

## Undergraduate study

# Physics



## Key highlights



### Supportive community

Join our close-knit school with friendly, expert staff and the nation's best student society (National Societies Awards, 2019).



### Outstanding reputation

Bristol is ranked in the UK top 10 for physics, and 93 per cent of MSci Physics students said they were satisfied with the course (QS World University Rankings by Subject, 2020; NSS, 2020).



### Professional accreditation

Many of our degrees are accredited by the Institute of Physics, who also awarded us Juno status in recognition of our contribution to the representation of women in physics.

## Why study physics at Bristol?

Physics will allow you to learn about the fundamental building blocks and forces of nature and how quantum physics and relativity help us understand the world around us, from the infinitesimal scale of particle and nuclear physics to the cosmic scale of galaxies and the universe.

Be part of a dynamic research community and learn with renowned experts whose research feeds directly into your teaching, placing you at the cutting edge of scientific developments. You'll build a solid foundation of skills and knowledge over your first and second years, ensuring that you are prepared to join a research group and conduct your own independent project in your final year.

Making use of our strong links with industry leaders in communications, IT, defence and energy, you'll have the chance to address questions at the frontiers of research – the most successful student projects have been published in scientific journals.

You'll join a close-knit school and learn in an environment with excellent resources, lab and workshop spaces, and research apparatus. Our award-winning student society, Chaos, offers numerous and varied social events as well as a 'parenting' scheme matching second- and third-year students with first-years, so you'll join an in-built community from day one. Our student body is diverse; in the physics class of 2019, 30 per cent of students are female and

20 per cent are non-British nationals, representing 30 different nationalities. The school is proud to have been awarded the Institute of Physics Juno Award in recognition of the work we do to create a welcoming and equal community.

Teaching formats include large lectures, individual computational work and laboratory work in pairs, as well as tutorials and workshops in the first year. In subsequent years, workshops and problem classes help to consolidate your learning. We also run a packed calendar of exciting events, with eminent scholars from around the world sharing their research expertise in talks and seminars.

Physics-specific employability sessions will give you valuable experience in communication and presentation skills, interviews and networking. Our graduates are highly sought after and find employment as physicists in research and industry settings, and a whole spectrum of other careers such as data analytics, software development, teaching and finance. Around half of our MSci students go on to a higher degree in physics or a related discipline.

Sample units may include:

- Magnetism and Superconductivity
- Advanced Computational Physics
- Environmental Physics
- Quantum Chaos
- High Energy Astrophysics
- Theoretical Particle Physics.

'What sets Bristol apart is the friendly academic staff and the huge number of research opportunities. It is important to be able to apply what you are taught in lectures, so a significant amount of time is spent in high-tech laboratories – making studying here even more interesting.'

**Elena** (BSc Physics)



You will learn from experts bringing the latest research into the teaching lab: your lectures might be with a particle physicist analysing the latest data from CERN's Large Hadron Collider, or with an astrophysicist looking at data from the Hubble Space Telescope.



A number of prominent physicists worked or studied at Bristol, including Nobel laureates Professor Cecil Powell, Paul Dirac and Sir Nevill Mott. Our many current pioneers include Professor Sir Michael Berry, Professor Sandu Popescu, Dr Zoe Leinhardt and Dr Annela Seddon.



Our courses include options with industrial experience, study abroad, or the chance to combine physics with maths, philosophy, astrophysics, scientific computing or innovation.

## Find out more

Entry requirements, course structure and units  
[bristol.ac.uk/ug2021-physics](http://bristol.ac.uk/ug2021-physics)



Facilities in our beautiful building include state-of-the-art teaching labs, a dedicated physics library and a six-metre radio telescope. Bristol is also home to the pioneering Centre for Nanoscience and Quantum Information.

# Courses

BSc / MSci Physics

BSc Physics with a Preliminary Year of Study

MSci Physics with Study Abroad in a Modern Language

MSci Physics with Industrial Experience

MSci Physics with International Experience

BSc / MSci Physics with Astrophysics

MSci Physics with Innovation

MSci Theoretical Physics

BSc / MSci Mathematics and Physics

BSc / MSci Physics and Philosophy

BSc / MSci Physics with Scientific Computing

MSci Physics with Scientific Computing with Industrial Experience

## Connect with the School of Physics

 @UniBrisPhysics

 BristolUniPhysics

### Photography

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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](http://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.

