ESSEX GLOBAL PARTNERSHIPS
MAKING CONNECTIONS CHANGING THE WORLD
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A leading university with a truly global outlook

At the University of Essex you can find the world in one place – it is why we’re ranked 25th for international outlook in the Times Higher Education World University Rankings 2022.

We’re also proud to be 76th in the global Times Higher Education Impact Rankings 2022, showing how our research and education is delivering on the Sustainable Development Goals of the United Nations.

We believe an international outlook has never been more important and we’re a founding member of two influential European university networks. Young Universities for the Future of Europe (YUFE) is bringing ten universities together to create a new kind of European university and the Young European Research Universities Network (YERUN), which forges research collaborations across 22 institutions.

We’re also an anchor institution in our region forging innovative partnerships such as the Essex Centre for Data Analytics with Essex Police and Essex County Council alongside the Eastern Arc Academic Research Consortium with the University of East Anglia and the University of Kent.

We are committed to developing high-quality partnerships with like-minded universities and organisations, based on mutual benefit and respect.

We already work in partnership with a range of international institutions, to further strengthen our commitment to excellence in education and research. Together we are making a positive difference across the world.

Our global partnerships provide opportunities for our students to study abroad and for us to welcome international students to Essex. Our research partnerships enable us to bring researchers together to solve some of the world’s most challenging problems.

Our network of regional offices help support and promote the work of our students, our academic and professional services staff, and alumni wherever they are across the globe.

If you want to work with us to make a better world, we would love to hear from you.

Professor Anthony Forster
Vice-Chancellor
Embracing the globe

Why you should partner with us

Research
We have five subjects in the UK top ten for research impact according to the Times Higher Education’s analysis of the UK’s Research Excellence Framework 2021. We also have four landmark research institutes: the Institute for Analytics and Data Science, the Institute for Social and Economic Research, the Institute of Public Health and Wellbeing and the Human Rights Centre.

Partnerships
We focus on establishing deep and meaningful partnerships with institutions that align with and compliment our values and activities. We have links with 320 institutions around the world.

Reach
We are ranked 25th in the world for international outlook (Times Higher Education World University Rankings 2022) and 76th in the global Times Higher Education Impact Rankings 2022, ranking in the top 25 globally for three of the UN Sustainable Development Goals assessed.

Opportunities
We believe that working in partnership is the key to the improvement of humanity and society, through the transformational opportunities we jointly create for students.

Knowledge sharing
We’re number one in the UK for working with businesses to put research into action by creating new products and services through Knowledge Transfer Partnerships.

Experience
We have 14 international academic partnerships with global institution Ireland, Japan, Morocco, Saudi Arabia and Singapore, and 210 friendship and progression agreements around the world.
We take the time to build effective relationships with our partners to create genuine balanced collaborations which deliver mutual and sustainable benefits.

Here are the ways you can work with us:

**Friendship agreements**
A great way to start is a joint statement of institutional intent to work together. We are always happy to sign a friendship agreement with partners who share our values.

**Study abroad and student exchanges**
An international experience is an important part of a transformational education which can support students to become global citizens. An exchange agreement enables us to partner with institutions to mutually agree to send and receive a number of students with the tuition fee waived for students at the host institution.

**Progression and articulation agreements**
This is when your students are considered for admission to the first year of an Essex course, or they join our course beyond the standard point of entry based on what they have already studied with you.

**Transnational education**
Not everyone can travel to Essex to study which is why we want to deliver our programmes locally, in other countries, via:
- Validation: As an awarding institution we can validate others to deliver programmes that lead to an Essex degree.
- Franchise: We can franchise our degrees for delivery by a trusted partner.

**Double degrees and dual awards**
Students spend part of their time studying at both partner institutions, and obtain a separate award from both institutions.

**Joint degrees**
Essex and one or more other awarding institutions provide a joint programme leading to a single award from both, or all, institutions.

**The Essex Joint PhD**
Where we jointly award a single joint PhD in partnership with another university, with two research supervisors working together.

**Degree apprenticeships**
Combining on-the-job training at a partner business and academic study.

**Business partnerships**
Help businesses improve and grow by enabling innovation, in areas such as analytics and data science, plant science and artificial intelligence technologies.

**Multilateral networks and alliances**
Where a university network or alliance aligns with our institutional goals and philosophy we are happy to explore new collaborative opportunities.
Delivering partnerships across the world

At Essex we value highly the international dimension of university life in providing a transformational education to students.

We encourage our students and staff to broaden their world outlook through study or work at one of our global partner institutions.

We also welcome students from around the world for a period of study at Essex and aim to offer them an outstanding international experience.

There are a number of different ways we can work in partnership with other institutions.

Double degree programmes

We have a prestigious double degree programme jointly-developed by Northwest University (NWU) in China and our School of Computer Science and Electronic Engineering at Essex. Successful students from NWU are awarded qualifications from both institutions; a BSc in Electronic Systems Engineering from Essex and a BSc in Electronic Information Science and Technology from NWU.

Hundreds of students have now completed the programme, which is approved by China’s Ministry of Education. Students undertake the first three years of the programme in China, with Essex staff travelling to deliver month-long modules alongside NWU staff. This is followed up through online support from the UK.

Validation arrangement

Our ambitious partnership with Aegean Omiros College (AOC) in Greece launched in 2021. AOC is part of the Omiros Group and has campuses in Athens, Piraeus and Larissa.

Essex is now validating courses delivered by AOC including undergraduate and postgraduate degrees in Business Administration, Shipping, Tourism, IT, Allied Health, Psychology and Education. In the coming years, new innovative courses will be developed and the partners will invest in joint research programmes.

“The partnership with Essex, one of the most internationally renowned universities in the UK is an honour for us and makes us especially happy as it gives us the opportunity to contribute to the wider improvement of higher education in Greece.”

Aegean Omiros College
Chief Executive Officer
Konstantina Makryplidi
Dual-award partnerships

The University has two dual-award partnerships with Kobe University in Japan, and a number of postgraduate taught dual-award programmes with universities across Germany. The programme leads to a Masters degree from both Essex and the partner institution.

Our Department of Economics has a dual-award partnership with the Graduate School of Economics at Kobe, and our Department of Government has a dual-award partnership with the Graduate School of Law.

Participating universities in Germany include Universität Bamberg, Universität Hamburg and Universität Konstanz, working in partnerships with our Department of Government and Department of Economics.

International franchise

Through our partnership with Kaplan Singapore, we offer a number of our undergraduate courses in Singapore. These are closely modelled on the courses offered at Essex. Kaplan Singapore students are able to complete their Essex award in 18 months. The courses available are BSc (Hons) Accounting, BSc (Hons) Accounting and Finance, BSc (Hons) Banking and Finance, BSc (Hons) Financial Management, BSc (Hons) Management and Marketing, BSc Computer Games, BSc Computer Science, BSc Psychology, BSc Sports and Exercise Science and BSc Sports Performance and Coaching.

Double degree leading to legal practice qualifications in France and the UK

Essex is one of only five universities in the UK which qualifies students for legal practice in both France and the UK. Students spend the first two years of this double degree studying at Essex where they take the required modules in English law. In the following two years, students will study at a partner institution in France, following modules in French law to obtain a Licence en Droit and the Maîtrise/Master 1. Essex has four partner institutions in France for this programme; the Université Cote d’Azur, Université Jean Moulin Lyon 3, Université Paris Ouest Nanterre La Défense and Université Toulouse 1 Capitole.

Progression and friendship agreements

The University has 200 friendship agreements around the world. Friendship agreements allow the University to formalise cooperation with another institution. Progression agreements allow students to be considered for admission to undergraduate and postgraduate courses at Essex provided they meet the admission criteria.

“At Essex we are always happy to explore opportunities to work in collaboration with like-minded institutions across the globe. We know that the most successful partnerships are those that are flexible, and provide clear benefits for both partners.”

Ivan Hutchins
Head of International Business Development

Education
Studying abroad and student exchanges

We currently have study abroad partnership agreements with over 150 institutions and each year around 250 Essex students take up this excellent opportunity to broaden their horizons and earn credit towards their degree.

We welcome students from around the world for a period of study abroad at Essex and aim to offer them an outstanding international experience. They are welcomed into our international community of original thinkers, to gain valuable learning within an academically-challenging environment.

Grasping new opportunities

We encourage our students to grasp opportunities to work and volunteer abroad, and take advantage of the opportunities we offer around the world to help them grow personally and academically.

We provide guidance on what direction to take and where they can go. We also help organise their time abroad, and help them get prepared through pre-departure workshops.

Each year we offer rich extra-curricular activities to Essex students around the world including in South America, China, Australasia and Southeast Asia.

These include charity and conservation work with UmPhafa and Colchester Zoo in South Africa, a sea turtle conservation project with Wildlife Sense in Greece, and Think Pacific which is a grassroots project to support young people living in remote villages in Fiji.

Online study and degree preparation

We are delivering award-winning partnerships with Kaplan. We launched University of Essex Online with Kaplan 15 years ago and now offer over 80 courses at postgraduate and undergraduate level.

In 2018, we joined forces with Kaplan again to open the University of Essex International College on our Colchester Campus to offer degree preparation courses allowing progression onto undergraduate or postgraduate programmes.
The success of the Young European Research Universities Network (YERUN) and Young Universities for the Future of Europe (YUFE) Alliance are supporting our commitment to forging bold and ambitious links with partners in Europe. They are also an inspirational model for multi-university partnerships which support best practice in research and education.

A new kind of European University

Essex was a founding member of the YUFE Alliance and leads on Equality and Diversity. In 2022, YUFE received €14.4m from the European Commission to continue work on creating a transnational ‘European University’.

As one of ten academic YUFE Alliance partners, Essex undergraduate and postgraduate students can undertake additional study alongside their Essex degree, by compiling their own curriculum from courses offered across the YUFE universities.

YUFE’s unique strength lies in its shared values, history of effective collaboration and the concrete progress the Alliance is making, which has given it the reputation of being one of the most successful and impactful models among the European Universities initiatives.

The initial vision for YUFE has been expanded to include Inno4YUFE which aims to remove barriers to boost student entrepreneurship and innovation by uniting innovation ecosystems across Europe.

Encouraging young researchers

We are also part of YERUN which brings together 22 like-minded young universities from across Europe, with the aim to strengthen and develop cooperation in research, academic education and service which benefits society.

Since YERUN was launched in 2016, the network has established various initiatives, with a focus on education and research collaboration, PhD partnerships, open science, research mobility, EU policies, sustainability and graduate employability.

The YERUN Research Mobility Awards encourage early career researchers to establish new multidisciplinary international research collaborations either virtually or by visiting a partner university. In 2022, funding was available for up to 40 collaborations.

Through the Link EDU-RES project YERUN partners are laying the groundwork for the creation of joint programmes at doctorate level.
Our research is broad in its reach, and has a truly international flavour.

We’re in the UK top ten for research impact in five subjects – Computer Science, Economics and Econometrics, Law, Politics and International Studies, and Sociology (Times Higher Education 2022). Four social science subjects are also in the top ten for research quality in the UK Government’s Research Excellence Framework (REF) 2021. Our researchers are daring, visionary thinkers. We ask difficult questions and provide vital insights, and we love to work with others to shape thinking and influence policy.

Global research reputation

We have a global reputation in human rights, social science research and data analytics. Our flagship institutes allow academics to work together across disciplines and deliver research which offers practical insights and impact.

Our world-renowned Human Rights Centre, Institute for Analytics and Data Science and Institute for Social and Economic Research engage with national and international partners from NGOs and national governments to the European Union and United Nations.

In 2013 Her Majesty the Queen conferred a Regius Professorship of Political Science on Essex, recognising 50 years of excellence in research and education in political science.

In 2022 we launched our new flagship research institute, the Institute of Public Health and Wellbeing (IPHW).

The IPHW draws on the University’s unique combination of expertise in artificial intelligence, advanced data analytics and social and economic research, coupled with medical approaches, to develop its research agenda. It will build new partnerships with healthcare delivery organisations, charities, and communities to ensure Essex research influences practice and policy. It has signed its first international partnership with the World Heart Federation to support a new global World Heart Observatory which will use data collection and analysis to tackle global heart disease.

Beneficiaries of our research

- **Students** benefit from our research-led teaching.
- **Government bodies, non-governmental organisations** and regional, national and international businesses benefit from our knowledge exchange and partnership opportunities.
- **Individuals and wider society** benefit from our research which engages with current issues to improve the quality of people’s lives and inform debates and policy development and implementation.
Committed to improving people's lives, our research community is engaging with some of the world's most pressing issues. Recent projects include:

• Scientists from the School of Life Sciences were jointly awarded £1.5m by the Medical Research Council in 2021 to examine genes function to better understand Alzheimer’s disease.

• Research by the Institute for Social and Economic Research into the impact of school closures on children’s wellbeing helped inform advice given by the UK’s Chief Medical Officer as the Government considered the introduction of vaccines for 12 to 15-year-olds.

• Essex scientists revealed that measures to address climate change and reach the Paris Agreement will not succeed unless the ocean is taken into account.

• Psychologist Dr Marie Juanchich showed that ambiguous NHS statements about COVID-19 meant the public misunderstood the threat and possibly led to lower adherence to protective measures.

• An oral history project exploring women’s health experiences helped historians create a new schools toolkit to support health and wellbeing teaching.

• Our School of Life Sciences has secured a £1m grant towards development of a unique Smart Technology Experimental Plant Suite to future-proof crop production in a changing world.

• The School of Health and Social Care launched a two-year project to improve social workers’ knowledge of acquired brain injury.

• Autonomy experts gave written and oral evidence to the UK’s Parliamentary Joint Committee on Human Rights on how COVID-19 restrictions impacted human rights in care homes, which was later cited in the Committee’s report.

• Legal research on police accountability and the role of Police and Crime Commissioners was cited in a major nationwide review of policing.

• A researcher in the Department of Sociology secured funding from the Leverhulme Trust to explore the true impact of immigration on communities in Britain.

• An Essex-developed cutting-edge artificial intelligence development that could boost smartphone battery life by 30 per cent and shave countless kilowatts from energy bills has been unveiled to technology giants.

• Researchers from the School of Life Sciences are investigating the genetic differences that underpin the higher rates of prostate cancer in Black men.
At Essex we’re engaged with the world. We host incoming delegations, build bridges and form partnerships with overseas institutions, share our knowledge and help other institutions build their capacity.

We invite delegations to visit us for strategic fact-finding trips and knowledge-sharing. We also work in partnership with Essex County Council to link with international partners. Our professional services employees also share good practice with colleagues in partner institutions.

Networking globally

Academic staff can visit partner institutions for training, research collaboration and knowledge sharing. The YERUN Research Mobility Awards encourage early career researchers to establish new multidisciplinary international research collaborations either virtually or by visiting one of our partner universities across Europe.

Building capacity

Backed by EU funding we have undertaken capacity building projects around internationalism, curriculum development, careers and employability in various areas including Israel and the Caucuses. This type of activity is in the interests of sharing our knowledge and improving learning outcomes for other international institutions.

Boosting prosperity

We were one of the first UK universities to join the Santander Universities network. This was created in 1996 by Banco Santander’s late Chairman Emilio Botín with the aim of bringing together the bank’s corporate social responsibility activities. The network began in Spain and now engages with more than 20 countries including Brazil, Mexico, Argentina and Portugal. We are now one of 86 UK members. Since joining, we have received more than £1.3m in support which has helped us to support 120 Masters scholarships, 200 internships and more than 150 travel grants.
Linking business to innovation

We build strong business partnerships by offering access to world-leading researchers and research facilities, unlocking funding opportunities and connecting our partners with our rapidly expanding networks.

Essex is number one in the UK for active Government-funded Knowledge Transfer Partnerships (KTPs). Bringing together businesses and universities, KTPs develop new products, services and technologies, driven by innovation and research.

There are more than 40 active KTPs at Essex involving SMEs through to multinationals. They draw on Essex strengths in data analytics, artificial intelligence, plant science and many other areas, with projects covering numerous sectors including telecommunications, finance, manufacturing and agriculture.

Above Surveying is a specialist in aerial drone surveying for the solar farm sector. We helped Above enhance its technology and services across three KTPs plus an Innovate Smart UK grant. They’ve grown significantly and just moved into expanded office space on our Knowledge Gateway.

Creating the Knowledge Gateway

With partners we’ve invested $USD 95m into our Knowledge Gateway research and technology park on our Colchester Campus.

Parkside Office Village and the Innovation Centre, Knowledge Gateway, are now home to a thriving hub of innovative companies attracted to co-location with a leading research-intensive university. Working with leading Innovation Centre operator Oxford Innovation we have created a thriving business environment. The Knowledge Gateway is home to our Institute for Analytics and Data Science and our Institute of Public Health and Wellbeing, which are both committed to forging new partnerships at a regional, national and international level. In 2023, the latest $USD 16.8m phase of Parkside opens, offering 20,000 sq ft of high-quality office space.

Unlocking angel investment

Angels@Essex, our new private equity investment platform focused on state-of-the-art tech, has helped 360 businesses to get pitch-ready, registered over 100 investors and secured £129.16m of investment, attracting overseas funds from the EU, India, Far East and North America.

“Our Autonomous Robotic Harvesting project with Wilkin and Son is a big step towards enabling food security and mitigating the labour shortage for farm jobs.”

Dr Vishuu Mohan
Essex robotics expert
Reaching around the world

Our students come from 150 countries, and our alumni networks represent communities of thousands. Our three campuses reflect a genuinely international setting that fuses ideas, cultures and different perspectives. Internationalism is central to what we do, and who we are.

Global networking

No matter where in the world our graduates live, Essex alumni membership gives them access to exclusive events, networking opportunities, alumni discounts, professional development opportunities, business webinars, reunions, support and news from our departments.

Our dedicated alumni team helps our graduates stay connected, get involved, share experiences and support the University’s work into the future through philanthropy.

Our alumni also continue to support the institution through a wide range of volunteering and for the year 2021-22 amassed 177 volunteer engagements – and this matters more than ever.

The passion and desire of our alumni to give back to the next generation of Essex students and the wider local community is exemplified through this work and we are delighted that we continue to recruit even more new alumni volunteers who are keen to maintain an active relationship with Essex.

An Essex degree can also lead to exciting and often unexpected careers.

Across countless industries, Essex alumni continue to demonstrate what it means to be a member of our community. To challenge convention and inequality and to push boundaries, turning powerful ideas into inspirational achievements and showing the world their ‘Essex spirit’ long after their days spent studying with us.

Passion for justice

With a global network of more than 100,000 graduates, we could not be prouder of our alumni, such as social entrepreneur Raudhah Nazran who is tackling worldwide youth employment.

As CEO of Accelerate Global, Raudhah is offering career and entrepreneurship upscaling programmes for under privileged or marginalised groups in Malaysia. With a passion for social justice Raudhah’s efforts have been recognised on a global scale and she was included in the Forbes 30 Under 30 Asia List 2022 for emerging influencers and young entrepreneurs.
Global winners

We are very proud of the achievements of our graduates and the fact that they have been recognised on global platforms for making a difference around the world.

In 2021 and 2022, Essex had four national finalists and three national winners in the Study UK Alumni Awards.

We also had three global finalists – Davide Valeriani for the Business and Innovation Award, Sead Alhodzic for the Social Action Award and Konstantina Bethani for the Entrepreneurial Award. They were recognised for their achievements out of more than 1,500 applicants.

The Study UK Alumni Awards, sponsored by the British Council, celebrate the outstanding achievements of alumni and showcase the impact and value of a UK higher education.

Davide, pictured right, who is from Italy, studied for his PhD at Essex, where he investigated how brain-computer interfaces (BCI) could be used to enhance human capabilities.

His research has enabled him to directly help patients with severe motor disabilities, and he also co-founded the start-up Eyewink Ltd, which aims to develop a wearable device to control smartphones with eye movements.

Davide believes that studying in the UK enabled him to strengthen three skills that have been critical to his success: communication, engineering and entrepreneurship.

Sead, who is from Bosnia and Herzegovina, came to Essex as a mature student on a Chevening Scholarship and studied for a Masters in European Integrations.

He now works for Electoral Processes where he works closely with national practitioners, international electoral assistance providers, academia and development organisations to make elections work.

He said attending Essex was a "rewarding and empowering experience".

Konstantina, who is from Greece and gained a Masters in International Relations at Essex, is founder and CEO of Tenebra Studios, an independent video game and digital interactive software development company with high-profile partners in the public and private sectors in Greece.

Through her own initiative and funds, Tenebra Studios has created educational applications for refugees, released free educational games that enable children to familiarise themselves with technology and has been involved in research on artificial intelligence and machine learning.

Konstantina is proud of her work to challenge the gender gap in technology and to promote female leadership roles worldwide through mentoring and other roles.
Global team with local knowledge

Our specialist, in-country expertise is here to help you discover Essex.

Our worldwide regional international office teams recruit students, forge transnational education partnerships, help establish alumni groups and organise stakeholder events, and develop our local knowledge and connections with governments and institutions to enrich our student experience.

Exciting times

Sandeep Sharma, pictured bottom right, Director of Student Recruitment and Partnerships for the South Asia region, based in Delhi, said: “These are exciting times for the Essex South Asia office, as we celebrate our tenth anniversary in the region. Our mission is to support South Asian students to change the world, one intake at a time.

“From our regional office’s humble beginnings in 2012, we have grown to a team of ten staff members in 2022 and are very excited to welcome proposals and partnerships opportunities from South Asia for progression arrangements, student exchange and joint research.”

Supporting students

Arinze Odiari, pictured bottom left, Regional Officer for Africa (Sub Sahara), said: “For many years, the University has maintained relationships with the African continent and established a good relationship in terms of partnership, capacity building and training.

“A visit to Essex shows the university’s strong cosmopolitan ambiance which gives us in the African region great comfort knowing that our students will get the best when they arrive on campus and not feel out of place. We provide prospective students with all the support they need.”

Our multi-cultural South-East Asia team is based in Malaysia, Indonesia and Thailand where they support local recruitment activities, building partnerships and networks. Barbara Sun, pictured top, is the Regional Director of our China team, who are based in Beijing, Shanghai and Guangzhou, and support and develop international education for Chinese students and encourage new research collaborations.

Our Middle East and North Africa, Pakistan and Turkey teams have an in-country presence with a wide range of expertise covering many countries. The teams work in unison, supporting each other to be able to better assist stakeholders.

Each member is an expert in their market, coming from diverse educational, cultural and national backgrounds.
A worldwide welcome

We’re a university going places with increasing numbers of students and one of the most international academic communities in the world.

When students join us, for shorter or longer-term study, they meet people from all over the planet and have wonderful opportunities to broaden their own horizons through a range of educational, cultural and leisure activities.

We have students from more than 140 countries and a third of our students are from outside the UK – 12.8% are from the European Union and 21.5% are from overseas.

At Essex, we regularly welcome delegations and partner universities from all over the world. These visits allow us to connect with like-minded institutions, exchange ideas as well as explore opportunities for research and academic collaborations.

Welcome home

We aim to support every student from every background to achieve outstanding outcomes; preparing our students to thrive in their future lives and nurturing our community of educators to support and promote student success.

Our Students’ Union was seventh in the National Student Survey 2022 for representing students (Broad discipline English universities) and we’re 25th for international outlook according to the Times Higher Education World University Rankings due to the proportion of international students and staff at Essex plus the level of collaboration with co-authors at other international universities.

Living and learning together

Across our Colchester, Southend and Loughton campuses, located across the county of Essex in south east England, we strive to create a living and working environment that helps students truly make their mark.

With more than 165 sports clubs and societies to join, our community and activities support our belief that every student’s Essex experience should be life-changing and unforgettable. Our sports teams have travelled the world over, spreading our “Essex Spirit” and enhancing our partnerships, including our basketball and volleyball teams visiting Germany and Macau.

Take a look at our country-specific information to find out all you need to know about studying here: essex.ac.uk/international/country-specific-information
“We enjoy working with universities and organisations around the world who, like us, are always striving to achieve excellence in education and excellence in research.

“We believe that working in partnership is the key to the improvement of humanity and society through the transformational opportunities we jointly create. We believe in building high quality, lasting partnerships on an open and equitable basis, so do get in touch if you want to help us make a difference in the world.”

Professor David O'Mahony,
Dean of Partnerships (Research)

Dr Annecy Lax,
Dean of Partnerships (Education)

Discover more

Contact our International Business Development Team to find out more about how we can work together, and share more of our Essex Spirit with your institution and students.

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