

Dear Future Student,

I am a 2nd year student of BA International Business at NTU. I am from Poland, and I moved in to the UK for studies two years ago. It was very challenging, but it was the best decision in my life.

I chose NTU, because it's an international institution. Almost 20% students here are international. Therefore, it's a safe and supportive environment for people like me and you. Moreover, the staff is international by itself and trained to teach efficiently in a culturally diverse environment. The next reason why I chose NTU was that I found a course very interesting. As I study International Business, I am required to complete an international experience. I have to do a work placement - usually a paid internship in an international business company anywhere in the world or studying abroad in any of the NTU's partner institutions all over the world - for example in Thailand, Australia or Argentina.

Other than that, I just really liked Nottingham. It's beautiful and unique. Everything is close here; you can walk from one side of the city centre to the other in around 20 minutes. Most students' accommodations are in the city centre as well, so I always meet friends on my way for classes and it makes me feel like home. In addition, Nottingham is well known for its amazing night life! There are crazy parties and social events happening every day, so you can never be bored!

Before coming to the UK for studies I was so excited, but also really scared, because it's such a big change in life to move to another country. Language was the most stressful change for me. I didn't feel like I can speak English. However, it was absolutely fine. Everyone I met - at university, in my accommodation or even in a bus, was so kind and friendly. No one expects you to speak 100% grammatically correct language. Even British people don't use such language. I understand that the only thing what matters is if people are able to understand you. That's all. The accent or the variety of vocabulary will increase while you get used to having English speaking friends and lecturers.

During my first year I lived in a hall of residence. When I arrived there it was so different to what expected, what wasn't helpful with trying to get used to a new place with all the stress I already felt. However, I decorated my room and tried to make myself at home. I brought some decorations and photos from home and went to IKEA to buy nice accessories. It's exciting to decorate your flat however you want it! Even though the first impression of a completely empty room with only a desk, a bed and a wardrobe may not be the nicest.

I also want to tell you about the opportunities our university delivers to NTU students. There are plenty of them! I don't think it's possible to use all the opportunities. There are so many events during which you can develop any soft or hard skills, your networking, mindfulness, sport ability, academic skills, knowledge about any topics, anything or just have fun. There is always something going on at our university and most of the opportunities are free or the costs are covered by uni. For example, recently I got accepted to a Summer School at Toulouse Business School - one of the NTU partners and I'm going to spend six weeks of my holidays studying first in Toulouse, France, then in Barcelona, Spain. The university covers all the costs, including fees, accommodation and even flights.

Moreover, there are so many societies at our uni. Literally we have a society for any activity or hobby you can think about. Joining a society is a great opportunity to meet people, make new friends and spend time doing something you love, practicing your skills or just having fun. I'm so grateful for all these options, as I develop my skills and broaden my horizons every day. I hope it helps you a bit to get the general concept of how it is to study at NTU. NTU is equipping me with the necessary tools to achieve my life goals and career aspirations and I'm just having the best time in my life living and studying here.

I wish you all the best with your applications and future studies. Good luck and don't worry! I know it's challenging, but it's worth it! And we are all here to help and support you!

Best wishes,  
Zofia Tatarek.