Get ready for BSc(Hons) Biomedical Science

I hope that you are enjoying your summer and are looking forward to starting your BSc (hons) Biomedical Science course at UWE Bristol. I'm your Programme Leader, which means I'm responsible for your academic and experiential wellbeing during your time with us. It also means I get to be the first to welcome you, and even before you've arrived.

I have provided some information below that will help you to prepare for starting with us. Some of this is related more to central university services, who are there to help and support you in all aspects of university life related to your course. And some relates more specifically to biomedical science itself, as the degree and field of science you will be studying. The idea is to help you start strong even before you arrive for Starting Block, the name for our induction programme.

I look forward to meeting you.

Chris Moore
Programme Leader

Before you start

We are looking forward to welcoming you in the week commencing 15 September for Starting Block and the beginning of your programme. Starting block runs for the first two weeks, which will give you plenty of time to familiarise yourself with the campus, the staff, the facilities, to meet your course mates and make some new friends, and to make sure you have everything ready and set up before classes start the week after. Look out for further emails and explore the Starting Block website with more details. But it will include a range of sessions with me, the academic team, and some of our professional services colleagues, designed to introduce you to UWE, to get you going on our digital platforms and systems, to begin to develop some skills crucial to success on your course – basically to begin to bridge that gap between what has come before and what university has to offer you.

Your timetable will be available to you via MYUWE (login required) once you have started the registration process. Please visit the 'Understanding your teaching timetable' website to find out when your timetable will be published.

Preparing and arrival

You can find everything you need to know about registration, Starting Block and the start of teaching, on our Preparing and Arrival webpage. Take a look at our website to familiarise yourself with our facilities and services such as the library, study skills, academic support, health and wellbeing support and much more.

Registration

Once you have satisfied all admissions requirements, we'll send you your login details for our IT systems to enable you to activate your university email account. Once your account has been activated, you'll gain access to the MYUWE platform where you can register. Note that your login details for MYUWE are different to those used for the UWE Welcome website. Registration for September programmes will only be open from August onwards. You can find guidance and further information on our Registration website.

ID card - upload your photo now

We can only print your ID card if you have added your photo to MYUWE. To avoid delays, upload your photo as soon as you receive login details. For help, go to our student card guidance.

Engage with your programme

Start your learning

There are a couple of things that you might like to have a look at before you start at UWE:

- Have a read through your college or further education notes a few weeks before you arrive. Everyone experiences "summer syndrome" where we begin to forget what we finished learning only a few months before. So it really does help prevent the jump to university education seem chasm-like if you take a little time to remind yourself that you *do* already have the foundations for the learning to come by revisiting the material that led you here. There are a number of portals, dashboards, and interfaces you will use while a student at UWE. Some you will use to access your learning materials and submit your assignments. Some you will use to see your confirmed grades or access your timetable. And some you will use to conduct your work, store your files, and communicate. This short video on *Getting Started Online as a UWE Student* will help you. The degree programme is accredited by the Institute of Biomedical Science (IBMS). This means that an external body, the IBMS, have approved and validated our course as one appropriate academically for those interested in becoming an NHS Biomedical Scientist. There are implications for this that you can learning more about here in this video on *What Accreditation Means for Biomedical Science at* UWE. And you can find out more about subject areas, IBMS membership and career information at the IBMS website.

Read around your subject

We do not recommend you purchase any textbooks before starting at UWE. There is an electronic reading list for each module that you will be taking. These lists will be provided once you begin your studies, and many of the texts are available in electronic form.

If you do find any interesting news articles, you might like to jot down some keywords and see whether you can find additional information from your school/college books or from online sources available to you. Once you have registered at UWE, you will have full access to the online search engines, textbooks and journals that are held in the University library.

Be prepared

Access support

Check the information on our [Disability web pages](#) so you know what you need to do. If you need any urgent additional mobility or other support to fully access all activities during your studies, contact me as your programme leader.

Get equipped

The University has computers on all our campuses for you to use during your studies. These provide access to our core digital learning tools and any specialist software required for your course. You may have scheduled sessions in computer labs or other specialist facilities, and you will be able to use open-access PCs for self-study.

UWE Bristol licenses many specialist software packages for use on personal laptops for the duration of your course. If you're struggling to meet the financial demands of your course, please contact the [Student Money Service](#) team for advice and guidance.

See the UWE website for detailed information on [choosing your IT equipment](#) including [recommended specifications](#).

The core software used in your course includes UWE's core digital education systems (Blackboard, Collaborate, Panopto, Microsoft 365 (formerly Office 365), PebblePad).

Microsoft 365 will run in almost any operating system or device (laptop, desktop, tablet, phone). But some others of these packages will run fine on Windows and usually Mac devices, sometimes not on tablets or Chromebooks. We recommend that you have access to a Windows based system with the following minimum specifications: [Core Specification](#).

PLEASE NOTE: Laboratory coats for practical classes will be provided for all sessions, so you do not need to purchase or provide your own coat.

International students
[The Global Student Support Team](#) offer information and advice to ensure you receive all the support you need to get the best from your time at UWE Bristol. They are here to help you to settle in when you first arrive at UWE Bristol and organise social events to help you to adapt to your new environment.

Who to contact if you have questions

The following video playlist should provide you with a whole host of help in better understanding UWE terminology, the structure of your course, some top tips for UWE students, and other aid and support. For any others questions you may have about the course itself, please contact me: **Chris Moore** via email at Chris3.Moore@uwe.ac.uk

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Please note: this information has been provided on the assumption that you will meet the conditions of your offer and be eligible to take up your place.

Entry: September 2025   Last updated: Spring 2025