

NCSAC LONDON SEMESTER

Vol: 1

London, September 11, 2026



ORIENTATION

BACK TO SCHOOL... IN LONDON

The weather has been feeling very autumnal, just in time for the start of the Fall 2026 Semester. NCSAC students were greeted at the airport last Friday and whisked away to their accommodations. The students had the rest of the day to settle in at their flat or homestay. On Saturday, the students attended orientation, covering everything from programme details, academic

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expectations, and housing information. In the afternoon, our wonderful Blue Badge Guides took the students on a bus tour of London. They saw all of the iconic sights in one afternoon!

On Sunday, Student Services hosted optional workshops on planning travel in the UK and Europe, eating/groceries/meal planning, money saving tips and budgeting, and living like a local. The students also went on a tour of Imperial College London to learn more about their associate membership to the Imperial College Students' Union.



Spirits were high for the start of classes and the first week of the semester. Faculty mentioned how engaged the students have been in class this week and we hope that energy continues. Next week the group will visit the Victoria & Albert (V&A) Museum as part of British Life and Culture.

To finish the week off, our Student Services Team held a welcome event for all AIFS participants at Ballie Ballerson. Usually the ball pit is the highlight, but rumour has it that karaoke was the most popular activity of the night!

This semester we are trialing a new initiative where every NCSAC student will meet with a member of staff within the first few weeks of the programme. We know that adjusting to London can be a challenge and it is a great opportunity to provide personalised support. We will also learn more about their motivation for studying in London and help them set some achievable goals for their time here.

Some of us have already met with students, and while most students are feeling really positive, we have already identified where we can provide additional support to some of the students. For example, one of the older students mentioned how different their experience is and we talked about how we can connect them with other students who are having a similar experience. We hope that this will have a positive impact to their study abroad journey!

