



The
University
Of
Sheffield.

International
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International Foundation Year

Business, Law and Social Sciences

*International
students are
made in
Sheffield.*



Business, Law & Social Sciences

Programme information

Students study in English on a full-time basis for either 3 or 2 terms dependent on their proven English language score on entry. The programme is designed with pathway specific subject modules and a common core curriculum aimed at developing appropriate English and academic skills. It provides the University with confidence that, subject to successful achievement of progression requirements, graduates have the requisite subject knowledge and understanding, academic and language skills to embark on a range of University undergraduate degrees in the Social Sciences, Arts and Humanities.

A list of the approved progression degrees can be found on theUSIC website at:

usic.sheffield.ac.uk/programmes/international-foundation-year/business-law-and-social-sciences.

This programme has been developed by Study Group in consultation with relevant University of Sheffield academic departments and Professional Services.

Programme aims

The overall aims of this programme are to:

- provide high quality learning opportunities to international students seeking a pathway to undergraduate degree provision in the Faculty of Social Sciences or Faculty of Arts and Humanities at The University of Sheffield;
- support development of students in transition to UKHE to enable them to achieve the required academic conditions for progression;
- enable students to progress with the appropriate level of knowledge and understanding, academic and language skills, confident and empowered to succeed on their degree programme;
- engender in students an awareness of their potential to contribute to the international academic community of the University.



Pathways

There is a choice of five pathways:

Business & Management: Leading to degrees in the Management School.

Economics: Leading to degrees in the Department of Economics and Computer Science (BSc IT Management for Business).

Society & Environment: Leading to degrees in the Departments and Schools of Archaeology (BA only), East Asian Studies, Geography (BA only), Journalism Studies, Landscape, Philosophy, Sociological Studies, Town Regional Planning.

Social Sciences: Leading to degrees in the Departments and Schools of Politics, Education, and Human Communication (BSc Speech & Language Sciences).

Law & Society: Leading to degrees in the School of Law.

Programme structure

Modules common to all pathways:

- Critical Reading
- English Skills for University Study 1, 2 and 3 (ESUS)
- Reach Higher (an interdisciplinary group challenge)
- Business, Law & Social Sciences Personal Development Programme (PDP)

Pathway	Subject 1	Subject 2	Subject 3	Subject 4
Business & Management	Introduction to Business	Statistics for Social Science	Introduction to Economics	Introduction to Financial Accounting
Economics	Pure Maths	Pure Maths	Introduction to Economics	Statistics for Economics
Society & Environment	Sociology	The Urban Environment	Political Ideas, Concepts and Practice	Globalisation
Social Sciences	Sociology	The Urban Environment	Statistics for Social Science	Globalisation
Law & Society	Sociology	Political Ideas, Concepts and Practice	Globalisation	Law



All pathways other than Economics		
Term 1	Term 2	Term 3
ESUS 1	ESUS 2	ESUS 3
Critical Reading	Subject 2	Subject 4
Subject 1	Subject 3	Reach Higher
PDP	PDP	PDP

Economics pathway		
Term 1	Term 2	Term 3
ESUS 1	ESUS 2	ESUS 3
Pure Maths		
Critical Reading	Introduction to Economics	Statistics for Economics
		Reach Higher
PDP	PDP	PDP



Module descriptors

Core modules

Critical Reading

The ability to read critically is an essential academic skill in UK higher education. The capacity to read critically facilitates good self-critical writing. In this module, students will gradually build their critical skills familiarising themselves as they do so with a range of academic texts and themes they are likely to encounter later in their programme. Students will use authentic sources from the University's libraries, rather than working from academic skills texts, learning how to access material using online and physical resources.

English Skills for University Study 1, 2 and 3 (ESUS)

The ESUS modules provide a thorough training in the language skills and communication patterns to enable international students to best achieve their academic potential while at USIC and on progression to a degree programme at the University. They support students to meet the minimum requirements of the Home Office for study in the UK and the language entry thresholds for all international students entering the University. Academic language skills are divided into 5 areas: academic writing; reading for higher education study; listening in the higher education environment; speaking in presentations and seminars; and university study skills.

Reach Higher (an interdisciplinary group challenge)

This module aims to develop team working skills to prepare students for active engagement in group projects, eager to participate dynamically in their degree studies and able to apply skills and knowledge, working with their peers in interdisciplinary settings. By building their confidence in this period of transition, international students will be encouraged to make a significant contribution to the Achieve More programme on progression in their first and second year undergraduate studies. Undertaken in the final term, the programme related projects draw on students' learning to illustrate in a tangible form achievement of the Graduate Profile.

Personal Development Programme (PDP)

With the guidance and support of a personal Academic Adviser, this module enables students to become reflective, independent learners, able to identify their strengths and action to ameliorate areas for improvement. Students will monitor their own development and achievements, overseen by their Academic Adviser, so that they take responsibility for their learning and their achievements.



Pathway-specific modules

Introduction to Business

Learners are introduced to knowledge and understanding of business to be developed in their degree studies at The University of Sheffield. The module introduces students to the different internal and external elements of a business, helping to understand the context in which a business operates. It explores aims and characteristics of businesses and what makes them unique. Business structures, culture and functions are identified and the political, social, economic and technological considerations affecting business are introduced. The module explores the question 'What is a business?' and investigates the business functions of human resource management and marketing.

Introduction to Economics

Students' knowledge and understanding of the key concepts and theories relevant to microeconomics, including consumer and production theory, general equilibrium and welfare will be developed in this module. Students are expected to engage actively in their learning to develop their English proficiency, academic practice and analytical skills as independent learners.

Introduction to Financial Accounting

This module introduces the basic principles of financial accounting. It develops the use of double entry bookkeeping and other techniques to produce financial statements. This will include fundamental accounting concepts and principles, and progress through to interpretation and critical analysis of financial data. The module will facilitate an appreciation of the way in which the characteristics and principles of accounting are applied in practice.

Statistics for Social Sciences

Designed for social science students, this module will support students to become aware that statistics can be used to develop models and analyse data for real world situations and that these models may be more or less effective depending on the assumptions that have been made.

Statistics for Economics

The aim of this module is to introduce the main fundamental elements of statistics and statistical analysis required for undergraduate studies in Economics. Students will be encouraged to develop application skills to enable them to contextualise statistical data and analysis.

Sociology

This module aims to provide students with a sound foundation in sociological concepts and introduces them to the theories and perspectives that have shaped the discipline. Students will consider a range of contemporary issues and reflect on the implications of applying different sociological perspectives and methods to the consideration of sociological problems. Through lively participation in classes, weekly homework and coursework assignments, students will actively develop and practice their independent and group study skills.

Political Ideas, Concepts and Practice

Students will be provided an overview of key political ideas and concepts and an exploration of these through consideration of particular aspects and institutional structures in a domestic and international context. Students will articulate and apply their understanding of political ideas and concepts to the practice of politics in the UK and in an international context. Students will be expected to be aware of the course of events in the world of politics, and follow them in newspapers, on television and on the Internet.



The Urban Environment

The aim of this module is to develop students' understanding of how cities grow and change and the impact this urbanisation process has on urban life. Students will be introduced to the factors that have promoted urban growth and consider their relevance to particular contexts or groups. Students will explore concepts of diversity, integration, sustainability and social inclusion and develop a critical awareness of their environment. Opportunities for field work, project work and interaction with local communities will introduce students to approaches to learning that will prepare them for a wide range of degrees.

Law

Students are introduced to the legal system in England and Wales, including its underlying principles, the personnel who administer it, the mechanics of the legal process, and justice in a wider sense. They will develop their understanding of, and practice in, the use of legal sources, statutory provisions and case law as well as a critical awareness of how legal institutions operate in society.

Globalisation

The main aim of this module is to develop an awareness of different theoretical perspectives on globalisation and to explore the impact of increasing global interaction. Students will consider real-world events to broaden their understanding and enable them to critically apply their theoretical understanding.

For admissions enquiries:

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sheffield.ac.uk/international-college



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