Discover Bristol online

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

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University of BRISTOL

Study Abroad guide 2020/21

bristol.ac.uk/study-abroad

Welcome to Bristol

Bristol is the 8th largest city in the UK,* located in the South West of England just 90 minutes from London.

*when defined by Primary Urban Area, centreforcities.org 2017

bristol.ac.uk

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Autumn semester dates 2020/21

Arrival: from 19 to 20 September
Welcome week: 21 to 25 September
Welcome and orientation: 21 September
Teaching: 28 September to 18 December
Christmas vacation: 21 December to 8 January
Exam period:* 11 to 22 January

Spring semester dates 2021

Arrival: from 18 to 19 January
Welcome and orientation: 20 January
Teaching: 25 January to 7 May
Spring vacation: 29 March to 16 April
Exam period: 17 May to 4 June

*Students may be able to arrange alternative assessment if they need to return to their home university in early January.

Founded in 1876

Top 10 in the UK*

Top 50 in the world*

5th in the UK for research†

*QS World University Rankings 2020
†*THE* analysis of REF 2014

The University of Bristol is one of the most popular and successful universities in the UK, with a diverse community of nearly 25,000 talented students.

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

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

Study Abroad programmes

Bristol offers a highly flexible and personalised Study Abroad experience, with three different programmes to suit your English language ability and a wide range of subject choices.

English language requirements
Our three programmes require different levels of English language ability.

PROGRAMME	IELTS REQUIREMENT*
Study Abroad Standard	6.5 overall, minimum 6.0 in all bands
Study Abroad Bridge	6.0 overall, minimum 5.5 in all bands
STABEL (Study Abroad with English Language)	
- With 6-week pre-sessional course	6.0 overall, minimum 5.5 in all bands
- With 10-week pre-sessional course	5.5 overall, minimum 5.0 in all bands†

*Please see our website for further details about alternative accepted English language qualifications.

†Please note that for the 10-week STABEL programme, students will need an academic IELTS for UKVI from an authorised test centre, also known as a SELT, in order to apply.

Study Abroad Standard

September and January start
This is the most common option for native English speakers or those who already meet our English language requirements. You can take this programme in the autumn or spring semester, or for the full academic year. For those who want to enhance their English language skills, you can also take English language classes alongside your other subjects.

Study Abroad Bridge

September start
This year-long course 'bridges the gap' between your studies at home and in the UK. During the autumn semester you will improve your academic English language and take classes in communication and literature. During the spring semester you will take units from your dedicated academic field(s).

STABEL (Study Abroad with English Language)

September start
STABEL combines Study Abroad with a pre-sessional English language course starting in June or July. This will prepare you for study in Bristol and lasts for six or ten weeks depending on your current English language level.

Study at Bristol for a semester or a full academic year

Subject options

At Bristol you will choose units from across the University to create a personalised academic programme.

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

Arts

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

Engineering

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

Humanities

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

Science

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

*Available for full-year students only

Social Sciences

- Economics, Finance and Management
- Education
- Law*
- Policy Studies
- Politics and International Studies
- Sociology

*Available for full-year students only

Life Sciences

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

Create your programme

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

A unique aspect of Study Abroad at Bristol is that you can customise your experience by selecting units from across departments, combining different subjects to suit your interests or immersing yourself in your main subject of study.

Study level

Undergraduate degrees in the UK are three-year programmes, and as a Study Abroad student you can choose units (classes) from all three years.

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

We usually recommend that you take at least 50 per cent of your units in your major subject, but please check with your home university about any requirements for your degree.

Credits and course load

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

Science and engineering subjects tend to have more 10-credit units, whereas arts, humanities and social sciences tend to have 20-credit units. Your home university will be able to advise you about how the credits transfer back to your degree.

Finding your units

The terminology used at Bristol might not exactly match what you are used to at your home university. Please read the guidance on our website about how to create your programme – we recommend that you try a few different search terms when looking for units in a particular subject area. You can sometimes find units that match your requirements in unexpected areas.

Example units

Opposite are just a few examples of ways that you can combine subjects from across our faculties to suit your academic needs and interests.*

*Sample units are indicative only. Specific unit combinations cannot be guaranteed.

Example units

Environmental science

UNIT	DEPARTMENT
UNIV10001 Sustainable Development	School of Geographical Sciences
GEOG16001 World in Crisis?	School of Geographical Sciences
EASC10002 Environmental Geoscience 1	School of Earth Sciences
EASC30050 Environmental Radioactivity	School of Earth Sciences
PHYS30027 Environmental Physics	School of Physics
SOCI20049 Environment and Society	School of Sociology, Politics and International Studies
POLI20008 Apocalypse or Ecotopia? Green Political Thought	School of Sociology, Politics and International Studies

Bristol's environmental research is world-class. Our geography research is ranked first in the UK, and earth systems and environmental sciences is second (*THE* analysis of REF 2014). The University's Cabot Institute is a leading centre for innovative, interdisciplinary research into solutions to environmental challenges.

European studies

UNIT	DEPARTMENT
MODL10009 Contemporary European Cinema	School of Modern Languages
MODL20011 Gender in Post-Socialist Central and Eastern Europe	School of Modern Languages
CLAS10035 Historical Survey: Ancient Greece	Department of Classics and Ancient History
HIST10043 The Early Modern World	Department of History
POLI30014 European Foreign Policy	School of Sociology, Politics and International Studies
PHIL20050 Texts in Early Modern European Philosophy	Department of Philosophy
THRS10064 Living Religions West	Department of Religion and Theology

Studying our European studies options helps you develop the skills to understand, explain and negotiate the rich cultural landscapes of European countries. You can access the excellent facilities in the School of Modern Languages – including our student cinema suite, audio recording studio and language lab – and enjoy outstanding teaching in our Department of Religion and Theology, ranked fourth in the UK (Complete University Guide 2020).

Health sciences/Pre-med

UNIT	DEPARTMENT
BIOL20019 Brains, Behaviour and Evolution	School of Biological Sciences
BIOL20011 Cell and Developmental Biology	School of Biological Sciences
BIOC20001 Molecular and Cell Biology	School of Biochemistry
MOLG22100 Recombinant DNA Technology	School of Biochemistry
PANM10001 Medical Microbiology and Infectious Diseases	School of Cellular and Molecular Medicine
PHPH20013 Cellular Physiology	School of Physiology, Pharmacology and Neuroscience
PSYC20004 Biological Psychology	School of Psychological Science
PHIL20049 Philosophy of Science	Department of Philosophy

Our Faculty of Life Sciences tackles major challenges in plant, animal and human health, with leading academic staff including fellows of the Royal Society and members of the Academy of Medical Sciences. You'll learn in our cutting-edge facilities such as the Life Sciences Building, recently opened by Sir David Attenborough.

British history and culture

UNIT	DEPARTMENT
MODL30007 Contemporary British Cinema	School of Modern Languages
ENGL10042 Literature 1150-1550	Department of English
ENGL20068 Shakespeare	Department of English
HIST37004 Radicalism and Class in Britain 1760-1850	Department of History
HIST20114 The Making of Contemporary Britain (1918-2008)	Department of History
HART20024 Art in Britain	Department of History of Art
SPOL10017 Segregation and Inequality in the UK	School for Policy Studies
POLI20014 Modern British Government and Politics	School of Sociology, Politics and International Studies

The School of Humanities conducts a range of interdisciplinary research, with topics including Modern Britain Research, The Perspective from the Sea, and Urban Humanities. Many distinguished British alumni have studied arts at Bristol, including author David Nicholls, actor Simon Pegg, and Greg Doran, Artistic Director of the Royal Shakespeare Company.

Your second home

Named one of the best European cities to visit,* Bristol is a creative, cultural capital that will quickly feel like home.

‘Every day spent in Bristol was unique and unforgettable.’

Polina Kuban State University

At the heart of the city

Our campus is located near the centre of Bristol and offers outstanding facilities, including nine libraries with dedicated study spaces and millions of resources.

Our excellent teaching and learning facilities include:

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

Best of both worlds

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

**Independent*, 2019

Enjoy a stroll through the Georgian arcades and picturesque squares of **Clifton Village**. A top spot for café culture, this neighbourhood is home to the world-famous **Clifton Suspension Bridge** and is on the edge of the wide green expanse known as **The Downs**.

20 minutes

Cabot Tower sits at the summit of **Brandon Hill**. There are great views from the top overlooking this green haven, which is just a short walk from our main campus.

10 minutes

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 colourful **Royal Fort Gardens**.

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

5 minutes

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

Temple Quarter Enterprise Campus

Work is underway on our new Temple Quarter campus. The **£300 million campus** will help to transform a neglected area of the city within one of Europe’s biggest urban regeneration programmes.

Approximate walking times from Tyndall Avenue on the Clifton campus

City life

Get creative with galleries, museums and street art in the home of Banksy

Experience something different at festivals celebrating everything from slapstick comedy to hot air balloons

bristol.ac.uk/city

Get a taste of British food culture from street markets, cosy cafés and independent restaurants

Enjoy Bristol's vibrant music scene, with diverse venues from converted cargo ships to world-class concert halls

Relax in one of our 450 parks and green spaces, proportionally more than any other UK city

450

Find more images of student life in our city
universityofbristol

bristol.ac.uk/city

Student life

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

Get involved

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

The SU organises events, represents your views, and runs more than 400 clubs and societies for different interests and hobbies. You will also be able to join the International Students' Network, which hosts events, runs campaigns and represents international students. Joining a club is a great way to meet new people while you're here, and Study Abroad students often say taking part really helps them settle in and make friends.

Sports and fitness

Bristol's proactive approach to wellbeing and first-rate sports and fitness facilities will help you stay on top of your game. More than 70 sports groups cater for every interest, from cycling to cricket and snow sports to skydiving.

The University is home to a recently renovated sports centre, a swimming pool, and an outdoor sports complex, complete with grass and artificial pitches and a tennis centre. If you enjoy a little friendly competition, get a team together and join our intramural leagues.

Health and wellbeing

Bristol's holistic approach to wellbeing will support you to realise your full potential. Our comprehensive network of resources and student services is ready to support you if and when you need it.

- Our Student Wellbeing and Residential Life Services are friendly and approachable teams who provide advice and help coordinate the right support for you.
- The Student Counselling Service provides confidential, high-quality, short-term, individual and small-group counselling.
- We have a full NHS (National Health Service) doctor's practice on campus for students who live in the local area.
- Other support services include our Multifaith Chaplaincy, Disability Services, and extensive online resources.

Your space on campus

There are plenty of places around the University to relax, socialise and get support. The SU Living Room provides a dedicated space to unwind and meet friends – right at the heart of campus. You can enjoy free tea and coffee and get involved with daily student-led events. When you arrive, the Global Lounge team will help you settle in at the International Welcome Lounge. They also arrange regular cultural events throughout the year where you can make friends from around the world.

Global Opportunities team

While you are studying at Bristol, the Global Opportunities team is your first point of contact. We are here to support you with any concerns you have, academic or personal. We have an open-door policy during office hours, so you can drop in at any time without making an appointment.

'I have gained wonderful memories and lifelong friends, as well as a sense of independence and a global perspective.'

Uzma University of Alabama at Birmingham

More than 400 clubs and societies

400

Accommodation

Guaranteed accommodation for full-year and autumn semester students*

With our wide range of residences, we will help you find the perfect place to live.

Your home away from home

Study Abroad students starting in September are guaranteed a place in University accommodation, if you apply by the deadline.* For students starting in January, we make every effort to place you in a University residence, or help you find private accommodation.

University-allocated accommodation is either catered, which includes a meal plan, or self-catered with full kitchen facilities. Most bedrooms are single, but you have the option to share. All rooms are furnished, with either an en suite or a shared bathroom, and every residence provides free internet and 24-hour security.

You'll be living with a mix of British undergraduates (usually first years), international students and other Study Abroad students. Accommodation is available for students with disabilities, health needs, or special cultural or religious requirements.

Our University accommodation is organised into three villages, shown on the next page.

Support in your accommodation

Our Residential Life Service is your support network in University accommodation. Each Student Residential Village has a Residential Life Team offering 24-hour advice and support, 7 days a week.

*Students coming for a full year or autumn semester who meet the terms of the accommodation guarantee and apply by the deadline are guaranteed University accommodation.

Student Residential Village North

Our North Village is a campus of accommodation housing over 2,000 students, set in 65 acres around two miles from the University campus – a 20-minute bus trip or a pleasant 40-minute walk. A bus pass is included in your accommodation fee. The site includes extensive gardens and space for socialising and relaxing. It houses most of our catered residences and our second sports complex.

Student Residential Village East

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

Student Residential Village West

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

'Living in University accommodation has been really good; I get along with all my flatmates and we do lots of things together.'

Emily University of Melbourne

Private accommodation

If you prefer to live outside of University-allocated accommodation and rent privately, the Accommodation Office is available to help. This is easier for students coming for the full academic year, as most rental contracts are for a minimum of nine months. Bristol SU provides a specialist letting service for students, and there are many other property providers across the city.

Social life and sports

Each University residence has a social committee run by students, which organises a range of social events, fun activities and sporting leagues. We also offer a programme of healthy physical activity opportunities across campus for all students, with regular exercise classes and other sessions right on your doorstep.

Fees and funding

Tuition fees

If you come to Bristol through an exchange partner you may not need to pay tuition fees. Students who apply independently or as a direct-enrol applicant will pay Study Abroad tuition fees. If you're not sure which one applies to you, speak to your home university for further guidance.

2020/21 tuition fees

Study Abroad Standard and Bridge programmes

- Full year: £16,800
- One semester: £8,400

STABEL programme

- 6 weeks: £2,700 + Standard tuition fee
- 10 weeks: £4,400 + Standard tuition fee

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

EU students

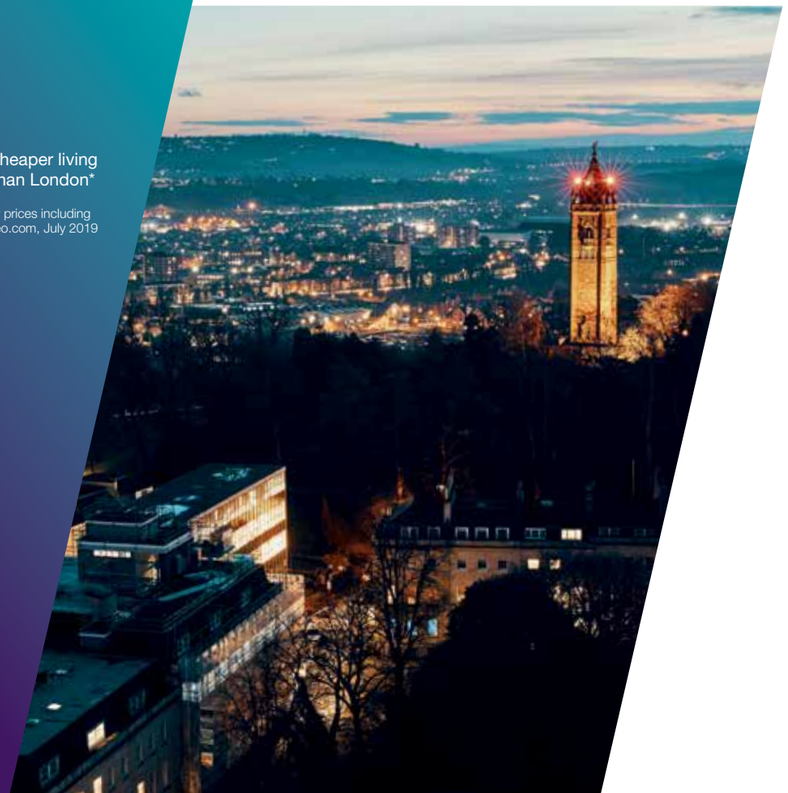
Students studying at EU institutions who are not able to come to Bristol through a direct exchange agreement are entitled to a discount. Tuition fees for EU students are as follows:

- Full year: £9,250
- One semester: £4,625

External funding options

Students from some countries may be eligible for additional funding from their home country. For example:

- Students from colleges or universities in the USA or Canada may be eligible to apply for the BUTEX Scholarship;
- Students from Germany may be eligible to apply for funding from DAAD towards their study abroad costs;
- The University of Bristol is on the Norwegian Government's Lånekassen list of approved overseas institutions that can attract extra loans for students coming from Norway;
- Chilean students may be eligible for funding from the Chilean Ministry of Education.



30% cheaper living costs than London*

*Consumer prices including rent, numbeo.com, July 2019

Accommodation

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

TYPICAL ACCOMMODATION FEES		
Self-catered	**per week**	**per year**
Shared room	£93 – £101	£3,898 – £4,225
Single room	£106 – £166	£4,472 – £6,299
En suite room	£162 – £177	£6,791 – £7,415
Catered	**per week**	**per year**
Shared room	£153	£6,439
Single room	£180 – £198	£7,553 – £8,300
En suite room	£201 – £210	£8,438 – £8,838

Typical accommodation fees for a 42-week tenancy (based on 2019/20 figures). Figures rounded to nearest pound.

Accommodation fees include a bus pass, internet, heating and electricity costs. Additional compulsory costs include insurance and a Junior Common Room subscription.

Private rents vary according to your preferences. A room in a shared residential property usually costs between £85 and £115 per week, not including bills; commercial studio apartments will be more expensive. You can expect to pay around £50-£60 a month for utility bills.

Living costs

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

EXPENSE	TYPICAL ANNUAL COST
Food	£1,900 for self-catered or private accommodation; £900 for catered (in addition to two daily meals included in rent)
Clothes and toiletries	£700
Entertainment	£1,500 for sports pass, entertainment, additional activities and travel costs

You can live well in Bristol for much less than in London; the cost of living is around 30 per cent cheaper than in the capital.* As Bristol is a student city, many shops, restaurants and venues offer a student discount. Typical costs of some common expenses are shown below.

ITEM	TYPICAL AVERAGE COST†
1 litre of milk	£0.93
500g loaf of bread	£1.05
1kg of white rice	£1.03
1kg of potatoes	£1.23
12 eggs	£1.88
Cappuccino in a café	£2.76

† numbeo.com, July 2019

For more information about typical living costs, see **bristol.ac.uk/living-expenses**.

How to apply

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

1

Complete an application form at **bristol.ac.uk/study-abroad-apply**.

2

Print and sign your completed application, and get a signature from an academic adviser or study abroad adviser at your home university.

3

Email your signed application form, along with copies of your transcript from your home university, the photo page of your passport and any English language proof required, to **global-opportunities@bristol.ac.uk**.

Entry requirements

Academic requirements
You should have completed at least one year of university (two years if you are studying a four-year degree) and have a strong 'B' average or a GPA of 3.0 out of 4.0. If you are unsure about whether your grades are equivalent to this requirement, please speak to your home Study Abroad office or contact Bristol's Global Opportunities team.

'This is the first time I have been abroad, and I'm very lucky to be studying at Bristol. I have made many friends here, and I travel around the city a lot.'

Yuxie Chinese University of Hong Kong, Shenzhen

English language requirements
If English is not your first language or the teaching language at your university, we will need proof of your English level. Please see p4 for the IELTS requirements of each of our Study Abroad programmes.

If you have an alternative English language qualification, please get in touch with us to find out if it is acceptable.

Visa
Students from outside the EU/EEA will require immigration permission to study in the UK. If you will be here for one semester, it is likely you will require a Short-term study visa (or request to be granted permission at a UK border to enter the UK as a short-term student). If you will be here for the full academic year, you will require a Tier 4 (General) student visa. If you are applying for the STABEL programme, please consult our website for further advice about visas.

Student Visa Services can support you at every stage before you arrive and while you're with us. Please refer to our website for up-to-date information: **bristol.ac.uk/visas**.

Bristol Futures

A great way to get a feel for life in Bristol is to try one of our Bristol Futures open online courses.

Created in partnership with students, staff, alumni and employers, Bristol Futures is an exciting initiative that enhances our students' experience. Through a range of innovative learning resources, it helps you develop core academic skills and key personal attributes. This is a unique opportunity to broaden your horizons, collaborate with others, and fulfil your academic and personal potential.

Our online Bristol Futures courses are free to access and run three times a year. The city of Bristol is at the heart of these courses: as well as being the backdrop for many of the videos, the city illustrates the impact of living and studying in a vibrant, diverse environment.

Through our three carefully chosen themes, you can investigate some of the major opportunities and challenges facing our generation:

- Innovation and Enterprise
- Global Citizenship
- Sustainable Futures.

The core content of each course should take about three hours per week to complete, although you can choose to engage with more or less of the material, and there is no requirement that activities have to be completed within the scheduled week. This flexibility means you can work around your current studies and other commitments.

For more information and to sign up, visit **bristol.ac.uk/bristol-futures.**

Our three Bristol Futures courses help you experience Bristol before you arrive

3

bristol.ac.uk/bristol-futures

Contact us

The Global Opportunities team is dedicated to supporting Study Abroad students throughout their time at Bristol.

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

Email
global-opportunities@bristol.ac.uk

Telephone
+44 (0)117 394 0207

Website
bristol.ac.uk/study-abroad

Social media

- @BristolUni
- bristoluniversity
- @bristoluni_studyabroad
- bristol
- UniversityofBristol

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

This prospectus contains information for students planning to join the University of Bristol in autumn 2020 and spring 2021. Every effort is made to ensure all details are correct at the time of going to press (July 2019). However, since the information is subject to change you are advised to check the University's website for the latest updates: **bristol.ac.uk/study-abroad**

University of Bristol
Study Abroad guide 2020/21

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