I can confidently say that I made the right choice in my life by choosing to study at the University of Leicester.

Anup, Graduate 2011
Welcome from the Vice Chancellor

I look forward to welcoming you to the University of Leicester. We are a community of 23,000 students (half of which are postgraduate students) and 3,500 staff with a turnover of £260m.

I am sure you will be pleased to know that if you choose Leicester, you will be joining one of the top 20 leading universities in the UK and one of the top 2% of universities worldwide. At Leicester, we believe that teaching is more inspirational when delivered by passionate scholars engaged in world-changing research and we know that our research has the greatest impact of any university in the English Midlands and the tenth greatest impact in England.

Our College of Science and Engineering has seven research-led departments covering a wide range of subjects and inter-disciplinary areas of study. These departments are responsible for over a third of the University's research income of £56 million. Leicester graduates in all areas, but especially Science and Engineering, are in real demand from employers and work experience is available in many subjects through a 'year in industry' option.

The results of the 2011 National Student Survey are perhaps the strongest evidence of Leicester’s commitment to the student experience and I am proud that the University has been placed top after Oxford and Cambridge amongst mainstream universities for student satisfaction. I am sure you will recognise this commitment to a high quality experience reflected in the range of student support services we provide. In addition, the buildings on campus, including the David Wilson Library and the newly refurbished Percy Gee Building, home of the Students’ Union, support the student experience. The University also has wide range of accommodation to offer prospective students, a very active programme of clubs and societies and is part of a truly diverse city.

I shall be pleased to welcome you to Leicester with its vibrant multi-cultural city and excellent University.

With very best wishes

Professor Sir Robert Burgess
Vice-Chancellor

Contact our dedicated regional co-ordinator in Chennai

University of Leicester Regional Representative
6th Level, Citi Centre
683A - 10/11, Radha Krishnan Salai
Mylapore, Chennai – 600004

e: chennaioffice@le.ac.uk
t: +91 44 4221 8693

* Disclaimer
References within this brochure to non-university sites and their contents are based on the contributors' personal views and these views are not controlled by or endorsed by The University of Leicester. You are advised to make your own full enquiries and investigations before proceeding with any transactions with a third party.

Please refer to: www.le.ac.uk/legal/disclaimer for further information.
Key Facts

• Leicester is ranked top after Oxbridge in the 2011 National Student Survey amongst 120 mainstream public universities in the UK. Leicester’s levels of student satisfaction have been consistently in the top-10 since the annual survey commenced in 2005.

• We’re highly ranked, consistently in the top 20 of major national tables including: 17th in the Guardian, 19th in the Times Higher Table of Tables, 17th in The Times.

• Leicester is ranked in the top 2% of universities in the world by the QS World University Rankings 2011, Taiwan World University Rankings and THE World University Rankings.

• The research conducted by the University has the strongest impact of any Midlands university measured by citations per academic. Our citation levels place us amongst the top 1% of universities in the world and 7th highest in the England (QS World University Ranking – September 5th 2011).

• The University has won Times Higher Awards in 2007, 2008, 2009, 2010 and most recently in 2011 for its work in innovation and technology. It is the only university to win five consecutive awards.

A personal message from Councillor Manjula Sood
(Ex Lord Mayor of Leicester)

I came to Leicester in December 1970 from India. Over the past 40 years the city has changed so much and is now one of the most culturally diverse and vibrant cities in Europe, with many of the world’s major nationalities living in the city. This has blessed our city with an abundance of different cultures, cuisine and festivities. This has helped our great city to work as a united city to better the lives of all its population in a caring, tolerant and considerate environment.

I have had the great honour of attending the University of Leicester as a student in 1971-72 and took a Postgraduate course and was bestowed with an Honorary Doctorate of Law in 2008. I was one of the first Asian female primary school teachers in the city. The University of Leicester provided me with life skills. After the sudden death of my husband, I entered politics in 1996 and I became the first Asian female Lord Mayor in the country. I am the Chair of Leicester Council of Faiths which promotes understanding and harmony among different faiths. I am the East Midlands Regional Champion for Sport England.

The University of Leicester is one of the world’s leading Universities and is renowned in many disciplines including Medicine & Law. The concept of DNA finger printing was pioneered at the University by Sir Alec Jeffreys in 1984; the world famous poet Philip Larkin, Lord Richard Attenborough & Sir David Attenborough are a few of many globally famous alumni.

The University of Leicester is a leader in research and teaching. I firmly believe any student who attends the University will be amazed with the sheer quality of teaching and amenities offered by the University, as well as the abundance of activities our great welcoming city offers.

I would like to wish all potential students all the best in their studies and careers.

Remember: Education is a life learning journey. Make the most of it!!!

Cllr. Manjula Sood MBE
Assistant City Mayor
Chair Leicester Council of Faiths
East Midlands Champion for Sport England
**Professor Nilesh Samani**

From Graduate to Professor…

A graduate of the Leicester Medical School, Professor Nilesh Samani is now the Head of the University’s Department of Cardiovascular Sciences, which has an international reputation for its work. Professor Samani has a long history with the city of Leicester and the University.

“I have been with the University for longer than most – as boy and man!”

Upon joining the University in 1975 Nilesh began his journey to achieve his lifelong ambition:

“I wanted to study medicine from a very young age. My family were business people but both my parents and my grandparents had ambitions for my generation to be professionals.”

Nilesh Samani graduated from the University of Leicester in 1978 with a First Class BSc in Medical Sciences. He achieved an MBChB (Bachelor of Medicine and Surgery) with Honours in 1981 and an MD with Distinction in 1994. He became a Fellow of the Royal College of Physicians in the same year.

Professor Nilesh Samani holds a prestigious British Heart Foundation Chair in Cardiology at the University of Leicester. He is also a Consultant Cardiologist at Glenfield Hospital, Leicester, which sees over 15,000 cardiac patients each year.

Professor Samani’s research interest is in understanding the causes of heart disease. His achievements include identification of new genes affecting the risk of heart attacks, which will pave the way towards better prevention and treatment. He has also discovered the relationship between biological ageing and the development of cardiovascular diseases. Nilesh’s achievements in this field have been recognised by many awards, including Fellowship of the Academy of Medical Sciences of the UK. He was also honoured by his fellow alumni when he was voted winner of the University of Leicester’s inaugural Outstanding Alumni Achievement Award in 2011.

Professor Samani has established Leicester as a world-leading centre for heart research. The National Institute for Health Research has awarded £12 million for the Biomedical Research Unit in Cardiovascular Disease, of which he is Director. An additional £3 million recently has been awarded by the British Heart Foundation towards the building and equipping of a new state-of-the-art Cardiovascular Research Centre for the University at the Glenfield Hospital, Leicester.

“The University of Leicester is a leading international university and provides an excellent environment for learning and working. Leicester itself is a multi-cultural city. I am sure students will be very happy here”
**Library**

The award-winning £32m David Wilson Library is a stunning, light and airy five-story building providing state-of-the-art services.

The Library boasts self-service loan and return, Wi-Fi access throughout, staffed Help Zones, 24/5 opening hours during term time and 24/7 opening hours during exams. There are over 1500 individual and group study spaces, hundreds of PCs plus a café and bookshop, creating a study environment second to none.

The Library’s Information Librarians for each subject provide detailed help and one-to-one consultations for your discipline. They also work with your lecturers to offer interactive workshops to support you in your studies.

Postgraduate students also benefit from the Graduate School Reading Room, which is for the exclusive use of postgraduates and staff, comprising study space and bookable group study rooms. A PC Zone is also reserved for postgraduates.

The Graduate School Media Zoo offers support in exploring the use of new technologies for the 21st century researcher.

We invest over £6m a year in the Library. There is access to over a million printed volumes and a digital library of thousands of electronic journals and books. The Library website gives you access to the online catalogue, multimedia tutorials and the digital library both on and off campus. The website includes an International Student page designed to introduce you to library facilities and services, as well as pages which introduce you to the information available in all major scientific subjects. Visit [www.le.ac.uk/library](http://www.le.ac.uk/library) to find out more.

—I was very impressed with the Library facility starting with its architecture and design; it also has an extensive collection of books. Excellent technical support staff is on hand and there are spacious private group study rooms. I often use the library for studying at night, which helps me to complete my assignments and allows me to achieve my full potential in my studies.”

Arnab, MSc Information and Communication Engineering
Students’ Union

The University of Leicester Students’ Union is a vital part of the student experience. It is run by students, for students and offers a range of services and facilities. We aim to help every student to get the most out of their time at the University of Leicester.

Welfare services are offered by the Students’ Union, such as the Safety Bus to take students from the Union building to their homes in the evenings. A confidential helpline also operates every night during term time, from 8.00pm to 8.00am. There is a free legal advice service and a Police Information Point, where students can ask for advice. The Education Unit provides confidential and impartial advice to students on a wide range of issues, from changing courses to exams support.

There are over 200 sports, hobbies and course-related societies for students. Many Indian students join the International Students’ Association which organises regular cultural trips around the UK. Visit www.leicesterunion.com for more information about the many services we offer our students.

Suzi Burtenshaw
Welfare and International Executive Officer
University of Leicester Students’ Union

International Office

The International Office Team is here to help students with any questions that you may have about the application process or studying at the University of Leicester. We appreciate that studying overseas is an exciting time and you may have lots of questions. The team within the International Office are there to support students and families every step of the way. Our team will be more than happy to answer any questions or queries.

International Office and academic staff regularly travel to India and are always pleased to meet students and discuss study opportunities. Details of forthcoming visits are posted on our India webpage at: www2.le.ac.uk/study/international/need-to-know/country/asia/india

The International Office has a representative based in Chennai, who is a graduate of the University of Leicester. He coordinates many of the University’s activities in South India, including Alumni events and advice for students considering study in the UK. Mr. Vishnu Vankayala can be contacted on:

+91 44 4221 8693
chennaioffice@le.ac.uk

We also work with several agents in India, who can offer advice and help students with applications to the University of Leicester. For information about the agents with whom we work, please contact our South Asia Team in the International Office southasia@le.ac.uk

You can also visit our website www.le.ac.uk/international where you will find a variety of useful information and advice about courses, applications, accommodation, visas and more. Alternatively you can email us at international.office@le.ac.uk with any specific questions you may have.
Does the cultural diversity of Leicester effect the way you practice your religion?

The large Indian community in Leicester helps students from abroad to continue their religious practices. Leicester offers a wide variety of places of worship which are spread across the city and within easy reach of the University. From Mosques to Temples to Gurudwaras – Leicester provides something for every religion.

As a Hindu, finding a place of worship was easy. For me, Belgrave Road, also known as the Golden Mile, is the ‘Mini-India’ of Leicester! I visited the area during the Diwali celebrations, and found the area to be a real home away from home. I didn’t expect such an environment within reach of the University – which was a nice surprise!

I fit my religious practice in around my studies. After classes in the evenings I like to visit Belgrave Road, which is nearby and easily accessible and is only 10 minutes away by bus. I often visit a couple of times a week and it reminds me a lot of my temple in India, and I am happy to be surrounded by other Indians and of course, the friendly British!

Arnab, MSc, Information and Communication Engineering
Societies

“I joined several societies at the ‘Fresher’s Fair’ in the first week of term.”

I was interested in Societies which related to my future prospects; such as ‘The Bright Future Society’ which is intended to provide students with advice on how to be professional and prepare ourselves for interviews – they also alert students to job updates!

The list of societies is endless, I also joined other Societies such as the ‘Vegetarian Society’, and the ‘Krishna Consciousness Society’, which is a fitness based group. I also plan to join the Cricket Society!

Kushagra, MSc, Information and Communication Engineering

India wins the MSc Cricket Cup 2011

On February 25, 2011, India played against the 2010 winners, Pakistan, and stole the cup in a very friendly game.

“I had the honour of participating in two annual cup games, I was also the Captain of our 2010 winning team.”

Sunil, MSc Advanced Software Engineering, cricket team Captain 2011

Student Welfare Service

Safety and Security

Leicester is considered to be a safe city. As in all cities students need to be aware of their own safety and security. The University has a well-resourced Security team and a Campus Beat Police Officer

www.facebook.com/campuscops *

Students are provided with safety and security advice and information on arrival. The Students’ Union provides a Safety Bus which will transport students to their front door; public transport is frequent. International students are often able to live within walking distance of the University main campus. We also provide a booklet ‘Creating Confidence’ which is aimed at international students and which has helpful information about keeping safe whilst studying in the UK.

Welfare advice and support

The Student Welfare Service provides a wide range of advice and support for international students.

• Pre-arrival advice and information
• Welcome Programmes
• Buddy Scheme – linking new students with those who have been here for some time
• Immigration Advice
• Incorrect Entry Clearance can be corrected
• Visa Renewal – advice and support through a special Home Office process
• Post-study work immigration advice
• Financial advice
• Support for students with dependants
• Advice over housing / accommodation issues

More information is available on the Welfare Service at: www.le.ac.uk/welfare

* Please refer to disclaimer on page 2
Welcome Programmes

International Student Welcome Programmes provide a vital introduction to both studying and living in Leicester for all new international students.

These courses are designed to provide a gentle introduction to living in Leicester; providing essential information and allowing students the opportunity to meet others in a safe social environment.

Students receive a personal welcome from our Vice-Chancellor, as well as our Lord Mayor, during a function held especially for our international students. Opportunities on offer during these packed programmes include:

- Explore Leicester and the Campus facilities
- Register with a doctor and find out about the National Health Service
- Discover how to open a bank account
- Obtain practical advice on improving English language skills
- Learn about how to manage money on a budget
- Understand what is expected academically and how to study at a UK university
- Obtain an overview of British culture
- Find out more about working in the UK

More information is available on the Welfare Programmes at:
www2.le.ac.uk/offices/ssds/welfare/international-student-support/iswp/welcome

International Buddy Scheme

The International Buddy Network is a mentoring scheme which links new international students with an experienced student who has been in Leicester for some time. It provides our new students with an informal support network during their first few months in Leicester, easing the transition to living here.

Our Buddies also contact students by email before they arrive to answer any questions they have about their move. We encourage students to participate in this unique opportunity to:

- Make pre-arrival email contact with a current student
- Make friends
- Settle into UK life and the UK Higher Education system
- Learn about British culture
- Learn about The University of Leicester and Leicester City

Find out more about the Scheme at: www.le.ac.uk/buddy-network
www.facebook.com/internationalbuddynetwork *

“I think the Student Welfare Service is one of the best services at the University of Leicester. They organise one of the best events within the university – The International Student Welcome Programme (ISWP). If anyone ever asks me to recall a fond memory of my time at Leicester, my first answer is always being part of the ISWP!. They gave me the guidance and support as my parents would, I will never ever forget them! They were the friendly faces who were always there to have a chat regarding anything.”

Anup, MSc Marketing, January 2010
The Careers Service provides information and guidance on skills development, gaining relevant experience, jobs, industries, further training and courses. Support is made available through the website, a programme of centrally delivered skills workshops; sessions delivered within academic departments and 1:1 consultations.

The Careers Service organises careers fairs and other events to enable students to network with graduate recruiters, including events specifically for international students. It works with local and national employers to secure internships for its students and provides information on work placements and graduate jobs.

The first step in securing a graduate job is to ‘succeed in your studies’. The Careers Service provides skills workshops (e.g. planning your dissertation) and 1:1 support to help students achieve success in their course.

The Careers Service organises a range of programmes to help students ‘gain experience’ and develop the skills that employers look for. Volunteering projects, enterprise activities and the Leicester Award enable students to develop, articulate and accredit their skills to ensure they stand out in applications for work experience and graduate jobs. It works with academic departments to help them involve employers in the development of the academic curriculum, including identifying opportunities for business related project work. It has a team of specialists who work with local employers to develop internship opportunities for students and graduates.

The Careers Service provides support to students to ‘develop your career’. Students and graduates can access 1:1 support with applications for internships and graduate jobs. This includes help with identifying and approaching employers, support with developing CVs and covering letters, feedback on application forms and practical help with preparing for interviews and assessment centres. The website has information specifically for international students. Other resources for international students include guides on ‘Making the most of your time at university’ and ‘Working in the UK during your studies’. Workshops specifically targeted towards the needs of international students are provided including ‘How to look for graduate jobs in the UK and internationally’. Case studies of international graduates feature on our website with details of the career paths they have pursued (including working in the UK) and the steps they took whilst at university to develop themselves.

Contacting the Careers Service…

Finding graduate employment in the UK and internationally is competitive. Students need to take action to achieve their career objectives right from the beginning of their course. The Careers Service can help them to do this including finding out about opportunities to develop the skills employers look for, knowing where and how to look for jobs and work experience and developing the skills required to succeed in the recruitment and selection process. For further information on services and support available visit the website: www.le.ac.uk/careers
A graduate’s experience with the Careers Service…

Kripa graduated in 2010 with an MSc in Advanced Computer Science and now works as a Technology Analyst for Avanade, a multinational software consultancy. He made gaining experience a priority when he joined the University.

He made use of the support available from the Careers Service to help him gain the skills and experience needed to succeed in a competitive labour market.

“Being an international student, I was totally unaware of what was available when I joined university. I started developing my network, joining student communities in the Students’ Union. I approached the Careers Service for help with my career development, building a professional CV and strengthening my employability. I drafted a plan to manage both academic and extra-curricular activities and became an active volunteer, which helped me gain invaluable work experience and develop my skills. In summer 2009, I did an internship through Shell Step as a web developer, receiving an ‘extra-mile’ award, which added a lot of value to my CV.

I attended workshops including ‘Tomorrow’s Managers’ which gave insights into business and opportunities to interact with employers. I subsequently achieved the Leicester Award for Employability for Community Engagement.

Through effective planning and time management I achieved a high standard in my academic studies. My department awarded me the Best Technical Project Award for my Master’s project and I graduated with distinction, thereby positioning myself to face the challenging and competitive job market.”

To read the full case study:
www2.le.ac.uk/offices/careers/career/is/getting-a-job/case-studies#kripa

Finance

Many parents are understandably concerned about how their family members will cope with their finances whilst at university.

Students receive a combination of income from various sources including loans, grants and bursaries often ‘topped up’ by family and/or their own income from part-time work or savings.

The best advice we can give is to encourage your student to prepare a realistic budget before coming to university. This may seem like a very boring activity but for many students, preparing (and sticking to!) a budget can make a huge difference to their enjoyment of university life.

Try our simple calculator for first years as a starting point:
www.le.ac.uk/welfare The calculator can be found in the ‘Budgeting’ section.

For advice about how to manage their finances please encourage them to contact the Student Welfare Service to discuss their situation with a Student Finance Adviser: welfare@le.ac.uk
Welcome to Leicester: A Home Away from Home...

Kushagra an MSc Information and Communication Engineering Student shares his views on Leicester.

“What is the best thing about living in Leicester?

The most important thing is that people are very friendly and the city is very peaceful. It is easy to get around and most places are accessible by foot i.e. the City Centre, the Indian cultural area called ‘Belgrave’, as well as other shopping areas and supermarkets.

What was your opinion regarding Leicester’s location and climate?

The location of Leicester is just an hour away from London by train, which can be quite affordable for day trips. Leicester is also located centrally; therefore it is easy to visit cultural sites around the UK. Leicester’s local airport is East Midlands Airport which serves Europe. International airports such as Birmingham and Heathrow are also within easy reach by coach or train. In terms of climate, I wasn’t sure what to expect, however I found the weather in Leicester to be quite pleasant and I don’t find it too cold in winter.

What is there to do in Leicester outside of the University?

I love sports and there is wide variety on offer in Leicester such as football, rugby, and cricket. It means that there is plenty of opportunity to have fun and practice in the many parks which are within easy reach of the University. There is also great shopping at affordable prices and there are interesting places to visit in Leicester, such as the new ‘Curve’ Theatre or the National Space Centre.

How does Leicester stand out culturally?

I find that the people in Leicester are very helpful and accepting of different nationalities and I feel at home. The Indian culture in Leicester is quite prominent, and there are many places of worship for all faiths around the City. Indian food can be found very easily and cheaply around Leicester. I also feel that there is a sense of community, as Leicester is well known for being a multi-cultural city. In certain areas I feel like I am at home in India - it’s a blend of British Indian cultures and it works well together.

How are Asian festivals celebrated in Leicester?

My friends and I celebrated Diwali on Belgrave Road which is the main Indian cultural area in Leicester. It is attended by roughly 35,000 people and the atmosphere was electrifying. The event was organised professionally and I enjoyed 40 minutes of continuous fireworks which was great! Roads were closed and people gathered in the streets and enjoyed entertainment, dancing and music.
University Accommodation

Leicester has a wide variety of accommodation available. If you decide to live in University Residences you will be supported by a group of Residential Advisers who live in the residences and whose primary role is to help and offer advice to students.

Residential Advisers offer a good source of information about accommodation, studying at university and spending time away from home.

Advice regarding residences and room types is available from the Accommodation Service. [www.le.ac.uk/accommodation](http://www.le.ac.uk/accommodation)

There are alternatives in the private rented sector, particularly suitable for families, couples and groups of friends. For advice on where to live and how to look for private sector accommodation the Student Welfare Service is available to help.

We can provide advice on what to examine during a viewing, give detailed information about the different areas of Leicester and help examine contracts offered by the landlords. You can find comprehensive information about living in Leicester on our web pages. [www.le.ac.uk/welfare](http://www.le.ac.uk/welfare)

Nimanshu an MSc student in Advanced Software Engineering shares his experience of living in university accommodation...

What do you like most about your University accommodation?

I live in ‘Nixon Court’ which is a University Residence which is a three minute walk from the University Campus, which was great and saved me money in transportation costs. Nixon Court is a really nice place to live and I am very happy with the quality, location and facilities available at the Residence.

For you, what were the benefits of University accommodation?

Firstly, I do not have to worry about maintenance, cleaning and security, and the accommodation offers the opportunity to meet like-minded people. The majority of students living in my accommodation are from an international background, many of whom are from India. The social setting allowed me to meet new friends in the common room, where students can socialise and relax. There are also some leisure activities available in the common room. Additionally, the fact that the bills are included within the price of the accommodation appealed to me – as it saved me time.

What are typical meal times like in a self-catering residence?

In general, we sit down and eat together on a regular basis, where we enjoy conversation and discuss our days. In terms of cooking, I normally cook for myself and friends in our communal kitchen and I also get to sample cuisine from other cultures! I typically buy my ingredients from the nearby large supermarket which is just five minute walk away. The supermarket has an Asian food section-which is great! Indian ingredients are easily available at a reasonable price, and there are often promotional offers and reductions to help us save on food bills!

“Nixon Court is a really nice place to live and I am very happy with the quality, location and facilities available at the Residence.”
The majority of students living in my accommodation are from an international background, many of whom are from India. The social setting allowed me to meet new friends in the common room, where students can socialise and relax.

What are the facilities like at the residence?

The facilities at the residence are great as all appliances are supplied, maintained, and cleaned for us – as is our communal bathroom. My private room is comfortable and has everything I need; a sink, wardrobe and desk, chair and shelves. The temperature settings are also controllable from my room, which is perfect in winter.

How did you find your accommodation?

I started off by looking through the University website in the accommodation section, which I found was the most important place to find more information. The website provided me with a step-by-step guide to finding accommodation and was easy to use. There are currently six University residences; I decided to choose ‘Nixon Court’ due to its proximity to the University.

What did the application process involve?

I made my application upon receiving the link sent to me by the Admissions Office after I had accepted my offer at the University. The application process and accommodation fees were explained, as was the decision process and how to make my accommodation choices.

I made my accommodation choices based on my personal requirements; I made a first second and third choice of our preferred residence. I was then informed of the choices I had based on availability, I then made my selection – which was in fact my first choice!

Can special requests be made by students when applying for accommodation?

During my online application, there was a section where students can make special requests if they wish to stay with friends. This service was great for me, as I made a request to be placed in the same flat as my friend from my hometown. Our request was granted and it was a simply a case of providing our student ID numbers. There is also the option to specify other preferences i.e. to live in either all male or all female flats. Overall, the accommodation process was quite simple from start to finish and it took about a week to arrange with the University over the Internet.

How did you view your accommodation and what did you consider about general safety?

I initially saw photos online; I also looked at maps of the area and saw how close it was to the University. I first arrived at the accommodation and there were members of staff who welcomed me and helped me to settle in. Also in terms of security and advice, there is always someone available to help me with any issues or concerns I may have on site – which is very reassuring.
Private Accommodation

Raspreet an MSc Advanced Computer Science student shares her experience of living in private accommodation…

Why did you choose private accommodation?

I chose private accommodation because I wanted to live in a house of my choice; it also allowed me to choose my housemates. After coming to Leicester, I looked at several houses and I found a beautiful spacious house which was close to the University. I also wanted to make savings and private accommodation enabled me to do this, as I shared the cost with my housemates.

How did you find your housemates?

Prior to arriving I made some friends via www.facebook.com * and the people I made contact with were also starting their course at the University of Leicester. We decided in India that we would house share in Leicester. We easily found two other girls who wanted to share with us. It also turned out we were all doing exactly the same course!

I knew that upon arriving at Leicester I would easily find new students at the University who would be looking for private accommodation. I started my search on the Internet, by looking for students who were looking for a house share. There are many websites available and I chose www.roombuddies.com * which gave me an idea about what to expect and what type of people I might share with.

What was your experience in finding the accommodation, viewing the accommodation, and signing the contract?

My main source of information was the internet and three websites that were very helpful were: www.sulets.com (SULETS is a lettings agency run by the Students’ Union with an office based on campus, which helps university students looking for private rented accommodation in Leicester) www.gumtree.com * and www.accommodationforstudents.com * these websites gave me an exact idea of the type of houses in Leicester, their rent prices and location etc. But my decision was to look for a house myself after reaching Leicester.

After arriving in Leicester it took me just four days to find a house that I wanted. I visited several houses via property agents and I chose my favourite and signed a contract the next day. The cost of rent is reasonable and it has all the basic facilities. Our landlord is also Indian as are many landlords in Leicester; and he offers us practical, helpful advice.

* Please refer to disclaimer on page 2
Two of our Popular Departments...

Getting ahead in Computer Science

Our Courses:
We are a young and dynamic department that takes a scientific approach to computing.

Our researchers have played a major part in developing modern trends in Computer Science and this is reflected in our teaching, where we have a strong tradition of high-level and innovative courses.

All our courses offer a problem-solving approach to the subjects that we teach, blending academic knowledge of the subjects with hands-on experimentation with relevant technologies.

Our Masters courses in particular allow students to develop into highly-skilled professionals, well versed in advanced methods and tools.

Undergraduate Courses:
• Computing
• Computing with Management
• Computer Science

Masters Courses:
• Advanced Computational Methods
• Advanced Computer Science
• Advanced Distributed Systems
• Advanced Software Engineering
• Agile Software Engineering Techniques
• Software Engineering for Financial Services
• Web Applications and Services

With-industry course variant: designed to enhance employability
• All of our Undergraduate courses can be taken with an additional year in Industry.
• We are now offering a two-year with-industry variant of all our Masters courses. Students are given the opportunity to go on a placement with a company after the taught part of the course, after which they return to the University to complete a project.

Further course information:
• For information on the Department and all our courses, please visit: www.cs.le.ac.uk
• Intakes for Masters programmes in Computer Science are in January and October.
• Scholarships are available (on academic merit) to Indian students for 2012 entry – £3,945 or £2,945.

For further enquiries or to request a prospectus please contact our Regional Coordinator in Chennai:
t: +91 44 4221 8693,
e: chennaioffice@le.ac.uk

Get ahead, get in touch...
w: www.le.ac.uk
e: csmsc@mcs.le.ac.uk
(for Masters)
e: csug@mcs.le.ac.uk
(For Undergraduate)

“I feel that studying in the UK is one of the greatest achievements of my life as it completely changed me and has given me a new perspective. It gave me opportunities to join hands with people from different cultures, to get to know them and learn from them through exposure to thought-provoking ideas.”

Kripa, MSc Adv. Comp. Science 2010, Technology Analyst at Avanade UK
A unified approach in Engineering

Our Courses:
The Engineering degree courses are all designed to develop specialist skills and knowledge. They also include interdisciplinary activities from a wide range of engineering disciplines.

The courses appeal to a broad cross-section of applicants; from undergraduate degree course applicants to engineers working in industry who wish to improve their skills by taking a postgraduate programme.

Our modules ensure that students gain skills in state-of-the-art engineering methods and the latest technologies, and provide students with a valuable springboard for entry into the engineering profession or the next stage of their career development. All of our undergraduate courses are fully accredited by at least one of the professional engineering institutions.

Undergraduate Courses:
- Aerospace Engineering
- Communications and Electronic Engineering
- Electrical and Electronic Engineering
- General Engineering
- Mechanical Engineering
- Software and Electronic Engineering

Masters Courses:
- Advanced Control and Dynamics
- Advanced Electrical and Electronic Engineering
- Advanced Engineering
- Advanced Mechanical Engineering
- Control and Signal Processing
- Embedded Systems and Control Engineering
- Information and Communication

Further course information:
- For information on the Department and all our courses, please visit: [www.engg.le.ac.uk](http://www.engg.le.ac.uk)
- Intakes for Masters programmes in Engineering are in October.
- Scholarships are available (on academic merit) to Indian students for 2012 entry – £3,250 or £2,750

For further enquiries or to request a prospectus please contact our Regional Coordinator in Chennai:
- t: +91 44 4221 8693,
- e: chennaioffice@le.ac.uk

Make your approach in Engineering, by approaching us today...
- e: engineering@.le.ac.uk

“...The Engineering course I chose at the University of Leicester had a ‘With Industry’ option as I was particularly interested in gaining work experience in the UK. This meant I had to begin finding out about careers early on in my course. I currently work as an Engine Health Monitoring (EHM) Change Engineer, in the civil aerospace division of Rolls Royce.”

Faizan, B.Eng. Mechanical Engineering (With Industry) Graduate 2011
The Application Process

Raspreet an MSc Advanced Computer Science student shares her experience of applying to study with us...

Why did you make the decision to study for a degree in the United Kingdom?

The option of a one year course appealed to me as I observed that internationally, as well as in India, many courses are two years in length. In terms of degree cost, the UK was reasonably priced taking into account other international and Indian courses.

I believe that the British degree has an excellent reputation worldwide and is recognised in large international organisations, which would add to my employability. International exposure was also a benefit; it would allow me to enhance my studying experience and knowledge in relation to the business world.

It was my opinion that studying in the United Kingdom at the University of Leicester would be a place to develop my skills and where there would be greater opportunity to establish connections with employers. There was also the added benefit of developing my English skills and becoming more culturally aware, by interacting with people of all cultures.

How did you find out more information about the University of Leicester and your chosen course?

I found more specific information about the University from the website www.le.ac.uk/study/international which had everything I needed and a special support section for international students. I also looked at various university guides available on sites such as www.guardian.co.uk * and www.thetimes.co.uk * to look at National University rankings.

In terms of courses, I was particularly interested Computer Science courses. The University provided me a good choice of Computer Science courses for which I could choose modules and subjects that were of particular interest to me. For example: I could choose C# or C++ or even both – the flexibility of module choices is not widely available in India.

I chose my Computer Science course, which included all of the modules I wished to study, to gain further subject knowledge and build upon what I had already learnt in my bachelor’s degree. I used the prospectus and I looked at the course choices available via the Department of Computer Science website.

Additionally, I was pleased to find out that the University of Leicester provides scholarships to deserving students. The University assessed my academic background, and awarded me with a good amount of scholarship funding.

What was your reason for choosing the University of Leicester?

I considered the University ranking to be very good and it is among the top ten universities in the UK and its position is continuously improving. The reputation of the University of Leicester stood out for me and I had confidence in the fact that the University achieves high scores in satisfaction surveys and is known to be impactful within the research field.

In terms of location, Leicester city offers the stress-free life and is not as hectic as larger cities. It is peaceful and has everything I require within easy reach. It was reassuring that the large community of Indian people living in Leicester would enable me to settle in and adjust easily. I also would have access to Indian culture, food and places of worship.

What did you have to arrange before you made your application to the University?

I allocated roughly 6 months in order to make necessary arrangements before starting at Leicester. I had to arrange tuition fees, as well as budgeting for living costs in Leicester, which are significantly lower than in other cities.

I had to arrange funds and prepare my visa application in order to apply. I had to provide the British Embassy with statements from my bank which showed that the appropriate funding had been available in my account, for at least one month before applying for the Visa.

I also had to arrange an appointment with the British Embassy for an interview. Before I was issued with my visa, I was required to take my University offer letter with me and my CAS (Confirmation of Acceptance of Studies) which stated that I had paid a proportion of my fees, which was approximately 20%. I referred to the International Office for any sort of help I needed or advice relating to visas or fee payments.

* Please refer to disclaimer on page 2
Experience the University
with a MyLeicester web portal

Choosing a university. What’s more important – a highly respected qualification from a top 20 university or a great student experience? At Leicester, we think you should have both. And you can find out about that great experience by signing up for your MyLeicester web portal.

You can access up-to-date information about the course that you are interested in, studying at Leicester, hear about our students’ great experiences with us and if you were to make the next step, information about your application. You will even be able to plug your MyLeicester portal into your Facebook profile.

Whatever your interests or information needs may be, it will be just a click away. Visit www.myleicester.le.ac.uk to sign up.

Inspirational Teaching

The results of a national survey of student satisfaction with their universities has placed Leicester highest after Oxbridge out of 120 mainstream public universities.

The government-initiated, independent National Student Survey (NSS) has been carried out each year since 2005 to capture the educational experience of students. Leicester has never been ranked outside of the top 10.

The scores shown are the average score out of five given by respondents to the 22 questions of the NSS for public mainstream universities. The full results by subject are available at www.unistats.ac.uk

Top 10 National Student Survey 2011

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>University</th>
<th>Student satisfaction</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Oxford</td>
<td>4.28</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cambridge</td>
<td>4.28</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Leicester</td>
<td>4.17</td>
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<tr>
<td>Loughborough</td>
<td>4.15</td>
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<td>Durham</td>
<td>4.13</td>
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<tr>
<td>Bath</td>
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<tr>
<td>St Andrews</td>
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<tr>
<td>Glasgow</td>
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<tr>
<td>Keele</td>
<td>4.10</td>
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<tr>
<td>Aberystwyth</td>
<td>4.09</td>
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My time at Leicester was the most beautiful part of my life
memories that will be cherished

Anup, Graduate 2011