Insight into Bristol 2019
Experience life at the University of Bristol
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‘Insight into Bristol gave me a real perspective into the day-to-day life of a university student.’
Insight into Bristol student
What is Insight into Bristol?

Insight into Bristol is an innovative residential summer school that gives students in year 12 access to the University of Bristol’s academic expertise and facilities.

The programme works with academically able students from non-privileged backgrounds, offering a taste of university life and support throughout the UCAS process.

You will choose from one of 13 subject streams, taking part in academic taster sessions which will give you an idea of what it is like to study at Bristol.

As well as developing your subject knowledge, you will also participate in activities designed to introduce you to other aspects of university life. You will stay in halls of residence alongside current Bristol students, visit our Students’ Union, learn about what our Careers Service can offer you and hear about study abroad opportunities at Bristol.

In year 13 you will be offered follow-up support including advice on your personal statement and a dedicated phone number on results day.

What can Insight into Bristol offer you?

What can Insight into Bristol offer you?

- First-hand experience of what it’s like to study at one of Britain’s top universities;
- Additional support with your A-level or equivalent studies from our world-class teaching staff;
- The chance to meet other sixth form and college students from a range of backgrounds;
- Support throughout year 13 with your university applications and interviews.

‘Insight into Bristol is all about students finding out what studying at the University of Bristol is really like. Students who take part in Insight form strong bonds that carry on throughout the rest of their studies and it’s great to see so many of them completing their degree with us and going on to successful careers.’

Doug Jennings, Deputy Director of Home Recruitment and Head of Education Partnerships

‘Insight into Bristol is a great opportunity for students to experience university life and engage with their chosen subject, helping them to make informed decisions about their futures. Students build confidence, form friendships and excel at university-level study.’

Raeesah Ellis-Haque, Insight into Bristol Coordinator, University of Bristol

94% of previous Insight into Bristol students said that completing this scheme made them more confident that they would be successful studying at the University of Bristol or a similar university.

Guaranteed offer at contextual level

Successful completion of the Insight into Bristol scheme will guarantee you a conditional offer from the University of Bristol. You will be eligible for a contextual offer for all undergraduate courses, which is usually two grades lower than the typical offer. If a course holds interviews or auditions as part of the selection procedure, you will be guaranteed an interview or audition.
Insight into Bristol is designed for students who have the grades, motivation and potential to succeed at a Russell Group university. You must:

• be in your first year of A-level study (or equivalent);
• attend a state school or college;
• live within Greater London, or within an hour’s commute of central London,
or
• be involved in, or supported by, The Seren Network.

Where a subject stream is oversubscribed, preference will be given to those students who:

• have the academic ability to study at the University of Bristol (including any GCSE entry requirements for their chosen subject stream);
• are part of the first generation in their family to go to university;
• live in an area of low participation in higher education;
• attend an aspiring state school or college;
• are or have been eligible for free school meals;
• have spent three or more months in Local Authority care;
• are from an ethnic group that is under-represented at the University of Bristol (Asian Pakistani; Asian Bangladeshi; Black Caribbean; Black African; mixed backgrounds featuring one of these groups).

See bristol.ac.uk/contextual-offers for further details of aspiring state schools and colleges and low participation areas.

Costs
Insight into Bristol is free for students to attend. The University of Bristol covers all costs including travel to and from the University, meals and accommodation in a hall of residence.

*For information about accepted qualifications, visit bristol.ac.uk/study/undergraduate/entry-requirements-qualifications.

### Dates for Insight into Bristol 2019

Those offered a place on Insight into Bristol 2019 are asked to keep the following dates free:

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<th>Date</th>
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<tr>
<td>Monday 29 July to</td>
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<tr>
<td>Friday 2 August 2019</td>
<td>Insight into Bristol 2019</td>
<td>University of Bristol</td>
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The summer school is an essential part of the programme.

Students will also be offered support throughout year 13 including drop-in sessions, a spring revision weekend (dates TBC) and other events. You will also have access to advice from one of the University’s widening participation officers.

### How to apply

If you would like to take part in Insight into Bristol, apply online at bristol.ac.uk/study/insight. Applications open in January.
### Subject streams

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<td>Veterinary Sciences</td>
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‘I was unsure at first about moving out of London to go to university, but the scheme has made me more confident.’

Insight into Bristol student

‘Having the chance to talk to students who were graduating in a subject I am interested in allowed me to understand how they felt about the University and the subject.’

Insight into Bristol student
This stream is suitable for students studying Chemistry and a second science or Mathematics at A-level*.

Subjects covered include human anatomy, physiology, pharmacology, neuroscience, biochemistry and cellular and molecular medicine. You will learn more about the human body, its structure and function, what can go wrong and how drugs work to prevent and treat disease.

Biomedical science underpins and shapes modern medical processes and procedures. The principles we discover in the lab are put into practice, so we can gain an understanding of how the body works at a molecular, cellular, organ and whole-body level. This helps us to understand disease and to develop new treatments.

The practicals were very interesting and enjoyable.

Insight into Bristol student

This stream is suitable for students studying Chemistry and Mathematics at A-level* and is designed to give you a taste of what it is like to study chemistry at university.

You will have the opportunity to work in laboratories alongside leading research scientists.

Bristol chemists work at the forefront of their field, from developing new pharmaceuticals that fight disease to advancing forensic science methods and understanding and preventing the causes of climate change. As a student on the Insight into Bristol scheme, you will have the unique opportunity to study alongside our staff and find out more about where a degree in chemistry could take you.

There will be a heavy emphasis on practical work in our laboratories, supplemented by lecture-based sessions. You will get hands-on experience working at ChemLabS, the UK’s only Centre for Excellence in Teaching and Learning devoted to chemistry. Working with our research chemists, you will see and hear about some of the most cutting-edge chemistry discoveries being made at Bristol.

*A whole new environment. We got to explore different ideas and use sophisticated lab equipment.*

Insight into Bristol student
This stream is suitable for students studying Mathematics and another science (preferably Physics) at A-level*.

The stream will enable you to gain a deeper understanding and develop skills in civil engineering, aerospace engineering and mechanical engineering. It’s a wonderful opportunity to gain an insight into each of these subject areas. You will take part in hands-on lectures and workshops. You will also get an idea of what it’s like to study engineering with interactive sessions designed to develop your technical skills and abilities.

Bristol’s engineering heritage is world famous and the city continues to be a global leader in the field, making the University a perfect setting in which to delve deeper into these three fascinating engineering disciplines. Over the course of the week, you will be supported by current academics and students to gain first-hand experience of what it’s like to be an engineer at the University of Bristol. You’ll also learn about employment opportunities and get plenty of support with your own university applications.

*Or an equivalent qualification. For information about accepted qualifications, visit bristol.ac.uk/study/undergraduate/entry-requirements-qualifications.

‘We were trusted to grasp complicated concepts taught by highly regarded lecturers.’
Insight into Bristol student

Computer Science, Electrical and Electronic Engineering and Engineering Mathematics

This stream is suitable for students studying Mathematics at A-level*.

This course will enable you to gain a deeper understanding and hands-on skills in three subject areas: computer science, electrical and electronic engineering, and engineering mathematics. You will also explore how engineers and technologists are working to solve some of humanity’s biggest issues.

Many of the most exciting developments in products, services and ways of living are made possible by electronics and computing and the mathematics used to underpin them. These fields are already enabling innovation in areas such as healthcare, education, transport and communications. The University of Bristol is at the heart of Europe’s first Smart City. You will learn how new technology is helping to shape city life and create a more sustainable future. From traffic lights to weather stations, autonomous vehicles to robotics, you will gain an insight into how the creative use of technology is changing our lives.

Over the course of the week, you will be guided by a team of academics and students to experience what undergraduate study is like through a range of lectures, demonstrations and hands-on activities. You will also learn about the wide range of employment opportunities available to graduates of these subjects and how you can use those skills to make a positive impact in the world.

*Or an equivalent qualification. For information about accepted qualifications, visit bristol.ac.uk/study/undergraduate/entry-requirements-qualifications.

‘The sessions were amazing and eye opening. Also, the amount of people that attended made it really enjoyable because I was able to socialise with many different people.’
Insight into Bristol student
This stream is suitable for students studying Mathematics at A-level*.

Economics provides tools to understand the society we live in. Often thought of as the study of money and finance, economics is a broad social science interested in addressing a wide range of social and economic issues including inequality, growth, globalisation, education, health, individual behaviour and economic development. The unique approach of economics lies in understanding the key trade-offs that decision-makers face – and how to design incentives that can change behaviour.

This programme will show you how economics can be applied to real policy problems. You will be taught relevant economic concepts, understand how economists use models to gain insights into complex issues, get hands-on experience at analysing data and bring theory and evidence together to develop practical policy implications. You will get to discuss and debate some of the big issues in our society.

You will also get an insight into how the subject is taught at university level and an overview of what a degree in economics involves.

*Or an equivalent qualification. For information about accepted qualifications, visit bristol.ac.uk/study/undergraduate/entry-requirements-qualifications.

“The variety of lectures and lecturers showed me the diversity of the subject.”
Insight into Bristol student

English

This stream is suitable for students studying English Literature or combined English Literature and Language at A-level*.

The University’s Department of English is committed to making literary studies rewarding for all. Staff research areas in the English department cover literature, poetry and drama from the middle ages to the contemporary period, using many perspectives and literary theories.

The English stream is designed to broaden your literary, critical, historical and intellectual horizons, providing an opportunity for you to take your interest in the subject in new directions.

We will look at texts in a wide range of forms and from many different periods, reading, analysing and discussing them together. In the process, we will consider what literature is and how we should study it, how to make sense of puzzling texts and how to improve the way you plan, structure and write essays.

“The way the lectures were arranged gave me an insight into university life.”
Insight into Bristol student

*Or an equivalent qualification. For information about accepted qualifications, visit bristol.ac.uk/study/undergraduate/entry-requirements-qualifications.
**Geography**

This stream is suitable for students studying most combinations of A-levels*.

The Geography stream offers you an exciting opportunity to study both human and physical geography. Geography is a fast-moving, exciting subject focusing on current social and environmental problems. The programme will include talks and activities associated with climate change, geopolitics, historical and cultural geographies, hydrology and spatial modelling.

The School of Geographical Sciences is consistently ranked highly for its teaching and research and you will have access to the school’s outstanding facilities. Our academic staff will teach you about some of the latest developments in the field.

You do not need to be studying geography to attend, but those who do may find the content beneficial to their A-level Geography studies.

*Or an equivalent qualification. For information about accepted qualifications, visit bristol.ac.uk/study/undergraduate/entry-requirements-qualifications.

‘I learnt about what the subject I wish to study entails and how life at university feels, especially at Bristol.’

Insight into Bristol student

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**History**

This stream is suitable for students studying any A-level* subjects.

The History stream will give you a taste of two different university degree courses with a historical dimension: History and History of Art.

The Department of History is recognised for its innovative work in areas such as medieval Europe, modern China, the histories of colonialism and empire, the Holocaust and environmental history.

The Department of History of Art has interests ranging from medieval and Renaissance art to modernism, covering topics from Giotto to Picasso, from the visual culture of sport to the relationships between art, music and text.

The sessions will introduce you to the ways in which history and art history are studied at university by focusing on some detailed ideas and concepts in each area. They will provide an opportunity for you to encounter different ways of studying historical events, and of exploring art and literature produced in the recent and more distant past. This stream will suit you if you have an interest in the past and want to find out more about taking these subjects at degree level. You do not need to have studied any of these subjects already, but the sessions are also designed to give you a fresh insight into your A-level studies.

*Or an equivalent qualification. For information about accepted qualifications, visit bristol.ac.uk/study/undergraduate/entry-requirements-qualifications.

‘The academic sessions were fun, because they were very hands-on and didn’t feel like a lesson.’

Insight into Bristol student
Law

This stream is suitable for students studying any A-level* subjects.

Law is a major part of our everyday lives. Buying lunch, applying for a job, working for an employer, claiming benefit, driving a car, taking an exam, living in a property – all these things are governed by law. Law also plays a role in things that are more remote from most of us: war, international trade, companies, banks, immigration, the environment, science, medicine and the armed forces. This makes law a fascinating subject to study with lots of different areas to investigate once the basic skills and knowledge have been learned.

Studying law can be a good basis for a range of careers, including journalism, the civil service, accountancy and business, as well as for working in the legal profession.

Students on this stream will learn about different areas of law. Topics may include end of life issues, medical law, international law, human rights law, family law, evidence law, criminal justice and IT law. You will be taught in small groups of fewer than ten students and in larger lecture style sessions, so you can get an idea of the different types of teaching and learning at university.

*Or an equivalent qualification. For information about accepted qualifications, visit bristol.ac.uk/study/undergraduate/entry-requirements-qualifications.

‘I found the lectures very useful as I was able to understand the subject of law more clearly.’

Insight into Bristol student

Mathematics

This stream is suitable for students studying Mathematics at A-level*.

Some of the content will be found on the Further Maths syllabus or even outside the A-level framework. What matters is your ability to address new ideas quickly, rather than any first-hand experience of the content.

Mathematics is the key to the sciences. It provides many of the tools used in research and management as well as being a powerful means of communicating ideas and solving problems.

This stream will offer you an opportunity to develop the skills we look for in mathematics applicants, and also to see how the subject develops as you progress from A-level to university.

Lectures will cover areas of general mathematical interest. There will also be considerable student activity. We will cover specific topics such as proof, group theory and cryptography as well as styles of questions such as STEP and MAT.

You will come away with an overview of what mathematics is like at university level, an understanding of how it differs from other STEM subjects, and knowledge of how to enhance your UCAS application. You will also gain a brief insight into the study of engineering mathematics at Bristol.

*Or an equivalent qualification. For information about accepted qualifications, visit bristol.ac.uk/study/undergraduate/entry-requirements-qualifications.

‘The lectures made clear what a usual day at university would be like. I really enjoyed socialising, and the lectures where we had to think in ways we haven’t before, which is a useful technique for my A-levels.’

Insight into Bristol student
**Medicine**

This stream is suitable for students studying Chemistry and another lab-based science at A-level*.

Students will also need a grade C or above in GCSE English (Literature or Language) and an A in GCSE Maths*.

The Medicine subject stream will consist of a wide variety of activities designed to prepare you for study on our medicine programmes. You will have the opportunity to take part in academic taster sessions in medicine, delivered by our leading academics and current medical students.

The programme will also give you the chance to take part in work experience placements and meet health professionals with whom you may be working and studying in the future. We will spend time in hospital and other clinical environments, where you will meet patients and colleagues and gain an insight into your possible future professional life as well as the skills and qualities you will require.

It will be a week-long taster of life as a medical student in both a university and hospital setting and will give you lots to write about in your personal statement.

*I found the sessions the most useful, especially the anatomy session as I felt like I learnt the most about the human body as well as other organisms.*  
Insight into Bristol student

**Psychology**

This stream is suitable for students studying at least one science at A-level* (this can include Psychology or Geography).

Bristol’s Psychology department is one of the most innovative and exciting in the country. Psychology encompasses a range of disciplines that share an interest in understanding how humans and other animals interpret and respond to their mental and physical world, drawing on medical, biological and social sciences, engineering, computer science and philosophy.

The applications of psychology range from understanding mental and physical health problems to developing artificial intelligence, from unlocking the power of memory to planning marketing campaigns. Students on this stream will experience first-hand what this engaging subject entails.

You will work with scientists at the cutting edge of their fields and develop valuable psychological research skills. Studying psychology at university is possible even if you haven’t studied it before. It is a broad subject that benefits from individuals who can bring a fresh, alternative perspective to a problem.

*I found the sessions the most useful, especially the anatomy session as I felt like I learnt the most about the human body as well as other organisms.*  
Insight into Bristol student

*Or an equivalent qualification. For information about accepted qualifications, visit bristol.ac.uk/study/undergraduate/entry-requirements-qualifications.*
Veterinary Sciences

This stream is suitable for students who are studying Chemistry and another lab-based science at A-level*.

Students will also need a grade C or above in GCSE English Literature or Language and a C in GCSE Maths.

The Veterinary Sciences subject stream will consist of a wide variety of activities designed to give you an insight into our veterinary-related programmes and prepare you for study at degree level. You will have the opportunity to take part in taster sessions delivered and supported by a variety of Bristol Vet School staff and students.

You will spend time in first-opinion practices, referral hospitals and on-site facilities both in Bristol and at our vet school in Langford, where you will meet patients and colleagues. You will also have the chance to meet veterinary professionals and current students. If you are interested in pursuing a career within the veterinary field this stream is the perfect opportunity to find out more.

*Or an equivalent qualification. For information about accepted qualifications, visit bristol.ac.uk/study/undergraduate/entry-requirements-qualifications.

‘Not only have I gained confidence through Insight into Bristol, but I have also gained friends for life.’

Insight into Bristol student

‘The whole experience taught me a lot, not only about Bristol but also about myself as an individual. The new experience of independence really boosted my confidence and reduced my former anxiety.’

Insight into Bristol student