



Programme Specification

Economics {Foundation} [Frenchay]

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Section 1: Key Programme Details

Part A: Programme Information

Programme title: Economics {Foundation} [Frenchay]

Highest award: BA (Hons) Economics

Interim award: BA Economics

Interim award: DipHE Economics

Interim award: CertHE Economics

Awarding institution: UWE Bristol

Teaching institutions: UWE Bristol

Study abroad: No

Year abroad: Yes

Sandwich year: Yes

Credit recognition: No

School responsible for the programme: CBL Bristol Business School, College of Business and Law

Professional, statutory or regulatory bodies:

Chartered Institute of Management Accountants (CIMA)

Modes of delivery: Full-time, Sandwich

Entry requirements: For the current entry requirements see the UWE public website.

For implementation from: 01 September 2018

Programme code: L10F13

Section 2: Programme Overview, Aims and Learning Outcomes

Part A: Programme Overview, Aims and Learning Outcomes

Overview: The BA(Hons) Economics has been designed to allow students to acquire the skills and intellectual attributes associated with employment or further study as an economist.

Features of the programme: This degree is distinctive in terms of the heterodox curriculum; UWE economics can boast to be one of only a handful of truly pluralistic economic departments in the country, and the degree to which employability is embedded at the heart of the educational provision.

The programme's syllabus is shaped by the subject group's commitment to pluralism. From Level 4 students are introduced to the different schools of thought found in economics and the range of research methodologies associated with these different approaches to economic understanding. The course provides a solid grounding in economic research, all within the broader social and political context shaping today's world. Importantly, this course provides students with the research techniques used by government, firms and academics and underpins postgraduate study.

The programme has been designed for students to see themselves as undergraduates training to become economists, rather than students learning about economics. The programme prepares students to work as professional economist in a wide range of organisations, ranging across the private sector, the third sector (including trade bodies and charities), and the public sector.

In particular the programme has fostered close links with the Government Economic Service (GES), the single largest employer of economists in the UK. Students from the programme have a history of success of securing both placements and fast stream jobs with the GES after graduation.

The overarching aim of the Faculty's Learning Teaching and Assessment Strategy is 'to maximise student achievement (both in relation to award classification and to

employability) and student satisfaction whilst maintaining appropriately rigorous academic standards and supporting the university's vision of becoming an inclusive and welcoming learning community, actively engaged with global society and based on values of mutual respect, critical engagement and self-awareness'.

The supporting objectives of the strategy are the:

Further development of intellectually vibrant, highly reflective, mutually respectful and diverse student and staff learning communities within the Faculty

Increase in the use of links with the world external to UWE (including professional accreditation where possible) to inform curriculum design and delivery and provide lifelong learning opportunities

Provision of an effective, efficient and supportive infrastructure for learning (organisation and management of programmes, student advice, communication with students etc)

Appropriate design and flexible delivery of curricula which provide an intellectually stimulating learning experience enabling students to develop as highly employable and internationally aware lifelong learners

Provision of effective support for students making the transition to learning at UWE

Provision of effective and ongoing developmental support for all staff

Use of effective strategies for assessment for learning

Educational Aims: The undergraduate Economics provision at UWE, Bristol aims to help students become practical economists with the necessary skills to enter into a wide variety of jobs in the banking, financial, government and international community. Focus will be placed on the ability to analyse economic, financial and business information and provide answers as to what is happening and crucially what is expected to happen in the future. The degree will have a strong theoretical

component as well as focusing on real-world issues, such as inter-generational sustainability and global growth, that allow you to use a range of different methods and theories to understand these issues more deeply. You will use quantitative and qualitative methods, ways of thinking and analysing which you will learn to combine to provide the most apt solution to any economic problem. You will develop communication and presentation skills so you are able to tell coherent stories about complex issues to a variety of audiences. At UWE we draw on cutting edge economic knowledge based on our own research and scholarly activities and apply this to the real world.

By their final year, students will be equipped by their first two years of study (which may be further enhanced by the opportunity to complete a work placement) to undertake both integrative and specialist subjects, and to complete an independent research-based piece of work of their choosing within the field of Economics. The programme's philosophy is underpinned by a commitment to developing students as independent autonomous learners who can analyse a range of social and economic problems. This provides them with flexibility of opportunity on successful completion of their degree either to study economics at postgraduate level or to use their in-depth knowledge of economics in a whole range of occupations.

The programme also aims to support the UWE Bristol widening participation strategy by enabling students to undertake a foundation year before progressing to level one of the programme. All students will be required to take one of a group of modules at level three which have a particular emphasis on the development of graduate attributes embedded in experiential activity which is CV enhancing and “real world”, engaging students beyond the campus. This group of modules includes the sandwich placement module and the study year abroad module.

Programme Learning Outcomes:

On successful completion of this programme graduates will achieve the following learning outcomes.

Knowledge and Understanding

- A1. Economic concepts and principles
- A2. Economic theory and modelling
- A3. Quantitative methods and computing techniques
- A4. Sources and context of economic data and evidence;
- A5. Economic reasoning
- A6. Specialised areas of economics
- A7. Economic problems and solutions
- A8. The relevance of the disciplines of law, economics, accounting, business and management to professional life.
- A9. Global citizenship
- A10. Social and economic consequences of economic growth
- A11. Social justice, ethics and wellbeing
- A12. Intergenerational economic implications

Intellectual Skills

- B1. Model a problem
- B2. Analyse and reason
- B3. Review and evaluate evidence
- B4. Communicate results
- B5. Be critically aware of the limits of economics
- B6. Construct economic policy

Subject/Professional Practice Skills

- C1. Abstraction
- C2. Analysis, deduction and induction
- C3. Quantification and design

C4. Framing

Transferable Skills and other attributes

- D1. Communicate
- D2. Use numeracy
- D3. Use information technology (IT)
- D4. Use Excel
- D5. Work as a team
- D6. Self-manage
- D7. Learn to learn

Assessment strategy: Assessment strategy to enable the learning outcomes to be achieved and demonstrated:

Besides the traditional exam, all modules include a coursework component with elements that range from the traditional essay, dissertations and projects to group work tasks and presentations, individual presentations, online tests (formative and summative), vivas and debates. Many of these assessments rely on students developing skills relevant to their future employability (e.g. team work, and competence in generic and specific IT software). There is a strong focus on quantitative analysis, the capacity to research effectively and to present information in both written verbal forms. Problem solving , reflection and applied learning are also important to fulfilling the programme learning outcomes.

The syllabus for many modules (where relevant) exposes our students to a range of global issues. In terms of creating open-minded, reflective, and inter-dependant learners, many of the topics covered in modules oblige students to reassess their own values and perceptions; more generally, the subject group promote the concept of the reflective practitioner and the collegiate tradition of discussion and cooperation.

Second marking is practiced across all levels to maintain academic integrity, in line with the assessment cycle policy for coursework. Module leaders use a variety of methods including online double blind marking and pre-standardisation.

Student support: Student learning is fully supported by UWE Library Services through extensive print and electronic resources and a variety of learning spaces. Additional support is provided through the library by means of information and academic skills sessions and self-directed online tutorials available via the University Study Skills website, supported by the online library enquiry service. There is excellent access to electronic resources both on and off campus, facilitated by the extensive student computing network and Wi-Fi.

Computers are equipped with a number of specific programmes for economics such as EViews and Stata, as well as the standard Microsoft office packages. Students have access to the Bloomberg database in the fully equipped Trading Room.

The Faculty offers study support through the Academic Success Centre and many classrooms are equipped for technology enhanced learning activities. All modules are supported by the Blackboard Virtual Learning Environment.

All students are assigned a progress coach who can advise on all aspects of development and module and programme leaders hold office hours for consultation.

Student Services Student Advisors provide timely, accurate and confidential advice where necessary on all aspects of the provision, for example coursework and examination arrangements, extenuating circumstances procedures, progression counselling, as well as personal issues such as problems with studying or meeting deadlines, financial matters, ill health and so on, including when relevant how to access the wider support provided by the University. This service is supported by extensive online resources.

Students and graduates are supported by UWE Careers who help them to access skills, experience and knowledge to improve their employability prospects. The

service provides high quality and professional advice and guidance focusing on enabling them to take control of and responsibility for their own career planning and progression/development.

Students can access support around finding vacancies for work experience, volunteering, part time work and internships, as well as events and workshops. UWE Careers provides recruiter facing services including advertising graduate job vacancies, work experience and volunteering opportunities, and running both undergraduate and graduate internship schemes. There are also part time jobs advertised by the Student Union Jobshop.

There is specialist support for international students including specific resources developed for a range of countries where students are recruited from. Students are introduced to the service during the induction to the course and are encouraged to use the service all through their undergraduate programme and for three years after graduation.

All students take part in Starting Block, an Induction programme at the start of their studies.

All new students are provided with a short Student Handbook to help them through their first weeks at university and to act as a guide to the complex information environment in which they now find themselves.

Together with the student portal myUWE, the university's Essential Student Information web pages provide support and the more detailed and up to date information to students. An important part of the programme is the involvement of students.

Two or three student representatives are elected to serve on the Student Representatives and Staff Forum meetings that are held each term to discuss issues raised by students in relation to their experience of studying at UWE and on the programme. The meetings are arranged by cluster group and are chaired by programme leaders. The aim of the meetings is to discuss issues raised by students

in an open and friendly atmosphere so that students feel able to contribute openly and honestly about their experiences. Any issues raised are taken forward by programme leaders. Where appropriate they may be discussed at Departmental Committees or Faculty Academic Standards and Quality Committee.

Support to students with disability is coordinated centrally through Disability Services. This acts as a holistic service for disabled students and applicants to the University but also supports the academic and administrative staff who work with disabled students. In addition to the above.

The University's Student Services offers a range of services to support students during their time at university and beyond:

University Health Centre and general advice on Staying Healthy;

Careers and employability, advice on choosing a career, and finding student and graduate vacancies;

UWE volunteering, opportunities for students to get involved in the local community through the Community Volunteer Programme;

Student Advisors and Counselling for anything from exam stress to homesickness and depression;

The Living Centre, for support with faith and spiritual matters;

Global student support, to help international students to make the most of living and studying in the UK;

Managing disability and dyslexia, to get help with all disability related support needs;
Money and Visas, for financial check-ups, or help with UK visas.

Part B: Programme Structure**Year 1**

Full time and sandwich students must take 120 credits from the modules in Year 1.

Year 1 Compulsory Modules (Full Time and Sandwich)

Full time and sandwich students must take 120 credits from the modules in Compulsory Modules (Full Time and Sandwich).

Module Code	Module Title	Credit
UMCUL9-30-0	Becoming a Professional 2023-24	30
UMEDKL-30-0	Economics and Accounting for the Real World 2023-24	30
UJUUL7-30-0	Introduction to Law in a Social, Business and Global Context 2023-24	30
UMCDKK-30-0	Introduction to Organisation, Enterprise and Management 2023-24	30

Year 2

Full time and sandwich students must take 120 credits from the modules in Year 2.

Year 2 Optional Modules (Full time and Sandwich) - if additional credit is required

Modules only available with the agreement of the Programme Leader to make up credit in exceptional circumstances.

Module Code	Module Title	Credit
UMETHB-15-1	RISE statistics and data management 2024-25	15
UMETHC-15-1	RISE economic reasoning 2024-25	15

Year 2 Compulsory Modules (Full Time and Sandwich)

Full time and sandwich students must take 120 credits from the modules in Compulsory Modules (Full Time and Sandwich).

Module Code	Module Title	Credit
UMEDRR-15-1	Economic Reasoning 2024-25	15
UMEDRS-15-1	Evolutions: Culture, Technology, and Economic Progress 2024-25	15
UMED9D-15-1	History of Economic Thought 2024-25	15
UMED8G-30-1	Macroeconomics 2024-25	30
UMED8F-30-1	Microeconomics 2024-25	30
UMED8J-15-1	Statistics and Data Management 2024-25	15

Year 3

Full time and sandwich students must take 120 credits from the modules in Year 3.

Year 3 Compulsory Modules (Full Time and Sandwich)

Full time and sandwich students must take 90 credits from the modules in Compulsory Modules (Full Time and Sandwich).

Module Code	Module Title	Credit
UMED8K-30-2	Applied Microeconomics 2025-26	30
UMED8N-15-2	Economic Research Methods 2025-26	15
UMED8M-15-2	Introductory Econometrics 2025-26	15
UMED8L-30-2	Macroeconomics: Theory and Applications 2025-26	30

Year 3 Optional Modules (Full Time and Sandwich)

Full time and sandwich students must take 30 credits from the modules in Optional Modules (Full Time and Sandwich) (subject to availability).

Module Code	Module Title	Credit
UMED8Q-15-2	Economics of Money and Banking 2025-26	15
UMED8R-15-2	Emerging Economies 2025-26	15

UMED8U-15-2	Good Business, Bad Business and Sustainability 2025-26	15
UMED8P-15-2	International Trade and Multinational Business 2025-26	15
UMEDSY-15-2	Race, Inequality and Justice - An Interdisciplinary Perspective 2025-26	15

Year 4

Full time students must take 120 credits from the modules in Year 4.

Sandwich students must take 15 credits from the modules in Year 4.

Placement or Study Year Abroad (SYA)

For the award of the sandwich title (SW) students must choose one of the following options both of which aim to enable students to contextualise their academic learning in an applied business and/or cultural context:

Work Placement: a significant period of paid employment or self-employment normally in the field relevant to the specialism of the degree. During this time students must complete and pass the 15 credit level 3 module, Placement Learning UMCDN5-15-3. This module assesses the student's personal development, from the experience of placement and their ability to identify issues relevant to their placement's organisational context and to then frame, scale and position a critical work-based enquiry relevant to the specialism of the degree.

Study Year Abroad: consists of two semesters of study at a partner institution abroad. During this time students must complete and pass the 15 credit level 3 module, Learning and Development on Study Year Abroad (UMCD9Y-15-3). This modules assesses assess the student's personal development from the experience of SYA and their ability to evidence cross-cultural awareness and analysis of the country in which they have been studying. In addition, whilst at the partner institution students must have studied and attempted assessments in modules totalling 60 ECTS, of which 50-55 ECTS should be in modules related to their programme of study at UWE with a further 5-10 ECTS in the language of the host country. If the advent of failing any modules students must be able to demonstrate engagement i.e. that they have attended classes and sat the exams.

To be eligible for either Placement or SYA students must have passed a minimum of 210 credit

Year 4 Compulsory Module Choice (Full Time)

Full time students must take 15 credits from the modules in Compulsory Module Choice (Full Time).

Module Code	Module Title	Credit
UMCDKD-15-3	Cross Cultural Learning and Development 2026-27	15
UMEDT4-15-3	Work Integrated Learning (Economics) 2026-27	15

Year 4 Compulsory Modules (Full Time)

Full time students must take 60 credits from the modules in Compulsory Modules (Full Time).

Module Code	Module Title	Credit
UMED93-30-3	Economic Theory and Policy 2026-27	30
UMED8Y-30-3	Project 2026-27	30

Year 4 Compulsory Modules (Sandwich)

Sandwich students must take 15 credits from the modules in Compulsory Modules (Sandwich).

Module Code	Module Title	Credit
UMCD9Y-15-3	Learning and Development on Study Year Abroad 2026-27	15
UMCDN5-15-3	Placement Learning 2026-27	15

Year 4 Optional Modules (Full Time)

Full time students must take 45 credits from the modules in Optional Modules (Full Time) (subject to availability).

Module Code	Module Title	Credit
UMED99-15-3	Behavioural Economics 2026-27	15
UMED96-15-3	Econometrics 2026-27	15

UMED8V-15-3	Economics of International Financial Markets 2026-27	15
UMED98-15-3	Economics of Labour and Migration 2026-27	15
UMEDJA-15-3	Feminist and Gender Economics 2026-27	15
UMADQK-15-3	Financial Technology 2026-27	15
UMEDKE-15-3	Political Economy 2026-27	15
UMED95-15-3	Sustainable Business 2026-27	15
UMED8X-15-3	The Economics of Developing Countries 2026-27	15

Year 5

Sandwich students must take 105 credits from the modules in Year 5.

Year 5 Compulsory Modules (Sandwich)

Sandwich students must take 60 credits from the modules in Compulsory Modules (Sandwich).

Module Code	Module Title	Credit
UMED93-30-3	Debates in Economic Policy 2027-28	30
UMED8Y-30-3	Economics Project 2027-28	30

Year 5 Optional Modules (Sandwich)

Sandwich students must take 45 credits from the modules in Optional Modules (Sandwich) (subject to availability).

Module Code	Module Title	Credit
UMED99-15-3	Behavioural Economics 2027-28	15
UMED96-15-3	Econometrics 2027-28	15
UMED8V-15-3	Economics of International Financial Markets 2027-28	15

UMEDJA-15-3	Feminist and Gender Economics 2027-28	15
UMADQK-15-3	Financial Technology 2027-28	15
UMED98-15-3	Labour and Migration in the Contemporary World 2027-28	15
UMEDKE-15-3	Political Economy 2027-28	15
UMED95-15-3	Sustainable Business 2027-28	15
UMED8X-15-3	The Economics of Developing Countries 2027-28	15

Part C: Higher Education Achievement Record (HEAR) Synopsis

The UWE graduate economist is engaged, aware of context, informed about the world, and about the history of economics, the economy and economic sustainability; is critical, technically competent, confident but aware of the limitations of their analysis; is an employable skilled problem-solver, a good communicator and narrator, a team worker; is a flexible decision-maker able to deploy their judgement as to the right method, theory or data set to employ at any one time. They are co-producers of knowledge, competent, self-reliant researchers. They are analysts and synthesisers, knowledgeable about economics and the economic system.

Part D: External Reference Points and Benchmarks

Description of how the following reference points and benchmarks have been used in the design of the programme:

QAA UK Quality Code for HE

National qualification framework

Subject benchmark statements

Qualification characteristics for Foundation degrees and Master's degrees (if applicable)

University strategies and policies

Staff research projects

Any relevant PSRB requirements

Any occupational standards

Reference should be made to the graduate outcomes identified in the QAA-HEA

Guidance

The programme is in line with the QAA subject benchmark for Economics.

The on-going development of the programme and the quality of teaching and learning are informed by current students through module evaluations and SRSFs, by graduates through the alumni network, through fellow economists via the external examiners and by employers such as the Office of National Statistics. The internal subject review in July 2015 was also a useful process that resulted in very positive feedback from both external and internal panel members.

The subject lends itself to sustainable development (QAA-HEA Guidance) more than most given the economic theories of growth, development, sustainability and environmental economics. The research-led strategy of the group lends itself to making the goals achievable for the UWE Economics graduate.

Part E: Regulations

Approved to University Regulations and Procedures

<https://www1.uwe.ac.uk/about/departmentsandservices/professionalservices/studentandacademicservices/regulationspoliciesquality/regulationsandprocedures.aspx>