Insight into Bristol 2020
Experience life at the University of Bristol
Insight into Bristol is a great opportunity for students from a diverse range of backgrounds to experience the University of Bristol through a residential summer school. The week-long residential will include academic sessions, social activities, exploring the city and much more.

The programme 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 11 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 participate in activities designed to introduce you to other aspects of university life. 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.

‘Insight into Bristol is all about students finding out what studying at the University of Bristol is really like. Students who take part in Insight form strong bonds that carry on throughout the rest of their studies, and it’s great to see so many of them completing their degree with us and going on to successful careers.’

Doug Jennings, Deputy Director of Home Recruitment and Head of Education Partnerships

What is Insight into Bristol?

What can Insight into Bristol offer you?

‘Insight into Bristol is a great opportunity for students to experience university life and engage with their chosen subject, helping them to make informed decisions about their futures. Students build confidence, form friendships and excel at university-level study.’

Raeesah Ellis-Haque, Insight into Bristol Coordinator

Guaranteed offer at contextual level
Successful completion of the Insight into Bristol scheme will guarantee you a conditional offer from the University of Bristol. 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 process, you will be guaranteed an interview or audition.

90% 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.
Insight into Bristol is designed for students who have the grades, motivation and potential to succeed at a Russell Group university. Applications for Insight into Bristol are open to students from across the UK. To be eligible you must:

- be in your first year of A-level study (or equivalent);
- attend a state school or college.

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 any GCSE entry requirements for their chosen subject stream);
- 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);
- 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.

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.

*For information about accepted qualifications, visit bristol.ac.uk/study/undergraduate/entry-requirements-qualifications.

How to apply
If you would like to take part in Insight into Bristol, apply online at bristol.ac.uk/study/insight. Applications open in January.

Dates for Insight into Bristol 2020
Those offered a place on Insight into Bristol 2020 are asked to keep the following dates free:

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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tr>
<td>Sunday 26 July to Friday 31 July 2020</td>
<td>Insight into Bristol 2020</td>
<td>University of Bristol</td>
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The summer school is an essential part of the programme. Students will also be offered support throughout year 13 including drop-in sessions, a spring revision weekend (dates TBC) and other events. You will also have access to advice from one of the University’s widening participation officers.
Subject streams

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<td>Veterinary Sciences</td>
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‘I was unsure at first about moving out to go to university, but the scheme has made me more confident.’

Insight into Bristol student

‘Overall, I really enjoyed the scheme. It has confirmed that I would like to study at the University of Bristol.’

Insight into Bristol student
Biomedical Sciences

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

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.

*Or equivalent qualifications. For information about accepted qualifications, visit bristol.ac.uk/study/undergraduate/entry-requirements-qualifications.

‘It was a whole new environment. We got to explore different ideas and use sophisticated lab equipment.’

Insight into Bristol student

Economics

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

Economics provides tools to understand the society we live in. Although often thought of as the study of money and finance, economics is a broad social science interested in addressing a wide range of social and economic issues including inequality, growth, globalisation, education, health, individual behaviour and economic development. The unique approach of economics lies in understanding the key trade-offs that decision-makers face – and how to design incentives that can change behaviour.

This programme will show you how economics can be applied to real policy problems. You will be taught relevant economic concepts, understand how economists use models to gain insights into complex issues, get hands-on experience at analysing data, and bring theory and evidence together to develop practical policy implications. You will get to discuss and debate some of the big issues in our society.

You will also get an insight into how the subject is taught at university level and an overview of what a degree in economics involves.

*Or equivalent qualifications. For information about accepted qualifications, visit bristol.ac.uk/study/undergraduate/entry-requirements-qualifications.

‘The variety of lectures and lecturers showed me the diversity of the subject.’

Insight into Bristol student
Engineering

This stream is suitable for students studying Mathematics at A-level.* Though not necessary for this stream, some of our engineering degree courses require a second science at A-level (including Physics, Chemistry, Further Mathematics or Computer Science), so this may be beneficial.

The stream will enable you to gain a deeper understanding and develop skills across a variety of Engineering disciplines including civil, aerospace, mechanical, computer science, electrical and electronic engineering, and engineering mathematics. You will explore how engineers and technologists are using their skills and imagination to solve some of humanity’s biggest issues, while getting an idea of what it’s like to study Engineering at the University. Bristol’s engineering heritage is world famous and the city continues to be a global leader in the field, making it a perfect setting to delve deeper into these fascinating disciplines.

*Or equivalent qualifications. For information about accepted qualifications, visit bristol.ac.uk/study/undergraduate/entry-requirements-qualifications.

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

Insight into Bristol student

English

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 and 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.

*Or equivalent qualifications. For information about accepted qualifications, visit bristol.ac.uk/study/undergraduate/entry-requirements-qualifications.

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

Insight into Bristol student
This stream is suitable for students studying most combinations of A-levels."

The Geography stream offers you an exciting opportunity to study both human and physical geography. Geography is a fast-moving, exciting subject focusing on current social and environmental problems. The programme will include talks and activities associated with climate change, geographies of political economy, glaciology, historical and cultural geographies, hydrology and spatial modelling.

The School of Geographical Sciences is consistently ranked highly for its teaching and research, and you will have access to the school’s outstanding facilities. Our academic staff will teach you about some of the latest developments in the field.

You do not need to be studying geography to attend, but those who do may find the content beneficial to their A-level Geography studies.

*Or equivalent qualifications. For information about accepted qualifications, visit bristol.ac.uk/study/undergraduate/entry-requirements-qualifications.

"I was really inspired and made aware of the expanse of opportunity at Bristol."

Insight into Bristol student

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This stream is suitable for students studying A-level History."

The History stream will give you a taste of what it is like to study history at university, highlighting the wide variety and range of topics which can be covered at Bristol.

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 sessions will introduce you to the ways in which history is studied at university by focusing on a few detailed ideas and concepts. 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 more distant past.

The sessions will be taught in a variety of ways, but collectively they allow you to experience different ways in which history is taught at Bristol: through lecturing, small group discussion, and directly working with primary sources.

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, but the sessions are also designed to give you a fresh insight into your A-level studies.

*Or equivalent qualifications. For information about accepted qualifications, visit bristol.ac.uk/study/undergraduate/entry-requirements-qualifications.

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

Insight into Bristol student
**Law**

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

Law is a major part of our everyday lives. Buying lunch, applying for a job, working for an employer, claiming benefits, driving a car, taking an exam, living in a property – all these things are governed by law. Law also plays an important role in matters such as 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 learned.

Studying law can be a good basis for a range of careers, including journalism, the civil service, accountancy and business, as well as for 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. You will be taught in small groups of fewer than ten students and in larger lecture style sessions, so you can get an idea of the different types of teaching and learning at university.

*Or equivalent qualifications. For information about accepted qualifications, visit bristol.ac.uk/study/undergraduate/entry-requirements-qualifications.

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

Insight into Bristol student

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**Mathematics**

This stream is suitable for students studying Mathematics and a second Mathematics related subject at A-level.*

Some of the content will be found on the Further Maths syllabus or even outside the A-level framework. What matters is your ability to address new ideas quickly, rather than any first-hand experience of the content.

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.

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.

*Or equivalent qualifications. For information about accepted qualifications, visit bristol.ac.uk/study/undergraduate/entry-requirements-qualifications.

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

Insight into Bristol student
**Medicine**

This stream is suitable for students studying Chemistry and another lab-based science at A-level.* Students will also need a grade 4 (previously grade C) or above in GCSE English Literature or Language, and a grade 7 (previously grade A) in GCSE Maths.*

The Medicine stream is designed to give you a true taste of what it is like to study medicine here at the University of Bristol. During the week you will have the opportunity to take part in a wide range of activities in both the teaching and clinical (hospital) environment. You will be taught by our leading health professionals, academics and teaching staff, who will give you a flavour of our teaching methods and course content.

There will be plenty of time to learn about the many medical students’ societies here at Bristol, and lots of opportunities to meet our current undergraduate medics to hear what life is really like as a student. This week-long course gives you a fantastic insight into the journey into medicine and your possible future professional careers.

*Or equivalent qualifications. For information about accepted qualifications, visit bristol.ac.uk/study/undergraduate/entry-requirements-qualifications.

*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

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**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, drawing on medical, biological and social sciences, engineering, computer science and philosophy.

The applications of psychology range from understanding mental and physical health problems and developing artificial intelligence, to unlocking the power of memory and planning marketing campaigns. Students on this stream will experience first-hand what this engaging subject entails.

You will work with scientists at the cutting edge of their fields and develop valuable psychological research skills. Studying psychology at university is possible even if you haven’t studied it before. It is a broad subject that benefits from individuals who can bring a fresh, alternative perspective to a problem.

*Or equivalent qualifications. For information about accepted qualifications, visit bristol.ac.uk/study/undergraduate/entry-requirements-qualifications.

*It helped me gain a further understanding of what a psychology undergraduate will do, and of the intensity of learning at university level.*

Insight into Bristol student
This stream is suitable for students who are studying Chemistry and another lab-based science at A-level.* Students will also need a grade 4 (previously grade C) or above in GCSE English Literature or Language, and a grade 4 in GCSE Maths.*

The veterinary sciences subject stream is designed to give you a true insight of what it is like to study veterinary sciences here at the University of Bristol. During the week you will have the opportunity to take part in a wide range of activities in both the teaching and clinical environment.

You will be taught by our leading veterinary professionals, academics and teaching staff, who will give you examples of our teaching methods and course content. You will spend time meeting staff and students at our main campus and at Langford Vet school, where you will meet some of our animals and teaching dogs. There are also plenty of opportunities to meet our current undergraduate vets and hear what life is really like on the pathway to a career in the field of veterinary sciences.

*Or equivalent qualifications. For information about accepted qualifications, visit bristol.ac.uk/study/undergraduate/entry-requirements-qualifications.

‘Not only have I gained confidence through Insight into Bristol, but I have also gained friends for life.’

Insight into Bristol student

Beyond academic sessions

Insight into Bristol isn’t just about academic sessions; it’s also about getting the full student experience.

During the week-long residential you’ll get to:
- experience different sports and societies;
- familiarise yourself with the city and all it has to offer;
- get to know current students as they mentor you throughout the week;
- sit in on a student experience and student support panel Q&A.

‘Seeing the city made me realise there are so many things to do as someone living in the area.’

‘The student panel showed me that Bristol is more diverse than I thought.’

Insight into Bristol students
More information

You can find more information on the various outreach schemes and events we run at the University in the following places:

Post-16 activities:
bristol.ac.uk/study/outreach/post-16

Arts outreach:
bristol.ac.uk/arts/outreach

Engineering outreach:
bristol.ac.uk/engineering/outreach

Life Sciences outreach:
bristol.ac.uk/life-sciences/outreach

Outreach activities and events:
bristol.ac.uk/study/outreach/activities

Undergraduate open days:
bristol.ac.uk/opendays

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

Insight into Bristol student
Photography: © University of Bristol

We have made every effort to ensure that details are correct at the time of going to press (November 2019). However, as information is subject to change, you are advised to check the University’s website bristol.ac.uk/study/insight.

If you need all or part of this publication in an alternative format please contact us:

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email marketing-team@bristol.ac.uk

bristol.ac.uk