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If you have any questions about courses, applications or student life at Bristol, please contact the Enquiries Team.

Photography

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Economics



Undergraduate study



Courses

BSc Economics[†]
three years L100

BSc Economics with Study in Continental Europe
four years L101

BSc Economics and Accounting[†]
three years LN14

BSc Economics and Econometrics[†]
three years L140

BSc Economics and Finance[†]
three years LN13

BSc Economics and Management[†]
three years LN12

BSc Economics and Mathematics
three years LG11

BSc Economics and Politics[†]
three years LL12

BSc Philosophy and Economics[†]
three years VL51

MSci Economics with Innovation*
four years L104

[†] Study Abroad option available, four years.

* This course is subject to approval.

This leaflet contains information for students planning to start university in autumn 2020. We have made every effort to ensure all details are correct at the time of going to press (May 2019). However, since this information is subject to change, you are advised to check the University's website, bristol.ac.uk/ug-study, for the latest updates.

Why study economics at Bristol?

Bristol has one of the leading economics departments in the UK. Our research is internationally recognised for its originality, significance and rigour and for delivering real-world impact. You will be taught by a dedicated team of academics who incorporate the very latest ideas into their teaching.

Studying economics at Bristol, you will become skilled in understanding economic concepts and in applying formal models and econometric tools to test behavioural predictions using real-world data. The analytical and quantitative skills that you will develop are highly valued by employers and will equip you for a range of different careers.

Our courses are exciting and current, delivered through technically rigorous, research-led teaching. We offer innovative and challenging units that expose you to cutting-edge ideas and methods and reconnect the study of economics with real life. All our degrees are informed by our economics research, which achieved 100 per cent 4* world-leading rating for research impact in the latest Research Excellence Framework (REF 2014).

You will benefit from a broad range of study. You can apply your economics skills to many different topics, including finance, international trade, labour markets, environmental change, public policy, economic history and developing economies. You can also take optional units in management, accounting and finance, enabling you to tailor your studies to match your career ambitions. We offer a wide range of joint honours degrees, allowing you to combine economics with complementary disciplines such as finance, management, maths, philosophy or politics.

You will be taught by world-class academics, many of whom have experience working as professional economists. We are proud of the quality of our teaching and the way it equips students with the confidence to tackle unfamiliar problems. The skills you learn at Bristol will help you to become an innovative and resilient graduate who can thrive in a rapidly changing world.

'My main reasons for choosing the University were its excellent academic reputation and Bristol being a perfect place to live. The course is intellectually challenging, but that is what makes it prestigious - and staff are always there to support you.'

Gaukhar (BSc Economics)

What will you study?

Our degrees develop the necessary analytical and quantitative skills for a wide range of careers in economics and beyond. The way we teach economics is technically rigorous. Econometrics – the application of statistical methods to data to estimate economic models – is a key part of all our programmes. Mandatory units in macro- and micro-economics, mathematics, statistics and econometrics provide you with a strong foundation. You will also have a broad range of optional courses within economics and from other parts of the University.

Year one

In the first year you will take introductory courses in economics. Bristol is one of the pioneers of the innovative 'core econ' curriculum (www.core-econ.org), which emphasises how economic models and data can be used to address real-world problems. You will also take courses in maths and statistics, learning how to express economic models in mathematical terms and building the statistical foundations of econometrics. Additionally, you will have additional mandatory and/or optional units according to your chosen degree, including the option to take courses from outside economics. Popular choices include languages, and the Fundamentals of Accounting and Finance unit.

Year two

In year two you will deepen your economics knowledge with units in microeconomics and macroeconomics and take one or two mandatory courses in econometrics, depending on your programme. You may have a number of optional units, which you can choose from either economics or from a broader range of subjects including management, accounting and finance. History of Economic Thought and Applied Microeconomics are two popular recent second-year economics options.

Final year

The final year offers you the most flexibility and allows you to select units from the areas of economics which most interest you. Most students choose an Applied Economics dissertation and also select optional units, which in recent years have included Behavioural Economics, Financial Markets, Development Economics, Environmental Economics, Industrial Economics, International Economics and Operations Management.

Masters year (MSci only)

If you are studying MSci Economics with Innovation you will complete a fourth year, where you will continue to study some economics content alongside your work and projects in innovation.

'I really like the variety that economics offers, and I also like the fact the subject has real-world application – it makes the subject feel less like a purely academic course and more like a discipline that will be useful for life.'

Sarah (BSc Economics)

bristol.ac.uk/ug-study



'I have really enjoyed my economics course – as you progress, the degree becomes more applied. It is fantastic both for those that wish to go on to postgraduate study and for those that wish to work in the city.'

Rob (BSc Economics)

What will you study?

Joint honours degrees

All the mandatory economics units on our joint honours degree programmes have been tailored to the specific needs of students studying across different disciplines, and these are in line with the first, second and final years of our single honours degrees. The key difference is that you will also take a combination of mandatory and optional units in your joint degree school. Please see bristol.ac.uk/ug20-economics for the structure of our joint honours degrees.

Study Abroad year

We offer you the opportunity to extend your degree to four years, spending your third year studying economics at a top-ranking university in Europe or farther afield before returning to Bristol for your final year. Teaching is in English on the Study Abroad pathway. For BSc Economics with Study in Continental Europe you will study in the language of your host country, and you will take language courses in your first and second years in preparation for this. These programmes allow you to combine the challenging, broad academic content of all our economics degrees with an overseas dimension that reflects the international nature of the economy.

Additional opportunities

Alongside formal teaching and learning that counts towards your degree, there are many additional opportunities to enrich your learning experience. Regular seminars organised by economics staff and students feature prominent external speakers as well as research presentations from academic staff.

Our students can also take advantage of the Bristol Futures initiative. This curriculum enhancement programme offers interdisciplinary courses in Innovation and Enterprise, Global Citizenship, and Sustainable Futures. It provides a range of innovative learning resources and extracurricular activities that allow for the development of core academic skills and key personal attributes to help you become an adaptable, successful graduate.



Ranked 1st in the UK for research impact

THE analysis of REF, 2014

bristol.ac.uk/ug-study



'Studying abroad has been more amazing than I could've imagined. I've met some amazing people, seen some amazing things, and become a lot more independent. I am really excited to use everything I've learnt.'

BSc Economics with Study Abroad student, studied abroad at Copenhagen Business School

Teaching and learning

Courses are taught through a mixture of lectures and classes. Lectures introduce the course material and provide an overview of topics, models and methods. Smaller classes, led by a class tutor, offer opportunities to go through exercises and problem sets and for you to discuss issues and present ideas. Lecturers and tutors offer weekly office hours, allowing you to drop in to discuss the course or to get extra help in clarifying any issues.

Assessment and feedback

Most of our courses are assessed by an exam at the end of the teaching block. Some courses have assessed coursework either alongside or instead of an exam. Most final-year students complete an Applied Economics dissertation. This runs throughout the final year and offers opportunities for group work and for independent research. Students select from a range of topics, which in previous years have included: estimating returns to education, analysing corporate cash holdings, studying the determinants of economic growth, and testing for herding behaviour in financial markets.

We understand the importance of timely and effective feedback, and we will work closely with you to ensure that that you get the best out of your time at Bristol. You will prepare assignments and receive written feedback throughout each academic year to help you prepare for exams and assessed coursework. We provide clear guidelines on our assessment criteria and feedback on how students perform in exams and coursework.

For three-year degrees, your final award will be determined by assessments in years two and three (40 and 60 per cent respectively). Study Abroad and Study in Continental Europe programmes are awarded on the basis of marks in the second year (30 per cent), year abroad (10 per cent) and final year (60 per cent).

‘What I have enjoyed most about my course is the new perspective it has given me. And the assistance I get from my personal tutor and other tutors is immense.’

Mohoppu (BSc Economics and Finance)



Careers support and graduate destinations

A Bristol economics degree makes you highly sought after by leading employers. Our economics graduates do well because of their analytical and quantitative skills.

Career opportunities for economics graduates are very broad. Our students go on to a variety of careers, including finance, consulting, public policy and development. Recent graduates have found roles at Goldman Sachs, HM Treasury, Action for ME and Capital Economics.

Many of our students choose to develop their economics knowledge further through postgraduate study. One of our recent graduates gained a pre-doctoral fellowship at Harvard; others have gone on to MSc programmes at Oxford, Cambridge, LSE, UCL, Copenhagen Business School, Paris School of Economics and Erasmus University.

You will get a lot of support in finding the right career. The University's Careers Service will help you gain real-world work experience during your studies. It also organises recruitment events and workshops, allowing you to network with major graduate recruiters throughout the year.

If you want to work as an economist you can also learn about career opportunities through the Professional Liaison Network, which offers professional mentoring and insightful talks from economists working in economic research, consulting and policy. The Professional Liaison Network also runs a mentoring scheme, matching students with working professionals who have previously studied economics to provide support and advice, develop your studies and boost your employability.

Wherever your future career ambitions lie, an economics degree from Bristol will equip you with the skills and knowledge for a successful future and provide the foundation for you to succeed. Recent studies have highlighted that Bristol economics graduates enjoy among the highest financial returns of any students in England (Institute for Fiscal Studies / Department for Education, 2018).



Graduate employers

Goldman Sachs
HM Treasury
Action for ME
Capital Economics



Career destinations

Finance
Consulting
Public policy
Development

Making your application

Visit bristol.ac.uk/ug20-economics for more information about our courses.

Typical offer for BSc Economics

A-levels A*AA (contextual AAB) including A in Mathematics.

IB Diploma 38 points overall (contextual 34) with 18 at Higher Level (contextual 17), including either 6 at Higher Level or 7 at Standard Level in Mathematics.

Our contextual offer is a grade reduction of up to two grades below the standard entry requirements, made to applicants from under-represented groups. Find out more at bristol.ac.uk/contextual-offers.

GCSEs No specific subjects required.

Selection process UCAS.

For other accepted qualifications, and for our English language requirements, visit bristol.ac.uk/ug20-economics.

Application advice for economics courses

Your application will be assessed based on the course-specific entry requirements (A-level and GCSE or equivalent), and you will not be required to attend an interview.

Outreach programmes

We run a number of schemes that offer a taste of university life and more information about studying economics at Bristol.

- Access to Bristol is a term-long programme of weekly sessions for A-level (or equivalent) students attending local state schools and colleges: bristol.ac.uk/access-to-bristol.
- The Sutton Trust summer school is a week-long residential programme for students from state schools and colleges around the country: www.summerschools.suttontrust.com/university/bristol.
- Insight into Bristol is a week-long residential programme for students from Black, Asian or Minority Ethnic backgrounds: bristol.ac.uk/study/insight.

Further information

Find out more about the Department of Economics: bristol.ac.uk/economics.

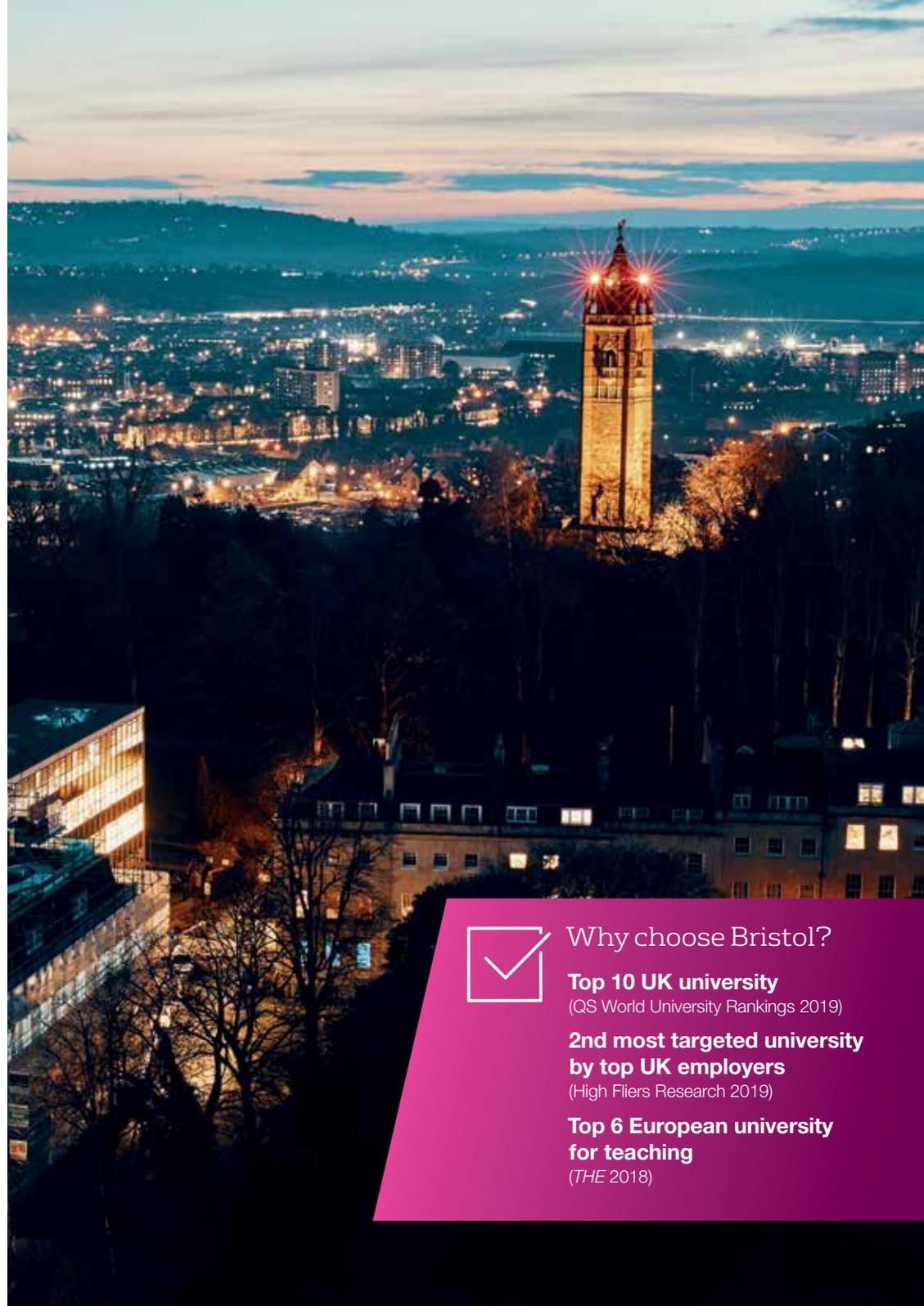
This information is correct at the time of printing (May 2019), but we recommend you check the University website for the latest information: bristol.ac.uk/ug20-economics.



Read more about how we support you when you are here:

bristol.ac.uk/students

bristol.ac.uk/ug-study



Why choose Bristol?

Top 10 UK university
(QS World University Rankings 2019)

**2nd most targeted university
by top UK employers**
(High Fliers Research 2019)

**Top 6 European university
for teaching**
(THE 2018)