

# 2017

# Undergraduate Prospectus

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50 years | A University since 1966





# Welcome to Aston University



/astonuniversity @astonuniversity  
#astonunilife

# Aston University

## A formula that works



### Career Focused Degree Courses

Aston's close and established links with business, the public sector and the professions ensure that our degree programmes are inspiring, challenging and constantly updated to equip students with essential work-related skills and experiences.

### High Quality Teaching

We are committed to academic excellence and to providing the highest standard of education to our students. We are highly ranked in the National Student Survey.



### Generous Scholarships

Our scholarship programmes help to ensure that anyone who is qualified to come to Aston University can afford to do so, regardless of their financial circumstances.



### Strong Industry Partnerships

We have strong relationships with national and international graduate employers, as well as smaller and local employers. These relationships are extremely important and make a real contribution to graduate employability.

### Outstanding Graduate Employability

Over 78.8% of Aston graduates go on to a graduate level job within six months. A large majority of Aston students take an integrated placement year or year abroad, making them very attractive to employers.

**EXCELLENT  
DIFFERENT  
DISTINCTIVE  
ASTON**

Aston University is **14th in the UK** for 'Top universities by **graduate earnings**', ahead of UCL, Bristol, Warwick and Loughborough.

(The Telegraph, 2015)

Aston University is ranked 33rd in the world and 10th in the UK as one of the '**most International Universities in the world.**'

(The Times Higher World University Rankings, 2015-16)

**Top 30** university in The Times/Sunday Times Good University Guide 2016.

**90%** overall **student satisfaction** in the most recent National Student Survey.

# Reasons to choose Aston



## General Open Days

Saturday 25 June 2016  
Tuesday 13 September 2016  
Saturday 29 October 2016

[www.aston.ac.uk/opendays](http://www.aston.ac.uk/opendays)

Visits welcome at other times,  
call 0121 204 4771



## AN ASTON DEGREE IS INTERNATIONALLY RENOWNED

Ranked among the top 30 UK universities.



## RECORD STUDENT SATISFACTION LEVELS

90% overall student satisfaction in the 2015 National Student Survey.



## THE ASTON PLACEMENT YEAR

Aston students who do a placement year as part of their degree, gain valuable experience to take into the workplace.



## EXCEPTIONAL TEACHING

Delivered by top academics and informed by leading research.



## LEARN A LANGUAGE FOR FREE

Available to all eligible first year fee paying undergraduate students.



## RELEVANT RESEARCH

A reputation for research that makes a difference to society.



## CITY LIVING

You will be based right in the heart of the vibrant city of Birmingham.



## OUTSTANDING ENTERPRISE SUPPORT NETWORK

If you want to start your own business, Aston is a great place to be.



## BE A PART OF A CLOSE-KNIT COMMUNITY

Aston Student Village provides safe, secure, high-quality campus accommodation.



## EMPLOYABLE GRADUATES

A very high percentage of Aston students secure graduate jobs when they leave.



To find out why you should choose Aston visit:

[www.aston.ac.uk/virtualtour](http://www.aston.ac.uk/virtualtour)



“

Aston students get the best of both worlds - a green, well-equipped campus located centrally in a vibrant city.”

A green  
campus in  
the heart of  
the city

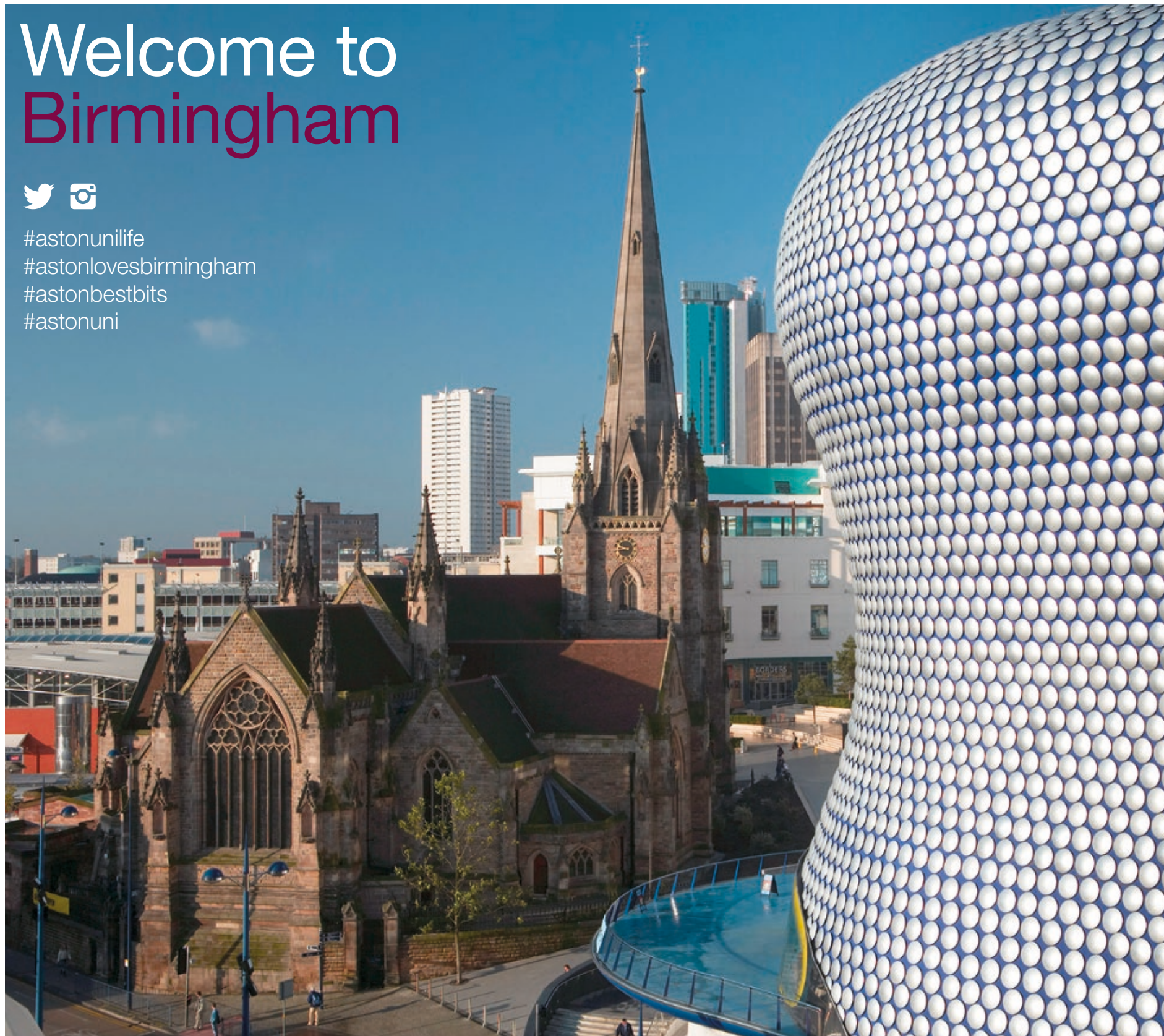
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# Welcome to Birmingham



#astonunilife  
#astonlovesbirmingham  
#astonbestbits  
#astonuni



The city of Birmingham is internationally recognised as a place to go for leisure, entertainment, shopping and sport, and an international centre for business, commerce and industry. Birmingham attracts 25 million visitors each year.

### Nightlife

With over 70,000 students, Birmingham is one of Europe's liveliest cities.

### Europe's shopping capital

With the Bullring Shopping Centre in the city centre, you are a short walk from shops and restaurants, including the iconic Selfridges store and John Lewis.

### Entertainment, sport and leisure

Birmingham has one of the highest concentrations of live theatre outside of London's West End. A number of fine art collections can be found at the City Museum and Art Gallery, and the Ikon Gallery. The Genting Arena (NEC), the Barclaycard Arena and the Birmingham O2 Academy host music to suit all tastes.

Birmingham is at the heart of sporting action. Football clubs, including Aston Villa and Birmingham City, have their home grounds within the city. Warwickshire County Ground at Edgbaston provides International Test and County cricket games. Athletics events are held in the city at the Alexander Stadium and at the Barclaycard Arena.

### Easily accessible

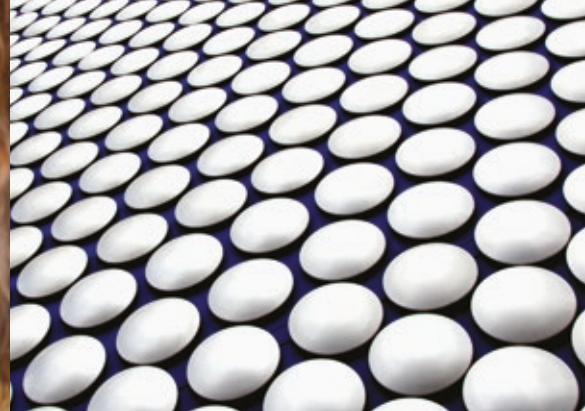
Whether by road, rail or air, travelling to and from Birmingham is easy. The campus is at the centre of extensive network of motorways and railways.

To find out more, visit: ►  
[www.aston.ac.uk/birmingham](http://www.aston.ac.uk/birmingham)

# Aston loves Birmingham

Aston loves Birmingham, and here are a few reasons why...

- ▶ Birmingham is one of the youngest cities in Europe, with under 25s accounting for nearly 40% of its population. (Source: ONS population midyear estimates).
- ▶ Birmingham is the most entrepreneurial UK city outside London with more than 18,000 new businesses registered last year. (Source: StartUp Britain).
- ▶ Over 90% of the UK market – consumer and business – is within a four hour travel time. Birmingham Airport serves more than 140 direct scheduled and charter routes, including to New York, Beijing and Delhi. (Source: Birmingham Airport).
- ▶ The influential travel publication Rough Guides has named Birmingham among the top 10 most exciting destinations to visit.



# Study in the centre of Birmingham



The location of the campus and pedestrianised city centre means walking is easy

**Bull Ring Shopping Centre**  
10 minutes

**Grand Central (New Street)**  
10 minutes

**Arts and culture**  
20 minutes

**Library of Birmingham and Brindley Place**  
20 minutes

**Broad Street for clubs and entertainment**  
25 minutes

Selfridges



**Bullring Shopping Centre**  
Over 160 shops – 2000 brands



**Birmingham New Street**  
Train station



**John Lewis**  
Biggest John Lewis outside London



**Broad Street**  
Nightlife



**Barclaycard Arena**  
Indoor sporting and entertainment venue



**Library Of Birmingham**  
Over 1 million books



**ICC Birmingham**  
International conference centre



Aston University



To find out more, visit: [www.aston.ac.uk/birmingham](http://www.aston.ac.uk/birmingham)





“

Have you ever thought of doing a placement overseas? How about spending your placement year in Spain, France, Italy, Germany, Chile, the USA, Australia or Hong Kong?”

# Secure your future with an Aston placement

A large and growing majority of Aston students take a professional placement year.

Working in a field related to your degree while studying means you are better prepared for industry and the professions.

- ▶ Develop essential workplace skills
- ▶ Make industry connections
- ▶ Build your professional profile

Our dedicated Careers+Placements Team will help you secure a placement where you can work in the UK or abroad. 37% of our placement students are offered a graduate job by their placement employer.

A placement year spent with an employer has been proven to enhance graduate employment prospects and degree performance - we can show you how to gain a competitive edge.

A placement is a work experience opportunity forming part of your degree programme. This could involve working within your chosen field, studying abroad, or a mixture of both.

A placement year abroad is compulsory for all students studying a modern foreign language. If you are studying two languages you will normally divide your time equally between the two countries where each language is spoken.

To find out more, visit: ▶  
[www.aston.ac.uk/placements](http://www.aston.ac.uk/placements)

[careersandplacements.astonblogs.co.uk](http://careersandplacements.astonblogs.co.uk)

# Get ahead in your career

We have an outstanding track record for graduate employment...



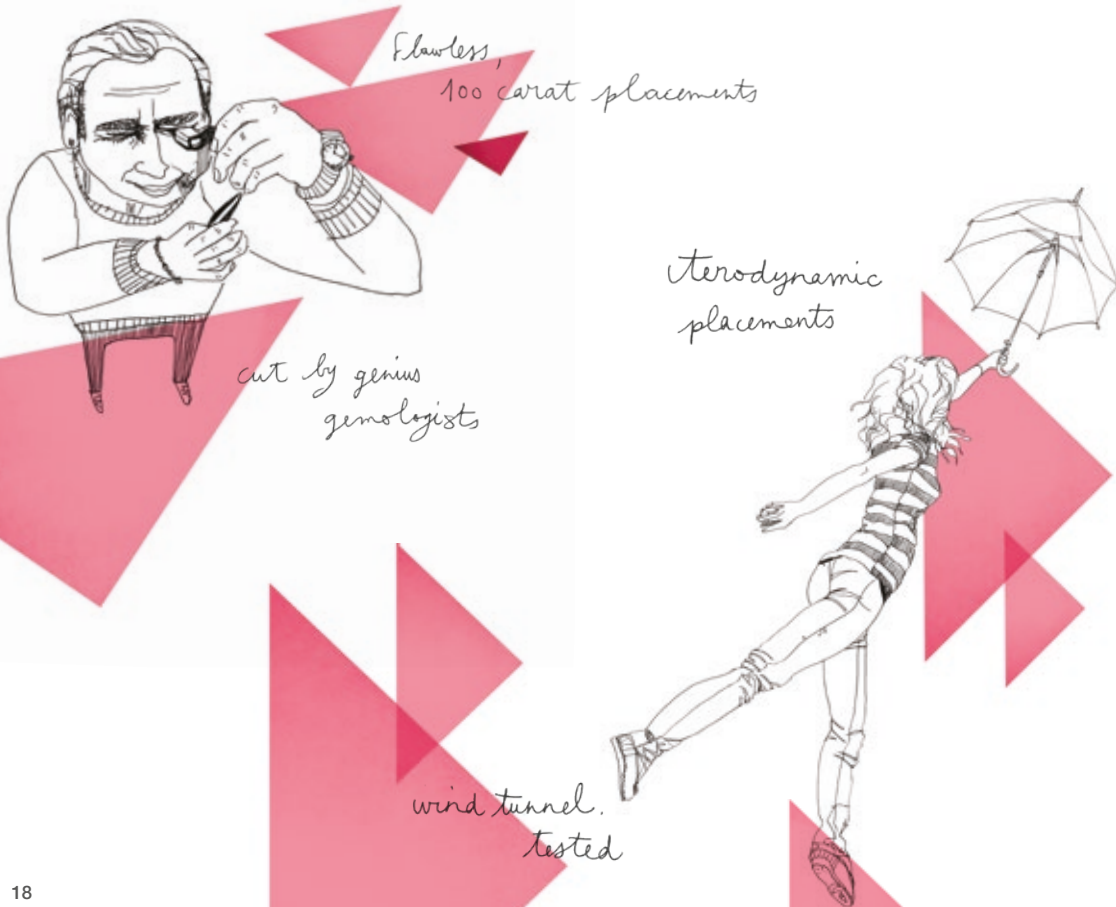
The bottom line is that Aston seems to produce graduates more likely to demonstrate the required competencies that we demand – true all-rounders. Unilever is one of the world's leading consumer goods companies in foods, home and personal care markets across the globe."

**Stuart Jeffrey**  
Marketing Executive,  
Unilever



At KPMG our people are at the heart of our continued success and we recognise the importance of sourcing the best graduate talent. We actively target Aston University students from a wide variety of disciplines and find that they are successful all-rounders, having developed skills that enable them to become a great asset to our team."

**Katy Hanby**  
Student Attraction & Outreach Officer -  
Midlands, KPMG



# 200 graduate employers

Over 200 graduate employers come onto campus each year to meet our students - here are a few...



## Aston Scholarships

Aston offers scholarships and financial support alongside support from the UK government for fees and living expenses. UK government support is via [www.gov.uk/student-finance](http://www.gov.uk/student-finance).

Aston's 2017 entry fee and scholarship policy will be confirmed in Summer 2016. As a guide, key 2016 scholarships included:

## Aston Placement/Year Abroad Scholarships

A large and growing majority of Aston students take a placement year or year abroad, so the tuition fee for 2016 entry for UK/EU students was set at £1,000. Aston Placement Scholarships are also available for the placement year and most UK/EU students qualify for student loans for fees and living expenses. Currently, Aston

students securing placement opportunities can benefit from financial support through the British Council's Erasmus Lifelong Learning Programme to work or study in Europe.

## Aston Excellence Scholarships

For 2016 entry, if UK or EU students achieved AAB or above in their A Levels (or equivalent grades from a list of other qualifications) they were eligible for the Aston Excellence Scholarship worth up to £2,000.

**Careers  
+ Placements**

# “ What employers say ”



## accenture



A number of graduates from Aston University have joined Accenture to begin their career in consulting. Some have completed a 12 month industrial placement which has led to a permanent offer of employment. The continuous success of students is due to excellent academic records, combined with good teamwork and communication skills, which have been developed through their studies.”

**Christine Cartwright,**  
Graduate Recruitment  
Officer, Accenture

## TeachFirst



Teach First have a long standing history of recruiting Aston graduates due to their ability to demonstrate our academic requirements and complex range of competencies to a very high standard. Aston graduates have been incredibly successful on the programme, both in the classroom and moving on to work with some of our Platinum Partners.”

**Lorna Culpin**  
Graduate Recruitment  
Officer, Teach First

## Deutsche Bank

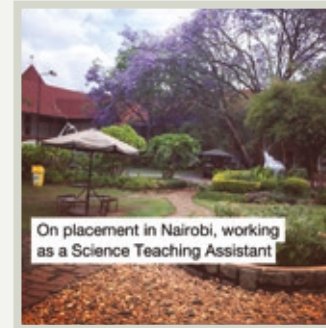


We have had a very positive experience of both Aston Business School and the students we have hired in to Deutsche Bank over the years. Aston students have shown the qualities we look for in our graduates, and those hired have contributed actively and proven themselves to be valuable employees, adding real value to our business.”

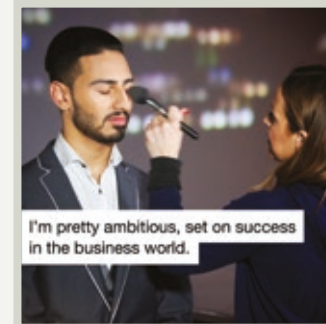
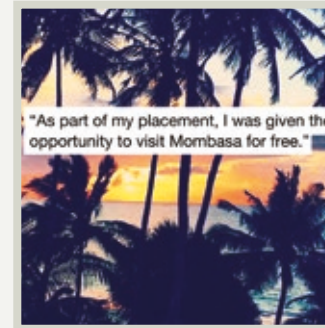
**Isabel Stephens-Wood**  
Graduate Recruiter, Talent  
Acquisition Deutsche Bank

# Wish you were here

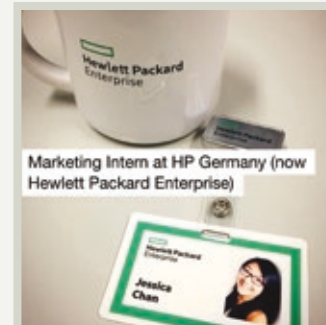
Professional placements with real employers.



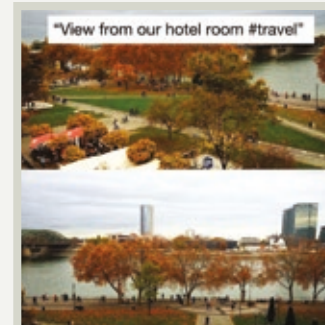
► **Dhrumi Patel** BSc Biomedical Science



► **Chand Jethwa** BSc Marketing



► **Jessica Chan** BSc International Business and Management



To find out more, visit: ►  
[www.aston.ac.uk/placements](http://www.aston.ac.uk/placements)  
[careersandplacements.  
astonblogs.co.uk](http://careersandplacements.astonblogs.co.uk)

# Achieve anything here

## Anisa Haghdadi

Anisa graduated from Aston University in 2012 with a BSc in Business and Management. She set up her first social enterprise aged 15 and has not looked back! Anisa's most recent initiative, 'Beatfreaks' develops transferable skills in young people and empowers them to create change on a personal, community and global level. In 2014 Anisa was awarded the British Empire Medal for services to education and young people.



## Mike Bandar

Mike graduated from Aston University in 2011 with a BSc in International Business and Management. Mike is a brand and management consultant for PETRONAS, the Malaysian Oil Company. His recent projects include a new socially focused enterprise that produces information cards, benefiting people who suffer from various allergies and intolerances. This company has experienced early success, winning awards including a Shell Livewire Grand Ideas award and obtaining a nationwide distribution contract with ASDA. During his career, Mike has sat on the Young Directors Committee for the West Midlands, reached the finals of the Birmingham Chamber of Commerce's Future Face of Business Award and was shortlisted for BQ West Midlands' Emerging Entrepreneur Award.



For more information, visit: [www.aston.ac.uk/achieve-anything-here](http://www.aston.ac.uk/achieve-anything-here)

# Languages for All

Learn Arabic, French, German, Japanese, Mandarin Chinese, Portuguese or Spanish for free, while you study at Aston University.

Languages are increasingly in demand from global businesses. Learning a new language can really develop your cultural awareness and give you a headstart in a global working environment.

Free language tuition is available to all eligible first year fee paying undergraduate students at beginner, intermediate or advanced level and our experienced language tutors will support you every step of the way.

Languages for All offers you the opportunity to:

- ▶ Learn a new language or improve your existing language skills
- ▶ Enhance your CV and increase your employability
- ▶ Preparation for placements abroad
- ▶ Increase your cultural awareness.

See our website for more information:

[www.aston.ac.uk/study/undergraduate/courses/languages-for-all](http://www.aston.ac.uk/study/undergraduate/courses/languages-for-all)



My interest in languages is one of the factors that helped me secure my 12 month industrial placement in Romania, working for the global manufacturer Cooper Industries, who operate in over 20 countries. I am a buyer for raw materials and my knowledge of the Chinese language and culture has proven useful when dealing with our Chinese suppliers."

**Alex Stafford**, BSc International Business and Management, studied Mandarin Chinese

# How we teach

We use a mixture of different approaches depending on the subject and what we want you to achieve:

**Lectures** - large classes form the basis of teaching and independent study in the early years of your programme.

**Tutorials and seminar discussion groups** - expand on the lecture and give you the chance to participate in or contribute to discussions. The small group format allows for closer supervision and support.

**Supervisions** - opportunities to explore and discuss aspects of the programme.

**Laboratory sessions** - allow you to develop subject-specific skills and learn generic skills.

**Individual and group project work** - a key part of teaching in our schools, where both theoretical and real-life cases are studied.

**The Active Engineering Initiative** - developed with input from academics, industry, engineers and students, allows you to tackle real problems and engage in practical, cross-disciplinary project-based work.

**Blackboard** - our virtual learning platform where all course information, including course content, assignments and discussion topics, are stored and accessible from one place.

**MAP - My Aston Portal** - a web-based system serving as a single point of contact where you can access your personalised teaching timetables, module lists, finance and accommodation information.

**Aston Replay** - a service allowing staff to record their teaching sessions. Students can then search and view material in their own time.



To find out more about Aston University's lecturers - what motivates their teaching, how they prefer to work with their students and what 'being a teacher' means to them, visit:

[www.aston.ac.uk/inspiringteachers](http://www.aston.ac.uk/inspiringteachers)

**Ranked 21st in the UK for Teaching Quality**

(The Times/Sunday Times Good University Guide 2016)

# Real world research

A reputation for research that makes a difference

Aston has an excellent reputation for producing research that shapes and improves lives. We're proud of the quality of our research and the real world applications developed as a result - it makes a substantial and beneficial difference to people, organisations and society.

Here are a few of our leading research disciplines. To find out what inspires our researchers visit: [www.aston.ac.uk/research](http://www.aston.ac.uk/research)



To find out more, visit: [www.aston.ac.uk/research](http://www.aston.ac.uk/research)

# Comfortable, spacious campus accommodation



## Welcome to Aston Student Village

When you live on campus our Residence Officers will make you feel welcome. The team take care of your post and parcels whilst our Residence Security Officers patrol accommodation areas throughout the night, ensuring safe campus living.

Each accommodation block has a communal lounge area for relaxing or group study work. Also, a centrally-located campus living room provides a comfortable environment to unwind, watch television, play games, read or meet friends.

Across campus, modern laundrettes are available on a pay-as-you-go basis.

## James Watt, Harriet Martineau, Mary Sturge and William Murdoch residences

Aston Student Village offers 5 and 7 bedroom units with built-in bookcases, a spacious study desk, wardrobe, television point and power points to recharge your devices, benefitting from free high speed internet. Rooms are comfortable, well insulated against

noise and offer good natural daylight. The 7 bed units have a single bed, and our 5 bed units offer a ¾ size double bed. All rooms have ensuite showers and share a well-equipped, spacious communal kitchen.

## Lakeside residence

Situated on the edge of campus with quick access to Birmingham, Lakeside offers well-equipped ensuite accommodation in maisonettes or flats for between six and ten students. All rooms have an ensuite shower, toilet and washbasin, and share kitchen and dining facilities. There are television points in every room and free, high speed internet.

## Great rates for 2016/17

6-10 bed 42 weeks	7 bed 42 weeks	5 bed 42 weeks
Lakeside (ensuite)	William Murdoch, James Watt, Harriet Martineau and Mary Sturge (standard ensuite)	William Murdoch, James Watt, Harriet Martineau and Mary Sturge (deluxe ensuite)
<b>£121.10</b>	<b>£128.10</b>	<b>£135.45</b>

Call us now or drop in to the Student Village Reception and see how irresistible our latest offers are.

**Aston Student Village**  
Tel: 0121 204 4704/4707  
[www.aston.ac.uk/asv](http://www.aston.ac.uk/asv)

Please note: this information is correct at the time of going to press but we recommend you visit our website or contact the accommodation office for confirmation of prices.



Undergraduate students at Aston are guaranteed campus accommodation for their first year of study, subject to the conditions and deadlines outlined in the allocation policy.

- Your own bedroom and study area
- All utility bills included
- Free high speed internet
- Ensuite shower facilities
- Onsite safety
- Laundry

To find out more about accommodation visit:  
[www.aston.ac.uk/asv](http://www.aston.ac.uk/asv)  
0121 204 4704/4707

# Library and IT facilities



To find out more, visit:  
[www.aston.ac.uk/library](http://www.aston.ac.uk/library)

## The University Library offers you a welcoming and flexible space for group and individual study.

The Library has four floors and contains 148,000 volumes with over 1,000 reader places. There is access to over 90,000 journals (electronic and print) and 160,000 e-books across all subject areas. All e-journals, e-books and other key online information resources can be accessed from any computer on campus, or other locations off-campus.

## IT facilities

There are more than 50 computer labs across the Aston campus, many of which can be accessed 24 hours a day, seven days a week. There is access to a range of networked software packages, database systems, modelling tools and online research tools.

IT facilities are free to Aston University students and are linked by our Local

Area Network, which spans the campus and provides high speed access to other networks worldwide. We also have an extensive wireless network throughout campus and an IT Help Desk to deal with any issues.

## Library facilities

Our online Library SmartSearch discovery tool tells you what is in the Library, enables you to check the recommended reading for your course and lets you reserve and renew books.

With PC labs, laptops, wireless internet access, photocopiers, printers, group and silent study areas, the Library is an ideal place to study. The ground floor is a modern social learning space with a cafe and vending area.

The Library has 24 hour access, six days a week, at key times throughout the year. The Library is also open during all University holidays, except for those days when the University is closed.



# Enhancing your experience

Share with us ”

#AstonUniLife  
#AstonBestBits  
[www.aston.ac.uk/myaston-uni-life](http://www.aston.ac.uk/myaston-uni-life)

## The Students' Union - run by students, for students

The Student's Union will be relocating to a brand new building in the heart of the campus. This is planned for September 2017 - check our website for updates!

The Students' Union (SU) aims to provide a wide range of services and support, to help make student life as easy and enjoyable as possible.

The Union also offers: Subway sandwich outlet; the SU shop, selling stationery, food and clothing; cash point; the Strand hair salon; The Loft (a social study area with IT and presentation facilities) and prayer rooms. The Students' Union is a member of the National Union of Students.

To find out more, visit: [www.astonunion.com](http://www.astonunion.com)

## Aston Welcome Week

Aston University holds an International Orientation Week followed by a Freshers' Week for all new students, which is designed to help you settle in and adjust to student life.

Second and final year students called 'Aston Aunties' will help you throughout these two weeks. The Aunties provide a friendly face and help guide you around the campus, show you the sights and answer any questions.

## Clubs and societies

With over 120 clubs and societies to choose from, here are a few you may be interested in...

Badminton // Ballroom // Basketball // Five-a-side Football // Jitsu // Kabaddi // Netball // Table Tennis // Aston Entrepreneurs // Aston Institute of Photonic Technologies // Banking & Finance // Biomedical Science // Chinese Students // Computer Science // Healthy Cookery // Hindu // Lesbian, Gay, Bi & Trans // Psychology // Raise And Give (RAG)

To find out more, visit:  
[www.aston.ac.uk/clubsandsocs](http://www.aston.ac.uk/clubsandsocs)



The free **myAston** smartphone app, designed to improve your experience of studying at Aston and living in Birmingham, is available to download from Apple, Android and BlackBerry app stores.



Want to see more of student life at Aston? Follow us on Instagram @[astonuniversity](https://www.instagram.com/astonuniversity)

To find out more, visit: [www.aston.ac.uk/union](http://www.aston.ac.uk/union)

# A great place for sport



Aston University students benefit from accessible and affordable high quality sports facilities right on their doorstep. Whether you want to train, compete, keep fit or just have fun with friends, Aston can provide you with a wide range of opportunities.

The Sir Doug Ellis Woodcock Sports Centre is open from 6.30am to 10.30pm Monday to Friday and 9.30am to 6.30pm at weekends.

### The Sir Doug Ellis Woodcock Sports Centre, on campus, offers:

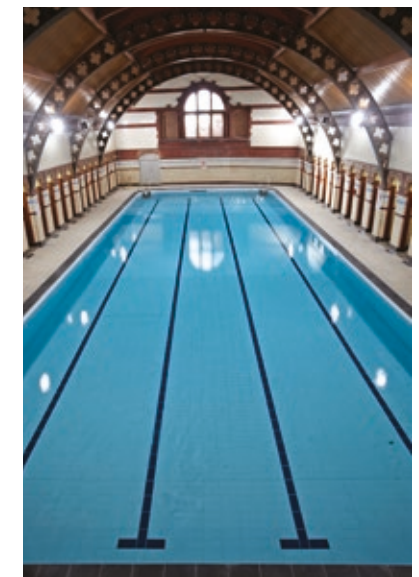
- ▶ 25m swimming pool, sauna and steam room
- ▶ 100+ gym stations including cardiovascular machines with individual TVs and headphone jacks, fixed resistance, plate loaded equipment and dumbbells
- ▶ Dance and martial arts studios
- ▶ Fitness and yoga classes including aerobics, aqua aerobics and spinning classes
- ▶ Two large sports halls for badminton, netball, volleyball, basketball, cricket and football with a seated spectator area in one hall
- ▶ Two glass-backed squash courts
- ▶ Modern changing rooms with individual shower cubicles and three disabled change areas.

Gym membership for Aston University students costs approximately £4 per week.

### Classes, clubs and competitions

Whether you are a novice or an elite performer, there are lots of opportunities to compete and over 35 sports clubs are run by the University Athletic Union.

The Aston University Sports Scholarship programme is designed to develop potential excellence in a wide range of competitive sports. Bursaries may be available to students who have achieved a level of excellence within their chosen sport.



To find out more, visit: ▶  
[www.aston.ac.uk/sport](http://www.aston.ac.uk/sport)



# Supporting you



There is a wide range of support on offer to Aston students to ensure your time here is a success in academic, social and personal terms. The close-knit community on campus helps to ensure that our students know where and whom to turn to if they have issues or concerns. This support is available whether you are living on or off campus.

## Personal Tutors

You will be allocated a Personal Tutor to help discuss academic and personal issues.

## Learning Development Centre

The Learning Development Centre (LDC) provides innovative and practical support to enhance your learning at Aston.

The LDC brings together a range of services including advice on writing for assignments and research, a maths support centre staffed by specialist tutors, programming support and general study skills guidance covering exam and revision techniques, presentations, working in groups and much more.

**Peer mentoring** offers support for students by students with opportunities throughout your student life.

**Student volunteering** looks great on a CV and can help give you skills that employers look for.

Students looking for part-time work can use the **JobShop** based in the Students' Union. All term time

work offered to Aston students is advertised here as well as unskilled work for vacation periods.

## The Hub

Talk to staff at The Hub for appointments with the Counselling Service, the Advice Zone, the Disability Team, Registry for administration queries and the Finance Centre for payment queries.

**The Hub Advice Zone** can help with issues ranging from immigration (student and work visas) to academic advice, student hardship funds to student finance, Council Tax, managing your finances, legal issues and social security benefits.

**Advice & Representation Centre (ARC)** – the Students' Union's representation centre is for advice independent of the university. The ARC also manages Aston Student Homes, the best source of non-campus accommodation for Aston students.

**Optician** – the University optician's practice (staffed by final year Optometry students) is based on campus.

**Security and safety on campus** – fully trained and friendly security staff help ensure the safety of the Aston University community. Our campus is safe and friendly and crime on the campus is very rare.

**Nursery** – for children of staff and students, aged between six weeks and five years.

**Religious provision** – at the Martin Luther King Multi-Faith Centre and facilities in the Students' Union.

**The Hub IT Helpdesk** – help with IT queries, My Aston Portal, Aston email and student ID cards.



## Support for students with experience of being in care

We are proud of the support we offer our students. We are committed to providing pre-entry support and advice, help with the transition into higher education and support whilst you are here. There are many opportunities to access our comprehensive package.

For more information:

[www.aston.ac.uk/careleavers](http://www.aston.ac.uk/careleavers)

## Mature students

We encourage applications from mature students and those who have not recently been in formal education. We will consider each application on its individual merits.

## Finance Centre

The Finance Centre provides advice on financial issues.

For more information visit:

[www.aston.ac.uk/finance-centre](http://www.aston.ac.uk/finance-centre)



## Students with disabilities and specific learning difficulties

We welcome applications from students with disabilities or long-term medical conditions. Your application will be based on academic merit and any support needs you may have will be considered separately by our Disability Team.

Once the Admissions Team have made a decision on your application, the Disability Team will assess your form and may invite you for an interview to discuss arrangements in advance.

All teaching is carried out on our single flat campus, where our student residences are also located.

For the campus map see: [www.aston.ac.uk/about/directions](http://www.aston.ac.uk/about/directions)

We have a number of specially adapted rooms on campus and accommodation on campus may be guaranteed for the duration of your course if your individual circumstances warrant this. Rooms are available with ground floor/lift access, larger floor space, ensuite bathrooms, vibrating alert/doorbell systems, shower seats, grab rails etc.

To help you plan and prepare for university life, the Disability Team can provide advice and support on a confidential basis.

Students with disabilities from the UK may be eligible for extra financial support. You need to apply for the Disabled Student's Allowance (DSA) to access software, equipment such as a laptop, study skills tuition and anything else that is cost-related.

Application forms and eligibility criteria can be found on [www.gov.uk/disabled-students-allowances-dsas](http://www.gov.uk/disabled-students-allowances-dsas)

**346th out of over 6,000**  
universities around the world

(QS World University Rankings  
2015/2016)

**Top 80 in the world** for  
Graduate Employment

(QS Graduate Employment  
Ranking 2016)

**30th out of 120**  
UK universities

(The Times/Sunday Times  
Good University Guide 2016)

**The 33rd** most international  
university **in the world**

(The Most International  
University Ranking 2016)



# International students



**Students from over 120 countries study at Aston University each year, living in a lively, safe and friendly atmosphere.**

Aston University is a popular choice for international students. We recognise and welcome the important academic contribution and cultural diversity international students bring to our university environment.

### **Internationally recognised degrees**

British universities are highly respected throughout the world for the quality of their education and at Aston we demonstrate this clearly in the excellent teaching quality and research ratings of our degree programmes.

### **Excellent employment prospects**

Aston University graduates are highly sought after by major international companies. We are consistently outstanding for graduate employment year after year.

Our degree programmes are continually reviewed and updated to ensure that our graduates will have the necessary skills companies demand.

### **Professional work experience/ study placements**

International students have the opportunity to undertake a year of paid professional experience relevant to their degree subject by choosing to follow a placement degree programme. Aston has over 50 years of experience in providing students with integrated employer placements and was one of the pioneers of this approach. We have developed relationships with a large number of local, national and international employers, who come back to us year after year to employ our students. With the globalisation of business, graduating from Aston with professional experience will make you highly attractive to future employers.

### **Guaranteed accommodation**

All international fee paying undergraduate students are guaranteed campus accommodation for the full duration of their study, subject to the conditions outlined in the annual allocation policy. Applications need to be renewed by the deadline each year.

We will aim to meet your preferences but on occasion we may be unable to do this due to lack of availability of appropriate accommodation. Although we try to meet requests for mixed sex or single sex accommodation, it is not always possible for us to do so with your first choice of accommodation.

### **English language support**

If you need help with academic English whilst studying at Aston University, free support is available to international undergraduate, postgraduate, masters and research students, where staff can give you advice on essay, report and project writing, giving presentations, understanding lectures and reading effectively and efficiently.

### **Aston pre-sessional courses**

If you need to improve your English skills before you are considered for your chosen degree, you can apply for one of Aston's pre-sessional courses. Courses last 8, 12, 16, 20 or 30 weeks and it is usual for your future department to decide the length of the pre-sessional course. Pre-sessional programmes equip you with the language and academic skills necessary for success in your future chosen subject area.

For more information visit:

[www.aston.ac.uk/english-programmes](http://www.aston.ac.uk/english-programmes)



To find out more, visit:   
[www.aston.ac.uk/international](http://www.aston.ac.uk/international)

## English language requirements for direct entry to undergraduate programmes

We want to ensure that you do well in your studies and we therefore look for evidence of competence in written and spoken English. The minimum IELTS requirements for each School's programmes are as follows:

School	Reading	Writing	Listening	Speaking	Overall
Aston Business School	6.0	6.0	6.0	6.0	6.5
Engineering & Applied Science*	5.5	5.5	5.5	5.5	6.0
Life & Health Sciences**	6.0	6.0	6.0	6.0	6.5
Language & Social Sciences	5.5	5.5	5.5	5.5	6.0

\*Except Logistics courses and Computer Science with Business, where you need 6.5 overall (minimum of 6.0 in writing and speaking, and 5.5 in listening and reading).

\*\*PG Dip and MSc for Overseas for Pharmacists (OSPAP) you need 7.0 in all categories and overall for OSPAP IELTS.

In some cases we may also accept TOEFL, Pearson and some high school English qualifications. Please contact the International Office for further information.

## Aston International Year Abroad Programme and Year Abroad Programme

These programmes are for students from outside the UK who wish to improve their English ability and gain experience of studying in the UK.

For more information visit [www.aston.ac.uk/iss/english](http://www.aston.ac.uk/iss/english)

## Advice and support for international students

The International Student Advisers offer you advice on your application for a new visa to study at Aston University. Their service is free of charge. Once you have arrived at Aston, they will assist you with all your immigration related queries such as renewing your student visa, inviting your family to visit you whilst you are in the UK, sorting out a bank account and helping you with work visas once you have completed your course.

**International Welcome Week** at Aston is designed to help students from overseas settle into student life.

For more information visit: [www.aston.ac.uk/current-students/hub/iss](http://www.aston.ac.uk/current-students/hub/iss)

## International student scholarships

Many of our degree programmes offer scholarships for international students proven to excel in their subject area. For more information visit [www.aston.ac.uk/international-students/fees-and-scholarships](http://www.aston.ac.uk/international-students/fees-and-scholarships)

## Applications and entry qualifications

All undergraduate applicants must apply through UCAS (pages 154-155).

For our degree programmes we consider international applications throughout the year, but recommend that you apply as early as possible in the UCAS cycle. Entry requirements are listed in this prospectus in terms of A Level and International Baccalaureate (IB) Diploma qualifications. The University also accepts equivalent international qualifications and international access/foundation programmes. Information can be found on our website.

## International visits

Staff from the International Office and academic schools often travel overseas to education exhibitions and organise information sessions. This is an ideal opportunity to talk to us and find out more information.

For more information visit [www.aston.ac.uk/visits](http://www.aston.ac.uk/visits)

We also work with a network of overseas educational representatives in many countries, who can provide support throughout the application process, assist with your visa application and pre-departure arrangements.

For more information visit [www.aston.ac.uk/overseas-agents](http://www.aston.ac.uk/overseas-agents)

## Aston Students' Union and student societies

Aston Students' Union is a service run by students for students. Aston has over 80 clubs and societies which are an excellent way to meet new people and make friends. With such a great choice you are bound to find something to suit you, and if you can't, you can set one up!

## International Foundation Programme for international students

Aston University's International Foundation Programme (IFP) is a one year course designed for international students who do not have the required GCSEs, A levels or equivalent qualifications for entry to our undergraduate degree programmes. The programme is equivalent to the UK's Year 13 and is designed to prepare international students for a university education in Britain. The programme also provides students whose first language is not English with the opportunity to improve their academic English communication skills.

Progression to an undergraduate Bachelor's degree at Aston is guaranteed upon successful completion of the International Foundation Programme, where students have met the specific academic and English language grades.

## Learning, teaching and assessment

The programme is taught over three teaching terms, beginning at the end of September and ending in June the following year. It has been designed to ensure that you gain the right skills, experience and knowledge for degree level study.

You will be based on the Aston University campus and have access to all of the same facilities, including computer facilities, laboratories and the Library. Most of your lecturers also teach on the other degree programmes so you will meet them again in your undergraduate studies.

A combination of teaching methods is used so that you will be prepared to progress onto the undergraduate programme of your choice.



## Entry requirements

You must have attained excellent grades in your secondary school leaving certificate (Year 12) or equivalent. You will also need to have a recognised English language qualification. IELTS or Pearson are the most common ones but we also accept other English language qualifications; please contact us for further information.

\* Applicants who will be under 18 years of age at the start of the IFP in September will be considered on an individual basis and upon receiving parental consent and evidence of a UK-based guardian.

## The programme provides:

- ▶ An excellent introduction to studying your chosen subject
- ▶ A good grounding in the study skills needed to be successful at a high quality British university
- ▶ Coaching to help improve your English language skills if required.

Your English language ability will determine which language stream you will take. The minimum English language requirements for the IFP are:

- ▶ IELTS: Min 5.5 overall, with a min 5.0 in each section
- ▶ Pearson: Min 50 Overall with a minimum 42 in each section.

## How to apply

You should complete the IFP application form online: [www.aston.ac.uk/apply](http://www.aston.ac.uk/apply)

You must:

- ▶ Supply copies of your academic and English language qualifications achieved so far
- ▶ Give details of the courses you are currently studying, along with any results you are waiting for
- ▶ Select which undergraduate degree programme you want to progress onto.

For other enquiries, please contact us: [international@aston.ac.uk](mailto:international@aston.ac.uk)

To find out more, visit: [www.aston.ac.uk/international](http://www.aston.ac.uk/international)

## Joint Honours Programmes

Joint Honours degrees at Aston University allow you to study two separate subjects at Honours level in a way which integrates the two academic areas. Our Joint Honours degrees reach the same level as a Single Honours degree, but each subject covers less ground to allow you to diversify across two academic areas.

### Dedicated student support

Joint Honours students benefit from subject-based academic support just like Single Honours students. You will have access to our excellent University support services including careers advice, welfare and learning support. You will also be allocated a Personal Tutor.

### Placement year – gaining real world experience

Most Joint Honours programmes have the benefit of a compulsory placement year or year abroad, as part of the third year of study. A placement year gives you the opportunity to try out your chosen career path and provides you with the perfect opportunity to apply what you have learnt on your course in a professional work environment. Aston University is famous for its professional placement year. It provides a boost in life skills and specific work-based knowledge to bring back to the final year, and usually some much needed cash.

Aston University has a programme of placement and employment training equipping you with the necessary skills for gaining a placement, summer internships and a graduate job. We will assess your placement experience and this contributes to your degree.

### Learning, teaching and assessment

You will learn alongside Single Honours students in each subject, having the same access to academic staff, resources and specialist facilities as Single Honours students.



### Benefits of Joint Honours

- ▶ Study two subjects to Honours level in a way which integrates the two disciplines
- ▶ Keep your career options open and develop multiple skills
- ▶ Combine new subjects with familiar favourites
- ▶ 4 year degrees with an integrated placement year
- ▶ Paid and voluntary placement opportunities in the UK and abroad
- ▶ Excellent career prospects for graduates offering employers two subjects to Honours level.

### Applying for Joint Honours

You apply to our Joint Honours course via UCAS. Some course combinations require specific subjects at GCSE/A level or equivalent – see the detailed subject information to find out more about the entry requirements for each course:

Business	68, 72, 140
Economics	124, 135
English Language	94
International Business and Modern Languages	104
International Relations	106
Mathematics	68, 124
Modern Languages (French, German, Spanish, Translation Studies)	110
Politics	134, 135, 136
Psychology	140, 141
Public Policy and Social Policy	72, 143
Sociology	141, 145

If you have any questions about the course or the entry requirements, you will find contact details for the admissions staff on the pages listed above.

If you are made an offer you will be invited to an Open Day to meet staff and students. Staff will talk to you about the subject areas that you are interested in studying and you can have a tour of the university and student residences, enabling you to ask questions and get a feel for what it would be like studying at Aston.

# Academic schools

- ▶ Aston Business School
- ▶ School of Engineering & Applied Science
- ▶ School of Life & Health Sciences
- ▶ School of Languages & Social Sciences.



To find out more, visit:  
[www.aston.ac.uk](http://www.aston.ac.uk)

# Aston Business School

- ▶ Aston is very proud of its reputation and is among just 1% of business schools worldwide that have triple accreditation from the leading authorities – EQUIS, AACSB and AMBA.



## Why choose us?

- ▶ Outstanding record of graduate employment success. 83% of graduates finding employment go straight into graduate-level positions
- ▶ Full range of business subjects available – including broad-based and specialist degrees
- ▶ Integrated placement year gives you real business experience: over 30% of our students are offered jobs with their placement employer on graduation
- ▶ Over 35 years' experience of building relationships with employers; many big name companies actively target our business students for recruitment
- ▶ Average salary for the work placement is £15,000 whilst the placement year fee is just £1,000.

## Degree Programmes

### BSc

54	Accounting for Management
64	Business Computing and IT
66	Business and Management
83	Economics and Management
96	Finance
98	Human Resource Management
100	International Business and Economics
102	International Business and Management
104	International Business and Modern Languages
120	Marketing

### LLB

115	Law
116	Law with Management

### Related programmes

65	Business and International Relations
68	Business and Mathematics
69	Business and Politics
70	Business and Sociology
71	Business Management and English Language
72	Business, Management and Public Policy
80	Computer Science with Business
117	Logistics with Purchasing Management
118	Logistics with Supply Chain Management
119	Logistics with Transport Management
124	Mathematics with Economics
135	Politics and Economics
140	Psychology and Business

To find out more, visit: [www.aston.ac.uk/abs](http://www.aston.ac.uk/abs)

T: +44 (0)121 204 3030  
E: [absugentry@aston.ac.uk](mailto:absugentry@aston.ac.uk)

## A UK business school with an international reputation

Our undergraduate degrees have one simple aim – to get students ready for a life at the forefront of business. To this end, our curriculum is robust, relevant and rooted in the real world. A deep understanding of the needs of business, combined with a thorough, practical approach, mean that our graduates are able to contribute from the moment they start their first job. The knowledge and skills our students acquire has resulted in our enviable track record in graduate-level employability.

We were one of the first UK business schools to introduce a placement year for undergraduate students and we're proud that a third of our graduates are then offered full-time employment at their placement companies.

You can be confident in the depth of expertise within the Business School. Business Studies research at Aston received a score of 100% in the Government's Research Excellence Framework 2014.

Aston is very proud of its reputation and is among just 1% of business schools worldwide that have triple accreditation from the leading authorities – EQUIS, AACSB and AMBA.

### Recent graduates have found positions in:

- ▶ Accountancy and auditing
- ▶ Marketing and market research
- ▶ Sales administration
- ▶ Personnel and human resources
- ▶ Information management
- ▶ Operations management
- ▶ General management
- ▶ Business consultancy
- ▶ Civil Service and local government
- ▶ Police and armed forces
- ▶ Banking and finance

### Companies who target our graduates and placement students include:

<b>Accenture</b>	<b>Johnson &amp; Johnson</b>	<b>E.ON</b>
<b>Goldman Sachs</b>	<b>Danone</b>	<b>NHS</b>
<b>BMW</b>	<b>Mattel</b>	<b>Ernst &amp; Young</b>
<b>IBM</b>	<b>Deloitte</b>	<b>Warner Brothers</b>
<b>Caterpillar</b>	<b>Microsoft</b>	<b>General Motors</b>
<b>Intel</b>	<b>Disney</b>	<b>Xerox</b>
<b>Citibank</b>	<b>Morgan Stanley</b>	

### Excellent career prospects

As an ABS graduate, you will be able to draw on the favourable reputation of our programmes, which has built up over many years. Over 6,000 of our graduates are active in the business world, many in senior management positions. Well-known organisations actively target our students for recruitment during their final year of study and after graduation.

Recent employment figures show that 88% of our graduates found graduate level employment within six months of graduation. This is one of the highest graduate level employment rates in the UK.

### The first year

The first year of all our Single Honours degrees (excluding Law and Law with Management) covers a range of modules designed to give you a broad foundation and knowledge of business and management.

You will be introduced to the key areas of business as well as carrying out project work, which will help draw together the subjects you have studied.

#### First year modules include:

- ▶ Introduction to Organisational Behaviour
- ▶ Introduction to Management Accounting
- ▶ Perspectives on Business and Management
- ▶ Introduction to Financial Accounting
- ▶ Business Analytics
- ▶ Introduction to Marketing Management
- ▶ International Perspectives in Organisations
- ▶ English Legal Method and Contract Law
- ▶ Information Technology for Business.

#### Transferring between degrees at the end of your first year

Our common first year gives you the opportunity to experience different areas of business and management. This feature is particularly useful if you have not studied business before and/or are not sure which element of business particularly interests you. Upon completion of the first year you will have a better understanding of the various areas of management and may find that you would like to transfer from a broader business and management degree to one of our specialist degrees, or vice versa.

### Learning, teaching and assessment

You will experience a wide variety of learning and teaching methods, including:

- ▶ Lectures, tutorials and seminars
- ▶ Business games and case studies
- ▶ Group and individual project work
- ▶ Extensive use of online learning resources.

### Professional recognition

Our degrees are designed to offer accreditation from a wide range of professional bodies, giving exemption from many of their exams. Further information on specific degree accreditation can be found within the relevant subject entry and on our website.

### The placement year

The professional placement year is an essential and integral part of our degree programmes. This period of paid employment will give you experience of the practical problems of management, lay the foundations for your final year and is highly attractive to potential employers.

You will benefit from our excellent links with the business world. Opportunities exist in a wide range of organisations, from large multinationals to small firms, in both the private and public sector. Our dedicated Placements Team will help you throughout your placement search and provide you with support during the placement year.

In addition to our work placement opportunities, all students have the chance to study at one of our partner institutions abroad. Students studying International Business and Modern Languages or International Business and Management are expected to spend their placement year abroad.

The average salary for our placement year is around £15,000 whilst the placement fee is just £1,000. Some placements within the voluntary sector are also available. Each year, many of our students are offered a graduate job by their placement employer – proof that the placement year is an excellent 'springboard' to a future career. Please see page 19 for information on scholarships for the placement year.

**Please note:** the placement year is compulsory for all students except for those paying overseas fees.

To find out more, visit: ▶

[www.aston.ac.uk/abs](http://www.aston.ac.uk/abs)

T: +44 (0)121 204 3030

E: [absugentry@aston.ac.uk](mailto:absugentry@aston.ac.uk)

# School of Engineering & Applied Science

School of Engineering & Applied Science

## Why choose us?

- ▶ Leading Engineering and Applied Science education since 1895
- ▶ High quality research across all subject areas, fully integrated into teaching
- ▶ A wide range of programmes relevant to employers through professional accreditation and strong links with industry
- ▶ Excellent paid professional placement opportunities across all undergraduate degree courses

## Foundation Years

92 Engineering and Applied Science Foundation Year

## Degree Programmes

### Chemical Engineering and Applied Chemistry

74, 75 Chemical Engineering  
76 Chemistry/Applied Chemistry

### Applied Physics

55, 56 Applied Physics

### Computing

78 Computer Science  
79 Computer Science and Mathematics  
80 Computer Science with Business  
128 Multimedia Computing

### Construction

81 Construction Project Management

### Electronic Engineering and Communications

77 Communications Engineering  
84 Electrical Power Engineering  
86, 87 Electrical and Electronic Engineering  
90, 91 Electronic Engineering and Computer Science

## Logistics

117 Logistics with Purchasing Management  
118 Logistics with Supply Chain Management  
119 Logistics with Transport Management

## Mathematics

121 Mathematics  
122 Mathematics for Industry  
123 Mathematics with Computing  
68 Business and Mathematics  
124 Mathematics with Economics

## Mechanical Engineering

88 ElectroMechanical Engineering  
82 Design Engineering BEng  
126, 127 Mechanical Engineering

## Product Design

99 Industrial Product Design  
137 Product Design & Management  
147 Transport Product Design



Aston achieved the Athena Swan Silver Award in recognition of our commitment to the advancement and promotion of the careers of women in Science, Engineering and Technology.

To find out more, visit: ▶  
[www.aston.ac.uk/eas](http://www.aston.ac.uk/eas)

T: +44 (0)121 204 3400  
E: [engineering@aston.ac.uk](mailto:engineering@aston.ac.uk)

### Learning to learn – Conceive, Design, Implement & Operate (CDIO)

Becoming an engineer, scientist or designer requires technical knowledge and practical skills, social awareness, team and project management abilities.

We pride ourselves on our practically relevant courses where students engage in practical, cross-disciplinary project-based work.

Working with you, we use a practical, project-based approach to teaching and learning, moving away from intense and assessment-heavy teaching to a culture where students have space and encouragement, learning to learn for themselves.

The CDIO (Conceive, Design, Implement & Operate) initiative is supported by around 50 of the world's top technical institutions. We work with universities including Liverpool and Queens (Belfast) in the UK; MIT and Purdue in the United States; Chalmers and the Danish Technical University in Scandinavia and Tsinghua in China.

Aston is a leading player in the global CDIO community. CDIO is a great way to learn and shows employers the 'can do' Aston approach to design and engineering.

To find out more visit: [www.aston.ac.uk/eas/undergraduate/cdio](http://www.aston.ac.uk/eas/undergraduate/cdio)

### Apprenticeship degrees in Technology Solutions

The Technology Solutions Professional implements technology solutions that enable businesses to develop new products and services and to increase organisational productivity using digital technologies. This government-backed scheme allows you to take a full BSc degree while allowing you to benefit from integrating work and academic study. The tuition fees are paid in full by government and employer. Please see the website for more information.

### Defence Technical Undergraduate Scheme (DTUS)

This scheme supports potential engineers and logistics personnel who wish to serve as commissioned officers in the Royal Navy, Army and Royal Air Force, or as graduate engineers within the Ministry of Defence Civil Service. Students from other parts of the university may also be eligible for this scheme.

For more information contact the School of Engineering and Applied Science on 0121 204 3400 or email [engineering@aston.ac.uk](mailto:engineering@aston.ac.uk).

### Working with industry

All courses offered by the School of Engineering and Applied Science include an integrated one year placement in industry, business or research and development and are designated 4 or 5 year integrated placement courses.

We encourage all our students to undertake a placement year as not only will you gain an appreciation of your academic studies, you will also receive valuable work experience that will help you to differentiate yourself from other graduates. A dedicated Placements Team is available to support you throughout the placement process.

#### Benefits of a placement year:

- ▶ Increase your employability prospects
- ▶ Allow you to put the theory of your degree into practice
- ▶ Give an insight into your chosen career
- ▶ Most placements are paid work experience
- ▶ Develop workplace skills
- ▶ Employers can use the placement year as a 12 month interview, and have offered students graduate positions

For those students who do not wish to take the opportunity of the integrated placement year, most of our courses are available on a 3 or 4 year full-time basis.



### Teacher training as part of your degree

BSc programmes with Science, Computer Science or Mathematics Education and incorporating Teacher Training, in collaboration with Newman University, Birmingham (subject to NCTL clearance).

If you apply for one of our standard BSc programmes in Mathematics, Computer Science and Chemistry (Single and Joint Honours) at the beginning of the second year you can transfer to the Teacher Training pathway. If successful, you will move to Newman University for a one-year teacher training programme in year 3 and return for your final year at Aston University. You must take a compulsory 20-credit module called 'Education in the Curriculum' in your final year. This module replaces some of the optional modules available in the final year.

If you are successful on the teacher training programme, you will graduate with an **Aston University BSc Honours degree PLUS Qualified Teacher Status (QTS)**, and ready to apply for secondary school teaching posts in Mathematics or Chemistry.

#### Key facts:

- ▶ A minimum grade of 2:2 (Lower Second Class Honours) to be eligible for the QTS award.
- ▶ You will be registered as a QTS holder with the relevant teaching council.
- ▶ You may be eligible for a bursary from either Newman University or NCTL.
- ▶ Tuition fees will be payable during the year you study at Newman University. Tuition fees for the ITT year go directly to Newman University.
- ▶ A compulsory DBS (Disclosure and Barring Service) check for each student wishing to transfer to the teacher training pathway. This is part of the application process and costs the student approximately £60.
- ▶ You need to submit a formal application to Newman University through the Aston University contact.
- ▶ You must take, and pass, online numeracy and literacy assessments (the minimum required mark is 80%).

#### What degree will students get?

The degree awarded will be an Aston University degree – eg. BSc (Hons) in Chemistry with Science Education (QTS).

#### Year 1 & 2

- ▶ Maths
- ▶ Chemistry
- ▶ Computer Science
- ▶ Computer Science with Business

#### Year 3

choice for year 3 [ ITT (Initial Teacher Training) – equivalent to PGCE

#### Year 4 Final

- ▶ Maths
- ▶ Chemistry
- ▶ Computer Science
- ▶ Computer Science with Business

### Graduate with an Aston University degree and QTS – ready to teach

**MAKE. BELIEVE.**

Engineering and the applied sciences shape every aspect of our world, from architecture to medicine to social media technology. If you want to change See the opportunity. Make the change. **Believe the difference.**

To find out more, visit: ▶ [www.aston.ac.uk/eas](http://www.aston.ac.uk/eas)

T: +44 (0)121 204 3400  
E: [engineering@aston.ac.uk](mailto:engineering@aston.ac.uk)



# School of Life & Health Sciences



Aston achieved the Athena Swan Bronze Award in recognition of our commitment to the advancement and promotion of the careers of women in Science, Engineering and Technology.

## Why choose us?

- ▶ Rated 96% overall for student satisfaction (National Student Survey 2015).
- ▶ Our graduates have an excellent record of finding employment within six months of graduating (DLHE 2015).
- ▶ Undergraduate teaching is informed by cutting edge research, 94% of research undertaken is world leading or internationally recognised (REF 2014)
- ▶ Recently refurbished teaching facilities equipped with the latest subject related technology.

## Degree Programmes

57	Audiology Programmes	132	Pharmacy
58	Biology Programmes	138	Psychology
59	Biology MBiol	140	Psychology and Business
61	Biomedical Engineering	141	Psychology and Sociology
62	Biomedical Science		
129	Neuroscience	60	Qualified Teacher Status
130	Optometry		

**Related information**

## Predicted grades

We make admissions decisions based upon a range of factors including predicted grades, past qualifications, personal statement and reference. If your predicted grades fall within the following range CCC-A\*A\*A\* or equivalent your application will be considered. Our typical offers for each programme can be found on the individual programme page.

To find out more, visit: ▶  
[www.aston.ac.uk/lhs](http://www.aston.ac.uk/lhs)

T: +44 (0)121 204 3000  
E: [lhsadmissions@aston.ac.uk](mailto:lhsadmissions@aston.ac.uk)

# School of Languages & Social Sciences

## Why choose us?

- ▶ Outstanding reputation for student satisfaction, teaching quality and research
- ▶ Integrated year abroad or sandwich placement with excellent student support
- ▶ Excellent record of graduate employment success for students
- ▶ First-class student support, including a Personal Tutor system
- ▶ Teaching conducted by internationally renowned research experts.

## Degree Programmes

65	Business and International Relations (Joint Honours)	113	Languages – Translation Studies – French, German, Spanish
69	Business and Politics (Joint Honours)	114	Languages – International Relations and Languages
70	Business and Sociology (Joint Honours)	134	Politics (Joint Honours)
71	Business Management and English Language (Joint Honours)	135	Politics and Economics (Joint Honours)
72	Business, Management and Public Policy (Joint Honours)	136	Politics with International Relations (Single Honours)
94	English Language (Single and Joint Honours)	143	Social Policy (Joint Honours)
104	International Business and Modern Languages (IBML)	144	Sociology (Single and Joint Honours)
106	International Relations (Joint Honours)		<b>Related information</b>
110	Languages – French, German, Spanish (Single and Joint Honours)	53	The Aston Year Abroad
112	Languages – Modern Languages with Qualified Teacher Status (QTS)	52	The Social Sciences Placement Year

To find out more, visit: ▶  
[www.aston.ac.uk/lss](http://www.aston.ac.uk/lss)

T: +44 (0)121 204 3777  
E: [lss\\_ugadmissions@aston.ac.uk](mailto:lss_ugadmissions@aston.ac.uk)

## The Social Sciences Placement Year

Our distinctive sandwich placement year is a key feature of our social sciences degrees at Aston. The placement year is designed to give you:

- ▶ The opportunity to gain a realistic preview of your chosen career
- ▶ A chance to put the skills and knowledge you have learnt in the first two years of your degree programme into practice in a real-life workplace environment
- ▶ An opportunity to earn a salary – many of our placements are paid
- ▶ Experience of team work, business culture and taking responsibility for your own contribution
- ▶ Valuable work experience and enhance your employability
- ▶ A potential foundation for a successful career in your chosen field.

You can choose to spend the placement year in the UK or abroad.



During my placement year I went to New York where I worked in marketing, advertising and promotions. I learnt how to create direct marketing campaigns and present them to potential clients; how to plan, implement and evaluate partnerships and promotions, and also how to conduct research for current and future projects. I assisted in creating direct marketing campaigns and helped accumulate financial statements and reviews. I aided the coordination of market research projects and assisted in the formulating of future marketing schemes. The skills I gained include time management, self-discipline, improved communication skills, and also team cooperation. I learnt how to understand different viewpoints as well as my own."

**Tomi Olarewaju, BSc Sociology**



I completed my first placement at a creative agency in London, as a Marketing and Sales Executive. This was an opportunity to put elements of my sociology degree into practice and receive a salary! I went on to complete an internship with AkzoNobel, the owners of Dulux, as a Marketing Brand Manager. My experience means that I am able to communicate with others effectively, take on vast amounts of responsibility and solve business related problems."

**Amy Leighton, BSc Business and Sociology**

To find out more, visit: ▶  
[www.aston.ac.uk/lss](http://www.aston.ac.uk/lss)

T: +44 (0)121 204 3777  
E: [lss\\_ugadmissions@aston.ac.uk](mailto:lss_ugadmissions@aston.ac.uk)

## The Aston Year Abroad

We are extremely proud of the level of preparation and support that we provide before and during your year abroad. The year abroad is an integral, assessed part of your language studies at Aston University, fully supported by our dedicated International Placements Team alongside academic tutors and directly relevant to your degree programme.

A key feature of our year abroad is the flexibility that we offer. You will be able to choose between undertaking a work placement with a company, working as a teaching assistant in a school or studying at one of our partner universities abroad (applicants for Modern Languages with Qualified Teacher Status should refer to page 112). You may even choose to combine two of these options. If you are studying two languages you will normally divide your time equally between two countries where each of your languages is spoken (this does not apply to students taking one language from beginners level, although you may choose a study placement which will allow you to keep up your new, second language).

### Work abroad

A work placement in a company abroad offers you the chance to gain valuable professional experience as well as improve your language skills. We have established links with a range of employers in France, Germany, Spain and Latin America and you will be able to take advantage of these – which are built on the reputation of Aston students – in obtaining a work experience placement for your year abroad.

### Study abroad

Another possibility for your year abroad is to study at one of our partner universities. We currently enjoy excellent links with highly regarded universities in Lille, Rennes, Tours, Montpellier, Paderborn, Vienna, Leipzig, Barcelona, Granada and Santiago. If you choose to study at one of our partner institutions you will follow the same courses as local students and there will be an individual learning agreement between you, us and your exchange university. This ensures that the courses you take are relevant to your degree at Aston.

### Teaching assistantship abroad

Spending the year abroad as a paid language teaching assistant is not just for those interested in teaching as a potential career. Whatever your plans after graduation, you will undoubtedly benefit from the improved confidence, interpersonal and communication skills that our students gain from undertaking a teaching assistantship. These skills are highly valued by the employers who regularly recruit Aston graduates. Recently our students have enjoyed teaching assistantships in schools in France, Canada, Germany, Guadeloupe, Austria, Spain and Argentina.

### Key benefits

- ▶ Dedicated International Placements Team who will give you plenty of individual help and advice when choosing your placement, as well as organising a series of talks and workshops to help you get the most out of your year abroad
- ▶ Flexible range of work, study and assistantship options in a variety of countries and environments
- ▶ Our Placements Team provide support throughout the year to help ensure that things go smoothly.



Watch our Year Abroad videos at:  
<http://bit.ly/LTSVideos>



When I was at Aston I was lucky enough to spend my year abroad on two work placements: I spent the first half of the year in the translation department of SAP, a large international software company based in Waldorf, Germany, and then I went to work for Air France in Toulouse, where I taught English and ran the language centre there. I started back at Aston in 2010 on the MA Translation in a European Context and it was during that year that I found out about and applied to my current employer. I've been living and working in Würzburg, Germany, since October 2011. I work as a Teaching Fellow at a private higher education institution that trains translators and interpreters. I teach 24 classes a week across all three years of the undergraduate program. My teaching focuses mainly on general and specialised translation from German into English."

**Melissa Sadler, Translation Studies – French and German BSc**

**Key facts**

4 year course with placement year  
3 year course without placement available for non-EU students only.

**UCAS code:** N420

**Typical offer level**  
A Level: AAB-ABB

BTEC National Diploma: DDD

IB: 35/34 points

Other qualifications see pages 154-155

**Specific subject requirements**

GCSE: Maths Grade B and English Grade C.

**Key benefits**

- ▶ An accounting degree set within a broad management context
- ▶ Internationally recognised for research
- ▶ Paid professional placement year and excellent graduate opportunities
- ▶ Extensive accreditation and professional exemptions.

**What are my career prospects?**

Of our most recent Accounting for Management graduates, 95% went into graduate level employment within six months of graduation. Below are examples of the graduate positions they have obtained:

**Deloitte** – Auditor

**Grant Thornton** – Accountancy Trainee

**Home Serve** – Portfolio Analyst

**Islamic relief** – International Finance Officer

**KPMG** – Trainee Accountant

**Laid Law Interiors Group** – Assistant Accountant

**Rentokil** – Management Information Analyst

**Sainsbury's** – Fixed Assets Analyst

**What will I study?**

Accountants play a key role in the formulation and implementation of business decisions, both strategic and tactical, through their uniquely analytical approach to the assessment of the financial implications of business plans. Accounting for Management focuses on the crucial role which financial information plays in decisions made by management teams, and in the monitoring and planning of a business organisation's objectives.

**How does it work?****Programme outline****Year 1**

Common first year covering all major business functions to help underpin your studies. See page 43 for further information.

**Additional first year module:**

Careers in Accounting & Financial Management.

**Year 2**

Explore financial and management accounting and finance in depth, participate in events organised in conjunction with accountancy firms, visit businesses and undertake an interactive business game.

**Modules include:** Making Managerial Decisions using Accounting Information; Financial Accounting; Financial Management; Audit and Governance; Principles of Corporate Law; Business Game; Business Policy; Business Government and Society.

**Placement year**

The 4 year placement course incorporates spending the third year in a professional placement gaining valuable practical business experience. See page 43 for further information.

**Final year**

Accounting studies are taken to a more refined level, similar to professional qualification standard but retaining theoretical analysis.

**Modules include:** Strategic Management; Advanced Financial Accounting; The Organisational Context of Management Accounting; Taxation: Policy & Practice; Auditing and Professional Ethics; International Finance; Risk Management; Financial Analysis.

**What else should I know?****Professional recognition**

Our graduates can claim exemptions from the examinations of a number of professional bodies including:

Association of International Accountants (AIA)

Chartered Institute of Management Accountants (CIMA)

Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales (ICAEW)

Association of Chartered Certified Accountants (ACCA)

Certified Practising Accountants (CPA) Australia.

91%

for student satisfaction in Accounting (National Student Survey 2015)

**Key facts**

4 year placement course.

**UCAS code:** F300

**Typical offer level**

A level: ABB-BBC

IB: 32 points

Other qualifications see pages 154-155

**Specific subject requirements**

A Level: Maths and Physics at Grade B are essential

IB: Higher Level Maths and Physics are essential

General Studies and Critical Thinking not accepted

GCSE: Maths Grade C and English Grade C.

**Key benefits**

- ▶ A thorough knowledge of basic physical principles, as well as the theoretical knowledge and skills required for specific technological applications
- ▶ The Electrical, Electronic & Power Engineering subject group is internationally recognised for research and this is reflected in the final year project opportunities.

**What are my career prospects?**

Research and development in high-technology industries including telecommunications, microelectronics and microdevices, optics, lasers, novel materials and advanced manufacturing after graduation. Additionally, the broad, thorough training provided in fundamentals and applied technology by this programme will enable our graduates to explore other burgeoning fields, such as energy, nanotechnology, biotechnology, and communications technology. Applied physics graduates can also enter advanced degree programmes to start an academic career and conduct research. Applied physics is an ideal background for careers in patent law or finance.

**What will I study?**

Physics is a core discipline addressing many of the challenges facing modern society, from the need for sustainable power generation to our thirst for ever-higher data rates on the internet. Our Applied Physics programme explores the boundary where fundamental physics meets applied science and physics coupled with an appreciation of its application in engineering disciplines. This programme prepares you for an industrial, research and higher education career, or further advanced degrees in applied physics, physics or engineering disciplines.

**How does it work?****Programme outline****Year 1**

The BSc and MPhys programmes share a common first two years. The first year lays the foundations of the discipline, and comprises modules on mechanics, theory of electricity, introduction to optics and waves, thermodynamics, experimental physics, modern physics, mathematics, computing, electrical circuit theory, and digital and analogue electronics.

**Year 2**

A deeper understanding of more complex physical phenomena and further improve your mathematical and experimental skills with modules on electromagnetism, quantum mechanics, condensed matter physics, physics laboratory, mathematical methods, electronic systems analysis, instrumentation, electrical systems engineering, and communication systems. A physics group project provides experience of team work and the chance of studying in-depth a particular field of physics at research level. Transfer between the BSc and MPhys programmes is possible at this point subject to meeting the relevant entry requirements.

**Placement year**

The opportunity either to work in paid employment as a scientist in industry, or to study or undertake project work at a university abroad. The industrial placement will give you experience working in the professional world and an opportunity to develop skills essential for employment. Studying or working in a research environment abroad will introduce you to a new academic and cultural environment and complement your studies.

**Final year**

Core modules cover atomic and nuclear physics, optoelectronics and project management. You can then select from a broad range of options or specialise on one particular area such as communications, nanotechnology, photonics, biotechnology or power engineering. The programme is designed so that most examined work is completed by January of the final year allowing you to spend the final semester concentrating on a substantial individual experimental or theoretical project in an area that interests you, which will often be aligned with the research activity within the School.

**Key facts**

4 year placement course.

**Typical offer level**

A Level: AAA-ABB

IB: 34 points

Other qualifications see pages 154-155

**Specific subject requirements**

A Level: Maths and Physics at Grade A are essential

IB: Higher Level Maths and Physics are essential

General Studies and Critical Thinking not accepted

GCSE: Maths Grade C and English Grade C.

**Key benefits**

- ▶ A thorough knowledge of basic physical principles, as well as the theoretical knowledge and skills required for specific technological applications
- ▶ Select from courses in nanoscience and technology, optical communications, photonics and bio-photonics, or power in year 4
- ▶ The Electrical, Electronic & Power Engineering subject group is internationally recognised for research and this is reflected in the final year project opportunities.

**What are my career prospects?**

Research and development in high-technology industries in various fields, including telecommunications, microelectronics and microdevices, optics, lasers, novel materials and advanced manufacturing after graduation. Additionally, the broad, thorough training provided in fundamentals and applied technology by this programme will enable our graduates to explore other burgeoning fields, such as energy, nanotechnology, biotechnology, and communications technology. Applied physics graduates can also enter advanced degree programmes to start an academic career and conduct research. Applied physics is an ideal background for careers in patent law or finance.

**What will I study?**

This fast-track, higher level qualification allows you to gain an MPhys qualification in four years and includes a 12 month industrial or research placement. In most other institutions this path takes five years to complete.

Physics is a core discipline at the heart of our attempts to address many of the challenges facing modern society, from the need for sustainable power generation to our thirst for ever-higher data rates on the internet. This Applied Physics programme explores the boundary where fundamental physics meets applied science and physics coupled with an appreciation of its application in engineering disciplines. This programme prepares you for an industrial, research and high education career, or further advanced degrees in applied physics, physics or engineering disciplines.

**How does it work?****Programme outline****Year 1**

The BSc and MPhys programmes share a common first two years. The first year lays the foundations of the discipline, and comprises modules on mechanics, theory of electricity, introduction to optics and waves, thermodynamics, experimental physics, modern physics, mathematics, computing, electrical circuit theory, and digital and analogue electronics.

**Year 2**

A deeper understanding of more complex physical phenomena and further improve your mathematical and experimental skills with modules on electromagnetism, quantum mechanics, condensed matter physics, physics laboratory, mathematical methods, electronic systems analysis, instrumentation, electrical systems engineering, and communication systems. A physics group project provides experience of team work and the chance of studying in-depth a particular field of physics at the research level. MPhys students take additional modules after the summer exams in the second year.

**Year 3**

The final two years give a thorough preparation for research work in industry or a PhD course, and allow you to gain valuable experience working on an applied physics placement. The placement provides the opportunity either to work in paid employment as a scientist in industry, or to study or undertake project work at a university abroad. The placement is academically assessed and by taking additional distance learning modules during the third year you can incorporate the placement within a four year course saving you both time and money.

**Year 4**

Core modules cover atomic and nuclear physics, optoelectronics and digital signal processing. You can then take a range of Master level courses in areas such as communications, nanotechnology, photonics, biotechnology or power engineering. You will also complete a substantial individual experimental or theoretical project in an area that interests you, which will often be aligned with the research activity within the School.

**What will I study?**

The BSc Audiology programmes are designed to meet the needs of professional audiologists providing services in both the NHS and independent sector. They are part of the Modernising Scientific Careers suite of qualifications and fit within the Neurosensory Sciences strand. You are expected to become competent in areas of audiological practice during the course, meaning graduates of the BSc Healthcare Science (Audiology) can register and work in the NHS and independent sector on graduation.

The BSc Audiological Science Degree is aimed at non-UK applicants who wish to become audiologists. Students are on campus at Aston for the first and second year and then return to their home country in the final year and undertake a placement in a healthcare setting.

**How does it work?****Programme outline****Year 1**

Introduction to a range of basic sciences related to healthcare science and more detailed teaching in the related areas of neurophysiology and vision science as part of the neurosensory sciences strand. You will also be introduced to clinical procedures and the skills needed to work with and manage patients.

Clinical & Professional Practice; Introductory Sciences I; Introductory Sciences II; Introductory Sciences III; Introductory Sciences IV; Applied Physics & Measurement.

**Year 2**

Advanced areas of audiology are introduced, such as hearing assessment and hearing aid provision. In addition, hearing sciences are addressed in more depth and students learn about research methods.

Clinical & Professional Practice; Auditory Sciences; Audiological Assessment; Auditory Intervention; Child Development; Research Methods.

**Final year**

Please note, BSc Audiological Science students will return to their home country for their Final Year.

Preparation for a professional career as an audiologist. You will have the opportunity to research a chosen audiology topic in depth in the dissertation component; learn how to relate research to developing good clinical practice and be introduced to specialised areas of audiology such as the assessment of children and balance disorders.

Clinical & Professional Practice; Auditory Sciences; Specialist Audiological Assessment; Advanced Auditory Intervention; Specialist Audiological Assessment; work based project.

**What else should I know?****Professional accreditation**

The BSc Healthcare Science (Audiology) programme is accredited by the Registration Council for Clinical Physiologists; Health Education England; and approved by the Health & Care Professions Council. These will enable you to work in the NHS as an audiologist and the independent sector as a hearing aid dispenser.

**Disclosure and Barring Service**

Students are required to undertake a Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) check before they start this programme. In addition to the normal academic requirements, and in line with other regulated health professions, continuation on the programme and award of these registerable degrees is subject to Fitness to Practice regulations. For further details visit: [www.aston.ac.uk/study/undergraduate/courses/lhs/fitness-to-practice-information/](http://www.aston.ac.uk/study/undergraduate/courses/lhs/fitness-to-practice-information/)

**Key facts**

3 years full-time with integrated placement years throughout

**UCAS code:**

BSc Healthcare Science Audiology B611 (for Home students only)

Audiological Sciences B610 (for Overseas students only)

**Typical offer level**

ABB/BBB from three A Levels including one science subject (offer may be increased where A Levels are being retaken for the first time)

Additional AS Levels are taken into account Other qualifications see pages 154-155

**Specific subject requirements**

A Level: Biology, Chemistry or Physics (Biology preferred)

GCSE: English Language and Mathematics Grade B.

**Key benefits**

- ▶ Clinical skills laboratory is equipped with the latest audiometric instruments, identical to those that you will encounter in practice
- ▶ Using a computerised patient helps you develop clinical skills along with simulations of clinical situations
- ▶ Small cohort numbers allow a wide range of teaching approaches
- ▶ Excellent placement opportunities in each academic year – important to develop skills such as working in clinical teams and managing time.

**What are my career prospects?**

Audiologists work in multidisciplinary teams, liaising with medical, education and research professionals. A desire to help people is an important component of the programme. The ageing population means demand for hearing assessment and treatment services is set to rise. Graduates can enter careers in hospitals, community-based practice, audiological and neurosciences research.



**Key facts**

BSc 3 year full-time/4 year with integrated placement year

**UCAS codes:**

BSc Biological Sciences C112

BSc Cell and Molecular Biology CC17

BSc Human Biology B150

BSc Microbiology and Immunology C550

**Typical offer level**

ABB-BBB

Other qualifications see pages 154-155

**Specific subject requirements**

A Level: Biology or Human Biology at Grade B or above

Chemistry at A/AS Level welcomed but not essential

GCSE: English Language and Maths Grade C.

**Key benefits**

- ▶ Paid professional placement year opportunities
- ▶ Close links with industry and hospitals and a strong record of graduate success
- ▶ Please note that there is no benefit to applying to more than one of these biology programmes at Aston University as you will have the flexibility to change from one to the other once you are enrolled.

**What are my career prospects?**

Graduates can enter a wide range of professional careers. Around 30-40% of our graduates go into research, while others enter a wide range of careers in health, welfare and the biological industries. In addition to scientific positions some graduates enter general management and personnel work as well as product development and marketing.

**What will I study?**

Biology can be studied at several levels ranging from molecular interactions at a sub-cellular level to cellular interactions at a tissue level, or even the interactions of whole organisms. Biology therefore encompasses many academic fields that may be regarded as individual disciplines. For example, disciplines including microbiology, immunology, biochemistry, molecular biology, molecular genetics and cell biology study life at the cellular and molecular level, whilst human evolution and physiology explore life on a multicellular scale. In combination, however, these disciplines intertwine to form Biology, the scientific study of life, in both health and disease.

There are currently four BSc Honours programmes offered as 3 year full-time degrees or 4 year degrees with an industrial placement. These modern degree programmes are specifically designed to promote an awareness of the application of biological knowledge to human health and welfare, and to equip students with the skills necessary to succeed in a dynamic subject.

**BSc Biological Sciences****BSc Cell and Molecular Biology****BSc Human Biology****BSc Microbiology and Immunology****Year 1****Common to all programmes:**

Molecular Biology; Physiology; Microbiology I; Inheritance and Population Genetics; Development and Human Anatomy; Biochemistry; Key Skills I; Cell Biology; Introductory Immunology.

**Year 2****Common to all programmes:**

Immunology; Molecular Genetics; Biotechnology; Metabolism; Nutrition and Dietetics; Molecular Pathology; Endocrinology; Key Skills II; Microbiology II.

After a common first and second year you choose five topics for specialisation. The combination of options chosen will be reflected in, and determine, the degree title as given above. Final year options which are chosen at the end of the second year include: Human Physiology; Immunology; Food Microbiology; Applied Molecular Biology; Clinical Microbiology & Infectious Disease; Cell Biology; Medical Biochemistry; Cell Biology of Cancer Metastasis & Toxicology; Biological Basis of Human Disease; Cancer Biology; Stem Cell Biology; Bioethics.

All students undertake a research project.

**Aston Biological Sciences ranked top 15 in UK for teaching quality**  
(Sunday Times 2016)

**94%**

**Overall student satisfaction**  
(National Student Survey 2015)

**Key facts**

MBiol 4 year full-time or 5 year through industrial placement.

**UCAS codes:**

MBiol C114

**Typical offer level**

ABB-BBB

Other qualifications see pages 154-155

**Specific subject requirements**

A Level: Biology or Human Biology at Grade B or above

Chemistry at A/AS Level welcomed but not essential

GCSE: English Language and Maths Grade C.

**Key benefits**

- ▶ Paid professional placement year opportunities
- ▶ Close links with industry and hospitals and a strong record of graduate success

**What are my career prospects?**

The MBIol serves to produce students with the high level competencies directed specifically to a career in bioscience research.

**What will I study?**

Biology can be studied at several levels ranging from molecular interactions at a sub-cellular level to cellular interactions at a tissue level, or even the interactions of whole organisms. Biology therefore encompasses many academic fields that may be regarded as individual disciplines. For example, disciplines including microbiology, immunology, biochemistry, molecular biology, molecular genetics and cell biology study life at the cellular and molecular level, whilst human evolution and physiology explore life on a multicellular scale. In combination, however, these disciplines intertwine to form Biology, the scientific study of life, in both health and disease.

**Year 1**

Molecular Biology; Physiology; Microbiology I; Inheritance and Population Genetics; Development and Human Anatomy; Biochemistry; Key Skills I; Cell Biology; Introductory Immunology.

**Year 2**

Immunology; Molecular Genetics; Biotechnology; Metabolism; Nutrition and Dietetics; Molecular Pathology; Endocrinology; Key Skills II; Microbiology II.

**Year 3**

**You will study:** Key Practical Skills, Immunology, Applied Molecular Biology and Bioethics as well as completing a research project. In addition you will choose two options from: Human Physiology, Food Microbiology, Clinical Microbiology and Infectious Disease, Cell Biology, Medical Biochemistry, Toxicology, Cell Biology of Cancer Metastasis, Biological Basis of Human Disease and Cancer Biology.

**Final year (MBiol)**

Students will have to choose four modules and undertake a six month laboratory research project. **Optional modules include:** Neurodegenerative Disease; Obesity and Metabolic Disorders; Stem Cell Biology; Enzyme Technology; Oxidative Stress and Inflammatory Disease; ABC Transporters in Health and Disease.

**What else should I know?**

Graduates from our Biology programmes are eligible for graduate membership of the Society of Biology (AMSB), the Royal Society for Public Health and the Royal Society of Medicine.

## Biology with Science Education and Qualified Teacher Status BSc\*

(\*subject to NCTL clearance)

### Key facts

This is a 4 year programme combining both Biological Science and Teacher Training which offers you an opportunity to obtain teaching experience in secondary education whilst gaining Qualified Teacher Status (QTS).

Students will study Biological Science at Aston University with Teacher Training at Newman University on how to teach chemistry, physics, and biology including laboratory classes. Newman is a small university with an excellent reputation in teacher training. The training at Newman is accredited by the National College for Teaching and Learning (NCTL).

**UCAS codes:** C100

### Key benefits

- ▶ You will be equipped with the skills and qualities necessary for research, appropriate employment and a valuable contribution to society
- ▶ Experience different academic and learning approaches through the study of Biology with Initial Teacher Training (ITT).

### What are my career prospects?

With QTS, you can enter directly into full teaching roles after graduation without needing a postgraduate qualification.

### What will I study?

With QTS, you can enter directly into full teaching roles after graduation without needing a postgraduate qualification. Biology can be studied at several levels ranging from molecular interactions at a sub-cellular level to cellular interactions at a tissue level, or even the interactions of whole organisms. Biology therefore encompasses many academic fields that may be regarded as individual disciplines. For example, disciplines including microbiology, immunology, biochemistry, molecular biology, molecular genetics and cell biology study life at the cellular and molecular level, whilst human evolution and physiology explore life on a multicellular scale. In combination, however, these disciplines intertwine to form Biology, the scientific study of life, in both health and disease.

#### Year 1

Molecular Biology; Physiology; Microbiology I; Inheritance and Population Genetics; Development and Human Anatomy; Biochemistry; Key Skills I; Cell Biology; Introductory Immunology.

#### Year 2

Immunology; Molecular Genetics; Biotechnology; Metabolism; Nutrition and Dietetics; Molecular Pathology; Endocrinology; Key Skills II; Microbiology II.

During your second year at Aston, students interview for places on a one year teacher training programme at Newman University. Successful candidates need to have a second stage average of 60% or greater and two weeks of teaching experience. Students will also have to pass online literacy and numeracy tests and undergo a DBS check (see below).

#### Year 3

During your third year, students enrol at Newman, take taught modules there and work on placements in secondary schools in the West Midlands. Tuition fees will be payable to Newman University during this year.

#### Final year

For your fourth year, you return to Aston to deepen your knowledge of Biology. You also take one module from Newman on Creativity in the Classroom to maintain a teaching focus.

#### Final year biology options include:

Human Physiology; Immunology; Food Microbiology; Applied Molecular Biology; Clinical Microbiology & Infectious Disease; Cell Biology; Medical Biochemistry; Cell Biology of Cancer Metastasis & Toxicology; Biological Basis of Human Disease; Cancer Biology; Stem Cell Biology; Bioethics.

### What else should I know?

You will need a minimum grade of a 2.2 (lower second class honours) to be eligible for the QTS award.

#### Disclosure and Barring Service

Please note that because this programme requires contact with the public, students are required to undertake a Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) check before they start.

## Biomedical Engineering BEng/MEng

### What will I study?

As a Biomedical Engineer, you will be entering the profession at a time of exciting change and innovation. Biomedical Engineers have the skills and flexibility to be involved in a wide number of activities from the development of novel devices to the delivery of expert services directly to patients. Scientists and engineers must work together with other professionals to find solutions to complex problems. This programme provides you with the theoretical knowledge and practical skills needed for a career in biomedical engineering; bridging the gap between health, medicine and engineering.

### How does it work?

#### Programme outline

##### Year 1

In the first year you will gain a thorough and 'hands-on' grounding in the principles and practises of engineering with a healthcare focus. **Subjects covered:** Biomedical Foundations 1 & 2 (software and hardware design and testing); Mathematics for Engineers; Engineering Science; Electrical Engineering Foundations.

##### Year 2

**Subjects covered:** Biomedical Engineering Core 1 & 2; Business Planning; Engineering Mathematics 2; Engineering Materials; Thermodynamics and Fluid Mechanics; Solid Mechanics; Dynamics and Control Systems.

##### Year 3

During the third year you will expand your knowledge and understanding of healthcare technology.

**Subjects covered:** Medical Engineering; Kinematics and Prosthetics; Tissue Engineering & Regenerative Medicine; Medical Imaging; Research Project; CFD/FEA for Biomedical Science.

#### Final year modules – MEng

Final year modules are distance learning with content provided through narrated lectures provided online through our virtual learning environment and reflective coursework applying the content to the student's internship, work placement or employment.

Please note that students are responsible for gaining their own internship, work placement or employment, but have the support of the University careers service.

**Subjects covered:** Research Methods and Statistics; Leadership Skills and Research Tools; Clinical Trials and Medical Regulations; Final Year Project.

### What else should I know?

#### Professional Recognition

This new programme is going through the normal accreditation process with the Institution of Mechanical Engineers.

### Key facts

BEng 3 year full-time degree  
MEng 4 year full-time

#### UCAS codes:

H542 BEng  
H541 MEng

#### Typical offer level

BBB-BBC

Other qualifications see pages 154-155

#### Specific subject requirements

A Level: Maths or Physics required (consideration may be given to Further Maths, Design Technology, Engineering Science and Electronics if Physics is not studied at A Level).

GCSE: English and Maths Grade C.

### Key benefits

- ▶ Unique collaboration between Aston University's UK- leading School of Life & Health Sciences and the School of Engineering & Applied Science, with its tradition of quality and reputation for cutting-edge research
- ▶ The interface between engineering and health is a growing area of industry need with a wide range of career options
- ▶ Anatomy and physiology is taught through 3D virtual reality where the student can dissect, rotate and move body structures to enhance their learning
- ▶ Opportunity to obtain relevant industrial experience by providing the option of working in the industry while completing the Masters level modules
- ▶ Laboratories where you will plan, design, create and test devices to meet a medial need in a team over a number of weeks
- ▶ Clinical and manufacturing visits to inspire innovation and entrepreneurship.

### What are my career prospects?

Graduates will have work opportunities in both the public and private sector, having the skills to support start-up companies to working in large multi-nationals.

**Key facts**

BSc 3 year full-time degree/4 year degree/4 year degree with integrated clinical placement

**UCAS codes:**

Biomedical Science C900

Other Biology programmes see pages 58-59

**Typical offer level**

ABB-BBB

Other qualifications see pages 154-155

**Specific subject requirements**

A Level: Biology or Human Biology at Grade B or above

Chemistry at A/AS Level welcomed but not essential

GCSE: English Language and Maths Grade C.

**Key benefits**

- ▶ Emphasis on Biomedical and applied aspects of Biosciences
- ▶ Accredited by the Institute of Biomedical Science (IBMS)
- ▶ Applied Biomedical Science with integrated hospital placement approved by the Health and Care Professions Council (HCPC)
- ▶ Close links with local hospitals
- ▶ Aston University is internationally recognised for research into allied health professions.

**What will I study?**

This programme offers a springboard for graduates to work within the NHS and many health-related institutions. To practice as a Biomedical Scientist within the NHS you need a Biomedical Science degree accredited by the Institute of Biomedical Science (IBMS). The Biomedical Science degree programme at Aston University has been accredited by the IBMS since 2006. The IBMS was founded in 1912 and is the professional body for Biomedical Scientists in the United Kingdom. The Institute aims to promote and develop Biomedical Science and currently represents approximately 16,000 members. The aim of professional body accreditation is to ensure a high quality degree is delivered to equip you with modern professional skills and a sound knowledge foundation necessary for employment.

**How does it work?**

We currently offer a 3 year full-time route to graduation in Biomedical Science and a 4 year option which includes an integrated 1 year hospital placement in the third year (Applied Biomedical Science); and a 4 year option with a placement in an industrial or research laboratory. All routes are fully accredited by the IBMS.

**3 year full-time degree and 4 year programme with placement**

The 3 year full-time degree in Biomedical Science or 4 year degree with placement offers the optimal route to graduation for those students who wish to study Biomedical Science but do not necessarily wish to practice as Health and Care Professions Council (HCPC) registered Biomedical Scientists following graduation, eg. for those graduates wishing to work in other health related industries such as the pharmaceutical industry. You can study the 3 year full time programme (without placement) or take a sandwich placement (eg. at GlaxoSmithKline) in your third year and return to complete your degree in the fourth year.

**4 year integrated degree in Biomedical Science with clinical placement**

The 4 year integrated degree in Biomedical Science is the optimal route to graduation for students wishing to practice as HCPC registered Biomedical Scientists following graduation.

This option comprises an integrated education and training programme where you undertake a clinical placement (between the second and final years) in a CPA accredited hospital laboratory.

If successful in gaining a placement (note the availability of NHS placements is not guaranteed, and is limited in number) you transfer at the end of year two to the Applied Biomedical Science programme with integrated placement. The Applied Biomedical Science route is approved by the Health and Care Professions Council (HCPC), the regulatory body for Biomedical Scientists, and graduates will immediately be eligible to apply to the HCPC for registration as professional Biomedical Scientists. It is also accredited by the IBMS.

**100%**

**Overall student satisfaction**  
(National Student Survey 2015)

**Transfer between biology programmes**

Biological Sciences at Aston University allows students some flexibility during their studies. For example, it is possible to transfer from Biomedical Science to other Biology programmes at Aston (page 58) at the end of the first year or at enrolment. However, transfer to Biomedical Science from other Aston Biology programmes is not possible at the end of the first year due to the IBMS accreditation of the Biomedical Science programme.

**Modules include:****Year 1**

Microbiology I; Biochemistry; Physiology; Inheritance and Population Genetics; Development and Human Anatomy; Molecular Biology; Introductory Immunology; Cell Biology; Biomedical Key Skills I.

**Year 2**

Microbiology II; Metabolism; Molecular Genetics; Biomedical Technology; Nutrition and Dietetics; Endocrinology; Human Physiology; Molecular Pathology; Immunology II; Biomedical Key Skills II.

**Final year**

Clinical Microbiology and Infectious Disease; Food Microbiology; Haematology/Transfusion Science; Cellular Pathology; Medical Biochemistry; Biological Basis of Human Disease; Biomedical Research Project; Applied Molecular Biology; Immunology III; Biomedical Key Skills III.

**What else should I know?****Professional recognition**

hcpc health & care professions council

**Disclosure and Barring Service**

Students are required to undertake a Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) check before they start this programme. In addition to the normal academic requirements, and in line with other regulated health professions, continuation on the programme and award of these registerable degrees is subject to Fitness to Practice regulations. For further details visit: [www.aston.ac.uk/study/undergraduate/courses/lhs/fitness-to-practice-information](http://www.aston.ac.uk/study/undergraduate/courses/lhs/fitness-to-practice-information)



As part of my BSc in Biomedical Science degree I also undertook a placement year working in a hospital as a trainee Biomedical Scientist. The course modules combined with practical work were a great help with my position as a Biomedical Scientist and the placement year allowed me to enter the profession as a newly qualified HCPC registered Biomedical Scientist. The course material provided a very firm basis for the laboratory work I perform on a daily basis. I am certain that without the degree qualification including the placement year, I would not have found employment so quickly.”

**Salma Kousar, Graduate**

**What are my career prospects?**

Graduates in Biomedical Science leave the University equipped with the essential knowledge and skills required for a variety of career opportunities. Whilst some Biomedical Science graduates choose to undertake careers as HCPC registered Biomedical Scientists within the NHS, others will choose to use their degree as a springboard into one of many scientific or health related careers including:

- ▶ Research
- ▶ Pharmaceuticals
- ▶ Medical journalism
- ▶ Teaching
- ▶ Medical sales and marketing
- ▶ Medicine and Dentistry.



**Key facts**

4 year course with placement year  
3 year course without placement available for non-EU students only.

**UCAS code:** NG45

**Typical offer level**  
A Level: AAB-ABB

BTEC National Diploma: DDD

IB: 35/34 points

Other qualifications see pages 154-155

**Specific subject requirements**

GCSE: English and Maths Grade C.

**Key benefits**

- ▶ Integration of business with computing and IT
- ▶ Paid professional placement year
- ▶ No previous IT knowledge assumed
- ▶ Excellent paid professional placement opportunities and graduate prospects.

**What are my career prospects?**

The outstanding reputation of Aston Business School, the experience gained on the placement year and the broad-based nature of our degrees means that BCIT graduates are well prepared. Our recent graduates were extremely successful in finding employment in specialist business IT, consulting and general management roles, including:

**Cap Gemini** – Project Coordinator  
**Core Technology Ltd** – Business Analyst  
**General Electrics** – IT Projects Manager  
**Santander Bank** – IT Graduate

**90%** of employed students are in professional or managerial roles 6 months after graduating (UNISTATS 2015/16)

**85%** of students go on to work or study (UNISTATS 2015/16)

**What will I study?**

Information Technology (IT) is vital to the management and communication of information in the modern business, and effective business computing requires managers with knowledge of human and managerial issues, as well as technical ones. This programme meets the needs of students interested in pursuing careers that will provide organisations with management support, advice and consultancy where computing and IT are involved.

**How does it work?****Programme outline****Year 1**

Common first year covering all major business functions to help underpin your studies. See page 43 for further information.

**Year 2**

Focus on Business Computing and IT, which will involve 'hands-on' work with applications ranging from spreadsheets and databases to simulations and knowledge-based systems. In addition to studying the core modules (Dashboards and Advanced Spreadsheets; IT and Web Development; Databases; Systems Analysis; Systems Analysis Project), you will select optional modules of your choice.

**Modules include:** Making Managerial Decisions using Accounting Information\*; Financial Accounting\*; Effective Teamwork; Strategy for Future Leaders\*; Principles of Intellectual Property Law; Principles of Business Law; Market Research; e-Marketing; Consumer Behaviour; Advanced Consumer Behaviour; Marketing Communications; Total Quality Management; Doing e-Business; Enterprise Resource Planning; Operational Research Techniques; Business Economics; Language Modules\* Arabic, French, German, Spanish, Mandarin, Japanese and Portuguese.

**Placement year**

The 4 year placement course incorporates spending the third year in a professional placement gaining valuable and practical business experience. See page 43 for further information.

**Final year**

A double core module will be studied along with some optional and compulsory modules. In addition to studying the core modules (Worldwide Management of IT; Effective Management Consultancy; Theory and Practice of e-Commerce\*; Effective Project Delivery\*; Simulation), you will select optional modules of your choice.

**Modules include:** Effective Teamwork; Marketing Communications\*; Market Research\*; e-Marketing; International Marketing\*; International Operations\*; BCIT Final Year Project\*; Supply Chain Management\*; Data Envelopment Analysis; Innovation\*; Entrepreneurial Management\*; Language Modules\* Arabic, French, German, Spanish, Mandarin, Japanese and Portuguese Knowledge at Work.

**What else should I know?****Professional recognition**

Our graduates can claim exemptions from the examinations of a number of professional bodies including:

Institute of Chartered Secretaries and Administrators (ICSA)  
Chartered Institute of Purchasing and Supply (CIPS)  
Association of Chartered Certified Accountants (ACCA)  
Chartered Institute of Management Accountants (CIMA)  
Chartered Insurance Institute (CII).

**What will I study?**

This course is designed to help you build a comprehensive understanding of the various functions of management and examine politics in the international realm. In your business modules, you will study the theories, principles and underlying concepts of the main functions of management and develop a strong understanding of business models and processes. You will also examine how strategic decision-making within organisations takes place, and develop the ability to recognise and analyse the economic, technical, financial, social and organisational parameters within which modern managers make decisions. Modules in International Relations will develop your knowledge and understanding of the nature of relations between states and also of the roles played by international institutions, other intergovernmental organisations, multinational corporations and NGOs.

**How does it work?****Year 1**

Europe and the Making of the Modern World; Information Skills; Introduction to International Relations; Introduction to the European Union; People and Organisations; Principles of Financial Accounting; Economic Environment of Business; IT for Business; Foundations of Business Analytics; Introduction to Marketing Management.

**Year 2**

International Relations Theories and Issues; Security Studies in a Changing World; The Politics and Policies of the EU; Research Methods in Political and Social Studies; Business, Government and Society; Business Policy; Business Game; Business Economics; Operations Management; Management Accounting.

**Year 3**

Compulsory placement year. See page 43 for details.

**Final year**

International Relations Research Dissertation; Principles of Finance; Value Based Strategy. **Optional Modules include:** The International Relations of East Asia; Religion and Politics of Contemporary Europe; Political Communication; The American Presidency; Nationalism & Political Power; Political Parties and Party Systems; Conflict and Politics in Contemporary Balkans; Contemporary Conflict; Diplomacy and Soft Power; The Far Right in Europe; The Challenges of Climate Change; Understanding Foreign Policy; Northeast Asia: From Conflict to Cooperation; Gender and Politics; Interest Groups and Lobbying; Regions and Regionalism in Europe; Contemporary Political Theory; Political Leaders: Case Studies and Comparative Perspectives; Making Managerial Decisions using Accounting Information; Theories and Practice of Leadership; Consumer Research and the Customer Experience; International Marketing; International Operations; Global Working; International Business Economics.

**Key facts**

4 year with integrated placement year

**UCAS codes:** LN21

**Typical offer level**  
ABB-BBB

IB: 32-33 points

Other qualifications see pages 154-155

**Specific subject requirements**

GCSE: English Language and Maths Grade C or equivalent.

**Key benefits**

- ▶ Integrated placement year allows you to set your studies in context and gain valuable professional experience
- ▶ Politics at Aston is ranked in the Top 25 in the UK (Complete University Guide 2016)
- ▶ Aston University's Area Studies research - including Politics/IR - is rated 3rd in the UK for research classed as world leading (4\*) or internationally excellent (3\*) in the 2014 REF [www.aston.ac.uk/europe](http://www.aston.ac.uk/europe)

**What are my career prospects?**

Our graduates are in demand from a wide range of employers where a sound understanding of societies, teamwork and communication skills are required.

Visit: [www.aston.ac.uk/lss](http://www.aston.ac.uk/lss) for examples of recent graduate destinations.

**13th in the UK**  
for Politics  
(Sunday Times League Table 2016)

**Key facts**

4 year course with placement year

3 year course without placement available for non-EU students only.

**UCAS code:** NN12

**Typical offer level**

A Level: AAB-ABB

BTEC National Diploma: DDD

IB: 35/34 points

Other qualifications see pages 154-155

**Specific subject requirements**

GCSE: Maths and English Grade C.

**Key benefits**

- ▶ Flexible broad-based degree allowing specialisation in two areas of business and management
- ▶ Aston Business School is ranked highly for its business degrees in university league tables
- ▶ Excellent paid professional placement and graduate opportunities.

**What are my career prospects?**

Of our most recent Business and Management graduates, 91% went into graduate level employment within six months of graduation. Below are examples of the graduate positions they have obtained:

**Accenture** – Graduate Management Consultant

**Aldi** – Area Manager

**Capgemini** – Graduate Technologist

**Debenhams** – Assistant Merchandiser

**eBay** – Key Account Manager

**GeoPost** – Transport Planner

**Goldman Sacs Intl** – Analyst

**IBM** – Global Business and Information Consultant

**Jaguar Land Rover** – Product Marketing Analyst

**KPMG** – HR Assistant

**UBS** – Client Account manager

**What will I study?**

This degree provides a comprehensive understanding of the various functions of management, whilst allowing the opportunity to focus your studies within two specific areas. You will develop the breadth and depth of knowledge required by managers in the 21st century.

**How does it work?****Programme outline****Year 1**

Common first year covering all major business functions to help underpin your studies. See page 43 for further information.

**Year 2**

In addition to studying the four core modules (Strategic Finance; Business Policy; Business, Government and Society; Business Game) you will select optional modules from the list opposite.

**Placement year**

The 4 year placement course incorporates spending the third year in a professional placement gaining valuable and practical business experience. See page 43 for further information.

**Final year**

In your final year you study a double core module in Strategic Management along with ten optional modules from the subject streams listed opposite.

**What else should I know?****Professional recognition**

As an ABS graduate, you can claim exemptions from examinations of a number of professional bodies, depending on the specific options you have followed, including:

Association of Chartered Certified Accountants (ACCA)

Association of International Accountants (AIA)

Chartered Institute of Management Accountants (CIMA)

Chartered Institute of Marketing (CIM)

Chartered Institute of Purchasing and Supply (CIPS)



When I started at Aston University I was still unsure what I wanted to do in my future career. The first year of Business and Management is so broad that I was able to gain an insight into every aspect of business in order to find the area that I was interested in the most.”

**Nicola Maxfield, Business and Management**

**Top 30 in the UK  
for Business overall**

(Sunday Times University  
Guide 2016)

**Second year subject options****Accounting and Finance**

Financial Accounting\*; Making Managerial Decisions\*, Audit and Governance, Company Reporting\*.

**Business Analytics**

Operational Research Techniques 1; Dashboard with Spreadsheets\*; Business Analytics and Data Mining; Business Analytics in Practice.

**Business & Government**

Comparing and Evaluating Public Policies; Environmental Policy; Government, Globalisation and Money; Global Society.

**Business Psychology**

Theories and Practice of HRM\*; Psychology and Work\*, Effective Teamwork; Developing Creativity at Work; Strategy for Future Leaders\*.

**Business Economics**

Introduction to Econometrics I; Principles of Macroeconomics; Principles of Microeconomics; International Business Environment; International Business Economics; Regional and Urban Economics; Emerging and Transitional Economies.

**Information Systems**

Systems Analysis; IT and Web Development; Databases.

**Law**

Principles of Intellectual Property Law; Principles of Criminal Law; Principles of Corporate Law; Principles of Commercial Law.

**Marketing**

Market Research; Marketing Communications; Consumer Behaviour; Digital Marketing; Principles of Service Marketing, Advanced Consumer Behaviour.

**Operations Management**

Doing e-Business; Enterprise Resource Planning; Total Quality Management\*.

**Final year subject options****Accounting and Finance**

Advanced Financial Accounting\*; Organisational Context of Management Accounting\*; International Finance; Derivatives; Taxation: Policy and Practice\*; Risk Management.

**Business Analytics**

Data Envelopment Analysis; Simulation; Effective Management Consultancy\*; Management Science Project\*.

**Business & Government**

Modern British Governance; Work, Organisation and Society; Corporate Power in a Globalised World; Ageing, Society and Policy.

**Business Psychology**

Contemporary Issues in HRM\*; Employee Relations and Legal Issues in HRM; Theories and Practice of Leadership\*; Strategic Aspects of Organisational Performance; Learning, Training and Development in Organisations\*.

**Business Economics**

Economics of Business Organisations; Economics of Multinational Enterprises; Competition Policy – Theory; Competition Policy – Practice; Economics of Entrepreneurship; Economics of Innovation\*.

**Information Systems**

Effective Project Delivery\*; Managing Information Technology in a Global Context; Knowledge at Work; Theory and Practice of e-Commerce\*.

**Law**

Principles of Company Law\*; Principles of Employment Law 1 & 2; Principles of International Sales and Transportation Law\*; Business Ethics.

**Marketing**

International Marketing\*; Retailing Management\*; Marketing Strategy\*; Strategic Brand Management; Services Marketing Management; Advanced Marketing Communications; Professional Selling & Sales Management; Entrepreneurial Marketing; Advanced Marketing Research.

**Operations Management**

Operations Strategy\*; Supply Chain Management\*; International Operations\*.

\*Double module

## Business and Mathematics BSc (Joint Honours)

### Key facts

4 years full-time with integrated placement year.

**UCAS code:** GN11

### Typical offer level

A Level: AAB-ABB

BTEC National Diploma:

DDD in relevant National Diploma including A Level Mathematics at minimum Grade B

IB: 32 points (including minimum Grade 6 in Maths at Higher Level)

Other qualifications see pages 154-155

### Specific subject requirements

A Level: Maths Grade B

General Studies accepted

GCSE: English Grade C.

### Key benefits

- ▶ Emphasis on Applied Mathematics relevant to business, industry and computing
- ▶ Specialise in the areas of particular interest and relevance to your career
- ▶ Integrated placement year allows you to set your studies in context and gain valuable professional experience.

### What are my career prospects?

The course prepares you for public and private sector careers and meets the huge demand for skilled mathematicians with business insights. Employment in business management, accountancy, actuary, research and development, teaching and IT.

Recent graduates are now working for organisations such as IBM, Deloitte, Bank of New York, BAE Systems, Ministry of Defence, British Airways, Grant Thornton, British Energy, KPMG, Transco, Xerox, NHS, Mori, Baker Tilly, Severn Trent Water and The Environment Agency.

### What will I study?

This programme provides a balanced blend of basic mathematical techniques, a rigorous examination of their validity, the development of underlying structures common to a number of concepts and the application of mathematics to solve complex problems that arise in the real world.

As a manager you will be a problem solver, planner and leader, challenged with meeting your organisation's objectives by deploying key resources such as time, people and money efficiently and effectively. This programme aims to prepare you for this challenge and for a successful career in management.

### How does it work?

#### Programme outline

Business and Maths students take 120 credits per year spread evenly over Business and Maths modules.

#### Mathematics:

In the first two years, you will expand A Level mathematical techniques, learn more advanced concepts and their application, and use numerical software such as Matlab. The final year allows you to choose specialist options to tailor the emphasis of your programme. During your degree you will encounter various mathematical concepts and techniques in analysis, algebra, probability, differential equations, approximation and chaos.

#### Business:

The first two years deepen your understanding of how businesses operate and how to recognise and analyse the economic, technical, financial and social parameters within which modern managers make decisions. During your final year you will select your modules and specialise in an area of particular interest.

#### Placement year

The placement year is an integral part of your course, therefore compulsory, and contributes to your final grade.

## Business and Politics BSc (Joint Honours)

### Key facts

4 year with integrated placement year

**UCAS codes:** LN2C

### Typical offer level

ABB-BBB

IB: 32-33 points

Other qualifications see pages 154-155

### Specific subject requirements

GCSE English Language and Maths Grade C or equivalent.

### Key benefits

- ▶ Politics at Aston is ranked 13th in the 2016 Sunday Times League Table
- ▶ Integrated placement year allows you to set your studies in context and gain valuable professional experience
- ▶ Aston University's Area Studies research - including Politics/IR - is rated 3rd in the UK for research classed as world leading (4\*) or internationally excellent (3\*) in the 2014 REF [www.aston.ac.uk/europe](http://www.aston.ac.uk/europe)

### What are my career prospects?

Our graduates are in demand from a wide range of employers where a sound understanding of societies, teamwork and communication skills are required.

Visit: [www.aston.ac.uk/lss](http://www.aston.ac.uk/lss) for examples of recent graduate destinations.

### What will I study?

This course is designed to help you build a comprehensive understanding of the various functions of management and examine the major issues facing governments across the world, and the policies developed and delivered by governments and other organisations. You will gain knowledge about the institutions, processes and concepts of politics as well as general insight into how these affect society, both in the UK, the European Union and worldwide. You will also study the theories, principles and underlying concepts of the main functions of management and develop a strong understanding of business models and processes. You will examine how strategic decision-making within organisations takes place, and develop the ability to recognise and analyse the economic, technical, financial, social and organisational parameters within which modern managers make decisions.

### How does it work?

#### Year 1

Information Skills; Introduction to Politics; British Politics Since 1945; Introduction to the European Union; Foundations of Business Analytics; People and Organisations; Principles of Financial Accounting; Economic Environment of Business; IT for Business; Introduction to Marketing Management.

#### Year 2

Introduction to Political Economy; Comparative Government and Politics; Research Methods; The Politics and Policies of the EU; Business, Government and Society; Business Policy; Business Game; Business Economics; Operations Management; Management Accounting.

#### Year 3

Compulsory placement year. See page 52.

#### Final year

Final Year Politics Research Dissertation; Principles of Finance; Value Based Strategy; The International Relations of East Asia; Religion and Politics in Contemporary Europe; Political Communication; The American Presidency; Nationalism & Political Power; Political Parties and Party Systems; Conflict and Politics in Contemporary Balkans; Contemporary Conflict; Diplomacy and Soft Power; The Far Right in Europe; The Challenges of Climate Change; Understanding Foreign Policy; Northeast Asia: From Conflict to Cooperation; Gender and Politics; Interest Groups and Lobbying; Regions and Regionalism in Europe; Contemporary Political Theory; Political Leaders: Case Studies and Comparative Perspectives; Making Managerial Decisions using Accounting Information; Theories and Practice of Leadership; Consumer Research and the Customer Experience; International Marketing; International Operations; Business Ethics; International Business Economics.

**13th in the UK  
for Politics**

(Sunday Times League Table 2016)

## Business and Sociology BSc (Joint Honours)

### Key facts

4 year with integrated placement year

**UCAS codes:** LN31

**Typical offer level**  
ABB-BBB

IB: 32-33 points

Other qualifications see pages 154-155

### Specific subject requirements

GCSE: English Language and Maths  
Grade C or equivalent.

### Key benefits

- ▶ Integrated placement year allows you to set your studies in context and gain valuable professional experience
- ▶ Sociology at Aston is ranked Top 20 for graduate prospects in the 2016 Complete University Guide
- ▶ The Overall Satisfaction level in the 2015 National Student Survey among leavers studying within the Sociology subject line was 96%.

### What are my career prospects?

Our graduates are in demand from a wide range of employers where a sound understanding of societies, teamwork and communication skills are required.

Visit: [www.aston.ac.uk/lss](http://www.aston.ac.uk/lss) for examples of recent graduate destinations.

### What will I study?

This course is designed to develop your sociological analysis and research skills and a comprehensive understanding of the various functions of management. You will develop an informed understanding of the major debates shaping today's society, and cultivate a wider 'sociological imagination' of the contemporary world. You will establish foundations in sociological approaches to gender, 'race', class and sexuality. This will feed into higher level courses that deal with more complex issues including the relationship between science and 'race', reproductive politics, corporate power, climate change, ageing and media power. You will study the theories, principles and underlying concepts of the main functions of management and develop a strong understanding of business models and processes. You will examine how strategic decision-making within organisations takes place, and develop the ability to recognise and analyse the economic, technical, financial, social and organisational parameters within which modern managers make decisions. Your placement year will give you the opportunity to apply your key skills and competencies within a real work-based situation.

### How does it work?

#### Year 1

Social Theory; Becoming a Social Scientist; Foundations of Business Analytics; People and Organisations; Principles of Financial Accounting; Economic Environment of Business; IT for Business; Introduction to Marketing Management.

#### Year 2

Research Methods; Social Theory; Management Accounting; Operations Management; Business Policy; Business Game; Business Economics; Business, Government and Society; Global Society; Embodiment and Feminist Theory; Government and Globalisation; Welfare States and Welfare Change; Environmental Policy; Comparing and Evaluating Public Policies; Government and Management; Kith and Kin: Family in a Social Context.

#### Year 3

Compulsory placement year. See page 52.

#### Final year

Dissertation; Finance; Value Based Strategy; Modern British Governance; Ageing, Society, Policy; Work, Organisations and Society; Racism, Class and Gender; Contemporary Social Movements; Corporate Power in a Globalised World; Sport in Society; Pregnancy and Politics; Cultural Norms and Family Policy; Learning to Labour?; Religion and Society; International Migration and Policy; Popular Music and Society; Health Policy; Challenges to Climate Change; Kith and Kin: Family in a Social Context; Theories and Practice of Leadership; Psychology & Work; International Marketing; International Operations; Effective Project Delivery; Entrepreneurial Management; Learning, Training and Development in Organisations; Business Ethics; Consumer Research and the Customer Experience.

**Sociology at Aston is ranked 21st in the UK**

(Guardian University Guide 2016)

## Business Management and English Language BSc (Joint Honours)

### Key facts

4 year with integrated placement year

**UCAS codes:** QN75

**Typical offer level**  
ABB-BBB

IB: 32-33 points

Other qualifications see pages 154-155

### Specific subject requirements

GCSE English Language and Maths  
Grade C or equivalent.

### Key benefits

- ▶ Integrated placement year allows you to set your studies in context and gain valuable professional experience
- ▶ English at Aston is ranked 13th in the UK out of 105 universities in the 2015 Guardian University Guide
- ▶ The Overall Satisfaction level in the 2015 National Student Survey among leavers from our BSc English Language programme was 93%.

### What are my career prospects?

Our graduates are in demand from a wide range of employers where a sound understanding of societies, teamwork and communication skills are required.

Visit: [www.aston.ac.uk/lss](http://www.aston.ac.uk/lss) for examples of recent graduate destinations.

### What will I study?

Our BSc in Business Management and English Language takes a practical approach to both subject areas through professionally relevant modules which draw directly on Aston's ground-breaking research. You will gain a theoretical knowledge and understanding of the English language, how it works in society and organisations, and its role in the world today. You will also gain the academic knowledge and the commercial and leadership skills of business management. With a professional placement year as one of its key features, the programme is geared towards increasing your employability; it is designed to provide you with the knowledge and skills required of professionals working in the public, private and voluntary sectors.

The bridge between Business Management and English is provided by modules centred around the themes of (international) communication and leadership, and professional discourse. For example, you will investigate the range of ways in which leaders and senior managers use spoken, written and multimodal communication in the workplace to achieve certain aims. The modules will introduce a range of models of discourse analysis and invite students to participate in simulated contexts such as business meetings, interviews, presentations, and so on. You will be taught by research-active lecturers who are internationally recognised researchers in fields such as leadership communication, marketing, economic development, multi-national enterprises and location, forensic linguistics, language and gender and TESOL studies.

### How does it work?

#### Year 1

Language in Society; Grammar and Meaning; Words and Meaning; Theories of Language and Identity; Preparing for Integrated Studies; Introduction to Marketing Management; Introduction to People and Organisations; Economic Environment of Business; Principles of Financial Accounting; Information Technology for Business.

#### Year 2

Psychology & Work; Exploring Integrated Studies; The Business Game; Business, Government & Society; Operations Management; Written Text Analysis; Introduction to Intercultural Communication; Language at Work; Computer-mediated Communication; The Language of the Law.

#### Year 3

Compulsory Placement Year. See page 52.

#### Final year

Dissertation; Leadership and Management Communication I and II; Theories and Practice of Leadership; Consumer Behaviour; Advanced Consumer Behaviour; International Marketing; International Operations.

**English at Aston is ranked 11th in the UK for graduate prospects**

(Complete University Guide 2016)

**93%**  
(National Student Survey 2015)

**Overall Satisfaction for BSc English Language**

## Business, Management and Public Policy BSc (Joint Honours)

### Key facts

4 year with integrated placement year

UCAS codes: LN41

Typical offer level

ABB-BBB

IB: 32-33 points

Other qualifications see pages 154-155

### Specific subject requirements

GCSE English Language and Maths  
Grade C or equivalent.

### Key benefits

- ▶ We are internationally recognised for Policy Research
- ▶ You will receive first class knowledge and skills on business, management and public policy issues that will increase your employability
- ▶ You will develop significant transferable employment skills, such as being able to analyse data, present findings and write reports
- ▶ Extensive placement year opportunities are available
- ▶ First class graduate employment record in the public and private sectors.

### What are my career prospects?

Our graduates are in demand from a wide range of employers where a sound understanding of societies, teamwork and communication skills are required.

Visit: [www.aston.ac.uk/lss](http://www.aston.ac.uk/lss) for examples of recent graduate destinations.

**Social Policy  
Top 5 in the UK for  
Graduate Prospects**  
(Complete University Guide 2016)

**Social Policy  
Top 15 in the UK**  
(Complete University Guide 2016)

### What will I study?

Business, Management and Public Policy is a multi-disciplinary programme that examines the major economic and social issues facing governments across the world, and the policies developed and delivered by governments and other organisations. It builds upon various A Levels, including Business Studies (e.g. government support for enterprise), Politics (e.g. the role of government), Sociology (e.g. modern forms of power), Economics (e.g. market failure), and Geography (e.g. globalisation).

You will investigate the economic, social and political forces which influence government decision-making, and which give rise to conflicts between the achievement of economic, environmental and social objectives. There is a particularly strong focus on the relationship between firms/markets and government, such as in the role of regulation. You will also examine why governments take particular decisions in key policy areas and develop a detailed understanding of processes of policy making at global, national and local levels of government. You will also study the nature of policy delivery and management by various organisations, such as local governments, schools and businesses. Finally, and most importantly, the programme explores in depth the outcomes and consequences of various government policies on the economy and society.

### How does it work?

#### Programme outline

Your first year of studying will give you an introduction to the institutions of government and the nature of the policy process, including the importance of various political, economic and social factors. You will also acquire knowledge and skills relating to the use of different research methods and the critical analysis of policies. In the second year you will examine important elements of government policy making and delivery, such as the comparative analysis of different governments, and the relationship between governments and the economy. In your final year you will examine different key areas of government policy, including economic development, regulation and health.

#### Year 1

Social Problems and Public Policies (A and B); Becoming a Social Scientist; Foundations of Business Analytics; Organisational Behaviour; Principles of Financial Accounting; Economic Environment of Business; IT for Business; Introduction to Marketing Management.

#### Year 2

**Modules include:** Government, Globalisation and Money; Government and Management; Business Policy; Business Game; Business, Government & Society Business Economics. Please see the website for full module listings.

#### Year 3

Compulsory Placement Year. See page 52 for details.

#### Final year

**Core/optional modules include:** Ageing, Society, and Policy; Modern British Governance; Risk and Regulation; Psychology & Work; Consumer Behaviour; International Marketing; International Business Economics; Contemporary Social Movements. Please see the website for full module listings.



**Key facts**

3 year full-time or  
4 year placement course.

**UCAS code:** H803

**Typical offer level**

A Level: ABB-BBB

**BTEC & other**

BTEC Subsidiary Diploma: D plus  
two A Levels including Chemistry and  
Mathematics at min Grade B

BTEC Level 3 Diploma in Applied  
Science: DD plus A Level Chemistry and  
Mathematics at min Grade B

BTEC Level 3 Extended Diploma in  
Applied Science: DDD, plus A Level  
Chemistry and Mathematics at min  
Grade B

IB: 32 points (including Chemistry at  
Higher Level)

Other qualifications see pages 154-155

**Specific subject requirements**

A Level: Chemistry and Maths required

GCSE: Maths Grade C and English  
Grade C.

**Key benefits**

- ▶ Accredited by the Institution of Chemical Engineers (IChemE)
- ▶ Close industrial links provide excellent placement opportunities.

**What are my career prospects?**

In addition to the traditional oil and chemical-based industries opportunities include food production; environmental protection; energy conservation; waste recovery and recycling; medical science; health and safety; alternative energy sources; research, management and consultancy.

Employers include Stone and Webster, BP, ExxonMobil, ConocoPhillips, Unilever, Corus, AMEC, British Energy, BT, Foster Wheeler and Sellafield Ltd.

The majority of our most recent graduates went into employment or on to further study.

**What will I study?**

Chemical engineers are very much at the forefront of working to improve the quality of our lives – every day we use products which require the skills of a chemical engineer. As a chemical engineer you will combine a detailed knowledge of chemistry with an understanding of engineering principles in order to design, construct and operate chemical process plants.

To ensure you develop your engineering skills, you share a common first year with chemists. In later years you specialise at a more advanced level in the core engineering topics such as heat transfer and separation processes. In addition you study the important topics of business, management and sustainability, continuously developing and applying problem solving skills. Your computer modelling skills will also be developed with a strong emphasis on process simulation.

**How does it work?****Programme outline****Years 1 and 2**

Chemical Engineering Operations; Design of Chemical Processes and Equipment; Management; Mathematics.

Fluid Flow; Heat Transfer; Thermodynamics; Process Instrumentation; Chemistry; Chemical Kinetics; Process Simulation; Process Control and Safety; Reaction Engineering; Materials.

**Placement year**

The 4 year placement course incorporates spending the third year in a professional placement, with a large percentage of placements usually paid, gaining valuable and practical experience.

**Final year**

Advanced Chemical Engineering Operations; Advanced Transfer Processes; Pollution Prevention and Control; Design Problem; Process Economics; Particle Processing; Process Control; Reaction Engineering and a Sustainability Project.

**What will I study?**

Building on the BEng course, the MEng is an extended, broader-based qualification requiring four years of academic study, and an optional industrial placement year. The programme is enhanced by additional subjects including project management, sustainable energy and a major research project. An emphasis on group work will help you develop further the extensive range of skills required by the professional engineer. It is a challenging and demanding programme which will take you deeper into your subject and enable you to progress more readily after graduation to Chartered Engineer (CEng) status, which will enable you to aim for the highest levels in industry.

**How does it work?****Programme outline****Years 1 and 2**

Chemical Engineering Operations; Design of Chemical Processes and Equipment; Management; Mathematics; Fluid Flow; Heat Transfer; Thermodynamics; Process Instrumentation; Chemistry; Chemical Kinetics; Process Simulation; Process Control and Safety; Reaction Engineering; Materials.

**Third year**

Advanced Chemical Engineering Operations; Particle Processing; Advanced Transfer Processes; Pollution Prevention and Control; Design Problem; Process Economics; Process Control; Reaction Engineering.

**Placement year**

The 4 year placement incorporates spending the third year in a professional placement, with a large percentage of placements usually paid, gaining valuable and practical experience.

**Final year**

For MEng status you will undertake a major research project, advanced management, process modelling and sustainable energy modules.

**Key facts**

4 year full-time or  
5 year placement course.

**UCAS code:** H804

**Typical offer level**

A Level: AAA-AAB

Transfer from the BEng programme possible subject to meeting performance criteria.

IB: 34 points (including minimum Grade 6 in Maths and Chemistry at Higher Level)

Other qualifications see pages 154-155

**Specific subject requirements**

A Level: Chemistry and Maths are essential

GCSE: English Grade C.

**Key benefits**

- ▶ MEng Chemical Engineering is accredited by the Institution of Chemical Engineers (IChemE)
- ▶ Close industrial links provide excellent placement opportunities.

**What are my career prospects?**

Employers include Akzo Nobel, BP, ExxonMobil, ConocoPhillips, Chevron, Mondelez, AMEC, E.ON, Synthomer, Sanofi, Dow Corning and Pepsico.

Of our most recent BEng/MEng Chemical Engineering graduates, the majority went into employment or on to further study.



Of all the institutions I had visited Aston had the warmest, friendliest atmosphere and it was very well situated within the city. I did my industrial placement with BP Oil Ltd, which not only improved the skills I was learning, but also enhanced my CV a great deal. I am now part of the Aston European Bioenergy Research Institute (EBRI), evaluating the potential of marine biomass as a source of energy, as well as how ammonia can be made from biomass instead of fossil fuels.”

**Sarah Alexander, Chemical Engineering MEng**



**Key facts**

Chemistry: 3 year full-time.  
Applied Chemistry: 4 year placement course.

**UCAS codes:**

Chemistry F100  
Applied Chemistry FC10

**Typical offer level**

A Level: ABB-BBB

**BTEC & other**

BTEC Subsidiary Diploma: D plus two A Levels including Chemistry at min Grade B

BTEC Level 3 Diploma in Applied Science (Forensic Science or Medical Science): DD plus A Level Chemistry at min Grade B

BTEC Level 3 Extended Diploma in Applied Science: DDD (Forensic Science or Medical Science), plus A Level Chemistry at min Grade B

IB: 32 points (including Chemistry at Higher Level)

Other qualifications see pages 154-155

**Specific subject requirements**

A Level: Chemistry

General Studies accepted

GCSE: Maths Grade C and English Grade C.

**Key benefits**

- ▶ Emphasis on industrial and applied chemistry
- ▶ Close industrial links provide excellent placement opportunities
- ▶ Consistently high levels of student satisfaction in the National Student Survey (NSS)
- ▶ Option to study for Qualified Teaching Status.

**What are my career prospects?**

Careers in chemistry, the chemical industries or a vast range of alternative scientific, business and professional occupations. According to the most recent student destination statistics, 100% of our BSc Chemistry/Applied Chemistry students went into employment or on to further study.

**What will I study?**

This fast developing science lies at the heart of most technological developments, contributing enormously to our economy. Countless consumer and industrial products, medicines and pharmaceuticals are produced on processes developed from the fundamental principles of chemistry. Our programmes emphasise the commercial, as well as the industrial application of chemistry, aiming to expand your fundamental chemical knowledge, refine your professional, scientific and technical skills and to develop your personal, communication and management skills.

The BSc programmes in Chemistry/Applied Chemistry are designed to develop your chemistry skills, supported by a firm grounding in chemical engineering. To ensure this, you share a common first year with chemical engineers. In later years you go on to specialise at a more advanced level in the core chemical topics such as organic and physical chemistry.

**How does it work?****Programme outline****Years 1 and 2**

Inorganic; Organic; Physical; Biological and Polymer Chemistry; Thermodynamics; Mathematics; Chemical Processes and Process Design; Chemical Kinetics; Polymer Science; Bioscience; Spectroscopy.

**Placement year/or optional ITT/QTS Year**

The 4 year placement incorporates spending the third year in a professional placement, with a large percentage of placements usually paid, gaining valuable and practical experience. For full details on Qualified Teaching Status option (subject to NCTL clearance) please see page 47.

**Final year**

Advanced Chemistry topics; Polymer Science; Catalysis; Analytical Techniques.

The Applied Chemistry programme lays greater emphasis on the industrial and research applications of chemistry and you will do a major laboratory-based research project in your final year. This will develop your laboratory practical skills and you will learn how to undertake research.



Aston provided a course that not only included core modules of chemistry but also aspects of chemical engineering, biochemistry and business. The lecturers have all had previous experience working in the “real world” – together with their approachable nature and outgoing personalities, they have made my time as an undergraduate student a memorable and enjoyable experience.”

**Tarnvir Bhamra, Applied Chemistry**

**100%** agreed  
staff are good at explaining things  
(UNISTATS 2015/16)

**What will I study?**

The field of communications technology has expanded rapidly over the last twenty years, driven by the expansion of the internet, the development of smart phones and smart sensing networks.

By studying in a subject group with an international reputation for research in this area you will acquire a broad level of knowledge in electronic engineering and specialist knowledge in communications.

There is a strong emphasis on project work in all years allowing you to develop your engineering design and management skills by working on engaging projects. The practical experiences you will gain in the course will give you a distinct advantage in the graduate communications engineering market.

**How does it work?****Programme outline****Year 1**

The first two years are taught in common with other Electronic Engineering courses giving a flexible modular approach. Starting with the basic principles of analogue, digital and programmable electronic systems, you will rapidly develop the analytical skills to understand electrical circuits and systems. You will also take courses in computing, mathematics and entrepreneurship. Project work will allow you to develop skills in team working, business and communication.

**Year 2**

This year covers the areas of digital and programmable systems, communication systems, electronic systems and electrical systems studies in more depth. A themed design project will enable you to develop your professional electronic design and management skills.

**Placement year**

An optional placement year allows you to undertake a professional placement, usually paid, gaining valuable experience working as an engineer.

**Final year**

In the final year the core modules cover digital systems design and signal processing. You then take a selection of specialised communications courses in areas such as high speed optical communications, data communications and telecommunications network design and management. You will also complete an extended individual project in an area of communications that interests you. If you prefer to follow an even more challenging course, you should consider the fast track MEng in Electrical and Electronic Engineering, and specialise in communications engineering in the final year.

**Key facts**

3 year full-time or  
4 year placement course.

**UCAS code: H640****Typical offer level**

A Level: ABB-BBB

BTEC National Diploma:  
DDD in relevant National Diploma

IB: 32 points

Other qualifications see pages 154-155

**Specific subject requirements**

A Level: Maths and Physics required but will consider Further Maths, Electronics and Engineering Science if Physics is not studied at A Level.

GCSE: English Grade C.

**Key benefits**

- ▶ A hands-on, project oriented approach and close industrial links
- ▶ Transfer to 4 year fast-track MEng possible subject to satisfactory performance in years 1 and 2
- ▶ Association with Aston's internationally recognised researchers in the communications field
- ▶ Access to our student led Engineering Society lab for individual and group project work
- ▶ Accredited by the Institution of Engineering and Technology (IET)
- ▶ University funded student membership of the IET.

**What are my career prospects?**

Research and development, design and manufacture, management and marketing, consultancy and innovation. Employers include Intel, Silica, DSTL, Datalink Electronics, BAE Systems, Siemens and Oclaro.

**1st** in the UK  
for staff to student ratio  
(Guardian University Guide 2016)

## Computer Science BSc

### Key facts

3 year full-time or  
4 year placement course.

**UCAS code:** G400

**Typical offer level**  
A Level: ABB-BBB

BTEC National Diploma:  
DDD in relevant National Diploma

IB: 32 points

Other qualifications see pages 154-155

### Specific subject requirements

A Level: Maths or Computer Science preferred but not essential.

General Studies accepted

GCSE: Maths Grade B and  
English Grade C.

### Key benefits

- ▶ Accredited by the British Computer Society (BCS)
- ▶ Application-focused research expertise of Computer Science staff is integrated into undergraduate teaching
- ▶ Practical experience of all aspects of software engineering, with opportunities to work on real, commercial projects in our student-run software development organisation, Aston Active Software Engineering
- ▶ Dedicated learning assistance through the Programming Support Office
- ▶ Option to study for Qualified Teaching Status.

### What are my career prospects?

Graduates are highly attractive to employers and well prepared for a rewarding career as a computing professional, delivering the next generation of high-quality software systems. Students typically find work with major organisations such as IBM UK, Ford, Hewlett Packard, Microsoft, Intel, BT, Toyota, Cap Gemini, Integra – Net UK, Logica CMG and TNT.

### What will I study?

The curriculum gives you experience in all aspects of practical and successful system construction and delivery, covering analysis, design (both software and human factors), software engineering, evaluation, and project management.

Students opting for the placement year enhance their career preparation through a period of structured professional training. The course has strong academic international links through internships, with IIT Ropar (India), and joint degrees with Vidyalankar Institute of Technology (India) and Jinan University (China). We provide opportunities that are accessible to students who have demonstrated good intellectual aptitude and who have the enthusiasm and motivation to excel.

### How does it work?

#### Programme outline

##### Year 1

Programming in Java; Problem Solving; Computer Systems; Information Systems and Databases; Internet Computing; Communications Skills; Mathematics for Computer Professionals.

##### Year 2

Software Engineering; Data Structures and Algorithms; Group Project; Human Computer Interaction; Operating Systems; Programming Language Concepts; Internet Applications and Techniques; Artificial Intelligence; Professional Aspects of Computing; Computer Graphics.

##### Placement year/or optional ITT/QTS Year

On the 4 year placement course you spend the third year in a professional placement, which is usually paid. This is subsidised by Aston University and was used as a model of good practice by the e-skills internship programme. For full details on Qualified Teaching Status option (subject to NCTL clearance) please see page 47.

##### Final year

The core of the final year comprises: Software Project Management; Testing and Reliable Software Engineering; Individual Project.

**Final year options currently include:** Information Security; Image and Video Processing; Interaction Design; Enterprise Computing Strategies; Computer Animation; Natural Language Processing; Distributed Systems; Multimedia Information Retrieval; Multi Agent Systems; Data Mining; Game Development; Mobile Development; Geographical Information Systems; Enterprise Application Technology; Advanced Database Systems.

More detailed module information is available on our website,

[www.aston.ac.uk/cs](http://www.aston.ac.uk/cs)

**100%**  
(UNISTATS 2015/16)

of employed students  
are in professional  
or managerial  
roles 6 months  
after graduating

**Top 10 in the UK**  
for Career Prospects

(Guardian University  
Guide 2016)

### What will I study?

This programme will train you to analyse and model challenging real world problems, communicate complex ideas, and build software solutions. Graduates achieve a strong set of skills in both computing and mathematics, which are highly regarded by employers. In the information age, our greatest challenges require sophisticated algorithms applied to large bodies of data: in other words, quantitative analysis combined with technical and computational expertise. Your degree may lead to opportunities in the relatively new domain of data science.

### How does it work?

#### Programme outline

Students take an equal mixture of mathematics and computing modules in their first two years and then have a wide range of choices across both disciplines in their final year.

##### Year 1

Computer Science: Programming in Java; Computer Systems, Information Systems and Databases; Internet Computing. Mathematics: Transition Maths; Calculus and Ordinary Differential Equations; Vector Algebra and Geometry.

##### Year 2

Computer Science: Advanced Programming in Java; Software Lifecycle and Design; Professional Aspects of Computing; Internet Applications; Human-Computer Interaction. Mathematics: Introduction to Analysis, Statistics and Probability; Numerical Methods; Linear Mathematics; Multivariate Calculus; Mathematical Methods.

##### Placement year/or optional ITT/QTS Year

On the 4 year placement course you spend the third year in a professional placement, which is usually paid. The placement is subsidised by Aston University and was used as a model of good practice by the e-skills internship programme. For full details on Qualified Teaching Status option (subject to NCTL clearance) please see page 47.

##### Final year

The core of the final year comprises the Individual Project, Information Security, Statistical Pattern Analysis and Data Mining. The project requires a combination of computing and mathematics skills and makes up a third of the credits. You can then choose from a very wide range of options in each of the two subject areas, including: Statistical Pattern Analysis; Approximation Theory; Chaos and Dynamical Systems; Financial Mathematics; Time Series; Animation; Image and Video Processing; Multi-Agent Systems; Data Mining.

More detailed module information is available on our website,

[www.aston.ac.uk/cs](http://www.aston.ac.uk/cs)

**Option to study for  
Qualified Teaching  
Status**

## Computer Science and Mathematics BSc (Joint Honours)

### Key facts

3 year full-time or  
4 year placement course

**UCAS code:** IG11

**Typical offer level**  
A Level: AAB-ABB

BTEC National Diploma: DDD (including  
A Level Maths Grade B)

IB: 32 (including minimum Grade 6 in  
Maths at Higher Level)

Other qualifications see pages 154-155

### Specific subject requirements

A Level: Maths Grade B

General Studies accepted.

GCSE: English Grade C.

### Key benefits

- ▶ Gain practical experience of software engineering, enhanced by opportunities to work on real projects in our student-run software development organisation, Aston Active Software Engineering
- ▶ Flexible programme allows you to specialise in different areas of quantitative system development
- ▶ Dedicated learning assistance through the Programming Support Office.

### What are my career prospects?

This programme develops graduate software developers to support the development of computing applications that address challenging quantitative problems. Those with mathematical skills are in demand in the financial, engineering, and informatics sectors from companies ranging from small start-ups to multinationals. The group has strong links with major organisations such as IBM, Microsoft, Cap Gemini, HSBC, Credit Suisse First Boston, UBS Bank. Graduates with a combination of technical computing skills and analytical skills are very much in demand.



## Computer Science with Business BSc

### Key facts

3 year full-time or  
4 year placement course.

**UCAS code:** G460

### Typical offer level

A Level: ABB-BBB

BTEC National Diploma: DDD in relevant  
National Diploma

IB: 32 points

Other qualifications see pages 154-155

### Specific subject requirements

A Level: Maths or Computer Science or  
Business preferred but not essential

General Studies accepted

GCSE: Maths Grade B and  
English Grade C.

### Key benefits

- ▶ Accredited by the British Computer Society (BCS)
- ▶ Application-focused research expertise of Computer Science staff is integrated into undergraduate teaching
- ▶ Endorsed by e-skills as an ITMB programme
- ▶ Gain practical experience of software engineering, enhanced by opportunities to work on real projects in our student-run software development organisation, Aston Active Software Engineering.

### What are my career prospects?

Graduates are highly attractive to employers and well prepared for a rewarding career as a computing professional, specifically prepared to respond to the computing challenges of the business world.

Recent graduates have found positions with companies such as Barclays Capital, IBM, Yahoo, BAE Systems, Merrill Lynch, Ford, PricewaterhouseCoopers, Oracle, Credit Suisse First Boston, HSBC, Vodafone, UBS Bank, Jaguar, BP and Caterpillar.

### What will I study?

This programme is a great option if you're interested in both business and IT. Computer Science with Business will develop your skills to create computing solutions that solve the problems of business. It provides you with a thorough grounding in IT, and project management skills, as well as the design, construction and application of computing systems. Students opting for the placement course enhance their career preparation through a period of structured professional training. As an ITMB programme, it also gives you the chance to regularly meet and network with industry leaders from over 60 top commercial organisations.

### How does it work?

#### Programme outline

##### Year 1

Financial Accounting; Organisational Behaviour; Foundations of Business Analytics; Economic Environment; Java Programming Foundations; Information Systems and Databases; Professional Communication Skills; Computer Systems; Internet Computing; Problem Solving.

##### Year 2

Advanced Java Programming; Software Lifecycle and Design; Group Project; Internet Applications; Human-Computer Interaction; Professional Aspects of Computing; Human Management; Business Policy; Management Accounting; Project Management, Business Analytics and Data Mining.

##### Placement year

On the 4 year placement course you spend the third year in a professional placement, which is usually paid. This is subsidised by Aston University and was used as a model of good practice by the e-skills internship programme.

##### Final year

The core of the final year comprises: Entrepreneurial Strategy, Software Project Management; Enterprise Computing Strategies; Information Security and an Individual Project.

Final year options currently include: Finance; Effective Teamwork; Value Based Strategy; Interaction Design; Information Security; Data Mining; Natural Language Processing; Market Research; e-Marketing; Consumer Behaviour; Knowledge at Work; Entrepreneurial Strategy; Geographical Information Systems; Enterprise Application Technology; Data Mining; Software Project Management; Advanced Database Systems.

More detailed module information is available on our website,  
[www.aston.ac.uk/cs](http://www.aston.ac.uk/cs)

**100%**  
(UNISTATS 2015/16)

of employed students  
are in professional  
or managerial  
roles 6 months  
after graduating

**100%**  
(UNISTATS 2015/16)

staff are  
good at  
explaining  
things

## Construction Project Management BSc

### Key facts

3 year full-time or  
4 year placement course.

**UCAS code:** K221

### Typical offer level

A Level: BBB-BBC

BTEC National Diploma: DDD in relevant  
National Diploma

IB: 32 points

Other qualifications see pages 154-155

### Specific subject requirements

A Level: a science or technical subject  
General Studies accepted

GCSE: Maths Grade B and  
English Grade C.

### Key benefits

- ▶ Accredited by the Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors (RICS)
- ▶ Accredited by the Chartered Institute of Building (CIOB)
- ▶ Strong, well established links with industry
- ▶ A forward-looking programme guided by the industry.

### What are my career prospects?

The subjects covered in this degree will give you the necessary management skills and knowledge base for a career in construction project management. You could find yourself working for any one of a range of diverse organisations, including building and project management consultants, quantity surveying firms, contractors, local government and in the service industries.

The transferable and management skills developed during your studies will also be attractive to other professions and there is significant potential for successful careers in such areas as finance, logistics and general management.

### What will I study?

The project management skills necessary for the commercial manager and quantity surveyor to play an integral part in the finance, planning and operation of major construction projects are developed during our Construction Project Management degree.

The first year provides a foundation to your degree by introducing a range of fundamental management and construction subjects. Your second year studies centre on finance, resource management and logistics, together with the necessary knowledge of the construction process. Your management and technical capabilities are further developed during the final year, which also enables you to explore in depth a construction related topic of your choice through a research project.

### How does it work?

#### Programme outline

##### Year 1

Introduction to Business Management; Construction Technology; Building Information Management for Construction; Research Skills; Enhancing Employment Skills; Surveying; Law; Financial Accounting; Introduction to Logistics; Principles of Economics; Geology and Soil Science (including a four day field course).

##### Year 2

Construction Management and Law; Project Management; Estimation Measurement and Scheduling; Professional Development; Inventory Control; Construction Materials; Health & Safety and Risk; Building Control; Construction Technology 2; Database Management; Design.

##### Placement year

On the 4 year course you spend the third year in a professional placement, usually paid, gaining valuable and practical business experience.

##### Final year

Contract Administration; Human Resource Management; Advanced Materials; Green Building; Value Risk and Whole Life Costing; Individual Project; Purchasing Principles and Process; Facilities Management; International Construction and Building Services.



My placement was with the Parliamentary Estates Directorate, at the Houses of Parliament. I worked on a wide range of projects, including attending meetings, prioritising work schedules, taking part in the procurement process, creating presentations and site visits. The placement provides a fantastic experience that is highly relevant to my course, and I believe going on a placement and gaining professional experience gives you the edge when it comes to looking for a graduate career."

**Henry Crockett, Construction Project Management BSc**

**Top 5**  
in the UK

for staff to  
student ratio  
(Guardian 2016)

**90%**  
(UNISTATS 2015/16)

Students in  
work/study six  
months after  
finishing

**Top 10 in the UK**  
University subject tables  
(Complete University Guide 2016)

**Key facts**

3 year full-time or  
4 year placement course.

**UCAS code:** H150

**Typical offer level**

A Level: ABB-BBB

BTEC National Diploma: DDD in relevant  
National Diploma

IB: 32 points (including Maths and  
Physics or appropriate subject at  
Higher Level)

Other qualifications see pages 154-155

**Specific subject requirements**

A Level: Maths and Physics required,  
but will consider Further Maths,  
Design Technology, Engineering  
Science and Electronics if Physics  
is not studied at A Level

GCSE: English Grade C.

**Key benefits**

- ▶ Accredited by the Institution of Mechanical Engineers (IMechE)
- ▶ Aston students have been designing, building and racing a single-seater car since 1999 as part of the IMechE Formula Student competition
- ▶ We compete in the Shell Eco-Marathon competition, requiring design efficiency and innovation
- ▶ Transfer between Mechanical, ElectroMechanical and Design Engineering courses is possible at any point during the first year.

**What are my career prospects?**

Recent graduates found positions with companies such as Corus, IMI Plc, Army/Royal Air Force, Yamazaki Mazak, Carillion, BOC, BAE Systems, Nissan, Lloyds TSB, Phillips, Jaguar, TRW and EDF Energy.

**What will I study?**

This programme aims to bridge the gap between Mechanical Engineering and Product Design, for students who wish to incorporate additional design-led modules within a technical Mechanical Engineering context.

The first year encompasses a broad study of the fundamental disciplines of mechanical, electrical and design engineering, and is structured to suit students from all backgrounds. The second and final years incorporate a combination of core material together with design focussed material to help you develop the competencies demanded by industry.

**How does it work?****Programme outline****Year 1**

Design and Exploration – CDIO 1-1; Prototyping and Development – CDIO 1-2; Electronic Engineering Fundamentals; Engineering Science Fundamentals; Transition Mathematics for Engineers; Mathematics for 1st Year Engineers.

**Year 2**

Design and Engineering for the User – CDIO 2-1; Engineering for Industry – CDIO 2-2; Engineering Mathematics 2; Dynamics and Control; Thermodynamics and Fluids; Engineering Materials; Solid Mechanics; Specialist Design Project 2.

**Placement year**

The 4 year placement course incorporates spending the third year in a usually paid professional placement gaining valuable and practical experience.

**Final year**

Advanced Dynamics and Control; Design Failure Analysis; Energy Efficiency; Solid Mechanics and FEA; Advanced Systems and Design; Engineering Design and the Environment; Specialist Design Project 3; Final Year Project.



I spent my third year placement at Airbus UK based in Bristol. This was one of the most challenging opportunities and the most rewarding. It has given me a huge range of skills that I wouldn't have got with a straight academic course. It has also given me much more confidence in applying for graduate jobs.”

**Alexandra Rush, Design Engineering BEng**

**90%**  
(UNISTATS 2015/16)

of employed students  
are in professional  
or managerial  
roles 6 months  
after graduating

**What will I study?**

This degree will give you a deep knowledge of economics, both a theoretical and an applied outlook on the world of business. With the broad management skills that are also taught on the programme, students can become highly attractive in the graduate employment market.

**How does it work?****Programme outline****Year 1**

Common first year covering all major business functions to help underpin your studies. See page 43 for further information.

**Year 2**

In the second year, you study the core business modules and the specialist economics modules below.

**Modules include:** Principles of Macroeconomics; Principles of Microeconomics; Introduction to Econometrics; International Business Economics; Emerging and Transition Economies.

**Placement year**

The 4 year placement course incorporates spending the third year in a professional placement gaining valuable and practical business experience. See page 43 for further information.

**Final year**

In the final year, you will study the core module in Strategic Management, the compulsory modules (Economics of Business Organisations; Applied Econometrics and Forecasting; Economics of Multinational Enterprise; Economics of Innovation; Derivatives; Macroeconomic Policy; Competition Policy – Theory and Competition Policy – Practice), and two modules of your choice from the optional modules below.

**Modules include:** International Finance; Financial Economics; International Trade; Economics of Entrepreneurship.

**What else should I know?****Professional recognition**

Our graduates can claim exemptions from a number of professional bodies including:

Association of Certified Accountants (ACCA)  
Association of International Accountants (AIA)  
Chartered Institute of Management  
Accountants (CIMA)  
Chartered Insurance Institute (CII)  
Chartered Institute of Purchasing and Supply (CIPS)  
Institute of Chartered Secretaries and Administrators (ICSA)



I would definitely recommend doing a work placement. You will learn a lot about what it is like to do a full-time job and have real responsibility within an organisation. I spent my work placement at E.ON UK, a German-owned energy company.”

**Naveed Ahmed, Economics and Management**

**Key facts**

4 year course with placement year  
3 year course without placement  
available for non-EU students only.

**UCAS code:** LN12

**Typical offer level**

A Level: AAB-ABB

BTEC National Diploma: DDD

IB: 35/34 points

Other qualifications see pages 154-155

**Specific subject requirements**

GCSE: Maths Grade B and English  
Grade C.

**Key benefits**

- ▶ Application of economic theory and practice in a real world business context
- ▶ The placement year means that graduates are sought after and well regarded by high profile employers
- ▶ Develop an understanding of how changes in the economic environment influence business success
- ▶ Aston Business School is highly ranked in university league tables.

**What are my career prospects?**

Of our most recent Business graduates, 80% went into graduate level employment within six months of graduation. Below are examples of the graduate positions they have obtained:

**EFG Private Bank** – Operations and Performance Analyst  
**Hiscox** – Operations Technician  
**Morgan Stanley** – Associate

**90%**  
(UNISTATS 2015/16)

of employed students  
are in professional  
or managerial  
roles 6 months  
after graduating

## Electrical Power Engineering BEng

### Key facts

4 years full-time with year 3 as professional placement year.

**UCAS code:** H630

**Typical offer level**

A Level: ABB-BBB

BTEC National Diploma:

DDD in relevant National Diploma

IB: 32 points (including Maths and Physics at Higher Level)

Other qualifications see pages 154-155

### Specific subject requirements

A Level: Maths and Physics required but will consider Further Maths, Electronics and Engineering Science if Physics is not studied at A Level

GCSE: English Grade C.

### Key benefits

- ▶ Curriculum focused on the application of modern electronic, communications, power electronic and control technologies to a changing power industry
- ▶ Well-equipped laboratories including specialist facilities such as the Aston micro-grid
- ▶ Paid industrial placement either in the UK or overseas, allowing you to gain valuable and practical experience.

### What are my career prospects?

Power engineers enjoy substantially higher than average engineering salaries, rapid progression and considerable opportunities for overseas travel. Progression to a range of Electrical Power Engineering postgraduate courses from MSc to PhD is available to those graduates who wish to further develop their expertise in this subject area.

### What will I study?

This programme will provide you with an exciting learning experience with practical work and taught material integrated throughout the degree course. A number of guest lecturers from the UK power sector will contribute to the programme and industrial case studies will be embedded throughout the programme. This innovative and industrially focused programme is designed to reflect and prepare you for the demands of 'real world' electrical power engineering as much as possible. To this end, throughout your course, you will find that the theoretical and project work you are set encourages and enables you to develop essential practical, intellectual, business and communication skills – attributes that will give you a clear competitive edge in the search for graduate employment.

### How does it work?

#### Programme outline

##### Year 1

Introduction to Computing; Digital & Analogue Electronics; Electrical Circuit Theory; Energy Transfer & Conversion; Optics & Waves; Electrical Systems Engineering; Mathematics; Mechanics.

##### Year 2

The Professional Engineer; Analogue Electronics; Electronic System Analyses; Electro-Magnetism; Electrical Machines & Drives; Electrical Power Networks; Power Electronics; Data Acquisition & Control.

##### Placement year

This year will allow you to gain valuable and practical experience.

##### Final year

Alternative Energy (renewables); Digital Signal Processing & Advanced Control; Advanced Power Electronics; Real-Time Communications Networks; Substation Design & Electrical Switchgear; Electrical Network Protection; Overhead Lines & Cables; Individual Project (50 credits incorporating Project Management).

**90%**  
(UNISTATS 2015/16)

of employed students  
are in professional  
or managerial  
roles 6 months  
after graduating



## Electrical and Electronic Engineering BEng

### Key facts

3 year full-time or  
4 year placement course.

**UCAS code:** H600

### Typical offer level

A Level: ABB-BBB

BTEC National Diploma:  
DDD in relevant National Diploma

IB: 32 points (including Maths and  
Physics at Higher Level)

Other qualifications see pages 154-155

### Specific subject requirements

A Level: Maths and Physics required but  
will consider further Maths, Electronics  
and Engineering Science if Physics is  
not studied at A Level.

GCSE: English Grade C.

### Key benefits

- ▶ A hands-on, project-oriented approach and close industrial links
- ▶ Access to our student led Engineering Society lab for individual and group project work
- ▶ Transfer to 4 year fast-track MEng possible subject to satisfactory performance in years 1 and 2
- ▶ Accredited by the Institution of Engineering and Technology (IET)
- ▶ University funded student membership of the IET.

### What are my career prospects?

Our programmes emphasise 'doing' as well as 'knowing', developing practical and intellectual skills to give you a competitive edge. Recent employers include Intel, EDF Energy, Silica, Hewlett Packard, DSTL, Datalink Electronics, BAE Systems, Npower, Siemens, National Grid and Jaguar Land Rover.

### What will I study?

Electronic engineers have enabled many of the technological advances which shape the way we live today and the way we view the world. The discipline underpins everything from modern mobile phones and state of the art hospital equipment to motor vehicles and power. There is a strong emphasis on practical work in all years allowing you to develop your engineering and management skills by working on engaging projects. In addition, you will gain the background knowledge of science and mathematics needed to excel in the field.

### How does it work?

#### Programme outline

##### Year 1

The MEng and BEng programmes share a common first two years. You start by learning the basic principles of analogue, digital and programmable electronic systems; developing the analytical skills to understand and design electrical circuits and systems. You will also take courses in computing, mathematics and entrepreneurship. Project work will allow you to develop skills in team working, business and communication.

##### Year 2

This year covers the areas of digital and programmable systems, communication systems, electronic systems and electrical systems studies in more depth. A team design project will enable you to develop your professional electronic design and management skills.

##### Placement year

An optional placement year allows you to undertake a professional placement, usually paid, gaining valuable experience working as an engineer. This is tremendously helpful when you later look for graduate employment.

##### Final year

In the final year the core modules cover digital systems design and signal processing. You can take a broad range of options or specialise on one particular area such as communications, sensing or electrical power. We have designed the course so that most examined work is completed by January of the final year allowing you to spend the final semester concentrating on an extended individual project in an area that interests you.

**1st**  
in the UK  
for staff to  
student ratio  
(Guardian 2016)

**95%**  
(UNISTATS 2015/16)  
Students in  
work/study six  
months after  
finishing

## Electrical and Electronic Engineering MEng

### Key facts

4 year fast-track with  
integrated 1 year placement.

**UCAS code:** H601

### Typical offer level

A Level: AAA-AAB

IB: 34 points (including minimum Grade  
6 in Maths and Physics at Higher Level)

Transfer from the BEng programme  
subject to meeting performance criteria.

### Specific subject requirements

A Level: Maths and Physics required but  
will consider Electronics if Physics is not  
studied at A Level

GCSE: English Grade C.

### Key benefits

- ▶ Fast-track MEng with industrial experience
- ▶ A hands-on, project-oriented approach and close industrial links
- ▶ Access to our student led Engineering Society lab for individual and group project work
- ▶ Accredited by the Institution of Engineering and Technology (IET)
- ▶ University funded student membership of the IET.

### What are my career prospects?

The design of our programmes emphasises 'doing' as well as 'knowing', developing practical, intellectual, business and communication skills. Taken with the experience from your placement and the higher level qualification, this course will give you a competitive edge in the search for employment.

### What will I study?

With its impact on so many facets of modern-day life it is perhaps no surprise to find that electronic engineering is the most extensive and pervasive of all the engineering disciplines. This ground-breaking, fast-track, higher level qualification allows you to gain an MEng qualification in four years and includes a twelve month industrial placement. In most other institutions this path takes five years to complete. The course gives you the opportunity to study electronics more deeply and decreases the time it will take you to achieve Chartered Engineer status.

### How does it work?

#### Programme outline

##### Year 1

The MEng and BEng programmes share a common first two years. You start by learning the basic principles of analogue, digital and programmable electronic systems developing the analytical skills to understand and design electrical circuits and systems. You will also take courses in computing, mathematics and entrepreneurship. Project work will allow you to develop skills in team working, business and communication.

##### Year 2

This year covers the areas of digital and programmable systems, communication systems, electronic systems and electrical systems studies in more depth. A themed design project will enable you to develop your professional electronic design and management skills. MEng students take additional modules after the summer exams in the second year in communications science and programming.

##### Year 3

The final two years allow you to develop your skills in engineering and engineering management to a much greater depth and gain important experience working on an engineering placement. The placement is academically assessed and by taking additional distance learning modules during the third year you can incorporate the placement within a four year course saving you both time and money.

##### Year 4

In the final year you can take a broad range of Masters level courses or specialise in one particular area such as communications, sensing, or electrical power. You will also complete an extended individual project in an area that interests you.

**1st**  
in the UK  
for staff to  
student ratio  
(Guardian 2016)

**90%**  
(UNISTATS 2015/16)  
of employed students  
are in professional  
or managerial  
roles 6 months  
after graduating

## ElectroMechanical Engineering BEng

### Key facts

3 year full-time of  
4 year placement course.

**UCAS code:** HH36

**Typical offer level**  
A Level: ABB-BBB

BTEC National Diploma: DDD in relevant  
National Diploma

IB: 32 points (including Maths or Physics  
at Higher Level)

Other qualifications see pages 154-155

### Specific subject requirements

A Level: Maths and Physics required,  
but will consider Further Maths,  
Design Technology, Engineering  
Science and Electronics if Physics  
is not studied at A Level

GCSE: English Grade C.

### Key benefits

- ▶ Accredited by the Institution of Mechanical Engineers (IMechE)
- ▶ Aston students have been designing, building and racing a single-seater car since 1999 as part of the IMechE Formula Student competition
- ▶ We compete in the Shell Eco-Marathon competition, requiring design efficiency and innovation
- ▶ Annual student design show, 'Aston Inspired' showcasing work to employers and academics
- ▶ Transfer between Mechanical, ElectroMechanical and Design Engineering courses is possible at any point during the first year.

### What are my career prospects?

Recent graduates have found engineer/ consultant positions with companies including Alstom, Ove Arup, Ricardo (Automotive Consultancy), Rolls-Royce, British Energy, Calor Gas and PhD research.

### What will I study?

Our exciting multidisciplinary approach offers a broad-based engineering education with specialist skills and knowledge of mechanical, electrical and electronic engineering. In your first two years you will study alongside our Mechanical Engineering students gaining a broad insight into the fundamental disciplines of mechanical, electrical and design engineering. The final year incorporates a combination of core material and elective modules, ranging from power systems to quality engineering. Electives give you the opportunity to study areas of particular interest or professional relevance in the electromechanical field.

Throughout our programmes we emphasise business and communication skills coupled with sound engineering skill and a desire to embrace emerging technologies and social issues, such as sustainability, which will shape the direction of engineering well into this century. This multidisciplinary approach provides an ideal preparation for a career in the energy and power, industrial processing and electromechanical industries, as well as consultancy and business.

### How does it work?

#### Programme outline

##### Year 1

Design and Exploration – CDIO 1-1; Prototyping and Development – CDIO 1-2; Electronic Engineering Fundamentals; Engineering Science Fundamentals; Transition Mathematics for Engineers; Mathematics for 1st Year Engineers.

##### Year 2

Design and Engineering for the User – CDIO 2-1; Engineering for Industry – CDIO 2-2; Engineering Mathematics 2; Dynamics and Control; Thermodynamics and Fluids; Engineering Materials; Theory of Electricity; Solid Mechanics;

##### Placement year

The 4 year placement course incorporates spending the third year in a usually paid professional placement gaining valuable and practical experience. Companies currently involved in student placements include National Grid, RWE, Npower, Hyundai, BMW and GKN.

##### Final year

Advanced Dynamics and Control; Design Failure Analysis; Energy Efficiency; Electrical Systems Engineering; Electrical Networks and Drives; Solid Mechanics and FEA; Power Systems; Advanced Systems and Design; Engineering Design and the Environment; Final Year Project.

**90%**  
(UNISTATS 2015/16)

of employed students  
are in professional  
or managerial  
roles 6 months  
after graduating



## Electronic Engineering and Computer Science BEng

### Key facts

3 year full-time or  
4 year placement course.

**UCAS code:** GH46

**Typical offer level**  
A Level: ABB-BBB

BTEC National Diploma: DDD in  
relevant National Diploma

IB: 32 points (ideally Maths and  
Physics at Higher Level)

Other qualifications see pages 154-155

### Specific subject requirements

A Level: Maths and Physics required,  
A Level Electronics or Computer  
Science will be considered if  
Physics is not studied at A Level.

GCSE: English Grade C.

### Key benefits

- ▶ A hands-on, project-oriented programme with close industrial links
- ▶ Transfer to 4 year fast-track MEng possible subject to satisfactory performance in years 1 and 2
- ▶ Access to our student led Engineering Society lab for individual and group project work
- ▶ Benefit from Aston's expertise in both Electronic Engineering and Computer Science
- ▶ Accredited by the Institution of Engineering and Technology (IET) and the British Computer Society (BCS)
- ▶ University funded student membership of the IET.

### What are my career prospects?

Opportunities in electronics, internet technology, computing, digital systems and software design industries. Recent employers include Intel, Silica, Hewlett Packard, Datalink Electronics, BAE Systems, Siemens and National Grid.

### What will I study?

You will gain a solid grounding in software engineering and computing systems which will be complemented by engineering expertise in digital electronics and telecommunications. This degree places emphasis on gaining a specialist and extremely valuable set of skills that form a bridge between hardware and software; to achieve this you will study computing and electronics with single honours students from the electronic engineering and computer science subject groups.

### How does it work?

#### Programme outline

##### Year 1

The MEng and BEng programmes share a common first two years. You start by learning the basic principles of analogue, digital and programmable electronic systems and software design. You will also take courses in mathematics and entrepreneurship.

##### Year 2

This year covers the areas of digital and programmable systems, communication systems and computer systems in more depth. A themed design project will enable you to develop your professional electronic design and management skills. Transfer to the MEng course is possible at this point subject to you meeting the entry requirements.

##### Placement year

An optional placement year allows you to undertake a professional placement which is usually paid, gaining valuable experience working as an engineer. This is tremendously helpful when you later look for graduate employment.

##### Final year

In the final year the core modules cover digital systems design and software development. You can take a broad range of options or specialise in one particular area such as communications, sensing or computer science. We have designed the course so that most examined work is completed by January of the final year allowing you to spend the final semester concentrating on an extended individual project in an area that interests you.

**1st**  
in the UK  
for staff to  
student ratio  
(Guardian 2016)

**Top 20** in the UK  
(Guardian Guide 2016)

## Electronic Engineering and Computer Science MEng

### What will I study?

Digital electronics and computer systems are pervasive in commerce, industry and the home and have an ever increasing impact on the way we work and live. To gain a competitive edge over its global rivals, British industry and commerce needs trained electronic and computer systems engineers with both hardware and software skills who can harness and influence the growth of this technology.

This fast-track, higher level qualification allows you to gain an MEng qualification in four years and include a one year industrial placement. There is a strong emphasis on project work in all years allowing you to develop your engineering and management skills by working on engaging projects.

### How does it work?

#### Programme outline

The Electronic Engineering and Computer Science courses at Aston aim to meet the requirements of today's workplace by expanding the breadth and depth of our students' knowledge in electronics, internet technology, computer science, digital systems and software design. It also enables the development of essential professional skills.

This degree places emphasis on gaining a specialist and extremely valuable set of skills that form a bridge between hardware and software. To achieve this you will study computing and electronics with single honours students from the electronic engineering and computer science subject groups.

##### Year 1

The MEng and BEng programmes share a common first two years. You start by learning the basic principles of analogue, digital and programmable electronic systems, mathematics, entrepreneurship and software design.

##### Year 2

This year covers the areas of digital and programmable systems, communication systems and computer systems in more depth. An extended design project will enable you to develop your professional electronic design and management skills. MEng students take additional modules at the end of the second year.

##### Year 3

The final two years allow you to develop your skills in engineering and management to a greater depth and gain important experience working on an engineering placement. By taking supplementary distance learning modules in the third year you can incorporate the placement within the four years saving you both time and money.

##### Year 4

In the final year you can take a range of Master's level courses or specialise in one particular area such as digital systems or software development. You will complete an extended individual project in an area of interest.

**1st**  
in the UK  
for staff to  
student ratio  
(Guardian 2016)

**Top 20** in the UK  
(Guardian Guide 2016)

### Key facts

4 year fast-track with integrated  
1 year placement.

**UCAS code:** GH64

**Typical offer level**  
A Level: AAA-AAB

IB: 34 points (including minimum Grade  
6 in Maths and Physics at Higher Level)

Transfer from the BEng programme  
possible subject to meeting  
performance criteria.

### Specific subject requirements

A Level: Maths and Physics required but  
will consider Electronics if Physics is not  
studied at A Level.

GCSE: English and Maths Grade C.

### Key benefits

- ▶ Fast-track MEng with industrial experience
- ▶ A hands-on, project-oriented programme with close industrial links
- ▶ Access to our student led Engineering Society lab for individual and group project work
- ▶ Benefit from Aston's expertise in both Electronic Engineering and Computer Science
- ▶ Accredited by the Institution of Engineering and Technology (IET) and the British Computer Society (BCS)
- ▶ University funded student membership of the IET.

### What are my career prospects?

Well-trained graduates with skills in electronics design, software, telecommunications and engineering are in high demand.

There are opportunities in government, the public sector and in private industry. In the latter sector, employers include Olympus, Corus, HSBC, Hewlett Packard, Oxford University, BAE Systems, Npower, Cogent Defence, Siemens, Vodafone, QinetiQ, National Grid, Rolls-Royce, Jaguar Cars and Microsoft.

## Engineering and Applied Science Foundation Year

### Key facts

1 year full-time course.

#### UCAS codes:

Foundation Year: H100

#### Typical offer level

We accept well-motivated and able students with a wide range of qualifications, including BTEC National Diplomas, Access Course Certificates and A Levels. Offers are made on an individual basis and may require that you attend an interview.

We also consider mature applicants who have industrial experience but do not have relevant academic qualifications.

For an informal discussion please contact Dr Michael Peters (m.peters@aston.ac.uk) or call 0121 204 3400.

### Key benefits

- ▶ This programme offers an insight into the exciting professions of Engineering and Applied Science. It is designed to help students from a wide range of backgrounds who have a passion for Engineering and Applied Science but do not have the correct entry requirements to join our undergraduate degree programmes
- ▶ Guaranteed progression onto our BEng/BSc Engineering programmes if you meet the progression criteria, meaning you will not have to make another UCAS application.

### What are my career prospects?

Long-term demand for Engineers and Technologists is high and career prospects are excellent. This Foundation Year gives you the opportunity to become a professional engineer through access to our high quality degree courses.

### What will I study?

A year of preparatory studies are specifically designed to lead into the main engineering and scientific disciplines.

The programme consists of core modules and an optional module which you will choose after the first teaching period. In addition to the technical subjects, you will also develop the personal and professional skills required of a modern Engineer or Applied Scientist.

Your week will typically contain 18 hours of lectures, tutorials and laboratory work and you are expected to supplement this with self-study. You will be given regular feedback on your progress throughout the year. Assessment is by coursework and formal written examinations.

Successful completion of this programme at the appropriate grade, guarantees access to the majority of our undergraduate degrees in the School of Engineering and Applied Science such as:

- ▶ Chemistry
- ▶ Chemical Engineering
- ▶ Mechanical Engineering
- ▶ Electrical & Electronic Engineering
- ▶ Product Design
- ▶ Computer Science
- ▶ Mathematics
- ▶ Logistics
- ▶ Construction Management
- ▶ Applied Physics.

The first teaching period gives you a 'taste' of each of the different engineering disciplines. This will help you select your optional module for teaching period two and ultimately your degree programme.



## English Language BSc (Single and Joint Honours)

### Key facts

4 year with integrated placement year/  
3 years full-time

English Language combined with French, German or Spanish is a 4 year degree programme with a compulsory year abroad.

Business Management and English Language includes a compulsory placement (can be based in the UK or overseas).

#### UCAS codes:

Single Honours: Q310  
(3/4 year option available)

Joint Honours:

Business Management and English Language QN75

French and English Language QR31

German and English Language QR32

International Relations and English Language LQ23

Politics and English Language QL32

Sociology and English Language LQ33

Spanish and English Language QR34

English Language and Social Policy LQ43

#### Typical offer level

ABB-BBB

IB: 32-33 points

Other qualifications see pages 154-155

#### Specific subject requirements

B in A Level English or equivalent required for Single Honours.

GCSE English Language and Maths Grade C or equivalent.

### What will I study?

Our innovative English Language degrees aim to provide you with a theoretical knowledge and understanding of the English language, how it works in society and its role in the world today. We emphasise the practical application of English Language to the real world through our optional placement year and through professionally relevant modules in areas such as Teaching and Learning English or Legal Language.

Your first year of studying English Language at Aston will give you a broad introduction to language and meaning, the influence of form and context and the role of language in society. In the second year you build upon the themes introduced in your first year through the study of core modules designed to equip you to describe the features of spoken and written text in technical detail, as well as collecting, managing and working with linguistic data. In the final year you will produce a substantial piece of individual work in the form of a dissertation on an agreed topic of your choice. In addition you can choose from a range of elective modules (see module guide for details).

### How does it work?

#### Programme outline

##### Modules – Single Honours

###### Year 1

English Language Across Time and Space; Introduction to Discourse Analysis; Language in Society; Words & Meaning; Grammar & Meaning; Phonetics & Phonology; Theories of Language and Identities; Academic Communication Skills.

###### Year 2

Written Text Analysis; Advanced Topics in Sociolinguistics; Working with Language Data. Electives in areas such as Language in the News Media; Language at Work; Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages; The Language of the Law; Computer-Mediated Communication; Psychology of Language & Communication; Introduction to Intercultural Communication; Language Policy.

###### Year 3

Optional work/study placement. See page 52.

###### Final year

Research Dissertation (on an agreed topic of your choice); Electives in areas such as Corpus Linguistics; Language as Evidence; Learning English; Multimodal Analysis; Spoken Discourse Analysis; Leadership and Management Communication I and II; Language Contact and Globalization.

### Modules – Joint Honours (for Business Management and English Language see page 71)

#### Year 1

Language in Society; Introduction to Discourse Analysis; Academic Communication Skills; Grammar and Meaning; plus 60 credits from your other Joint Honours subject.

#### Year 2

Written Text Analysis; The Language of the Law; Working with Language Data. Options from Language in the News Media; Language at Work; Computer Mediated Communication; Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages; Language Policy; plus 60 credits from your other Joint Honours subject.

#### Year 3

Optional work/study placement year. See page 52.

#### Final year

Research Dissertation (on an agreed topic of your choice); Electives in areas such as: Corpus Linguistics; Language as Evidence; Learning and Management Communication I and II; Spoken Discourse Analysis; Multimodal Analysis; Language Contact and Globalization; plus 60 credits from your other Joint Honours subject.

### Key benefits

- ▶ English at Aston is ranked 13th in the UK out of 105 universities in the 2015 Guardian University Guide
- ▶ Aston is one of only a few UK universities to offer English Language programmes with a fully integrated, optional placement year
- ▶ Distinctive, integrated professional placement and year abroad options (See page 53)
- ▶ Professionally relevant, innovative modules such as Language and the Law, Computer-mediated Communication and Language in the News Media
- ▶ Possibility of specialising in Business Communication, Forensic Linguistics or Learning and Teaching English.

### Career Prospects

Careers for graduates include: publishing, linguistic computing, journalism, law, the Civil Service, the media (including advertising, marketing and public relations) and information technology (including library work), as well as teaching (in the UK or abroad).

Please visit: [www.aston.ac.uk/lss](http://www.aston.ac.uk/lss) for examples of recent graduate destinations.



I worked as a Teaching Assistant at an international school in Malaysia. This once in a life time opportunity enabled me to gain invaluable teaching experience which was vital to my PGCE application. I was also able to directly apply the knowledge learnt from studying certain modules at Aston University to my placement, such as the 'Teaching English to Speakers of other Languages' module."

**Abbey Wadey, BSc English Language**



Another great thing about Aston is their emphasis on placements, which I feel is very important in the current economic climate. Jobs are not easy to find at the moment and doing a placement gives you those necessary employability skills and competencies before you graduate. As a result of my placement, I was offered a graduate role with IBM on a Leadership Development Programme with my first role as a Business Development Consultant in Dubai."

**Charles Donnell, Psychology and English Language BSc**

English at Aston is ranked **11th in the UK** for graduate prospects  
(Complete University Guide 2016)

**94%**  
(National Student Survey 2015)

Overall Satisfaction for BSc English Language



### Key facts

4 year course with placement year

3 year course without placement available for non-EU students only.

**UCAS code:** N300

**Typical offer level**

A Level: AAB-ABB

BTEC National Diploma: DDD

IB: 35/34 points

Other qualifications see pages 154-155

**Specific subject requirements**

GCSE: Maths Grade B and English Grade C.

### Key benefits

- ▶ A finance degree set within the broad management context, combining theoretical knowledge and practical capability, is appealing to a wide range of potential employers
- ▶ Teaching draws upon our outstanding reputation for research
- ▶ Paid professional placement year that is well regarded by high profile employers.

### What are my career prospects?

On successful completion of this degree, the specialist finance knowledge gained provides excellent preparation for graduate entry into finance related careers such as investment or retail banking, financial analysis, stock broking or insurance. Also, because the degree combines broader-based business knowledge, it provides an excellent foundation for careers in general management and imparts skills that will be highly valued by graduate recruiters in both the private and public sectors.

Aston Business School has an outstanding record of producing successful, highly sought after graduates. Of our most recent business graduates, 88% were in graduate level employment within six months of graduating.

### What will I study?

This degree is an excellent preparation for a career in a financial environment, equipping you with a balanced mix of finance, economics, accounting and more general management knowledge, skills and expertise. You will explore many aspects of finance such as capital markets, derivatives, corporate finance, exchange rate risks, asset pricing and international finance. In addition, this degree is designed to give you a range of transferable and practical skills to help you succeed in your chosen career.

### How does it work?

#### Programme outline

##### Year 1

Common first year covering all major business functions to help underpin your studies. See page 43 for further information.

##### Year 2

Explore finance in more depth and undertake an interactive team-based business game module.

**Modules include:** Financial Accounting; Financial Management; Business Game; Operational Research Techniques; Business Policy; Principles of Macroeconomics; Principles of Microeconomics; Business, Government and Society; Introduction to Econometrics 1 & 2.

##### Placement year

The 4 year course incorporates spending the third year in a professional placement gaining valuable and practical business experience. See page 43 for further information.

##### Final year

Finance studies are taken to a more refined level, similar to a professional qualification standard.

**Modules include:** Advanced Financial Accounting; Investments; Taxation: Policy and Practice; Derivatives; International Finance; Financial Economics; Strategic Management; Applied Econometrics and Forecasting; Further Topics in Derivatives.

### What else should I know?

#### Professional recognition

Our graduates can claim exemptions from the examinations of a number of professional bodies including:

Association of Chartered Certified Accountants (ACCA)

Association of International Accountants (AIA)

Institute of Chartered Secretaries and Administrators (ICSA)

The CFA Society of the UK recognises the significant alignment between the Investment Management Certificate (IMC) and the BSc (Hons) Finance Programme at Aston University.

**Top 25 in the UK  
for employability**

(Sunday Times 2016)



**Key facts**

4 year course with placement year  
3 year course without placement available for non-EU students only.

**UCAS code:** N600

**Typical offer level**  
A Level: AAB-ABB

BTEC National Diploma: DDD

IB: 35/34 points

Other qualifications see pages 154-155

**Specific subject requirements**

GCSE: Maths and English Grade C.

**Key benefits**

- ▶ A specialist HRM degree set within a broad management context, combining theoretical knowledge and practical capability, appeals to a wide range of potential employers
- ▶ Teaching draws upon our outstanding reputation for research
- ▶ Paid professional placement year that is well regarded by high profile employers
- ▶ Professional accreditation is available.

**What are my career prospects?**

Of our most recent Business graduates, 88% went into graduate level employment within six months of graduation. Below are examples of the positions they secured and the organisations that employed them:

**BMW** – Human Resource Management Co-ordinator  
**GlaxoSmithKline** – Human Resources Project Manager  
**Goodman Mason** – Consultant (HR)  
**HBOS** – Manager  
**Jaguar Land Rover** – HR Consultant  
**PPS Works** – Resource Consultant  
**Sainsbury's** – Graduate Manager  
**United Biscuits** – HR Officer

**What will I study?**

Understanding the human side of organisations is central to their performance and effectiveness. As organisations change, grow, divide, develop and operate internationally, professional knowledge of the part played by their people is essential at both operational and board levels. This programme considers how people, processes and structures interrelate. It focuses on the crucial roles played by individuals and groups in organisations, such as decision making, planning and managing new technology.

**How does it work?****Programme outline****Year 1**

Common first year covering all major business functions to help underpin your studies. See page 43 for further information.

**Year 2**

Management of people and the strategies of human resource management.

**Modules include:** Business Policy; Strategic Finance; Theory and Practice of Human Resource Management; Psychology and Work; Effective Teamwork; Developing Creativity at Work; Strategy for Future Leaders; Business Game; Business Policy; Business, Government and Society.

**Placement year**

The 4 year course incorporates spending the third year in a professional placement gaining valuable and practical business experience. See page 43 for further information.

**Final year**

You will explore how organisations relate to their wider context from both a socio-psychological and socio-economic perspective.

**Modules include:** Contemporary Issues in Human Resource Management; Employee Relations and Legal Issues in Human Resource Management; Theory and Practice of Leadership; Strategic Aspects of Organisational Performance; Learning, Training and Development in Organisations; Global Working; Business Ethics; Strategic Management.

**What else should I know?****Professional recognition**

Students are eligible for full Associate Membership of the Chartered Institute of Personnel and Development and can claim exemptions from the examinations of a number of professional bodies including:

Association of Chartered Certified Accountants (ACCA)  
Association of International Accountants (AIA)  
The Chartered Institute of Personnel and Development (CIPD)  
Chartered Institute of Management Accountants (CIMA)  
Chartered Institute of Purchasing and Supply (CIPS)  
Institute of Chartered Secretaries and Administrators (ICSA)  
Chartered Insurance Institute (CII)

**What will I study?**

The exciting spectrum of product design work undertaken on this degree has a strong focus on the interface of consumer products and their users. The design-led specialist modules are underpinned by workshop practice, engineering principles and the development of professional design skills including CAD. Our forward-facing design agenda aims to address the future needs of people as well as the issues of energy and global change. BSc Industrial Product Design is an ideal balance between creative ideas and technical design skills.

Aston has a very practical, industry focus. This sees the CDIO learning approach of 'learning through doing' with live design projects based in our workshops with students working to design build and test real prototypes, skills industry really value.

**How does it work?****Programme outline****Year 1**

Introduction to new design skills, techniques and thinking. This busy first year will involve practical team design projects and experimentation of working prototypes. The principles of design and mechanics will run alongside creative sketching and drawing classes. The first year projects will engage you in a range of design, creativity and model-making in our design workshops.

**Year 2**

Focuses on more complex projects, addressing issues of design methods, advanced manufacturing techniques and bringing a professional focus to your work. In some projects you will collaborate with other designers and begin to develop your work within your specialist design area.

**Placement year**

The 4 year placement course enables you to spend your third year in, a usually paid, professional placement gaining valuable practical experience. This is an opportunity to get hands-on experience within a professional environment, to enhance your design and CAD skills, create a useful network of contacts and possibly secure your first job after graduation.

**Final year**

Defines your career focus and develops your key strengths as a designer. Your year long Major Project and portfolio will help define you as a capable creative professional designer with a clear vision for your future career. Visiting professional designers will work with you to enhance your skills, techniques and application of knowledge in Industrial Product Design. You will formulate your own individual project to showcase your creative and innovative solutions that meet real market needs in Design.

Students seeking to develop enterprise and higher level design skills can progress onto our specialist MSc Product Design Innovation as part of their career progression.

**Key facts**

3 year full-time or  
4 year placement course.

**UCAS code:** H772

**Typical offer level**  
A Level: ABB-BBB

BTEC National Diploma:  
DDD in relevant National Diploma

IB: 32 points (including a science subject at Higher Level)

Other qualifications see pages 154-155

**Specific subject requirements**

A Level: a science or technical subject

General Studies accepted

GCSE: Maths Grade B and English Grade C.

**Key benefits**

- ▶ Accredited by the Institution of Engineering Designers (IED)
- ▶ Creation of innovative ideas underpinned by Engineering knowledge
- ▶ One of the few DTUS universities with close links to officer training in the Armed Forces
- ▶ Benefit from innovative teaching using CDIO – see page 46
- ▶ Specialist Design Projects are run like a modern design consultancy.

**What are my career prospects?**

Demonstrating creative design skills and technical knowledge is an advantage to employers. Recent graduate destinations include design or technical roles for Laing, Goodrich, Husio International, The Eden Project, J Engineering, SMK, The Marketing Company, Sainsbury's, TNA Europe, Hives, Rolls Royce, Calsonic Kansei and Jaguar Land Rover.

## International Business and Economics BSc

### Key facts

4 year course with placement year  
3 year course without placement available for non-EU students only.

**UCAS code:** LNC1

**Typical offer level**  
A Level: AAB-ABB

BTEC National Diploma: DDD

IB: 35/34 points

Other qualifications see pages 154-155

### Specific subject requirements

GCSE: Maths Grade B and English Grade C.

### Key benefits

- ▶ Combination of rigorous economics with real-world relevance and focus on international business
- ▶ Integral 12 month work placement enhances graduate career prospects
- ▶ Wide choice of applied economics and international business modules in the final year
- ▶ Optional language modules.

### What are my career prospects?

This degree provides a sound base for a career in international business or as an applied/business economist. Recent graduate positions include:

- Allied Irish Bank** – Corporate Banking Graduate
- Bank of America Merrill Lynch** – Compliance Analyst
- BVCA** – Private Equity Analyst
- Hedge Fund Investment Management** – Account Assistant
- HKS Retail** – Data Analyst
- HSBC** – Foreign Exchange and Money Market Dealer
- JP Morgan** – Analyst
- RBS** – Credit Derivatives Officer

**Business at Aston is ranked Top 30 in the UK for both Student Satisfaction and Employability**

(Guardian 2016)

### What will I study?

With the increasing globalisation of business and the revolution in communications, no company can afford to ignore the international dimension. The international business component of the programme will develop the knowledge and skills required for assessing and developing international business strategies and operations. The economics component will develop skills required to assess the economic environment of companies and their strategies in the context of national and international environments.

### How does it work?

#### Programme outline

##### Year 1

Common first year covering all major business functions to help underpin your studies. See page 43 for further information.

##### Year 2

In the second year, the modules develop your understanding of economics and the methods used in developing economic models to aid business decisions. You will also study the international business environment and develop an understanding of the international operations of businesses.

**Modules include:** Strategic Finance; Business Game; Business Policy; Business, Government and Society; International Business Environment; International Business Economics; Principles of Macroeconomics; Principles of Microeconomics; Introduction to Econometrics; Emerging and Transitional Economies.

##### Placement year

The 4 year course incorporates spending the third year in a professional placement gaining valuable and practical business experience. If you prefer, you can study overseas at one of our partner institutions. See page 43 for further information.

##### Final year

In your final year, the compulsory modules focus on understanding and applying strategic management in the global business environment. You will then choose from a wide range of applied economics and international business modules.

**Modules include:** Compulsory module in Strategic Management. A choice of economics-oriented modules: Economics of Multinational Enterprise; Applied Econometrics and Forecasting; Economics of Business Organisations; Economics of Innovation; Macroeconomic Policy; Competition Policy – Theory; Competition Policy – Practice. A choice of international business-oriented modules: International Finance; Derivatives; International Marketing; International Operations; Business Ethics; World-wide Management of IT; Innovation; Economics of Entrepreneurship. Language modules: Spanish\*; French\*; German\*; Mandarin\*; Arabic\*; Portuguese\*.

### What else should I know?

#### Professional recognition

Our graduates can claim exemptions from the examinations of a number of professional bodies including:

- The Association of Chartered Certified Accountants (ACCA)
- The Association of International Accountants (AIA)



# International Business and Management BSc

## Key facts

4 year course with placement year  
3 year course without placement available for non-EU students only.

**UCAS code:** NNC2

**Typical offer level**  
A Level: AAB-ABB

BTEC National Diploma: DDD

IB: 35/34 points

Other qualifications see pages 154-155

## Specific subject requirements

GCSE: Maths and English Grade C.

## Key benefits

- ▶ Aston Business School degrees are highly ranked in the UK's university league tables
- ▶ Aston Business School is among just 1% of business schools worldwide to have secured triple accreditation from the main international bodies (EQUIS, AMBA and AACSB)
- ▶ Overseas work or study placement opportunities in the third year
- ▶ Option to learn or improve in French, German, Mandarin, Arabic, Spanish, Portuguese or Japanese.

## What are my career prospects?

Recent International Business and Management graduates have gained employment both at home and overseas in a variety of organisations and positions including:

**House of Fraser**  
Employee Relations Administrator

**National Autistic Society**  
Employment Co-ordinator

**AgustaWestland Helicopters**  
Graduate Trainee

**W H Smiths Europe Travel Retail**  
Training and Communications Manager

**Ernst & Young**  
Graduate Recruitment Administrator

## What will I study?

International Business and Management offers a core strategic management focus within an international business context. This exciting degree offers the opportunity to spend your placement year abroad either working or studying in an English-speaking environment.

## How does it work?

### Programme outline

#### Year 1

In the common first year you gain a foundation in all the major business functions and disciplines necessary to underpin your future studies. The International Perspectives module introduces you to the business and management context of international organisations.

From the second year you start to specialise your knowledge and skills in international business and management.

#### Year 2

In addition to the core modules, all students take International Business Environment and Introduction to Intercultural Communication, then choose from a range of specialist International Business Economics and language modules.

#### Final year

All students take Strategic Management and Economics of Multi-National Enterprise, then choose from a range of specialist International Business, Management and Communication modules. You can also continue a language studied in the second year, or start a different language at intermediate or advanced level.

Any remaining credits in the second and final years can be chosen from the wide range of subject areas shown in the list opposite.

#### Placement year

The 4 year course incorporates spending the third year either working or studying abroad in an English-speaking environment. See page 43 for further information.

## What else should I know?

### Professional recognition

Our graduates can claim exemptions from the examinations of a number of professional bodies including:

Association of Chartered Certified Accountants (ACCA)

Association of International Accountants (AIA)

Chartered Institute of Management Accountants (CIMA)

Chartered Institute of Marketing (CIM)

Chartered Institute of Purchasing and Supply (CIPS)

Institute of Chartered Secretaries and Administrators (ICSA)

Chartered Institute of Insurance (CII)

**12 months work or study placement overseas**

**89%** agreed  
staff are good at explaining things  
(UNISTATS 2015/16)

**91%** Overall satisfaction  
(UNISTATS 2015/16)

## Second year subject options

### Accounting and Finance

Financial Accounting\*; Making Managerial Decisions\*

### Business Analytics

Advanced Spreadsheet Systems; Operational Research Techniques1; Business Analytics & Data Mining; Business Analytics in Practice

### Business & Government

Government, Globalisation and Money; Comparing Public Policies; Environmental Policy: Global Society

### Business Economics

Principles of Microeconomics; Principles of Macroeconomics; Industrial Organisation and Strategy; Introduction to Econometrics

### Business Psychology

Theories of HRM\*; Psychology and Work\*; Developing Creativity at Work; Strategy for Future Leaders\*

### International Communication for Business

Intercultural Business Communication; Language at Work plus a double module of a language; Spanish\*; French\*; German\*; Mandarin\*; Arabic\*; Portuguese; Japanese\*. Languages offered at beginner, intermediate and advanced levels. Japanese is only offered at beginner and intermediate level.

### International Management

Emerging and Transitional Economies; International Business Environment; International Business Economics; Effective Teamwork

### Information Systems

Systems Analysis; Systems Analysis Project; IT and Web Development; Databases

### Law

Principles of Intellectual Property Law; Principles of Criminal Law\*; Principles of Business Law

### Marketing

Market Research; Marketing Communications; Consumer Behaviour; E-Marketing; Principles of Service Marketing; Advanced Consumer Behaviour

### Operations Management

Doing E-Business; Enterprise Resource Planning; Total Quality Management\*

**95%**  
(UNISTATS 2015/16)  
Students in work/study six months after finishing

\*Double module

## Final year subject options

### Accounting and Finance

Advanced Financial Accounting\*; Organisational Context of Management Accounting\*; Taxation: Policy & Practice\*

### Business Analytics

Simulation; Effective Management Consultancy\*; Data Envelopment Analysis

### Business and Government

British Governance; Sociology of Work & Employment; The Governance of Economic Development; Corporate Power in a Globalized World

### Business Economics

Economics of Business Organisations; Economics of Multinational Enterprises; Competition Policy and Economic Regulation\*; Economics of Innovation; Economics of Entrepreneurship

### Business Psychology

Contemporary Issues in HRM\*; Employee Relations and Legal Issues in HRM; Theory and Practice of Leadership; Strategic Aspects of Organisational Performance; Learning, Training and Development in Organisations; Global Working

### International Communication for Business

Leadership and Management Communication I and II; Language at Work plus a double module of a language; Spanish\*; French\*; German\*; Mandarin\*; Arabic\*; Portuguese; Japanese\*. Languages offered at beginner, intermediate and advanced levels. Japanese is only offered at beginner and intermediate level.

### International Management

Derivatives; International Finance; International Marketing\*; International Operations\*

### Information Systems

Effective Project Delivery; World-wide Management of IT; Knowledge at Work; Supply Chain Management\*; Theory & Practice of E-commerce\*

### Law

Principles of Company Law\*; Principles of International Sales and Transportation Law\*; Business Ethics

### Marketing

Retailing Management\*; Marketing Strategy\*; Strategic Brand Management; Services Marketing Management; Advanced Marketing Communications

### Operations Management

Operations Strategy\*; Supply Chain Management\*

## International Business and Modern Languages BSc

### Key facts

4 year course with placement year

#### UCAS codes

International Business;  
and French: NR11  
and German: NR12  
and Spanish: NR14

German and Spanish: NR24  
French and German: NR33  
French and Spanish: NR44

If you are only taking one language you can supplement your degree with one of the following minor languages: Arabic, Mandarin, Portuguese.

#### Typical offer level

A Level: ABB-BBB

BTEC National Diploma: DDD

IB: 34 points

Other qualifications see pages 154-155

#### Specific subject requirements

A Level: minimum Grade B in relevant language(s)

GCSE: Maths and English Grade C

Students with a wide range of A Levels have successfully taken this degree. It is not necessary to have previously studied Business.

#### Key benefits

- ▶ A degree with a first class reputation and excellent career prospects
- ▶ An integrated programme involving Business taught in French, German or Spanish (as well as English)
- ▶ Work placement abroad and/or study in a partner business school.

### What will I study?

International managers need to have qualities such as drive and leadership. They need to be particularly good communicators and be sensitive to different cultures and traditions. Learning a language to a high level and living and working abroad help to develop these qualities. International Business and Modern Languages at Aston started in 1984 and its unique structure sets it apart as a market leader for students who want to study business and languages together.

### How does it work?

#### Programme outline

This programme has been designed so that the language and business subjects support each other. In particular, part of the business teaching is carried out in French, German or Spanish. You will develop your fluency, accuracy and confidence in using the language, both in business situations and more generally. The integrated nature of the degree means that it has been designed as a whole and the structure is the same whichever language(s) you are taking. You also have the option to include the study of Chinese (Mandarin), Arabic or Portuguese as a minor subject within your degree programme.

#### Year 1

##### Modules taught in English:

International Accounting; Principles of Financial Accounting; Introduction to Organisational Behaviour; Introduction to Business Analytics; Economic Environment of Business; International Business Environment (worldwide); IT for Business.

##### Modules taught in French, German or Spanish:

International Business Environment (France/Germany/Spain and Latin America); French/German/Spanish Language; History of France/Germany/Spain, which may be replaced by Arabic (beginners), Mandarin (beginners) or Portuguese (beginners).

#### Year 2

##### Modules taught in English:

Management Accounting; Strategic Finance; Marketing; Operations Management; Data Analysis and Modelling for Management; International Business Environment (worldwide).

##### Modules taught in French, German or Spanish:

International Business Environment (France/Germany/Spain and Latin America); Law for IBML; French/German/Spanish Language; Contemporary France/Germany/Spain and Latin America, or Arabic (intermediate), Mandarin (intermediate) or Portuguese (intermediate).

### Placement year

This year offers a great deal of flexibility, with options to work and/or study in a French/German/Spanish speaking country.

If you choose to do a study placement you will spend time in one of the prestigious Business Schools that we have exchange agreements with in Austria, Canada, France, Germany, Argentina, Mexico and Spain.

The year is assessed by an essay in French/German/ Spanish, deriving from the work placement, or by examinations taken in the partner business school, or both.

Further information on the placement year and partner institutions is available on our website.

### Final year

#### Modules taught in English:

International Finance; Strategic Decision Making; International Business Economics; International Marketing or International Operations; Global Working.

#### Modules taught in French, German or Spanish:

International Business Environment France/Germany/Spain and Latin America; French/German/Spanish Language; Dissertation or Arabic (advanced), Mandarin (advanced) or Portuguese (advanced).

### What else should I know?

#### Professional recognition

Our graduates can gain exemptions from the examinations of the following professional bodies:

The Association of Chartered Certified Accountants (ACCA)  
Institute of Chartered Secretaries and Administrators (ICSA)  
Chartered Institute of Purchasing and Supply (CIPS).



My university experience at Aston was unforgettable, in particular my year abroad in Paris. I spent nine months at ESCPEAP European School of Management and had a work placement at Christian Dior. I chose to study abroad as I felt I would have a better chance of meeting people my own age and learning more about the culture. I saw a huge improvement in my spoken French after coming back, as well as being able to apply theory learnt in lectures to a real world focus.”

**Dinal Limbachia, IBML French**

**24/24**

for Teaching Quality  
Assessment

**Business at Aston is ranked  
Top 30 in the UK for both  
Student Satisfaction and  
Employability**

(Guardian 2016)

**12 months work or  
study placement  
overseas**

## International Relations BSc (Joint Honours)

### Key facts

4 year with integrated placement year/  
3 years full-time

Compulsory placement year for  
Business and International Relations  
(LN21).

### UCAS codes:

Business and International  
Relations LN21

International Relations and  
English Language LQ23

International Relations  
and Social Policy LL2K

International Relations  
and Sociology LL2H

For combinations with Modern  
Languages see our International  
Relations and Languages (IRL) degree.  
(See page 114)

For combinations with Politics please  
see page 136.

### Typical offer level

ABB - BBB

IB: 32-33 points

Other qualifications see pages 154-155

### Specific subject requirements

GCSE English Language and Maths  
Grade C or equivalent.

### Key benefits

- ▶ Distinctive, integrated professional placement and year abroad options
- ▶ Aston University's Area Studies research - including Politics/IR - is rated 3rd in the UK for research classed as world leading (4\*) or internationally excellent (3\*) in the 2014 REF [www.aston.ac.uk/europe](http://www.aston.ac.uk/europe)
- ▶ Single Honours BSc Politics with International Relations also available. (See page 136)

### What are my career prospects?

Our graduates are in demand from a wide range of employers where a sound understanding of societies, teamwork and communication skills are required.

Career choices are also broadened by our students' choice of subjects in combination with International Relations.

Visit: [www.aston.ac.uk/lss](http://www.aston.ac.uk/lss) for examples of recent graduate destinations.

### What will I study?

The study of International Relations covers politics in the international realm. You will develop a knowledge and understanding of the nature of relations between states and also of the roles played by international institutions, other intergovernmental organisations, multinational corporations and NGOs. Year one introduces you to key modules focusing on the international state system and to the structure and purpose of international organisations; you also learn about ethics and international politics. Your second year covers theories and contemporary issues in international relations, security studies and the globalisation of the international political economy. Your final year gives you the chance to explore more specialised topics through the completion of an individual research dissertation and a range of modules covering topics such as the international relations of East Asia, US foreign policy, and the international relations between post Soviet Russia, Ukraine and Belarus.

### How does it work?

#### Programme outline

##### Year 1

Introduction to International Relations; Information/Study Skills; Introduction to the European Union; Europe and the Making of the Modern World.

##### Year 2

Research Methods; EU Politics/Policies; International Relations: Theories and Issues; Security Studies; Political Economy.

##### Year 3

Optional placement in the UK or abroad, in the public or private sector, work or study placement outside the UK. See page 52 for details.

##### Final year

Extended Research Dissertation. **Options include:** Regions and Regionalism in Europe; Contemporary Political Theory; Religion and Politics in Contemporary Europe; Immigration and Citizenship in Western Europe; Political Leaders: Case Studies and Comparative Perspectives; The International Relations of East Asia; The American Presidency; Central and East European Politics.



“My placement year was spent in one of the busiest cities in the world, London. This gave me an insight into the world of consulting and a fantastic opportunity to network across the globe. IBM sets their standards well above the average and gave me challenging roles that provided me with invaluable life and work experience. I was lucky to have inspiring mentors and was given unbelievable guidance. IBM do not shy away from giving Industrial Trainees like myself real responsibility and rewarding those that have proven their hard work. My life-changing year of working gave me the opportunity to visit seven beautiful countries throughout the year and experience the hectic lifestyle of a typical Strategy Consultant.”

**Michelle Lee, Politics and Sociology BSc**



## Languages and Translation Studies - French, German, Spanish (Single and Joint Honours)

### Why Study Languages and/or Translation Studies at Aston?

#### Relevant and contemporary courses

Our Modern Languages degrees – French, German, Spanish and Translation Studies – are taught within the School of Languages & Social Sciences (LSS) and have a contemporary and applied focus. We emphasise the practical application of language in real life and professional situations. Many of our modules – not just language classes – are taught in French, German and/or Spanish, enabling you to rapidly improve your language skills. Our approach to language teaching is a key factor in our outstanding graduate employment record: our students graduate with near-native language skills, making them highly attractive to employers.

#### An outstanding graduate employment record

European Languages at Aston are ranked Top 5 for employability in The Complete University Guide 2014 and the Guardian 2014. Our graduates are consistently successful in securing graduate level positions within European or international business and marketing, accounting and finance, education, European Institutions and research, journalism, public relations and communications.

#### Varied and exciting degree courses

We offer an extensive range of options including Modern Languages (single and joint honours languages), International Business and Modern Languages (IBML), Modern Languages degrees with Qualified Teacher Status (QTS), Translation Studies, International Relations and Languages (IRL) and a range of other combinations. There is a varied and exciting range of module choices in areas such as cinema, politics, translation, interpreting, the media, contemporary history, culture and linguistics.

#### Excellent student support

We believe that supporting our students is vitally important. Our school has a friendly, close knit community feel which helps you to quickly get to know your lecturers and other students. At enrolment you are allocated a Personal Tutor who will keep in touch with you throughout your degree to check on your progress and be on hand to help with any general academic queries that you might have. We also have a dedicated Student Support Officer in the school to assist you.

#### World class teaching and research

- ▶ Outstanding reputation for teaching quality in modern languages

- ▶ Relevant, rigorous research – Aston is a research intensive university
- ▶ Teaching conducted by research experts, with international reputations in their fields.

#### Modern facilities – our commitment to innovation in teaching and learning

The LSS learning resource centre comprises three computer rooms and two group study rooms with Wi-Fi and power sockets for your own devices. There is a book and journal collection, a DVD library with titles in French, Spanish and German, and a help desk with advisors who can lend you audio and video recorders or help you to use software. Specialist software includes language learning material for French, German, Spanish and English as a foreign language; audio and video editing tools; computer assisted translation tools; research software (NVIVO and SPSS) and corpus linguistics tools.

#### Translation Studies

Our pioneering undergraduate Translation programme was the first dedicated Translation Studies programme in England (established 1997). A distinctive feature of our Translation programmes is that we have a specialist Translation department, with teaching conducted by internationally renowned experts in the field. See page 113 for more on our Translation Studies courses.

#### International Business and Modern Languages (IBML)

Our distinctive IBML degree celebrated its 30th anniversary in 2015, and remains a market leader for students wanting to study business and languages. See page 104 for more details.

#### International Relations and a Language (IRL)

If you want a truly international career, which relies on proficiency in a foreign language as well as an understanding of the international arena, our International Relations and Languages (IRL) degree will be ideal for you. See page 106 for more details.

#### Extracurricular activities

Our students are encouraged to participate in a variety of extracurricular activities organised by the Languages and Translation Studies Group. The Christmas Party, the annual German pub quiz, film evenings and the Sauerkraut Cup – a mixed gender football tournament – are all popular events.

## Ab Initio (beginners) German and Spanish

### UCAS codes and entry requirements

Course	UCAS code	A Level requirements	A level Language Requirements
BSc French & Spanish	RR1K	ABB - BBB	A Level French B. Spanish can be taken at beginners level
BSc French & German	RR12	ABB - BBB	A Level French B. German can be taken at beginners level.
BSc German & Spanish	RR2K	ABB - BBB	Either A Level German B OR A Level Spanish B. ONE of German or Spanish can be taken as a beginner.
BSc International Relations & German	LR2G	ABB - BBB	None
BSc International Relations & Spanish	LR2K	ABB - BBB	None
BSc English Language & German	QR32	ABB - BBB	None
BSc English Language & Spanish	QR34	ABB - BBB	None
BSc Sociology & Spanish	LR34	ABB - BBB	None

GCSE English Language Grade C and Maths Grade C (or a University approved equivalent) are required for all of the above courses.

Applicants for ab initio German or Spanish are not required to have any previous experience of language learning but we would anticipate that applicants receiving an offer would demonstrate a clear commitment to studying languages via the UCAS Personal Statement. Applicants with GCSE Spanish or German are welcome to apply for the ab initio programmes.

Applicants with AS Levels would normally be interviewed and may receive an offer for the ab initio programme or for the post A Level programme depending on the level of language ability demonstrated at interview.

### Programme structure

As an ab initio student, you will take an intensive 40 credit language module in year one and two and will be taught separately from those students who already have an A Level to ensure that your language skills progress rapidly. You will spend your third year in a German/Spanish-speaking country in order to allow for maximum exposure to the language and culture, and can choose between an approved study programme at a partner exchange university, a work placement or a post as a Teaching Assistant in a school (see page 53 for the year abroad.)

If you are studying two languages (including one language ab initio) you will normally divide your time equally between the two countries where each of your languages are spoken. After the Year Abroad, students who studied Spanish/German ab initio are taught with those who started university with an A Level and take the usual final year modules, including modules taught in the target language.

For details of modules available please see our website.

To find out more, visit: ▶

[www.aston.ac.uk/lss](http://www.aston.ac.uk/lss)

T: +44 (0)121 204 3777

E: [lss\\_ugadmissions@aston.ac.uk](mailto:lss_ugadmissions@aston.ac.uk)

## Languages – Modern Languages

### French, German, Spanish BSc

#### Key facts

4 year full-time with integrated year abroad.

#### UCAS codes:

French R120  
German R220  
Spanish R410  
French and Spanish RR1K  
French and German RR12  
German and Spanish RR2K  
French and English Language QR31  
German and English Language QR32  
Spanish and English Language QR34  
French and Sociology LR41  
Sociology and Spanish LR34.

#### Typical offer level

ABB-BBB

IB: 32-33 points

Other qualifications see pages 154-155

For more information about Languages see page 108.

#### Specific subject requirements

A Level Grade B/IB Higher 6 in the language(s) to be studied. GCSE English Language and Maths Grade C or equivalent. We also offer some beginners/ab initio Language degrees – see page 109 for details.

#### Key benefits

- ▶ Contemporary and applied focus, with a high level of teaching delivered in the relevant language
- ▶ Integrated year abroad, with excellent student support
- ▶ Achieve near-native fluency in your language(s) and a broad overview of the societies, politics, histories and cultures within which your language(s) are spoken.

#### What will I study?

##### Single and Joint Honours Languages

Our Modern Languages degrees allow you to specialise in either one (Single Honours) or two languages (Joint Honours) from French, German and/or Spanish. You will learn languages by studying contemporary topics relating to the cultures, politics, histories and languages of the French, German or Spanish-speaking world. Our degree programmes have been carefully structured to ensure that the development of your written, aural and oral language skills is fully integrated with core modules on the contemporary politics, history, linguistics, culture and society of the French, German or Spanish world. Students opting for a single language will also study a second or new language in their first year (two hours per week), which they may choose to continue to study all the way through their degree programme.

##### Joint Honours Languages and English Language/Sociology

Our Modern Languages (French, German or Spanish) and English Language/Sociology courses produce highly employable, multi-skilled graduates, able to pursue successful careers in business and industry, in government and elsewhere in the public sector, or in education and teaching. Our students are in demand from a wide range of employers who value their understanding of different cultures and societies, their communication skills and motivation for team work. In each year of study your language classes are supplemented by a series of thematic modules, which focus on contemporary society, and particularly on politics, socio-linguistics, media, film and literature. Your third year will be spent abroad, undertaking a work placement with a company, working as a teaching assistant in a school or studying at one of our partner universities abroad.

For details of the modules that you will study see page 111 for Modern Languages, page 94 for English Language and page 144 for Sociology.



The Languages Department at Aston is a real credit to the university and I saw this most when applying for internships for my placement year. The connections that Aston has established over the years with different partner universities, organisations and professionals are undeniably good; they have links with massive names all over the world. I was lucky enough to have the opportunity to spend my year abroad in Paris, France and it was the best experience of my life. I split my year abroad into two placements and spent 6 months working for HSBC and then I worked for 6 months at BNP Paribas, which is a large, international French bank. Not only did I gain lots of practical experience from these two placements but I also gained so much confidence when speaking and practising my French. I also met many lovely people who I know I will stay in touch with for the rest of my life. It was an absolutely unforgettable experience. Aston University has prepared me for the real world and I have had no problem finding a job. In fact, I have secured a graduate job with Lloyds Banking Group in their Commercial Banking division as a Relationship Manager for when I graduate.”

**Leigh Dunkley**

International Business and Modern Languages – French BSc

## The Languages

### French

Our French course is designed to develop your linguistic skills to near-native proficiency and fluency. Our programme is also designed to develop your understanding of French culture and society – its traditions, its complexities, its underlying ideas – and to develop your critical, analytical and collaborative skills. Language classes are supplemented by a series of thematic modules, also taught in French, which focus on contemporary French society, and particularly on French politics, socio-linguistics, media, film and literature. You will be taught by research experts, with international reputations in our fields, in a lively, friendly, experienced and enthusiastic department.

#### Modules

##### Year 1

Core French Language Skills (written & spoken); France since the Revolution; Introduction to French Culture; Introduction to Language and Communication; Introduction to Translation; Introduction to Film Studies.

##### Year 2

Core French Language Skills (written & spoken); Reading the French Press; Conflict and Consensus; France in the Fifth Republic; Communication Across Cultures (French); Crossing Boundaries: Migrant and Transnational Cinema.

##### Year 3

Year abroad. See page 53.

##### Final year

Core French Language Skills (written & spoken); French Research Dissertation; Advanced Translation French-English; Interpreting French; Technology in France; Inventing Progress and Disaster; Vichy France: Occupation, Collaboration, Liberation; La France d’Outre Mer.

### German

By the end of our programme you will be able to work effectively in a professional, German-speaking environment. Your linguistic skills will reach near-native proficiency, acquired through a combination of up-to-date modules and a well-structured and supervised year abroad. You will also acquire transferable skills such as teamwork and independent research, which will be essential for any of the career choices the course will open up for you. Teaching is conducted in a stimulating environment by internationally renowned experts in their field. Subject specialisms include German society, film studies, sociolinguistics, translation studies, literature, history, politics, and business studies. Most courses are taught in German and provide in-depth insights into current affairs.

#### Modules

##### Year 1

Core German Language Skills (written & spoken); Introduction to Film Studies; German Language Past & Present; International Business Environment; Introduction to the German Speaking Countries; Post-war Germany; Introduction to Language and Communication; Introduction to Translation.

##### Year 2

Core German Language Skills (written & spoken); Austrian Cultural History; The Legacy of National Socialism; German Politics and Society; Communication across Cultures; Metropolis Berlin; Crossing Boundaries: Migrant and Transnational Cinema.

##### Year 3

Year abroad. See page 53.

##### Final year

Core German Language Skills (written & spoken); East Germany on Film; Global Germany; Contemporary Culture in the Berlin Republic; German-Jewish Biographies; Advanced Translation German-English; Interpreting German; German Research Dissertation.

### Spanish

The Spanish programme at Aston is committed to equipping our students with the tools, skills and knowledge necessary to operate effectively in this global, multilingual and multicultural world. We are devoted to the study of Spanish in context and therefore we consider the understanding of the diverse cultures and societies of the Spanish speaking world to play an essential role in understanding the world we live in. This means that along with near native proficiency in written and spoken Spanish, students also graduate with in-depth understanding of the issues that shape contemporary Hispanic cultures and societies. Aston’s Spanish department is a Cervantes Accredited Centre and hosts a range of Spanish Cultural Events sponsored by the Cervantes Institute.

#### Modules

##### Year 1

Core Spanish Language Skills I & II (written & spoken); Introduction to Spain; Introduction to Latin America; Introduction to Language and Communication; Introduction to Translation; Introduction to Film Studies.

##### Year 2

Core Spanish Language Skills I & II (written & spoken); Contemporary Spain; Human Rights in Latin America; Contemporary Latin America; Spanish Media; Communication Across Cultures; Crossing Boundaries: Migrant and Transnational Cinema.

##### Year 3

Year abroad. See page 53.

##### Final year

Core Spanish Language Skills I & II (written & spoken); Spanish Research Dissertation; Hispanic Film; Major Hispanic Authors; Advanced Translation Spanish; Advanced Interpreting Spanish.



## Languages – Modern Languages with Qualified Teacher Status BSc

(\*subject to NCTL clearance)

### Key facts

4 year full time with period of study abroad.

#### UCAS codes:

BSc French with QTS RX10

BSc German with QTS RX20

BSc Spanish with QTS RX40

BSc French and German with QTS RX12

BSc French and Spanish with QTS RX14

BSc German and Spanish with QTS RX24

#### Typical offer level

ABB-BBB

IB: 32-33 points

For more information about languages see pages 50-53.

#### Specific subject requirements

A Level Grade B/IB Higher 6 in the language(s) to be studied. GCSE English Language and Maths Grade C.

Students will also have to pass online literacy and numeracy tests and undergo a DBS check.

### Key benefits

- ▶ Apply for modern languages teaching positions in UK secondary schools
- ▶ Contemporary and applied focus, with many modules delivered in the relevant language.

### What will I study?

This innovative new programme enables you to study one or two languages (French, German, Spanish) to Honours degree level whilst also gaining Qualified Teacher Status (QTS), which will enable you to apply immediately for teaching positions in UK secondary schools upon graduation.

### How does it work?

#### Programme outline

##### Year 1

You will study core modules in your chosen language(s), which develop your key language skills – listening, speaking, reading and writing, and of course your accuracy and understanding of grammar – alongside thematic modules focused on politics and society, media, cultural studies and linguistics. In addition to your language modules, you will also undertake a school-based placement lasting eight weeks (roughly two hours per week), which aims to provide you with an initial experience of observation in the secondary school classroom.

##### Year 2

You will spend the first teaching period (September – January) at Aston, developing your fluency, accuracy and confidence and your awareness of the cultures and societies in which your chosen language(s) are spoken. The second teaching period (January – June) is then spent at one of our specially chosen partner universities, followed by a work placement in the summer period (June – August.) Students who are taking two languages will normally undertake a University placement in a country where their first language is spoken, followed by a work placement in a country where their other language is spoken.

##### Year 3

Will be spent at Newman University (Birmingham), learning how to teach the Modern Languages curriculum for pupils aged 11-16. This period of initial teacher training is designed to give you the essential skills to be an effective teacher by developing your theoretical understanding of education and enabling you to undertake several practical placements in secondary schools.

During your third year you will also study a distance-learning module run by Aston (supervised by a tutor) which aims to maintain the level of the French/German/Spanish language skills acquired during Years 1 and 2 of your degree.

##### Final year

You return to Aston, undertaking a range of core and optional modules in your chosen languages(s) and a French/German/Spanish research dissertation on a subject of your choice. During this year you will also undertake another Newman-led module designed to promote creativity in the classroom. For details of the modules available in French, German and Spanish please see page 111.

**Spanish - Top 20 in the UK for student satisfaction**

(Complete University Guide 2016)

## Languages – Translation Studies French, German, Spanish BSc

### What will I study?

Designed to prepare you for a successful career in translation or allied professions, our Translation degrees aim to give you a detailed understanding of the current approaches, history and concepts of translation studies in intellectual, linguistic and cultural terms. The programmes are based on our well-established degrees in languages incorporating additional specialist subjects and electives, which focus on the practical skills and theoretical aspects of translation. Each year of the programme aims to develop further essential competencies in the areas of French, German or Spanish linguistics, culture and translation. You will benefit from our links with translation companies and professional associations such as the Institute of Translation and Interpreting (ITI) and the Chartered Institute of Linguists (CIoL).

### How does it work?

#### Programme outline

##### Year 1

French/German/Spanish Language Skills (written & spoken); Introduction to Language & Communication; Introduction to Translation; Translation Workshop; modules in French/German/Spanish film, culture, media, history, politics (see page 111).

##### Year 2

French/German/Spanish Language Skills (written & spoken); European Translation Traditions; Communication Across Cultures; Translation & Technology; modules in French/German/Spanish film, culture, media, history, politics (see page 111).

##### Year 3

Year abroad. Choose from a work placement (including in a Translation Agency), exchange at a partner university or teaching assistantship. See page 53 for details.

##### Final year

Core French/German/Spanish Language Skills (written & spoken); Contemporary Translation Theories; Specialised LSP Translation; Advanced Translation French, German or Spanish; Interpreting French, German or Spanish; modules in French/German/Spanish film, culture, media, history, politics (see page 111).



After graduation, I returned to Daimler's Corporate Language Management department in Stuttgart (where I did my Year Abroad) and continued translating owners' manuals and highly technical computerbased training programmes before being headhunted in 2011 by the Anglkom Institut, where I currently hold the position of Office Manager. Besides ensuring the smooth running of our translation operations, I am also responsible for a friendly team of staff from a variety of backgrounds and cultures. As I am still also actively involved in the translation and correction of a range of diverse texts, I continually apply the theories which were taught during my studies at Aston."

**Stuart Brown, Translation Studies French and German BSc**

### Key facts

4 year full-time with integrated year abroad.

#### UCAS codes:

Translation Studies – French R110

Translation Studies – German R210

Translation Studies – Spanish R400

Translation Studies – French and German RRC2

Translation Studies – French and Spanish RR14

Translation Studies – German and Spanish RR24.

#### Typical offer level

ABB-BBB

IB: 32-33 points

Other qualifications see page 154-155

For more information about Languages see pages 50-53.

#### Specific subject requirements

A Level Grade B/IB Higher 6 in the language(s) to be studied. GCSE English Language and Maths Grade C or equivalent.

### Key benefits

- ▶ Aston has been chosen to be part of the exclusive European Masters in Translation (EMT) Network
- ▶ Integrated year abroad with excellent student support
- ▶ Aston is one of only a few UK universities specialising in translation and interpreting
- ▶ Gain translation, interpreting and linguistic expertise through specialist modules
- ▶ Aston is a member of the National Network for Translation and has excellent links with the translation profession
- ▶ Students who achieve excellent results in LSP Translation qualify for consideration for certification by the CIoL and/or exemption from Paper 1 of the CIoL examination for the Diploma in Translation.

**100%**

**Overall satisfaction**  
(UNISTATS 2015/16)

**Key facts**

4 year full-time with integrated year abroad.

**UCAS codes:**

International Relations and French LR2C

International Relations and German LR2G

International Relations and Spanish LR2K

**Typical offer level**

ABB-BBB

IB: 32-33

Other qualifications see pages 154-155

For more information about Languages see pages 50-53.

**Specific subject requirements**

A Level Grade B or IB Higher Grade 6 in the languages to be studied. GCSE English Language and Maths Grade C or equivalent. We also offer some beginners/ab initio Language degrees – see page 109 for details.

**Key benefits**

- ▶ Contemporary and applied focus, with a high level of teaching delivered in the relevant language
- ▶ Internationally recognised and research active staff, backed by the Aston Centre for Europe (ACE): [www.aston.ac.uk/europe](http://www.aston.ac.uk/europe)
- ▶ Extra curricular events for students: see Europe. blogs.aston.ac.uk for politics and international relations activities or page 109 for our language programmes.

**What will I study?**

If you want a truly international career, which relies on proficiency in a foreign language as well as an understanding of the international arena, our International Relations and Languages (IRL) degree will be ideal for you. Taught within our School of Languages and Social Sciences, our IRL degree is designed as an integrated degree so that the language knowledge gained will enhance your understanding of international politics.

The course combines modules in your chosen language(s) – language skills, media, politics, cultural studies and linguistics – with an emphasis on European politics, comparative politics, international relations, political theory and modern European history. There is a fully integrated year abroad with extensive preparation and support offered by our International Placements Team. See page 53 for details.

**How does it work?****Programme outline****Year 1**

Introduction to the EU; Europe and the Making of the Modern World; Introduction to International Relations; Information Skills. French/German/Spanish Language Skills (written & spoken); modules in French/German/Spanish film, culture, media, history, politics. See page 111 for details.

**Year 2**

Politics and Policies of the EU; International Relations: Theories and Issues; Research Methods. French/German/Spanish Language Skills (written & spoken); modules in French/ German/Spanish film, culture, media, history, politics. See page 111 for details.

**Year 3**

Year abroad. Choose from a work placement, exchange at a partner university or teaching assistantship. See page 53 for details.

**Final year**

International Relations/Politics Dissertation; a range of options in International Relations (see page 106) French/German/Spanish Language Skills (written & spoken); modules in French/German/Spanish film, culture, media, history, politics. See page 111 for details.



I spent my year abroad in Germany. I spent the compulsory part of my placement in Hanover working for E.ON IT in the People Development department. Afterwards, I did an internship in Berlin at the German Parliament (Bundestag) in International Parliamentary Assemblies. When I graduated I started working for a Member of the German Parliament – Dr. Georg Nüßlein (CDU/CSU). By working directly with the Deputy Office I get a unique insight into the real world of politics. After this programme, I will start my Master's degree in Public Policy at the Hertie School of Governance in Berlin. The Hertie School of Governance is among the best universities in Europe specialising in Governance. With a strong support of my Aston University professors, I received a full grant – Future of Europe Stipend – to finance my studies at this institution.”

**Jekaterina Grigorjeva, Graduate 2013**  
International Business and Modern Languages – German BSc

**What will I study?**

This degree has been designed with modern legal practice in mind. Successful lawyers need more than legal knowledge. In addition to core law modules on subjects prescribed by the law professional bodies, you can choose from optional modules to reflect your interests and career aspirations. Professional and soft skills are developed in specialist modules and across the law modules to enhance your employability.

**How does it work?****Programme outline****Year 1**

The first year provides the foundation for your law studies. Core modules introduce the English legal system, legal processes, contract principles and criminal offences. A strong emphasis is placed on developing research skills.

**Modules include:** Constitutional and Administrative Law; Legal Skills and System; Contract Law, Criminal Law; Legal Theory.

**Year 2**

This year builds on the first year and extends your knowledge of the core law subjects including Land Law and Tort Law.

**Modules include:** Law of Torts; Land Law; Professional Skills and Ethics;  
**Optional modules include:** Human Rights Law, Family Law, Intellectual Property Law and Commercial Law.

**Placement year (optional)**

The 4 year course incorporates a third year in a professional placement gaining valuable and practical business experience. In recent years, our students have worked in law firms, accounting and audit firms, and in the legal and corporate departments of banks and other large organisations.

**Final year**

In the final year you complete your study of the core law modules and also choose optional modules to reflect your interests and aspirations. Through the dissertation you have the chance to explore in depth a legal issue or problem.

**Modules include:** Equity and Trusts; European Union Law.  
**Optional modules include:** Company Law; International Sales Law; Employment Law; Medical Law, Intellectual Property Law; Commercial Law; Family Law; Competition Law; Restitution; Dissertation.

**What else should I know?****Professional recognition**

This is a qualifying law degree. It is recognised by the Solicitors Regulation Authority and Bar Standards Board as satisfying the academic stage of legal training for solicitors or barristers. Aston LLB graduates can therefore proceed directly to the Legal Practice Course or Bar Professional Training Course.

**Transfers between 3 year and 4 year programmes:**

You are able to transfer between the 3 and 4 year programmes if your circumstances or career aspirations change.

**Key facts**

4 year course with placement year

3 year course without placement also available.

**UCAS code:** M100  
(for both programmes)

**Typical offer level**

A Level: AAB-ABB

BTEC Diploma DDD

IB: 35/34 points

**Specific subject requirements**

GCSE: Maths Grade C and English Grade B.

**Key benefits**

- ▶ A qualifying law degree, developed with input from the legal profession
- ▶ Core and optional modules enable you to tailor your studies to reflect your interests and career aspirations
- ▶ Gain more than legal knowledge: develop essential professional and soft skills to enhance your employability
- ▶ One of the few UK law degrees with an integrated work placement year
- ▶ An academic mentor to provide support and guidance throughout your studies.

**What are my career prospects?**

This degree is for those students wanting to become a solicitor or barrister. It has been designed to help students acquire the knowledge and skills they need to become successful legal practitioners. A degree in law also provides an excellent foundation for other careers where legal knowledge is important including taxation, human resource management, accountancy, regulation and compliance.

**90%**  
(UNISTATS 2015/16) go on to work or study 6 months after graduating

**92%**  
Satisfaction for Law  
(National Student Survey 2015)

**Key facts**

4 year course with placement year  
3 year course without placement also available.

**UCAS code:**

M1NF 3 year degree  
M1N2 4 year degree with placement

**Typical offer level**

A Level: AAB-ABB

BTEC National Diploma: DDD

IB: 35/34 points

Other qualifications see pages 154-155

**Specific subject requirements**

GCSE: Maths Grade B and English Grade B.

**Key benefits**

- ▶ Keep your career options open by studying law alongside management
- ▶ A qualifying law degree that equips you with highly sought after commercial awareness and business skills, harnessing the research and teaching expertise within Aston Business School
- ▶ Developed with input from the legal profession to reflect the demands of legal practice and business
- ▶ One of the few UK law degrees with an integrated work placement year
- ▶ An academic mentor to provide support and guidance throughout your studies.

**What are my career prospects?**

This degree will appeal to anyone interested in becoming a solicitor or barrister as well as those wanting to keep their career options open. A degree in law also provides an excellent foundation for a variety of careers in the private and public sectors where legal knowledge is needed, including taxation, accountancy, consultancy and human resource management.

**92%** Overall satisfaction  
(UNISTATS 2015/16)

**What will I study?**

Legal practice is changing. A successful legal career requires more than legal knowledge; commercial acumen and soft skills are also essential. This exciting degree programme has been designed with the changing nature of legal practice in mind. It enables you to acquire a qualifying law degree along with management knowledge and skills and is ideal for those wanting to keep their career options open.

**How does it work?****Programme outline****Year 1**

You will study a combination of legal and management subjects. These will give you an insight into the law-making process, the regulation of contractual relationships, financial performance measurement and the economic and psychological issues associated with managing (and working within) organisations.

**Modules include:** Contract Law; Constitutional and Administrative Law; Criminal Law; Legal Skills and System; Accounting for Law; Organisational Behaviour; Economic Environment of Business.

**Year 2**

The proportion of time studying law will increase, giving you a more detailed insight into the mechanics of law-making and the ethical framework of legal service provision. Your management and business skills will be developed further through Aston Business School core modules.

**Modules include:** Law of Torts; Commercial Law; Land Law in a Business; Professional Skills and Ethics; Business Policy; Business Economics.

**Placement year (optional)**

The 4 year course incorporates a third year in a professional placement gaining valuable and practical business experience. In recent years, our students have worked in law firms, accounting and audit firms, and in the legal and corporate departments of banks and other large organisations.

**Final year**

The final year builds on the first two years of study and experience and provides you with the opportunity to learn more about the law as it affects corporate activity and employer/employee relationships. Optional modules help you tailor your studies to suit your interests and career aspirations.

**Modules include:** Equity and Trusts; European Union Law; Strategic Management or Taxation or Dissertation. **Optional modules include:** Company Law; International Sales Law; Employment Law; Intellectual Property Law; Medical Law; Competition Law; Law of Financial Regulation.

**What else should I know?****Professional recognition**

This is a qualifying law degree. It is recognised by the Solicitors Regulation Authority and Bar Standards Board as satisfying the academic stage of legal training for solicitors or barristers. Aston LLB graduates can therefore proceed directly to the Legal Practice Course or Bar Professional Training Course.

Transfers between 3 year and 4 year programmes:

You are able to transfer between the 3 and 4 year programmes if your circumstances or career aspirations change.

**What will I study?**

Purchasing has an overwhelming impact on the bottom line of any organisation. It generally accounts for over half of an organisation's spend and has a direct impact on the two forces that drive the bottom line: sales and costs. In a world-class organisation purchasing is a core competency of the firm, finding and developing suppliers and bringing in highly valued expertise.

The programme includes a thorough grounding in all the key subjects. In addition specialist modules cover the strategic, operational and practical techniques used to select, develop, contractually engage and monitor suppliers. The application of technology, management of supply risk, methods of costing and acquisition, importance of corporate social responsibility and many important topics are studied within the context of maximising supply chain functionality, performance and ultimately value.

**How does it work?****Programme outline****Year 1**

Study Skills; Introduction to Logistics; Company and Contract Law; Principles of Economics; Literature Review Project; Transport Fundamentals; Facilities Design and Management; Air Transport Business Game; Principles of Financial Accounting; Introduction to Business Management.

**Year 2**

Inventory Control; Project Management; Maritime Transport; Database Management; Rail Transport; Operations and Process Management; Road Transport; Modelling Simulation and Optimisation (double module); International Logistics and Purchasing; Services Marketing; Purchasing Principles and Process.

**Placement year**

On the optional 4 year placement degree you spend the third year in a professional placement which is usually paid, gaining valuable experience.

**Final year**

Final Year Project; Leadership and Human Resource Management; International Trade Law and Policy; Technology Applications in Supply Chains; Strategic Financial Management; Supply Chain and Procurement Strategy; Developing the Purchasing and Supply Functions; Management of Strategic Contracts and Suppliers; Contemporary Issues in Supply Chains.

**Key facts**

3 year full-time or  
4 year placement course.

**UCAS code:** J9M8

**Typical offer level**

A Level: BBB-BBC

BTEC National Diploma: DDD in relevant National Diploma

IB: 31 points

Other qualifications see pages 154-155

**Specific subject requirements**

A Level: Any Numerate or Science based subject, Business, Economics or General Studies accepted

GCSE: Maths Grade B is recommended and English Grade C.

**Key benefits**

- ▶ Dual accredited by both the Chartered Institute of Logistics and Transport (CILT) and the Chartered Institute of Purchasing and Supply (CIPS)
- ▶ Excellent placement and graduate employment opportunities.

**What are my career prospects?**

Ideal for students interested in a career in Purchasing or Supply Chain Management with its emphasis on the selection, engagement, development and performance measurement of suppliers.

This degree will give you a range of transferable and practical skills to succeed within your chosen career. We make extensive use of group working and presentations to prepare you for the reality of working life. Such work develops your team working and negotiating skills.

**Dual accredited programme**

## Logistics with Supply Chain Management BSc

### Key facts

3 year full-time or  
4 year placement course.

**UCAS code:** J9M9

**Typical offer level**  
A Level: BBB-BBC

BTEC National Diploma:  
DDD in relevant National Diploma

IB: 31 points

Other qualifications see pages 154-155

### Specific subject requirements

A Level: Any Numerate or Science based subject, Business, Economics or General Studies accepted

GCSE: Maths Grade B is recommended and English Grade C.

### Key benefits

- ▶ Combines technological knowledge with management and business subjects. Ideal for students interested in a business related career within any number of industrial sectors
- ▶ Specialist insight into Operations and Supply Chain Management
- ▶ Accredited by the Chartered Institute of Logistics and Transport (CILT)
- ▶ Part of a relatively small cohort with enhanced one-to-one access to experienced academics and support
- ▶ Many graduate employers have specific 'Logistics' career pathways and have advised us that the course imparts a distinct advantage to our graduates.

### What are my career prospects?

Our graduates have excellent employment rates. Recent graduates have found positions in companies such as: Jaguar LandRover, DHL, Royal Mail, Debenhams, L'Oréal, Caterpillar, Bloomberg and Panasonic UK.



**Accredited**  
programme

### What will I study?

Logistics is the management of the flow of resources (physical, financial and information) between the point of origin and the point of consumption.

Modules are designed to cover activities involved in planning, sourcing, making and delivering products and services. You will develop the techniques used to optimise these processes to meet a range of strategic objectives such as minimum cost, maximum service and shorter cycle times. Activities are designed to be challenging, relevant and stimulating and many involve commercial material brought to the classroom or the students themselves going on industrial visits. Our practically-based programme continues to emphasise the development of analytical and problem-solving skills that have produced so many highly employable graduates to date.

You will benefit from a number of industry field trips, with organisations such as Jaguar LandRover and the Port of Hull hosting our students in previous years.

### How does it work?

#### Programme outline

##### Year 1

Study Skills; Introduction to Logistics; Company and Contract Law; Principles of Economics; Literature Review Project; Transport Fundamentals; Facilities Design and Management; Air Transport Business Game; Principles of Financial Accounting; Introduction to Business Management.

##### Year 2

Inventory Control; Project Management; Maritime Transport; Database Management; Rail Transport; Operations and Process Management; Road Transport; Modelling Simulation and Optimisation (double module); International Logistics and Purchasing; Services Marketing; Purchasing Principles and Process.

##### Placement year

On the optional 4 year placement degree you spend the third year in a professional placement which is usually paid, gaining valuable experience.

##### Final year

Final Year Project; Leadership and Human Resource Management; International Trade Law and Policy; Technology Applications in Supply Chains; Strategic Financial Management; Supply Chain Planning; Supply Chain and Procurement Strategy; Contemporary Issues in Supply Chains; Multi-modal Transport.



“During my time spent studying Logistics at Aston University I gained a fantastic understanding of the professional and general skills related to logistics in different industries which now have a tremendous impact on my career. After graduating, I was offered a job at Saudi Aramco as a Storehouse Specialist. Saudi Aramco is the biggest oil company in the world, controlling 25% of the world's oil production.”

**Faisal Alharb, Logistics BSc**

## Logistics with Transport Management BSc

### Key facts

3 year full-time or  
4 year placement course.

**UCAS code:** J9M7

**Typical offer level**  
A Level: BBB-BBC

BTEC National Diploma: DDD in relevant National Diploma

IB: 31 points

Other qualifications see pages 154-155

### Specific subject requirements

A Level: Any Numerate or Science based subject, Business, Economics or General Studies accepted

GCSE: Maths Grade B is recommended and English Grade C.

### Key benefits

- ▶ Ideal for students interested in a career in the commercial operation of passenger transport systems and facilities
- ▶ A leading programme in transport and distribution management
- ▶ Accredited by the Chartered Institute of Logistics and Transport (CILT)
- ▶ Part of a small cohort with enhanced one-to-one access to experienced academics and support
- ▶ Excellent placement and graduate employment record.

### What are my career prospects?

Opportunities with transport consultants, government institutions and a in non transport areas.

**Faber Group** – Transport Consultants  
**National Express Group** – Graduate Trainee

**Network Rail** – Operations Publications Specialist

**Post Office** – Graduate Management Programme

**South West Trains** – Graduate Trainee

**Stagecoach UK** – Graduate Management Trainee

**TNT Logistics** – Operations Manager.

### What will I study?

Transport and distribution are of crucial importance to our economy and society, and it is being brought more sharply into focus with issues such as congestion and public transport in the news virtually every day.

Our Transport Management course examines the economic, operational, societal and environmental issues related to the transport and distribution industries. In addition to gaining a detailed knowledge and understanding of these, you will also acquire the professional, academic and management skills necessary to enter any sector of the industry and to move between sectors during your career. Your management skills will also prepare you for a large number of alternative graduate jobs.

The degree uses examples, illustrations, visits and case studies from the transport and distribution industries. Your studies will incorporate all the relevant management skills: accounting, marketing, human resources and operations management. All are set within the context of the transport related industries, including passenger and freight modes. Your business skills will also be enhanced by courses such as economics, data analysis, operations research, computing and information management.

### How does it work?

#### Programme outline

##### Year 1

Study Skills; Introduction to Logistics; Company and Contract Law; Principles of Economics; Literature Review Project; Transport Fundamentals; Facilities Design and Management; Air Transport Business Game; Principles of Financial Accounting; Introduction to Business Management.

##### Year 2

Inventory Control; Project Management; Maritime Transport; Database Management; Rail Transport; Operations and Process Management; Road Transport; Modelling Simulation and Optimisation (double module); International Logistics and Purchasing; Services Marketing; Purchasing Principles and Process.

##### Placement year

On the optional 4 year placement degree you spend the third year in a professional placement which is usually paid, gaining valuable experience.

##### Final year

Final Year Project; Leadership and Human Resource Management; International Trade Law and Policy; Technology Applications in Supply Chains; Strategic Financial Management; Passenger Service Provision; Traffic and Transport Engineering; Transport Planning; Multi-modal Transport.



“The Transport course at Aston provides a solid framework to learn and develop the skills I needed to work in the transport industry, giving me an excellent foundation to enhance and progress my career after I graduated.”

**Matt King, Graduate Trainee for Go Ahead.**

**Key facts**

4 year course with placement year  
 3 year course without placement available for non-EU students only.  
**UCAS code:** N500  
**Typical offer level**  
 A Level: AAB-ABB  
 BTEC National Diploma: DDD  
 IB: 35/34 points  
 Other qualifications see pages 154-155

**Specific subject requirements**  
 GCSE: Maths and English Grade C.

**Key benefits**

- ▶ Outstanding reputation for research
- ▶ Paid professional work placement year
- ▶ Specialist marketing skills built on a broad foundation of management
- ▶ Close links with the Chartered Institute of Marketing (CIM)
- ▶ Marketing professionals participate in our undergraduate teaching.

**What are my career prospects?**

The majority of our recent Business graduates went into graduate level employment within six months of graduation. Examples of graduate positions:

- Barclays** – Relationship Support Manager
- BMW** – Marketing Executive
- BT** – Business Development Manager
- Coca Cola Enterprises** – Sales and Marketing Graduate
- General Motors** – Product Analyst
- Janssen-Cilag Ltd** – Marketing Intelligence Executive
- Lloyds TSB** – Business Development Manager
- Marketforce** – Retail Information Analyst
- Nectar** – Relationship Executive
- RWE Npower** – Senior Planning Coordinator
- Whitbread Hotels and Restaurants** – Commercial Marketing Executive

**What will I study?**

Marketing is concerned with the dynamic relationships between organisations and their customers or clients, and involves focusing organisational resources in order to identify and satisfy the needs and wants of customers better than the competition does. This programme places great emphasis on a marketing-orientated approach to business and management.

**How does it work?**

**Programme outline**

**Year 1**  
 Common first year modules covering all major business functions including the Introduction to Marketing module to help underpin your studies. See page 43 for further information.

**Year 2**  
 The second year is designed to help you gain a holistic view of marketing as a function by integrating various aspects of marketing through the different modules.  
**Modules include:** Introduction to Market Research; Digital Marketing; Principles of Services Marketing; Consumer Behaviour; Advanced Consumer Behaviour; Business to Business Marketing and Relationship Management; Marketing Communications; Strategic Finance; Business Game; Business Policy; Business, Government and Society.

**Placement year**  
 The 4 year course incorporates spending the third year in a professional placement gaining valuable and practical business experience. See page 43 for further information.

**Final year**  
 This year focuses on the strategic aspects of marketing management and allows you to tailor the final year of your degree programme via a choice of specialist optional modules.

**Modules include:** International Marketing; Retailing Management; Marketing Strategy; Entrepreneurial Marketing; Services Marketing Management; Professional Selling and Sales Management; Strategic Brand Management; Advanced Marketing Communications and Strategic Management; Innovation and New Product Development.

**6th in the UK for Marketing**  
 (Complete University Guide 2016)

**95% Satisfaction for Marketing**  
 (National Student Survey 2015)

**Key facts**

3 years full-time or 4 years placement course.  
**UCAS code:** G100  
**Typical offer level**  
 A Level: AAB-ABB  
 BTEC National Diploma: DDD in relevant National Diploma with A Level Maths  
 IB: 32 points (including minimum Grade 6 in Maths at Higher Level)  
 Other qualifications see pages 154-155

**Specific subject requirements**  
 A Level: Maths Grade B  
 General Studies accepted  
 GCSE: English Grade C.

**Key benefits**

- ▶ Accredited by the Institute of Mathematics and its Applications (IMA)
- ▶ Optional placement year allows you to set your studies in context and gain valuable professional experience.

**What are my career prospects?**

Graduates have been employed in a broad range of positions, such as research and development teams as part of a large company or in start-ups, as trainee analysts and consultants, in finance, IT, education and engineering.

**Accredited programme**

**Option to study for Qualified Teaching Status**

**What will I study?**

The programme focuses on a principled approach to the foundations of mathematics and the specific analytical skills required for the challenges of the information age. Combining both principal and specialised subjects, the course prepares students for high-level careers in industry and the public sector.

In today's rapidly evolving information age, employers in dynamic and well-paid industries have great demand for graduates with strong mathematical skills (and some IT knowledge), and the ability to analyse and model complex problems in a mathematical way.

Mathematics provides the advanced tools and techniques needed for facing these new tasks, and takes an increasingly significant role in future developments, as IT systems and 'big data' become ever more central to modern life.

**How does it work?**

**Programme outline**

This programme provides mathematical skills than can be applied in many domains, such as: **Informatics:** analysis and management of data requires pattern analysis and information hiding techniques. **Finance:** stock market forecasting and portfolio management based on time series analysis and game theory **Networks:** mathematical tools for analysis and management of emergent structures in power grids, social networks and other complex systems.

**Year 1 and Year 2**  
 Emphasis of the programme is on the solid foundations of mathematics expanding on A Level mathematical techniques with more advanced concepts and their application, and using numerical software such as Matlab. **Topics include:** Algebra, Vectors, Linear Maths, Statistics and Probability, Calculus and Ordinary Differential Equations, Analysis, Computational Mathematics and Academic Writing and Study Skills.

**Final year**  
 Allows you to choose specialist options to tailor the emphasis of your programme and consists of a combination of core and optional modules (subject to revision) including: Mathematics Project; Complex Analysis; Partial Differential Equations; Financial Mathematics; Time Series.

**Placement year/or optional ITT/QTS Year:**  
 On the 4 year placement course students spend the third year in a usually paid professional placement (contributing to your final grade) gaining valuable business experience. For full details on Qualified Teaching Status option (subject to NCTL clearance) please see page 47.

“ I completed my placement as a Financial Operations Analyst at IBM. My role consisted of dealing with financial projects within the North Region (covering the UK, Ireland, the Netherlands and South Africa). The placement year has given me a real taster of what is required in the real world”

**Meera Dodhia, Mathematics BSc**

**Key facts**

4 years full-time with year 3 as professional placement year

**UCAS code:** G160

**Typical offer level**

A Level: AAB-ABB

BTEC National Diploma: DDD (including A Level Maths Grade B)

IB: 32 points (including minimum Grade 6 in Maths and Physics at Higher Level)

**Specific subject requirements:**

A Level: Maths Grade B

A Level: Physics Grade B

GCSE: English Grade C

A suitable combination of two A Level and two AS Level subjects may be accepted

Applicants whose first language is not English must provide evidence of an English language qualification.

**Key benefits**

- ▶ Development of problem-solving skills, especially in the field of mathematical modelling and optimisation. Emphasis on mathematical aspects of design processes in industrial environments
- ▶ Provides essential tools to develop a career in industry.

**What are my career prospects?**

There is a growing need to better prepare Mathematics graduates for industry. This programme provides you with skills to formulate, analyse, design, and redesign industrial systems; your mathematical modelling skills enable you to simulate and analyse systems before implementation in real life; use your computing skills to develop algorithms and introduce numerical solutions when analytical solutions cannot be obtained; and use mathematical understanding to interpret the obtained results.

**What will I study?**

This programme combines modules from mathematics, computing and engineering disciplines to provide you with better understanding of contemporary and advanced mathematical and computational techniques, and their practical application across a wide spectrum of industrial disciplines.

This innovative and industrially focused programme is designed to prepare you in solving technological problems using mathematical modelling techniques, and for the set of skills required for mathematically oriented positions in industry.

The programme was designed in consultation with our industrial partners, such that the theoretical and project work are set to encourage and enable you to develop essential technical and transferable skills, including team work, communication and presentation skills. These will give you a clear competitive edge in the search for graduate employment.

**How does it work?****Programme outline****Year 1**

Transition Mathematics; Introduction to Matlab; Mathematical Thinking; Academic writing and study skills; Calculus and Ordinary Differential Equations; Vector Algebra and Geometry; Statistics and Probability; Mathematical Algorithms; Mathematical Modelling I.

**Year 2**

Multivariate Calculus; Linear Mathematics; Numerical Methods 1; Investigative Skills – Group Project; Optimisation; Mathematical Modelling II; Vector Calculus; Java Programming Foundations; Digital Signal Processing I; Control Theory; Project Management.

**Placement year**

The compulsory placement year provides the opportunity to either work in paid employment in industry, or to study or undertake project work at another university. The industrial placement will provide you with an experience of working in industry and develop your management, communication and team working skills).

**Final year**

Final year Math project; Mathematical Modelling III; Partial Differential Equations. And Optional Modules in: Java Program Construction; Information Theory; Data Mining; Thermodynamics and Fluids; Nonlinear Dynamic and Chaos; Game Theory; Time Series; Stochastic Processes; Digital Signal Processing II; Statistical Pattern Analysis; Financial Mathematics; Portfolio Analysis.

**What will I study?**

The programme provides a unique combination of analytical and computational skills required for an in-depth understanding of new technologies and prepares graduates for high-level careers in the rapidly growing areas of finance, computing and telecommunication. Combining both principal and specialised subjects, the programme prepares you for high-level careers in industry. Dedicated modules are aimed at preparing you to model, analyse and understand complex and volatile systems.

In today's rapidly evolving information age, employers in dynamic and well-paid industries have great demand for graduates with strong mathematical and IT skills, valuing a principled approach to emerging challenges which involve developing mathematical models and their implementation in software systems.

**How does it work?****Programme outline**

Mathematics with Computing students take 120 credits per year of mainly Mathematics and some Computing modules.

**Year 1 and Year 2**

Emphasis is on the solid foundations of mathematics and computing expanding on A Level mathematical and computer techniques with more advanced concepts and their application, and using numerical software such as Matlab. **Topics include:** Algebra; Vectors; Linear Maths; Statistics and Probability; Calculus and Ordinary Differential Equations; Analysis; Computational Mathematics and Academic Writing and Study Skills; (Java) Programming; Internet Computing; Information Systems and Databases.

**Final year**

Allows you to choose specialist options to tailor the emphasis of your programme and consists of a combination of core and optional modules (subject to revision) including: Project; Complex Analysis; Partial Differential Equations; Financial Mathematics; Time Series; Data Mining; Geographical Information Systems; Information Security; Enterprise Computing Strategies; Enterprise Application Technology; Testing and Reliable Software Engineering.

**Placement year/or optional ITT/QTS Year:**

On the 4 year placement course students spend the third year in a usually paid professional placement (contributing to your final grade) gaining valuable business experience. For full details on Qualified Teaching Status option (subject to NCTL clearance) please see page 47.

**Key facts**

3 years full-time or 4 years placement course.

**UCAS code:** G190

**Typical offer level**

A Level: AAB-ABB

BTEC National Diploma: DD in relevant National Diploma with A Level Maths minimum Grade B

IB: 32 points (including minimum Grade 6 in Maths at Higher Level)

Other qualifications see pages 154-155

**Specific subject requirements**

A Level: Maths Grade B

General Studies accepted

GCSE: English Grade C.

**Key benefits**

A solid foundation in (computer aided) mathematical concepts and methods, with applications to:

- ▶ Internet: e-commerce, secure transfer of confidential information (e.g. card details), using cryptography
- ▶ Search engines: data mining techniques
- ▶ Telecommunications: error-correction for communication with corruption during transmission
- ▶ (Bio-) Informatics: huge databases (e.g. DNA sequences), a typical data mining and pattern analysis problem
- ▶ Accredited by the Institute of Mathematics and its Applications (IMA).

**What are my career prospects?**

Research and development teams as part of a large company or in start-ups, analysts and consultants, finance, IT, education and engineering. Mathematics and computing take an increasingly significant role in future developments and advances in IT.



**Accredited**  
programme

**Option to study for**  
**Qualified Teaching**  
**Status**

## Mathematics with Economics BSc (Joint Honours)

### Key facts

4 years full-time with integrated placement year.

**UCAS code:** G1L1

**Typical offer level**

A Level: AAB-ABB

BTEC National Diploma:

DDD in relevant National Diploma including A Level Mathematics at minimum Grade B

IB: 32 points (including minimum Grade 6 in Maths at Higher Level)

Other qualifications see pages 154-155

**Specific subject requirements**

A Level: Maths Grade B

General Studies accepted

GCSE: English Grade C.

### Key benefits

- ▶ Emphasis on Applied Mathematics relevant to business and industry
- ▶ Application of economic theory and practice in a real-world business context
- ▶ Develops understanding of how changes in the economic environment influence businesses
- ▶ Specialise in the areas of particular interest and relevance to your career
- ▶ Accredited by the Institute of Mathematics and its Applications (IMA).

### What are my career prospects?

The programme prepares you for public and private-sector careers and is specifically designed to meet the huge demand for skilled mathematicians with economic insights. Graduates have obtained employment in financial institutions, industry and teaching, and further their studies with a PhD in Maths.

Many employers regard mathematics and economics graduates as highly sought after members of a business team.

### What will I study?

This course provides a balanced blend of basic mathematical techniques, a rigorous examination of their validity, the development of underlying structures common to a number of concepts and the application of mathematics to solve complex problems that arise in the real world. You will gain a solid basis in economics, providing a theoretical and conceptual outlook on the world of business.

### How does it work?

#### Programme outline

Students studying Mathematics with Economics take 120 credits per year, 80 from Maths modules and 40 from Economics modules.

#### Mathematics:

In the first two years, you will expand A Level mathematical techniques, learn more advanced concepts and their application, and use numerical software. The final year allows you to choose specialist options to tailor the emphasis of your programme. During your degree you will encounter various mathematical concepts and techniques in analysis, algebra, probability, differential equations, approximation and chaos.

#### Economics:

The economics modules delivered by the Aston Business School include: Introduction to Economics; Quantitative Techniques; Business Decision; Analysis Principles of Microeconomics; Principles of Macro Economics; Introduction to Econometrics; International Business Economics; Multinational Enterprise; Economics of Innovation; Competition Policy; Economics of Regulation.

#### Placement year

The placement year is an integral part of your course, therefore compulsory, and contributes to your final grade.

**Top 10 in the UK for Overall Satisfaction in Economics**

(Guardian League Table 2016)



**Key facts**

3 year full-time or  
4 year placement course.

**UCAS code:** H300

**Typical offer level**

A Level: ABB-BBB

BTEC National Diploma:  
DDD in relevant National Diploma

IB: 32 points (including Maths or Physics  
at Higher Level)

Other qualifications see pages 154-155

**Specific subject requirements**

A Level: Maths and Physics required,  
but will consider Further Maths,  
Design Technology, Engineering  
Science and Electronics if Physics  
is not studied at A Level

GCSE: English Grade C.

**Key benefits**

- ▶ Accredited by the Institution of Mechanical Engineers (IMechE)
- ▶ Aston students have been designing, building and racing a single-seater car since 1999 as part of the IMechE Formula Student competition
- ▶ We compete in the Shell Eco – Marathon competition, requiring design efficiency and innovation
- ▶ Transfer between Mechanical, ElectroMechanical and Design Engineering courses is possible at any point during the first year
- ▶ Transfer onto the MEng Mechanical Engineering is possible with strong performance on the course.

**What are my career prospects?**

Graduate engineer and consultancy positions with companies such as Corus, IMI Plc, Army/Royal Air Force, Yamazaki Mazak, Carillion, BOC, BAE Systems, Nissan, Lloyds TSB, Phillips, Jaguar, TRW and EDF Energy.

**What will I study?**

The fast-evolving nature of mechanical engineering means that future generations of graduates must embrace change and thrive on a love of innovation. The challenges and rewards for skilled engineers who can design, manufacture and manage advanced products and processes are greater than ever.

The first year encompasses a broad study of the fundamental disciplines of mechanical, electrical and design engineering. The second and final years incorporate a combination of modules, providing the opportunity to further develop industry ready technical and professional skills.

Throughout the course we emphasise the need to be able to apply engineering knowledge, technical skill, strong management skills and innovation to successfully solve engineering problems.

**How does it work?****Programme outline****Year 1**

Design and Exploration – CDIO 1-1; Prototyping and Development – CDIO 1-2; Electronic Engineering Fundamentals; Engineering Science Fundamentals; Transition Mathematics for Engineers; Mathematics for 1st Year Engineers.

**Year 2**

Design and Engineering for the User – CDIO 2-1; Engineering for Industry – CDIO 2-2; Engineering Mathematics 2; Dynamics and Control; Thermodynamics and Fluids; Engineering Materials; Solid Mechanics; Quality Engineering.

**Placement year**

The 4 year placement course incorporates spending the third year in a usually paid professional placement gaining valuable and practical experience.

**Final year**

Advanced Dynamics and Control; Design Failure Analysis; Energy Efficiency; Advanced Thermodynamics; Heat Transfer & Turbomachinery; Solid Mechanics and FEA; Advanced Systems and Design; Engineering Design and the Environment; Final Year Project.

 **Accredited programme**

**90%** of employed students are in professional or managerial roles 6 months after graduating  
(UNISTATS 2015/16)

**Key facts**

4 year course

**UCAS code:** H301

**Typical offer level**

A Level: AAA-AAB

Transfer from the BEng programme possible subject to meeting performance criteria.

IB: 34 points (including minimum Grade 6 in Maths and Physics at Higher Level)

Other qualifications see pages 154-155

**Specific subject requirements**

A Level: Maths and Physics required  
GCSE: English Grade C.

**Key benefits**

- ▶ Accredited by the Institution of Mechanical Engineers (IMechE)
- ▶ Aston students have been designing, building and racing a single-seater car since 1999 as part of the IMechE Formula Student competition
- ▶ We compete in the Shell Eco-Marathon competition, requiring design efficiency and innovation
- ▶ Every year our students organise 'Aston Inspired', a design show showcasing work to employers and academics
- ▶ One of the few DTUS universities with close links to officer training in the Armed Forces.

**What are my career prospects?**

Recent graduates found graduate engineer and consultancy positions with companies such as Corus, IMI Plc, Army/Royal Air Force, Yamazaki Mazak, Carillion, BOC, BAE Systems, Nissan, Lloyds TSB, Phillips, Jaguar, TRW and EDF Energy.

 **Accredited programme**

**90%** of employed students are in professional or managerial roles 6 months after graduating  
(UNISTATS 2015/16)

**What will I study?**

The fast-evolving nature of mechanical engineering means that future generations of graduates must embrace change and thrive on a love of innovation. The challenges and rewards for skilled engineers who can design, manufacture and manage advanced products and processes are greater than ever. An advanced, broad-based qualification requiring four years of academic study, the MEng is a challenging and demanding programme which will take you deeper into your subject than a BEng degree. It is enhanced by modules in Smart System Design, Advanced Computer Aided Design, Engineering Management and modules developed to help you understand and be able to exploit emerging technology.

**How does it work?****Programme outline****Year 1**

Design and Exploration – CDIO 1-1; Prototyping and Development – CDIO 1-2; Electronic Engineering Fundamentals; Engineering Science Fundamentals; Transition Mathematics for Engineers; Mathematics for 1st Year Engineers.

**Year 2**

Design and Engineering for the User – CDIO 2-1; Engineering for Industry – CDIO 2-2; Engineering Mathematics 2; Dynamics and Control; Thermodynamics and Fluids; Engineering Materials; Solid Mechanics; Quality Engineering.

**Placement year**

The 5 year placement course incorporates spending the third year in a usually paid professional placement gaining valuable and practical experience.

**Year 3**

Advanced Dynamics and Control; Design Failure Analysis; Energy Efficiency; Advanced Thermodynamics; Heat Transfer & Turbomachinery; Solid Mechanics and FEA; Advanced Systems and Design; Engineering Design and the Environment; Final Year Project.

**Year 4**

Project Management; Computational Fluid Dynamics and Applications; Renewable Energy; CAD Principles and Materials Selection; Practical Numerical Methods; MEng Group Project; Sustainable Design; Innovation Business Development.



Aston gave me an excellent base to develop as a professional engineer. The MEng degree is both challenging and rewarding. My placement year with Goodrich Engine Control Systems allowed me to build on the concepts and principles learned within the degree and put these into practice in a leading edge global aerospace company.”

**Richard Carpenter, Mechanical Engineering MEng**



**Key facts**

3 year full-time or  
4 year placement course.

**UCAS code:** G450

**Typical offer level**  
A Level: ABB-BBB

BTEC National Diploma: DDD in relevant  
National Diploma

IB: 32 points

Other qualifications see pages 154-155

**Specific subject requirements**

A Level: Maths or Computer Science  
preferred but not essential

General Studies accepted

GCSE: Maths Grade B and  
English Grade C.

**Key benefits**

- ▶ Accredited by the British Computer Society (BCS)
- ▶ Combine multimedia with internet software applications
- ▶ Gain practical skills with computer graphics, computer animation and game development, enhanced by opportunities to work on real, commercial projects in our student-run software development organisation, Aston Active Software Engineering
- ▶ Dedicated learning assistance through the Programming Support Office.

**What are my career prospects?**

Multimedia computing has numerous application areas including entertainment, education, commerce, engineering, medicine and scientific research.

Career opportunities exist in areas such as website design and development, multimedia information editing and management, serious games and e-commerce.

**What will I study?**

Multimedia is about conveying information as effectively as possible through the integrated use of different media. The curriculum explores the ways in which software applications are enhanced by the use of text, still and moving images, sound and computer animation. You will learn how to create exciting interactive systems that users will be drawn into.

If you opt for the placement course you can enhance your career preparation through a period of structured professional training. You have access to the Aston Interactive Media Lab, a distinctive facility for the design and evaluation of novel interactive technologies.

**How does it work?****Programme outline****Year 1**

Programming in Java; Problem Solving; Computer Systems; Information Systems and Databases; Internet Computing; Communications Skills; Mathematics for Computer Professionals.

**Year 2**

Group Project; Software Engineering; Computer Graphics; Multimedia Software and Applications; Professional and Social Aspects of computing; Data Structures and Algorithms; Human Computer Interaction; Introduction to Artificial Intelligence; Internet Applications.

**Placement year**

On the 4 year placement course you spend the third year in a professional placement, which is usually paid. This is subsidised by Aston University and was used as a model of good practice by the e-skills internship programme.

**Final year**

The core of the final year comprises: Individual Project; Information Security; Image and Video Processing; Interaction Design; Multimedia Information Retrieval; Game Development.

**Final year optional modules include:** Mobile Design and Development; Enterprise Computing Strategies; Multi Agent Systems; Software Project Management; Enterprise Application Technology; Computational Intelligence; Operating Systems; Geographic Information Systems; Testing and Reliable Software Engineering; Data Mining; Advanced Database Systems.

More detailed module information is available on our website,  
[www.aston.ac.uk/cs](http://www.aston.ac.uk/cs)

**95%**  
(UNISTATS 2015/16)

of employed students  
are in professional  
or managerial  
roles 6 months  
after graduating

**100%**  
(UNISTATS 2015/16)

Overall  
satisfaction

**Key facts**

4 year full-time degree with one-year  
work or study placement.

**UCAS code:** B140

**Typical offer level**  
A Levels: ABB or equivalent

Other qualifications see pages 154-155

**Specific subject requirements**

A Level: At least one A Level in either  
Biology or Chemistry.

GCSE: Grade C or above in English  
Language and Mathematics.

**Key benefits**

- ▶ Neuroscience research at Aston is internationally recognised. Teaching on the course is delivered by world leaders in brain and behaviour research
- ▶ The study of Neuroscience takes place at the interface between disciplines in the Life Sciences, Medical Sciences and in Engineering and therefore offers a wide range of career options and choices for further study
- ▶ You will have the opportunity to obtain relevant work experience during your degree programme by completing a placement year, thereby boosting your employment prospects
- ▶ State of the art neuroimaging and neurophysiology suites for studying the brain and behaviour.

**What are my career prospects?**

Neuroscience graduates will have a wide array of work opportunities in both the public and private sector, having the skills to support basic and applied research in the Life and Medical Sciences and the analytical skills desired by organisations and companies world-wide. The job market is growing; neuroscientists are being increasingly engaged by health and government services to influence and inform policy decisions and advise on their impact on the human condition.

**What will I study?**

Neuroscience is science at the cutting-edge, where new technological advancements provide sophisticated and sensitive methodologies for understanding brain and brain-behaviour relationships that were largely unachievable only a decade ago. As a developing Neuroscientist, you will be entering one of the most exciting and rapidly developing of the Life and Medical Sciences. You will receive broad training in the understanding of the brain and nervous system at multiple scales from the microscopic to the whole organism in both health and disease through a series of core and optional modules delivered across three years of study and through a compulsory placement year.

**How does it work?****Programme outline****Year 1**

In the first year you will gain a thorough and 'hands-on' grounding in the core principles and techniques used in Neuroscience through a mixture of lecture and practical experience.

**Subjects covered:** Neurophysiology; Development and Human Anatomy; Research Design and Analysis; Key Practical Skills in Neurosciences; Biochemistry; Abnormal Psychology; Cell and Molecular Biology; Inheritance and Population Genetics.

**Year 2**

In the second year you will study in-depth the foundations of Neuroscience from both research and theoretical perspectives.

**Subjects covered:** Brain and Behaviour; Cognitive and Behavioural Neuroscience Research Methods; Cellular and Developmental Neuroscience; Advanced Methods and Analyses; Key Skills and practicals in Neuroscience, including Professional and Transferable Skills.

**Compulsory placement year or professional experience**

The placement year is an opportunity for you to set your studies in context by taking a neuroscience placement in the UK or abroad.

**Final year**

During the final year you will expand and specify your knowledge through a series of core and optional modules of your choice and through the completion of an original piece of research as a final year project.

**Core modules**

Advanced topics in cellular neuroscience; Final year project in Neuroscience.

**Optional Modules**

Choose 20 credits from:  
Cell Biology; Stem Cell Biology;  
Physiology.

**Choose 40 credits from:**

Brain Imaging; Philosophy of Mind and Brain; Social Cognitive Neuroscience; Neuropsychiatric Disorders; Developmental Disorders; Cognitive Neuroscience of Attention.

**Key facts**

BSc 3 years full-time/MOptom 4 years which involves practise-based learning during the pre-registration period.

**UCAS codes:**

BSc Optometry B510

MOptom B512

**Typical offer level**

AAB-AAA

Other qualifications see pages 154-155

**Specific subject requirements**

A Level: two science subjects, including Biology with either Maths or Physics, Chemistry may be acceptable as an alternative. General Studies not accepted

GCSE: English Language and Maths Grade B

GCSE Physics Grade B (if not held at A Level) or Dual Award Science Grade BB

Other qualifications see pages 154-155

Offers will be made to applicants who have been predicted at least CCC in relevant subjects.

**Please note:**

You only need to apply for either the BSc or the MOptom. There is no benefit to applying for both programmes as you have the flexibility to change from one to the other once you are enrolled and for the duration of the course.

**1st in the UK for graduate prospects**  
(Complete University Guide 2016)

Regulated by the  
General Optical Council

**What will I study?**

Optometrists are professional clinicians responsible for many aspects of vision care.

They undertake eye examinations to find optical and ocular anomalies and treat these using spectacles and contact lenses. They are trained to examine the eyes for optical defects and to detect visual system diseases that may originate in the eye, brain or elsewhere in the body. Their training includes fitting and supplying spectacles, contact lenses and other optical devices.

**How does it work?****Programme outline****Year 1**

Develops your knowledge of the basic scientific principles that underpin optometry and optometric clinical and visual skills.

**Subjects covered:** Medical Biology and Pathology; Clinical Practice 1; Basic Investigative Techniques; Clinical Visual Biology; Ophthalmic Lenses; Optics and Medical Imaging; Vision and Visual Perception.

Please note that although we have all the general purpose equipment required, Optometry students need to purchase about £1,500 worth of personal equipment by the beginning of the second year. This equipment will be useful for future professional practice.

**Year 2**

Skills are further developed leading to a full eye examination routine. You will study the intricate biological links between eye and brain and accrue skills in contact lens fitting, optical instrumentation and research methods.

**Subjects covered:** Contact Lenses; Further Investigative Techniques; Ophthalmic Optics; Clinical Practice 2; Clinical Practice Development/Employability; Vision Science and Research Methods.

**Year 3**

You will examine patients in our public service optometry clinic and will be able to pursue an area of particular interest in more depth through a third year elective study working alongside scientists in the Ophthalmic Research Group and the Sensory and Perceptual Systems Group.

**Subjects covered:** Anterior Eye Conditions; Posterior Eye and Ophthalmology; Binocular Vision and Paediatrics; Clinical Practice 3; Elective Studies; Professional, Occupational and Low Vision; Ophthalmic Drugs.

**Professional experience**

The clinical experience gained in your first and second years, together with unlimited practice on Aston's unique virtual patient simulators, will be refined in third year public service optometry clinics. Here, you will help to provide patients with a full range of eye care services under the close supervision of our clinical instructors, which include ophthalmologists, optometrists, orthoptists and dispensing opticians. Throughout the programme you will learn techniques of general eye examination, spectacle dispensing, fitting and aftercare of contact lenses. These skills and additional optometry specialities are integrated in the clinical investigation and management of visual problems. To broaden your knowledge and practical experience you will attend a series of visits to local hospital eye departments.

**What else should I know?****Professional recognition**

Our degree is accredited by the General Optical Council (GOC). In order to become registered with the GOC, you must secure a pre-registration position with a qualified optometrist. If you are on the BSc programme, you will start your pre-registration period following graduation. If you are on the MOptom, your pre-registration period will run alongside the fourth year of the programme. During this fourth year you will be based away from Aston but will continue your studies as a distance learning student.

During the pre-registration period, you will sit a number of examinations that are set by the College of Optometrists. When you pass these professional examinations, you will become a Member of the College of Optometrists (MCOptom), and will be eligible to apply for GOC registration. This means that you are able to practise as an optometrist in your own right. The pre-registration period is normally approximately one year in duration. Entry to pre-registration training is regulated by the GOC and minimum entry requirements apply. You will need to register with the GOC prior to attending classes. University staff will help with this during term one of the first year. The GOC requires students to disclose any prior criminal convictions that may render them unsuitable for training.

**Year 4 (students completing the Masters level only)**

Students who achieve a minimum of 50% by the end of the 3 year BSc Optometry programme may continue to Masters level treating their pre-registration period as an integrated (paid) practice-based learning. You will undertake six Masters level distance and blended learning modules during the year, designed to enhance clinical experience and support the successful completion of the College of Optometrists' Scheme for Registration.

The Aston MOptom is unique in that it allows students to complete a Masters in optometry during the pre-registration period through distance learning.

**Masters level modules:**

Advanced Investigative Techniques; Glaucoma; Retinal and Macular Disorders; Ocular Prescribing; Evidence Based Clinical Research; Inter-professional Communication.

Students need to attend Aston University for two days in December and another two days in April or May to take exams. During these days students can attend workshops and tutorials. These modules can serve as advance prior learning for our Doctorate in Optometry that can be started two years after graduation.

**Disclosure and Barring Service**

Students are required to undertake a Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) check before they start this programme. In addition to the normal academic requirements, and in line with other regulated health professions, continuation on the programme and award of these registerable degrees is subject to Fitness to Practice regulations. For further details visit: [www.aston.ac.uk/study/undergraduate/courses/lhs/fitness-to-practice-information/](http://www.aston.ac.uk/study/undergraduate/courses/lhs/fitness-to-practice-information/)

**Key benefits**

- ▶ Modern, purpose built building and Opetgra refractive surgery hospital with first class teaching facilities, fully operational public service optometry clinic and thriving research groups
- ▶ Optegra refractive surgery hospital is unique in Europe, performing cataract and laser refractive surgery on campus
- ▶ The hospital also brings together our research into areas such as brain imaging, cataract, human myopia (short sight) and epilepsy
- ▶ Graduates have an excellent track record of success as optometrists
- ▶ 100% obtained graduate level employment in 2015
- ▶ World class reputation for research
- ▶ Integration of learning and professional practice and innovative hospital and voluntary sector partnerships
- ▶ Practice-based.

**What are my career prospects?**

You will have excellent career prospects in private practice, in your own practice, in partnership or as an employee of an optical company, hospital practice, the optical industry, optometry research and any other career recruiting high quality graduates.

**98%**

**Overall satisfaction**  
(National Student Survey 2015)

**Key facts**

4 year full-time.

**UCAS code:**

MPharm Pharmacy B230

**Typical offer level**

AAB-ABB from three A Level subjects

Other qualifications see pages 154-155

**Specific subject requirements**

A Level: Chemistry, plus at least one from Biology, Maths or Physics

General Studies not accepted as one of the three A Levels, but can be accepted as a fourth.

GCSE: English Language Grade C, Maths Grade B

Specific dress codes are required by this programme.

**Facilities and IT**

Facilities include extensively well equipped laboratories, lecture and tutorial rooms, our own purpose-built dispensing practice laboratory, medicines management clinical examination suite and computer-aided learning labs. Our students also make extensive use of a web-based virtual learning environment.

**Student life – APA**

Aston University has a very active society for Pharmacy students, Aston Pharmacy Association (APA). APA organises many social events throughout the year and has close links with the national body for pharmacy students, the British Pharmacy Students' Association (BPSA). Several Aston pharmacy students/graduates serve on the national executive of the BPSA.

**What will I study?**

Pharmacists are health care professionals with a strong background in sciences, whose expertise covers all aspects of the design, development, delivery, supply, control and use of drugs. Pharmacists need a broad scientific education and specialist professional training, so we have pioneered an integrated approach to teaching and learning which links professional studies to an extensive core science course. From the start of the programme you will be encouraged to apply your understanding of the scientific principles of pharmacy within a patient focussed setting, through case based workshops, problem based learning, integrated science and clinical scenarios. Our modern course benefits from substantial links with the profession including consultant pharmacists, experts from pharmaceutical industry and pharmacy entrepreneurs. Aston University also has a team of teacher practitioners based in the major Birmingham hospitals.

**What else should I know?****Aston Pharmacy School**

Aston Pharmacy School dates back to 1847 and it continues to this day to produce high quality employable graduates.

Proud to have graduated over 5,000 alumni to practise pharmacy, whether you work in a community, hospital, medical regulation, medical writing or globally within the pharmaceutical industry you will bump into somebody from Aston University.

Aston Pharmacy School has always been a centre of innovation in pharmacy undergraduate and postgraduate education. In the early 1970s, the School offered the first postgraduate Masters programme in clinical pharmacy. It pioneered the appointment of lecturer practitioners who work in pharmacy and teach undergraduate students.

Today we are at the forefront of clinical placement and e-learning within pharmacy. Working with three major hospitals, one of them a tertiary referral centre, we have established educational partnerships with all NHS Foundation Trusts across the West Midlands to bridge the gap between student and career pharmacists.

Our NHS Trust partners include the largest foundation trust in the country. They employ over 150 pharmacists looking after over 1,200 patient beds, a transplant centre, paediatric intensive care and support over 38 other healthcare specialties.

**Professional recognition**

Our programme is fully accredited (and has been since its inception in 1997) by the General Pharmaceutical Council (GPhC). All pharmacy students are required to abide by a dress code, ensure vaccinations are up to date (specific requirements will be provided prior to the start of the course) and are subject to Fitness to Practice regulations. Appropriate DBS and good character checks are required. Additional information will be sent to you when you are made an offer. To register with the GPhC you need to complete a pre-registration year supervised by a registered pharmacist and pass the Council's professional exams. Aston University has over 160 years' experience of training professional pharmacists and a strong reputation amongst pre-registration employers and the industry in general.

Applicants with disabilities will be referred to our Disability Team. We are happy to adopt reasonable recommendations from the Disability Team to help you succeed on our programme. However, the decision as to whether disabilities and/or additional needs affect UK registration as a pharmacist can only be made by the GPhC.

**How does it work?****Programme outline**

The aim of the pharmacy course at Aston is to give you a breadth of knowledge and a wide range of professional and technical skills, coupled with a critical ethical outlook to ensure you become an outstanding pharmacist.

Our programme will develop and enhance your communication skills to ensure you are able to maximise patient benefit, and we enable this development in you through a wide range of innovative teaching methods including problem-based learning, video recording sessions, computer-aided learning and patient-simulations.

Assessments are core to our teaching strategy, but not solely as a method to grade you. Our programme is strongly built around self-assessment and constructive feedback to allow you to identify learning needs and our teaching provides extensive pastoral and teaching support to further support your learning development.

**Year 1**

In the first year you build the scientific base on which your skills as a pharmacist will be built. You also start applying your knowledge to clinical situations that you might encounter in a community pharmacy.

**Year 2**

The second year extends your understanding of the pharmaceutical sciences and your clinical pharmacy skills and perfects dispensing within UK law.

**Year 3**

In the third year you will complete your study of pharmacology and therapeutics and pharmaceutical chemistry.

**Final year**

In your final year you will use and extend the knowledge and skills you have developed in the previous years. You will develop confidence in applying your pharmaceutical knowledge to maximise individual patient benefit from treatment. You will also consider wider aspects of pharmacy such as evidence-based medicine and pharmaceutical public health.



I chose pharmacy because I love the science of medicine and pharmacokinetics of drugs in our system. I enjoy learning about the different types of drugs and their effects. The MPharm programme at Aston also offers the 'Medicine Counter Assistant' qualification in the first year which will help make my CV stand out more."

**Hannah Ong, Mpharm Pharmacy, third year student**



The experience at Aston University has been insightful and supportive for me to pursue a career in Pharmaceutical Industry. Aston University provided me with both a strong foundational knowledge and practical skill set, which enabled me to proactively engage in clinical and research placements throughout my undergraduate studies. In particular, my personal interest in Pharmaceutical Industry especially within R&D, was very quickly acknowledged and supported by Aston."

**KarenjitGandham, graduated in 2013**

**Key benefits**

- ▶ A modern, integrated pharmacy programme designed to meet the developing role of pharmacists in all branches of the profession (hospital, community and industry)
- ▶ Interprofessional learning alongside health visitors, nurses and doctors
- ▶ Extensive work based learning within local hospitals, community pharmacies, GP surgeries and pharmaceutical companies
- ▶ Community pharmacy and hospital based clinical teaching supported by pharmacist teacher practitioners
- ▶ Emphasis on professional studies and patient-orientated care
- ▶ Internationally recognised research groups
- ▶ Dedicated and experienced placements team to advise and support in your search for pre registration positions to make sure Aston's students get in there first.

**What are my career prospects?**

Our established reputation and professional accreditation ensure that career prospects for our graduates are first-class. Major employers include: Boots; Lloyds; Well Pharmacy and hospital-based pharmacies.

**5th Best in the UK**

(Sunday Times 2016)

## Politics BSc (Joint Honours)

### Key facts

4 year with integrated placement year/3 years full-time.

Compulsory placement year for Business and Politics (LN2C) and Politics and Economics (LL12)

### UCAS codes:

Politics and Economics LL12

(See page 135)

Business and Politics LN2C

(See page 69)

Politics and English Language QL32

Politics and Social Policy L201

Politics and Sociology LL42

For Combinations with Modern Languages see our International Relations and Languages (IRL) degree. (See page 114)

### Typical offer level

ABB-BBB

IB: 32-33 points

Other qualifications see pages 154-155

### Specific subject requirements

GCSE English Language and Maths Grade C or equivalent.

### Key benefits

- ▶ Distinctive, integrated professional placement and year abroad options (see pages 52, 53)
- ▶ Politics at Aston is ranked in the Top 25 in the UK in the 2016 Complete University Guide
- ▶ Wide range of flexible combinations
- ▶ Aston University's Area Studies research - including Politics/IR - is rated 3rd in the UK for research classed as world leading (4\*) or internationally excellent (3\*) in the 2014 REF  
[www.aston.ac.uk/europe](http://www.aston.ac.uk/europe)
- ▶ Single Honours BSc Politics with International Relations also available. (See page 136)

### What will I study?

Our Politics programmes are concerned with the study of government and political action. In year one you will study introductory modules in Politics, the European Union, and governance. At the core of your second year are modules dealing with the history of political thought, as well as a focus on British foreign and domestic policy. In your final year a Politics research dissertation on an agreed topic of your choice counts for a substantial and challenging part of your programme. Optional modules include Political Leadership; Contemporary Political Thought; Nationalism and Political Power.

### How does it work?

#### Programme outline

##### Politics

##### Year 1

Introduction to Politics; Information/Study Skills; Introduction to the European Union; British Politics since 1945.

##### Year 2

History of Political Thought; Comparative Government and Politics; Research Methods; EU Politics/Policies; Introduction to Political Economy.

##### Year 3

Optional placement in UK or abroad, in public or private sector, work or study placement outside the UK. See page 52 for details.

##### Final year

Research Dissertation. **Options include:** Regions and Regionalism in Europe; Contemporary Political Theory; Religion and Politics in Contemporary Europe; Immigration and Citizenship in Western Europe; Political Leaders: Case Studies and Comparative Perspectives; The International Relations of East Asia; The American Presidency; Central and East European Politics.

\*Please note that the core and optional modules may vary depending on the subject that you choose to combine Politics with. Please consult the Programme Specification for the relevant modules for each course.

### Career prospects

Our graduates are in demand from a wide range of employers where a sound understanding of societies, teamwork and communication skills are required. Career choices are also broadened by our students' choice of subjects in combination with Politics.

Please visit: [www.aston.ac.uk/lss](http://www.aston.ac.uk/lss) for examples of recent graduate destinations.

**Top 25 in the UK for graduate prospects**

(Complete University Guide 2016)

**13th in the UK for Politics**

(Sunday Times League Table 2016)

**13th in the UK for Politics**

(Sunday Times League Table 2016)

**94%**

**Overall satisfaction**  
(National Student Survey 2015)

## Politics and Economics BSc (Joint Honours)

### Key facts

4 year with integrated placement year.

**UCAS Code:** LL12

### Typical offer level

ABB-BBB

IB: 32-33 points

Other qualifications see pages 154-155

### Specific subject requirements

GCSE English Language Grade C and Maths Grade B or equivalent.

### Key benefits

- ▶ Politics at Aston is ranked in the Top 25 in the UK in the 2016 Complete University Guide
- ▶ Application of economic theory and practice in a real world business context
- ▶ Combines history and political theory with a strong present day focus
- ▶ Develops understanding of how changes in the economic environment influence business success
- ▶ Aston University's Area Studies research - including Politics/IR - is rated 3rd in the UK for research classed as world leading (4\*) or internationally excellent (3\*) in the 2014 REF  
[www.aston.ac.uk/europe](http://www.aston.ac.uk/europe)
- ▶ Professional placement year and excellent graduate opportunities.

### What are my career prospects?

Graduates of this programme will benefit from the proven track record of Aston's Economics/Politics students in securing graduate level employment.

For career prospects for Politics graduates see page 134 and for Economics see page 83.

### What will I study?

Taught jointly by Aston Business School and our School of Languages and Social Sciences, our BSc Politics and Economics combines the study of government and political action, with a focus on the application of economic theory and practice in a real world business context.

### How does it work?

#### Programme outline

##### Politics

##### Year 1

Introduction to Politics; British Politics Since 1945; Introduction to the European Union; Information Skills; Introduction to Microeconomics; Introduction to Macroeconomics; Introduction to Business Analytics; Political Economy & Industrial Policy; Principles of Financial Accounting.

##### Year 2

Research Methods in Political and Social Studies; Comparative Government and Politics; Introduction to Political Economy; The Politics and Policies of the EU; Principles of Macroeconomics; Principles of Microeconomics; Industrial Organisation and Strategy; Introduction to Econometrics 1; Emerging and Transitional Economies.

One module from: Business, Government & Society; International Business Economics; Introduction to Econometrics 2.

##### Year 3

Placement in UK or abroad, in public or private sector, work or study placement outside the UK. See page 52 for details.

##### Final year

Politics and Economics Research Dissertation; Macroeconomic Policy; Competition Policy and Economic Regulation. **Electives from:** Immigration & Citizenship in Western Europe; The International Relations of East Asia; Religion and Politics in Contemporary Europe; Political Communication; The American Presidency; Nationalism & Political Power; Ethics and International Politics; Political Parties and Party Systems; Conflict and Politics in Contemporary Balkans; Intellectuals and Politics; Regions and Regionalism in Europe; Contemporary Political Theory; Political Leaders: Case Studies and Comparative Perspectives; Economics of Multinational Enterprise; Applied Econometrics and Forecasting; Economics of Business Organisations; Economics of Innovation; Economics of Entrepreneurship; Financial Economics; International Trade.

## Politics with International Relations BSc (Single Honours)

### Key facts

4 year with integrated placement year/  
3 years full-time.

**UCAS code:** L290

**Typical offer level**  
ABB-BBB

IB: 32-33 points

Other qualifications see pages 154-155

### Specific subject requirements

GCSE English Language and Maths  
Grade C or equivalent.

### Key benefits

- ▶ Distinctive, integrated professional placement and year abroad options (See pages 52, 53)
- ▶ Aston University's Area Studies research - including Politics/IR - is rated 3rd in the UK for research classed as world leading (4\*) or internationally excellent (3\*) in the 2014 REF  
[www.aston.ac.uk/europe](http://www.aston.ac.uk/europe)
- ▶ Combines history and political theory with a strong present day focus
- ▶ Range of events for students in the Politics and International Relations Group; see [europe.blogs.aston.ac.uk](http://europe.blogs.aston.ac.uk).

### What are my career prospects?

Our graduates are in demand from a wide range of employers where a sound understanding of societies, teamwork and communication skills are required.

Career choices are also broadened by our students' choice of subjects in combination with Politics.

Visit: [www.aston.ac.uk/lss](http://www.aston.ac.uk/lss) for examples of recent graduate destinations.

### Related courses:

Politics Joint Honours - page 134

International Relations Joint Honours - page 106

**Top 25 in the UK for graduate prospects**

(Complete University Guide 2016)

### What will I study?

Politics and International Relations – two closely related disciplines – are combined in this popular single honours political science degree. The programme explores politics and international relations in British, European and global settings and examines theories about the nature of politics and international relations from the ancient to the modern world.

You will also explore the complex relationship between ethics and international action via co-operation or conflict. The history and present day functionality of the European Union and policy making at international, national and regional levels is also explored.

To prepare our graduates for careers in a global environment, there is also a practical element of language learning via a module in Arabic, French, German, Japanese, Mandarin Chinese, Portuguese or Spanish. The placement year is an optional feature of the programme and is designed to give you real life experience and to act as a springboard to your future career.

### How does it work?

#### Programme outline

##### Year 1

Introduction to Politics; Introduction to International Relations; Information/Study Skills; Introduction to the European Union; Europe and the Making of the Modern World; British Politics Since 1945; University Wide Language Programme Module.

##### Year 2

History of Political Thought; Comparative Government and Politics; Research Methods; The Politics and Policies of the European Union; International Relations: Theories and Issues. Choice of: Security Studies; Introduction to Political Economy; Language module.

##### Year 3

Optional placement in UK or abroad, in public or private sector, work or study placement outside the UK. See page 52 for details.

##### Final year

Research Dissertation. **Options include:** Regions and Regionalism in Europe; Contemporary Political Theory; Religion and Politics in Contemporary Europe; Immigration and Citizenship in Western Europe; Political Leaders: Case Studies and Comparative Perspectives; The International Relations of East Asia; The American Presidency; Central and East European Politics.



I was attracted to studying Politics with International Relations at Aston University as the degree programme offered the opportunity to take a year in industry, which I found an invaluable experience. Alongside this, Aston offered me a wide range of modules especially in second and final year so I was able to tailor my degree to what I was passionate about learning. Upon graduating I will join the Microsoft Graduate scheme in a Marketing position working within the Consumer Channels Group of the business. I spent my placement year working for Microsoft. My long-term goals involve developing my marketing career within Microsoft where I hope to possibly gain some international experience and progress within the business or the wider technology sector."

**Jasmin Sohi, Politics with International Relations BSc**

## Product Design & Management BSc

### Key facts

3 year full-time or  
4 year placement course.

**UCAS code:** H773

**Typical offer level**  
A Level: ABB-BBB

BTEC National Diploma:  
DDD in relevant National Diploma  
IB: 32 points (including a science  
subject at Higher Level)

Other qualifications see pages 154-155

### Specific subject requirements

A Level: a science or technical subject

General Studies accepted

GCSE: Maths Grade B and  
English Grade C.

### Key benefits

- ▶ Accredited by the Institution of Engineering Designers (IED)
- ▶ Creation of innovative ideas underpinned by Engineering knowledge
- ▶ One of the few DTUS universities with close links to officer training in the Armed Forces
- ▶ Benefit from innovative teaching using CDIO – see page 46
- ▶ Specialist Design Projects are run like a modern design consultancy
- ▶ Management and commercial focus integral to the course.

### What are my career prospects?

Our students are able to demonstrate creative design skills alongside sound technical knowledge and experience, a balance which employers consider to be an advantage.

### What will I study?

Design is increasingly used as a strategic commercial tool to make a difference beyond the boundaries of simply the physical product. Companies use design to change culture and develop new business models. This course will appeal to those designers who wish to work across a broad range of business functions and design opportunities in a rapidly-changing international market. We aim to develop a new generation of creative designers with knowledge, skills and concepts that will be valued by all sectors of design, development, production and business. Live projects will be undertaken on campus and you are encouraged to work with students from other courses ranging from Business to Engineering, covering a range of disciplines, sharing experiences and ideas, just as in industry.

Projects can range from: new modes of transport, consumer products, sustainable design solutions, business design enterprise through to advanced technology concepts to address emerging global challenges.

### How does it work?

#### Programme outline

##### Year 1

Introduction to new design skills, techniques and thinking. This busy first year will involve practical team design projects and experimentation of working prototypes. The principles of design and mechanics will run alongside creative sketching a drawing classes. The first year projects will engage you in a range of design, creativity and model making in our design workshops.

##### Year 2

Focuses on more complex projects, addressing issues of design methods, advanced manufacturing techniques and bringing a professional focus to your work. In some projects you will collaborate with other designers and begin to develop your work within your specialist design area of Product Design & Management.

##### Placement year

The 4 year placement course enables you to spend your third year in, a usually paid, professional placement gaining valuable practical experience. This is an opportunity to get hands-on experience within a professional environment, to enhance your design and CAD skills, create a useful network of contacts and possibly secure your first job after graduation.

##### Final year

Defines your career focus and develops your key strengths as a designer. Your year long Major Project and portfolio will help define you as a capable creative professional designer with a clear vision for your future career. Visiting professional designers will work with you to enhance your skills, techniques and application of knowledge in Product Design & Management. You will formulate your own individual project to showcase your creative and innovative solutions that meet real market needs in Design.

Students seeking to develop enterprise and higher level design skills can progress onto our specialist MSc Product Design Innovation as part of their career progression.

**90%**  
(UNISTATS 2015/16)

of employed students  
are in professional  
or managerial  
roles 6 months  
after graduating

**90%**  
(UNISTATS 2015/16)

of students  
agreed staff  
are good at  
explaining  
things

## Psychology BSc

### Key facts

3 year full-time/4 year (with integrated sandwich placement year).

#### UCAS codes:

BSc Psychology, 4 year (with integrated sandwich placement year) C801

BSc Psychology, 3 year full-time C800.

#### Typical offer level

ABB

Other qualifications see pages 154-155

#### Specific subject requirements

A level: Science subject(s) welcomed but not essential. General Studies accepted as a fourth subject.

GCSE: English, and two sciences or double award science, Grade C, and Maths Grade B.

### Key benefits

- ▶ Relevant professional sandwich placement opportunities
- ▶ Outstanding research quality contributes directly to undergraduate teaching
- ▶ Strong record of graduate employability
- ▶ Students can specialise in different areas of psychology through final year options.

### What are my career prospects?

Our emphasis on applied and human psychology provides an excellent springboard for careers in professional areas of psychology including occupational, educational and clinical psychology. This degree is also ideal for many careers in local and central government, social services, industry and commerce.

Our graduates have proven success in finding clinical psychology placements and are also equipped with a wide variety of transferable skills which are attractive to many potential employers.



### What will I study?

We offer a broad psychology degree but emphasise human rather than animal behaviour, as well as the real world applications of psychology. The degree programme integrates theoretical psychology, techniques of psychological investigation and major areas of applied psychology. In the first two years you will focus on theoretical aspects and develop your expertise in a broad range of research methodologies. In your final year you will concentrate on the practical application of psychological principles.

### How does it work?

#### Programme outline

##### Year 1

Approaches to Psychology; Psychology and the Brain; Abnormal Psychology; Social Psychology; Cognitive Psychology; Developmental Psychology; Research Methods and Statistics; Psychology Practicals.

##### Year 2

Individual Differences and Health; Cognitive Neuropsychology; Social Psychology; Language and Communication; Developmental Psychology; Psychological Research Methods; Cognitive Psychology; Ageing; Advanced Statistics.

#### Optional placement year or professional experience

The placement year is an opportunity for you to set your studies in context by taking a psychology placement in the UK or abroad.

#### Final year

Modules are organised in three streams each indicating a specialisation such as health and developmental psychology, clinical psychology and general psychology and include a final year project.

Please note the final year options listed are representative and can vary slightly from year to year.

Final Year Project; Auditory Perception; Mind and Brain; Neuropsychiatric Disorders; Understanding Language Impairments; Psychosis; Psychology of Illness; Individual Differences in Learning; Social Cognitive Neuroscience; Health Behaviours; Dyslexia; Brain Imaging; Music and the Brain; Affective Disorders.

### What else should I know?

#### Professional recognition

All our psychology programmes are recognised by the British Psychological Society (BPS). They are accredited as conferring eligibility for the Graduate Basis for Chartered Status provided the minimum standard of qualification of Second Class Honours is achieved. This is the first step towards becoming a Chartered Psychologist. Training in a specialised area of Psychology is then acquired through postgraduate education and supervised practice.

For more information visit [www.bps.org.uk](http://www.bps.org.uk)

92%

Overall satisfaction  
(National Student Survey 2015)



## Psychology and Business BSc (Joint Honours)

### Key facts

4 years full-time with integrated placement year.

**UCAS code:** CN81

**Typical offer level**  
ABB

Other qualifications see pages 154-155

### Specific subject requirements

AS/A Level: Science subject(s) welcomed, but not essential. General Studies accepted as a fourth subject.

GCSE: Two sciences or double award science at Grade C, English at Grade C and Maths at Grade B.

### Key benefits

- ▶ Excellent opportunity to combine two exciting fields of study
- ▶ Accredited by the British Psychological Society
- ▶ Strong record of graduate employability
- ▶ Strong industry links
- ▶ Great placement opportunities.

### What are my career prospects?

Our Psychology and Business programme prepares you for many careers in both the public and private sector – for example advertising, management consultancy, caring and social careers, human resources management or teaching. Our recent graduates have gone on to work in organisations including: BBC, Civil Service, Co-operative Bank, Deloitte, Foreign and Commonwealth Office, HSBC, IBM, Jaguar Land Rover, KPMG, local government, Marks & Spencer, the NHS, PwC and Tesco.

### What will I study?

This course looks at the practical applications of psychology and business, and the links between theory and practice. You will study the theories, principles and underlying concepts of the main functions of management, people management in particular, and develop a strong understanding of business models and processes. You will also examine how strategic decision making within organisations takes place, and develop the ability to recognise and analyse the economic, technical, financial, social and organisational parameters within which modern managers make decisions. The course is unique as you will be working side-by-side with colleagues from the School of Life and Health Sciences and Aston Business School.

### How does it work?

#### Programme outline

##### Year 1

Research Methods and Statistics; Cognitive Psychology Ia; Social Psychology I; Developmental Psychology; Introduction to Psychology; Introduction to organisational behaviour; Personal, Professional and Academic Effectiveness; Introduction to marketing management; Principles of Financial Accounting; IT for Business; Economic; Environment of Business.

##### Year 2

Advanced Statistics; Language & Communication; Psychological Research Methods; Individual Differences; Cognitive Psychology IIa; Personality Practical; Theories and Practice of HRM; Psychology & Work; Developing Creativity at Work; Effective Teamwork.

#### Placement and professional experience

All our joint honours degrees include a compulsory placement year. This is an opportunity to set your studies in context.

#### Final year

During your final year, you have the opportunity to specialise in the areas of business and psychology of particular interest and relevance to your career.

Critical Social Psychology; Cognitive Neuropsychology; Child Development; Contemporary Issues in HRM; Employee Relations and Legal Issues in HRM.

#### Choose 20 credits from the following options;

Consumer Behaviour; Advanced Consumer Behaviour; Learning Training and Development; Strategic Aspects of Organisational Performance; Theory and Practice of Leadership.

Final Year Project (Psychology).

### What else should I know?

#### Professional recognition

This course is accredited as conferring eligibility for the Graduate Membership of the British Psychological Society (BPS) provided the minimum standard of a Second Class Honours is achieved. This is the first step towards becoming a Chartered Psychologist.

On successful graduation from the programme, including successful completion of a work placement, appropriate choice of final year modules, and payment of the appropriate membership fee to the CIPD, you will be eligible to become an Associate Member of the Chartered Institute of Personnel and Development and be permitted to use the designatory letters Assoc. CIPD after your name.



## Psychology and Sociology BSc (Joint Honours)

### Key facts

4 years full-time with integrated placement year.

**UCAS code:** CL83

**Typical offer level**  
BBB

### Specific subject requirements

AS/A Level: Science subject(s) welcomed, but not essential. General Studies accepted as a fourth subject  
GCSE: Two sciences or double award Science at Grade C, English at Grade C and Maths at Grade B.

### Key benefits

- ▶ Excellent opportunity to combine two exciting fields of study
- ▶ Accredited by the British Psychological Society
- ▶ Strong record of graduate employability
- ▶ Strong industry links
- ▶ Great placement opportunities.

### What are my career prospects?

Our Psychology and Sociology graduates enter business and commercial careers, caring and social careers, teaching and local government careers and many others. The growth of the service sector puts Psychology and Sociology graduates at a premium – they have insight into motivation and behaviour and know about people, communities, relationships and group dynamics. Our graduates have excellent communication and teamwork skills, are critical and analytical, and can design, conduct, analyse and evaluate research. They have gone on to work in organisations including the Civil Service, the Police Service, local government, the NHS, Nestlé, Deloitte and IBM.

### What will I study?

This is a unique course designed to develop your sociological analysis and research skills and gain a thorough grounding in the principles and research methods of psychology. You will develop an informed understanding of the major debates shaping today's society, and cultivate a wider 'sociological imagination' of the contemporary world. You will establish foundations in sociological approaches to gender, 'race', class and sexuality. This will feed into higher level courses that deal with more complex issues including the relationship between science and 'race', reproductive politics, environmental justice and media power.

### How does it work?

#### Programme outline

##### Year 1

Research Methods and Statistics; Cognitive Psychology Ia; Social Psychology I; Developmental Psychology; Introduction to Psychology; Social Theory 1; Becoming a Social Scientist.

##### Year 2

During your second year you have six core modules, and select two elective modules.

Advanced Statistics; Language & Communication; Psychological Research Methods; Individual Differences; Cognitive Psychology IIa; Personality Practical; Social Theory 2.

Choose 40 credits from the following options  
(20 credits in each teaching period):

Global Society; Race and Racisms; CSI: Crime; Subversion and Injustice; Embodiment and Feminist Theory; Media and Society.

#### Placement and professional experience

All our joint honours degrees include a compulsory placement year. This is an opportunity to set your studies in context.

#### Final year

During your final year you have the opportunity to specialise in the areas of sociology of particular interest and relevance to your career. You will also complete core psychology modules and undertake a research project in an area of psychology of your choice.

Critical Social Psychology; Cognitive Neuropsychology; Child Development.

Choose 60 credits from the following options (normally 30 in each teaching period. \*Not all options available every year):

Health Matters; Risk, Environment and Society\*; Work, Organisations and Society\*; Racism, class and gender\*; Learning to Labour: Education and Society; Contemporary Social Movements\*; Sport and Society.

### What else should I know?

#### Professional recognition

All our Psychology programmes are recognised by the British Psychological Society (BPS). They are accredited as conferring eligibility for the Graduate Basis for Chartered Status provided the minimum standard of qualification of second class honours is achieved. This is the first step towards becoming a Chartered Psychologist. Training in a specialised area of Psychology is then acquired through postgraduate education and supervised practice.

For more information visit [www.bps.org.uk](http://www.bps.org.uk)



## Science Foundation Year

### Key facts

1 year full-time course.

**UCAS codes:** H190

Foundation Year:

### Typical offer level

We accept well-motivated and able students with a wide range of qualifications, including BTEC National Diplomas, Access Course Certificates and A Levels.

However, progression to the MPharm requires applicants to have previously studied A Level Chemistry. Offers are made on an individual basis and may require attendance at an interview.

For an informal discussion please contact Dr Michael Peters ([m.peters@aston.ac.uk](mailto:m.peters@aston.ac.uk)) or call 0121 204 3400.

### Key benefits

- ▶ The Foundation Year programme offers an insight into the exciting world of Life and Health Sciences. It is designed to help students from a wide range of backgrounds who have a passion for Science but do not have the correct entry requirements to join our undergraduate degree programmes
- ▶ Guaranteed progression onto our undergraduate programmes if you meet the appropriate progression criteria, meaning you will not have to make another UCAS application
- ▶ The opportunity to become a professional practitioner through access to our high quality degree courses.

### What are my career prospects?

Long-term demand for Life and Health scientists is high and career prospects are excellent.

### What will I study?

The Foundation Year will provide you with a year of preparatory studies specifically designed to lead into scientific disciplines. In addition to the technical subjects you will also develop the personal and professional skills required of a modern Scientist.

Your week will typically contain 18 hours of lectures, tutorials and laboratory work and you are expected to supplement this with self-study. You will be given regular feedback on your progress throughout the year. Assessment is by coursework and formal written examinations.

Successful completion of the Science Foundation Year at the appropriate grade guarantees access to the majority of our undergraduate degrees in the School of Life and Health such as:

Pharmacy	Psychology
Biology	Biomedical Engineering
Biomedical Science	Healthcare Science (Audiology)
Neuroscience	Optometry

### How does it work?

This programme consists of various modules, including maths, biology, Chemistry and Physics to provide the necessary grounding and skills to progress to the Life and Health Sciences degree programmes.

Please note that if your predicted grades fall within the range CCC-A\*A\*A\* we are happy to consider you for entry direct to the first year for any of the Life and Health Sciences degree programmes.

Students who have chosen Aston University as their first UCAS choice, but narrowly miss their grade requirements for first year entry may then be offered this Science Foundation Year programme as an alternative route to entry for our programmes.

## Social Policy BSc (Joint Honours)

### Key facts

4 year with integrated placement year/3 years full-time.

**UCAS codes:**

Politics and Social Policy L201

English Language and Social Policy LQ43

International Relations and Social Policy LL2K

Sociology and Social Policy LL24.

### Typical offer level

ABB-BBB (depending on the combination)

IB: 32-33 points

Other qualifications see pages 154-155

**Specific subject requirements**  
GCSE English Language and Maths Grade C or equivalent.

### Key benefits

- ▶ Social Policy at Aston is ranked in the Top 5 for Graduate Prospects in the 2016 Complete University Guide
- ▶ Social Policy at Aston is ranked in the Top 15 for NSS Teaching in the Guardian University Guide
- ▶ We are internationally recognised for our Policy Research
- ▶ You will develop significant transferable employment skills, such as being able to analyse data, present findings and write reports
- ▶ First class graduate employment record in the public and private sectors
- ▶ We have extensive placement year opportunities.

### What are my career prospects?

Graduates from these programmes enter a wide range of careers in the public and private sectors or undertake postgraduate research. The degree has been in existence for many years and employers are aware of the mix of policy, management and society related modules included within it.

Please visit: [www.aston.ac.uk/lss](http://www.aston.ac.uk/lss) for examples of recent graduate destinations.

**Top 15 in the UK**  
(Complete University Guide 2016)

### What will I study?

Social Policy is a multi-disciplinary programme that examines the major social welfare systems and issues facing societies and governments. The programme develops your knowledge on the nature of welfare programmes across the world, including the forces that influence government decision-making on social policies, such as globalisation, inequality and capitalism. You will also examine why and how government decisions are made, and develop a detailed understanding of social policy making processes at global, national and local levels of government.

You will also study the nature of social policy delivery and management by various organisations, such as local governments, schools and businesses. Most importantly, you will examine the outcomes and consequences of social policies and broader welfare systems on societies, including why social inequalities still persist. The programme is strongly geared towards increasing your employability, since it is designed to provide you with the knowledge and skills required of professionals working in the public, private and voluntary sectors.

### How does it work?

#### Programme outline

Your first year of study will give you an introduction to the foundations of social policy, government and the nature of the policy process, including the importance of various political, economic and social factors. You will also acquire knowledge and skills relating to the use of different research methods and the critical analysis of policies. In the second year you will examine important elements of social policy making and delivery, such as the comparative analysis of different policies, and the relationship between governments, society and the economy. In your final year you will focus on specific areas of policy such as health and education, and the nature of policy delivery.

#### Year 1

Social Problems and Public Policies A and B; Becoming a Social Scientist plus 60 credits from your second subject.

#### Year 2

**Modules include:** Global Social Policy; Economy and Society; Government, Globalisation and Money; Comparing Public Policies; Government and Management; Global Society.

#### Year 3

Optional placement year. See page 52 for details.

#### Final year

**Modules include:** Ageing, Society, and Policy; Work, Organisations and Society; Racism, Class and Gender; Health Matters: Understanding Patterns and Policies; Contemporary Social Movements; Corporate Power in a Globalised World; Sport and Society; Pregnancy and Politics; Learning to Labour: Education and Society; Religion and Society; Music and Society; International Migration and Policy; Health Policy; The Challenges of Climate Change; Kith and Kin: Family Lives in a Social Context (Final Year Version).

Options will depend on particular subject combinations since not all options are available to all Joint Honours programmes.



# Sociology

## (Single and Joint Honours)

### Key facts

4 year with integrated placement year/3 years full-time.

Sociology combined with French or Spanish is a 4 year degree programme with a compulsory year abroad

Compulsory placement year for Business and Sociology (LN31) and Psychology and Sociology (CL83.)

### UCAS codes:

Single Honours: L300

Joint Honours:

Business and Sociology LN31

Sociology and English Language LQ33

French and Sociology LR41

International Relations and Sociology LL2H

Politics and Sociology LL42

Psychology and Sociology CL83  
(See page 141)

Sociology and Social Policy LL24

Sociology and Spanish LR34.

### Typical offer level

BBB for Single Honours

ABB-BBB for Joint Honours depending on the combination

IB: 32-33 points  
(depending on the combination)

Other qualifications see pages 154-155

### Specific subject requirements

GCSE English Language and Maths  
Grade C or equivalent.

### Related Courses

Social Policy - page 143

Business and Sociology - page 70

Business Management and Public Policy  
page 72

**21st in the UK**

(Guardian University Guide 2016)

**2nd in the UK for Overall Student Satisfaction**

(Guardian University Guide 2016)

### What will I study?

Our Sociology programmes will provide you with an in-depth understanding of social processes, organisational dynamics and inter-group relationships. They combine an introduction to specific skills such as research design and use of the comparative method, with an emphasis on social change. Strengths of the programme include its focus on key contemporary social issues, social policy and decision making, and international comparisons of social structures and policies.

You will also benefit from teaching staff who are active researchers in fields such as ethnic and gender inequalities, educational policy, global change, theories of social change, health, ageing and corporate power. The fact that Aston University is distinctive in offering a placement year for our Sociology students gives them a particular edge and our students are encouraged to take up the opportunity of this valuable experience. The personal, professional and intellectual skills you acquire will prepare you for a wide range of educational and career opportunities in areas such as public and private sector management, research organisations, social work, pressure groups, charities and voluntary organisations.

### How does it work?

#### Sociology Single Honours

##### Year 1

Social Theory 1; Social Problems and Public Policies A and B; Understanding Social Divisions A and B; Becoming a Social Scientist.

##### Year 2

Social Theory 2; Research Methods 2; Global Society; Embodiment and Feminist Theory; CSI: Crime, Subversion and Injustice; Comparing Public Policies; Race and Racisms; Environmental Policy; Global Social Policy; Economy and Society; Media and Society.

##### Placement year

See page 52 for details.

##### Year 3 or 4

**Core:** Sociology Dissertation. Examples of options include: Ageing, Society, and Policy; Modern British Governance; Risk and Regulation; Risk, Environment and Society; Work, Organisations and Society; Racism, Class and Gender; Health Matters: Understanding Patterns and Policies; Contemporary Social Movements; Pregnancy and Politics; Religion and Society; Music and Society.

#### Sociology Joint Honours

Joint Honours students undertake core theory and methods modules in Year 1 and 2 and choose a number of options (see Single Honours information for list of available modules).

##### Placement year

Placement students undertake independent project work that links their experiences outside the university with their Sociology studies.

##### Year 3 or 4

**Examples of options include:** Ageing, Society, and Policy; Work, Organisations and Society; Racism, Class and Gender; Health Matters: Understanding Patterns and Policies; Contemporary Social Movements; Corporate Power in a Globalised World; Sport and Society;

Pregnancy and Politics; Learning to Labour: Education and Society; Religion and Society; Music and Society; International Migration and Policy; Health Policy; The Challenges of Climate Change; Kith and Kin: Family Lives in a Social Context (Final Year Version).

Options will depend on particular subject combinations since not all options are available to all Joint Honours programmes.

### Career prospects

Our graduates are in demand from a wide range of employers where a sound understanding of societies, organisations, institutions and communication skills are required. Career choices are also broadened by our students' choice of subjects in combination with Sociology.

Please visit: [www.aston.ac.uk/lss](http://www.aston.ac.uk/lss) for examples of recent graduate destinations.



Watch our video of Victoria Cook (BSc Business and Sociology) who is now a BBC journalist:

<http://bit.ly/VictoriaCook>



During my placement year, I worked as a Community Researcher in Birmingham where I carried out research on marginalised communities in the West Midlands. I worked with young ex-offenders and people from ethnic minorities and the transgender community. My placement was an enlightening experience, and one of the highlights of the course. I got the chance to experiment with social research in real-life situations and to gain access to closed communities. I have also been able to get involved with different societies at Aston, from debating with the Debate Society to campaigning with Amnesty International for Human Rights. The practical experience, combined with the knowledge gained at Aston, has given me the transferable skills needed in today's job market."

**Kamalpreet Singh, European Studies and Sociology BSc**

### Key benefits

- ▶ Distinctive placement year in the public or private sectors
- ▶ Sociology at Aston is ranked Top 20 for Graduate Prospects in the 2016 Complete University Guide
- ▶ Interesting and relevant curriculum: we offer courses in a range of specialisations, including 'race' and racism; gender, feminism and the body; social movements and social change; knowledge and science; globalisation; culture and the media; risk and climate change; health and illness; and work
- ▶ Excellent track record of graduate employment success
- ▶ Strong links between research and teaching.



### What will I study?

A fast-moving and rapidly-developing design sector, this course encompasses a wide range of design opportunities using a mix of technological applications and innovation with function and style. Live projects include the Formula Student racing team and Hydrogen powered Shell Concept car - design, build and race a car competing against other universities. Students are encouraged to explore the diversity of transport design, including human powered vehicles, alternative fuelled vehicles and environmental pressures that make this an exciting area of development. We have excellent placement links with the UK automotive industries as well as specialist staff involved with international research.

### How does it work?

#### Programme outline

##### Year 1

Introduction to new design skills, techniques and thinking. This busy first year will involve practical team design projects and experimentation of working prototypes. The principles of design and mechanics will run alongside creative sketching a drawing classes. The first year projects will engage you in a range of design, creativity and model making in our design workshops.

##### Year 2

Focuses on more complex projects, addressing issues of design methods, advanced manufacturing techniques and bringing a professional focus to your work. In some projects you will collaborate with other designers and begin to develop your work within your specialist design area of Transport Product Design.

##### Placement year

The 4 year placement course enables you to spend your third year in, a usually paid, professional placement gaining valuable practical experience. This is an opportunity to get hands-on experience within a professional environment, to enhance your design and CAD skills, create a useful network of contacts and possibly secure your first job after graduation.

Transport Product Design placements include positions at Nissan, Rolls Royce, BMW, Perkins and Jaguar Land Rover.

##### Final year

Defines your career focus and develops your key strengths as a transport designer. Your year long Major Project and portfolio will help define you as a capable creative professional designer with a clear vision for your future career. Visiting professional designers will work with you to enhance your skills, techniques and application of knowledge in Transport Product Design. You will formulate your own individual project to showcase your creative and innovative solutions that meet real market needs in Design.

Students seeking to develop enterprise and higher level design skills can progress onto our specialist MSc Product Design Innovation as part of their career progression.

### Key facts

3 year full-time or 4 year placement course.

**UCAS code:** H331

#### Typical offer level

A Level: ABB-BBB

BTEC National Diploma: DDD in relevant National Diploma

IB: 32 points (including a science subject at Higher Level)

Other qualifications see pages 154-155

#### Specific subject requirements

A Level: a science or technical subject

General Studies accepted

GCSE: Maths Grade B

and English Grade C.

### Key benefits

- ▶ Accredited by the Institution of Engineering Designers (IED)
- ▶ Development of creative design and modelling skills necessary for vehicle and other transport solutions
- ▶ One of the few DTUS universities with close links to officer training in the Armed Forces
- ▶ Benefit from innovative teaching using CDIO – see page 46
- ▶ Specialist Design Projects are run like a modern design consultancy
- ▶ Management and commercial focus integral to the course.

### What are my career prospects?

Our students are able to demonstrate creative design skills alongside sound technical knowledge and experience, a balance which employers consider to be an advantage. Recent graduate destinations include design or technical roles for companies including: Jaguar Land Rover, Rolls Royce, Network Rail, Nissan. Ford, Honda Research & Development and Volkswagen AG.

**90%** of employed students are in professional or managerial roles 6 months after graduating  
(UNISTATS 2015/16)

# Work-based learning

We offer undergraduate qualifications that universities and employers work together to design and deliver, enabling you to benefit from both academic and work-based learning.

Our Foundation Degree programmes involve a combination of work-based learning, lectures and online study. A full-time programme will usually take two years to complete. A Foundation Degree is a stand-alone recognised degree in its own right and is equivalent to the first two years of an Honours degree.

## Employers

Aston University has strong links with business, industry and the public sector, and we have developed Foundation Degrees with organisations such as National Grid, SSE, BMW, E.ON UK, Royal Mail, Birmingham City Council, Regional FE Colleges and the NHS. Foundation Degrees can benefit all organisations and businesses, from large multinationals to small local companies, as well as the public sector.

Your employees can:

- ▶ Study primarily in the workplace
- ▶ Work on problem-based projects aimed at resolving real-world business issues
- ▶ Develop transferable skills such as communication, team working and problem solving
- ▶ Cascade their knowledge to other colleagues
- ▶ Have increased motivation and commitment to your organisation
- ▶ Have increased confidence in applying skills and knowledge
- ▶ Progression to Bachelor's or Master's degree.

Your employee(s) will undertake work-based learning, supported by a range of online material. They will also attend lectures by block release or another arrangement that suits your organisation.

After completing a Foundation Degree, your employee can progress to the final year of a relevant full Honours degree, which will usually take a further year to complete full-time, or two to three years part-time.

For further information on our Foundation Degree or Bachelor's programmes visit [www.aston.ac.uk](http://www.aston.ac.uk)

## What will I study?

This degree programme has been designed by Aston University's School of Engineering & Applied Science in collaboration with the major electricity companies, the Sector Skills Council and partner Further Education (FE) colleges.

## How does it work?

The degree is normally completed in two years and requires attendance of 12 weeks per year, normally in two week blocks, with six modules studied in each year.

### Year 1

Provides an introduction to the basic knowledge and skills required by the electricity industry. Modules taken are: The Electricity Industry; Business Environment; Energy Transfer; Electromechanical Systems; Principles of Electrical Engineering and Engineering Mathematics.

### Year 2

Develops these skills to a more advanced and specialised level and is delivered by Aston University. Students will also apply this academic study in the workplace, through projects and other assignments.

Four pathways are available: Transmission; Distribution; Power Generation; Power System Management and Renewable Energy & Embedded Generation.

## Learning, teaching and assessment

This programme is assessed by assignments, formal lectures, tutorial classes, work-based projects and examinations.

## Key facts

2 year block release.

**Location:** First year at either Aston University or Inverness College, second year at Aston University.

## Typical offer level

GCSE Maths and English (min Grade C). Two good A Levels, preferably including Maths or Physics.

Applicants with other qualifications and/or relevant experience will also be considered.

## Progression

BEng Professional Engineering (Power Systems) on a work-based, blended distance learning basis.

## Specific requirements

Applicants must be employed in the power sector or related industry to achieve the work-based learning elements of the programme.



## Engineering Foundation Degree

### Key facts

Stages 1 and 2 are block release over two years at Aston University.

### Typical offer level

Candidates are expected to demonstrate prior knowledge and skills equivalent to BTEch NC, NVQ or similar vocational awards.

### Progression

To the BEng Professional Engineering programme on a work-based, blended distance learning basis.

### Specific requirements

Applicants must be employed in the sector in which they can achieve the work-based learning elements of the programme.

Applicants not currently in employment must secure the offer of a work placement before being admitted to this programme.

### What will I study?

This generic electrical/mechanical engineering qualification will appeal to a wide range of employers across many sectors, with a focus on the utilities with water distribution & treatment and gas transmission pathways. The programme aims to provide a thorough grounding in the principles and practice of Engineering, with relevant aspects of Business Management. It will also equip students with necessary skills for a range of technology based careers across a wide range of engineering sectors. On completion, specialist study can be acquired through the bolt on BEng (Hons) in Professional Engineering.

#### Stage 1

**Core Modules:** Business Systems for Engineers; Electro-mechanical Engineering; Principles of Electrical Engineering; Engineering Mathematics;

**Specialisms:** Electrical & Mechanical – Energy Conversion & Energy Transfer; Gas Transmission - Gas Engineering Principles; Water Distribution & Treatment - Hydraulics & Pumping Systems

At the end of Stage 1, students may be awarded a Certificate in Higher Education or proceed to Stage 2.

#### Stage 2

**Core Modules:** Data Acquisition & Control; Work Based Project; Mathematical Methods; Computer Aided Design (2D & 3D)

**Specialisms:** **Mechanical** – Thermodynamics Heat Transfer & Fluid Mechanics; Materials Technology; **Electrical** – Electrical Machines; Substations, Transformers and Circuit-Breakers; **Gas Transmission** – Elements of Gas Engineering; Materials Technology; **Water Distribution & Treatment** – Chemical Processes for the Water Industry; Water and Wastewater Treatment Principles.

At the end of Stage 2, students will be awarded a Foundation Degree in Engineering and can proceed to Stage 3 BEng (Hons) Professional Engineering.

### Learning, teaching and assessment

This programme is assessed by assignments, formal lectures, tutorial classes, work-based projects and examinations.



## Hearing Aid Audiology Foundation Degree

### Key facts

15 months full-time with integrated work-based learning.

### Typical offer level

GCSE Mathematics, English Language and Science Grade C or higher.

Applicants with non-standard university qualifications will be considered on an individual basis. Successful candidates will be required to pass an enhanced Disclosure and Barring Service check (DBS) prior to the start of the programme.

### Specific requirements

IELTS 7 overall

Applicants MUST be employed in the Audiology field.

### Typical offer level

GCSE Mathematics, English Language and Science Grade C or higher.

IELTS 7 overall

Applicants with non-standard university qualifications will be considered on an individual basis. Successful candidates will be required to pass an enhanced Disclosure and Barring Service check (DBS) prior to the start of the programme.

### Practice education

Your practice education is very important for the development of interpersonal skills such as working in clinical teams and managing time.

All our students in practice are supported by regular contact with the Director of Practice Learning to ensure successful completion of all competency requirements.

Please note that students who are in practice as part of the programme will be required to pay for DBS checks and occupational health checks.

### What will I study?

The Foundation Degree in Hearing Aid Audiology is a HCPC (Health & Care Professions Council) approved programme for professional development and graduates are eligible to apply for HCPC registration.

Audiology is a varied discipline and involves elements of biological sciences, engineering, psychology, physics, electronics, speech and language development and research.

### How does it work?

#### Stage 1

In the first stage, students are introduced to a range of basic sciences related to hearing aid audiology and adult assessment skills. They will be introduced to clinical procedures and will practice their skills in our purpose built laboratory. Students will put these skills into practice in their workplace.

#### Stage 2

In the second stage, students will build on the skills developed in the first stage. They will be introduced to topics such as Auditory Sciences, Improving Healthcare, Hearing Aids and Professional Studies and will further develop their clinical competencies as they work with patients/clients in the workplace.

### Learning, teaching and assessment

Is delivered by lectures, seminars, tutorials, group work and problem based learning, and supported by the virtual learning environment with access to a computerised patient in the Clinical Skills Laboratory. Assessments include exams, essay writing, practicals, report writing, seminars, presentations and continuous assessment in the workplace.

### What qualifications will I receive?

Graduates of the Foundation Degree in Hearing Aid Audiology are eligible to apply for registration with the Health Care Professions Council (HCPC). Graduates are able to provide hearing aid services to customers within the independent sector and/or work as an Associate Practitioner in the NHS.

Aston University's Foundation Degree in Hearing Aid Audiology has been developed in collaboration with hearing aid company employers in the independent sector and NHS Audiology colleagues in the West Midlands.

On graduating, students will also have the opportunity to continue their studies on a full time basis to obtain a BSc (Hons) Healthcare Science (Audiology).

## Logistics Foundation Degree

### Key facts

2 year block release.

**Location:** Aston University.

### Typical offer level

Prior knowledge and skills equivalent to BTEC NC, NVQ or similar vocational awards.

### Progression

To the BSc Logistics and Operations Management programme.

### Specific requirements

Applicants must be employed in a logistics business environment in which they can achieve the work-based learning elements of the programme.

### What will I study?

This course will develop an understanding of the operational and managerial processes involved. This includes procurement, movement, storage, distribution and use of resources throughout the supply chain.

You will develop the specific professional and academic skills required by logistics companies, and gain generic transferable skills which will enable you to make a valuable and long-term contribution to the industry.

### How does it work?

#### Year 1

Introduction to Logistics; Personal Development and Leading People; Continuous Improvement within Logistics; Warehousing; Data Analysis; IT Systems and Project Management.

#### Year 2

Operations Management; Supply Chain Management; Legal and Environmental Aspects; Management Accounting; Work-based Project; Inventory; Sourcing and Procurement; Retail Logistics; Transport Operations.

### Learning, teaching and assessment

This programme is assessed by assignments, formal lectures, tutorial classes, work-based projects and examinations.

## Logistics and Operations Management BSc

### Key facts

2 year work-based, blended distance learning.

**Location:** Aston University.

Regular meetings with module owners and allocated mentors are held at Aston University and in the workplace.

### Typical offer level

Admission is available to candidates from Foundation Degree programmes in Logistics, Operations Management and Supply Chain Management, or related programmes at Level 5 or higher.

Candidates are expected to demonstrate prior knowledge and skills equivalent to Foundation Degree level.

This is a top-up programme.

### Specific requirements

Applicants must be employed in a Logistics or Operations Management business environment in which they can achieve the work based learning elements of the programme and must be supported by their employer.

### What will I study?

This degree programme has been developed to give the opportunity to Foundation Degree graduates to progress to a Bachelor of Science level. The modules' content and assessment promote strategic thinking in both Logistics and Operations Management. In addition, the Final Year Project really enables students to take their academic and professional skills to a new level.

### How does it work?

#### Year 1

Multimodal Transport Management; Inventory Management; Sustainability in Logistic Activities, Lean, Agile and Competitiveness.

#### Year 2

Leadership and Human Resources Management; Financing the Supply Chain; Final Year Research Project.

### Learning, teaching and assessment

This programme is assessed by assignments, work-based projects and examinations.

## Professional Engineering (Power Systems) BEng (Hons)

### What will I study?

This course is a progression pathway and is designed to give a route from foundation degrees to a BEng (Hons). This programme provides comprehensive knowledge and practice of different aspects of the specialised areas of Power Systems Technology.

### How does it work?

Modules will be studied over the duration of the programme. There is no break in study. Modules are Professional Development Audit; Sustainable & Renewable Technologies, Elements of Power Systems I; Elements of Power Systems II; Power Electronics for Power Systems and Work-based Project.

### Learning, teaching and assessment

Learning is achieved through lecture notes, recommended reading, case studies, mini projects and a log book. Each student will be allocated two supervisors who will guide him/her through the course to successful completion.

### Progression

MSc Professional Engineering programme on a work-based distance learning basis.

### Key facts

2 or exceptionally 3 year work-based, blended distance learning. Examinations at Aston University. Regular meetings with allocated supervisors in the workplace.

### Typical offer level

Candidates from Foundation Degree programmes in Electrical Power Engineering, Power Generation and Power System Management or other related programmes at level 5 or higher. You should demonstrate prior knowledge and skills equivalent to Foundation Degree or similar awards.

240 credits required.

This is a top-up programme.

### Specific requirements

Applicants must be employed in the power sector or related industry in which they can achieve the work-based learning elements of the programme and must be supported by their employer.

## Professional Engineering BEng (Hons)

### What will I study?

The BEng (Hons) Professional Engineering degree course has been developed to give the opportunity to those engineers coming from engineering disciplines such as Electrical, Mechanical, Gas, etc. and who would like to study a more general professional engineering qualification.

### How does it work?

The programme has three core modules totalling 60 credits and elective modules from which 60 credits are chosen.

**Core Modules:** Professional Development Audit; Project Management; Work Based Project.

**Electives:** Offshore Engineering Oil & Gas; Microcontrollers; Architecture and Programming; Engineering Materials Principles; Power Systems I; Electrical Machines Construction and Performance; Health, Safety & Environment; Solid Mechanics, Vibration and Rotor Dynamics; Quality Engineering; Engineering Design Applications; Process Control and Instrumentation; Environmental Systems; Advanced Manufacturing Systems; Engineering Minerals Processing; Process Technologies for the Water Industry.

### Learning, teaching and assessment

Learning is achieved through lecture notes, recommended reading, case studies, mini projects and a log book. Each student will be allocated two supervisors who will guide him/her through the course to successful completion.

### Key facts

2 or exceptionally 3 year work-based, blended distance learning. Examinations at Aston University. Regular meetings with allocated supervisors in the workplace.

### Typical offer level

A Foundation Degree or equivalent. If you do not meet the qualification entry criteria you must produce a Portfolio of Evidence to show equivalent learning at foundation degree level.

240 credits required.

This is a top-up programme.

### Progression

MSc Professional Engineering programme, work-based distance learning.

### Specific requirements

Applicants must be employed in a relevant engineering field. Your employer must be supportive and ensure you can undertake a good range of workplace projects to build the learning needs for the BEng.

# Apply to Aston

The UCAS code is:  
**ASTON A80**

## A and AS Levels

Three subjects at A Level (A2) or equivalent are required for entry to our degree programmes. For some courses you will need specific subjects at A Level. Achievement at AS Level in Year 12 may be taken into account when making conditional offers but students who do not have AS results will not be disadvantaged.

Additional A/AS subjects above the standard 3-4 qualifications may also be taken into account when making offers and at results confirmation.

## 'Old' and 'New' A Levels

We appreciate that some students may apply to the University with a mix of old and new style A Levels. We would not discriminate between different years/style.

## A Level and GCSE

A Levels and other qualifications are changing from 2015, relevant to 2017 entry. Aston has produced a briefing sheet for teachers, advisers and Heads/Principals about our planned policy towards changes to A Levels and GCSEs. We have consulted colleagues here at Aston and in a number of key feeder schools/colleges across the sector in producing our guidance. Further information at [www.aston.ac.uk/teachers](http://www.aston.ac.uk/teachers)

## Applied A Levels

A Single Award Applied A Level in place of a third A Level subject will be considered for all programmes. A relevant Applied A Level double award plus one relevant A Level will normally be acceptable, except for some programmes in the School of Life & Health Sciences.

## UCAS tariff

Some Admissions Tutors may use the UCAS points system or 'tariff' but we do not normally make offers based just on UCAS points. There will normally be a stipulation of particular grades at A Level, BTEC Nationals or other qualifications in the tariff. Where points offers are made they will specify the exact types of qualifications from which the points can be gained, depending on how many units are being taken. The UCAS tariff is available from [www.ucas.com](http://www.ucas.com)

## Entry requirements and admissions policy 2017 entry

UCAS forms are considered by the Admissions Tutor. If you are made a conditional/unconditional offer you will be invited to an Applicant Visit Day where you can meet staff, students and see the campus. When making offers the criteria include:

- ▶ Past performance: e.g. AS and GCSE grades
- ▶ School/college reference
- ▶ Predicted grades
- ▶ Evidence of commitment and motivation via the Personal Statement
- ▶ Relevant experience
- ▶ Extenuating circumstances
- ▶ Interview performance (if required).

Aston University makes conditional offers to the vast majority of UCAS applicants each year (typically 80%) including many students who are predicted to achieve one or two grades lower than our entry requirements. We would encourage students whose predicted and expected grades are close to those stated in Aston's entry requirements to apply to Aston as one of their five UCAS choices.

## GCSE

All programmes require a minimum of Grade C GCSE in Mathematics and English, some programmes will ask for a Grade B in these subjects.

## BTEC National and other Diplomas

Applicants are normally required to achieve a minimum of DDD in the BTEC Extended Diploma (QCF). In addition, some courses may specify a particular number of units at Distinction. Applications with a mix of BTEC and A Levels or other qualifications are welcomed. Demonstration of breadth of study is preferred. Full details of entry requirements can be found on our website.

## Scottish and Irish qualifications

Aston regularly receives and welcomes applications from Scotland and Ireland for all our degree programmes. As a guide, UCAS tariff points required for A Levels will normally equate to similar points from Scottish and Irish Highers.

## International Baccalaureate and other qualifications

We welcome applications from other qualifications, including the International Baccalaureate and a wide range of international qualifications – contact the relevant Admissions Tutor for further information.

## Access courses

Aston University is a member of the Open College Network (OCN). We accept applications from Access Course students at colleges that are members of OCN, or from any other QAA-accredited Access Course. Offer levels vary depending on the course you are taking, the subject you are applying to and your own qualifications and experience, but most courses will require a number of credits to be achieved at Merit and/or Distinction.

## English Language

English Language at GCSE Grade A\*-C, or Scottish Certificate of Education, or an equivalent English qualification. Further details of acceptable English Language qualifications for foundation programmes are given on pages 36-37. To be accepted onto a programme of study international students must be able to satisfy the University's English language requirements. The level required will depend on the programme applied for.

Full details can be found at [www.aston.ac.uk/english-language-requirements](http://www.aston.ac.uk/english-language-requirements)

## Mature students

We encourage applications from mature students and consider each application on individual merits. You should provide evidence of successful study in relevant subjects or relevant professional qualifications and/or experience.

Aston has a thriving Mature Students' Society with its own common room in the Students' Union and services offering advice, guidance and support, both academic and personal. If you need child care our nursery caters for children up to school age, and half-term and summer holiday clubs are open to children up to 11 years of age.

## Deferred entry accepted

We recognise the advantages of a gap year and our Admissions Tutors will be happy to discuss deferred entry with you. If you want to apply to Aston but defer entry until October 2018, you should indicate this on your UCAS form. You will usually be considered on the same basis as applicants for 2017 entry and receive correspondence from UCAS and Aston during the application timetable for 2017 entry.

For a full list of our entry requirements please visit: [www.aston.ac.uk/entryrequirements](http://www.aston.ac.uk/entryrequirements)

## Schools and Colleges Liaison

We are delighted to host groups of teachers or careers advisers wishing to look around the University. You can meet lecturers, Admissions Tutors and Schools and Colleges Liaison staff to discuss any aspects of Higher Education, UCAS applications or the University. Each January we hold an Admissions Conference for teachers and careers advisers where you can network with other HE professionals and meet our staff and students. Contact Schools and Colleges Liaison for details of other events held during the year.

Representatives of Aston University attend local and national UCAS Higher Education Fairs and Exhibitions. These events present the opportunity for students to talk to someone from Aston about our various degree programmes, the University and Higher Education in general.

We can give presentations to students and parents including general talks about Aston University, the UCAS system, life at university, or more specialist subject talks given by a member of academic staff. Speakers can be provided for staff training days or parents' evenings as well as for groups of school or college students. Services are free of charge.

We organise a programme of events aimed at providing a taster of university life and study at university, including activities designed to enrich the post-16 curriculum. Over 4,000 school/college students visit Aston University for these activities each year.

Aston also attends events and fairs across Europe and the World via the International Office.

## Useful links ▶

[www.aston.ac.uk/international](http://www.aston.ac.uk/international)  
[www.aston.ac.uk/masterclasses](http://www.aston.ac.uk/masterclasses)  
[www.aston.ac.uk/parents](http://www.aston.ac.uk/parents)  
[www.aston.ac.uk/schliaison](http://www.aston.ac.uk/schliaison)  
[www.aston.ac.uk/teachers](http://www.aston.ac.uk/teachers)

## Contact

Schools and Colleges Liaison,  
Aston University, Aston Triangle,  
Birmingham, B4 7ET

T: 0121 204 4771

E: [schliaison@aston.ac.uk](mailto:schliaison@aston.ac.uk)

To apply, visit: ▶

[www.ucas.com/apply](http://www.ucas.com/apply)

E: [ugenquiries@aston.ac.uk](mailto:ugenquiries@aston.ac.uk)



## Content of this Prospectus

The information contained in this Prospectus is relevant for applications to undergraduate programmes in the academic session September 2017 – June 2018. Whilst information in this prospectus is correct at the time of going to press (February 2016), Aston University does not guarantee its accuracy or completeness and information in this Prospectus may differ from information that is issued to applicants as part of an offer.

## Terms 2017-2018

### Aston Welcome Week

International Orientation  
Week – 13 September 2017

Freshers' Week –  
18 September 2017

### First Term

24 September to  
16 December 2017

### Second Term

7 January to 24 March 2018

### Third Term

30 April to 10 June 2018\*

\*Term 3 begins with a revision  
week followed by examinations

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