

## INTRODUCTION TO NEWCASTLE UNIVERSITY

[www.ncl.ac.uk](http://www.ncl.ac.uk)

[Newcastle University](#) (full legal name: the University of Newcastle upon Tyne) traces its origins back to 1834 and is a member of the [Russell Group](#) of twenty-four research-based institutions in the UK. With a student population of c. 20,000 and a staff complement of just over 5,000, we are a comprehensive, medium-sized civic university with a three-faculty structure based around the broad disciplines of

- [Humanities & Social Sciences](#),
- [Medical Sciences](#) and
- [Science, Agriculture & Engineering](#).

We are dedicated to high quality research and teaching which is relevant and serves the needs of our local community and wider national and international populations. This is exemplified in the £10 million investment we are making, as lead partner in the [Science City](#) development, to create a new campus which will enable close collaboration and engagement between higher education, business, industry and the local community.

A commitment to collaborating with international partners has seen, for example, the development of a [Medical School campus](#) in Malaysia, working closely with the Malaysian government to serve local needs, and a partnership with a government initiative, the [Singapore Institute of Technology](#), in the fields of Marine Technology, Electrical Power Engineering, Chemical Engineering, Mechanical Engineering and Food & Human Nutrition.

Newcastle University, in collaboration with Loyola University, Maryland, USA, hosts the Loyola University Science Study Abroad Center on campus.

Newcastle University was created at the heart of an industrial region, the [North East of England](#), and has always worked closely with and been informed by the needs of industry. Our approach to research is inter-disciplinary, centered around research institutes which cut across subject divides: for example, the [Institute for Ageing & Health](#) and the [Newcastle Institute for Research on Sustainability](#). The influential *Research Fortnight* survey places us in the top 20 institutions in the UK for research power. In the UK government's most recent assessment of the quality of research at UK institutions, in over two thirds of subjects assessed, at least half of all research was placed in the top two categories of 4\* (world leading) and 3\* (internationally excellent). We are highly successful in attracting research funding and hold one of the largest portfolios of European Union-funded research grants in the UK - currently 160 EU projects worth £42.8 million to the University. There are a further 23 projects in the process of negotiation and many more applications in the process of being evaluated.

A current focus is to develop a set of major societal challenge themes, based around particular research strengths, which are of global relevance and importance, and on which we intend to engage the institution as a whole, and with the wider world. The first of these is [Ageing and Health](#). The second, [Sustainability](#), draws on our expertise in

renewable energy, sustainable cities and marine science and technology. A third Humanities and Social Science-based theme, launched in 2012 addresses [Social Renewal](#).

For over ten years, the University has played a major role in widening participation in university education in the UK through its successful [Partners](#) programme.

The University has been complimented by government auditors on its approach to developing employability skills.

Our [School of Education](#) (ECLS) has a one-hundred-year history of training teachers and educational leaders within the UK and overseas and is making a major contribution to the recognition of teaching excellence in universities through the development of the EQUATE programme. The [North Leadership Centre](#) works with public, private and third sector organisations nationally and internationally to deliver bespoke programmes. The University through its Staff Development Unit has an excellent track record in the development of training for university teachers and innovative new leadership training and succession planning packages for senior university managers. Postgraduate research training programmes are highly developed and effective.

## **[RESEARCH STRENGTHS](#)**

**Arts & Humanities:** Urban and global planning, regional geography, international politics, English literature, linguistics, music and fine arts, education in developing countries, rural economy, lean technologies

**Medical Sciences:** Healthy ageing and chronic diseases, regenerative medicine and stem cell technology, cancer, bacterial cell biology, developmental genetics and cognitive neuroscience

**Science, Agriculture & Engineering:** Civil and Marine Engineering, transport, water, computer science and digital technologies, biotechnology, energy technologies (especially fuel cells and smart grids), climate change modelling and resilience, nanotechnology and material science.

## **Key Facts and References:**

[Institutional Videos](#)

[University Profile](#)

- We rank in the top 20 of UK universities in The Sunday Times 2013 University Guide
- Amongst our peers Newcastle is:
  - 10th in the UK for student satisfaction
  - In the UK's top 12 for research power in Science and Engineering
- 93% of our students are in a job or further training within six months of graduating (HEFCE 2012)
- Newcastle University is the first UK university to establish a fully owned international branch campus for medicine at its [NUMed Campus in Malaysia](#) which opened in 2011
- Our International students put Newcastle University in world's top 12 ([ISB 2011](#))