



## **NU Immerse London FAQ**

### **Admissions**

#### **What is NU Immerse?**

- NU Immerse is a transitional experience for non-native English-speaking students, offering advanced English language preparation and an introduction to college culture through a year-long program in Boston or London. This immersive program is an excellent start to your university studies and provides a comprehensive academic and cultural experience designed to help you succeed at Northeastern University and improve your English language skills.

For the highly motivated student, NU Immerse is your opportunity to jump into the flow of college life while exposing you to an environment that will enable you to develop your academic skills, strengthen your résumé, and prepare you for a successful transition to Northeastern. Throughout your time in NU Immerse, you will benefit from support every step of the way.

#### **Why was I offered admission to NU Immerse? Why was I not offered direct admission for Fall 2021, or to Spring 2022 through the N.U.in Program?**

- Admission to Northeastern has become increasingly competitive and we are unable to admit every qualified applicant to the fall semester in Boston. After careful review of your application, the Admissions Committee felt that you would benefit from participating in the NU Immerse London Program and having additional English language preparation prior to transitioning into your full-time, undergraduate degree-seeking program.

#### **How many students complete the program and matriculate to Northeastern in their 2<sup>nd</sup> year?**

- In 2021, 91% of NU Immerse students successfully completed the program with an average 3.6 GPA.

**Can I be put on the waitlist for another program, such as Fall 2021 direct entry, or Spring 2022?**

- No. Northeastern evaluates all students for best fit for the programs that we offer during our admissions review. We are not able to re-evaluate an application or offer any alternative admissions decisions.

**Can I transfer into my undergraduate degree program following my first semester of the NU Immerse program?**

- No. The NU Immerse program is one year in length and students must successfully complete all program requirements in order to matriculate to the undergraduate day program in their second year of study. The matriculation requirements are as follows:
  - 3.0 GPA in academic coursework
  - 3.0 GPA in English coursework
  - For the fall term, earn a C or better in all courses
  - For the spring term, earn a B- or better in all courses

**I forgot to send my most recent results from the TOEFL iBT which are stronger than the results I had previously sent you. Can I instead enroll in the undergraduate degree program to which I applied?**

- Admissions decisions are point-in-time decisions made with the information included within a student's application file; no appeals process is offered, and we will not be able to re-evaluate your application materials or any new information you wish to submit. Ultimately, you need to determine if the offer of admission that you received is the best fit for you academically and personally. If you choose to accept your offer of admission to NU Immerse, you will need to fully complete these requirements in order to continue studying your intended academic major in your second year.

**I am a U.S. Citizen (or went to high school in the United States), why am I being admitted into an English language immersion program?**

- Citizenship is not a consistent or reliable indicator of an individual's language fluency. Additionally, the Admissions Committee has taken your academic background into consideration when offering you admission to the NU Immerse program. If you have spent time studying in an English-medium academic program, it has been noted by the Admissions Committee, however, the Admissions Committee still felt that you would be

more successful at Northeastern through participation and completion of the NU Immerse program.

**Can I change my major before I begin in either NU Immerse? Can I change my major during the program?**

- Students can request a major change through their [Application Status Check](#) or after beginning the program, but students interested in studying in some programs may require additional study time.

**Can I transfer in any advanced credits from AP exams, IB exams, or any other international matriculation exams which are recognized by Northeastern University?**

- Yes. Northeastern will accept up to 32 advanced test credits towards your degree. You can learn more about advanced standing credits from any Advanced Placement (AP), International Baccalaureate (IB) or other international matriculation examinations [here](#).

**Can I participate in co-op during my first year?**

- No. All students at Northeastern must wait until their second year to begin co-op. NU Immerse students can take their co-op introduction course in the second semester of their sophomore year and begin their first co-op on the July-December co-op cycle entering their third year at Northeastern.

**Will I be able to graduate in 4 years? Will I be behind schedule if I first participate in NU Immerse?**

- Most NU Immerse students will be able to graduate in 4 years if they wish to prioritize a four-year graduation timeline. Students who have advanced standing credit or students who take summer classes or heavier loads during a term or two are very likely to finish in four years. Some students who study in programs in colleges such as Bouvé College of Health Sciences and Khoury College of Computer Sciences may extend their time to graduating beyond 4 years. A student's timeline to graduation will also depend on whether the student wants to do 1, 2, or 3 co-ops, or if they choose to study abroad in a later semester. As with students who begin in the undergraduate day program directly, a larger focus on experiential learning opportunities may lengthen a student's overall timeline to graduation.

**Will I gain any academic credits from the NU Immerse program?**

- NU Immerse London students can earn between 20-24 credits, which will transfer fully to your program of study.

## **Will I be able to enroll in courses on Northeastern’s Boston campus in either Summer I or Summer II, once I’ve completed NU Immerse?**

- No. However, students are encouraged to work with their advisor, and future college advisor to find classes at institutions in their home country which will be transferrable to their program. This meeting usually happens in the Spring semester during the NU Immerse Program.

## **What courses will I complete in the NU Immerse program?**

- Please reference our course offerings indicated on the program website for potential course options for the London-based program.

## **NU Immerse London and the New College of the Humanities**

### **When will the fall and spring semesters start and end?**

- Please see the following schedule:

	Fall 2021	Spring 2022
Student Arrival	September 4-5, 2021	January 3-4, 2022 (Returning students from NU Immerse are permitted to arrive up until the start of classes*)
Student Orientation	September 6-10, 2021	N/A
Start of Classes	September 13, 2021	January 10, 2022
Midterms	Depends on the course (TBC)	Depends on the course (TBC)
Semester Break	November 8-12, 2021	February 21-25, 2022
Final Exam Period	December 6-10, 2021	March 28-April 1, 2022
Last Day of Classes	December 17, 2021	April 8, 2022
Student Departure	December 18-19, 2021	April 13, 2022

\*Dependent on quarantine requirements

### **How will students in Northeastern programs interact with NCH students?**

- Students in Northeastern programs will be able to participate in events, clubs, and societies at NCH. Examples of existing clubs include Philosophy Society, Public Speaking Society, Football Club, Feminist Society, Vegan & Vegetarian Society, and the Advocacy Society. Students in Northeastern programs

will also have the opportunity to create their own societies if they wish.

Additionally, there will also be events specifically directed at Northeastern students with the intention of creating as many networking opportunities as possible.

### **What residence life supports/programming will be available at NCH?**

- NCH has an entire Global Experience Team that has been hard at work in preparing for your arrival. The team includes: Valentina Parrinello, Global Experience Manager; Maddie Hughes – Student Wellbeing Coordinator; and Carlos Yeung and Sean O’Donnell - Student Coordinators. In addition, there will be residential coordinators living in the residence hall. These staff will support students in the event of an emergency, plan fun activities designed to help you experience London, as well as prepare you for the transition to Northeastern upon completion of the program.

Additional support positions to work in the Global Experience team will also be hired in the coming weeks.

### **How accessible are professors and do they hold office hours?**

- Professors are very accessible and they hold regular office hours. Many class sizes are relatively small, which adds to professors’ accessibility.

### **What academic supports will be available for students in these programs? Is there a writing center?**

Students will be able to utilize the NU Writing Center. Additionally, the Academic Writing course is designed to support students’ writing development.

### **Are students able to do any part-time work, either on or off campus, while participating in these programs?**

- Students on a Student route visa for a full year of study are allowed to work 20 hours per week during the term and full-time during vacations. It's permissible to work on or off campus, however there are no work placements available on the NCH campus currently.

### **How many students will be studying at Devon House (including NCH students)?**

- About 800 students.

### **How will students be billed for the program?**

- Students will be billed for the program by Northeastern by semester. Students will also have the option to set-up a payment plan.

### **What will happen if the pandemic prevents students from traveling to London for the NU Immerse program?**

- Last year, Northeastern nimbly demonstrated its ability to prioritize student health and safety, manage limited global mobility, and ensure each student's educational continuity. Along with our partners at NCH, we are poised to do the same this year should circumstances require it. Last year, options including online coursework or relocating a program to another location were used to manage these situations. We would look at similar options if a situation presented itself this year.

### **Is a student's major determined by the major they selected when they applied to Northeastern?**

- Yes, students admitted to Northeastern-sponsored programs at NCH are conditionally admitted to the major they selected when they applied to Northeastern.

### **Will any classes be held online in light of the pandemic?**

- Our expectation is that NCH will deliver all fall classes in-person, but the College will follow all guidelines set by the UK government for the coming academic year.

### **Is there any option to purchase a meal plan?**

- No, there are no meal plans available in through the Chapter Spitalfields. However, students will have access to kitchen facilities in the residence.

### **What does the timeline for the visa process look like? How long does it typically take to acquire a visa for study in the UK?**

- NCH will begin assisting students with the visa application process from April. The timeline for receiving a visa will depend on the visa type required by the student and the nationality of the applicant.

The student route visa processing time is generally around 3 weeks.

Visa nationals must apply for the standard visitor visa from their home country. It normally takes 3 weeks to get a decision on standard visitor visa applications.

### **Who will be supporting the NU Immerse program onsite in London?**

- There are many staff who help to support the NU Immerse Program, including NCH program staff who specifically focus on NU programs, residential coordinators,

and Chapter staff offering resident services via their front desk alongside 24/7 security service.

**Is this program exclusive to Northeastern or will there be students from other colleges attending?**

- This program is exclusive to Northeastern.

**Is it possible to visit NCH over the summer?**

- Since new the Devon House campus is still under construction, it will not be possible to visit until it is completed. If you intend to visit London over the summer, please [contact](#) NCH in advance to inquire about the possibility of visiting campus once the new campus is completed.

**Is it possible to take a gap year before joining this program?**

- No, students admitted to Northeastern programs at NCH will need to complete the program during the coming academic year, deferrals are not offered for these programs. Upon successful completion of the Northeastern program, a student can request a deferral prior to starting at Northeastern in their second year of study if they wish to do so.

**Are students in the NU Immerse Program able to complete internships or co-ops during the program?**

- Internships will not be arranged as part of the program. Similarly, students will not be able to participate in co-op until transferring to Northeastern following their successful completion of the program.

**Are there any sports that NU Immerse students are able to participate in?**

- NCH has football (soccer) club that students can join.

**While completing the NU Immerse program, am I a Northeastern student or a New College of the Humanities student?**

- A visiting (non-matriculated) NCH student.

**Academics at New College of the Humanities**

**How can I declare a second major or minor?**

- Students will be able to declare a second major or minor after they have successfully completed the NU Immerse program and attended their Northeastern orientation in Boston in their second year of study.

**Will NU Immerse students be able to take any foreign language courses at NCH?**

- No, foreign language courses are not offered at NCH.

**Are there any supports in the NU Immerse London programs for students who may have learning disabilities or may require certain academic accommodations?**

- Yes, this type of support will be available to all students in Northeastern programs studying at NCH. The New College of the Humanities staff will need to know any specific requests prior to student arrival in order to put in place reasonable accommodations. The NCH Student Development and Support Team will work alongside the Senior Director of Learning Strategies and Student Success at Northeastern's Disability Resource Center (DRC) to support students.

**What type of learning disability resources will be available at NCH?**

- Students are referred to Northeastern's Disability Resource Center (DRC). Requests for accommodations are then reviewed and discussed between Northeastern's DRC and the Wellbeing Coordinator at NCH. You can find out more about the supports offered through Northeastern's DRC here: <http://www.northeastern.edu/drc/>

**Is there a library at Devon House that NU Immerse students are able to use?**

- Visiting students at NCH will have access to the local Guildhall Library and the City of London libraries. The students will also have access to the full suite of Northeastern Online Resources/Library, that was granted to NCH this academic year.

**If a student does well in the first semester, is it possible to transfer to Boston sooner than their second year of study?**

- No, students in year-length Northeastern programs at NCH will need to fully complete the program in order to transfer to Northeastern in their second year of study.

## **Housing in London**

**What protocols will be in place in the housing accommodations in light of COVID-19?**

- The Chapter Spitalfields staff have shared the following information about COVID-19

protocols:

Keeping our buildings secure against COVID-19 and protecting our residents and team members remains our priority and we have implemented temperature checks and increased thorough cleans of our communal spaces and commonly touched items like door handles and lift buttons. Our residents have access to an online platform that contains a number of virtual events and on-demand content that includes fitness classes, well-being tips, language courses, virtual museum tours plus much more. We offer self-isolation support for any residents that are going through this process, which includes waste disposal, delivery of food and beverages plus x2 free laundry services.

We understand that this has been and continues to be a very challenging time and we are always on hand to support our residents. We continue to monitor government guidelines closely and are preparing to open up more amenity spaces safely as restrictions ease.

For more information on how we are supporting our residents throughout the pandemic, check out our Chapter Commitment here: <https://www.chapter-living.com/information/our-chapter-commitment>

**Will there be an RA or other on-site staff within the housing accommodations?**

- Yes.

**Will students be able to choose a roommate?**

- No, but students will have the opportunity to share their living habits & roommates will be assigned over the summer and announced upon arrival in London.

**What different types of rooms are available? Is it possible to have a single room?**

- Students will live in 4-bed apartments.

**Will any single/studio rooms be available?**

- Currently, no studio rooms are available for students in the NU Immerse Program.

**Who else resides in the Chapter Spitalfields? Is it only Northeastern and NCH students?**

- Students from many different universities will live at Chapter as well as all Northeastern programs.

**What is the length of the housing lease for students with Chapter Spitalfields?**

- The full details of leases at Chapter Spitalfields, including move out dates, will be confirmed this summer.

**Are there kitchens and cooking facilities in the residences in Chapter Spitalfields?**

- Yes, each dormitory will have a kitchen and cooking facilities.

**Will students need to bring or furnish their own kitchen supplies?**

- Students will be provided with kitchen packs.

**What furnishings are available in the rooms at Chapter Spitalfields?**

- Each room will include a bed, study space, and storage area.

**Where can I learn more about housing at Chapter Spitalfields?**

- Student can explore more about the housing at Chapter Spitalfields here: <https://www.chapter-living.com/properties/spitalfields>.

**Is it possible for NU Immerse students to have an N.U.in student as a roommate?**

- Possibly, but this would only be the case if there are an odd number of students. We will prioritize housing with students in the same NU program.

**Will the Chapter Spitalfields be open during the winter break?**

- Yes.

**Is housing required for the program or are we able to arrange our own housing in London?**

- Housing is a requirement for Northeastern programs at NCH.

**Is there any support to help students open a bank account in London?**

- Yes, guidance will be shared upon arrival in London.

**What does supervision/oversight look like for student housing considering the spread-out nature/apartment-style?**

- NU and NCH-hired coordinators will serve as residential coordinators in Chapter Spitalfields. In addition, Chapter Spitalfields has CCTV in and around each property, an electronic key entry system for the main entrance, common areas, each flat and bedroom. There is also staff on site 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

**Does Chapter Spitalfields strictly house college students, or can non-students live there?**

- There is no upper age limits on the accommodation, but residents must be in full-time education for the duration of their stay in Chapter Spitalfields. There is a small number of rooms available for non-students to rent, which are separate to the main site where NU students will be living, but include use of the shared facilities.

**Has the Chapter Spitalfields been used before to house students for any of the NU programs, or is this the first year that it's being used?**

- This is the first time it is being used in connection with NCH at Northeastern.

**Will students from both the NU Immerse and the N.U.in programs be housed within the Chapter Spitalfields facility?**

- Yes.

**Health and Safety at New College of the Humanities**

**What kind of health services are available to students? Will counseling or mental health services be available?**

- Counseling services are available to students through Chapter Spitalfields. Their team has shared the following:

Student welfare is extremely important to us – particularly after last year! We work extremely closely with Student Minds and Nightline to offer external support to our residents, but we also encourage residents to talk to their property team if they are struggling or are concerned about a friend or fellow resident. Our Site teams have all been trained in student welfare and receive regular refresher sessions to ensure that they are supporting residents fully and also picking up on any signs of concern. For anyone who does not feel comfortable in reaching out face to face, we do also have an email address [student.wellbeing@chapter-living.com](mailto:student.wellbeing@chapter-living.com) that is monitored daily.

For more information about the services that we offer at Chapter, please see our student welfare page - <https://www.chapter-living.com/campaigns/student-welfare>.

**Is health insurance required to participate in the program? Does NU or NCH offer health insurance for students during the program?**

- NU Immerse students must pay £470 as part of the visa application for a full year of study in the UK. This will give students full access to the NHS during their time abroad. However, students will still need International Security and Emergency Support that covers repatriation.

**What health services will be available in the event of an emergency?**

- The National Health Service (NHS) is the UK's state healthcare system providing a wide range of services including appointments with a doctor, hospital treatment and dental care. Students should register with a doctor as soon as possible after their arrival in London. NCH will be able to advise on this and may recommend a GP practice.

Students will be required to pay a £470 immigration health surcharge as part of their visa application fee. The immigration health surcharge will entitle students to access the NHS in the UK at no additional cost in the same way as a permanent UK resident. This includes at the Doctor's surgery (known as General Practitioner or GP), a Healthcare Centre or in a hospital. Students may need to pay for dental and optical treatment as well as medicine prescribed by the doctor and collected from a pharmacy. There are also exceptions for particularly expensive discretionary treatments.

If a student's visa application is not successful, they will automatically be refunded the immigration health surcharge. The surcharge will not be partially refunded if you depart the UK earlier than the expiry of your visa. The surcharge is also not refunded if you do not use the NHS during your time in the UK.

## **Matriculation to Northeastern**

**In order to successfully matriculate into the full-time, degree-seeking undergraduate program to which I initially applied, what program requirements must I meet?**

- 3.0 GPA in academic coursework
- 3.0 GPA in English coursework
- For the fall term, earn a C or better in all courses
- For the spring term, earn a B- or better in all courses

**Once I complete the program, do I need to then apply as a transfer student?**

- No. Students who successfully complete the program requirements will be admitted to the undergraduate day program directly upon completion of the program, there is no additional application required.

**What if I do not meet the minimum academic requirements?**

- Students who do not meet the minimum academic requirements can work with their advisor to apply to other institutions or determine what their next steps will be after completing the NU Immerse program.

**Will NU Immerse appear on my official Northeastern transcript?**

- The Program name will not be indicated on your transcript. Courses completed during the NU Immerse Program will appear on your official Northeastern University transcript as transfer credits.

### **Will NU Immerse appear on my official Northeastern diploma?**

- No. Students who graduate from Northeastern University's Undergraduate day program after completing the NU Immerse Program will receive the same diploma as all other students.

### **What type of academic support does the program offer?**

- Every student has an academic advisor who supports their educational goals throughout the NU Immerse program. All of our faculty make time for students throughout their time in the program to provide additional support. Students can make use of one-on-one tutoring through the International Tutoring Center and peer tutoring in all math and economics courses. Students may also take advantage of group programming through the Global Student Success office.

### **Where do incoming transfer students typically live off campus in Boston?**

- Many Northeastern transfer students choose to live in the neighborhoods surrounding campus, like the Mission Hill, Fenway, Roxbury, Back Bay, and South End neighborhoods. Additionally, with Northeastern's four T stops, the university is conveniently accessible to many neighborhoods. Northeastern's Off Campus Housing and Support Services Office is also available to help students find accommodations that fit their needs and budget.

### **Are students able to apply for financial aid in their second year of study at Northeastern?**

- Yes, students can apply for need-based financial aid in their second year after successfully completing the NU Immerse Program. Eligibility for any need-based financial aid will be based on the information which is provided to Northeastern on both the [FAFSA](#) and [CSS Profile](#). Please be advised that Northeastern does not offer need-based financial aid to international students.

### **Will students who successfully complete the NU Immerse program be eligible for merit aid from their second year of study onward?**

- No, all academic merit scholarships are offered at the time of admission.

### **How will students become acclimated to the campus experience in Boston after completing**

## **the program?**

- NU Immerse students will attend transfer student orientation when they begin their second year of study in Boston. This orientation will introduce them to a range of opportunities and resources on campus.

## **Next Steps and Additional Questions**

### **How do I confirm my enrollment for NU Immerse?**

- To confirm your enrollment, you will need to submit your \$1,200 enrollment deposit via your [Application Status Check](#) by May 1.

### **Can do I defer my enrollment for NU Immerse?**

- No. We do not permit students who were offered admission through NU Immerse to defer their enrollment.

### **Can I choose to defer my acceptance for a year due to concerns about COVID-19?**

- No, our expectation is that the programs will be able to operate as planned for the fall 2021 - spring 2022 school year. If students are unable to participate in the program due to a personal circumstance related to COVID-19, the Admissions Committee will review their requests on a case-by-case basis.

### **How do I learn more about any federal student loans, or institutional need-based or merit-based grants and scholarships?**

- All admitted students are evaluated for merit-based scholarships, and all decisions about merit-based grants and scholarships are final. Unfortunately, with such a deep and talented applicant pool, we are unable to provide each admitted student with a merit-based scholarship.

If you are a U.S. Citizen, U.S. Dual Citizen, or U.S. Permanent Resident, you can apply for need-based financial aid by submitting the [FAFSA](#) and [CSS Profile](#) to Northeastern. You can review your award letter in your [Application Status Check](#). Please note, International students are not eligible for need-based financial aid. US Citizens & Permanent Residents are not eligible for federal financial aid during their year in NU Immerse as it is a pre-matriculated student program, and therefore they are selected with financial fit in mind alongside academic and personal fit. US Citizens & Permanent Residents may apply for need-based institutional and federal financial aid once they matriculate to Northeastern in their second year.