



Do something completely different which
will give you the competitive edge

Guide for Chinese students applying for 2+2 Programmes



THE UNIVERSITY of EDINBURGH
School of GeoSciences



Introduction

What is a 2+2 Agreement? How can I study abroad? Is it for me? You may be wondering what this is all about – don't worry! Whether you are aware of the opportunities to complete your degree abroad at The University of Edinburgh or not, this useful hand-out will provide all of the information you require to answer those burning questions.

What is a 2+2 Agreement?

The School of GeoSciences at The University of Edinburgh has an exciting agreement with several Chinese universities which allows students to study a GeoSciences degree for two years in China, and then transfer to The University of Edinburgh to complete a further two years of study - this is known as a **"2+2" Agreement**. During these two years, you will be taught alongside both UK and other overseas students.

Is my University part of the 2+2 Agreement?

This arrangement is currently in place with the following universities, but more may be added in due course - so keep checking www.ed.ac.uk/geosciences/2plus2

- Chinese University of Petroleum, Beijing (CUPB)
- Nanjing University





What do I get?

On successful completion of the 4th year at Edinburgh, you will graduate with a **Bachelor of Sciences degree, awarded by The University of Edinburgh.**

What can I study?

The subjects currently offered are: **Geology; Geology and Physical Geography; Geophysics; Geophysics and Meteorology; Geophysics and Geology; Environmental GeoScience.**



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Our agreements with CUPB and Nanjing University recognise complementarity in the following degree subjects:

BSc (Honours) Geology (F600)



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Geology uses fundamental scientific principles to explore and understand the history and future of our planet. As a Geology student, you will learn how to interpret the rock record and how to place present-day Earth in the context of evolving geological processes. You will have access to the University's specialist research facilities for analysing rocks, minerals and fluids, and measuring the physical properties of rocks. You will also attend field courses in Scotland, Spain and Cyprus.

BSc (Honours) Geology and Physical Geography (FF68)



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The Geology & Physical Geography degree is for students interested in the nature and dynamics of the Earth's surface. It develops an integrated understanding of the Earth as a connected system - the topography of which is developed through the interaction of surface and deep Earth processes. Life, plate tectonics, volcanoes, glaciers, rivers and people ultimately define modern and ancient landscape. This degree is designed to give students the skills and knowledge to interpret the landscape and predict its future evolution at all temporal and spatial scales, using a combination of remote sensing (Geographical Information Systems), laboratory experiments and field work in various settings (e.g. Scotland, Spain, Cyprus).

BSc (Honours) Geophysics (F660)



© Dr Hugh Pumphrey

Geophysics is the study of the Earth's internal structure and dynamics through the use of physics and mathematics. You will learn the fundamental physical principles and mathematical techniques underpinning the subject, and their application to fields as diverse as oil and gas exploration, environmental monitoring and protection, mitigation of natural hazards, and understanding the inner workings of our planet. The programme includes two individual projects and an international field course.

BSc (Honours) Geophysics and Meteorology (FF98)



© Dr Hugh Pumphrey

Geophysics and Meteorology are fascinating subjects in their own right, but are also of great economic and environmental importance. Geophysics uses physics and mathematics to study the Earth's internal structure and dynamics. Meteorology applies the same methods and techniques to the study of atmospheric dynamics, climate change and meteorological phenomena. You will study core courses in mathematics, physics and meteorology.

BSc (Honours) Environmental Geoscience (F630)



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Environmental Geoscience is the in-depth study of the Earth's environments and the processes that maintain and modify it, the way Earth's internal processes interact with its surface environments on the land and in the ocean, and how these have evolved over millions of years and continue to change at present. It deals with the impacts of natural events and human activity, from volcanic eruptions and climate change to the contamination of land and the oceans. It provides an excellent opportunity to develop laboratory skills and learn field and ship-based methods and sampling techniques, currently used by the environmental industry, while providing a strong foundation for further study in this subject area.

BSc (Honours) Geophysics and Geology (F690)



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Geophysics is the study of the Earth's internal structure and dynamics through the use of physics and mathematics, while Geology is the science of planet Earth – its structure, composition and natural processes, and its 4.6 billion year history. This joint degree provides a thorough grounding in physics and mathematics, allied with an appreciation of their uses in understanding geological processes. The numerical and analytical skills you develop will be prized by employers.

For students who really wish to develop their research and analytical skills, 2+2 students can apply to study for an extra year - our 5-year (MEarthSci) degrees - Geology (MEarthSci) (F640) and Geology and Physical Geography (MEarthSci) (FF6V).



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Why should I study at The University of Edinburgh?



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In Scotland's capital

One of the 6 "ancient"
universities in the UK -
founded in 1583.

Ranked 20th in the world
and 6th in Europe (recent
QS survey)

One of the largest
universities in the UK

Around 29,000 Students

Reputation of The University

For most of its history, The University of Edinburgh has had a reputation for attracting students from all over the world, and currently has over **8,000** international students from 137 countries.

Currently, there are around **1,600** students from China studying at the University of Edinburgh!

The University is also home to over **60%** of all Scotland's top researchers .

The University is consistently ranked one of the top **50** universities in the world*

97%** of our disciplines have research that is world leading.

*Research Assessment Exercises ** Times High-Reuter Ranking

A degree from The University of Edinburgh is recognised across the world



Reputation of the School of GeoSciences

The School of GeoSciences in Edinburgh offers undergraduates world-renowned teaching, state-of-the-art facilities and a rich Geological heritage, initiated by the founder of modern Geology, James Hutton in **1785**.

Edinburgh is home to some of the most fascinating Geological sites in the world

Our hands-on approach ensures you will be out in the field with experts and industry specialists, taking advantage of exciting locations both locally and abroad (including Jamaica, Texas, Spain and The Cairngorms).

You will become a part of the largest family of GeoScientists in the UK - with over **370** academics, researchers and research students.

Undergrads have access to a unique suite of facilities – including a high-tech microanalytical facility where you can analyse rocks, minerals and fluids, and measure the physical properties of rocks.





Prospects after you graduate – Giving you the edge

A degree from The University of Edinburgh is recognised throughout the world and is valued very highly by employers, setting you aside from the competition.

Graduates from the School of GeoSciences have lots of career opportunities. The majority of graduates continue studying or move straight into relevant employment. Many work in the resource industries or go on to establish environmental consultancies.

Earth Sciences degrees also equip you for a career in environmental planning, education, engineering or the balance of renewable and non-renewable resources.

You will have the unique opportunity to develop industrial links as you work alongside industry professionals. We have collaborative links with some of the biggest companies and corporations in Scotland and beyond.

An Undergraduate degree at Edinburgh is an excellent first step towards academic pursuits. The School of GeoSciences offers **15+** exciting Postgraduate courses and we have a PhD offering which is second to none.

Our degrees are accredited by the relevant UK and European institutes including the Geological Society of London (the oldest in the world).



The
Geological
Society



Where is Edinburgh and what is it like there?

Scotland

Scotland, together with England, Wales and Northern Ireland, makes up the United Kingdom.

Scotland enjoys mild winters and warm summers, and has some of the most unspoiled scenery in Europe.

With only **10%** of the UK population and **33%** of the land, there are plenty of wide-open spaces to explore.

It's easy to get here - Edinburgh is 600 kilometres north of London (approximately 1 hour by plane or 4.5 hours by train) and there are convenient flight connections to China via London, Frankfurt, Istanbul and Amsterdam.



City of Edinburgh

Edinburgh, the capital of Scotland, has a population of **500,000**. Every year it attracts over **2 million** tourists, thanks to its historic centre, cosmopolitan International Festival and beautiful location. It is situated on the river Forth in the east of Scotland, and it is easy to visit the beaches and mountains for which Scotland is famous.

Oh, and it's the home to the creator of Harry Potter – the famous JK Rowling!



http://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Scotland_map.png

Edinburgh is regularly voted one of the top places to live in the UK!





Accommodation

The University guarantees a place in university accommodation, for at least 1 year, for all students who don't come from the city, provided that you apply by the deadline of 30 June. (Note you are strongly recommended to begin the process as soon as possible because this is also dependent on the UKBA in China)

As 2+2 GeoSciences students, you will spend most of your two years studying in the leafy King's Buildings campus, which is about 10 minutes by bus from the city centre (the university provides a free shuttle bus for staff and students travelling to King's Buildings) and there is plenty of student accommodation nearby.

There are many choices of university accommodation, from student self-catering flats to fully catered residences, meaning there is sure to be something to suit you. All of the accommodation is either a short walk or bus ride from the city centre and the university. In addition, you will enjoy either a room to yourself or share with only 1 other.



Your home away from home

We understand that the prospect of travelling across the globe can be daunting. Don't worry – we will look after you while you are here. With a dedicated Programme Director and Personal Tutor, you will be in safe hands.

The School of GeoSciences organises regular social events for our 2+2 students so you will settle in quickly!



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How much will it all cost?

Accommodation / Catering

The accommodation costs vary a little, but as a guide, a place in university catered accommodation will cost between £155 - £230* per week (options for shared rooms are available from £113 per week). This includes your accommodation and all meals (except weekday lunches).

A place in a self-catered student flat will cost around £82 - £104* per week (some options for shared rooms are available from £57* per week). The rent in all university accommodation includes a regular cleaning service, all heating, hot water and electricity costs, and, in the majority of rooms, access to the university intranet and telephone service.

You can visit our website to find out details of Scholarship opportunities for Chinese students on the 2+2 Programme.

www.ed.ac.uk/geosciences/2plus2

*Correct at time of printing

Living expenses

Information on the cost of living in Edinburgh for a typical academic year can be found on our website:

<http://www.ed.ac.uk/studying/international/finance>

Of course, these calculations will vary according to your lifestyle!

Fees

Tuition fees are published by the University Registry on the University's website and are subject to annual revision. You can check by visiting:

<http://www.docs.sasg.ed.ac.uk/fees/search-fee.cfm>

Remember - compared to other overseas students, you will only have to pay fees for two years rather than for four!





I am thinking of applying. What do I need to do now?

You should check that what you are studying in China matches with a degree programme at The University of Edinburgh. You can find out more about our degrees on our website, but if you would like more information, please contact

Hugh Sinclair e: hugh.sinclair@ed.ac.uk

or

Natasha Milne e: natasha.milne@ed.ac.uk

Scores needed in 1st and 2nd year courses in China

We will make a decision to accept you based on what you have studied; how well you have performed; how well your course matches to one of ours; and on your English language ability.

As a guide, we would usually look for a score of between 80 - 85%. This is a GPA of around 3.25.



English language requirements

Before we can accept your application, you need to pass an IELTS test with a score of at least 6.5 with a minimum of 5.5 in each section. Equivalents may include:

- TOEFL iBT 92 or above with 20 in each section

Please note – in some cases you may be required to undertake a 3 week pre-sessional English language course. The costs of study and accommodation will be payable by you. As well as ensuring your language skills are up to speed, this is a great way to get to know some of your fellow students before the session begins and to settle into your new home for the next 2 years.

You can find out more information on the pre-sessional English course by visiting this website:

<http://www.ed.ac.uk/schools-departments/english-language-teaching/home>





If you are interested in applying for entry in September, you should start planning now!

- Discuss everything with your parents and family, as well as the International Office in your university.
- The earlier you start planning, the easier it is to make all the arrangements in time.
- Look at our courses and ask for any further information you need.
- Concentrate on improving your English, as one of the staff from the School of GeoSciences will visit your university in the spring to interview you.
- Look at the visa information as soon as possible - <http://www.ukba.homeoffice.gov.uk/>
- Contact your International Office for more information.
- Look at our international study pages for Chinese students - <http://www.ed.ac.uk/studying/international/country/asia/china>
- Check out our GeoSciences Facebook page at www.facebook.com/geosciences





How do I apply to study the 2+2 Programme at Edinburgh?

If you want to apply for our 2+2 programme, the application process is different from the normal application to study in the UK. If you are in 2nd year now, tell your International Office that you would like to apply, and your International Office will contact the School of GeoSciences with a list of potential applicants.

Interviews

Someone from the School of GeoSciences will interview you in China in spring. This interview will be in English, and will test your knowledge of Geosciences as well as your language ability.

After your interview

If you are successful at interview, and you want to study at The University of Edinburgh, you can apply directly to the School of GeoSciences. The College then processes your documents and produces an offer and visa documents.

Checklist – what do I need to send?

- 2x Academic references
- Academic transcripts
- Language certificates
- Home address
- Email address

IELTS score

Remember that you must have achieved an IELTS score of 6.5 with a minimum of 5.5 in each section by the time you apply.

Receiving an offer

If you meet all these requirements (academic, interview and minimum language), we will make you an **Unconditional Offer** -this means that we are offering you a definite place to study with us, and we will send you a letter to confirm your place. A visa form will be supplied directly to you.

You will also be given a UCAS reference number. Normally, all students who want to study in the UK apply through UCAS (Universities and Colleges Admissions Service) directly, and are given a UCAS number then. As you are applying directly to us, you will be given this number from us. This will allow you to see your application on-line, and UCAS will contact you directly to give you a formal offer of a place.

The letter from us contains important information about how to apply for the English language courses, accommodation, pay fees, and so on. Please read it carefully and make sure you follow the instructions in plenty of time.

If you do not meet all of these requirements at this point, we may still make you a **Conditional Offer** – this means that you will be accepted assuming you meet the conditions identified by the School of GeoSciences in your conditional offer. Conditions may include: achieving an IELTS score of 6.5; or completing our pre-sessional English course.





What do I do after I have been offered a place?

Visa

You must apply for a visa to come and study in the UK. The offer letter from us will enable you to start the application process and it is really important that you begin the process as soon as you can because it can take some time. Your International Office will be able to advise you how to do this. Further information relating to visa requirements can be found at:

www.ukvisas.gov.uk

English Language courses

After we have offered you a place, it may be a requirement that you arrive in Edinburgh in the middle of August in order to attend the intensive English language course - 'English for Undergraduate Study' - at the English Language Teaching Centre (ELTC) at The University of Edinburgh. This lasts for 3 weeks before the start of semester. Whether or not you must attend the course will be made clear in your offer letter. Please note - you must pay for this course in advance.



Studying

It is important to remember that you will be expected to cope with all the lectures, tutorials and labs as soon as you start studying with us. We will help you with your language studies and any extra tutorials before the start of semester, but after that you are expected to perform in the same way as other students. We have degree exams in December, so it is important to start studying hard as soon as you arrive. We do not make any extra allowances for overseas students in exams; you will be treated in exactly the same way as all other students.

Accommodation during semester

For your first year of study with us, you should apply for university student accommodation as soon as you have been given an unconditional offer. You can apply online at The University Accommodation Services website:

www.accom.ed.ac.uk.

You will be guaranteed a place in accommodation, provided that you apply by the published deadline. Full details, including how to pay, are given on the Accommodation website.

Fees

You must be prepared to pay the university fees at the start of semester. Full details of fees are given on the Registry website:

<http://www.registry.ed.ac.uk/fees>

You can visit our website for 2+2 student scholarship opportunities: **www.ed.ac.uk/geosciences/2plus2**



Further Information

Useful websites:

- **The University of Edinburgh:** www.ed.ac.uk
- **Information for International Students:** <http://www.ed.ac.uk/studying/undergraduate/international/>
- **Information for Chinese International Students:** <http://www.ed.ac.uk/studying/international/country/asia/china>
- **School of Geosciences:** www.geos.ed.ac.uk
- **English Language Teaching Centre:** <http://www.ed.ac.uk/schools-departments/english-language-teaching>
- **Information on Fees at The University of Edinburgh:** <http://www.registry.ed.ac.uk/Fees/UGFees.htm>
- **Universities and Colleges Admissions Service (UCAS):** www.ucas.com



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General Enquiries and Admissions Contact:

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My 2+2 Checklist

To help you to keep track of all of those important actions, why not use this handy checklist:



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Action	Website (If Applicable)	Notes	Complete Y/N
Start preparing for your IELTS test	http://takeielts.britishcouncil.org/		<input type="checkbox"/>
Prepare for an interview in Spring	www.ed.ac.uk/geosciences/2plus2		<input type="checkbox"/>
Apply for a Visa	www.ukvisas.gov.uk		<input type="checkbox"/>
Register for English Language courses at The University of Edinburgh	http://www.ed.ac.uk/studying/international/english/courses		<input type="checkbox"/>
Prepare to pay fees for the English Language Course	http://www.ed.ac.uk/studying/international/english/courses		<input type="checkbox"/>
Book accommodation	http://www.ed.ac.uk/studying/international/accommodation/introduction		<input type="checkbox"/>



We Look Forward to Welcoming You!



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