



Bournemouth
University

Time to
be you:



International Students Guide



LEARN TO CHANGE

Greetings from Bournemouth, England!

**Located on the south coast of England,
Bournemouth University is situated in an area renowned
for its natural beauty, in a safe and friendly town.**

Bournemouth is a thriving centre for creative, financial, and tourism industries, providing unique opportunities for personal and professional growth, all while enjoying a beachside lifestyle.



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Reasons to choose BU



1 We're a truly global university

Our focus is all about getting you ready to work anywhere in the world.



2 Our research makes a difference

94% of our research was found to be internationally recognised or above, with 96% of the research delivering considerable impact or above (REF 2021).



3 Generous scholarships

BU is committed to supporting international students in achieving their academic goals through scholarships which recognise academic excellence, as well as encourage a diverse and inclusive student community.



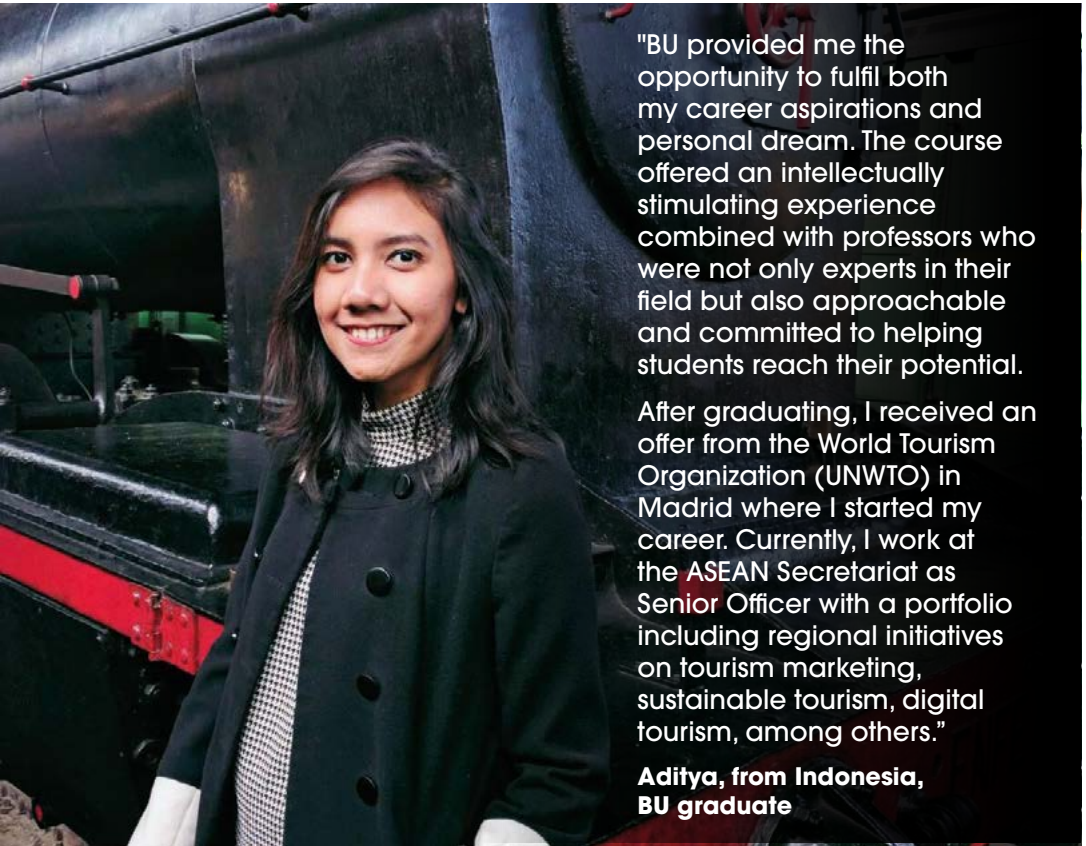
4 Our graduates recommend us

95% of our graduates would recommend BU to someone considering us as their choice for university, according to the most recent BU Alumni Survey (2020).

5 Life is better by the beach

With campuses close to one of the UK's most popular beaches, our students enjoy the benefits of living by the sea, along with academic excellence.





"BU provided me the opportunity to fulfil both my career aspirations and personal dream. The course offered an intellectually stimulating experience combined with professors who were not only experts in their field but also approachable and committed to helping students reach their potential.

After graduating, I received an offer from the World Tourism Organization (UNWTO) in Madrid where I started my career. Currently, I work at the ASEAN Secretariat as Senior Officer with a portfolio including regional initiatives on tourism marketing, sustainable tourism, digital tourism, among others."

**Aditya, from Indonesia,
BU graduate**



6 Ethical and environmentally responsible

Our courses are designed to produce ethical, sustainable business practices but we practice what we preach too!

- We are (joint) 59th internationally and 8th in the UK in the *Times Higher Education's University Impact Rankings 2025*
- Fairtrade university for 19 years, with three-star status since 2022.
- EcoCampus Platinum award holder since 2016
- Number 11 in the People and Planet University League 2024-25.

Become a part of a learning community that strives to make an impact on the world around us:



International experience that makes a difference

We collaborate with organisations and academic partners around the world to give students opportunities to:

- **Develop the industry-specific skills** and ambitious mindset to thrive in a globalised world
- **Build lifelong professional networks** and friendships within a culturally diverse community
- **Become an exchange student** at one of our partner universities abroad
- **Gain industry experience in the UK** or another country with a work placement as part of your study, through our dedicated career and placement support.



**Scan for stories
about BU
students' work
experience
abroad**



“BU’s commitment to academic excellence, its multicultural environment, and its dynamic curriculum have all contributed to my personal and professional growth.”

Meet, from India

“Studying alongside friends from 30 different countries significantly expanded my global network and opened doors to potential collaborations and partnerships in the future.”

Hem, from India

A person with a backpack stands on a large rock in the foreground, looking out over a calm lake. The lake reflects the surrounding landscape, including green hills and a range of jagged, snow-capped mountains in the distance. The sky is a clear, pale blue.

“Experiences like this not only show determination and initiative, but provide a competitive edge in the job market. This combination of work experience and international exposure helped me stand out from the crowd and secure an amazing placement in London that aligns with my career goals.”

Odin, from Spain

Gain real industry experience

BU's curriculum and careers support for students ensure you develop the skills, mindset and confidence to be highly employable anywhere in the world.



Accreditations

Most of our degrees are accredited by professional bodies, including some of the biggest names in industry. Accredited courses count towards professional qualifications or registration with a professional body, which can really enhance your career prospects.



BU Development Programmes

Designed with employers and experts, joining the programme enables you to discover, demonstrate and pitch your skills to boost your career opportunities.



“The UK offers many opportunities for me. The MA Media and Communications course at Bournemouth closely aligns with what I wanted to study and the knowledge and experience I hoped to gain for my future career goals.”

Helen, from Vietnam

“BU is preparing me to become someone with all the qualities of a CEO of a multinational company. With the new skills and knowledge I am gaining, I will be more confident stepping into the business world without any worries.”

Muhammad Sohaib, from Pakistan

Work placements

Taking a one-year or short work placement (internship) will give you the opportunity to put your learning into practice and build your network of professional contacts.

88%

of BU graduates are in work or further study 15 months after graduating.

Graduate Outcomes Survey, 2022/2023 published by the Higher Education Statistics Agency (HESA) in July 2025. HESA open data is published under the (CC BY 4.0) licence.

Scan for more student stories about their placement experience



Supporting you during your studies

Settling into UK life

We have a team dedicated to supporting international students and answering your queries about coming to the UK, as well as student life.

The induction programme for international students includes sessions to help you adjust to the practical aspects of living in the UK.



Immigration

Fully trained immigration advisers for the Student Route visa are available on campus and can provide free advice.



“My arrival at Bournemouth University was an experience filled with warmth, support, and careful planning by the university. From pre-departure assistance to ongoing academic and emotional support, BU ensured that I felt welcomed and prepared to begin my academic journey with confidence.”

Neha, India



Students' Union at Bournemouth University (SUBU)

Run by students, for students - SUBU offer free, confidential support and advice on all aspects of university life. SUBU also offer a huge range of clubs, academic representation and social activities throughout the year.

Visit www.subu.org.uk to find out more.

English language support

Our Library and Learning Services provide regular academic English workshops to support students whose first language is not English. Regular workshops are also available for international students wishing to improve their study skills.

Academic support

Sign up any time for workshops or 1-to-1 support to help develop your academic skills in writing, giving presentations, referencing and research skills.

Peer Assisted Learning

Peer leaders and student mentors offer additional support, particularly to fellow students who may be needing extra help with the course material.

Life on campus and in Bournemouth



BU campuses

BU has two main campuses, Talbot Campus and Lansdowne Campus, which are 3.2 km apart, and about 4 km from Bournemouth town centre and Bournemouth beach.

Talbot
Campus tour:



Lansdowne
Campus tour:



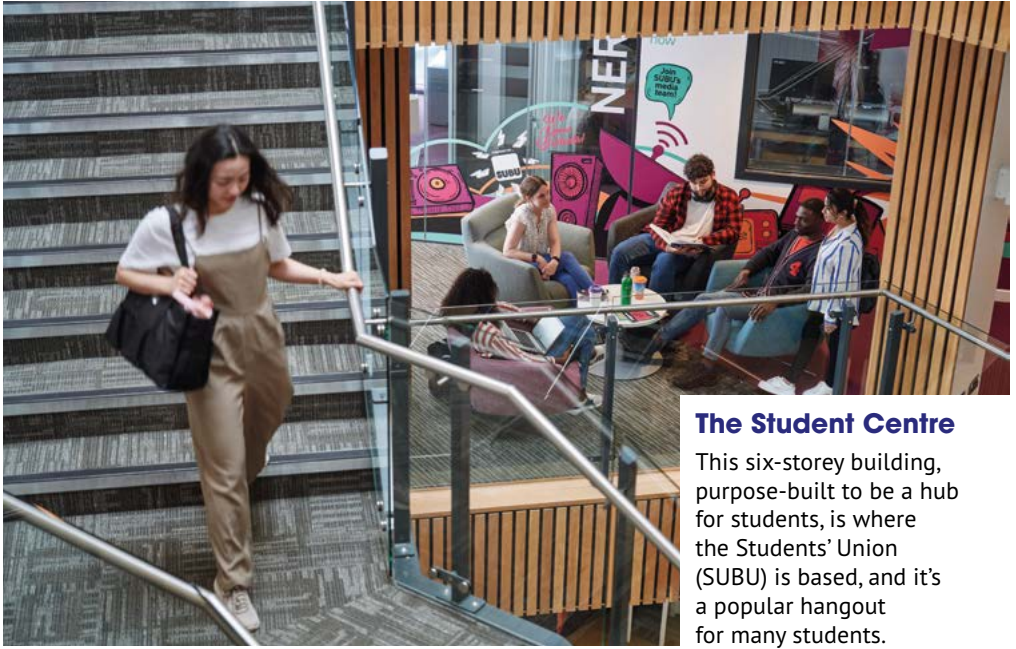
Collaborative learning space

Getting around

Getting around on foot, by bike or bus is easy. The UNIBUS runs a frequent service between our campuses, town centre and beach and popular student areas of Charminster, Winton, Boscombe and Poole.

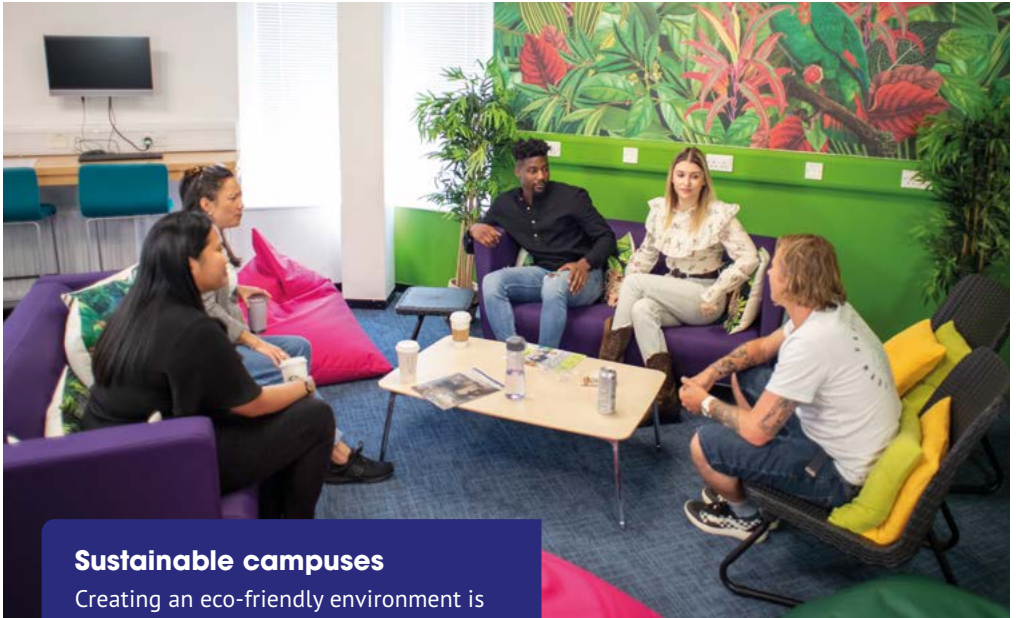
Bournemouth train station and Bournemouth international airport make it easy to explore the UK and beyond.





The Student Centre

This six-storey building, purpose-built to be a hub for students, is where the Students' Union (SUBU) is based, and it's a popular hangout for many students.



Sustainable campuses

Creating an eco-friendly environment is central to our ethos, with energy-efficient facilities, recycling programmes, green spaces, and climate action campaigns that actively involve students.



Socialising and events

It's easy to join a range of social activities through SUBU, who run various clubs, societies, and year-round events on and off-campus.



Food and dining

Students can enjoy convenient, fresh, and healthy food choices on campus and around the local area – from snacks to hot meals – catering to diverse tastes and dietary needs.

“While acclimating to a new environment posed its own set of challenges, the rich tapestry of cultural diversity within the MBA programme provided a welcoming backdrop for forging meaningful connections and friendships.”

Yaw, from Ghana



“Embrace the plethora of clubs and societies and embark on a journey of self-discovery, cultural integration and personal excellence.”

Jain, from India

Health and well-being

There is an on-site medical centre on Talbot Campus. For additional well-being support, there are specialist teams available 24/7.

Multi-faith chaplaincy

The Faith & Reflection team offer confidential and unbiased support, guidance, prayer and a listening ear, regardless of whether you have faith or not. We also have dedicated rooms for prayer and contemplation on our campuses.

Fitness and sports

SportBU offer a range of sports and recreation facilities, including an on-campus gym, group fitness classes, courts and grounds for social sports, competitive sports and performance sports.



Jobs on campus

Flexible, paid opportunities to fit around your studies include becoming a student ambassador or working for SUBU.

Discover more about part-time jobs



Discover volunteer opportunities



Follow @BUInternational

You can view many more student stories on our Instagram and Facebook.

Instagram:



Facebook:



Why we love Bournemouth

From cosy corners in cafes to the wide open spaces of the Jurassic Coast, Bournemouth and the surrounding area has something you'll fall in love with - whatever it is you're into.



Vibrant town

Bournemouth offers something for everyone - incredible beaches, a lively town centre just five minutes from the beach, a state-of-the-art leisure complex and stunning green spaces. Students are drawn to cultural and arts events taking place all year round. The vibe is certainly cosmopolitan and friendly.



The Triangle

The Triangle is home to some great bars, clubs and restaurants. It's at the heart of the town's LGBTQ+ community, known for its welcoming atmosphere and unique character. You'll also find cosy pubs serving a wide selection of craft beers, along with stylish yet affordable dining to suit all tastes.

Places to socialise

There is a huge variety of student-friendly restaurants, coffee shops and bars within walking distance from our campuses, as well as many open spaces such as Bournemouth Gardens, local parks, and the beach. The Old Fire Station, owned by the Students' Union at BU (SUBU) is a popular venue for live music, entertainment and cultural events.



The famous beach

Bournemouth is renowned for its picturesque coastline, featuring 12 kilometres of golden sandy beaches that attract visitors from all over the world. Students have many options for entertainment, water sports, dining, and breathtaking views of the sea.



**Tour of Bournemouth
Lower Gardens and
Bournemouth beach**

“Bournemouth is a safe, welcoming city where you can meet people from all over the world, explore new cultures, and enjoy the beach – even when preparing for exams. With great transport links and a highly ranked university, it’s the perfect place to study and live.”

**Yazeed, from
Saudi Arabia**

“The vibrant atmosphere, beautiful beaches (because who doesn’t love a sea-view study break?), and various activities on campus and around town gave me a truly fulfilling experience.”

Osher, from Israel

More places to play

Winton and Charminster

Located between our Lansdowne and Talbot campuses, these are popular residential areas for our students, providing affordable choices for socialising and dining.



Day trip to
Sandbanks
beach

Sandbanks

With beautiful sunset views, Sandbanks in the nearby town of Poole offers an upscale atmosphere. It's often cited as one of the most exclusive places to live in the UK.



Watersports

Poole Harbour is a watersports paradise, and is great for windsurfing, kitesurfing, paddleboarding and kayaking.





“Bournemouth is a beautiful town for the adventurous. Filled with indoor and outdoor activities. It is difficult to not engage in activities across the seasons.”

Ogechi, from Nigeria

Dorset day trips:



Walking and riding

Bournemouth and its surroundings offer many great walking and cycling trails, with options to rent a bike, so you can combine sightseeing with exercise.



Accommodation

When looking for accommodation, remember that you are required to regularly attend in-person teaching sessions, so find a place that is located close to our campuses or within easy commuting distance.

A range of BU accommodation types are available – from standard single rooms to rooms with en-suite facilities as well as studios. Prices range from around £145-£265 per week, inclusive of all bills, so there is nothing more to pay than the advertised rent. To help you understand how all of the rents compare with each other and what's included in what you pay, please view our BU Accommodation price guide.

**Scan to view our
BU Accommodation
price guide:**



For information on private rental accommodation, please visit www.bournemouth.ac.uk/private-rental-accommodation

For information on options for families and couples, please visit www.bournemouth.ac.uk/accommodation-families-couples

Unlike BU accommodation, private rentals are not inclusive of all bills, so please consider all costs you will need to meet if you choose this option.

Living costs

The average monthly budget to cover your accommodation, bills, groceries and other living expenses during your studies is around £900-£1300 per month.

More on living expenses, including a breakdown of expenditures:





Tuition fees and Scholarships



BU tuition fees are payable each year of your studies. Scan the QR codes below for indicative full-time annual tuition fees for undergraduate and postgraduate international students:

Scan to view our Undergraduate fees:



Scan to view our Postgraduate fees:



“(My BU scholarship) not only alleviated financial strain for me and my family but also provided opportunities for growth, empowered academic excellence and fuelled my drive to succeed.”

Hem, India



Scholarships

BU offer scholarships to reward excellence, as well as to help make university education in the UK more accessible for international students.

We offer:

- **Academic Excellence Scholarship** to eligible undergraduate and postgraduate taught degree applicants - applied as a tuition fee reduction
- **BU Music Scholarship** for talented musicians or vocalists with experience in ensemble activity
- **Sport Scholarship** for high-performing sports people with the desire to continue to develop.

Undergraduate Scholarships:



Postgraduate Scholarships:



External funding

GREAT Scholarship:

Financial support available for students from various countries:

study-uk.britishcouncil.org/scholarships-funding/great-scholarships

Chevening Scholarship

and Chevening Partner Scholarship:

A tuition fee waiver plus other allowances for outstanding emerging leaders.

www.chevening.org/scholarships

Commonwealth Scholarships

Available to students from Commonwealth countries: <https://study-uk.britishcouncil.org/scholarships-funding/commonwealth-scholarships>

Postgrad.com study bursaries:

Students from anywhere in the world can apply.

www.postgrad.com/bursaries

The Alternative Guide to Postgraduate Funding Online

Signposting grants from charities, trusts and foundations.

www.postgraduate-funding.com/gateway

Start your application

Entry requirements will vary depending on the course you wish to apply for. Please visit the relevant course page for specific requirements of academic qualifications, English proficiency tests and any additional criteria such as interview or portfolio.

Undergraduate (Bachelor's) programmes

Applications for most undergraduate programmes in the UK are made through UCAS (Universities and Colleges Admissions Service). You will need to create an account on the UCAS website and complete the application form.

For more information, visit www.ucas.com/undergraduate

Postgraduate (Taught Master's and Research) programmes

Applications for most of our postgraduate programmes, including Research, must be completed directly using myHub, our online application portal.

www.bournemouth.ac.uk/myhub

Exceptions

MA Social Work, MSc Adult Nursing, MSc Mental Health Nursing and MSc/PG Dip Physician Associate Studies. Applications for these courses must be submitted through the UCAS website www.ucas.com

Pre-sessional English and pathway programmes

Pre-sessional English, International Foundation Certificate, International Year One and Pre-Master's courses are taught at BU International College, and you should send your application directly to them. You will receive an offer with your study plan stating your pathway programme and your BU degree course upon successful completion of the pathway programme.

For more information, visit www.bournemouth.ac.uk/preparatory-programmes

In-country assistance

We work in partnership with a number of local representatives all over the world who can help you with your application. They are familiar with our course portfolio and application process, so can help with any questions you have about studying at BU.

Find a rep: www.bournemouth.ac.uk/country-reps

Documents required for application

Degree certificate and transcript

Official degree certificate and transcript issued by the degree-awarding institution (not affiliated colleges) – or up-to-date transcript if you are currently studying the degree course. An official translation is required **in addition** if the degree certificate or transcript is not in English.

English language qualification

Please check the entry requirements on our webpage:

www.bournemouth.ac.uk/english-language-requirements

Personal statement

Personal statement requirements are changing for the 26/27 academic cycle to be in line with UCAS' personal statement reform. We are changing our direct application form to be in line with this too. The application form will now ask three specific questions rather than requiring one longer response.

These questions are:

Section one: Why do you want to study this course or subject?

Section two: How have your qualifications and studies helped you to prepare for this course or subject?

Section three: What else have you done to prepare outside of education, and why are these experiences useful?

Academic and/or professional reference letter

An academic reference letter must be received from a professional email address. If a letter is received from a non-professional email address or is uploaded

by yourself or your agent, the letter must be written on headed paper, signed, stamped and dated within the last two years. If you graduated some time ago and cannot provide an academic reference, we will consider a professional reference letter as an alternative.

Portfolio (if required as part of the application)

Check your chosen course webpage to see if a portfolio is required. If the portfolio file is larger than 4MB, or is in a file format which cannot be accepted on our application portal, a link to view the portfolio online should be provided instead (e.g. Dropbox, Google Drive, Behance). The portfolio must be complete, as later submission of additional work pieces will not be accepted.

A copy of valid passport

The passport image must be clear and in colour.

Any other additional documents

This may be a CV, any additional certificates, ID verification (if the applicant's name on documents differs, for example after marriage) or any other documents which may help support the application.

Academic entry requirements

Undergraduate (Bachelor's degree)

- **UK A-levels** or a **high school leaving certificate** from your country (if equivalent to UK A-levels)
- **International and European Baccalaureates, Cambridge Pre-U Diploma**
- **SAT, ACT and AP exams**, in conjunction with a high school diploma
- **BU International College Foundation Certificate** and other recognised foundation.

Undergraduate (Top-up degree)

- **Foundation Degree** with 60% or above in a required subject or **Higher National Diploma (HND)** with Merit or above in a required subject
- **Level 5 Higher Apprenticeship** in a relevant subject area.
- **Overseas qualifications** equivalent to the first two years of a UK undergraduate course or 120 ECTS (European Credit Transfer System) credits (e.g. a college diploma).

Postgraduate (Master's degree)

- **UK Bachelor's degree** (including Top-up degree) or overseas equivalent
- **Professional qualification** equivalent to **UK Bachelor's degree level** (e.g. Chartered Institute of Marketing)
- **BU International College Pre Master's** and other recognised pathway programmes

Learn more at www.bournemouth.ac.uk/your-country or get in touch at www.bournemouth.ac.uk/international-enquiry

Research Degrees (MRes, MPhil and PhD)

- **A first or upper second class (2:1) honours UK Bachelor's degree** or equivalent in a relevant subject (MRes and MPhil entry)
- **A UK Master's degree** or equivalent in a discipline appropriate to the proposed research (PhD entry).

To find out more, visit www.bournemouth.ac.uk/postgraduate-research or email PGRadmissions@bournemouth.ac.uk

BU International College courses

If you cannot gain direct entry to a degree, BU International College offers preparatory courses to help you. Successful completion with the required grades guarantees access to your chosen course.

- **Foundation Certificate**
Available in Business, Law or Finance, Computing, Events, Tourism & Hospitality Management, Media & Communications, and Science. These qualifications can also be accepted for entry onto many other BU undergraduate subjects.
- **International Year One**
Offered in Business, Law or Finance, Events, Tourism & Hospitality Management, and Media & Communications, for direct entry to Year 2 in selected Bachelor's degrees.
- **Pre-Master's**
Available in Business, Law or Finance, Events, Tourism & Hospitality Management, and Media & Communication, leading to a wide range of BU Master's degrees, including many other subject areas.

For more information, visit: www.kaplanpathways.com/where-to-study/bournemouth-university-international-college

English language requirements

For entry to most Bachelor's or Master's degrees at BU, you will need to have achieved a minimum of IELTS (Academic) 6.0 overall (with no less than 5.5 in each component) or equivalent if English is not your first language. Please check the individual course page on the BU website for specific English language requirements.

To be accepted onto a Research Degree programme, you will need to have achieved an IELTS (Academic) of 6.5 overall (with a minimum of 5.5 in each component) or equivalent. The language requirement may be higher for some programmes, specifically those which involve a high level of communication skills.

Other acceptable English language qualifications for entry

We accept several easy-to-access online English language tests that can be taken from home, with results available quickly,

including KTE (Kaplan Test of English) and Oxford ELLT, amongst others. Check www.bournemouth.ac.uk/english-language-requirements for how to book the tests with BU discount codes.

Successfully completing a Pre-sessional English for University Study programme with the required grade at BU International College, or with other recognised providers in the UK or overseas.

English Language Comparison Scores

Check our website below for comparison scores between IELTS, TOEFL and other tests. We use this to decide whether you have met the level required to study at BU. www.bournemouth.ac.uk/english-comparison-scores



After you have applied





BU aims to make you an offer as soon as possible, provided you have submitted a fully completed application.

Courses requiring additional assessment measures, such as interviews, may take a little longer.

BU offer

After we have reviewed your application, you will be issued with either:

- Conditional offer - if you are still completing a qualification
- Unconditional offer - if you have met all entry requirements for your course

Accepting your offer

To confirm your place on the course, you will need to accept your offer through our application portal, called myHub.

Conditional offer holders will also need to upload all required documents on myHub.

Deposit payment

A deposit is required for international students for our undergraduate and postgraduate courses to secure your place on the course.

Applicants who require a Student Route visa to study in the UK will be issued a CAS once they have paid the deposit, completed all pending checks, completed their CAS application on CAS Shield, and undertaken the pre-CAS recorded interview (if required).

Confirmation of Acceptance of Studies (CAS)

CAS are issued from six months before the course start date.

Student visa

If you require a visa to study in the UK, please familiarise yourself with the visa requirements and timelines to ensure a smooth visa application process.

Your home base

for exploring the UK and beyond

Bournemouth benefits from great access and transport links to London and many major UK cities.

Bournemouth Airport

The airport is just a 15-minute drive outside of the town centre and there is a direct bus service that takes approximately 20 minutes.

London

There is a direct train to London Waterloo that takes around 1 hour and 45 minutes.

Cardiff

Driving takes around 3 hours, while the train journey takes a little over 3 hours.

Southampton Airport

It takes around 45 minutes to reach Southampton Airport, either by driving or by a direct train.

Birmingham

The direct train takes just over 3 hours, or you can drive to the city in approximately 3 hours.

Edinburgh

It's around an 8-hour drive, while the train journey takes just over 7 hours.

London Heathrow Airport

We are approximately a 1.5-hour drive from Heathrow Airport. If you want to travel by train, it takes around 2.5 hours.

Oxford

Driving takes around 1 hour and 45 minutes, while the direct train takes approximately 2 hours.

Manchester

A direct train takes just under 5 hours. You can drive there in around 4 hours and 45 minutes.



Edinburgh

Manchester

Birmingham

Cardiff

Oxford

London

Bournemouth

www.bournemouth.ac.uk/international



**Undergraduate
courses**



**Postgraduate
courses**



**Country and
Regional
managers**

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