a week
- Mainly seminars – interactive
- Group work orientated in class, building on the ideas of others and discussing different viewpoints
- Presenting in class – relaxed manner
- A couple of lectures at the start of the term



Study Spaces

- Mainly use the Postgraduate Room in library – always seeing someone you know but quiet enough to get work done
- Teaching and Learning Centre
- College Libraries



Assessment



- Varies across the different courses
- 3,000-5,000-word essays
- Formatives help to direct you with the summative
- Usually one formative, then one summative per course
- Dissertation, five supervision meetings

Support

- Dyslexia/additional needs support
 - great with supporting me with my deadlines to ensure they are spaced out
- Academic Skills Service
- College Support
- Law School staff – always wanting to get involved and help you to understand course work.

Top 10

UK university

Ranked 6th in The Complete
University Guide and
4th in The Guardian

University Guide

Abby's Experience

MA Visual Culture

Teaching and Learning in Visual Culture

- My contact hours (part time):
 - Core module – 1 2hr session per week in term 1
 - Optional module – 1 2hr session per fortnight in term 1 and 2
- Sessions typically seminar-based – also included workshops, presentations and a field trip
- Independent time dedicated to seminar reading and completing assignments



Assessment in Visual Culture

- Variety of written assignments – between 3000 and 5000 words
- Core module had more assignments
 - Initial portfolio of 3 shorter written assignments
 - Research proposal and annotated bibliography
 - Research project
- Assessment feedback given through Turnitin
 - Overall comment and individual in-text comments



Study Facilities

- Extensive collections – both online and physical
- Range of study spaces across campus
- Specific Postgraduate study room in Bill Bryson
- Extended quantities of library loans for postgrad
- Purchase requests for research materials



Bunthicha's Experience

MSc Global and Planetary Health

My Postgraduate Experience at Durham

- MSc Global & Planetary Health – Anthropology Department

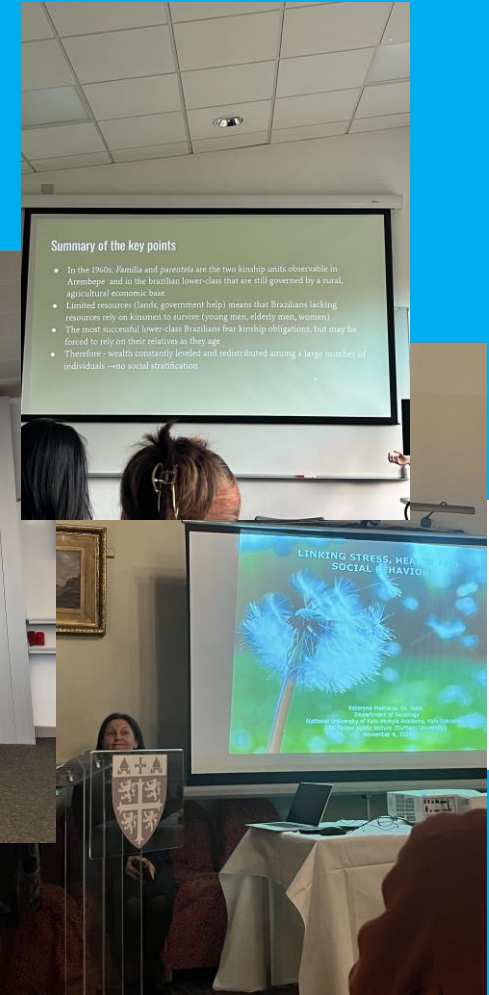
Why Durham?

- Academic reputation
- Vibrant college community
- International learning environment



Teaching Styles

- Blend of lectures, seminars, and independent study
- Open discussion **and critical thinking**
- Lecturers approachable and supportive – **open office hours** and feedback sessions

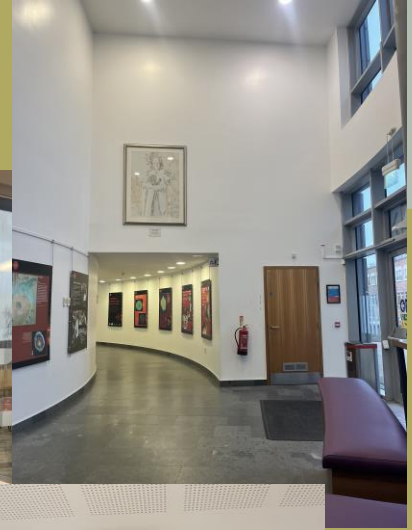




Durham
University

Facilities and Support

- Excellent **library resources** (Bill Bryson Library)
- Quiet and group **study spaces**
- Access to **online journals**, reading lists, and learning portals
- Academic support: **Academic writing** service, career guidance, study skills sessions
- University-wide services: wellbeing, disability support, **Start up** support



Social Life

- Vibrant college life – **formal dinners**, intercollegiate events, and common room activities
- Social events like **cultural nights**, pub quizzes, walking groups, and postgraduate mixers
- Over 200 **student societies** and sports clubs – something for everyone



Rayhaan's Experience

MISCADA (Masters in Scientific
Computing and Data Analysis)

Interdisciplinary research at Durham

- Durham has one of the largest Astrophysics departments in Europe.
- The field of computational cosmology was pioneered by Durham researchers, and it is home to the ICC.
- There is close collaboration between the Physics and CS departments.



The Intersection of Physics and CS



- MISCADA (Master's in Scientific Computing and Data Analysis) is a one-of-a-kind degree program
- Teaching modules shared between Physics and CS departments
- Other specializations available (AI, Computer Vision, Finance, etc.)

Life as a postgrad student

- Course is very industry-aware, and we have access to excellent careers counsellors.
- Lecturers are very receptive to feedback.
- Exciting and open research environment with regular seminars and journal clubs.
- Quiet living, away from the undergrads.



Thank you for listening!