Wednesday 20 November 2019
Speak with academics, visit our campus and discover where your postgraduate journey could lead.

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For up-to-date information visit bristol.ac.uk/pg-study

I chose Bristol because it is a renowned university in a beautiful city! There are loads of things to do both on campus and in the area. It is also known for great student support and an exciting array of social activities and societies.

Miren (MA Comparative Literatures and Cultures)
Our university

The University of Bristol is internationally renowned and is one of the very best higher education institutions in the UK, thanks to its outstanding staff, superb facilities and talented students.

The University has a reputation for innovation since it was founded in 1909. It was the first institute of higher education in the country to admit women on an equal basis with men, and in 1946 established the UK’s first university drama department. More recently, the University has influenced many aspects of society through cutting-edge research in areas as diverse as infection and immunity, human rights, climate change, and cryptography and information security.

Staff at Bristol are experts in their fields and work at the forefront of their academic disciplines – which means that their students do, too. Our academic excellence is also reflected in the 13 Nobel laureates who have been associated with the University community, including our current Chancellor, Sir Paul Nurse.

We attract students from all over the world, creating a rich and exciting international community. We aim to equip our students with the knowledge and skills to succeed in their career in a competitive global market. You will work in a supportive environment that will challenge and stretch you, right in the heart of one of the most beautiful and vibrant cities in Europe.

As a member of the Russell Group, Bristol is one of the UK’s leading research universities. The University is rated in the top 10 in the UK1 and is a top five UK university for research2.

1 QS World University Rankings 2020.

‘A postgraduate degree from Bristol will prepare you for the next steps in your career or further study. In addition to equipping you with subject-specific skills, our curriculum will provide opportunities to acquire the knowledge, understanding and transferable skills that help you fulfil your potential and meet the challenges of a diverse and ever-changing world.

I very much hope that I shall have the pleasure of welcoming you to the University of Bristol in the near future.’

Professor Hugh Brady Vice-Chancellor and President
Life in Bristol

Bristol has a distinctive blend of historic charm and dynamic, creative energy. Lively yet laid back, exciting but accessible. Bristol is made for student life and beyond.

Independent spirit
From the longest chain of independent shops in Europe to our own community currency, Bristol is proud to be an independent city. A place like no other; even the houses are colourful. Bristol is the kind of place where you can shut off a main street to install a public water slide, watch a magic show while you eat dinner, and go to year-round festivals that celebrate everything from street art to sea shanties.

The sound of Bristol
Bristol is famous for its diverse music scene and the city boasts both intimate, friendly rock clubs and world-class orchestral concert halls. Bristol’s wealth of small venues means there’s plenty of opportunity to catch bands on the rise. Check out Thekla, a former cargo ship turned indie venue, or the 140-capacity, family-run Louisiana, whose small stage hosted the Strokes, Coldplay and Muse before they were big. Bristol’s clubbing scene has it all too, from huge venues to sleek hip-hop basement bars.
Café culture
Wherever you go in Bristol, you won’t be far from a cozy independent café (or three). Bring your books for a working lunch, enjoy the view from a scenic roof terrace, or spend a lazy Sunday playing board games. There’s an abundance of good eateries, too. In the city centre, award-winning restaurants rub shoulders with the stalls of St Nicholas Market, where you’ll find an abundant choice of global food in all its variety.

Lights, camera, action
As a UNESCO City of Film, Bristol is a hub for film studios, producers and documentarians creating ground-breaking work such as Planet Earth from the BBC’s Natural History Unit. It’s also a popular filming location, with many memorable scenes from Sherlock and Skins shot on our streets. Bristol is also the birthplace of Wallace and Gromit, with Aardman reaching an international audience through stop-motion animation, apps and games.

Brand names and boutiques
Bristol’s central shopping area, Cabot Circus, is packed with big-name department stores and famous high-street brands. If you’re looking for something a bit different, there are hundreds of distinctive independent shops close to the University in Clifton Village, Park Street and Gloucester Road, which is home to the largest number of independent traders in the UK.

Festival fun
Indoors and out, Bristol’s festivals celebrate everything from comedy to cinema and boats to balloons. In the summer, Bristol Harbour Festival and the International Balloon Fiesta are highlights, while the Simple Things festival brings adventurous new sounds every autumn. Bristol is a capital of urban art with Upfest, Europe’s largest street art festival, colouring our streets every summer. As you walk around town, you never know what shop shutter or alleyway may have become an open-air art gallery overnight.

Stay connected
Bristol’s modern economy is built on creative media, technology, electronics and aerospace engineering industries. With a wealth of diverse sectors and a growing reputation for entrepreneurship, many of our graduates choose to stay in Bristol to build their career.

A city for life
When you experience the quality of life Bristol has to offer – the perfect mix of urban bustle and rural tranquillity – you will be pleased that you chose to come here. Its maritime and industrial heritage combines with a forward-thinking creative and digital economy. Small enough to remain independent and friendly, large enough to be vibrant and diverse, Bristol is a beautiful and exciting city to explore.
Bristol’s Harbourside bustles with lively bars, restaurants, museums and attractions, and is a focal point for festivals and markets all year round.

15 minutes

The landmark ss Great Britain is a symbol of Bristol’s maritime heritage. Nearby, Wapping Wharf offers one of the city’s newest locations for independent shops and creative cuisine, housed in converted shipping containers.

30 minutes

The impressive Wills Memorial Building at the top of Park Street marks the entrance to our campus.

5 minutes

Our main campus lines the leafy streets of Clifton and includes libraries and study spaces, our newly renovated Indoor Sports Centre and the award-winning Royal Fort Gardens.

Approximate walking times from Tyndall Avenue on the Clifton campus.

Langford campus

Bristol Veterinary School is located on the edge of the Mendip Hills in the village of Langford, 14 miles south of Bristol.

20 minutes

Cabot Tower sits at the summit of Brandon Hill. There are great views from the top overlooking this green haven.

10 minutes

The landscaped Great Britain is a symbol of Bristol’s maritime heritage. Wapping Wharf offers one of the city’s newest locations for independent shops and creative cuisine, housed in converted shipping containers.

30 minutes

Clifton Suspension Bridge and is on the edge of the wide green expanse known as The Downs.

20 minutes

Temple Quarter Enterprise Campus

Work is due to begin on our new Temple Quarter campus in 2019. The campus will help to transform a neglected area of the city within one of Europe’s biggest urban regeneration programmes.

University of Bristol Clifton campus

Our main campus lines the leafy streets of Clifton and includes libraries and study spaces, our newly renovated Indoor Sports Centre and the award-winning Royal Fort Gardens.

WELCOME TO BRISTOL...
A taught postgraduate degree gives you the opportunity to expand on your undergraduate interests or branch out into a completely different field. It can help you specialise in a particular area, leading to further study at doctorate level, while many choose to study for a taught postgraduate qualification as a way of improving career prospects.

What we offer

Most taught programmes at Bristol lead to a master’s qualification (eg MA, MSc, MRes, MEd, LLM), which combines taught units with a research project. These programmes typically last one year full-time or two years part-time. In some subject areas, you will be able to study for a shorter postgraduate diploma or certificate. Several of our programmes provide flexible unit choices within the curriculum, opening up a range of topics and giving you a broad view of your subject.

A stimulating environment

With 4,800 taught postgraduate students from more than 100 countries, Bristol offers you a vibrant atmosphere in which to learn, build networks and discover your full potential. Our success in the Research Excellence Framework demonstrates the quality of cutting-edge research at Bristol, meaning our teaching staff can share knowledge and experience from the forefront of their subject areas.

Professional development

Many of our taught programmes are designed for experienced professionals to support career development. These programmes often provide flexible part-time study options, which means you can gain a qualification while continuing in full-time employment.

Global opportunities

Some of our postgraduate taught programmes allow you to broaden your horizons by taking part in field trips or research study overseas, while our diverse community will help you connect with students from across the world.

Making your choice

You will find descriptions of all our taught postgraduate programmes, grouped by subject area, in the second half of this prospectus. If you would like to explore your options in greater depth, visit our online programme catalogue for a detailed summary of all programmes and units we offer, including topics covered, assessment methods and reading lists. Go to bristol.ac.uk/unit-programme-catalogue.
Postgraduate research

As part of the Russell Group, Bristol is proud to be one of the UK’s leading universities, with an established record of producing groundbreaking research that makes an impact on society at local, national and international levels.

Our research degree pathways

There are a number of different types of postgraduate research degree on offer at Bristol. Besides the traditional PhD and research master’s degrees, the University offers a growing number of professional and extended doctoral programmes. For more information, please visit bristol.ac.uk/doctoral-college/prospective-research-students/types.

Master’s degrees by research (MMus, MPhil or MScR)

A master’s by research includes a structured research project allowing you to explore research themes through critical analysis and in-depth study. These programmes can be a valuable foundation for starting a PhD.

Doctor of Philosophy (PhD)

This is the most common qualification gained by a research student, normally representing three to four years of full-time study depending on the discipline. A PhD is awarded for the outcomes of advanced study, written up as an 80,000-word thesis, which demonstrates an original and significant contribution to knowledge in your chosen field.

Professional doctorates (EdD, EngD, DEPhy, MD, DDS)

These qualifications are typically suited to professional practitioners already qualified to an advanced level in their area of specialism, who wish to deepen and challenge their understanding. They include English programmes designed to suit industry needs, where research engineers spend about 75 per cent of their time working in a company on collaborative research projects.

Funded cohort-based doctoral training

As a leading research-intensive university, Bristol receives funding for doctoral education from a wide range of sources and has one of the largest concentrations of funded doctoral training partnerships and centres in the UK. These often offer full scholarships for three to four years. Many are run in collaboration with other universities or global companies, opening up access to a wealth of resources. For further information, see pp16-17.

International research collaborations and cotutelle (dual award) PhD

Bristol offers a number of dual award PhD opportunities for doctoral students. A cotutelle (or dual award) PhD is one which leads to separate, but linked, awards from two partner institutions within a co-supervised research degree programme. These opportunities provide an enhanced training experience that gives access to a wide range of academic expertise, research facilities and international networks.

Candidates are registered at the two universities for the full period of their study; write one thesis that is examined independently by each institution, and spend approximately 50 per cent of their programme at each location.

Bristol partnerships include universities in Australia, South America, Europe and South Africa and students are recruited to specific research projects. For more information, visit bristol.ac.uk/doctoral-college/partnerships.

Distance learning

Several of our schools offer the opportunity for you to complete your research degree via distance learning. Supervisors can be contacted by video link, telephone or email, while scheduled visits to the University provide opportunities for face-to-face contact.

Most of the library’s electronic resources – including journal archives, e-books and library catalogues – are available to use both on site and remotely. Please check the Bristol Doctoral College website for a list of degree programmes available by distance learning.

Graduate Teaching Assistant scholarship programme

The opportunity to complete your research degree as a Graduate Teaching Assistant is offered by several of our schools. This type of scholarship includes a well-structured and supported teaching component, meaning that you will be teaching undergraduate students as well as carrying out your own research. If you are interested, please contact the relevant school to explore your options.

Self-funded research and supervisor search

If you are self-funding your research journey, one of the first stages is to identify the academic supervisor you want to work with on your research project. Our website gives you the opportunity to find a PhD programme by searching the research interests of your potential supervisor. Go to bristol.ac.uk/pg-study to explore your options.
Bristol has one of the largest concentrations of funding, opportunities and support for doctoral research and training in the UK higher education sector.

There are more than 30 cohort-based doctoral training centres and partnerships, over 250 PhD studentships each year across the whole spectrum of Bristol research. This format of doctoral training provides a supportive and exciting environment for doctoral researchers, helping you create new working cultures and research networks, build relationships between teams in universities, and forge lasting links with industry or related organisations and professions.

Many of these studentships are nationally funded, with support from UK Research and Innovation and other major funders, including the Wellcome Trust and the British Heart Foundation, among others. This investment funding, coupled with our top-five position in the most recent UK-wide Research Excellence Framework*, means we can offer numerous opportunities for funded, world-class PhD research.

The studentships will often cover tuition fees and living costs for successful candidates. Some doctoral programmes are delivered in collaboration with other universities and research organisations, or with regional and global companies, giving doctoral students access to a wealth of resources and opportunities.

Centres for Doctoral Training (CDTs)
In 2019, the University was awarded over £50 million by the Engineering and Physical Sciences Research Council for nine new centres for doctoral training. In addition, Bristol is part of two collaborative CDTs, which are led by university partners.

These new centres for doctoral training focus on research: artificial intelligence; aerosol science; computational statistics and data science; composites engineering and manufacturing; cyber security; future autonomous robotic systems; quantum engineering; technology enhanced chemical synthesis; and future innovations in non-destructive evaluation. Each CDT draws on an community of more than 30 academic supervisors in Bristol, extensive links with international universities and a network of industrial relationships, with opportunities for sponsorship and enhanced experience for doctoral researchers.

Doctoral Training Partnerships
Doctoral Training Partnerships (DTPs) are funded by the other UK research councils and typically span several universities. In 2016, the Medical Research Council awarded £4.6 million to launch the GW4 BioMed Doctoral Training Partnership (DTP), bringing together the Universities of Bath, Bristol, Cardiff and Exeter to develop the next generation of biomedical researchers.

The South West and Wales Doctoral Training Partnership is funded by the Arts and Humanities Research Council. This DTP represents a collaboration with eight other universities and draws on the resources and expertise of non-academic partners such as Aardman Animations, Arts Council South West, Cornish Museum Partnerships and Historic England. The Natural Environment Research Council (NERC) funds the NERc Great Western Four+ Doctoral Training Partnership. This DTP is designed to train tomorrow’s research leaders in earth and environmental sciences. It brings together the four GW4 universities (Bath, Bristol, Cardiff and Exeter) and six research organisations with 24 associate partner organisations representing the full range of employers of NERC science PhD graduates.

The South West Biosciences Doctoral Training Partnership is one of 12 DTPs funded by the Biotechnology and Biological Sciences Research Council to provide PhD training across the UK in areas of strategic relevance. It provides training in two priority areas: Agriculture and Food Security, and World-class Underpinning Bioscience.

More information about all these options and more can be found at bristol.ac.uk/pg-study.

*Times Higher Education analysis of Research Excellence Framework 2014
We aim to create the best available teaching and learning environment, giving you the support and resources you need to achieve your academic ambitions.

With a new campus being developed at the heart of our buzzing city, adding to our state-of-the-art facilities and internationally renowned research environment, it’s an exciting time to become a University of Bristol student.

There are eight libraries on the Clifton campus and one at the Bristol Veterinary School at Langford, along with three managed study centres. We have over 1.4 million books and journals in our collections of print materials. Special Collections gives researchers access to archival and rare book collections. We also provide online access to hundreds of thousands of academic journals, giving you the flexibility to work where and when you want.

As a world-class research institution, Bristol offers outstanding facilities, such as the Life Sciences Building, which features a five-storey laboratory wing, a state-of-the-art greenhouse and one of the largest teaching labs in the UK. The Faculty of Engineering has invested more than £19 million in new facilities to support hands-on learning.

A programme of major redevelopment at our main Clifton campus began in 2018. Designed in consultation with students, the project will transform the centre of our campus into a vibrant hub for the University and city community.

As well as our newly refurbished sports centre, the development includes a new Arts and Social Sciences Library and a multi-purpose student hub, housing a Student Information Service, food court and SU bar, it will offer creative learning spaces, student support and a welcoming place to belong.

Work is also underway on the Temple Quarter Enterprise Campus, our new campus in the centre of the city, which will focus on teaching and research in digital technologies.

Our Clifton campus is at the heart of historic Bristol, while the Veterinary School lies 14 miles south-west of the city on the edge of the Mendip hills. Given such picturesque surroundings, along with the University’s striking mix of contemporary and heritage architecture, it is no wonder we were named one of the 10 most beautiful universities in the UK (Times Higher Education, 2018).

Join our vibrant community of 7,000 postgraduate students who were enrolled at the University during 2018-19.

bristol.ac.uk/pg-study
The Bristol Doctoral College grows, develops and supports our community of postgraduate researchers across all research programmes at the University of Bristol.

We work with schools and faculties to ensure that the environment in which you carry out your research is supportive, that there are multiple opportunities for professional and personal development, and that you are well prepared for the next stage in your career.

To support our research community, we:

- co-ordinate a number of PhD scholarship schemes, such as the China Scholarship Council/University of Bristol joint scholarship scheme and the cotutelle (dual award) PhD research programme;
- work with our extensive network of doctoral training centres to attract the best research students to Bristol;
- develop a suite of PhD programmes with global partner universities that allow students to carry out research with both partner institutions;
- extend the opportunities for you to gain experience and conduct research in collaboration with external organisations;
- celebrate the achievements and contributions of our students in multidisciplinary research excellence;
- welcome new research students into our Bristol community at inauguration ceremonies.

Enhancing a highly skilled community of researchers

Our team of dedicated staff supports a thinking and innovative interdisciplinary community of researchers. We provide a co-ordinated, University-wide approach to doctoral training and researcher development. Our comprehensive programme of personal and professional development activities helps ensure that doctoral researchers excel in their studies. This programme was commended by the UK Quality Assurance Audit for Higher Education in 2016.

Supporting your research journey

PGR Hub

The PGR Hub is a new space dedicated to researcher development and wellbeing. It helps you to connect with fellow research students from other parts of the University for training workshops, research collaboration or to meet socially.

Events and activities

We organise a wide range of training sessions, collaborative events, interactive workshops and engagement opportunities, specifically designed for doctoral researchers. Our annual Research without Borders festival of postgraduate research enables doctoral students to showcase their research to the public, industry professionals and academic peers.

Stay informed

The fortnightly BDC Bulletin keeps the postgraduate research community up to date with the latest news and opportunities across the University and beyond. For more information about Bristol Doctoral College, visit bristol.ac.uk/doctoral-college.

‘I chose to study at Bristol because it is one of the best universities in the UK, while the city is a marvellous place to live in. There’s a variety of fields to study and this can produce innovative ideas in disciplines related to industry.’

Saber (PhD Mechanical Engineering)
Our researchers share ideas and expertise to tackle global challenges, help solve practical problems and mentor future generations.

How the zebra got its stripes
Many theories have been proposed for the origin of the zebra’s two-tone coat, including avoiding predators, better heat regulation and a social function. Researchers from the University of Bristol have found evidence that the primary purpose of zebra stripes is to avoid blood-sucking parasites. They observed that the pattern appeared to confuse horse flies when the flies came close to land on the zebra.

Better biofuel production
Biofuels represent an innovative, renewable source of energy that could help provide a sustainable solution to global power needs and reduce carbon dioxide emissions. Researchers at the Bristol BioDesign Institute have used synthetic biology to engineer the production and organisation of synthetic protein molecules within living bacterial cells to boost the cellular production of ethanol – an important biofuel – by over 200 per cent.

Safer seas
Thanks to a maritime security toolkit developed at the University of Bristol and Cardiff University, international policy makers, coastguards, navies and shipping companies can now access comprehensive advice and guidance on making the world’s oceans safe from piracy and smuggling. Focusing on the Western Indian Ocean as a case study, the toolkit was endorsed at its launch by the UN Secretary General’s Special Representative for the Oceans.

Smart insulins to beat diabetes
Approximately 382 million people worldwide have diabetes, a metabolic disorder that affects blood glucose levels. The condition must be carefully controlled, which in many cases is by using the hormone insulin. Years of research by scientists in the University of Bristol’s School of Chemistry have brought us closer to the world’s first synthetic glucose-responsive insulin, which could transform diabetes treatment by making it safer and easier for patients. Ziylo, the University spin-out company developing this technology, was recently bought by global healthcare company Novo Nordisk in a deal that could be worth around $800 million.

Disappearing glaciers and food security
Holding the third largest volume of fresh water on the planet, Himalayan glaciers are a vital source of water for irrigation, sanitation and drinking water across large parts of South Asia. Glaciers are under threat from climate warming, but we don’t fully understand the potential impact on food production. The University of Bristol is contributing to a groundbreaking collaboration involving glaciologists, hydrologists, environmental historians and social and political scientists. They are studying rivers, communities, local water policies and responses to past floods and droughts in Nepal to identify the communities that are most at risk from water shortages and help them prepare for a future with less water.

Research sheds new light on prehistory of Dravidian languages and their speakers
Linguistic analyses by researchers at the University of Bristol and the Max Planck Institute for the Science of Human History have shed new light on the prehistory of the Dravidian languages, which are spoken by 220 million people across South Asia. The research, which used advanced statistical methods to make a detailed investigation of the historical relationships of 20 Dravidian varieties, shows that these languages, of which there are around 80 varieties, date back to about 4,500 years ago.
We welcome students from all over the world, and Bristol’s vibrant, multicultural community helps to create a friendly and safe environment in which to live and study. Together with our international outlook and the worldwide impact of our research, this is what makes Bristol a truly global university.

Our international community
Our students and staff come from over 120 countries, producing a dynamic space for learning that benefits us all. Our Students’ Union societies will help you to meet other students and feel at home. Among them are more than 50 different cultural organisations that build links between students from countries across Asia, Europe, Africa and North and South America.

You will find Bristol to be a forward-looking, dynamic and innovative city. It has an international and diverse population, with 91 languages spoken and 187 countries of birth represented.

A personal welcome
Our International Recruitment team is here to help advise you on our range of programmes, entry requirements and scholarships. Throughout the year, our team travels the world to meet prospective students and answer your queries. Details of where we are visiting can be found at bristol.ac.uk/international/countries/visits.html. During arrivals weekend, we provide a meet-and-greet service at Heathrow and Bristol Airports. On arrival at the University, the International Welcome Lounge is a place where you can relax and get to know your fellow students, and where advisers are on hand to answer your questions. The Student Visa Services team can support you, from the moment you accept an offer of a place right through to graduation, in securing and ensuring you comply with your UK student visa. For advice and information, please visit bristol.ac.uk/directory/visas.

English language requirements
If your first language is not English, you will need to reach a suitable standard in an approved English language test; visit bristol.ac.uk/pg-language-requirements. Our Centre for English Language and Foundation Studies offers intensive courses to help you improve your language skills, both in preparation for and during your studies.

Working in partnership
Bristol benefits from research and teaching partnerships with universities across the world. We are part of the Russell Group of research-intensive UK universities, the Worldwide Universities Network, the Association of Commonwealth Universities, and the Coimbra group. We will continue to improve our strong record of international collaboration across our teaching and research, including the development of dual PhD awards.

Moreover, our research has far-reaching global impact. For example, a three-year Cabot Institute project is developing effective low-cost solutions that will improve the earthquake resilience of buildings and infrastructure in East Africa.

Meanwhile, a landmark University of Bristol study into the eye disease uveitis, which affects thousands of children every year, has enabled worldwide access to new, sight-saving medication. This is an internationally important medical intervention and the results of the study were published in the world’s highest-rated medical journal, the New England Journal of Medicine.

Global perspectives
Throughout the year, our team travels the world to meet prospective students and answer your queries. Details of where we are visiting can be found at bristol.ac.uk/international/countries/visits.html.
Bristol SU, our Students’ Union, exists to help all students have the best possible time while they are at Bristol.

Led by students, Bristol SU is central to the University experience and support all aspects of student life:

- Representing students’ views to the University through elected student officers and course reps;
- Supporting student development through more than 350 sports clubs and societies, whether your interests are skydiving or anime, baking or football;
- Providing a buzzing social hub for students, in the Richmond Building and beyond – everything from club nights to debates and conferences;
- Providing quality services, such as our lettings agency and our Just Ask advice service.

Whatever your need, the SU can help. If it isn’t currently providing what you need it to, you are invited to speak to the SU, which will try to make it happen.

The Richmond Building
The Richmond Building is home to Bristol SU and offers extensive facilities, including the Balloon Bar, two theatres, a pottery studio, music practice rooms, a radio studio, dance studios and a 52-metre swimming pool. It also houses one of the city’s biggest gig venues, the Anson Rooms, which has hosted big-name acts including Radiohead, David Bowie and Ed Sheeran.

Bristol SU Postgraduate Network
All postgraduates (both research and taught) automatically become members of Bristol SU Postgraduate Network, a student-led initiative that seeks to develop an active, strong and vibrant postgraduate community at Bristol. The Postgraduate Network provides a real chance for students to build Bristol postgraduate community life together. It is cohesive and supportive, which inspires postgraduate students from across our faculties to meet up at social events and provides a platform for you to influence the decisions and priorities of both the SU and the University. You may also decide to stand for one of the elected representative roles to help shape the postgraduate experience for you and your peers.

@Bristol_SU
bristolsu
bristolsu.org.uk

What I like about the University is the multicultural exchange you experience on a daily basis, as well as the number of extracurricular activities and societies that encourage you to share with people from all over the world and learn from them.

Cecilia
MSc Advanced Microelectronic Systems Engineering

bristolsu.org.uk
Whether you are looking to offer your time to help a charity, bring sport to the local community or try a new activity while keeping fit with friends, you’ll find something at Bristol that matches your interests, abilities and experience.

Staying active
We know how important sport and activity are in improving your physical and mental wellbeing, and our excellent sports and fitness facilities will help you keep fit and healthy in a welcoming and inclusive environment. Our memberships offer great value for money, giving you subsidised, low-cost or even free access to the University’s extensive sports facilities and activity programmes. These include:

Active:
- the Indoor Sports Centre on the Clifton campus, which recently underwent a £4.9 million refurbishment and features a state-of-the-art gym, TRX rig, studios and sports hall;
- a 33-metre swimming pool in the Richmond Building;
- outdoor sports facilities at Coombe Dingle Sports Complex, featuring 3G, artificial and grass pitches for a range of sports, indoor and outdoor tennis courts and a fully equipped strength and conditioning suite;
- the University boathouse at Saltford on the River Avon;
- on-site gyms at Langford Veterinary School;
- free and low-cost social sport and exercise classes from the B:Active Campus and Residences programmes.

Healthy:
- the Healthy Minds programme supports students experiencing mental health difficulties to improve the way they feel through physical activity and sport;
- the Sports Medicine Clinic’s highly experienced clinicians are experts in meeting your needs, providing assessment, treatment and rehabilitation.

Join a team
Bristol SU has more than 70 sports clubs and sporting societies, ranging from cycling to Ultimate Frisbee, and from netball to snow sports. This means plenty of opportunities to play sport – at university representative level, in the intramural social leagues or just for fun.

Performance Sport
Our Performance Sport programme supports and develops talented student athletes so that they can combine a sporting career with academic study at the University. Members of the Performance Squad develop a personal action plan, supported by experienced coaches, and can access strength and conditioning training, nutrition advice, physiotherapy and sports psychology services. The squad’s alumni includes Olympians, Commonwealth medallists and world champions.

Coaching, leadership and volunteering
Volunteering is a great way to build confidence, develop your skills and make the most of your university experience. It is easy to get involved and there are dozens of opportunities – both student-led projects and links to charities and community groups across Bristol and beyond. Bristol SU Volunteering has been awarded the Queen’s Award for Voluntary Service, the highest award given to local volunteer groups across the UK to recognise outstanding work in their communities.

In 2017, Bristol students were given an International Green Gown Award for their work alongside businesses and voluntary organisations to improve the environment. In total, students gave over 140,000 hours of their time to sustainability projects, such as teaching in primary schools or volunteering with wildlife conservation groups.

The Game Changers programme provides the opportunity to develop leadership skills through sport, accessing training and personal development and engaging in volunteering experiences in the community. You will also have the chance to gain recognised qualifications to coach or officiate sport.

Take part
Eight Bristol alumni competed at the 2016 Olympic Games, including gold medallists Georgie Twigg and Hannah Mills.

bristol.ac.uk/pg-study
Accommodation

Our Accommodation Office can advise you on both University and private accommodation throughout your time at Bristol.

We offer an advice service for students with specific housing needs, such as students with disabilities and those with young families. Details of all our services, including full details of our own postgraduate residences, can be found at bristol.ac.uk/accommodation.

Accommodation options

University-allocated accommodation
The University has around 2,300 self-catered postgraduate rooms available, located within walking distance of the University. If you are accompanied by a partner or family, you can apply for one of a small number of University-allocated couple and family flats. The application process starts in May and offers will be emailed from July; please check our website for further information.

Private rented accommodation
The Accommodation Office provides information and guidance about renting privately and can point you to websites where landlords and students advertise for tenants. We also run a residential house search event in August, giving you the opportunity to meet other postgraduates and to look for private rented accommodation as an individual or with other students as a group.

Accommodation guarantee
We guarantee to offer you University-allocated accommodation for one year provided that you:
- are paying fees at the overseas rate;
- apply by the given deadline;
- are unaccompanied;
- have accepted an offer of a place of study;
- are a new, full-time student in your first year of study at the University of Bristol;
- will be starting your studies in September and will be here for a full academic year.

Please be aware that the guarantee does not apply to students who pay fees at the UK/EU rate. However, you may still be able to apply for University-allocated accommodation even if you do not meet the criteria for a guaranteed offer. From August, we will email all non-guaranteed applicants with updates on the availability of University accommodation and information about alternative housing options.

Support you’ll receive
All postgraduate students living in University-allocated accommodation have the support of pastoral staff, who are available 24 hours a day, seven days a week. The team is trained to provide a wide range of expert help, including advice and practical guidance on wellbeing, community building and student development activities, and student support and mentoring. Building representatives are also on site. In case there’s an issue with damage to your room or flat or something needs to be repaired. For more information on this support available, visit bristol.ac.uk/study/postgraduate/student-life/wellbeing.

6th in the UK for graduate employability (QS Graduate Employability Rankings 2019)
We want you to get the most out of your time at the University of Bristol: to feel safe, supported and able to reach your full potential.

We make sure that our students, whether taught or research, have access to appropriate and practical support with a range of student services that are continuously reviewed and developed, making sure we offer the best support possible.

Support for wellbeing

We can support you in learning to manage your own wellbeing as well as putting you in touch with support services when you need them.

- **Academic support** – At the start of your programme, postgraduate taught students will be assigned a personal tutor with whom you can meet and discuss matters related to your studies, for the entirety of your degree. Personal tutors are supported by Senior Tutors who provide additional support for issues affecting academic work. Each postgraduate research student will have a main supervisor who is responsible for providing academic guidance. You will also have access to a wide range of online resources to support your studies: bristol.ac.uk/students/study.

- **Wellbeing Advisers** – These experienced and well-trained staff work with academic schools and faculties to help you to address any personal and emotional difficulties you may experience.

- **Residential Life** – For those who live in University accommodation, each of our Residential Villages has a pastoral team of full-time staff on hand to help. Our well-trained and experienced Residential Life teams encourage community building, provide pastoral care and are equipped to identify and support vulnerable students.

- **Your health** – the Students’ Health Service offers the full range of NHS GP services. It is run by a team of doctors, nurses and administrative staff with specific expertise in student issues.

- **Faith and spirituality** – the Multifaith Chaplaincy offers confidential pastoral and spiritual support, religious information and advice, regular events, and a welcoming space for people of all faiths and none.

Support for mental health

Recognising the challenges faced by an increasing number of people today, we developed our Student Mental Health and Wellbeing Strategy in partnership with our students. Their insight helps us provide the most useful student services during their time at University: bristol.ac.uk/university/media/strategies/student-mental-health-wellbeing-strategy.pdf.

Our Disability Services team provides specialist advice and study support for students with long-term health conditions including mental health difficulties, such as anxiety or depression: bristol.ac.uk/disability-services.

Our University-wide approach means that a range of services, online and in person, is available, and when you need them: bristol.ac.uk/students/wellbeing.

Support for students with children

Our subsidised day nursery is located on the Clifton campus. It can accommodate children from three months to five years old and is open weekdays throughout the year.

Welcoming international students

During arrivals weekend, we provide a meet-and-greet service at Heathrow and Bristol Airports. When you arrive at the University, you can relax and get to know your fellow students in the International Welcome Lounge, where advisers are on hand to answer questions.

PGR Hub

The PGR Hub is a space dedicated solely to postgraduate researcher needs, focusing primarily on development and wellbeing. Located at the heart of the campus, it hosts regular activities, groups, forums and workshops.

Supporting you at university

The infrastructure provided by the University and the support by staff members are unbelievable. Even though I am an international student, I feel like I am at home because of the people around me at university.

Tapan (MSc Marketing)
A postgraduate degree from Bristol is the start of an exciting career journey. Our postgraduates go on to become inspiring and influential leaders in a huge variety of fields.

Specialists from our Careers Service support postgraduates through expert knowledge, tailored events and strong links with leading employers. Postgraduates at Bristol have many opportunities to meet employers from industry, business, local start-ups and third sector organisations. The Careers Service runs discipline-specific careers fairs, which attract large multinational employers as well as small local firms. As a Bristol postgraduate you are strongly encouraged to build a professional network in your chosen career.

Get ahead
We understand that as a postgraduate, your career aspirations and ambitions may be different from those of an undergraduate. Specific postgraduate events, vacancies and resources will help you realise your ambitions, make well-informed career decisions, and learn how to articulate the skills you develop during your postgraduate degree. Creating an exceptional CV will be one of your starting points. Our expert Careers Service staff run talks for postgraduates on academic and non-academic CVs, as well as giving one-to-one CV and application feedback.

Industry-endorsed skills award
Discovering the range of opportunities open to you as a postgraduate should be fun and inspiring. Whether you’re attending a talk on options after your PhD or organising a conference, the Bristol PLUS Award offers a framework to help you structure your career planning and skills development. Visit bristol.ac.uk/careers/employable/plus-award to find out more.

Take some risks
Bristol postgraduates are fantastic problem solvers and we actively encourage the innovators and entrepreneurs of the future. As a city, Bristol has a reputation as a leading centre for creativity and technical innovation, and the Careers Service can support you to become part of this. We offer business masterclasses, workshops, start-up support, competitions and one-to-one enterprise consultations. We also provide access to the award-winning SETsquared Partnership, which has links with a team of consultants and external business advisers: bristol.ac.uk/careers/student-enterprise.

Personal and professional development
Our Personal and Professional Development (PPD) programme, co-ordinated by the Bristol Doctoral College, is open to all postgraduate researchers and has been designed to support you during the different stages of your research degree. We offer workshops and resources to help you become an effective researcher and develop the transferable skills that will be valuable for your research project and beyond.

bristol.ac.uk/pg-study
If you are considering a postgraduate degree, it’s a good idea to think about funding as soon as possible. We can provide advice about funding postgraduate study and details of the living expenses you will need to budget for while you’re here.

Postgraduate loans
Students from England can take out a government loan to help pay for their master’s programme. This scheme is administered by the Student Loans Company. As a guide, in 2019/20 students could borrow up to £10,906. Students from other parts of the UK could borrow other amounts, depending on the relevant government stipulations. Students from the EU may also qualify for a loan if they satisfy the UK government’s residency requirements. PhD students ordinarily resident in England can take out a government loan (up to £25,700 in 2019/20) towards the costs of their studies. For more details on these loans, please visit bristol.ac.uk/fees-funding/postgraduate.

University of Bristol alumni scholarship
If you are a University of Bristol student or graduate, you could benefit from a ten per cent reduction in your tuition fees for postgraduate study at Bristol. For full details and eligibility requirements, visit bristol.ac.uk/fees-funding/awards/alumni-discount.

Studentships
Studentships are vacancies attached to specific research projects or fields and include opportunities for dual PhDs (with co-funding provided by world-class international universities) and industrial collaborations (supported by leading business partners). Our available studentships are typically advertised on faculty web pages or www.jobs.ac.uk/employer/university-of-bristol/phil.

Scholarships and bursaries
The University offers a number of scholarships and awards to postgraduate research students. Some funding is programme-specific; you could also contact your prospective department to find out if it offers any other awards. Visit bristol.ac.uk/doctoral-college/prospective-research-students/funding.

Trusts and charities
The Alternative Guide to Postgraduate Funding (www.postgraduate-funding.com) provides contact information for a wide range of charities and organisations that offer small grants for postgraduate study. As a prospective student, you can access the guide for free. Email careers-service@bristol.ac.uk to request your PIN.

University of Bristol Financial Assistance Fund
The University’s own financial assistance funds provide discretionary additional support for UK students who, through no fault of their own, find themselves in financial difficulty. For further information visit bristol.ac.uk/fees-funding/awards/faf.

Cohort-based doctoral training
Bristol’s research-intensive profile and reputation has helped us to secure funding for more than 20 cohort-based doctoral research and training centres from most of the UK’s research councils, as well as from other funding bodies. PhD students within these cohorts gain a broad range of skills and knowledge that can be applied across a wide variety of careers within and outside of academia. See pp16-17 to find out more.

University of Bristol Financial Assistance Fund
The University’s own financial assistance funds provide discretionary additional support for UK students who, through no fault of their own, find themselves in financial difficulty. For further information visit bristol.ac.uk/fees-funding/awards/faq.
Begin your application
For most programmes, you will need to apply using our online application system. You are encouraged to apply early as places may fill before the deadline.

Make a research proposal
Check the admissions statement for your chosen programme to see if you are required to identify an area of research you are interested in.

Check your progress
For taught postgraduate programmes, we aim to make a decision on complete applications within 21 days. For research programmes, we aim to get in touch with you within five days. You can check the progress of your application using the online application system.

Submit your application
You should read the programme admissions statement thoroughly to ensure you have included all required documents. Some programmes may require an application fee.

Visit Bristol
Come to our annual postgraduate open day in November or book a tour of our campus.

Entry requirements can be found in the admissions statement for your chosen programme: bristol.ac.uk/study/postgraduate/admissions-statements. Application deadlines will be stated in the online programme finder; however, you should try to apply as early as possible because places are limited and programmes may fill up before the final application deadline. If you are applying for funding, check with your funding body for any additional deadlines.

What you need to provide
Whatever programme you are applying for, there are standard documents that you must provide with your application. Some of these are listed below. Please see the admissions statement for specific programme requirements.

• We usually require references to support your application. These should be from someone who oversaw your degree studies. In some cases we may request clinical or professional references. These must be written, signed and dated on headed paper from the referee’s organisation, and include the referee’s full contact details. They should be submitted by the referee using our online form.

• If you graduated more than two years ago, we may accept professional references to support your application. In this case it is advisable to include a CV with your application to show your employment history. You may submit additional references that are directly relevant to your chosen programme. You may also submit additional professional references from work or placements related to the subject you have applied for.

• You should submit interim official transcripts of marks, or final official degree certificates and final official transcripts of marks. University degree transcripts must show an overall current average or your final grade. Transcripts must be official certified documents from your university, showing all the grades for individual units or essays and exams throughout your degree. Diploma supplements (ie, Bologna degrees) should be included if applicable.

• You may need to meet our English language requirements and provide confirmation that you have reached the required level. You can use any of the accepted methods at bristol.ac.uk/study/language-requirements to meet these requirements.
Making a research proposal

If you are proposing your own area of research, you will need to submit a research proposal. You should find a suitable supervisor by searching bristol.ac.uk/pg-study and contact them to discuss your ideas before submitting your proposal.

A good research proposal includes information about the academic impact of your research, as well as the material or data you will need to access. It should also detail the skills and how you will manage your time at the University. Your proposal can be amended and refined as you develop your study with us.

Studentships, professional doctorates and Doctoral Training Centre applications

Many studentships (leading to cover research degree fees and/or living costs) are advertised on www.jobs.ac.uk/jobs/studentships. Professional doctorates and funded doctoral training programmes are explained on pp16 – 17. To apply for a studentship or professional doctorate, you should speak to the relevant supervisor or programme director before making your application online. To apply for one of the funded doctoral training programmes, please check bristol.ac.uk/doctoral-college/centres for further information.

Visas for international applicants

If you are from outside the EU/EEA, you may need to apply for a Tier 4 visa with sponsorship from the University. For information on visa criteria, visit the UK Visas and Immigration website (www.gov.uk/browse/visas-immigration/student-visas) and the University website (bristol.ac.uk/directory/visas). Some science and engineering programmes require an Academic Technology Approval Scheme certificate. For further information, visit www.gov.uk/academic-technology-approval-scheme.

Assessing your application

Your application will be processed by our admissions teams. You can use the online application system to keep track of your application, view our application decision and respond to any offers you are made. For taught postgraduate programmes, we aim to make a decision within 31 calendar days of receiving a completed application. Sometimes it can take longer to make a decision, especially around University closure periods. If we require further information from you, we will let you know.

For research postgraduate programmes, we aim to get in touch with you within five calendar days to confirm receipt of your application and to let you know when to expect a decision. Sometimes it can take longer to make a decision, especially around University closure periods. If we require further information from you, we will let you know. For more information on our admissions policies, please visit bristol.ac.uk/pg-study/postgraduate/after-you-apply/policies.

Applying Fees

Tuition fees are reviewed each year and will depend on your programme of study and fee status. We classify all students as UK, EU, overseas or Channel Islands and Isle of Man for fees purposes.

The amount you pay for tuition fees and the financial support on offer will depend on your classification. You can find further information and advice on fees classification at bristol.ac.uk/fees-status.

Tuition fees

Wherever possible, up-to-date fees are provided with each programme entry in this prospectus. Fees apply for each year of your programme and are subject to annual review, so are liable to rise each year. Please budget for up to a five per cent increase per year. The tuition fee itself covers charges for tuition, examination and registration, and a contribution towards the cost of membership of the Students’ Union. Self-funded international students accepting a place on a taught postgraduate programme will generally need to pay a fee deposit of £1,500.

Tuition fees can be paid in full at registration or in two instalments. Payment may be made online, by direct debit or by credit/debit card. For further details, email student-fees@bristol.ac.uk or call the Student Fees Office on +44 (0)117 954 6372.

For information on online payments please visit bristol.ac.uk/fees-funding/tuition-fees/payment. For information on online payments please visit bristol.ac.uk/fees-funding/tuition-fees/payment.

Additional fees

Some programmes charge a bench fee in addition to tuition fees. Bench fees cover specific extra costs, usually associated with specialist laboratory or field work. If there is a bench fee for the programme you are interested in, this will be stated on the relevant page of our online programme finder: bristol.ac.uk/pg-study.

Some postgraduate research programmes charge a fee related to submission of the final thesis or extension of the usual period of registration. Certain programmes may charge an application fee. See bristol.ac.uk/pg-study for full details.

Tuition fees for students from the European Union

EU students who start at the University during the 2020/21 academic year will pay the same fees as UK students for the duration of their degree. The latest information will be available on our website: bristol.ac.uk/fees-funding/tuition-fees/eu-refereendum.

Cost of living

Living costs in Bristol are higher than in some other parts of the country, although less than in London. Currently, postgraduate students might need around £850-£950 per month in addition to tuition fees. You will need to think about accommodation, food, utilities, books, entertainment and other costs. For more information about living costs, please see bristol.ac.uk/living-expenses.

Part-time work

For many students, part-time or vacation work is a way of boosting finances, while also helping to develop transferrable skills in preparation for your future career. Our Careers Service can help you find the right job and advise you on your rights.

To find out more, visit bristol.ac.uk/careers/find-and-apply/job-search.

Information and advice

See pp36-37 for an overview of funding available to support your studies. Our Student Funding Office provides information and advice on financial support from the UK government and the University, managing your money, discretionary support and emergency loans.

For more information on fees purposes, please visit bristol.ac.uk/pg-study/postgraduate-after-you-apply/policies.

For more information on fees purposes, please visit bristol.ac.uk/pg-study/postgraduate-after-you-apply/policies.
There are many ways you can meet us to talk about your interests and find out more about what Bristol can offer you.

Visiting the University of Bristol

Postgraduate open events
We hold our annual university-wide postgraduate open day in November and a range of smaller events in our schools and faculties throughout the year. Visit our website to find out more: bristol.ac.uk/pg-visits.

Postgraduate campus tours
We offer campus tours specifically for prospective postgraduate students. These are available on request and can be tailored to suit your interests. To request a tour, please email us: postgraduate-recruitment@bristol.ac.uk.

Contact your department
If you’ve already applied for a programme, or you are keen to meet with a supervisor, you can contact the relevant department using the details found on our online prospectus. You may even be able to arrange a private visit to discuss your options. Find the contact details for the departments you’re interested in: bristol.ac.uk/pg-study.

Self-guided tour
If you’re not able to arrange an official visit, you can still come and visit our campus. Our self-guided tour will highlight the key points of interest on our campus, and give you a taste of what it’s like to be a student here: bristol.ac.uk/pg-visits.

Virtual events and visits
If you are unable to visit the University of Bristol in person, you can explore our exceptional facilities and services thanks to our virtual events. They are a great way to connect with Bristol staff and students. A live panel will discuss topics that are relevant to you and answer any questions you have.

Attending a postgraduate fair near you
In the UK
We attend a range of postgraduate fairs in the UK throughout the academic year. If you’re not able to make it to Bristol, why not check our website to find out when we will next be in a location near you? bristol.ac.uk/pg-visits.

Overseas
If you’re not based in the UK, you can still meet representatives from the University without travelling to us. Find out when our international recruitment advisers will be visiting your country: bristol.ac.uk/international/visit.
We are investing in extensive improvements to our Clifton campus which may affect the location of departments. Please check the website for the latest information: bristol.ac.uk/maps.
Our location

Bristol is located in the south west of the United Kingdom, about 100 miles (160 kilometres) west of London, and has excellent road, rail and air links. The main University campus is at the heart of the city and is easily accessible by public and private transport.

By road

Bristol has excellent road links, enabling easy access to the city from all over the UK. The M4 and M5 motorways put London and Birmingham within a two-hour drive, while regular bus services link the Clifton campus with the city centre and Stoke Bishop halls of residence. You can find more detailed directions to the campus at bristol.ac.uk/maps/directions.

By train

Bristol has two main railway stations – Bristol Temple Meads and Bristol Parkway; we advise you to arrive at Temple Meads as it is much closer to the Clifton campus. Buses run from Temple Meads to the campus every 10-15 minutes at peak times, or you can walk in 30-40 minutes. The nearest local train station to the campus is Clifton Down.

By plane

Bristol Airport is 13 kilometres south of the city and operates scheduled flights between many UK and European cities. If you are arriving into London, there are direct coach services between Heathrow, Gatwick and Bristol. Alternatively, there are good rail connections from Heathrow and Gatwick Airports to London National Rail terminals. The train journey from London Paddington to Bristol Temple Meads takes just under two hours.

How to find us

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Tel: +44 (0)117 394 1649

bristol.ac.uk/pg-study