

Orientation September 2011

Latest update



Purple People September 2011

Purple People, who are our student helpers, will be around the University during the Orientation Programme to welcome you and answer all your questions. Have a look through this booklet to meet some of the Purple People who are waiting to greet you in September.



Airport Collection Service Team

The Airport Collection Service Team will be waiting to greet you at Manchester Airport. They staff the Airport Collection Service, which provides free transport from Manchester Airport to any University accommodation for new unaccompanied international students. The service runs between Tuesday 13 and Sunday 18 September between 8.00am and 9.30pm and can be booked online at <http://www.manchester.ac.uk/international/orientation/travel/airport-collection/>



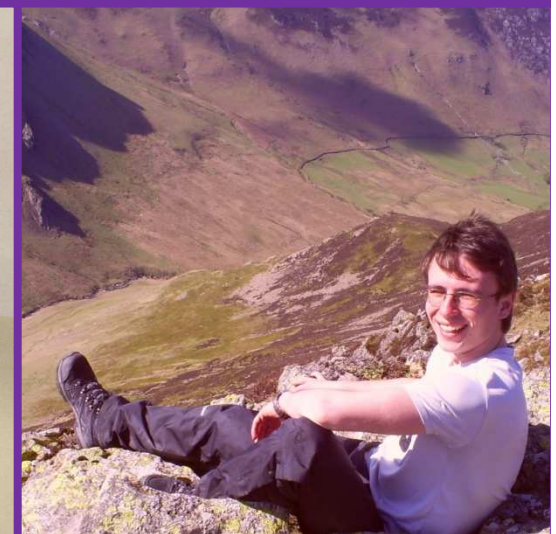
Purple People on Campus

These are just a few of the over 100 Purple People, from 32 different countries, who will be based on campus and at University accommodation to welcome you and answer your questions. They will also accompany you during some of the Orientation Programme activities such as the campus tour, city tour and the social events.



Purple People Team Leaders

The Purple People work in teams to deliver all of the activities during the Orientation Programme. Read through the profiles below to meet some of our Purple People Team Leaders, who are all current University of Manchester students.





Hi, my name is Jiaqi Huang and I come from China. Usually, my friends just call me Spring which is my English name and I love it 😊. I am currently in my 2nd year of BSc (Hons) Accounting degree in Manchester Business School. I am a very sociable, friendly and approachable person and I will be the team leader of the University Place Helpdesk team, which I believe would be the most popular and busy team 😊 amongst all. The best thing that I liked about the Orientation Programme when I first came in Manchester was meeting and talking to the lovely Purple People about everything here I wanted to know.



Hi, my name is Oliver, I'm a second year Law with Politics student and I'll be your campus tour team leader! I'm originally from Germany but I've also lived in New Zealand and Bolivia for a while. Random fact about myself: I can eat 12 cheeseburgers!

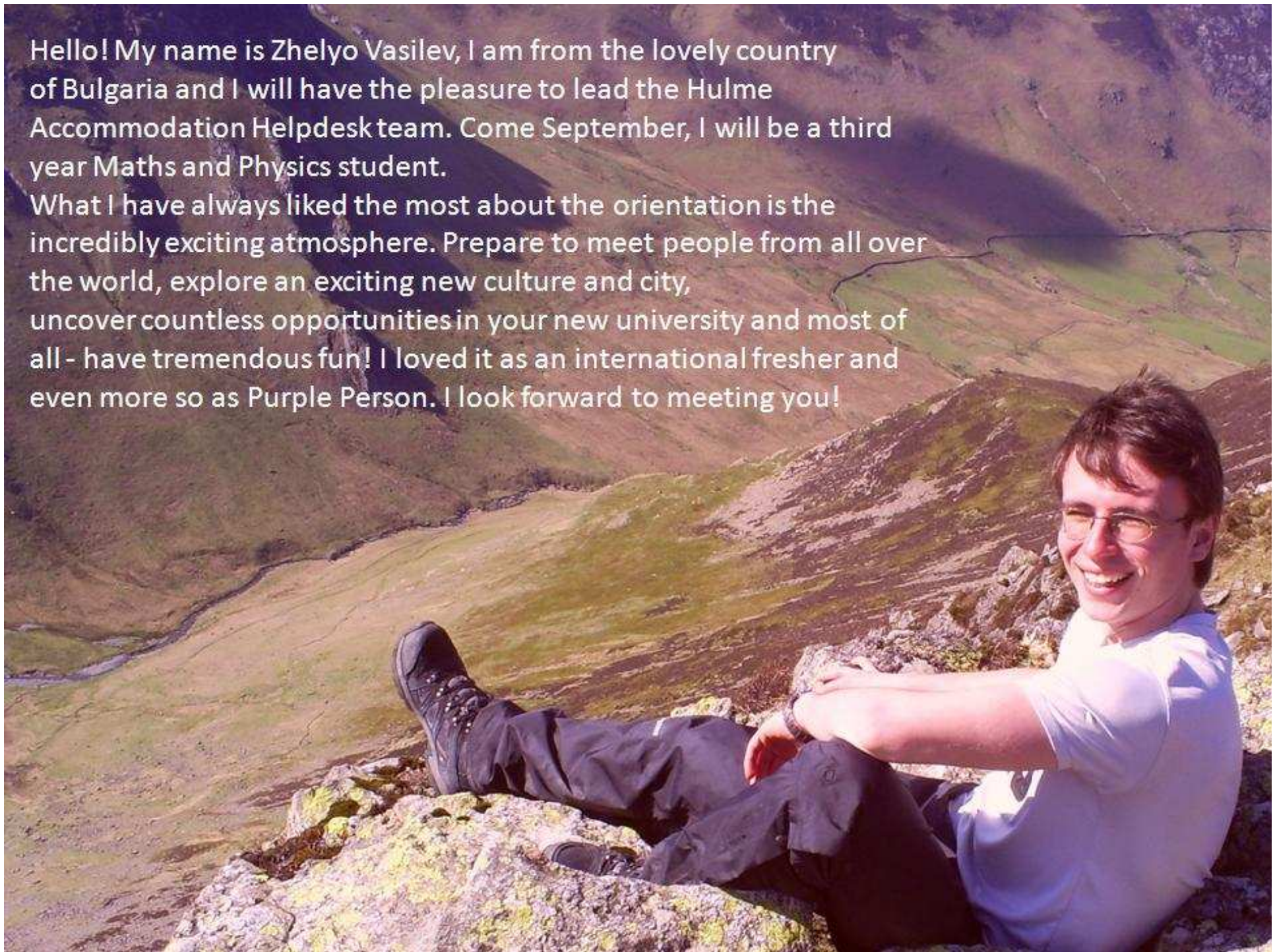
Somebody should have told me how student-friendly Manchester is before I got here, it's amazing! I absolutely loved the World Quiz during the Orientation Programme - some of the people I met there are now among my closest friends in Manchester!



Hi! My name's Mel Abraham. I'm just finishing my second year of a physics degree and I'll be leading the Grosvenor Accommodation Help Desk in September. I was a member of the same team last year. I'm originally from London, UK. Before I arrived in Manchester I wish I realised how many other people would be feeling just as nervous as I was! My favourite thing about Manchester is the number of people and how easily I met people with similar interest to me :)

Hello! My name is Zhelyo Vasilev, I am from the lovely country of Bulgaria and I will have the pleasure to lead the Hulme Accommodation Helpdesk team. Come September, I will be a third year Maths and Physics student.

What I have always liked the most about the orientation is the incredibly exciting atmosphere. Prepare to meet people from all over the world, explore an exciting new culture and city, uncover countless opportunities in your new university and most of all - have tremendous fun! I loved it as an international fresher and even more so as Purple Person. I look forward to meeting you!






My name is Olive Sabiiti, from Uganda, East Africa, in the second year of my doctoral study in Law (PhD).

I am leading the International Society help desk team and we cannot wait to see you in Manchester, at our help desk, where you will find lots of smiling faces to make you feel at home as well as people to help you and answer any questions you may have.

Orientation is not an event to be missed. I remember, when I first arrived in Manchester, I had my bank account sorted, my GP (Doctor's) registration done and all my essentials bought effortlessly during orientation. I even got tips on 'getting to know the British' and joined the International Society. While those who missed Orientation struggled during subsequent weeks; I was just chilling out, enjoying Manchester and settling down to my studies.



Hello! My name's Sophie Stewart and I'm an Arabic Studies student who'll be returning from a year abroad in the Middle East to start my final year in September. I'll be working as team leader of the Whitworth Park Accommodation Helpdesk - I can't wait to meet you all and get started!

I'm from the north of England and love studying in Manchester. It's a fantastic city and the best thing is that there are so many ways to get involved in the wider community. Before I arrived, I didn't realise how easy it would be to get out there volunteering or just how much the university encourages you to be proactive and make a difference. University isn't just about studying, so don't be afraid – go for it!

Hello! My name is Vignon Mansilla. I will be the Dalton-Ellis accommodation helpdesk team leader. In September I will be starting my 4th year as a student studying Chemistry in Manchester. I am originally from London and moved to Manchester for my undergrad. When I moved here I was really nervous about how difficult it would be for me to make friends as I am a shy person. This fear was quickly overcome as everyone was so friendly and I realised we were all in the same boat! This academic year 2010/11 I had the amazing opportunity to study at UC Berkeley in California so, I know what it feels like to be an international student. I look forward to meeting you and making you feel welcome! See you :)





Hi, my name is Viridiana Alonso-Lara and I am from Mexico. I am doing a PhD in Management of Projects at the University of Manchester; I am in my final year now. I am very much used to living in Manchester because it is a multicultural, versatile, and lovely city.

First thing I wished I had known before arriving in Manchester was how I could manage to spend my money wisely, especially in food. But I learned things like this and much more within the first few days of arrival and this was thanks to the Orientation Programme which I attended and where I met a lot of friends.

This year, I will be leading the team at Owens Park.

What new students have said about the Purple People

'I benefited from International Orientation week in my first year, I was particularly impressed by the lovely and approachable Purple People, and they guided me a on Campus Tour and a City Tour which were so useful to me. The helpdesk and social events they organised were a great help to transit into life and study in Manchester and to overcome culture shock and make friends with people from different backgrounds'.

'I first arrived in Manchester from Bulgaria, not knowing what exactly to expect. To my great relief, I was greeted by a friendly team of students from all over the world. I immediately felt comfortable and most of all – welcomed.'

'I came here to Manchester as a Study Abroad Student to spend a year at the University and was very apprehensive at first, but when I was greeted by Purple People at the airport, I felt at ease instantly. '

'The purple people help were so great, that after first week of my UK life, it was feeling like home.'

'When I first came to Manchester, I was received by students who came as representatives of the University. These were the Purple People, who were present everywhere around the University and were immensely helpful'.

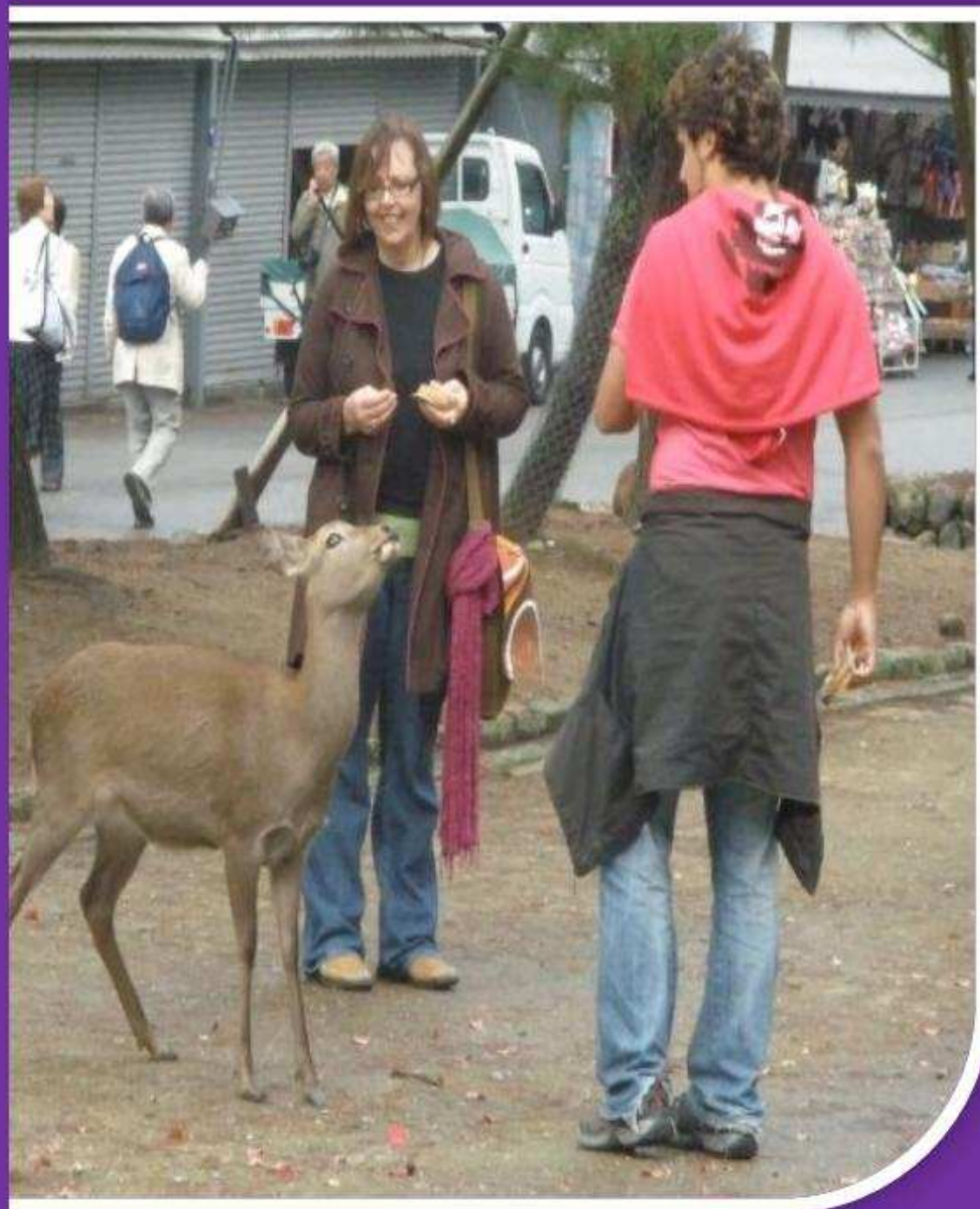
University Staff

Many staff at the University are involved in the Orientation Programme, from running presentations and workshops to helping you with any problems you encounter in your first few days. The Programme is organised by the Orientation Team, meet some of these members of University staff below.

Hi, I'm Karen Badat and I'm going to be managing the Orientation Programme for you this year. This is a picture of me (and my son, Matt) being menaced in Japan by a pushy sacred deer. I'm quite proud of the fact that I look less nervous than Matt but then the deer isn't giving me the evil eye!

I've been working at the University for a number of years now although I've only been in the International Office for a couple of months. I'm really looking forward to Orientation and I hope that you will enjoy everything we've planned for you.

Many, many years ago I studied Russian and French in London so I have been an international student myself and I do still remember what an exciting (and slightly nerve-wracking) process getting ready to live in another country was. Good luck with your preparations and remember , if you have any questions, please do just ask ☺



Hi! I'm Shona Daly, International Relations Assistant at The University of Manchester. The main part of my job is helping to plan and run the Orientation Programme for International and EU students. I really enjoyed working on the Orientation Programme last year and hope to make this year's even better.

Before I started working at the University, I studied Law here. For me, the best thing about studying in Manchester was the opportunity to get involved in such a wide range of activities – from volunteering to debating, from trips abroad with societies to trying new sports.

If you have any questions before the Orientation, just ask us on Facebook or email us at orientation@manchester.ac.uk. During the Programme, don't hesitate to ask one of our Purple People student helpers if you have any problems or questions. I look forward to seeing you in September!



Contact Us

Don't hesitate to get in contact with us if you have any questions about the Orientation Programme or your arrival in Manchester:

By email: orientation@manchester.ac.uk

By telephone: +44 (0) 161 275 7384

On Facebook:

<http://www.facebook.com/manchesterorientation>

On Twitter: @OrientationUoM