

Undergraduate study

Economics

Key highlights



Academic reputation

Economics at Bristol has a strong academic reputation. You'll learn from world-leading academics whose cutting-edge research is having direct impact on policy and practice in areas such as health, education and regulation. Our courses are informed by our research which was ranked #1 for impact in the latest Research Excellence Framework (THE analysis of REF 2014).



Real-world insight

We offer a broad range of innovative and challenging courses that will expose you to pioneering ideas and methods and connect the study of economics with real life. Studying economics at Bristol will equip you with the skills and knowledge for a variety of career opportunities including finance, consulting, public policy and development.



Career success

Our Economics graduates are among those who gain the greatest return on their investment, compared to any other degree programme in the country (analysis of IFS research, 2018). Your future opportunities are supported by the University's Careers Service, and the Professional Liaison Network, as well as student societies, who provide a range of work experience, professional mentoring and networking events.



Why study economics at Bristol?

Choosing to study economics at Bristol means you'll be joining one of the leading economics departments in the UK. You will become skilled in understanding economic concepts and in applying formal models and tools to test behavioural predictions using real-world data. You can also choose one of our wide range of joint degrees, combining economics with finance, management, accounting, maths, philosophy or politics.

Our degrees are technical (they all require Maths A-level) and they emphasise econometrics – using statistical tools to estimate economic relationships. You can tailor your studies to match your career ambitions. Mandatory units in macro and micro-economics, mathematics, statistics and econometrics provide a strong foundation for a broad range of optional units in economics but also in management, accounting and finance, as well as language options.

In the first year you will take introductory units in economics, maths and statistics. Bristol is one of the pioneers of an innovative new curriculum (www.core-econ.org), which emphasises how economic models and data can be used to address real-world problems. In year two you will deepen your economics knowledge

with units in micro and macro-economics and econometrics, as well as optional units.

The final year offers the most flexibility and allows you to select units from the areas of economics that most interest you. Most students taking BSc Economics choose an applied economics dissertation, which offers opportunities for group work and independent research. If you're studying MSci Economics with Innovation you will complete a fourth year combining your study of economics alongside innovation projects. If you're studying one of our joint honours degrees, you will take fewer units in economics, replaced by a range of (mandatory and optional) units in your second subject.

You may choose to extend your degree to four years, spending the third year studying economics overseas. Teaching is in English on the Study Abroad pathways. For BSc Economics with Study Abroad in a Modern Language, you will study in the language of your host country, and you will take language units in your first and second years in preparation for this.

“ 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)



You can choose to take a four-year Study Abroad degree, with a year studying overseas in English. Our prestigious partner universities include Copenhagen Business School, Macquarie University in Sydney, and National University of Singapore.



Bristol economics graduates have recently found roles at Goldman Sachs, HM Treasury, Action for ME, Department of Trade and Industry and Capital Economics. Many others have continued their studies through postgraduate programmes at institutions such as Harvard, Oxford, Cambridge and LSE.



The Economics, Finance and Management (EFM) Society is the largest student subject society in the University. You can also get involved in sports societies, regular socials and peer support programmes.

Find out more

Entry requirements, course structure and units
bristol.ac.uk/ug2021-economics

Distinguished roots

The School of Economics, Finance and Management can trace its roots back to the very beginnings of our University. Alfred Marshall, Professor of Political Economy, was the first Principal of University College Bristol (the future University of Bristol). His wife Mary Paley, also a lecturer in political economy, was one of the first women in Britain to become a lecturer. Recent Nobel prize-winner, Angus Deaton (left) also did his most influential work when he was Professor of Economics at Bristol.



Courses

BSc Economics/
BSc Economics with Study Abroad/
BSc Economics with Study Abroad in a Modern Language

BSc Economics and Accounting/
BSc Economics and Accounting with Professional Placement/
BSc Economics and Accounting with Study Abroad

BSc Economics and Econometrics/
BSc Economics and Econometrics with Study Abroad

BSc Economics and Finance/
BSc Economics and Finance with Study Abroad

BSc Economics and Management/
BSc Economics and Management with Study Abroad

BSc Economics and Mathematics

BSc Economics and Politics/
BSc Economics and Politics with Study Abroad

BSc Philosophy and Economics/
BSc Philosophy and Economics with Study Abroad

MSci Economics with Innovation

Connect with the School of Economics



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This leaflet contains information for students planning to start university in autumn 2021. We have made every effort to ensure all details are correct at the time of going to press (May 2020). 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. Any sample units listed are indicative and offerings may change due to developments in the relevant academic field. Unit availability varies depending on staffing, student choice and timetabling constraints.



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