Get ready for BA (Hons) Criminology and Sociology (with Foundation Year)

We hope that you are enjoying your summer and are looking forward to starting at UWE Bristol. A huge, huge welcome onto BSc (Hons) Psychology (with Foundation Year)!

The structure and design of the Foundation Year will enable you to hit the ground running when you start your main degree, giving you huge advantages to get you into your discipline(s) and have a good understanding of how UWE works.

We have provided some information below that will help you to prepare for starting the Foundation Year, so have a look through that and we will very much look forward to meeting you properly!

Dr. Trang Trần and Mr Jack James
Programme Leaders for Foundation Year in Social Science

Before you start

We are looking forward to welcoming you in the week commencing **14 September** for Starting Block and the beginning of your programme.

Starting Block will help you settle into university and to help you get to know your teaching team and course mates. We will help you find your way around, get used to our systems, and practise the skills you need to make a strong start. Look out for further emails and explore the Starting Block website with 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.

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. 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

Spend some time doing a short piece of writing about what you want from the course, what your hopes and fears are, and any questions you have. Please feel free to email me if there's anything you're not sure of.

Read around your subject

A key skill which is required to achieve a high level of success within your chosen programme is the ability to think critically about key issues and practices. To help you to enhance these skills and be ready to engage with your studies, you should start to read and research around your subject before you arrive. Explore the Library web pages to see the wide range of resources available to you once you become a UWE Bristol student.

You may also wish to do some preparatory reading or video watching for some or all of the subjects you'll be introduced to during your Foundation Year. Here are some suggestions:

- **Criminology**: Walklate, S. (2016) *Criminology*. third edition. London: Routledge
- **Sociology**: Plummer, K. (2010) *Sociology: the basics*. London: Routledge.
- **Psychology**: Slater L. (2005) *Opening Skinner's box: Great Psychological Experiments of the Twentieth Century*, London: Bloomsbury
- **Philosophy:** Craig, E. (2002) *Philosophy: A Very Short Introduction*, Oxford University Press: Oxford
- **Politics and International Relations**: Why international relations is the key to all our futures - article
- **Policing**: Police Culture, Ethics and Entitlement Theory (Journal article)

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.

For this programme we recommend the Core Specification.

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 general academic questions about the Foundation Year please contact:

Dr. Trang Trần via email at Trang.Tran@uwe.ac.uk

Mr. Jack James via email at Jack.James@uwe.ac.uk

For questions about your studies on your chosen degree programme (after Foundation Year) the contact details:

Dr. Paul Gavin via email at Paul2.Gavin@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 2026 Last updated: Spring 2026