

United Kingdom - IP Bulletin 2009-10

(4/30/2009)

Introduction

The IP Bulletin is the International Programs "catalog" and provides academic information about the program in the UK.

General Information

The program in the United Kingdom is affiliated with six institutions: University of Bradford, University of Bristol, University of Hull, Kingston University, University of Sheffield and Swansea University. CSU students apply to an academic program in general rather than to a specific institution. The Office of International Programs reviews each student's file and placement is made based on the student's academic needs and preparation as well as programmatic considerations.

Students are selected for a particular field of study and expected to take all of their courses in that field of study during their year abroad. The fields of study in which students were placed in 2009-10 are:

Archaeology (Bradford, Bristol, Sheffield)
Biology (Bristol, Hull)
Business Studies (Bradford, Hull, Kingston)
Chemistry (Bradford, Kingston)
Classics (Bristol, Swansea)
Computer Science (Bradford, Kingston)
Drama (Hull)
Economics (Bristol, Kingston, Swansea)
Engineering (Bradford, Kingston)
Geography and Environmental Science (Bradford, Bristol, Kingston)
History (Bristol, Hull, Sheffield, Swansea)
Literature (Hull, Sheffield, Swansea)
Music (Kingston)
Philosophy (Bristol, Hull)
Physics (Swansea)
Political Science (Bradford, Bristol, Hull, Kingston, Swansea)
Psychology (Bristol, Swansea)
Sociology (Bristol, Kingston)
Theology and Religious Studies (Bristol)

Academic Calendar

There are some variations in the actual dates of semesters in British universities, but in most the first semester begins in mid-to-late-September with a three-week break at Christmas. The second semester usually commences in early February with a three-week break at Easter. The traditional UK academic calendar of three terms has largely been replaced by two fifteen-week semesters. Most courses are now "semesterized" although some still run for an academic year.

Academic Advising

In planning a course of study in the United Kingdom, it is useful to have a basic understanding of the structure and practices of the British higher education system. English and Welsh universities offer three- or four-year undergraduate degree programs. The three-year program ("course" in British terms) is usually referred to simply as a bachelor's degree course. Four-year degree courses, "honors" degrees, are designed to prepare the student for graduate study.

During the three or four years of study for the undergraduate degree, the British student takes courses ("modules") in his or her field of study. "General education," as it is understood in the United States is unknown in the British degree structure. Thus, the British student covers a field of study in great detail, spending two to three times as long in concentrated study as does the typical American undergraduate. It is

not surprising, therefore, to find American seniors taking second year subjects in the UK, or to find American graduate students pursuing third and fourth year British undergraduate subjects.

Instruction takes place in varying formats, from large-scale lectures to small seminars to individual tutorials. CSU students will find that they spend fewer hours in class than in California, but that they will be expected to do substantial amounts of background reading in order to follow lectures. They may also find more of an emphasis on writing, and that British universities have high standards for student writing skills.

In the traditional British system, subjects typically ran for the entire year rather than by semester or quarter, although there were exceptions. While the American system tends to break a course of study down into ever smaller and more specialized parts, the British system tended to have a holistic approach to a study topic, maintaining both scope and depth. However, British higher education has undergone a process of change. In order to accommodate a larger number of university-age students and to open access to groups formerly underrepresented in higher education, institutions have converted to "modular" curricula as well as semesterization of the modules. In addition, modules have been assigned credit values to meet the needs of European and American universities.

As the British degree course is organized typically into set segments for each year or each semester, the method of enrolling in courses is much different from in America where students can mix and match courses in a variety of ways as long as they ultimately meet the specified degree requirements. While the British student will be taking entirely first, second or third year modules, visiting CSU students may find themselves enrolling in different levels.

Students should be aware that there is a distinction between first, second and third year modules. First year modules are usually introductory courses and taken by students in their first year of university study. Depending on course content, these are generally considered lower division courses. Second and third year modules are more advanced and considered equivalent to upper division courses.

CSU students in the United Kingdom program are expected to follow a curriculum within a single academic area in which they have been selected unless they are permitted to do otherwise by the Office of International Programs and the host university. CSU students will enroll in the number of modules which constitutes a full-time study schedule, normally 120 credit points for the year, and will conform to the academic guidance of their host institution advisors. Courses shown in this document have been converted from the host university's credit system to CSU semester-unit values, and all students are required to enroll in a minimum of 15 units each semester.

The following is a table which provides the CSU unit value equivalencies for courses taken in the UK:

Bradford, Bristol, Hull, Sheffield, Swansea	
Course Equivalent (based on semester semester system)	Minimum CSU Courseload Requirement per Semester
10 credits = 3 CSU units 15 credits = 4 CSU units 20 credits = 5 CSU units	All CSU students are required to take the equivalent of 15 CSU units (minimum) per semester, for example: Five 10-credit courses = 50 credits = 15 CSU units Three 20-credit courses = 60 credits = 15 CSU units Four 15-credit courses = 60 credits = 16 CSU units
Kingston	
3 credits = 3 CSU units 4 credits = 4 CSU units 5 credits = 6 CSU units	All CSU students are required to take the equivalent of 15 CSU units (minimum) per semester.

For CSU students attending a quarter-based campus: To convert the value of CSU semester units into CSU quarter units, multiply the CSU semester units by 1.5.

Note that the above table applies to academic courses taken at the host university (e.g. Humanities, Sciences, Social or Applied Sciences) and does not apply to some subject areas, e.g. recreation, sports and exercise classes, music instruction, film production, or studio art courses.

Academic Reporting

The OIP will use a special course designation number when reporting courses to CSU campuses. This will allow the student to receive CSU resident credit in the subject area in which the course was taught. The title of the course taken will also be reported to the CSU campus and posted to the student's CSU academic record. This method of reporting means that students will need to furnish course descriptions, syllabi and other course materials to their home campus advisors in order to apply for credit towards specific degree (major, minor or general education) requirements. Students should expect to complete campus-based forms (petitions or course substitution requests) with the assistance of their advisor(s). If courses are not needed

for specific degree requirements, then it is usually not necessary to complete any other forms at your campus.

Academic Program

All students, regardless of the university they are attending, are required to take:

- the equivalent of 15-16 CSU units EACH semester (but no more than 18 units per semester).
- three to five courses (depending on the unit values of courses) within the approved area of study in which they were placed EACH semester, following the same general plan as their British counterparts.

If permitted by their host university, students may take one elective course outside of the area for which they were selected each semester.

Course Offerings

Students are encouraged to consult the university's websites for specific course offerings, keeping in mind that CSU students are limited to the disciplines in which they were placed, and sometimes to courses for international students.

Admission to courses is subject to availability, approval of the host university and the particular department's prerequisites.

University of Bradford

The University of Bradford is a traditional university, established by Royal Charter in 1966. The City is located in the north of England on the outskirts of the Yorkshire Dales and historically was a famous textile centre, which has preserved many of its old Victorian buildings. The main campus is modern and situated within five minutes walking distance from the city centre, providing first-class academic facilities, guaranteed accommodation to all new students and a full range of social and sporting amenities. The School of Management is situated in its own attractive parkland site three kilometres away with on-site facilities. There are approx 10,500 students studying at Bradford with 20% of students from over 110 countries. Visitors to the city often comment on how friendly the local residents are, and this atmosphere continues when you get to the university campus. The mixture of people from different backgrounds, faiths, nationalities and ages creates a vibrant community atmosphere where students from across the globe form lifelong friendships. The University offers a mix of unique and traditional courses and continues to build on academic excellence and "Making Knowledge Work" inspiring students to study here.

At the University of Bradford, there are three levels of courses (known as "modules"): level 1, level 2, and level 3. Generally, level 1 modules are considered lower division courses (depending on course content). Levels 2 and 3 are more advanced and are considered upper division courses. Level 3 modules will expect higher academic skills than level 2, and assume a wider range of experience on which the student can draw. The level of the module can be found on the "module descriptor". Most CSU students who have taken several lower division courses in their major will take level 2 modules as these will usually be the ones that are the most compatible with upper division coursework at the students' home campuses.

CSU students are admitted to study in the following areas:

- Archaeology
- Business Studies
- Chemistry
- Engineering
- Geography and Environmental Science
- Political Science

Below is a table containing areas of study and the corresponding departments at Bradford in which students can take courses subject to the conditions stated under "Course Offerings".

Areas of study	Relevant courses can be found in the following departments:
Archaeology	Archaeological Sciences (AR)
Business Studies	School of Management (MAN)
Chemistry	Chemical and Forensic Sciences (CF)
Engineering	Engineering (ENG)

Geography and Environmental Science	Environmental Science (EN)
Political Science	Peace Studies (PE)

A list of courses (or modules) can be found on the web at < <http://sivr.admin.brad.ac.uk/modsearch.htm> > . Enter the two or three letter Module Code in the 'Search' field.

University of Bristol

The University of Bristol dates from 1876 and is located near the center of the port city of Bristol in southwest England. Bristol is firmly established as one of the premier universities in the United Kingdom, and has a worldwide reputation for its academic achievement and research. The University is housed in a combination of historical and modern buildings, and enrolls about 13,000 students.

At the University of Bristol course codes are made up of four letters and five digits, for example GEOG 25040. The letters indicate the subject area. The first digit indicates whether the course (or "unit" as it is referred to at Bristol) is first, second or third level for regular Bristol students. Generally, level 1 (designed as Level C) units are considered lower division courses (depending on course content). Levels 2 (designed as Level I) and 3 (designed as Level H) are more advanced and are considered upper division courses. Level 3 units will expect higher academic skills than level 2, and assume a wider range of experience on which the student can draw. Most CSU students who have taken several lower division courses in their major will take Level 2 units as these will usually be the ones that are the most compatible with upper division coursework at the students' home campuses.

CSU students are admitted to study in the following areas:

- Archaeology
- Biology
- Classics
- Economics
- Environmental Science and Geography
- History
- Philosophy
- Political Science
- Psychology
- Sociology
- Theology and Religious Studies

Below is a table containing areas of study and the corresponding departments at Bristol in which students can take courses subject to the conditions stated under "Course Offerings". Each semester, students are expected to take ALL courses in the area in which they were selected except for ONE course each semester, which may be a course from another area.

Areas of study	Relevant courses can be found in the following faculties and departments:
Archaeology	Faculty of Arts: Department of Archaeology & Anthropology
Biology	Faculty of Science: School of Biological Sciences
Classics	Faculty of Arts: Department of Classics & Ancient History
Economics	Faculty of Social Sciences and Law: School of Economics, Finance and Management
Environmental Science and Geography	Faculty of Science: School of Geographical Sciences
History	Faculty of Arts: Department of Historical Studies
Philosophy	Faculty of Arts: Department of Philosophy
Political Science	Faculty of Social Sciences and Law: Department of Politics
Psychology	Faculty of Science: Department of Experimental Psychology

Sociology	Faculty of Social Sciences and Law: Department of Sociology
Theology and Religious Studies	Faculty of Arts: Department of Theology and Religious Studies

For a list of courses (or units), refer to the "Unit Catalogue" at <<https://www.bris.ac.uk/esu/unitprogcats/AboutUnits.jsa>>. Click on the faculty of the area under which you were selected, Click on the department to obtain a list of courses offered.

University of Hull

Edward I gave Kingston upon Hull its Royal Charter in 1299; that title is still used although the city is normally referred to simply as Hull. Hull became Britain's premier east coast port in the 12th century and consolidated its position with the Industrial Revolution.

Founded as a University College in 1927, the university sits on some 94 acres in modern buildings, three miles north of the city center. The university enrolls around 13,500 students, with 10 percent international students from over 100 countries. Hull has built up a strong reputation for quality teaching and has long been known as "the friendly university." While the University has a satellite campus in Scarborough, CSU students attend the Hull campus.

At the University of Hull, there are three levels of undergraduate courses (call "modules"): level 4, level 5 and level 6. Generally, level 4 modules are introductory courses and considered lower division courses (depending on course content). Levels 5 and 6 are more advanced and are considered upper division courses. Level 6 modules will expect higher academic skills than level 5, and assume a wider range of experience on which the student can draw. The level of the modules is included in the module description which can be found at <<http://www.hull.ac.uk/international/>> under "Exchange and Study Abroad", "Incoming Students", "Module Information". If you are a junior or a senior, bear in mind that level 6 modules are by Hull students in their final year of study. Most CSU students who have taken several lower division courses in their major will take Level 5 modules as these will usually be the ones that are the most compatible with upper division coursework at the students' home campuses.

CSU students are admitted to study in the following areas:

- Biology
- Business Studies
- Drama
- History
- Literature
- Philosophy
- Political Science

Below is a table containing areas of study and the corresponding departments at Hull in which students can take courses subject to the conditions stated under "Course Offerings". Each semester, students are expected to take ALL courses in the area in which they were selected except for ONE course each semester, which may be a course from another area.

Areas of study	Relevant courses can be found in the following departments:
Biology	Department of Biological Sciences
Business Studies	Business School
Drama	Department of Drama and Music
History	Department of History
Literature	Department of English
Philosophy	Humanities
Political Science	Department of Politics and International Studies

To find course information, go to <http://www.hull.ac.uk/international/exchange/incoming/moduleinfo.html> and download the "module information guide" and read the guide with the "course details". To obtain a list of courses, go to <<http://www.courses.hull.ac.uk/>> . For "Session", click on "09/10 Standard Session". For "Search", click on "Modules (Exchange Students)", For "Location", click on "Hull Campus Only". For "Department", click on the department through which you will take your courses (see above table). Then, click on "Search".

Kingston University

Kingston University is located in the suburban city of Kingston upon Thames, some 12 miles southwest of London, which can be reached in 25 minutes by commuter train. The University consists of four campuses connected by a free bus service. Approximately 19,000 students attend the institution.

At Kingston University, course codes are made up of two letters and four digits, for example EL1148. The letters indicate the subject area. The first digit indicates whether the course (or "module" as it is referred to at Kingston) is first, second or third level for regular Kingston University students. Generally, level 1 modules are considered lower division courses (depending on course content). Levels 2 and 3 are more advanced and are considered upper division courses. Level 3 modules will expect higher academic skills than level 2, and assume a wider range of experience on which the student can draw. If you are a junior or a senior, bear in mind that level 3 modules are taken by Kingston students in their final year of study. Most CSU students who have taken several lower division courses in their major will take Level 2 modules (those with course codes AB2xxx, such as MD2138) as these will usually be the ones that are the most compatible with upper division coursework at the students' home campuses.

CSU students are admitted to study in the following areas:

- Business Studies
- Chemistry
- Computer Science
- Economics
- Engineering
- Music
- Sociology

Below is a table containing areas of study and the corresponding departments at Kingston in which students can take courses subject to the conditions stated under "Course Offerings". Each semester, students are expected to take ALL courses in the area in which they were selected except for ONE course each semester, which may be a course from another area.

Areas of study	Relevant courses can be found in the following faculties and departments:
Business Studies	Business and Law: Business Studies
Chemistry	Science: Chemistry
Computer Science	Computing, Information Systems and Mathematics: Computing and information systems
Economics	Business and Law: Economics
Engineering	Engineering
Music	Arts and Social Sciences: Music and Music Technology
Sociology	Arts and Social Sciences: Sociology

While most courses are semesterized, most business and some engineering and Music courses are year-long.

A four-unit course on British Life and Culture is available to all visiting students at Kingston. Lectures are given on various aspects of British life, culture and history followed by visits to places of special interest including Oxford, Bath, Stonehenge, Greenwich, the Globe Theatre, and Parliament. In addition to the lectures and fieldtrips, student must write essays on fieldtrips and a research essay and complete a final examination. Involves travel costs and admission fees of approximately £80.

A list of courses (or modules) can be found on the web at <http://www.kingston.ac.uk/studyabroadandexchangeprogrammes/study-abroad-students/studying-at-kingston/class-listings/> >. If you are unable to find course information, you can request a syllabus by sending an email to: sa-info@kingston.ac.uk>.

University of Sheffield

The University of Sheffield was formed in 1905 by the amalgamation of three institutions founded early in the previous century. The campus is located to the west of the city of Sheffield which, despite being the fifth

largest city in England, is surrounded by rural countryside and often referred to as the largest village in England. The university enrolls about 22,000 students, making it one of the larger British universities. It is also among the most popular and competitive universities in Britain.

At the University of Sheffield, course codes are made up of three letters and three digits, for example APP200. The letters indicate the subject area. The first digit indicates whether the course (or “module” as it is referred to at Sheffield) is first, second or third level for regular Sheffield students. Generally, level 1 modules are considered lower division courses (depending on course content). Levels 2 and 3 are more advanced and are considered upper division courses. Most CSU students who have taken several lower division courses in their major will take level 2 modules as these will usually be the ones that are the most compatible with upper division coursework at the students’ home campuses.

CSU students are admitted to study in the following areas:

- Archaeology
- History
- Literature

Below is a table containing areas of study and the corresponding departments at Sheffield in which students can take courses subject to the conditions stated under “Course Offerings”. Each semester, students are expected to take ALL courses in the area in which they were selected except for ONE course each semester, which may be a course from another area.

Areas of study	Relevant courses can be found in the following departments:
Archaeology	Archaeology
History	History
Literature	English Literature

A list of courses (or modules) can be found on the web at <http://www-online.shef.ac.uk:3001/pls/live/web_cal.cal3_dept_form?p_year=08> under “Directory of Modules”. Note that a list of courses offered in 2009-10 was not available at the time of this publication was printed. Course listings for 2009-10 should be posted on the web by the end of June, if not sooner.

Swansea University

At Swansea University, course codes are made up of two to three letters followed by three or four digits, for example PO1158. The letters indicate the subject area. The first digit indicates whether the course (or “module” as it is referred to at Swansea) is first, second or third level course for regular Swansea students. Generally, level 1 modules are considered lower division courses (depending on course content). Levels 2 and 3 are more advanced and are considered upper division courses. Level 3 courses will expect higher academic skills than level 2, and assume a wider range of experience on which the student can draw. For juniors, bear in mind that level 3 modules are taken by Swansea students in their final year of study. Most CSU students who have taken several lower division courses in their major will take level 2 modules as these will usually be the ones that are the most compatible with upper division coursework at the students’ home campus.

CSU students are admitted to study in the following areas:

- Classics
- Economics
- History
- Literature
- Physics
- Political Science
- Psychology

Below is a table containing areas of study and the corresponding departments at Sheffield in which students can take courses subject to the conditions stated under “Course Offerings”. Each semester, students are expected to take ALL courses in the area in which they were selected except for ONE course each semester, which may be a course from another area.

Areas of study	Relevant courses can be found in the following departments:
Classics	Classics, Ancient History and Egyptology

Economics	Economics
History	History
English Literature	English
Physics	Physics
Political Science	Politics and International Relations
Psychology	Psychology

A list of courses (or modules) can be found on the web at <https://intranet.swan.ac.uk/catalogue/default.asp> as part of the "Online Module Catalogue".