

Get ready for BSc(Hons) Mathematics

I hope that your summer is going well and that you are looking forward to starting at UWE Bristol. As your programme leader, I warmly welcome you to our BSc(Hons) Mathematics course. I have provided some information below that will help you to prepare for starting with us in the autumn.

Dr. Tim Swift
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 will help you to settle into university and to get to know your teaching team and course mates. We will help you to find your way around, to get used to our systems, and to practise the skills that you need to make a strong start. Look out for further emails and explore the [Starting Block website](#) for more details.

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.

Our [study skills workbook](#) introduces you to essential services as well as to key skills.

You can also explore our support for careers and enterprise. [UWE Careers & Enterprise](#) provide a range of workshops, appointments and a range of online resources to support students in realising their future ambitions. The [Careers Toolkit](#) is our online portal to finding vacancies, booking onto events and accessing a range of resources.

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

In order to help to refresh your memory regarding some key topics, we recommend that you engage with some mathematics prior to the start of the academic year. Useful resources are your previous notes and textbooks. You should also work through Sections 1-6 of '[A Calculus Refresher](#)', covering differentiation, and Sections 10-12 covering integration. Note that self-assessments are available in 'A Calculus Refresher'; it is strongly recommended that you attempt several of these tests in order to help you prepare for your programme. In addition, you may wish to start exploring the [Mathcentre](#) website, which you will find useful as you engage with the first year of your university mathematics studies.

If you have a bit more time during the summer, then you may wish to start playing with the programming language Python, which will be used during your university studies (and perhaps in your future employment as well). We use the application JupyterLab, which may be accessed free of charge via the [Anaconda distribution platform](#). Suggested Python resources include:

[W3Schools Python Tutorial](#),

[Tutorialspoint Python](#)

[Tutorial](#).

Note that we will *not* assume that you have any knowledge of Python before the start of teaching.

Read around your subject

The following book provides valuable reading prior to the course:

Houston, K (2009) *How to Think Like a Mathematician: A Companion to Undergraduate Mathematics*. Cambridge University Press.

Note that, since you will have access to an e-version of this text during your studies at UWE, you are not required to purchase the book. You can access the e-version [here](#). As further preparation for your transition to undergraduate mathematics, I suggest that you also read the following book:

Gowers, T. (2002). *Mathematics: A Very Short Introduction*. Oxford University Press.

Connect with others

You will be joining a scholarly community of academics and students with a passion for learning mathematics. There is a range of opportunities for you get involved in this community:

- In addition to the range of clubs, societies and teams that you can join at UWE, the programme team organises a number of social events and mathematical activities throughout the year.
- Follow our [@UWE_MathsStats](#) Twitter feed.
- As a student on a programme that is accredited by the Institute for Mathematics and its Applications ([IMA](#)), you are eligible for student membership, which has a broad range of benefits.

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 are struggling to meet the financial demands of your course, then 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](#).

For this programme we recommend the **Enhanced Specification**.

A scientific calculator might also be useful.

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

For any questions about the programme, please contact me via email at tim.swift@uwe.ac.uk.

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