

Undergraduate admissions statement

This statement should be read in conjunction with the University's admissions principles and procedures.

Year of admissions cycle: 2014

Courses covered:

Economics programmes:

Economics (L100)

Economics with Study in Continental Europe (L101)

Economics and Econometrics (L140)

Economics and Finance (LN13)

Accounting and Finance programmes:

Economics and Accounting (LN14)

Accounting and Finance with Study in Continental Europe (NN34)

Accounting and Finance (NN43)

Management programmes:

Economics and Management (LN12)

Management (N200)

Accounting and Management (NN42)

Joint honours degrees*:

Economics and Mathematics (LG11)

Economics and Politics (LL12)

* The precise procedures of the joint schools are not explained in detail here and reference should be made to the Departmental Admissions Statements of the partner departments for further information.

Admissions process

1. Admissions team

Applications assessed by centralised team in close co-operation with Admissions Tutor/s.

2. Application assessment methods

All applications are considered on an equal basis. Applications are not segregated by the type of educational institution attended. All applications are acknowledged by email on receipt (starting in mid-September), to establish contact and inform the applicant of the process to be followed.

When assessing an application the Admissions Team will consider whether the applicant's academic potential is such that it is likely they would be successful on the degree programme.

The Admissions Team assesses academic potential, taking account of a wide variety of factors which include, but are not limited to, actual academic performance to date and predicted results for qualifications currently being studied. Other factors include those described in section 2, "Criteria for assessing applicants".

Because of the very high number of applicants, and to ensure that all those applying on time are treated fairly, a number of applications will be held until March before a decision is made.

All applications are allocated scores on the academic record and the personal statement / reference. The respective weighting ratio out of 100 (academic to personal statement/reference) is as follows:

- Economics (L100) – 75:25
- Economics SCE (L101) – 75:25
- Economics & Econometrics (L140) – 75:25
- Economics & Maths (LG11) – 75:25
- Economics & Politics (LL12) – 50:50
- Economics & Management (LN12) - 75:25
- Economics & Finance (LN13) - 75:25
- Economics & Accounting (LN14) - 75:25
- Management (N200) - 75:25
- Accounting & Finance SCE (NN34) - 75:25
- Accounting & Management (NN42) - 75:25
- Accounting & Finance (NN43) - 75:25

Applicants are not discriminated against on the grounds of race, ethnicity, nationality, gender, sexuality, religion, disability, or age.

3. Interview or visit day

All candidates who have applied on time and have been made an offer of a place will be invited to attend one of two Visit Days usually held in February and March. These Visit Days are held purely to help applicants decide which offer to accept and will play no role in the selection process.

Information about the Visit Days, together with details of precinct tours for those unable to attend the Visit Days, will be provided on the School website at:

<http://www.bristol.ac.uk/efm/courses/undergraduate/open-days.html>

4. Correspondence with applicants

All correspondence relating will be sent to applicants by email.

All applicants should be contacted when we receive their application, to establish contact and to inform the applicant of the process to be followed. Applicants will then be notified if their application has been successful or unsuccessful, or to inform them that their application

has been assessed, but that we will not be able to make a final decision until later in the cycle.

5. Deferred applications

Deferred applications are welcomed.

Criteria for assessing applicants

1. Academic entry requirements

Academic entry requirements for standard qualifications (A-level, SQA, IB, Access, BTEC, Welsh Bacc, 14-19 Diploma, GCSEs) can be found in the online Undergraduate Prospectus: <http://www.bristol.ac.uk/prospectus/undergraduate/2014>

Other qualifications, including international qualifications, will be considered on their individual merits; further information is available at: <http://www.bristol.ac.uk/international/study-at-bristol/how-to-apply/country-specific/>.

Please note - cross school/joint honours courses may have different subject and/or grade requirements to that of the single honours courses offered by the School of Sociology, Politics and International Studies. Prospective applicants are therefore advised to look carefully at the information provided in the online [Undergraduate Prospectus](#), for requirements specific to your intended course of study.

2. Additional academic criteria

The following indicates a general ranking process which we use, however academic potential is the essential characteristic we are seeking to evaluate.

Mathematics

All of the Accounting, Economics, Finance and Management degree programmes at the University of Bristol have a strong mathematical component and applicants are required to offer a high level Mathematics qualification such as A-Level Mathematics at a minimum of grade A or its equivalent. We may specify conditions in certain core modules.

Applicants who are taking a Foundation course need to be studying Mathematics at a level equivalent to A-Level as part of their course, to be eligible for consideration. Our requirements for such courses are detailed at: <http://www.bristol.ac.uk/efm/courses/undergraduate/faq/#tab5>

Economics

We will teach you on the assumption that you have no prior knowledge of Economics, and therefore do not require you to offer it as one of your A-Levels. However, if you ARE studying Economics at A-Level then your performance in it will be a useful indication of your analytical skills and we will require you to obtain grade A.

Languages

Degrees involving Study in Continental Europe also have a language requirement; see

<http://www.bris.ac.uk/efm/courses/undergraduate/faq/#tab2>

Excluded subjects

General Studies and Critical Thinking are excluded.

Subject combinations at A-Level

Applicants applying for our programmes with a narrow A level subject mix e.g. three A levels from only Maths; Further Maths; Physics; Chemistry and/or Statistics, OR, those applicants applying with a subject mix that is less relevant to our degree programmes e.g. including Art & Design, Photography, Textiles and/or language subjects, are likely to receive offers at the higher end of the published offer range.

When making offers below AAA, we may specify in which subjects you must earn the A grades, according to which we feel are most relevant for your chosen programme.

Academic performance to date

In ranking applicants we take account of academic performance to date, and strongly encourage applicants to state their grades in A1 modules. We may also consider the number of A*s predicted at A-Level and earned at GCSE. We give equal consideration to other qualifications (for example overseas qualifications) of the same standard.

Please note - cross school/joint honours programmes may have additional/different requirements specific to the particular course of study. Prospective applicants are therefore strongly advised to refer to the Admissions Statements provided by partner Schools for their intended course of study:

<http://www.bristol.ac.uk/prospectus/undergraduate/2014/admissions-statements.html>

3. Personal statement criteria

The Personal Statement forms a crucial part of the selection process in assessing each candidate's motivation and suitability for the chosen programme of study. When looking at each applicant's Personal Statement, the selectors look for the following:

- Interest in and commitment to the subject
- Evidence of clear thinking and understanding
- Intellectual curiosity; reading or research beyond the A-level (or equivalent) syllabus
- A high standard of written English (while taking into account that English will be a second language for some applicants)
- For degrees involving Study on Continental Europe; skills and interest in foreign language and culture
- Non-academic achievement or experience
- Positions of responsibility
- Interest in hobbies or pastimes
- Voluntary work
- Work experience.

In all cases the School will attempt to take account of the opportunities available to applicants.

Since applicants have considerable opportunity to draft and correct the UCAS form before submission, we expect there to be no spelling or grammatical errors. Appropriate consideration will be taken where English is a second language.

Please note - cross school/joint honours programmes may have additional criteria specific to the partner school. Prospective applicants are therefore strongly advised to refer to the Admissions Statements provided by partner Schools for their intended course of study: <http://www.bristol.ac.uk/prospectus/undergraduate/2014/admissions-statements.html>

4. Reference criteria

We expect the reference to provide:

- Predictions of examination results (and, where the qualifications are unusual, to explain their meaning)
- An overall assessment of the applicant, in particular their suitability for further study
- A discussion of earlier exam results, especially if they were influenced by personal or medical circumstances (and are thus a poor guide to ability)
- Discussion of the applicant's intellectual curiosity, interests and suitability for the subject
- Discussion of the applicant's other interests.

Please note - cross school/joint honours programmes may have additional criteria specific to the partner school. Prospective applicants are therefore strongly advised to refer to the Admissions Statements provided by partner schools for their intended course of study: <http://www.bristol.ac.uk/prospectus/undergraduate/2014/admissions-statements.html>

5. Additional Tests

Not applicable.

6. Interview

The School only interviews in exceptional circumstances, for example in the case of mature students whose qualifications may provide a poor guide to academic ability.

All interviews are conducted by at least two people, one of whom has been trained in fair and effective recruitment techniques, and are undertaken in accordance with the University's policy on equal opportunities.

7. Mature applicants

The school welcomes mature applicants. Although there are no fixed academic requirements, evidence of recent study and examinations is expected. In some cases mature applicants may be invited to interview.

8. International applicants

International applicants will be subject to the criteria as detailed here:

www.bristol.ac.uk/international/countries

We also consider applications through the Common Application system, and the same criteria and assessment used for UCAS applicants are applied.

9. English Language requirements for non-native speakers

All applicants are required to demonstrate that they have sufficient ability to understand and express themselves in both spoken and written English in order to benefit fully from their degree course.

English Language requirements can be found in the Undergraduate Prospectus and at: www.bristol.ac.uk/ug-language-requirements

The specific IELTS standard required for this programme can be found in our online prospectus:

http://www.bristol.ac.uk/prospectus/undergraduate/2014/sections/ECON/dept_intro

10. Contextual information

We take a holistic approach to all applications, ensuring that the educational and social context in which an applicant applies is taken into consideration, where supported by clear evidence that this may have adversely affected academic achievement. This may include time spent in Local Authority care, information about which is provided in the UCAS application. Such applications will have one grade lifted for their academic score: e.g. an AAB applicant will be awarded the same academic score as an AAA applicant. Applicants still need to satisfy specific subject requirements.

We also consider evidence of clear motivation to study. This may include attendance at a University summer school, a targeted Access Scheme (such as Access to Bristol or Realising Opportunities), or participation in other higher education outreach activities.

We do not take the following into consideration when making admissions decisions: the school type attended by an applicant, or whether an applicant's parent has any experience of higher education.

Offers

Typical offers for A-levels and other UK qualifications can be found in the entry data in the online Undergraduate Prospectus. Offers to applicants with non-standard qualifications will be made equivalent to the published A-level offer.

We may make lower offers based on whether an applicant is deemed to have experienced educational disadvantage, as defined in section 7.5 of the University's admissions principles and procedures.

Other

1. Transfers

Transfers between programmes within the School of Economics, Finance and Management may be possible at the end of the first year, subject to satisfactory attainment in appropriate subjects.

We only accept students for direct entry into the second year in exceptional circumstances, as described at <http://www.bris.ac.uk/efm/courses/undergraduate/faq/second-year-entry.html>

2. Additional information

Not applicable.

Contacts for enquiries

Any enquiries should be addressed to the Undergraduate Admissions Office: socsci-ug-admissions@bristol.ac.uk or +44 (0)117 928 8154.