



University of  
BRISTOL

# STUDY ABROAD GUIDE 2024/25



# WELCOME TO BRISTOL

## 8<sup>TH</sup>

Bristol is the 8th largest city in the UK\*, located in the south-west of England just 90 minutes from London.



\*When defined by Primary Urban Area, [centreforcities.org](http://centreforcities.org) 2023



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## Autumn semester

September 2024 – December 2024

## Spring semester

January 2025 – June 2025

## Full academic year

September 2024 – June 2025

The dates above are indicative and the exact dates will be released on our website. [bristol.ac.uk/study-abroad-dates](http://bristol.ac.uk/study-abroad-dates)



# INTRODUCING THE UNIVERSITY OF BRISTOL

The University of Bristol is one of the most popular and highly ranked universities in the UK, with a diverse community of nearly 30,000 talented students from more than 150 countries.

Here, you will experience outstanding teaching shaped by our cutting-edge research, and learn from academics at the forefront of their fields.

Living and studying at the heart of Bristol, one of Europe's most exciting, creative cities, you will find a world of opportunities right outside the lecture theatre.



**TOP 10**

in the UK  
*QS World University  
Rankings 2024*

**45<sup>TH</sup>**

most international  
university in the world  
*Times Higher  
Education 2023*

**5<sup>TH</sup>**

in the UK for research  
*THE analysis of REF 2021*

# CENTRE FOR STUDY ABROAD

**Welcome to the University of Bristol's outstanding Study Abroad experience.**

The Centre for Study Abroad (CfSA) is home to all our short-term study programmes, both here in Bristol and abroad. Our global Study Abroad centre has a dedicated Academic Director – overseeing a range of pioneering study pathways linked to our world-class research, as well as personalised opportunities to help you gain relevant skills.

Beyond the University's outstanding facilities and reputation, the CfSA provides a caring environment where both your academic and personal ambitions are nurtured. You will enjoy excellent study support – one-to-one and with your classmates. Our Student Experience team will also keep you involved, with regular workshops, tours and social events.

For academic excellence, meaningful support and an authentic UK cultural experience, get ready for a warm Bristol welcome.



# STUDY ABROAD PROGRAMMES

Bristol offers a highly flexible and personalised Study Abroad experience, with different programmes to suit your English language ability and a wide range of academic areas. Our programmes are available for a single semester or a full academic year.

## Study Abroad (General pathway)

### September and January start

You can choose units from across the University to create a personalised academic programme. You can take units in your major and minor, as well as other subjects that interest you. Our six faculties offer a wide variety of subjects, which can be combined to create a diverse and intellectually stimulating programme.

## Study Abroad (Subject pathway)

### September and January start

You will be nominated by your home university to a department at Bristol that best matches your current degree programme. You will take the majority of your units in your host department, with the option to take a small number of credits in other academic areas of interest, including our Centre for Academic Language and Development.

## STABEL (Study Abroad with English Language)

### September start

For students who don't currently meet the English language requirements for the Study Abroad (General pathway) or Study Abroad (Subject pathway), STABEL combines Study Abroad with a pre-session English language course starting in June or July. This intensive course can last from six to ten weeks, depending on your current English language level, designed to help you reach the required level to progress onto the Study Abroad (General pathway) or Study Abroad (Subject pathway) programme in September. You must pass the pre-session course in order to progress.

The most popular options for native English speakers, or those who already meet our English language requirements, are Study Abroad (General pathway) and Study Abroad (Subject pathway). If you already meet our English language requirements but want to enhance your English language skills for academic purposes, you can also take English language units alongside your other subjects.

If you are applying to Bristol as an exchange student, you can check with your home university or the Centre for Study Abroad team at Bristol to find out which programme you have been nominated to. Direct-enrol students and independent applicants can select the most relevant pathway for their English language proficiency and subject preferences.

### English language and academic requirements

For full details of the English language and academic requirements for each programme, please visit our website.

[bristol.ac.uk/study-abroad-requirements](http://bristol.ac.uk/study-abroad-requirements)



To watch our Study Abroad film scan the QR code or visit [bristol.ac.uk/study-abroad-apply](http://bristol.ac.uk/study-abroad-apply)

# SUBJECT OPTIONS



View our Study Guides  
[bristol.ac.uk/study-abroad-units](http://bristol.ac.uk/study-abroad-units)

## Arts

- Anthropology and Archaeology
- English Language
- Film and TV
- Innovation
- Languages and Linguistics
- Music
- Philosophy
- Theatre



## Engineering\*

- Aerospace Engineering
- Civil Engineering
- Computer Science\*\*
- Electrical and Electronic Engineering
- Engineering Mathematics
- Mechanical Engineering



## Humanities

- Classics and Ancient History
- Cultural Studies
- English Literature
- History
- History of Art
- Religion and Theology



## Science

- Chemistry\*
- Earth Sciences
- Geographical Sciences
- Mathematics
- Physics



## Life Sciences

- Anatomy
- Biochemistry
- Biological Sciences
- Cellular and Molecular Medicine
- Neuroscience
- Pharmacology
- Physiology
- Psychology



## Social Sciences

- Accounting and Finance
- Business
- Economics
- Education
- Law\*
- Policy Studies
- Politics and International Studies
- Sociology



\*Please note many units from these departments are taught across the full academic year

\*\*Available for final-year Computer Science majors only



# CREATE YOUR PROGRAMME

**Make the most of your time here by creating a tailored academic programme that works for you.**

## **Study level**

Undergraduate degrees in the UK are three-year programmes, and as a Study Abroad student you can choose units (classes) from all three years. Occasionally, some departments open up master's level units for Study Abroad students. You can check the full list of available units for each department in our online study guides.

[bristol.ac.uk/study-abroad-units](http://bristol.ac.uk/study-abroad-units)

For subjects that are new to you or that you have not studied in-depth at home, first-year units are the most suitable. Second-year units are the most common for students taking their major/minor abroad, and third-year units are suitable for students in their major subject if they are close to graduation.

## **Credits and course load**

You will take 60 Bristol credits per semester, which is a full course load. Most units at Bristol are worth either 10 credits or 20 credits, so you will typically take three to six units per semester.

Science and Engineering subjects tend to have more 10-credit units, whereas Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences tend to have 20-credit units. Your home university will be able to advise you on how the credits transfer back to your degree.

## **Finding your units**

Study Abroad (Subject pathway) students are required to take the majority of their units in the department to which they are nominated by their home university. Study Abroad (General pathway) students can take units across different faculties.

The terminology used at Bristol might not exactly match what you are used to at your home university. Please read the guidance on our website about how to choose your units.

[bristol.ac.uk/study-abroad-guidance](http://bristol.ac.uk/study-abroad-guidance)



**'I have enjoyed the teaching as the lecturers are always ready to support students, the teaching is research-informed and the course content has enabled me to be a critical thinker. The support from teaching staff and students has been amazing.'**

Faith, Università degli Studi di Siena



# A VIBRANT CITY

Named one of the UK's top 3 creative and cultural cities\*, Bristol is a diverse, exciting place that will quickly feel like home.

## At the heart of the city

Our campus is located in the centre of Bristol and offers outstanding facilities, including eight libraries with dedicated study spaces, a swimming pool and sports centre.

Our excellent teaching and learning facilities include:

- Our cutting-edge Life Sciences Building which features one of the largest teaching labs in the UK.
- Hack Space, a creative area for engineering students to experiment, collaborate and test new ideas.
- One of the best-equipped studio theatres at any UK university.

## Best of both worlds

A short walk from campus will take you into the heart of the city centre. Situated in south-west England, just 90 minutes from London, Bristol offers hundreds of years of history to explore. It is a lively, bustling city that is also packed with green spaces. The beautiful British countryside and coast are easy to reach by bus, bike or car.



**'My first impressions of Bristol have stayed true to my beliefs. Bristol is very green, there are always people to hang out with, and the campus is beautiful.'**

Katherine, University of Wisconsin Madison

\*European Commission, 2019/20

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# CITY LIFE

Experience something different in Bristol. There is always something to do, and you can discover the best of British culture from day to night.

More parks and green spaces than any other UK city



A city of famous festivals



A vibrant and quirky city to explore



World-class music venues



Discover cultural gems at museums and art galleries around the harbourside



Renowned for food and drink



Exciting events all year round



Find more images of student life in our city  
[@bristoluni\\_studyabroad](#)



# STUDENT LIFE



**‘There is plenty to do to keep busy. People are so friendly and communicative that there will not be a day where you do not make a new acquaintance.’**

Elisabeth, Gottfried Wilhelm Leibniz Universität Hannover



## Global Lounge

The Global Lounge is a multicultural hub that celebrates all cultures. On arrival, the team will help you meet other students and make you feel more at home by introducing you to the city and surrounding areas. Situated in the heart of campus, the Global Lounge is a place for all Study Abroad students, as well as other international and UK students to connect and learn from each other. It has a communal atmosphere, encouraged through a variety of fun and social events, such as a weekly Language Café.

[bristol.ac.uk/global-lounge](http://bristol.ac.uk/global-lounge)

## Centre for Study Abroad team

While you are studying at Bristol, the Centre for Study Abroad team is your first point of contact. We are here to support you with any concerns you have, academic or personal. We also have a student-facing space in the Global Lounge so you can drop in at any time without making an appointment.

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**With our outstanding facilities, active Students’ Union and extensive support network, at Bristol you can enjoy the best of student life.**

### Get involved

Every student at the University of Bristol is a member of Bristol Students’ Union (SU). Led by students, for students, Bristol SU is a vital part of our world-class university experience.

Bristol SU organises events, represents your views, and runs more than 350 student groups for different interests and hobbies. Joining a student group is a great way to meet new people while you are here, and Study Abroad students often say taking part really helps them settle in and make friends.

You will also be able to join the International Students’ Network, a representative body that leads campaigns, holds forums and organises social events.

### Sports, exercise and health

With first-class sport and fitness facilities both on campus and in the leafy suburbs of Coombe Dingle, there are plenty of opportunities to start or maintain a healthy and active lifestyle during your time at Bristol.

Our memberships give you access to our gym, fitness classes, studios and swimming pool. You can also play sport socially or competitively



by joining the B:Active programme or one of 70 student sport clubs, and if you play sport professionally, you can develop alongside your studies with our performance team. If running appeals to you more, you can join the Bristol Run Series community and follow our training plans and online support to get across the finish line at one of our events.

### Health and wellbeing

Bristol’s holistic approach to wellbeing will support you to realise your full potential. Our comprehensive network of resources and student services are ready to support you if and when you need it. You can use our online Request Wellbeing Support form to contact our services.

- Our Student Wellbeing and Residential Life teams are friendly and approachable, providing you with advice and coordinating the right support for you.
- The Student Counselling Service provides confidential, high-quality short-term counselling for individuals or small groups.
- The Disability Services team provides students with confidential information and advice on support available at the University.



- We have a full NHS (National Health Service) doctor’s surgery on campus for students who live in the local area.
- The Multifaith Chaplaincy provides 1-1 pastoral and spiritual support to students and staff of all faiths and none, which you can book online or access on a drop-in basis. Daily lunchtime socials take place in the Chaplaincy centre, as well as faith-specific events.

### Your space on campus

There are plenty of places around the University to relax, socialise and get support. The SU Living Room provides a dedicated space to relax and meet friends – right at the heart of campus.



Find out more at  
[bristol.ac.uk/study-abroad-life](http://bristol.ac.uk/study-abroad-life)



# ACCOMMODATION

**Our accommodation is a safe and supportive environment where you can be part of our vibrant student community.**

## Your accommodation

Our University accommodation is grouped into three Residential Villages: North, East, and West.

We offer a range of self-catered and catered accommodation. Our self-catered residences have kitchen facilities so you can cook your own meals, and our catered residences have dining halls which provide two meals a day. All rooms are furnished, with either an en suite or a shared bathroom, and every residence provides free internet and 24-hour security.

You will be living with a mix of British undergraduates (usually first years), international students, and other Study Abroad students. We have accommodation options to suit everyone, including some designated flats for students with specific living requirements, such as single-sex and no alcohol flats. Accommodation is also available for students with disabilities or health needs.

[bristol.ac.uk/accommodation](http://bristol.ac.uk/accommodation)

## Support in your accommodation

Our Residential Life Service offers a support network for students living in University accommodation. Each Residential Village has a Residential Life team, who are trained support staff. They are there to give you expert help, support and advice, 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

## Private rented accommodation

Private rented accommodation is best suited to students coming to Bristol for the full academic year, as most rental contracts are for a minimum of nine months. You can find useful advice and guidance about finding private rented accommodation on the Student Accommodation website.

[bristol.ac.uk/accommodation/privately-rented](http://bristol.ac.uk/accommodation/privately-rented)

Bristol SU Lettings is a specialist letting service managed by Bristol's Student Union. They offer a range of private accommodation options for individuals or groups.

## Social life and sports

Each University residence has a social committee run by students, which organises a range of social events, fun activities, and sporting leagues, for all abilities. Students living in University accommodation can also get fit for free through the fantastic B:Active Residences programme.



## Study Abroad accommodation guarantee

- Direct enrol (non-exchange) students for September or January entry are guaranteed an offer of a place in University accommodation if you apply by the deadline.
- Exchange students from institutions outside of Europe are guaranteed an offer for September entry, if you apply by the deadline. We cannot guarantee an offer for January entry students, but we aim to place as many students as possible in a University residence or support you in finding private accommodation.
- Exchange students from our European partners are not guaranteed an offer for September or January entry but are still welcome to apply. If we cannot provide a place in a University residence we will support you in finding private accommodation.

**'I have met new people through my University accommodation. Having new flat mates has allowed me to introduce myself.'**

Felipe, Pontificia Universidad Católica de Chile



## East Residential Village

The East Village residences are based in and around Bristol's city centre. These residences are within walking distance of the University campus, and benefit from an endless supply of shops, cafés, and bars. Nearby is Bristol's vibrant Harbourside, which hosts many festivals and events and is a popular area for nights out.



## West Residential Village

Our West Village residences are mostly based in the Clifton area – a popular and picturesque suburb of Bristol known for its traditional architecture, café culture and green spaces. Clifton offers a mixed selection of busy shopping and nightlife as well as quiet residential areas. These residences are mostly around 15 minutes' walk from the main University campus.



## North Residential Village

Our North Village residences are based in the Stoke Bishop area – two miles from the main campus. The North Village includes gardens and space for socialising. It houses many catered residences and it is located near to the Coombe Dingle Sports Complex. There is a dedicated bus service that links the North Village with the main campus and city centre. A bus pass for this service is included in the accommodation fee for all students living in University-allocated accommodation.



Find the right accommodation for you by watching our student guides to each Residential Village.

Scan the QR code to find your village, or visit [bristol.ac.uk/accommodation-videos](http://bristol.ac.uk/accommodation-videos)



# FEES AND FUNDING

## Tuition fees

If you are nominated to Bristol through an exchange partnership you will not need to pay tuition fees. Students who apply independently or as a direct-enrol applicant will pay Study Abroad tuition fees. If you are unsure which category applies to you, please speak to your home university for further guidance.

## 2024/25 tuition fees

### Study Abroad (General pathway) and Study Abroad (Subject pathway)

- Full year: £20,900
- One semester: £10,750

### Study Abroad with English Language (STABEL)

- Six weeks: £3,380 + Study Abroad tuition fee
- Ten weeks: £5,520 + Study Abroad tuition fee

Tuition fees will be paid once you arrive, and full-year students can pay in instalments. You should check with your home Study Abroad office and/or programme provider regarding the payment of fees to the University of Bristol. Your home institution may have a special agreement with us to pay the fees on your behalf.

Study Abroad students are often able to apply for scholarships in their home country to support their programme costs when they go abroad to study. Scholarships that former students have applied for include:

- BUTEX Scholarships, which are worth £500 and are for students studying abroad for a semester or an academic year.
- German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD), which provides eligible German students funding towards Study Abroad costs.
- Lånekassen, which provides eligible Norwegian students supplementary tuition fee grants.



Find out more at  
[bristol.ac.uk/study-abroad-fees](https://bristol.ac.uk/study-abroad-fees)

## Accommodation

Accommodation fees vary, but the information below will give you a good idea of cost.

### Typical accommodation fees

Self-catered	Per week
Twin room	£105 to £120
Single room	£120 to £200
En suite room	£183 to £210

Catered	Per week
Twin room	£165 to £168
Single room	£186 to £210
En suite room	£210 to £235

Typical accommodation fees based on 2023/24 figures for University allocated accommodation. Figures rounded to the nearest pound.

Accommodation fees include all gas, electricity and water costs, internet, bus pass for the U1 Unibus, insurance, and a Social Fund contribution.

Private rents vary according to your preferences. For a room in a shared residential property, you could pay between £350 and £550 or more in monthly rent, not including your bills.

Studios in commercial properties can be up to £1,000 per month, although this does include bills and internet.

## Living costs

The cost of living in Bristol will vary depending on your lifestyle. The information below may give you an idea of what to budget for.

Grocery item	Typical cost
1 litre milk	£1.13
1.5 litre bottled water	£1.04
1kg of onions	£0.97
1kg of bananas	£1.23
1kg of white rice	£1.61
1kg of potatoes	£1.42
12 eggs	£2.57
Cappuccino in a café	£3.31

You can live well in Bristol for much less than in London; the cost of living (including rent) is around 32% cheaper than in the capital.\* As Bristol is a student city, many shops, restaurants and venues offer a student discount.

See our website for more information about typical living costs.

[bristol.ac.uk/living-expenses](https://bristol.ac.uk/living-expenses)

\*numbeo.com, June 2023



# HOW TO APPLY

Our simple online forms make it easy to apply for our Study Abroad programmes.



Please see your programme page online to apply  
[bristol.ac.uk/study-abroad-apply](https://bristol.ac.uk/study-abroad-apply)

## Entry requirements

### Academic requirements

You must meet all of these conditions:

- You are currently enrolled in a higher education institution and studying towards a bachelor's degree.
- You will have completed at least one year of study at university level by the start of your Bristol studies. If you are studying towards a four-year bachelor's degree, we strongly recommend that you have completed at least two years of study.
- You will have a strong 'B' average or 3.0 Grade Point Average (GPA) on a 4.0 scale.

### English language requirements

You must meet one of the following conditions:

- English is your native language.
- English is the language you are taught in at your home university. If you think this applies to you, please contact [cfsa-inbound@bristol.ac.uk](mailto:cfsa-inbound@bristol.ac.uk) to confirm whether you need to provide any additional evidence as part of your application.
- You can provide proof that you meet the English language requirements for your Study Abroad programme. The full list of requirements and accepted English language certificates is available on our website.

[bristol.ac.uk/study-abroad-requirements](https://bristol.ac.uk/study-abroad-requirements)

### Student Visa

If you do not hold a UK/Irish passport and will be studying at Bristol for more than six months, you must apply for a Student Visa. We will send you a CAS (Confirmation of Acceptance for Studies) around three months before the start of your programme. You will need the CAS number to apply for your visa.

Non-UK/Irish passport holders studying at Bristol for only one semester must obtain a Standard Visitor Visa. Some nationalities can receive this visa at the UK border, but others will need to obtain it in advance of travel. You can check online whether you need to apply in advance.

[www.gov.uk/check-uk-visa](https://www.gov.uk/check-uk-visa)

Our Student Visas team can support you at every stage before you arrive and while you are with us. Please refer to our website for up-to-date information.

[bristol.ac.uk/visas](https://bristol.ac.uk/visas)

**1** Complete an online application form on your chosen pathway page.

**2** Have your application and unit choices approved by an academic advisor or Study Abroad advisor at your home university.

**3** Email your signed application form, along with copies of your supporting documents to [cfsa-inbound@bristol.ac.uk](mailto:cfsa-inbound@bristol.ac.uk)

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**'Coming to the UK was my childhood dream. When arriving in Bristol I was impressed by its diversity of students, the content of my lectures and its beautiful architecture.'**

Ayu, Waseda University



# GLOBAL SUMMER SCHOOLS

**Our taught and research-based summer schools offer exciting short-term Study Abroad experiences across a range of disciplines.**

Providing hands-on, immersive, and career-ready experiences, these programmes are a great alternative to spending a semester or year abroad. Our summer schools emphasise practical skills, and you will learn in small groups and engage with our wider community through co-curricular sessions.

In 2024 we will offer summer schools across the following topics:

- Archaeology Field School
- Arts, Activism and Social Justice
- Biomedical Sciences
- Black Humanities
- Environmental Humanities
- Innovation and Entrepreneurship
- Shakespeare in Performance
- STEM Research Projects (from our Health Science, Life Sciences, and Science faculties).

Starting from £2,995, our summer schools include academic credit and transcripts as well as accommodation with a catering package. We also offer complete pastoral support plus a social programme to help you explore the city of Bristol and this vibrant region of the UK. Global Summer School programmes are open to students at any stage of their undergraduate degree.

For application information and eligibility requirements, please visit our website at [bristol.ac.uk/global-summer](https://bristol.ac.uk/global-summer) or contact the summer school team: [global-summer@bristol.ac.uk](mailto:global-summer@bristol.ac.uk)

\*Please note our summer school offerings are subject to change.



# CONTACT US

**The Centre for Study Abroad team is dedicated to supporting Study Abroad students throughout their time at Bristol.**

From your initial enquiry to generating your transcript when you have completed your studies, we are here to help with any questions.

We look forward to hearing from you.

**Email**  
[cfsa-inbound@bristol.ac.uk](mailto:cfsa-inbound@bristol.ac.uk)

**Telephone**  
**+44 (0)117 394 0207**



Find out more at  
[bristol.ac.uk/study-abroad-contact](https://bristol.ac.uk/study-abroad-contact)

If you need all or part of this publication in an alternative format please contact us: **tel +44 (0)117 394 1649** or **email [marketing-team@bristol.ac.uk](mailto:marketing-team@bristol.ac.uk)**

This prospectus contains information for students planning to join the University of Bristol in autumn 2024 and spring 2025. Every effort is made to ensure all details are correct at the time of going to press (July 2023). However, since the information is subject to change you are advised to check the University's website for the latest updates: [bristol.ac.uk/study-abroad](https://bristol.ac.uk/study-abroad)

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# Discover Bristol online

Explore university life through our virtual tour,  
with 360-degree views of the campus and city:  
[bristol.ac.uk/virtual-tour](http://bristol.ac.uk/virtual-tour)

## Get connected

 **Twitter:** @BristolUni

 **Facebook:** @bristoluniversity

 **Instagram:** @bristoluni\_studyabroad

 **Weibo:** bristol

 **YouTube:** UniversityOfBristol



[bristol.ac.uk/study-abroad](http://bristol.ac.uk/study-abroad)

