Insight into Bristol 2018
Experience life at the University of Bristol
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‘Insight into Bristol gave me a real perspective into the day-to-day life of a university student.’

Insight into Bristol student
What is Insight into Bristol?

Insight into Bristol is an innovative residential summer school that gives students in year 12 access to the University of Bristol’s academic expertise and facilities.

Insight into Bristol works with academically able students from non-privileged backgrounds, offering a taste of university life and support throughout the UCAS process.

You will choose from one of 13 subject streams, taking part in academic taster sessions which will give you an idea of what it is like to study at Bristol.

As well as developing your subject knowledge, you will also take part in activities designed to introduce you to other aspects of university life at Bristol. You will stay in halls of residence alongside current Bristol students, visit our Students’ Union, learn about what our Careers Service can offer you and hear about study abroad opportunities at Bristol.

In year 13, you will be offered follow-up support, including advice on your personal statement and a dedicated phone number on results day.

What can Insight into Bristol offer you?

• First-hand experience of what it’s like to study at one of Britain’s top universities;
• Additional support with your A-level studies from our world-class teaching staff;
• A boost to your CV and UCAS application;
• The chance to meet other sixth form and college students from a range of backgrounds and from across London.

‘Running Insight into Bristol is one of the most rewarding parts of my job. Over the course of the programme, students experience university life and engage with their chosen subject, helping them make informed decisions about their future. It is fantastic watching individuals develop in confidence, form friendships and excel at university-level study.’

Jess Sharratt, Insight into Bristol Co-ordinator, University of Bristol

Guaranteed Offer at contextual level

Successful completion of the Insight into Bristol scheme will guarantee you an offer from the University of Bristol, provided that you meet the entry requirements of the course you apply for. You will be eligible for a contextual offer for all undergraduate courses, which is usually two grades lower than the typical offer. If a course holds interviews or auditions as part of the selection procedure, you will be guaranteed an interview or audition.

91% of previous Insight into Bristol students said that completing this scheme made them more confident that they would be successful studying at the University of Bristol or a similar university

bristol.ac.uk/study/insight
Insight into Bristol is designed for students who have the grades, motivation and potential to succeed at a Russell Group university.

The scheme is open to students who meet all of the following four criteria. You must:

- be in your first year of A-level study (or equivalent);
- attend a state school or college;
- be below the age of 18 during the residential summer school;
- live within Greater London, or within an hour’s commute of central London.

Where a subject stream is oversubscribed, preference will be given to those students who:

- have the academic ability to study at the University of Bristol (including meeting any GCSE entry requirements for their chosen subject stream);
- are part of the first generation in their family to go to university;
- live in an area of low participation in higher education;
- attend an aspiring state school or college;
- are or have been eligible for free school meals;
- have spent three or more months in Local Authority care;
- are from an ethnic group that is under-represented at the University of Bristol (Asian Pakistani; Asian Bangladeshi; Black Caribbean; Black African; mixed backgrounds featuring one of these groups).

See bristol.ac.uk/contextual-offers for further details of aspiring state schools and colleges and Low Participation Areas.

Costs
Insight into Bristol is free for students to attend. The University of Bristol covers all costs including travel to and from the University, meals, and accommodation in a hall of residence.

How to apply?
If you would like to take part in Insight into Bristol, apply online at bristol.ac.uk/study/insight between 9 January and 8 March 2018.

Term dates
Those offered a place on Insight into Bristol 2018 are asked to keep the following dates free:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date(s)</th>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Venue</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Saturday 30 June</td>
<td>Launch event</td>
<td>London venue – details to follow</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monday 16 to</td>
<td>Insight into Bristol summer</td>
<td>University of Bristol</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday 20 July</td>
<td>school</td>
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Both the launch event and the summer school are an essential part of the programme. Students will be offered support throughout year 13, including drop-in sessions and events in London. You will also have access to advice from one of the University’s widening participation officers.
‘I was unsure at first about moving out of London to go to university, but the scheme has made me more confident.’

Insight into Bristol student

‘Having the chance to talk to students, who were graduating in a subject I am interested in, allowed me to understand how they felt about the University and the subject.’

Insight into Bristol student
Biomedical Sciences

This stream is suitable for students studying Chemistry and a second science or Mathematics at A-level.

The Biomedical Sciences stream is run jointly by schools from the Faculty of Biomedical Sciences and the Faculty of Health Sciences. Subjects covered include human anatomy, physiology, pharmacology, neuroscience, biochemistry, and cellular and molecular medicine. You will learn more about the human body, its structure and function, what can go wrong and how drugs work to prevent and treat disease.

Biomedical science underpins and shapes modern medical processes and procedures. The principles we discover in the lab are put into practice so we can gain an understanding of how the body works at a molecular, cellular, organ and whole-body level. This helps us to understand disease and to develop new treatments.

The sessions on this stream will give you a deeper understanding of human health and disease, and provide a greater feel for what it is like to study in this field at university. You will be given the opportunity to ask questions and find out about the wide variety of related career options.

‘The practicals were very interesting and enjoyable.’

Insight into Bristol student

Chemistry

This stream is suitable for students studying Chemistry and Mathematics at A-level.

This stream is designed to give you a taste of what it is like to study chemistry at university in our popular department. You will have the opportunity to work in state-of-the-art undergraduate laboratories alongside expert research scientists.

Bristol chemists work at the forefront of a wide range of areas, from developing new pharmaceuticals that fight disease, to advancing forensic science methods and understanding and preventing the causes of climate change. As a student on the Insight into Bristol scheme, you will have the unique opportunity to study alongside our staff who are experts in these diverse fields, and find out more about where a degree in chemistry could take you.

There will be a heavy emphasis on practical work in our laboratories, supplemented by lecture-based sessions. You will get hands-on experience working at ChemLabS, the UK’s only Centre for Excellence in Teaching and Learning devoted to chemistry. Working with our research chemists, you will see and hear about some of the most cutting-edge chemistry being produced at Bristol.

‘A whole new environment. We got to explore different ideas in chemistry, and use more sophisticated lab equipment.’

Insight into Bristol student
Economics, Finance and Management

This stream is suitable for students studying Mathematics at A-level.

The Economics, Finance and Management stream will cover real-world issues that impact our everyday lives. The topics studied are relevant to individuals, businesses and national governments and are especially important during times of economic uncertainty.

This stream gives you the opportunity to see how these subjects are delivered at university level. You will explore the sorts of topics you might study as part of an undergraduate degree in one or more of these areas. You will also gain an insight into the work that people working in these fields perform.

The programme is designed for those who are interested in questions such as:
- What do we mean by economics, finance and management? How do these areas interact?
- Why are professionals with skills in these areas in demand in the world today?
- How is the work that they do useful? To whom is it useful?
- How are services and products designed and marketed to customers?

These questions will be explored through the use of practical examples.

Your time will be split between the three subjects. The sessions aim to develop your ability to prepare and interpret economic and financial models, applying them to real-world concepts, as well as developing other skills such as critical thinking and communication.

“The variety of lectures and lecturers showed me the diversity of the subject.”
Insight into Bristol student

Using a collaborative, innovative approach to problem solving, you will begin by working out what areas the key challenges lie in. Over the course of the week, you will be guided by a team of academics and students to experience what undergraduate study of these subjects is like, through a range of lectures, demonstrations, challenges and hands-on activities. You will learn the mathematical techniques and use the scientific tools that will allow you to analyse, create and fit pieces together to solve the challenge you are set.

“The sessions were amazing and eye opening. Also, the amount of people that attended made it really enjoyable because I was able to socialise with numerous different people.”
Insight into Bristol student

Engineering: Intelligent Cities
Technology, Engineering and Sustainable Futures

This stream is suitable for students studying Mathematics at A-level.

This course will enable you to gain a deeper understanding and hands-on skills in three subject areas: Computer Science; Electrical and Electronic Engineering; and Engineering Mathematics. You will also explore how engineers and technologists will be solving some of humanity’s biggest challenges.

Many of the most important changes in every area of engineering are now driven by electronics and computing, and the mathematics used to underpin them. These fields are already driving innovation in areas such as healthcare, transport and communications. While here at the University of Bristol, at the heart of Europe’s first Smart City, you will learn how an increasing number of connected, embedded systems are helping to better orchestrate city life. Intelligent and responsive systems help cities to function efficiently by employing a range of connected devices, from traffic lights to weather stations to ambulances.

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This stream is suitable for students studying Mathematics and another science (preferably Physics) at A-level.

What would you do if there were no fossil fuels tomorrow? How would you live? How would you travel? Where would you get enough food and safe water from? How would you build and heat your home? How would you communicate? And what would you do to build a safer, better and fairer society and to protect your environment?

This stream will focus on the skills students need to be a good civil engineer, as told through the lens of ‘transition engineering’. This means you will imagine a future with no fossil fuels and then work on a project of your choice to design part of a sustainable Bristol of the future.

‘We were trusted to grasp complicated concepts from highly regarded lecturers.’

Insight into Bristol student

You’ll spend your time developing a diverse set of skills such as: making and breaking materials; computer-aided design; collecting and analysing environmental data; applying engineering theory and doing calculations; field work; project management; communicating with stakeholders; and teamwork.

You’ll also have time to bring these skills together to tackle a tough, real-life, Bristol-based problem and produce a realistic solution. This will give you a taste of what civil engineering is really all about.

‘The way the lectures were arranged gave me an insight into university life.’

Insight into Bristol student

This stream is suitable for students studying English Literature or combined English Literature and Language at A-level.

The University’s Department of English is committed to making literary studies rewarding for all. Staff research areas in the English department cover literature, poetry and drama from the middle ages to the contemporary period, using many perspectives and literary theories.

The English stream is designed to broaden your literary, critical, historical and intellectual horizons, providing an opportunity for you to take your interest in the subject in new directions.

We will look at texts in a wide range of forms and from many different periods, reading, analysing and discussing them together. In the process, we will consider what literature is and how we should study it; how to make sense of puzzling texts; and how to improve the way you plan, structure and write essays.

The sessions are designed to help you develop your analytical and interpretive skills and start to explore some exciting ideas and areas of literature. More than anything, the sessions will give you a sense of what it might be like to study English at university level.

We were trusted to grasp complicated concepts from highly regarded lecturers.’

Insight into Bristol student

English
**Film and Theatre**

This stream is suitable for students studying any A-level subjects.

On the Film and Theatre stream you will study theatre, film and television in a stimulating environment. We will introduce practical and critical thinking skills that will help you understand and question the cultural forms that you encounter in your everyday lives, as well as those that are new to you.

The sessions will explore how we talk about culture. This might include discussion of reality TV shows, the news or other media. During the sessions we may also look at how culture changes over time. For example, we might compare Shakespeare at the Globe with street performance, or explore the differences between a flash mob and a political demonstration.

You will work with members of the department who are teachers and artists to explore different ways of discussing these topics, such as talking about, writing, or even making theatre, film or television. The Film and Theatre stream is a versatile option that you will enjoy if you like to combine critical thinking with a practical outcome.

'It allowed me to learn more about university life, as well as gain valuable knowledge about the subject I wish to study.'

Insight into Bristol student

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Insight into Bristol student

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This stream will provide you with a wide range of transferable skills including numeracy, IT, literacy and critical analysis. You do not need to be studying geography, though you may find the content beneficial to your A-level Geography studies.

'I learnt about what the subject I wish to study entails and how life at university feels, especially at Bristol.'

Insight into Bristol student

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This stream offers you an exciting opportunity to study both human and physical geography. Geography is a fast-moving, exciting subject focusing on social and environmental problems.

The School of Geographical Sciences offers outstanding teaching and research and you will have access to the school’s modern facilities. During the programme, you may study areas such as the dynamic global environment, geographies of political economy, glaciology, historical and cultural geographies, hydrology and spatial modelling. The school has researchers in a wide range of areas and you will learn about the latest developments in geography. As well as attending theoretical sessions in the department, you will have the opportunity to participate in practical geography sessions.

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Insight into Bristol student
**History**

This stream is suitable for students studying any A-level subjects.

The History stream will give you a taste of two different university degree courses with a historical dimension: History and History of Art.

The Department of History is recognised for its innovative work in areas such as medieval Europe, modern China, the histories of colonialism and empire, the Holocaust and environmental history. The Department of History of Art has interests ranging from medieval and Renaissance art to modernism, covering topics from Giotto to Picasso, from the visual culture of sport to the relationships between art, music and text.

The sessions will introduce you to the ways in which history and art history are studied at university by focusing on some detailed ideas and concepts in each area. They will provide an opportunity for you to encounter different ways of studying historical events, and of exploring art and literature produced in the recent and the more distant past. This stream will suit you if you have an interest in the past and want to find out more about taking these subjects at degree level. You do not need to have studied any of these subjects already. The sessions are also designed to give you a fresh insight into your A-level studies.

"The academic sessions were fun, because they were very hands-on and didn't feel like a lesson."

Insight into Bristol student

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**Law**

This stream is suitable for students studying any A-level subjects.

Law is a major part of all our everyday lives. Buying lunch, applying for a job, working for an employer, claiming benefit, driving a car, taking an exam, living in a property – all these things are governed by law. Law also plays a role in things that are more remote from most of us: war, international trade, companies, banks, immigration, the environment, science, medicine, and the armed forces. This makes law a fascinating subject to study with lots of different areas to investigate once the basic skills and knowledge have been learnt.

Studying law can be a good basis for a range of careers, including journalism, the civil service, the police, accountancy and business, as well as working in the legal profession.

Students on this stream will learn about different areas of law. Topics may include end of life issues, medical law, international law, human rights law, family law, evidence law, criminal justice and IT law. Sessions will be taught in small and large groups, so you can get an idea of the different types of teaching and learning at university.

"I found the lectures very useful as I was able to understand the subject of law more clearly."

Insight into Bristol student
Mathematics

This stream is suitable for students studying Mathematics at A-level.

Mathematics is the key to the sciences. It provides many of the tools used in research and management as well as being a powerful means of communicating ideas and solving problems.

This stream will offer you an opportunity to develop the skills we look for in Mathematics applicants, and also to see how the subject develops as you progress from A-level to university.

Each session will contain a mixture of lectures and activities. Lectures will cover areas of general mathematical interest. There will also be considerable student activity. We will cover specific topics such as proof, group theory and cryptography as well as styles of questions such as STEP and MAT.

You will come away with an overview of what mathematics is like at university level, an understanding of how it differs from other STEM subjects, and knowledge of how to enhance your UCAS application. You will also gain a brief insight into the study of Engineering Mathematics at Bristol.

"The lectures made clear what a usual day at university would be like. I really enjoyed socialising, and I enjoyed the lectures where we had to think in ways we haven’t before, which is a useful technique for my A-levels."

Insight into Bristol student

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Medicine

This stream is suitable for students studying Chemistry and another lab-based science at A-level. Students will also need a grade C or above in GCSE English (Literature or Language) and an A in GCSE Maths (or equivalent qualifications).

The Medicine subject stream will consist of a wide variety of activities designed to give you an insight into, and prepare you for study on, our medicine programmes. You will have the opportunity to take part in academic taster sessions in medicine, delivered by our leading academics and current medical students.

The programme will also give you the chance to take part in work experience placements and meet health professionals with whom you may be working and studying in the future. We will spend time in hospital and other clinical environments, where you will meet patients and colleagues and gain an insight into your future professional life as well as the skills and qualities you will require.

It will be a week-long taster of life as a medical student in both a university and hospital setting and will give you lots to write about in your personal statement.

"I found the sessions the most useful, especially the anatomy session as I felt like I learnt the most about the human body as well as other organisms."

Insight into Bristol student
Psychology

This stream is suitable for students studying at least one science at A-level (this can include Psychology or Geography).

Bristol’s Psychology department is one of the most innovative and exciting in the country. Psychology encompasses a range of disciplines that share an interest in understanding how humans and other animals interpret and respond to their mental and physical world, and draws on medical, biological and social sciences, engineering, computer science and philosophy.

Applications of psychology range from understanding mental and physical health problems to developing artificial intelligence, and from unlocking the power of memory to planning marketing campaigns.

This stream gives you the opportunity to experience first-hand what this fascinating subject entails at university level and to find out where a degree in psychology could take you.

You will work with researchers at the forefront of their fields and explore our state-of-the-art facilities.

Studying psychology at university is possible even if you haven’t studied it before. It is a uniquely broad subject that benefits from individuals bringing a fresh, alternative perspective to a problem. Psychology students come from a range of different backgrounds and study diverse A-levels, such as the arts, English Literature, Mathematics and Physics.

'It made me gain a further understanding of what a Psychology undergraduate will participate in, and of the intensity of learning at university level.'

Insight into Bristol student

'The whole experience taught me a lot, not only about Bristol but also about myself as an individual, and the new experience of independence really boosted my confidence and reduced my former anxiety.'

Insight into Bristol student