



Aston University

BIRMINGHAM UK

2019  
Postgraduate  
Prospectus



FOR YOUR FUTURE



QS FIVE-STAR  
UNIVERSITY

A UNIVERSITY  
SINCE 1966



# Welcome to Aston University

A stimulating and enjoyable place to study. We pride ourselves on providing a modern, supportive and multicultural environment and we are committed to giving you the opportunity to achieve your full potential.



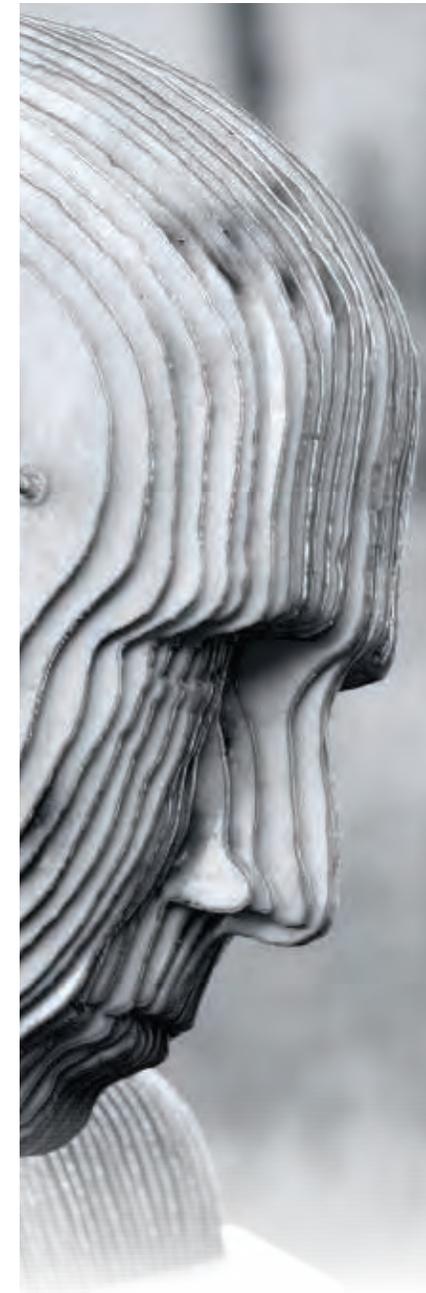
**Professor Alec Cameron,**  
Vice-Chancellor and Chief Executive



▷ Got a question?

 +44 (0)121 204 4910  [ask@aston.ac.uk](mailto:ask@aston.ac.uk)

# DISCOVER ASTON UNIVERSITY



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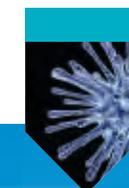
As a postgraduate student at Aston University you will be part of a multicultural, international campus community where you can benefit from high quality teaching and work with researchers who are making a real impact on society.



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# DISCOVER ASTON UNIVERSITY 5 STAR RATED



Aston University has been awarded five star status by global education ranking specialists QS. The five star rating recognises excellence in teaching, employability, innovation, facilities, inclusiveness, and internationalisation.



# Teaching, employability, innovation, facilities, inclusiveness, and internationalisation

## Teaching

You will be taught by both academic experts and practitioners who bring a wealth of real world experience into the classroom. There is an emphasis on learning by doing, to ensure that you gain practical experience by applying theory to real life contexts. In 2017 Aston University was awarded Gold status in the Teaching Excellence Framework (TEF).

## Employability

Studying industry-relevant courses as part of an international student body means you can develop the knowledge and skills demanded by global and local employers. You have access to high quality and personalised careers advice and guidance, and more than 200 employers who come onto campus every year.

## Innovation

Aston has been at the forefront of innovation for many years, having pioneered the undergraduate placement year. We have integrated work experience and professional skills development into many of our postgraduate programmes. If you would like to start your own business you can access our intensive start-up support programme for student and graduate entrepreneurs.

## Facilities

Our modern facilities include our Library open seven days a week, lecture theatres, classrooms and labs. The Hub is our one stop student support centre. We have extensive IT facilities, many with 24 hour access, and Wi-Fi available across campus.

## Inclusiveness

A diverse group of students from over 130 different countries live and study on our green and fully accessible campus, which is at the heart of Birmingham city centre. We offer a wide range of scholarships to enable the brightest and the best to study with us.

## Internationalisation

You will have the opportunity to gain international experience by undertaking a period of study abroad or an overseas exchange. We have over 100 different partner universities in 40 different countries.

# DISCOVER OUR CREDENTIALS

Founded in 1895 and a University since 1966, Aston is a long established research-led University known for its world-class teaching quality and strong links to industry, government and commerce.

**Top 1%**

Aston Business School is among the top 1% of business schools worldwide with triple accreditation



**Top 20**

Top 20 in the UK for Student Experience

(The Times and Sunday Times Good University Guide 2018)

**17<sup>th</sup> in the UK**

17<sup>th</sup> in the UK and 44<sup>th</sup> in World for International Outlook

(Times Higher World Rankings 2018)



## School of Engineering and Applied Science

Our MSc Engineering Management is ranked 2nd in the UK and 5th in Europe by Eduniversal European Rankings 2018.

We hold the Athena Swann Silver Award in recognition of advancement and promotion of gender equality in SET subjects.

We deliver two unique two-year Erasmus Mundus Joint Master Degree programmes in photonics and 5G wireless technologies and photonic integration for communication, sensing and switching.



## Aston Business School

Among the top 1% of business schools worldwide with triple accreditation from AMBA, AACSB and EQUIS.

We were one of the first UK business schools to be awarded the Small Business Charter in recognition of our ongoing work to support small businesses, the local economy and student entrepreneurship.

Our Masters degrees provide students with an opportunity to undertake an internship or period of study abroad.

Our MSc Investment Analysis is ranked in the global top 60 by the FT Masters in Finance 2018. Students learn by doing in our dedicated Reuters Trading Room.



## School of Life and Health Sciences

Aston University's School of Pharmacy was honoured with a Regius Professorship - one of just 12 universities with reputations for research excellence to receive the prestigious award as part of celebrations for HM the Queen's 90th birthday in 2017.



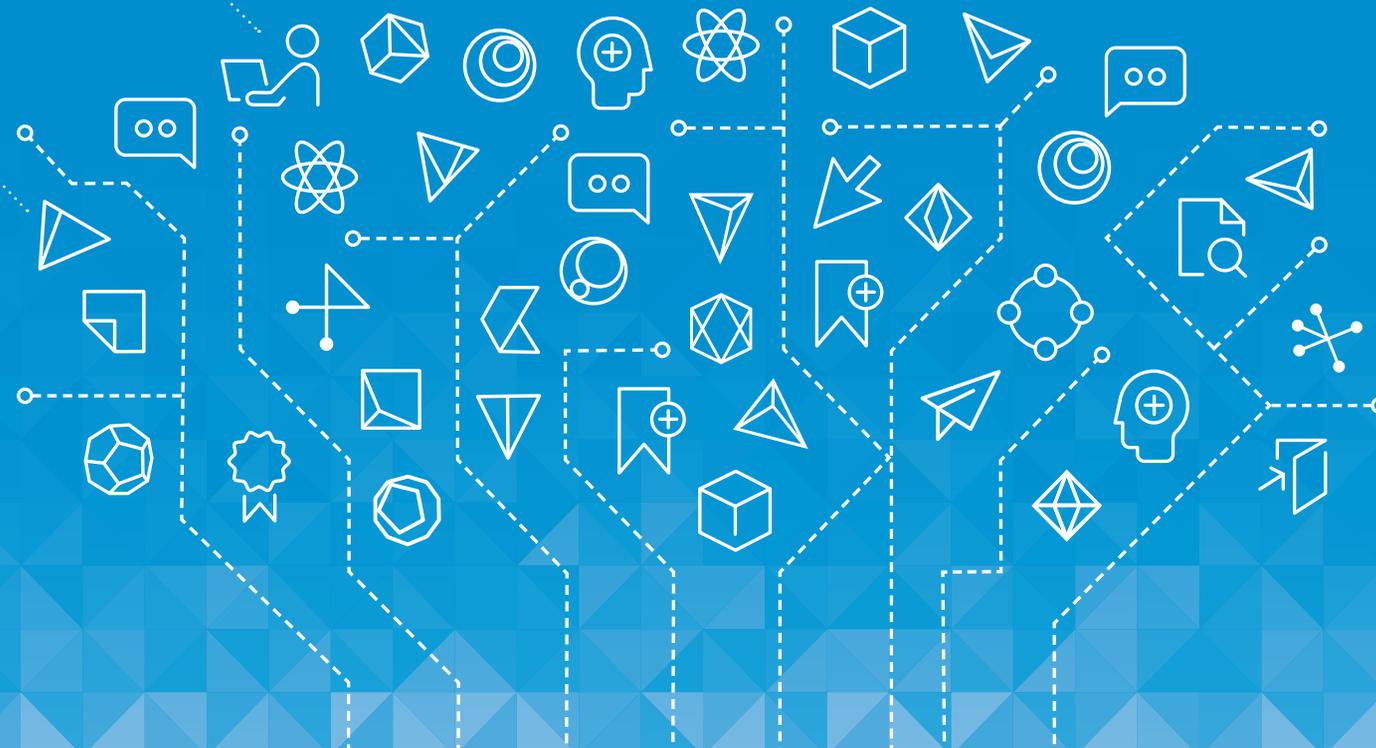
## Aston Medical School

Aston Medical School opened for postgraduate research students in October 2015 with the first MBChB undergraduate cohort starting in September 2018.



## School of Languages and Social Sciences

One of only two universities in the UK to offer a Masters in Forensic Linguistics.



# DISCOVER OUR UK LOCATION

 Birmingham International Airport is a 10-minute train journey to and from the city centre.

**Birmingham  
London**

**Birmingham City Centre**



## Our campus

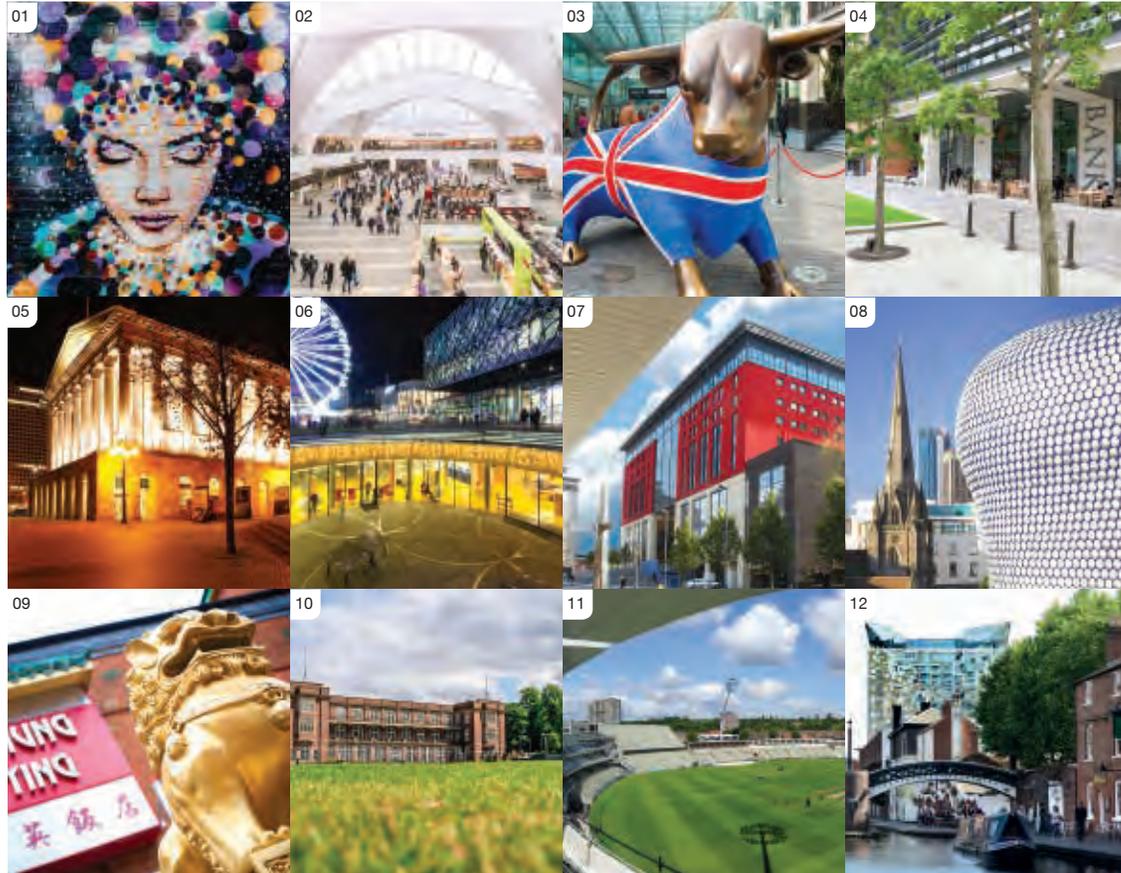
- |  |   |   |
|--|---|---|
| 1 Aston University Main Building and reception   | 10 Five-a-side sports pitch                     | 14 Sack of Potatoes pub   |
| 2 Aston Business School                          | 11 Sports pitch                                 | 15 Gosta Green pub  |
| 3 Library  | 12 European Bioenergy Research Institute (EBRI) | 16 Aston University nursery and pre-school  |
| 4 Students' Union                                | 13 Shops on campus                              |  Student accommodation |
| 5 Aston Brain Centre                             | - Tesco Express                                 |   |
| 6 Vision Sciences                                | - Costa Coffee                                  |   |
| 7 Aston Medical School                           | - Ryman Stationery                              |   |
| 8 Sir Doug Ellis Woodcock Sports Centre and pool | - Greggs  |   |
| 9 Martin Luther King Multi-Faith Centre          | - Wok & Go                                      |   |





# DISCOVER BIRMINGHAM

Aston University



With our campus based in the cosmopolitan city centre of Birmingham it's just a 10 minute walk to reach all the facilities you would expect in a modern city such as excellent rail, bus and metro links, world class shopping centres and entertainment venues. As the UK's second largest city, Birmingham is culturally diverse and rich in history, so you will be sure to find something to suit your tastes and interests.

- ▶ Being at the centre of the UK means travelling to and from Birmingham is easy. Our international airport serves over 100 direct routes, our motorway system links us to the north and south of the country with ease and we have three train stations in the city centre including Birmingham New Street from which you can travel to London in less than 90 minutes.
- ▶ From street food at the award winning Digbeth Dining Club to fine dining at Michelin starred restaurants, and cuisine from across the globe, Birmingham is fast becoming a food tourist hotspot.
- ▶ You'll find everything you need from high-street chains, designer shops, independent and vintage boutiques, as well as a large variety of food stores, markets and international grocers.
- ▶ There's a wide range of museums, galleries and heritage sites to enjoy all year round.
- ▶ Over 8,000 acres of parks and open spaces offer plenty of places to relax or play sport outdoors.



Aston University is proud to be the Official UK University Partner of Aston Villa Football Club

- City locations shown opposite
- 1 Digbeth street art
  - 2 Grand Central
  - 3 Bullring shopping centre
  - 4 Brindley Place
  - 5 Town Hall Birmingham
  - 6 Library of Birmingham
  - 7 The Mailbox shopping centre
  - 8 Birmingham city centre
  - 9 Chinese quarter
  - 10 Cadbury World
  - 11 Edgbaston cricket ground
  - 12 Birmingham canal network

# DISCOVER OUR CAMPUS

As an Aston student you get the best of both worlds: a green, well-equipped, friendly campus in the centre of a vibrant city. With our entire social, support and academic facilities based on campus you'll never have far to go.

With modern on campus accommodation and the city of Birmingham on your doorstep there are a wide range of housing options to suit all tastes and budgets.

#### Campus facilities include:

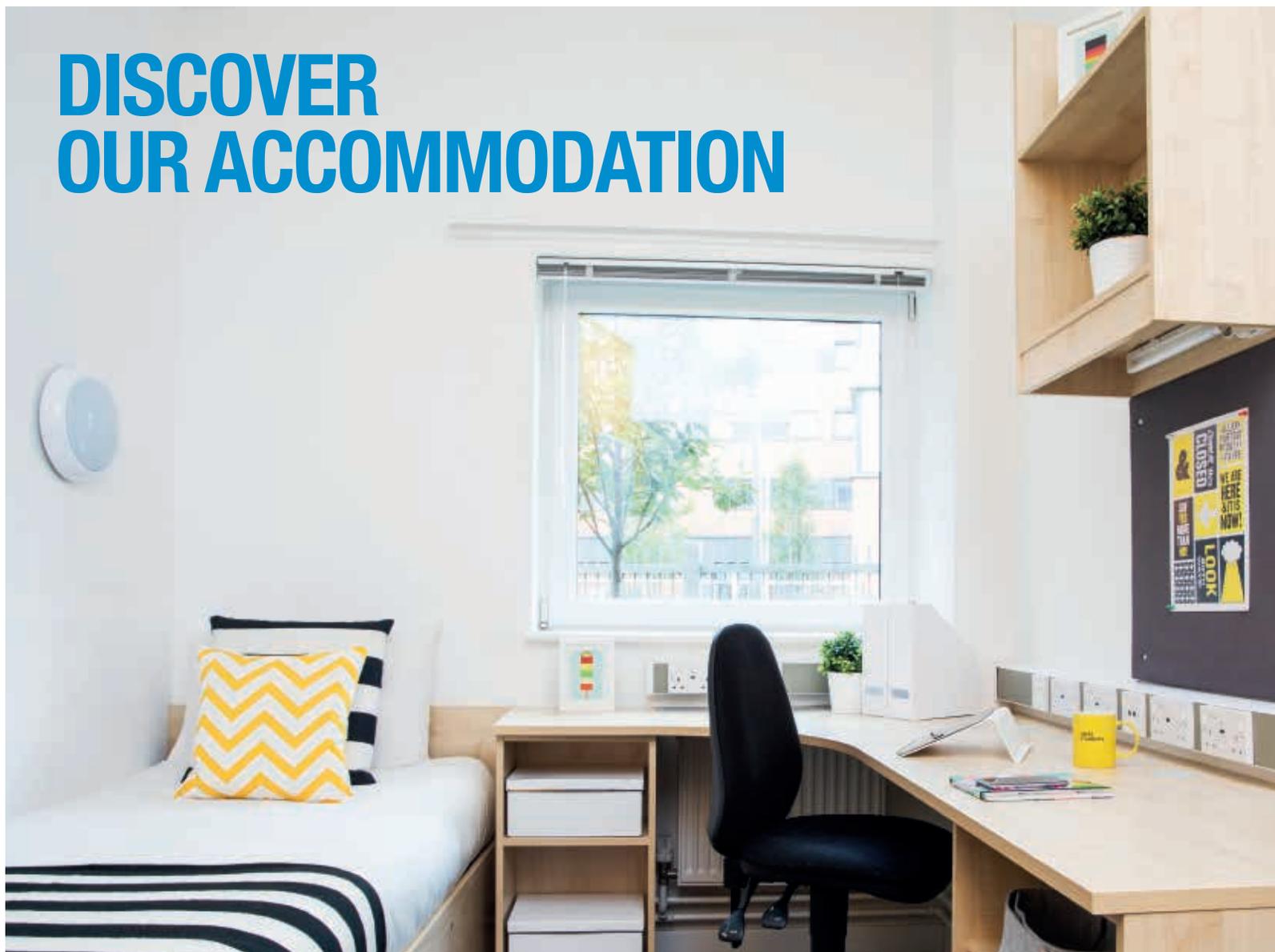
- ▶ Library: open seven days a week, (24 hour opening during exam periods)
- ▶ Health and welfare services including dental, optician and counselling services
- ▶ The Martin Luther King multi-faith centre
- ▶ 24 hour on-site security
- ▶ Sports centre with sports halls, a 110-station gym and swimming pool
- ▶ Extensive IT facilities, some with 24 hour access
- ▶ General store, bookshop, computer shop, supermarket and 24 hour cash points
- ▶ Wifi internet access available across campus.

Those studying via distance learning will have access to our Virtual Learning Environment, extensive digital library catalogue and study support via email, phone and Skype\*.

\*Communication channels vary for individual services



# DISCOVER OUR ACCOMMODATION



## Facilities

-  Bedroom complete with study space
-  All utility bills included
-  Free high speed internet
-  Ensuite shower facilities
-  Onsite safety
-  Laundry

Accommodation is on Aston's city centre campus and everything is within walking distance.

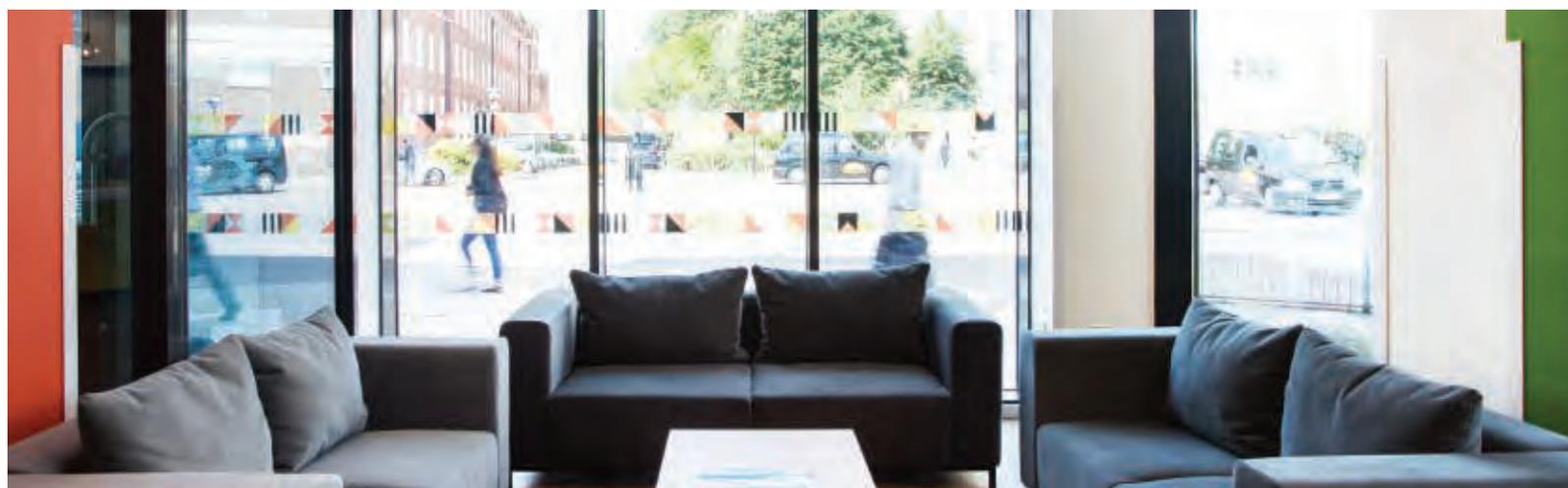
Rooms on campus have either been built within the last four years, or have recently been refurbished. All accommodation is ensuite and has access to high speed internet.

We guarantee a room offer to all international applicants who accept their offer and pay their deposit before the accommodation deadline. Details of the accommodation offer and deadline will be available in your offer letter and on our website.

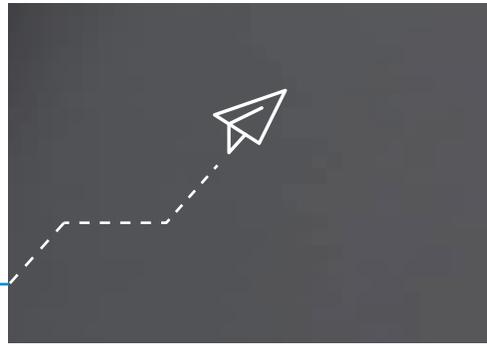
For further information, including rents, see:

[aston.ac.uk/accommodation](https://aston.ac.uk/accommodation)

**2<sup>nd</sup>**  
in the UK  
for student  
accommodation  
2017 University Compare Rankings



# DISCOVER YOUR CAREER



You will have opportunities to develop skills and experiences to match your career ambitions. Studying industry-relevant courses as part of an international student body means you can develop the knowledge and skills demanded by global and local employers.

High quality careers guidance, education and information services are delivered through individual appointments, group sessions and online tutorials. We bring students and employers together for on-campus employer presentations, interviews and recruitment fairs.

**Over 200 employers come onto campus each year to meet our students, including....**

3M // Accenture // Aldi // Armed Forces // AXA // BAE Systems // Balfour Beatty // Barclays // Bentley // BMW // Boots // BT // Capgemini // Caterpillar // Co-op // Corus // Deloitte // E.ON // Ernst & Young // ExxonMobil // Fujitsu // GlaxoSmithKline // Harrods // HP // HM Revenue and Customs // HSBC // IBM // Intel // Jaguar Land Rover // Mondelez // KPMG // L'Oreal // Lloyds Banking Group // Marks & Spencer // Microsoft // Morgan Stanley // NHS // PriceWaterhouseCoopers // P&G // Rolls-Royce // Sainsbury's // Santander // Tesco // Unilever // Vision Express



**Amrit Grewal**

► **Course**

**MSc Communication Systems and Wireless Networking**

► **Destination**

**Associate Engineer  
Rolls Royce**

Aston has strong industrial links and this was particularly attractive to gain real experience whilst simultaneously studying. Another aspect that Aston provided was the guest lectures and events which we were encouraged to attend and participate in. I felt these were invaluable as they introduced real world problems and developments occurring within my field."

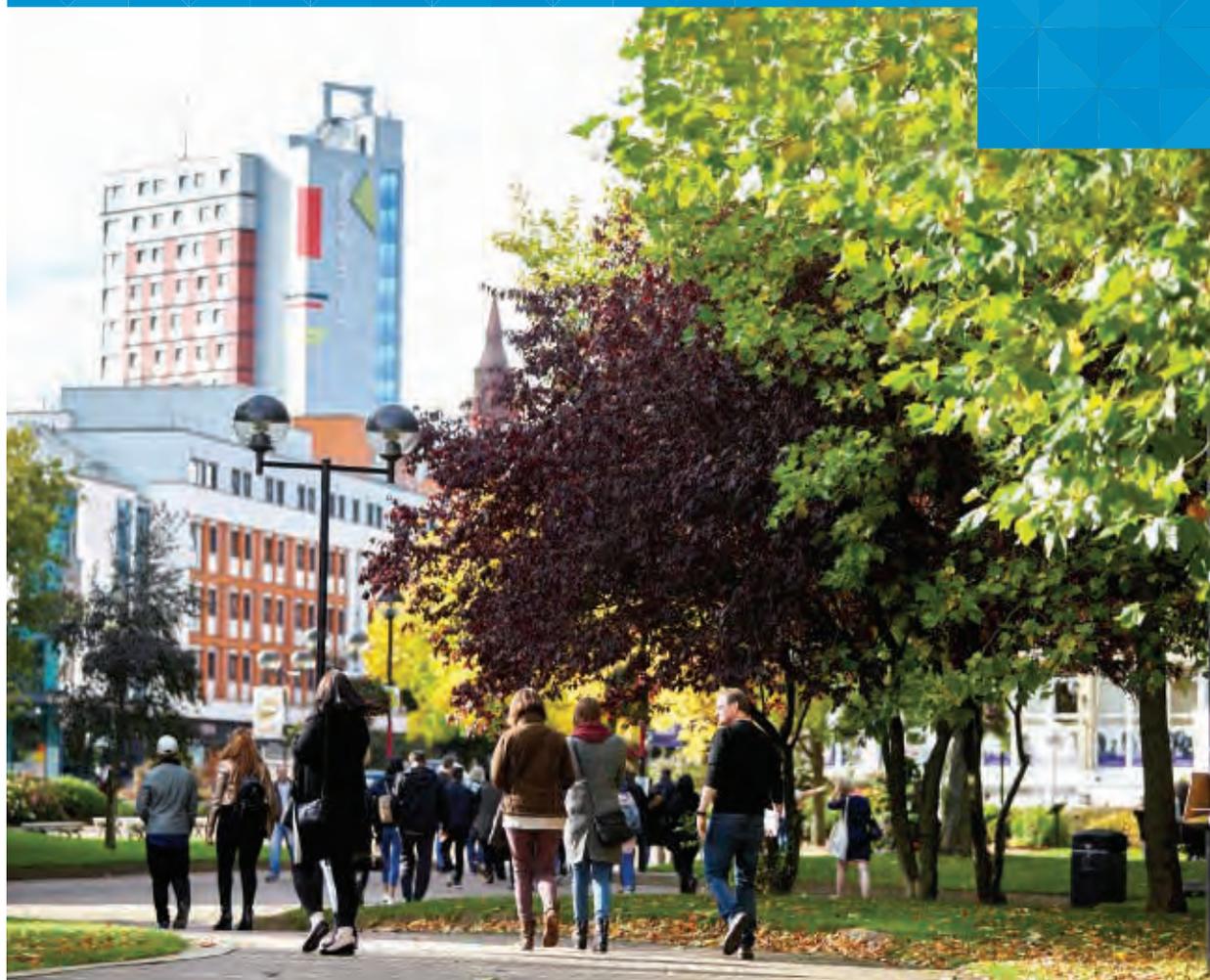


# WELCOMING INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS

Aston has long been a popular destination for international students. You will learn in a friendly and diverse community in the centre of Birmingham, a vibrant and multicultural city. Birmingham has a rich international heritage and we welcome people from all countries to be part of our city.



Birmingham is home to 187 different nationalities and celebrates a wide range of major festivals from Vaisakhi to Eid to Chinese New Year. Aston is a welcoming and safe place to live and study, and we are proud that our university is open to students from around the world.



## Campus community

Aston has a diverse student population of over 10,000 full-time students from over 130 countries. Most of our international students choose to live on campus so that they can benefit from living and studying in a campus environment right in the city centre of Birmingham.

There are a number of international student societies at Aston, including the African Caribbean Society, Asian Society, Sikh Society, Chinese Student Scholar Association and the Hong Kong Society.

## Accommodation

Accommodation on campus means easy access to facilities and no travel costs. All rooms are single occupancy, ensuite and self-catering. We are sensitive to individual student needs and our Residence Tutors will support you if you need any help.

We guarantee a room offer to all international applicants who accept their offer and pay their deposit before the accommodation deadline. Details of the accommodation offer and deadline will be available in your offer letter and on our website.

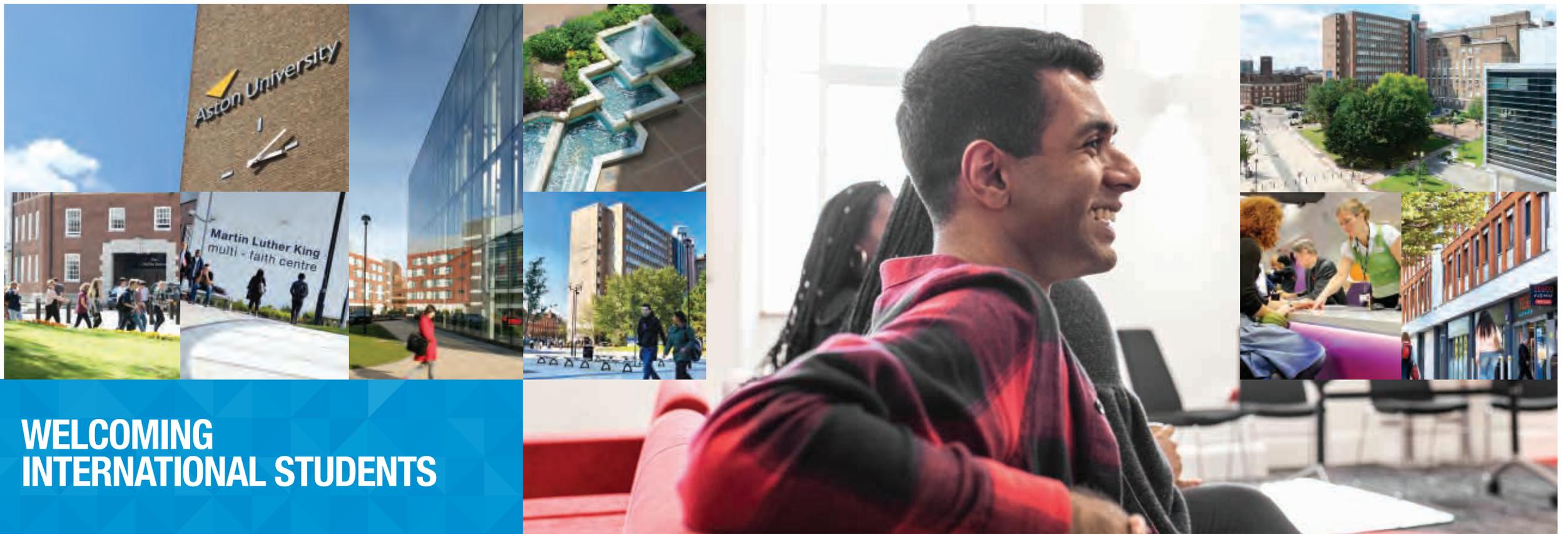
## Welfare and support

The University's extensive welfare and support services for all students are accessible through The Hub, which is centrally located in the front of our main building. From here you can access the following support services:

- ▶ Advice Zone
- ▶ Counselling Service
- ▶ Disability Team
- ▶ International Student Advisers (for free advice on a range of issues including immigration and visa renewal).

Additional support is also offered via:

- ▶ Students' Union Advice and Representation
- ▶ Martin Luther King Multi-Faith Centre



# WELCOMING INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS

## English language entry requirements

To be accepted onto our programmes, you must be able to satisfy the University's English language requirements. The level required will depend on the programme you are applying for.

We strive to make your application process as easy as possible, however in all cases we reserve the right to request an English language qualification and / or conduct an interview.

## Pre-sessional Programmes in English for Academic Purposes

For applicants whose English falls short of our minimum entry requirements we provide a range of pre-sessional English Language programmes which

aim to enable our applicants to reach our required levels of English and help them to become more confident about studying in English in the UK.

You can gain the relevant language and academic skills necessary for success on your future course by attending one of our pre-sessional English courses. The length of course required will be detailed in your offer letter.

30, 18, 12, 6 and 4 week programmes are available before the beginning of your course.

During your pre-sessional programme you will focus on:

- ▶ developing your academic writing skills
- ▶ practising effective reading strategies
- ▶ understanding academic lectures and taking notes

- ▶ expressing your ideas and opinions in seminar discussions
- ▶ developing your presentation skills
- ▶ improving your pronunciation of English
- ▶ developing your grammatical accuracy and range of structures
- ▶ extending your general, academic and subject-specific vocabulary
- ▶ developing your research skills

For more information on our pre-sessional English programme please visit our website.

## Aston Welcome Week

Aston University holds an International Orientation Week, followed by a Freshers' Week for all new students, designed to help you settle in and adjust to student life.

Second and final year students called 'Aston Aunties' will help you throughout these two weeks. The Aunties provide a friendly face and help guide you around campus, show you the sights and answer any questions.

Welcome Week will also:

- ▶ Help you adapt to a new culture, language, food, the British climate and your surroundings at Aston University
- ▶ Introduce you to the University and its services
- ▶ Help you meet other international students

- ▶ Assist you with practical arrangements such as shopping for food and other necessities such as opening a bank account
- ▶ Introduce you to the services provided by the Students' Union including clubs and societies, student sports clubs and sports provision
- ▶ Introduce you to the academic system at Aston University, study methods and approaches to learning
- ▶ Introduce you to cross cultural communication and basic presentation skills through workshops and group interaction.

## Scholarships

Aston offers a large number of scholarships to support academically talented international students. If you meet our criteria you will be encouraged to apply for a scholarship. If you are offered a scholarship you must accept your place to secure your award.

# Aston Business School

For full details of entry requirements for each course please visit the course page on our website: [www.aston.ac.uk/abs](http://www.aston.ac.uk/abs)



**Aston Business School is among Europe's largest business schools, with approximately 3,000 students. It has been conducting pioneering research into modern business and management issues for over 60 years, making it one of the longest established, research-based business schools in the UK.**

Aston Business School is one of just 1% of business schools in the world to hold AACSB, EQUIS and AMBA accreditations - three of the most recognised and prestigious accreditation bodies in the world.

Our postgraduate portfolio has been designed in close partnership with business and industry, giving you an ideal platform from which to build your future career. Our course structures enable you to gain the skillsets needed to succeed in today's competitive workplace, such as negotiation, communication, leadership, teamwork and innovative thinking. It is skills such as these that keep our graduates highly sought after by some of the world's leading organisations.

To put these skills into practice we believe that our students deserve the very best of opportunities to experience the real business environment, with live projects and internships to prepare you for the real world.

Aston Law School is part of Aston Business School. We are proud to launch for 2019 our new LLM International Commercial Law programme. See page 37 for details.

## Professional Development Programme

The Professional Development Programme (PDP) is an integrated module which runs throughout all MSc programmes at Aston Business School. Focusing on professional development and employability, this module gives you the opportunity to identify, develop and apply the key skills you will gain throughout the year. As you work through this compulsory module you will:

- ▶ Build a skills portfolio which allows you to showcase the competencies you have acquired during your studies, competencies that are highly desirable to employers worldwide
- ▶ Take part in a range of skills workshops and simulations
- ▶ Have the opportunity to complete an integrated work internship of up to 12 months or complete a study abroad opportunity with one of over 50 international partner institutions worldwide. Aston University participates in the Erasmus Programme which provides opportunities for students to apply for funding to support work and study abroad.





### Study abroad opportunities

We have long-established partnership agreements with many business and management schools across the world, who offer the same high standards of teaching quality. These agreements provide you with the option to spend some of your study time with one of our partner institutions to gain further academic credentials in addition to your Aston degree course.

You can study during Term 3, at a Summer School, during the Autumn Semester.

All programmes are taught in English and are tuition-free: they are based on reciprocal exchange agreements and although you will need to take care of your travel and living expenses, you will not need to pay any tuition fees to the partner institutions.

### Partner institutions include:

- ▶ BI Norwegian Business School, Oslo
- ▶ Católica Porto Business School, Lisbon
- ▶ The Chinese University of Hong Kong
- ▶ KEDGE Business School, Bordeaux, Marseille, Paris
- ▶ Korea University Business School, Seoul
- ▶ National Chengchi University, Taiwan
- ▶ Nanyang Technological University, Singapore
- ▶ Queensland University of Technology, Brisbane
- ▶ University of Florida, Gainesville
- ▶ University of Mannheim
- ▶ The University of Sao Paulo, Brazil



## Executive DBA

### Programme overview

The Aston AMBA-accredited Executive DBA is the highest level of business qualification available. It offers a distinctive opportunity to work with world-leading academics to advance research to continually progress thought on how to develop effective organisations. To succeed, participants must show that they can transform practice with the knowledge they have created. Participants discover how to turn complex ideas into actions and become recognised as thought leaders in their field.

### DBA topics and supervision

When you apply for a DBA you will need to have an idea of the kind of research project you'd like to embark upon. With your application, you will need to submit a research proposal to demonstrate how you plan to take your topic further. Your supervisor will have an excellent research track record directly related to your DBA topic. This is a rare facility that can only be undertaken by an institution with our research breadth. We will only take you on as a DBA if you can be supervised by a member of the School who is a world-class researcher in their chosen field.

### Programme structure

The Executive DBA is a part-time distance learning course which can be completed in four years. Actual completion may vary depending on circumstances.

- > Year 1 (up to two maximum): Research Methods Course and Qualifying Report
- > Years 2-4 (up to six years maximum): Individual research project and submission of thesis/ portfolio



### Additional entry requirements

For direct enrolment onto the Executive DBA you must have: an MBA, MSc or an MA degree in business or management (or an equivalent professional qualification) and a minimum of five years' experience in a senior role. Additionally, you should demonstrate appropriate links to the practice that your proposed research refers to. There are additional entry requirements for students whose first language is not English.

## PhD

### Programme overview

Our PhD programme is designed to train Doctoral students who aspire to become future academics or professional industry researchers.

### Research strengths

Our research strengths are embedded in our academic departments:

- > Accounting
- > Economics, Finance and Entrepreneurship
- > Law
- > Marketing and Strategy
- > Operations and Information Management
- > Work and Organisational Psychology

You are strongly recommended to explore these Academic Department web pages before applying. Please also visit our PhD web pages for any potential PhD funding opportunities.

### Programme content (including any research methods courses)

In year one you will undertake four ESRC approved taught Research Methods modules designed to provide you with the necessary skills to successfully complete your PhD and to develop as a well-rounded researcher. In year 2 you will typically concentrate on obtaining ethical approval for your research, before focusing on data collection and analysis. Year 3 is typically a writing up year, where you will spend most of your time developing your thesis.

### Research environment

We have an exciting and vibrant research environment that enables you to engage in various research events and seminars. There is also a dedicated research society which organises social and academic events. Academic departments also run research seminars where students are encouraged to present their research and get feedback from colleagues. In addition, our Summer School in Advanced Research Methods offers additional training opportunities.



### Additional entry requirements

Undergraduate degree - 2:1 or above  
 Postgraduate degree - 65% in both taught and dissertation elements. Two academic references.  
 TOEFL - 101 (Reading 23, Writing 28, Listening 23, Speaking 23). IELTS - 6.5 (Reading and Writing 6.5, Listening and Speaking 6.0).

# The Aston MBA

The Aston MBA is an extensive programme which immerses you into the principles of strategic thinking in a business context and prepares you for a career at the forefront of business.

Select from one of Aston's five MBA programmes to suit your professional commitments. You'll experience a dynamic, real-life, learning development experience, allowing you to accelerate your career with a positive, dynamic, and forward-thinking strategic mindset.

Mode	Duration	Attendance	Start date
Full Time	12 months	On campus	September
Executive	30 months	Online study combined with intensive study weekends on campus	September, January, April, July
Executive Apprenticeship*	30 months	Online study combined with intensive study weekends on campus	September, January, April, July
Online	24 months	100% Online	September, November, January, March, May, July

\* There are currently two Executive Apprenticeship options:  
 > The Executive Apprenticeship MBA  
 > The Executive Apprenticeship Management of Manufacturing MBA

## Entry requirements

To be eligible to study the Aston MBA (all routes), you will need:

- > A good UK honours degree
- > An equivalent overseas degree recognised by Aston University
- > A degree-level professional qualification
- > At least three years' relevant work experience post-graduation

We accept applications from candidates with extensive work experience who have not completed a graduate qualification. You will initially be enrolled as a Certificate student and attend all the same classes as MBA students. Provided you pass your first six modules, you will transfer to the MBA at no additional cost. There are additional entry requirements for international students. Please see our website [www.aston.ac.uk/mba](http://www.aston.ac.uk/mba) for full entry requirements.

## Join the ranks

Aston Business School is consistently recognised by the world's most prominent rankings as being at the forefront of business education:

- > Triple accredited - Aston is part of an elite group of Business Schools worldwide with triple accreditation from AMBA, AACSB and EQUIS.
- > The Aston MBA is one of the world's top MBAs (Tier 1) in CEO Magazine Global MBA Ranking 2018.
- > Our Online MBA is ranked in the top 10 in the world by CEO Magazine and top 20 in the world by QS Distance Online MBA Rankings 2018.

## More than an MBA

- > **Business principles into practice:** You will learn by putting business principles into practice, solving real-world business challenges. You will engage in live consultancy projects, engaging with high level brands, workshops, speaker sessions, and live projects. Your final module is a flexible self-directed activity which you will negotiate with your programme director.
- > **Assessment:** You will be assessed by simulated and live project activity as you demonstrate your innovative and strategic thinking. Your final module is a flexible module with a key leadership focus, negotiated by you.
- > **The Aston Edge:** You will develop key professional development skills through The Aston Edge, our personal leadership development programme which runs throughout the MBA.
- > **Networking:** A range of events and activities will enable you to grow your networks to build professional business relationships.
- > **Mentor support:** To support your learning you will have the opportunity to be partnered with an Aston MBA graduate mentor for study support – a key sounding board for your studies.
- > **Career support:** Receive comprehensive career management support from Aston's dedicated MBA careers consultant.

### Core content

- > Strategic management
- > Leadership
- > Marketing
- > Accounting
- > Operations Management
- > Entrepreneurship

### Optional content

- > E-business Strategy
- > International Business
- > International Finance
- > International Marketing Management
- > Advanced Strategy

Your final module is a professional flexible module with a leadership focus – self-defined and negotiated by you.

## The Aston Edge

The Aston Edge is a personal leadership development programme which runs throughout the MBA core curriculum to develop your professional skills to help you to become a better performer, achieve your goals, and equip you with the skills to respond to the big challenges that lie ahead in your future.

You will develop key skills such as negotiating, managing staff expertise, acting with confidence, to lead, inspire and influence. You'll develop a leadership and entrepreneurial mindset in everything you do.

The Aston Edge is delivered through a series of dynamic, engaging leadership workshops and seminars with high profile key speakers and guests to drive your strategic thinking and respond to real world business challenges.

For more information visit [www.aston.ac.uk/mba](http://www.aston.ac.uk/mba)



Aston is part of an elite group of Business Schools worldwide with triple accreditation from AACSB, EQUIS and AMBA



## Basel Hammuda

▶ Course Full Time MBA     
 ▶ Destination Technology Manager at Cpgemini

"Aston shaped my personal and professional profile. Thanks to the connections of the Business School I was invited to the House of Lords to consult on a draft agenda while I was studying. The Aston MBA has many merits. To name a few, the cultural diversity was amazing, the dedicated study areas, the hundreds of real-life case studies we worked on and the very friendly and approachable academic staff, which you will never find anywhere else in the UK."



# MSc Accounting and Finance

## Programme overview

Designed for graduates from any discipline, this programme provides a solid understanding of accounting and finance principles and their joint role. You will learn how organisations use financial information for decision-making, performance evaluation and financial reporting purposes in different contexts including businesses and public sector organisations.

## Core modules

- > Financial Accounting and Reporting
- > Management Accounting
- > Contemporary Issues in Financial Reporting
- > Strategic Management Accounting
- > Sustainability Accounting and Accountability
- > Business Finance
- > Financial Analysis
- > Ethics in Academic Practice
- > Professional Development Programme (PDP)
- > MSc A&F Project or MSc A&F Dissertation

## Elective modules

- > Fundamentals of Audit and Taxation
- > Islamic Accounting and Finance
- > Corporate Governance, Regulation and Compliance
- > International Finance
- > Research Design, Practice and Ethics

## Professional accreditation

MSc in Accounting and Finance is accredited by the Association of Chartered Certified Accountants (ACCA) and the Chartered Institute of Management Accountants (CIMA). Successful completion of this course leads to exemptions from these professional accounting bodies. You will still need to secure professional training and complete further exams in order to become fully qualified in accountancy, but these exemptions demonstrate to future employers your commitment and potential to complete sector qualifications.



### Why choose this course?

Employment prospects are good and with global markets continuing to be in financial turmoil organisations need to be able to report accurately, analyse and understand the financial situation at all times.



### Career prospects

Our graduates have secured employment in a wider range of roles such as Accountants, Analysts and Risk Consultants. This has involved working for organisations including EY (China); Deutsche Bank (London) and KPMG (Russia and CIS).

# MSc Business Analytics

## Programme overview

Modern businesses in the UK and worldwide have a great need for professionals with analytical planning and big data analysis skills. This course will equip you with the quantitative skills needed to understand and engage with complex data, as well as the analytical tools to drive business advantage. You will deepen your knowledge of business analytics, web analytics, data mining and management.

## Core modules

- > Descriptive Analytics
- > Effective Management Consultancy
- > Decision Models
- > Performance Analytics
- > Data Mining and Web Analytics
- > Software Analytics
- > Ethics in Academic Practice

## Elective modules

- > Business Analytics in Practice
- > Digital Marketing
- > Financial Econometrics
- > Big Data for Decision Making
- > Advanced Spreadsheets and Databases
- > Simulation for Managerial Decision Making
- > Services Innovation
- > Business and Risk Context



### Why choose this course?

There is a high employer demand for graduates of this course. You will improve your employability potential by gaining the expertise needed to analyse big data, improve decision-making and help companies gain a competitive advantage.



### Additional entry requirements

You must be able to demonstrate strong quantitative skills.



### Career prospects

This course will prepare you for a range of specialist careers in data analytics, such as a consultant, data analyst, manager or business analyst.

# MSc Business Economics and Finance

## Programme overview

You will gain detailed knowledge of economics and finance subjects and develop familiarity with key theories that aid in understanding real world issues. You will gain a wide range of practical and transferable skills, including quantitative methods, which are in high demand by employers.

## Core modules

- > Advanced Quantitative Methods
- > Economics of Governance and Organisations
- > International Finance
- > Macroeconomics
- > Quantitative Methods for Finance
- > Ethics in Academic Practice
- > Professional Development Programme (PDP)
- > MSc Dissertation

## Elective modules

- > Entrepreneurial Strategies
- > Entrepreneurship and Innovation in Emerging Economies
- > International Business
- > Investment Banking
- > Strategic Management
- > Valuation of Investments
- > Business Finance



### Why choose this course?

You will learn from leading academics who are at the forefront of their research area and regularly interact with policymakers and businesses to advise them on key decision making matters.



### Additional entry requirements

Some fundamental knowledge of economics (successfully completed 10 ECTS credits, the equivalent of two standard undergraduate modules).

### Career prospects

This course will prepare you for a career in the financial sector, for example as an economic or financial analyst.

# MSc Business and Management

📌 Online also available

## Programme overview

You'll acquire the business skills sought after by graduate employers worldwide, including interpreting financial statements, developing marketing and pricing strategies and understanding strategy and innovation processes. This course is suitable for graduates of all disciplines, giving you a broad knowledge of business management.

## Core modules

- > Accounting for Non-Financial Managers
- > Applied Research Methods
- > Marketing Management
- > Strategic Management
- > People and World Organisations
- > Operations Management
- > Professional Development Programme
- > Ethics in Academic Practice
- > Professional Development Programme (PDP)

## Elective modules

You will choose a particular pathway from a number of options including International Business, Finance, Governance, Marketing and Organisational Behaviour.



### Why choose this course?

Optional modules enable you to tailor the course to shape your needs. The skills you gain on a business and management masters will allow you to start contributing to your employer's organisation immediately.



### Career prospects

Our graduates have secured employment in a wide range of roles such as Brand Activation Executives; Communications and Training Executives; Management Consultants and Senior Business Analysts. This has involved working for organisations including Unilever (United Arab Emirates); Tesco (UK); Deloitte (India) and Lloyds TSB (UK.).

# MSc Business Psychology

## Programme overview

This course is an ideal introduction to human behaviour in the workplace. Gain an understanding of what makes individuals thrive at work, learn how to improve organisational performance, and how to make the workplace a happier environment.

## Core modules

- > Organisation Behaviour: Theory and Practice
- > Learning and Talent Development
- > Assessment, Performance and Reward
- > Organisational Behaviour
- > Strategy, Change and Leadership
- > Research Methods
- > Dissertation
- > Professional Development Programme (PDP)

## Elective modules

Choose two:

- > Employee Relations in Context
- > Careers and Counselling
- > Employee Relations and Counselling
- > Strategic and International Human Resource Management
- > Marketing Management
- > Operations Management
- > Strategic Management
- > Management of Innovation
- > Economic Environment of Business

## Professional accreditation

MSc Business Psychology is accredited by the Association for Business Psychology and students on this course are eligible for student membership while they study. The programme is NOT accredited by the BPS and graduates would not be eligible for registration with the HCPC as a practitioner psychologist.



### Why choose this course?

Develop a career either as a general manager or as an organisational consultant, or take a first step towards an academic or research-based career.



### Additional Entry Requirements

Applicants should ideally have an undergraduate degree which contains psychology, social sciences or business related subjects.



### Career prospects

Our graduates have secured employment in a wide range of roles such as Administrative and Diplomatic Officers, Business Development Managers, Human Resource Advisors and Human Resource Partners. This has involved working for organisations including the Ministry of Human Resources (Malaysia), Prodos Ltd (Nigeria), Transport for London (UK) and Ford Motor Company.

# MSc Entrepreneurship

## Programme overview

Learn to think like an entrepreneur, and develop an understanding of the global business environment. Enterprise skills are highly valuable outside of new venture start-ups, as employers are increasingly looking to hire employees with an entrepreneurial mindset. You'll gain analytical and strategic skills to enable you to set up and manage new enterprises within a national and international context, and the knowledge required for developing innovation-based business strategies.

## Core modules

- > International Entrepreneurship
- > Business Venturing
- > Entrepreneurship and Innovation in Emerging Economies
- > Ethics in Academic Practice
- > International Business
- > Entrepreneurial Strategies
- > Professional Development Programme (PDP)
- > MSc Dissertation

## Optional modules

- > Strategic Business Sustainability
- > International Marketing Management
- > Strategic Global Outsourcing and Offshoring
- > Operations Management
- > Strategic Management
- > Management Consulting
- > Intellectual Property Strategy and Management
- > Business Finance
- > Accounting for Non-financial Managers
- > People and World Organisations
- > Marketing Management
- > Management of Innovation
- > Economic Environment of Business



### Why choose this course?

Get consultancy experience on a live business dissertation project. Access BSEEN (Birmingham Skills for Enterprise and Employability Network): a business incubator located on campus, offering tailored business support, workshops and enterprise events throughout the academic year.



### Career prospects

This course will prepare you to be an entrepreneurial employee in today's dynamic corporate environment. Recent graduates have set up their own businesses in a variety of sectors including: Marketing, Energy, Manufacturing and Insurance Services.

# MSc Enterprise Development

## Programme overview

This is an innovative, dynamic and flexible part time course, ideal if you want to develop your management, entrepreneurship, and innovation skills. There are no lectures or exams; this programme puts application and experience at its core. Throughout the two years you will undertake live business challenges in a team, putting entrepreneurship and management principles into practice. You will learn how to generate ideas, develop new product/service ideas and bring them to market. Most importantly, you will learn the importance of building your enterprise around customer value.

## Core modules

- > Enterprise Creation
- > Creating and Leading High Performance Teams
- > Applied Research
- > Innovation and Entrepreneurship
- > Enterprise Management and Growth
- > Leading High Performance Teams
- > Corporate Social Responsibility Challenge



### Why choose this course?

If you like learning through application and practice, this is the course for you. You will learn how to set up and manage a business by actually setting up and managing a business. There will be no exam stress to distract you. All of your assessment will be authentic and developmental. You will be assessed through business/product proposals, personal reflections, marketing plans and real life market research, all of which are crucial skills for the modern professional. The programme is part time, allowing you the time and flexibility to structure it around your personal and work commitments. This is one of the only courses of its type in the country. It is different – are you?



### Career prospects

This programme would be ideal for anyone wishing to set up their own business or social enterprise. It also provides an excellent route to management and leadership.

# MSc Finance

## Programme overview

This course will develop your knowledge and understanding of financial markets and how they impact on decision-making. Studying MSc Finance at Aston provides you with access to the most innovative tools available, including a dedicated trading room facility and market trading simulations, to give you the experience and confidence you need to succeed in the finance industry. This course will develop your knowledge of finance theory with practical applications and research tools. During the summer term you will also have the opportunity to attend a workshop designed to help students taking the CFA® (Chartered Financial Analyst) Level I examination.

## Core modules

- > Advanced Corporate Finance
- > Derivatives
- > Fixed Income Securities
- > Quantitative Methods for Finance
- > Financial Econometrics
- > Finance Theory
- > Trading in Securities Markets
- > Ethics in Academic Practice

## Elective modules

- > Trading Techniques
- > International Finance
- > Investment Banking



### Why choose this course?

Our facilities allow you to experience real life situations with access to a dedicated Trading Room facility and asset market trading simulations.



### Additional entry requirements

You must demonstrate a good level of quantitative and analytical skills gained from a degree in finance or economics (we will also consider an upper second class degree in mathematics, statistics, computing, engineering or the sciences).



### Career prospects

Our graduates have secured employment in a wide range of roles such as Analysts, Consultants and Investment Risk Officers. This has involved working for organisations including Goldman Sachs (UK), EY (France) and BNP Paribas (Luxembourg).

# MSc Global Operations and Service Management

## Programme overview

This course will provide you with a key knowledge of advanced operations management at a global level. You will develop knowledge of the latest global, economic, environmental and social challenges and strategic management operations, and become critically aware of key issues such as sustainability, globalisation, digitisation, advanced manufacturing services, and the impact of emerging technologies. You will learn how to apply theories and techniques of operations management in diverse socio-economic contexts, industrial sectors, and cultural environments.

## Core modules

- > International Operations Strategy
- > Managing Multi-organisational Enterprises and Enterprise Systems
- > Managing Projects
- > Management of Innovation
- > Operations Management
- > Applied Research Methods
- > Dissertation

## Elective modules

(choose two from optional modules below)

- > Enterprise Resource Planning
- > Big Data
- > Service Operations Management
- > Sustainable Operations Management
- > Industrial Service Innovation
- > Simulation for Managerial Decision Making



### Why choose this course?

You will learn from leading academics who are at the forefront of their research area and regularly interact with policymakers and businesses to advise them on key decision making matters.



### Career prospects

This course will prepare you for a career in global operations and service management.

# MSc Human Resource Management

(Full-time and Part-time)

## Programme overview

Learn the complex yet subtle art of managing people in organisations, and develop skills for analysis and in-depth policy formation as well as the broader discipline of management. This course is fully accredited by the largest internationally recognised HR professional body, the Chartered Institute of Personnel and Development (CIPD), and will provide you with the ideal qualification for developing your career in HR.

## Core modules

- > Organisational Behaviour
- > Strategy, Change and Leadership
- > Strategic and International HRM
- > Assessment, Performance and Reward
- > Learning and Talent Development
- > Employee Relations in Context
- > Employment Law
- > Research Methods
- > Managing and Interpreting Financial Information
- > Ethics in Academic Practice
- > Professional Development Programme (PDP)

## Professional accreditation

This course is fully accredited by the Chartered Institute of Personnel and Development (CIPD).



### Why choose this course?

This course enables you to gain Associate membership of the CIPD after successfully completing the course. If there is sufficient demand from students you may also be offered a chance to undertake Occupational Test User (OTU) training and gain a certificate which is an accredited qualification by the British Psychological Society (BPS) in psychological testing. There will, however, be an additional cost for this qualification.



### Career prospects

Our graduates have secured employment in a wide range of roles such as HR Executives, HR Assistant Managers, Regional HR Business Partners and Personnel Managers. This has involved working for organisations including KPMG (India), Lloyds Banking Group (UK), Amazon Logistics (UK) and Tesco (UK).

# MSc Information Systems and Business Analysis

## Programme overview

Ranked 3rd in the UK by Eduniversal Best Masters 2017 this specialist course prepares you for a range of careers in information systems consultancy, business analysis and management. You'll gain the technical skills to develop and manage systems alongside a practical understanding of project management and consultancy.

## Core modules

- > Advanced Spreadsheets and Databases
- > Foundation in Business Systems
- > Developing Business Systems Workshop
- > Managing Projects
- > Learning, Skills and Career Development
- > Applied Research Methods
- > Ethics in Academic Practice
- > Professional Development Programme (PDP)

## Elective modules

- > Data Mining and Business Intelligence
- > Simulation for Managerial Decision Making
- > Enterprise Resource Planning
- > Operations Management
- > Strategic Global Outsourcing and Offshoring



### Why choose this course?

Information systems are the foundation of business and their operations and this course will give you the technical, organisational and people skills that international employers want across a range of sectors.



### Career prospects

This course will prepare you for a range of specialist careers in consultancy, management and business analysis, and is also a suitable first step if you want to pursue a research or academic career. Our graduates have secured employment in a wide range of roles such as Business Analysts, Information Systems Graduate Trainees and Junior Consultants. This has involved working for organisations including Scope International (India), British Gas and Roland Berger (Nigeria).

# MSc International Accounting and Finance

Online also available

## Programme overview

You will learn how to critically understand accounting within international business. You will build on the accounting and finance knowledge gained during your undergraduate degree to take on a senior management role within a global organisation. You will focus on the application of knowledge to real world situations. This course has a strong international orientation and includes the opportunity to work abroad as part of your degree.

## Core modules

- > International Business Finance
- > Strategic Management Accounting
- > International Business
- > Sustainability Accounting and Accountability
- > International Context of Corporate Reporting
- > International Taxation and Accounting
- > Ethics in Academic Practice
- > Professional Development Programme (PDP)
- > MSc Project or Dissertation

## Optional modules

- > Current Issues in Global Audit and Assurance
- > Risk Management
- > Islamic Accounting and Finance
- > Corporate Governance, Regulation and Compliance
- > Strategic Global Outsourcing and Offshoring
- > Entrepreneurship and Innovation in Emerging Economies
- > Data Mining and Business Intelligence
- > International Business Strategy
- > Performance Audit
- > Research Design, Practice and Ethics

## Professional accreditation

This course is a fantastic step towards becoming a qualified accountant. Several modules are accredited by the Association of Chartered Certified Accountants (ACCA) and the Chartered Institute of Management Accountants (CIMA). This means you will benefit from exemptions, which reduces the amount of ACCA or CIMA professional training and exams you'll need to take to become a fully qualified accountant once in employment.



### Why choose this course?

This course will enhance your global career prospects and provide you with an advanced knowledge of accounting and finance.



### Additional entry requirements

First degree in Accounting, Finance or relevant subject.



### Career prospects

Our graduates have secured employment in a wide range of roles such as Tax Associates, Trainee Accountants and Accounting Analysts. For organisations including Pricewaterhouse Coopers, Capita Financial Ltd and IBM.

# MSc International Business

## Programme overview

Today's business professionals operate in a global marketplace with organisations needing to learn important cultural differences if they are going to succeed across international borders. This course will give you cultural awareness and problem solving skills. The wide range of elective modules will enable you to develop skills in a specific business function linked to international business or pursue related areas such as entrepreneurship and business sustainability.

## Core modules

- > International Business
- > Advanced Topics in International Business
- > Strategic Management
- > Economic Environment of Business
- > Ethics in Academic Practice
- > Professional Development Programme (PDP)
- > MSc Dissertation

## Elective modules

Choose four modules (subject to pre-requisites and restrictions on some combinations):

- > Intellectual Property Strategy and Management
- > Business Finance
- > International Finance
- > Accounting for Non-Financial Managers
- > Strategic Business Sustainability
- > People and World Organisations
- > Marketing Management
- > International Marketing Management
- > Strategic Global Outsourcing and Offshoring
- > Operations Management
- > CSR, Sustainable Development and Public Policy
- > Entrepreneurial Strategies
- > International Business Strategy
- > Entrepreneurial and Innovation in Emerging Economies



### Why choose this course?

Ranked 3rd in the UK in the Eduniversal Best Masters Ranking 2017 and 7th in the UK by The Economist's Masters Ranking in 2017



### Career prospects

Our graduates have secured employment as Assistant Advisors, Marketing Specialists, Relationship Marketing Professionals and Senior Analysts. Employers include Ernst & Young, Bosch (China), IBM (India) and Deutsche Bank (UK).

# International Pre-Masters

## Programme overview

This course is for international students who want to accomplish a postgraduate degree at Aston Business School and gain foundational knowledge of international business. Successful completion of this course allows you to apply to study any Aston Masters programmes. The course programme includes a range of modules to improve academic English as well as providing a base knowledge of key concepts and theories of strategic management. Students will also develop intercultural awareness and competence within culturally diverse contexts.

## Core modules

The programme is broken down into two types of award, the Graduate Diploma and the Graduate Certificate. The Diploma runs across three terms (one academic year) and the Certificate runs across two terms (6 months).

## Graduate Diploma modules:

- > Academic Skills
- > Advanced Grammar and Vocabulary
- > Introduction to Intercultural Communication
- > International Business Environment

## Core modules for the Diploma and Certificate:

- > Applications of English in Academic and Professional Contexts
- > Analytical and Critical Thinking Skills
- > Business Policy

Both programmes are completed with a dissertation/research project.



### Why choose this course

You should consider this programme if one or more of the following apply:

- > your current level of qualification does not meet the required level for direct entry to an Aston Business School postgraduate degree programme;
- > you want to study a postgraduate qualification in a different subject to your degree;
- > you want to build confidence and improve subject knowledge before starting a postgraduate degree programme;
- > and you need to improve your academic English and/or study skills. (If this is the only factor that applies, find out more about our pre-sessional English programmes).

By successfully completing the Aston International Pre-Masters Programme, students will have a guaranteed pathway to a variety of Aston Business School postgraduate degrees.



### Career prospects

This programme will prepare you for a Masters degree programme that will give you access to careers across a wide range of sectors, both in the UK and internationally.

# MSc Investment Analysis

## Programme overview

Discover how to undertake security valuation and portfolio management by studying equity, debt and derivative markets in domestic and international sectors, and learn about the key techniques used by financial traders. This course has a strong focus on the practical application of finance within a trading or corporate setting. Your studies will culminate in a financial analyst evaluation of a UK listed company for your final project. During the summer term you will also have the opportunity to attend a workshop designed to help students taking the CFA® (Chartered Financial Analyst) Level I examination.

## Core modules

- > Valuation of Investments (A)
- > Valuation of Investments (B)
- > Quantitative Methods for Finance
- > Trading Techniques
- > Security Analysis
- > Investment Management
- > Business Finance
- > International Finance
- > Ethics in Academic Practice
- > Professional Development Programme (PDP)
- > Investment Analysis Project

## Professional accreditation:

You will have the opportunity to attend preparation and revision classes for the Chartered Financial Analyst (CFA) Level One course. You will also have the opportunity to complete the Bloomberg Market Concepts Certification - an industry recognised qualification.



### Why choose this course?

Practice your skills with a dedicated Bloomberg Trading Room facility. You can get ahead of the competition by practising in a life-like environment and gaining hands-on experience with Bloomberg's database.



### Additional entry requirements

Demonstrable quantitative and analytical skills, having studied some finance, economics or other quantitative modules at undergraduate level.



### Career prospects

This course provides you with the knowledge, understanding and skills needed for a career in the financial, insurance and corporate sectors. Recent graduate positions include: Auditor, PricewaterhouseCoopers (Italy); Financial Analyst, Deutsche Bank (UK); Investment Manager, Bank of China (China), CRM, Volkswagen.

# LLM International Commercial Law

## Programme overview

This varied and stimulating course is open to graduates in law and other academic backgrounds. If you didn't study law at undergraduate level, this degree will help you gain an understanding of how law and business intersect within a global context. For those with law qualifications, this course gives you the opportunity to develop advanced legal knowledge and a broad range of business skills. Globalisation has made international commercial law increasingly significant. We examine the basis of the relationship between law and business within this context.

## Core modules

- > Law and Business in a Global Context
- > Dissertation

## Elective modules

- > Competition Law and Policy
- > Banking and Financial Services Regulation
- > International Insolvency and Restructuring
- > Legal Risk Management
- > Internet Law
- > Corporate Governance Regulation and Compliance
- > Intellectual Property Strategy and Management

## Elective business modules:

- > Employee Relations in Context
- > Employment Law
- > Economic Environment of Business
- > International Business Strategy
- > Strategic Global Outsourcing and Offshoring
- > Business Finance
- > International Finance
- > Global Business Ethics



### Why choose this course

The course is delivered in partnership by our Law School and Business School. This means you will get the best of both worlds, benefitting from a first-class law and business education.



### Career prospects

This course will prepare you for a successful career in a range of legal roles, such as a solicitor, barrister, company secretary, in-house counsel or legal advisor. It will also develop your understanding of business and equip you with a range of transferable skills to enhance your employability. Our graduates have been successful in securing positions with prestigious international companies and at leading consultancy firms.

# MSc Strategy and International Business

## Programme overview

Ranked 4th in the UK in the Eduniversal Best Masters ranking 2017 this course will give you the understanding of strategy needed to excel in a management consulting, strategy or international management career. You will acquire the knowledge and skills needed to analyse companies' strategic situations and solve complex strategic problems. You will also develop your ability to assess and develop business strategies and operational plans, in a national, international and cross cultural context whilst working on live business projects.

## Core modules

- > Strategic Management
- > Advanced Topics in Strategy
- > International Business Strategy
- > International Business
- > Ethics in Academic Practice
- > Professional Development Programme (PDP)

## Elective modules

- > Management Consulting
- > Intellectual Property Strategy and Management
- > Business Finance
- > International Finance
- > Strategic Business Sustainability
- > People and World Organisations
- > Marketing Management
- > International Marketing Management
- > Strategic Global Outsourcing and Offshoring
- > Entrepreneurial Strategies
- > Management of Innovation
- > Advanced Topics in International Business
- > Economic Environment of Business

### Why choose this course?

The unique combination of strategy, management consulting and international business in this course will provide you with a solid foundation for a career in strategy, management consulting or International management.

### Career prospects

Our graduates have secured employment in a wide range of roles such as Business Process Analysts, Consultants, Senior Analysts and Transformation Consultants. This has involved working for organisations including Jaguar Land Rover, Hyundai, Deloitte (Spain) Deutsche Bank (UK) and Cap Gemini Consulting (Germany).

# MSc Strategic Marketing Management

## Programme overview

Marketing and strategy is the core of any successful business and effective business leaders need to understand marketing from a strategic perspective. This course advances your understanding of marketing processes and procedures, including marketing research, marketing planning, marketing communications and brand portfolio building. A selection of specialist marketing modules enables you to focus on what is right for your career.

## Core modules

- > Marketing Management
- > Marketing Research
- > Marketing Strategy
- > Analysis for Dissertation Research
- > Ethics in Academic Practice
- > MSc Dissertation
- > Professional Development Practice (PDP)

## Elective modules

(select four modules)

- > Intellectual Property Strategy and Management
- > Accounting for Non-Financial Managers
- > Strategic Business Sustainability
- > Marketing Channels and Strategic Salesforce Management
- > Integrated Marketing Communications
- > Consumer Behaviour
- > Strategic Brand Management
- > Services Marketing
- > International Marketing Management
- > Digital Marketing
- > Strategic Management

## Non-marketing modules

(select up to two modules)

- > Intellectual Property Strategy and Management
- > Accounting for Non-Financial Managers
- > Strategic Business Sustainability
- > Strategic Management

## Professional accreditation

Upon completion of this course, you will be eligible for direct entry onto the Chartered Institute of Marketing (CIM) Diploma in Professional Marketing.

### Why choose this course?

To become a well-rounded marketing professional, capable of working in a variety of sectors.

### Career prospects

Our graduates have secured employment in a wide range of roles including product and brand management, market research, market planning and product development, marketing communications, media relations and direct marketing. This has involved working for organisations including Hyundai, Pepsico International (Cyprus), Merlin Entertainments (Austria), Tesco (UK) and L'Oréal.

# MSc Work Psychology and Business

## Programme overview

Focus on the study of practical, real-world organisational and business issues, combined with the academic and scientific rigour of occupational psychology as an applied science.

## Core modules

- > Organisational Behaviour
- > Learning and Talent Development
- > Workplace Design and Health
- > Research Methods in Human Resource Management and Business and Organisational Behaviour
- > Assessment Performance and Reward
- > Strategy, Change and Leadership
- > Careers and Counselling
- > Ethics in Academic Practice
- > Professional Development Programme (PDP)

## Elective modules

Choose one:

- > Accounting for Non-Financial Managers
- > Organisational Behaviour: Theory and Practice
- > Strategic Business Sustainability
- > Strategic and International Human Resource Management
- > Marketing Management
- > Operations Management
- > Strategic Management
- > Management of Innovation
- > Economic Environment of Business

## Professional accreditation

This course is British Psychological Society (BPS) accredited, and completion leads to the academic basis for the BPS Chartered Occupational Psychology qualification (QOCCPsych).

### Why choose this course?

Studying business alongside specialist work psychology modules will enable you to build your career as an occupational psychologist or in other professional roles.

### Additional entry requirements

BSc in Psychology (UK only), or a recognisable equivalent degree (overseas). Only undergraduate Psychology degrees which give the Graduate Basis for Registration will allow students to progress to Chartered Occupational Psychologist.

### Career prospects

Recent graduate positions include: Business Psychologist (Recruitment and Assessment), Jaguar Land Rover; Learning and Development Specialist, Network Rail; Occupational Health and Wellbeing Scientific Advisor NPower; Occupational Psychologist, NHS; Research Scientist, BAE Systems.

## Online courses

Course materials and a support network are built into the virtual learning environment. You'll be guided through structured modules and assessed in a variety of ways, including group assignments, individual projects, as well as written and oral examinations. A Student Support Advisor will work with you every step of the way to ensure you always have the support you need. You remain a student and a professional, so what you learn today can be applied tomorrow in real-world situations.

For more information please visit [studyonline.aston.ac.uk](http://studyonline.aston.ac.uk)

# MSc Business and Management

## Programme overview

This course features a versatile business curriculum focused on developing highly competent professionals and managers. Open to students from all disciplines and academic backgrounds, the programme refines business competencies while introducing essential management principles and techniques. Graduates gain a wide range of skills including interpreting financial statements, developing marketing and pricing strategies, as well as understanding strategies in tandem with innovation processes.

## Pathways

- > Global Business
- > Finance
- > Organisational Development
- > Entrepreneurship

# MSc International Accounting and Finance

## Programme overview

This course builds upon your existing expertise in accounting and finance to help further your career and cement your credibility. We expect graduates of the programme to progress toward senior management roles in their organisations.

## Core modules

- > International Business Finance
- > Sustainability Accounting and Accountability
- > Corporate Governance, Regulation & Compliance
- > Global Business Ethics
- > Strategic Management Accounting
- > International Business
- > The Economic Environment of Business
- > The International Context of Corporate Reporting and Assurance
- > International Accounting and Finance Project

# School of Engineering & Applied Science



For full details of entry requirements for each course please visit the course page on our website: [www.aston.ac.uk/eas](http://www.aston.ac.uk/eas)

**The School of Engineering and Applied Science has a long tradition of quality teaching, and a reputation for internationally-known, cutting-edge research.**

We offer a range of inspiring, professionally-relevant courses which will prepare you for a successful and rewarding career. By choosing postgraduate study with us, you will be exposed to new ways of thinking and gain a competitive edge in the exciting world of engineering and applied science.

There is a great breadth of academic expertise in the school, with staff broadly categorised into the following subject areas: computer science, electronic engineering, engineering systems and management, mechanical engineering and product design, as well as chemical engineering and applied chemistry, and mathematics.

We are always investing in people and facilities, such as state-of-the-art laboratories, so that we can continue to deliver the best to our students. We want you to achieve your full potential.

## Quality

We're very proud to say that many of our courses have received professional accreditation from the relevant subject organisation, which means that our courses have undergone a strict quality assurance process. Our students can feel confident that they are studying at a university at which recognised industry standards are being met.

In 2017 Aston University received a Gold award, the highest possible accolade, in the Government's new Teaching Excellence Framework (TEF). The same year, the School of Engineering and Applied Science received the Athena SWAN Silver Award for the second time. This award recognises our progress in addressing gender and other inequalities in academia.

## What makes us stand out?

### Research

Internationally known for exciting research projects

### Industry

Strong connections with industry leaders in the world of science, engineering and technology.

The School of Engineering & Applied Science has received the Athena SWAN Silver Award. This prestigious award recognises our progress in, and commitment to, addressing gender and other inequalities in academia.

### Accreditations

Many of our courses are accredited by world-leading organisational bodies such as the Institution of Mechanical Engineers (IMechE), Institution of Engineering and Technology (IET), and the Chartered Management Institute (CMI).



# MSc Artificial Intelligence\*

## Programme overview

Our programme is very practical and features strong connections with industry. The collaboration with companies within our Industry Club takes place via guest lectures, field trips, showcases and industrial MSc dissertations. A special module on the programme is dedicated to AI in practice. A strong focus is on theory and practice of machine learning. Key aspects of robotics are also taught. The teaching team consists of academics with active research in many areas of AI, including members of the Aston Lab for Intelligent Collectives Engineering.

## Core topics

- > AI in practice
- > Machine learning, including deep learning
- > Robotics and autonomous systems
- > Computer vision
- > Computational intelligence
- > Multi-agent systems
- > AI and Ethics

## Why choose this course

Develop vital skills and practical experience through access to companies in our Industry Club.

## Career prospects

This new MSc programme is very timely as it will enable graduates – in addition to embarking on relevant industry careers – to take on prestigious PhD positions, starting from the first generation of graduates.

\* subject to full approval for 2019 entry

# MSc Computer Science

## Programme overview

Boost your career, and access roles in a rapidly growing industry with an MSc qualification in a highly in-demand skill set. With no specific subject qualification required, this course offers an opportunity for non-computing graduates to pursue a career in computing and become an industry-accredited professional. Gain the theoretical underpinning needed to support sound analysis, design and delivery of technology solutions, and develop a systematic understanding of the software development process, and the associated professional skills necessary in practice.

## Core modules

- > Foundations of Object-oriented Programming
- > Team Project
- > Software Engineering
- > Human Computer Interaction
- > Introduction to Databases
- > Dissertation

## Elective modules

- > Data Structures and Algorithms
- > Software Project Management
- > Information Security
- > Reliability in Software Engineering
- > Data Mining

\*Optional modules will be subject to staff availability, and minimum number of students

## Why choose this course?

Computer Science at Aston is ranked in the Top 10 in the UK (Guardian University Guide 2017). Get professional experience, and a wide perspective on IT and business through employment at collaborating host companies, or the Aston student-run software company.

## Additional entry requirements

A bachelor's degree in a non-Computing subject, completion of an aptitude test and interview.

## Career prospects

This programme will equip you for a leadership role within the computer science industry.

# MSc Engineering Management

## Programme overview

The Engineering Management MSc provides you with a knowledge and understanding of the principles underlying the strategic management of engineering and technology businesses. Addressing the full range of management knowledge and skills needed for a successful career, this course is designed for those with an undergraduate degree in a technical degree who aspire to a managerial career.

## Core modules

- > Strategic Finance
- > Strategic Management
- > Project Management
- > Management of Change
- > Human Resource Management
- > Research Methods
- > Corporate Social Responsibility
- > Management in Engineering Enterprises
- > Major Project

## Elective modules

Two of the following:

- > EM4006 New Product Development
- > EM4007 Lean & Agile Manufacture
- > EM4031 Logistics and Transportation
- > BSM930 Entrepreneurial Strategies

## Professional accreditation

Professionally recognised and accredited by the Chartered Management Institute (CMI). The course is shown to meet the rigorous demands of high quality management education that is recognised across the globe.

## Why choose this course?

Strong international content will teach you about industry abroad and enhance your global employability.

## Career prospects

This programme is perfect for those seeking a career in the Engineering and Manufacturing sectors, particularly those who aspire to senior management positions. Project management roles are a common first destination. Previous graduates have secured engineering roles at organisations such as Rolls-Royce plc, Nestlé, Caterpillar, Ericsson and Department of Civil Aviation.

# MSc Supply Chain Management

## Programme overview

This course is delivered in a collaboration between the School of Engineering and Applied Sciences and Aston Business School which makes this course distinctive from other universities. You will receive a broader knowledge from academics across both schools who work closely with business and industry. You will develop knowledge and understanding of the theoretical and applied perspectives of supply chain management and logistics, along with specific areas of supply chain management by studying specialist modules. These areas include: relationships, partnering, ERP, simulation, purchasing, contracts, planning and optimisation.

## Core modules

- > Simulation for Managerial Decision Making
- > Operations Management
- > Managing Multi-organisational Enterprises and Enterprise Systems
- > Strategic Finance
- > Strategic Management
- > Project Management
- > Research Methods
- > Supply Management
- > Logistics and Transportation
- > Major Project

## Professional accreditation

This course is fully accredited by the Chartered Institute of Purchasing and Supply (CIPS) and the Chartered Management Institute (CMI). On successful completion of the degree, you will also be awarded a CMI Diploma in Management. Aston Business School is in the 1% of business schools globally with triple accreditation from the leading accreditation bodies in the UK, Europe and USA, AMBA, AACSB and EQUIS.

## Why choose this course?

This programme is suitable if you are seeking a career in the supply chain management sector, particularly if you aspire to senior management positions.

## Career prospects

Recent graduates have gone on to secure roles such as Supply Chain Analyst, Assistant Purchasing Manager, Corporate and Planning Strategist, Quality Controller, Planning Executive, Procurement & Logistics Expeditor, Junior Resources Manager and Content Operations Executive. They work at some of the major companies in the industry, including Nissan, Accenture, Royal Mail, Royal Air Force, and Singapore Airlines Cargo.

# MSc Mechanical Engineering

## Programme overview

This course aims to develop students' performance prediction skills required in the modern engineering environment, especially design, performance estimation and optimisation processes. It gives students the opportunity to apply state-of-the-art methods to industrially-relevant products, and to explore the process of design and development and the value of the design and evaluation cycle. This programme is designed for engineering and science graduates, providing a wide exploration of new and advanced technologies.

## Core modules

- > Sustainable Energy
- > Design Studio
- > Research Project
- > Major Project

## Elective modules

- > Project Management AND/OR Product Development Process
- > Water Treatment Technologies AND/OR Practical Numerical Methods
- > Computational Fluid Dynamics and Applications
- > CAD Principles and Materials Selection
- > Advanced Computer Aided Design (ADVCAD)
- > Finite Element Analysis and Solid Mechanics

## Professional accreditation

The MSc Mechanical Engineering is accredited by the Institution of Mechanical Engineers (IMechE) for the purpose of meeting the additional educational requirements of Chartered Engineer (CEng).



### Why choose this course?

Impressive accreditation, a worldwide reputation and staff who can pass on the benefit of genuine commercial experience will enhance your prospects and progression.



### Additional entry requirements

First or second class UK Honours Degree in engineering, physical science, mathematics or a related subject.



### Career prospects

Practical engineering modelling, research and project management skills will help your career progression in industries where computer-based technology is required including manufacturing, R&D, science, IT, design and academia. Recent graduates have been employed in a range of jobs including: product development with a manufacturer of domestic heating products and computer aided design with a manufacturer of military/surveillance equipment.



## Abdallah El Hayek

### Course MSc Mechanical Engineering

The module choices on my course suit my chosen career perfectly. The staff are all very friendly, which makes me feel right at home! Meeting new people is made very easy. The range of different activities the university holds through the week is definitely the highlight of my stay here so far."

# MSc Product Design

## Programme overview

This programme is for students with a background in design, engineering or related areas and will equip you with the necessary tools to develop your own product ideas and innovations, start your own design business, or enter new product development organisations. The modules aim to develop your innovation skills and knowledge required to achieve successful product design development and innovation, and develop a critical understanding of sustainable factors. The course creates opportunities for students to originate new ideas and model or prototype design solutions that will meet perceived manufacturing, marketing and consumer needs.

## Core modules

- > Product Introduction Processes
- > Research Project
- > Design Realisation
- > Design Studio
- > Design for People

## Elective modules

- > Strategic Management and Finance
- > Project Management
- > Management of Innovation
- > Consumer Behaviour
- > Interaction Design
- > Human Computer Interaction
- > Workplace Design and Health
- > Design Innovation: Historical and international dimensions
- > CAD Principles and Materials Selection
- > Advanced Computer Aided Design (ADVCAD)

## Professional accreditation

This programme is fully accredited by the Institution of Engineering Designers leading to Chartered Engineering status (CEng).



### Why choose this course?

Creativity will underpin much of the interactive work during this course. Developed ideas can be manufactured using a variety of techniques including the use of our range of Rapid – Prototyping equipment.



### Additional entry requirements

A minimum of a first or good second class UK Honours Degree in product design, engineering, or a business related subject. Graduates with at least two years relevant design work experience are particularly encouraged to apply. Students without such experience may be admitted based on individual merit.



### Career prospects

On completion of this course you should be able to develop your own product ideas 'ready for manufacture and marketing', start your own design business enterprise, or enter new product development organisations.

# MSc Communication Systems and Wireless Networking

## Programme overview

This course is designed to address the rapidly increasing demand for qualified engineers and managers with well- equipped knowledge in modern communication systems and wireless networks. You will focus on a wide range of subjects from fundamental information and communications technology (ICT) to contemporary developments in the wireless and mobile industries. You will develop the knowledge and skills needed to equip you for an intellectually challenging career as a qualified engineer.

## Core modules

- > Telecommunications Networks and Quality of Service
- > Radio Systems and Personal Communications Networks
- > Digital Communication and Information Theory
- > Pervasive and Mobile Communication Networks
- > Project Management
- > MSc Dissertation

## Elective modules

- > Mobile Data Networks
- > Broadband Wireless Networks
- > Optical Communications Systems
- > Internet of Things

## Professional accreditation

Postgraduate programmes in Electrical and Electronic Engineering have previously been accredited by The Institution of Engineering and Technology (IET). Accreditation for this newly revised course is pending. Get free student membership throughout your studies.



### Why choose this course?

Move into the high-demand area of communication systems and wireless networking. Gain the skills needed to be part of a rapidly developing industry with fast-paced exciting developments. Access a wide range of dedicated facilities and specialist laboratories. Access the facilities of the world-renowned innovative research institute, the Aston Institute of Photonic Technologies.



### Additional entry requirements

A first or good second class Honours Degree in a relevant engineering field, science or closely related discipline



### Career prospects

Our students have worked with organisations including: BlackBerry, BT, BAE, Daconi, Jaguar Land Rover.

# MSc Smart Telecom and Sensing Networks (SMARNET)

## Programme overview

SMARTNET is a unique two-year Erasmus Mundus Joint Master Degree programme supported by European Union funding. You will receive training in the interdisciplinary fields of photonics and 5G wireless technologies for data communication, sensing and data processing. Offered jointly by three universities, you'll benefit from distinctive and complementary academic qualities, and strong educational and research environments. Alternatively, a non-Erasmus, Aston University only, SMARTNET training pathway will be developed, leading to a standard MSc qualification (180 credits). You will study a range of subjects highly relevant to both industry and society. And critical subjects for the global future of information and communication technologies.

## Core modules

As a student of the collaborative SMARTNET programme, you will be able to choose to follow one of six pathways:

- > 5G Broadband Infrastructures
- > Advanced 5G Network Architectures
- > Energy Efficient Smart Networks
- > High Capacity 5G Network Systems
- > Connectivity Technologies for Smart Network Systems
- > Big Data Analytics and 5G



### Why choose this course?

Study one of engineering's key multidisciplinary areas of the future. Develop the skills and knowledge to contribute to the development of a 5G network infrastructure. As part of the Erasmus Mundus programme, graduate with two full MSc qualifications. Benefit from close relationships with 17 industrial partners



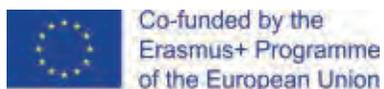
### Additional entry requirements

A bachelor's degree in telecommunications, electronics, electrical engineering, computer science, physics, mathematics or similar.



### Career prospects

You will benefit from the strong involvement of industrial partners in the programme and will be encouraged to carry out a number of industrial visits to enhance your MSc project. On completion, you will be a telecommunication engineer with a broad and interdisciplinary background, and a global vision of your field, who will be able to move ideas from basic science to application and thrive on collaboration. Potential demand from industry for a workforce with these skills is enormous.



# MSc Photonic Integrated Circuits, Sensors and Networks (PIXNET)

## Programme overview

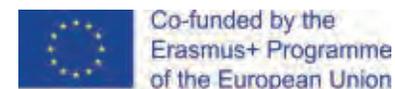
PIXNET is a two-year Erasmus Mundus Joint Master Degree programme supported by European Union funding. You will receive high-quality training in photonic integration for communication, sensing and switching. Offered by a consortium of universities, you'll benefit from distinctive and complementary academic qualities, and strong educational and research environments. Alternatively, a non-Erasmus, Aston University only, PIXNET training pathway will be developed, leading to a standard MSc qualification (180 credits). Both programmes are aimed at training students to design, realise and assess innovative integrated devices based on photonic technologies. The Erasmus programme is an interdisciplinary, multinational initiative to train telecommunication and electrical engineers to investigate the adoption of Photonic Integrated Circuits (PIC) as the central element in the evolution of information and communication devices.

## Core modules

### Specialisms

As a student of the collaborative PIXNET programme, you will be able to choose to follow one of the following pathways:

- > Optical switching technologies
- > Optical transceiver technologies
- > Design of Photonic integrated devices
- > Photonic integrated devices manufacturing
- > Theory and techniques for photonic integrated devices



### Why choose this course?

Study a crucial field in the evolution of information and communication devices. Receive high-quality training, specialising in photonic integration for communication, sensing and switching. As part of the Erasmus Mundus programme, graduate with two full MSc qualifications. Benefit from close relationships with key industrial partners. The strong involvement of industrial partners in the programme will offer you the opportunity to bridge the gap between your academic knowledge and practical application. You will be encouraged to carry out a number of industrial visits to enhance your MSc project.



### Additional entry requirements

A previous qualification in Electrical Engineering, Electronics, Telecommunication Engineering, Physics or a related discipline.



### Career prospects

Both programmes will equip you not only with the theoretical knowledge but also the transferable skills in related disciplines that will give you the potential to play a leading role in the evolution of integrated photonics as a key technology for the future development of many modern industries, including ICT, biomedical industries, sensing and the aerospace industry. Graduates from similar previous programmes have gone into senior level roles in industry or onto PhD study in European institutions.

## Research Degrees

If you would like to pursue a rewarding postgraduate research degree that matches your interests and prepares you with high-level knowledge and skills, Aston is the right choice.

### Research within the School of Engineering and Applied Science focusses on four strategic themes:

- > Communications and Sensing
- > Health technologies (biomedical engineering, biomimetic materials, bioinformatics)
- > Bioenergy and Sustainability
- > Understanding complex systems (physical, statistical/probabilistic, and knowledge engineering)

Each of these represents major challenges and opportunities at an international level. By focussing our efforts and working together with our collaborators across the world, we are making an important contribution to long-term solutions to a number of critical problems affecting societies and economies.

In addition, the School has established five Research Institutes to strengthen its strategic activities:

- > Aston Institute of Photonic Technologies
- > Aston Institute of Materials Research
- > Aston Logistics and Systems Institute
- > European Bioenergy Research Institute
- > Systems Analytics Research Institute

We have an exciting and vibrant research environment that enables you as a research degree student to engage in various research events and seminars. There is also a dedicated research society, which organises social and academic events.

## MSc by Research

### Programme overview

The MSc by Research is a one year full-time, or two year part-time, thesis based research degree for students looking for a research programme, but who may not be ready or able to commit to the three years' study required by a traditional PhD programme.

### Programme content (including any research methods courses)

As part of the MSc by Research, students complete the following training:

- > Research Skills and Professional Development - a generic research skills module.
- > Specialist Research Skills and Techniques - this module is individually tailored to help students develop the specialist (i.e. subject and discipline specific) research knowledge and skills necessary for their project.
- > Creation of an Individual Training Plan - to be agreed with your supervisor at the outset and updated at the three monthly reviews

MSc by Research students must submit a thesis for examination; the thesis is the primary focus of this degree.

## PhD

### Programme overview

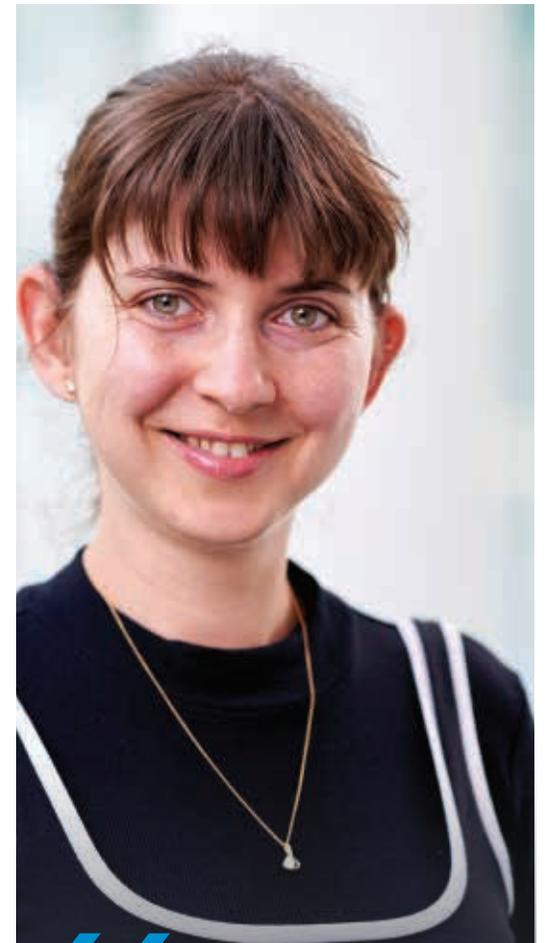
Our PhD programme is designed to train Doctoral students who aspire to become future academics or professional industry researchers.

### Programme content (including any research methods courses)

At the start of your PhD you will undertake taught Research Methods modules designed to provide you with the necessary skills to successfully complete your PhD and to develop as a well-rounded researcher. You will then typically concentrate on obtaining ethical approval for your research, before focusing on data collection and analysis. Finally, you will write up your research, and develop your thesis.

### Entry requirements

You should have been awarded, or expect to achieve, a first or upper second class Honours degree or a Master's degree in a relevant subject (or an equivalent qualification from an overseas institution). We also consider applicants who have substantial and significant work experience in a relevant field. TOEFL IBT: 93 (23 in Writing, 19 in Speaking, 18 in Reading and 19 in Listening). IELTS: 6.5 (6.0 in Writing Speaking, Reading and Listening). Pearson's English language test: 63 with no less than 57 in each band.



## Alina Patelli

### Course

PhD Computer Science

I was exposed to a vibrant, enthusiastic research community with ties throughout the university and beyond. This fostered my passion for artificial intelligence and provided me with the experience and new skills needed to develop into an independent young investigator."



# MSc Cognitive Neuroscience

## Programme overview

Unique in its emphasis on specialist training in cognitive neuroscience, coupled with transferable research skills for career and professional development, this course will see you study specialist modules in cognitive neuroscience that combine theory and practice. It is especially recommended to those who want to specialise in the area of cognitive neuroscience, get a feel for research before embarking on a PhD or to enhance your CV by studying a research-related masters qualification.

## Core modules

- > Introduction into Cognitive Neuroscience
- > Mini-project in Cognitive Neuroscience
- > Advanced Statistical Analysis
- > Advanced Methods in Cognitive Neuroscience
- > Advanced EEG and MEG Methods in Cognitive Neuroscience
- > Communication Skills in Research / Professional Development
- > Research Dissertation



### Why choose this course?

Use state-of-the-art facilities including the Aston Brain Centre and psychophysical laboratories. Study at a school ranked 5th out of 97 UK higher education institutions for Research in Allied Health Professions and Studies in the most recent REF (2014).



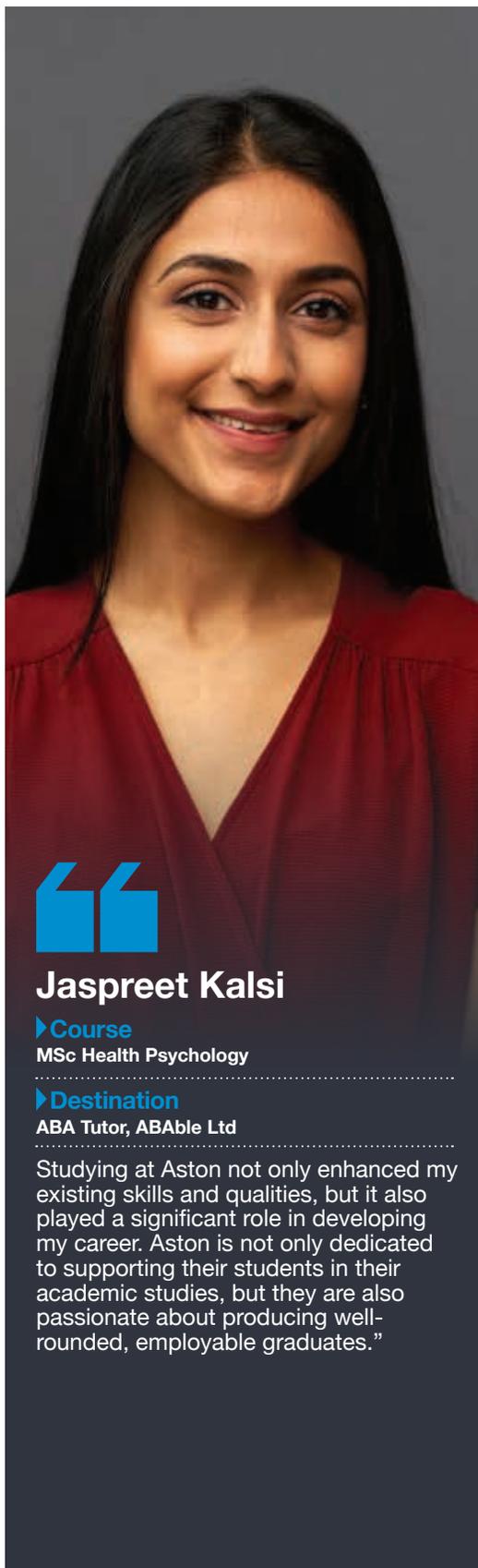
### Entry requirements

A good honours degree (usually 2:1 or above) from a recognised university in Psychology or a related field such as Biology.



### Career prospects

Our graduates have taken on roles including: Further studies, for example completing a PhD at universities such as Aston, Cardiff, Derby, Liverpool, Sussex and Warwick. Research and clinical roles such as research assistant, data analyst, clinical researcher and trainee clinical physiologist/ neurophysiologist within the NHS. Educational roles within secondary education or as educational consultants.



**Jaspreet Kalsi**

### Course

MSc Health Psychology

### Destination

ABA Tutor, ABABLE Ltd

Studying at Aston not only enhanced my existing skills and qualities, but it also played a significant role in developing my career. Aston is not only dedicated to supporting their students in their academic studies, but they are also passionate about producing well-rounded, employable graduates.”

# MSc Health Psychology

Part-time online also available

## Programme overview

Throughout this course you will gain an in depth understanding of the theory underpinning health psychology and develop your understanding of advanced research methodology and analysis of qualitative and quantitative data to carry out independent work of publishable standard. You will also develop awareness of the contribution and application of health psychology within multicultural and multidisciplinary settings and professional and transferable skills in preparation for becoming a health psychologist.

- > 12 months full-time on-campus
- > 18 months (up to a maximum of 3 years) part-time online

## Core modules

- > Qualitative Research Methodology
- > Quantitative Methods and Advanced Statistics
- > Health Behaviours
- > Health Inequalities Across the Lifespan
- > Illness Processes and Behaviour
- > Professional Issues and Applications
- > Research Project

## Professional accreditation

This course is accredited as Stage 1 training in Health Psychology by the British Psychological Society (BPS). In order to become a Chartered Psychologist with the BPS or a registered Health Psychologist with the Health and Care Professions Council (HCPC), students must complete Stage 1 and Stage 2 training. There will be opportunities to undertake Stage 2 training at Aston alongside a PhD. That course is approved by the HCPC and will make graduates eligible to apply for registration as a Health Psychologist. Further details of how to become a Chartered Psychologist are available from the BPS.



### Why choose this course?

Accredited by the British Psychological Society (Stage 1 Professional Training in Health Psychology) and commended for the support provided to students. Ranked 5th in the UK and 32nd in the world (Health Economics/ Public Health, Eduniversal Masters Rankings, 2018). Programme staff are internationally recognised researchers in their fields and work with a number of NHS clinics and other health related organisations. Use purpose-built psychology labs, including a focus group room, driving simulator and cubicles equipped for cognitive, behavioural and physiological testing.



### Entry requirements

A good honours degree of 2.1 or above that confers eligibility for Graduate Basis for Chartered Membership (GBC) of the British Psychological Society (BPS). Students who have a psychology degree with an equivalent grade of a 2.1 or above from a non UK institution but do not have GBC will be advised to apply to the BPS for recognition of their degree and confirmation of eligibility for GBC. This will be a requirement of securing a place on the course.



### Career prospects

This course will prepare you for membership of the BPS Division of Health Psychology and towards further training and employment in health psychology. Upon successful completion of this course, you can apply for posts as a research assistant or assistant psychologist working in a range of chronic health or health promotion fields. Recent graduates have gone on to secure roles within a variety of organisations like the NHS, private clinics, charities and educational institutes, recent roles include: Assistant Psychologist, Health Psychologist, Children & Young Person's Therapeutic Support Worker, Counselling Therapist, PhD student.

# Optometry/ Ophthalmic Science (PgCert, PgDip, MSc and Professional Doctorate)

## Programme overview

This suite of courses have been designed for existing practitioners in optometry who are looking to gain particular skills or knowledge to perform their roles more effectively, or to progress within this industry. Offered via distance learning each of these awards are delivered on a part-time distance learning basis in order to fit into your life. The flexible credit accumulation means that you can work towards whatever level of qualification most suits your current needs and lectures are pre-recorded allowing you to study at a time that suits.

## Course details

You will initially enrol on the postgraduate framework of flexible credit accumulation in the School of Life & Health Sciences. You have the option of taking each of the three stages of the course in order (PgCert, PgDip then MSc), or it is possible to exit the course at any of the stages, enabling you to be flexible with your level of commitment at the outset. Taught credits are valid for 5 years, so students studying for an MSc / PgDip / PgCert must complete their studies within 5 years of enrolment. The doctorate requires 180 taught credits, 120 of which must be completed within 2 years of enrolment, you are given 6 years to complete the full doctoral programme.

- > PgCert Optometry (60 taught credits)
- > PgDip Optometry (120 taught credits, to include those studied as part of the PgCert)
- > MSc Optometry / Ophthalmic Science (120 taught credits, to include those previously studied as part of the PgCert and PgDip, plus a 60 credit narrative research review dissertation)
- > Doctor of Optometry DOptom / Doctor of Ophthalmic Science DPhSc (180 taught credits)

Each taught module is worth 20 credits. The modules that you will choose include:

- > Advanced Contact Lenses
- > Glaucoma
- > Nutrition and the Eye
- > Refractive Surgery
- > Retinal and Macular Disorders



## Why choose this course?

Flexibility to gain a postgraduate certificate, diploma, masters or doctoral qualification that fits in with your work and personal life. Select the modules most relevant to your professional practice and area of interest. Enables eye care professionals to enhance their knowledge, critical awareness of current issues, and to be at the forefront of their academic discipline.



## Entry requirements

A good honours degree (usually 2:1 or above) from a recognised university in an ophthalmic or biomedical field.



## Additional entry requirements

2 years of professional qualification.  
2:1 in UG degree for MSc/Doctorate.  
Must be an optometrist or working within optometry or ophthalmology. Recognised Prior Learning can be applied for if you have completed any further postgraduate courses / qualifications; Max 60 RPL for doctorate and max 40 RPL for masters.



## Career prospects

The flexible framework aims to help enhance career prospects of those practitioners who cannot undertake full-time study. The programme is designed to enhance professional development and provides opportunity to undertake practice-based research and thus boost experience in various fields of optometry and ophthalmic science. Hence providing greater job opportunities.

# PgDip/MSc for Overseas Pharmacists (OSPAP)

## Programme overview

This course is for overseas pharmacy graduates to convert their existing pharmaceutical qualification to be recognised in the UK. It focuses on new developments in key pharmaceutical sciences, clinical pharmacy and pharmacy practice together with the study of health service delivery and pharmacy law and ethics within the UK.

- > 9 months – Full-time Postgraduate Diploma
- > 12 months – Full-time MSc

## Core modules

- > Professional Critical Skills
- > Applied Pharmacology and Therapeutics
- > Practical Therapeutics
- > Pharmaceutics in Practice
- > Pharmacy Law, Ethics and Practice

## Professional accreditation

Successful completion of the course will allow you to undertake a pre-registration placement, before applying to register as a Pharmacist with the GPhC, you will also gain an Aston University Diploma. Please note the university is not responsible for the provision of a pre-registration training place nor preparation for professional qualifying examinations.



## Why choose this course?

Accredited by the General Pharmaceutical Council (GPhC). Specifically designed for pharmacy graduates who gained their degree outside the UK, but who wish to practice in the UK. Top 20 in the UK (Pharmacology & Pharmacy, 2019 Complete University Guide). Aston Pharmacy School is the first and only institution to be awarded a prestigious Regius Professorship in Pharmacy by HM the Queen.



## Entry requirements

A pharmacy degree that enables you to register as a pharmacist with the GPhC. Documented approval from the GPhC prior to applying to Aston is required, which may take up to two months. In order to secure a place for this course, we recommend applying for GPhC approval before June of your chosen year of entry and to the Aston OSPAP course before July of your chosen year of entry. Applicants whose first language is not English will be required to provide evidence of English language competency to both Aston University and the GPhC. You will be required to undertake a Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) check before starting. In addition to the normal academic requirements, and in line with our other regulated health professions, continuation on the programme and award of these registerable degrees is subject to fitness to practise regulations.



## Career prospects

Our OSPAP course has an excellent track record of students obtaining and successfully completing the pre-registration training.



## Natalie Hulme

### ▶ Course ▶ Destination

OSPAP Pre-registration Pharmacist, Boots

Aston had everything I needed to get through this intensive course: modern and sophisticated facilities, convenient student accommodation and, importantly, highly professional and dedicated teaching staff.”

# MSc Drug Delivery

## Programme overview

Designed to provide you with a comprehensive overview of the drug development process from concept to market, including hands-on experience of pharmaceutical formulation and drug delivery. You'll gain a thorough understanding and awareness of this specialist pharmaceutical sciences area, the research methods required to complete a final supervised research project and an overview of the drug discovery process.

## Core modules

- > Chemotherapy & Selective Toxicity
- > Drug Dosage Form & Design
- > Drug Discovery
- > Research Methods 1: Professional Development
- > Research Methods 2: Communication Skills
- > Research Project

## Elective modules

- > Principles of Product Analysis and Validation
- > Drug Delivery and Targeting



### Why choose this course?

Gain specialist skills and knowledge for a career in the pharmaceutical industry or research. 94% of research in the School of Life & Health Sciences was rated as being internationally excellent or world leading (REF 2014). Aston Pharmacy School is the first and only institution to be awarded a prestigious Regius Professorship in Pharmacy by HM the Queen.



### Entry requirements

Applicants must possess a good honours degree (minimum lower 2nd class) from a recognised university in one of the following subjects or a related field: pharmacy, pharmaceutical science, pharmacology, physiology, physical science, biochemistry, biotechnology, chemistry, chemical engineering, genetics, materials science or medicine.



### Career prospects

Our suite of MSc pharmacy will prepare you for pursuing careers in various disciplines in the pharmaceutical industry including: analytical sciences, formulation development, project management, regulatory affairs, scientific writing and further studies. Recent graduate roles include: Associate Product Manager, AstraZeneca; Formulation Scientist, 3M; Senior Regulatory Approval Officer, Ministry of Health, Malaysia.

# MSc Pharmaceutical Sciences

## Programme overview

You will gain the skills and knowledge required as a pharmaceutical scientist - the ability to provide effective pharmaceutical formulation strategies for current and future drug therapies and medicinal products.

## Core modules

- > Chemotherapy & Selective Toxicity
- > Drug Dosage Form & Design
- > Drug Discovery
- > Research Methods 1: Professional Development
- > Research Methods 2: Communication Skills
- > Research Project

## Elective modules

- > Principles of Product Analysis and Validation
- > Pharmacology



### Why choose this course?

94% of our research was rated as being internationally excellent or world leading (REF 2014). Top 20 in the UK (Pharmacology & Pharmacy, 2019 Complete University Guide). Aston Pharmacy School is the first and only institution to be awarded a prestigious Regius Professorship in Pharmacy by HM the Queen.



### Entry requirements

Applicants must possess a good honours degree (minimum lower 2nd class) from a recognised university in one of the following subjects or a related field: pharmacy, pharmaceutical science, pharmacology, physiology, physical science, biochemistry, biotechnology, chemistry, chemical engineering, genetics, materials science or medicine.



### Career prospects

Our suite of MSc pharmacy will prepare you for pursuing careers in various disciplines in the pharmaceutical industry including: analytical sciences, formulation development, project management, regulatory affairs, scientific writing and further studies. Recent graduate roles include: Associate Product Manager, AstraZeneca; Formulation Scientist, 3M; Senior Regulatory Approval Officer, Ministry of Health, Malaysia.

# MSc Pharmacokinetics

## Programme overview

Pharmacokinetics is a key aspect of drug safety and investigates the fate of a drug in the body, and how the substance is absorbed, distributed, metabolised and eliminated. Develop your skills and knowledge in the application of pharmacokinetics to the design and optimisation of new therapeutics. This course has been developed with an emphasis on describing mechanistic approaches to assessing and predicting the pharmacokinetics of drugs throughout the drug development process. You will encounter a broad range of experiences in the application of pharmacokinetics from early discovery and development, through to market authorisation and clinical applications.

## Core modules

- > Chemotherapy & Selective Toxicity
- > Drug Dosage Form & Design
- > Drug Discovery
- > Research Methods 1: Professional Development
- > Research Methods 2: Communication Skills
- > Research Project

## Elective modules

- > Pharmacokinetics



### Why choose this course?

Top 20 in the UK (Pharmacology & Pharmacy, 2019 Complete University Guide). Aston Pharmacy School is the first and only institution to be awarded a prestigious Regius Professorship in Pharmacy by HM the Queen.



### Entry requirements

Applicants must possess a good honours degree (minimum lower 2nd class) from a recognised university in one of the following subjects or a related field: pharmacy, pharmaceutical science, pharmacology, physiology, physical science, biochemistry, biotechnology, chemistry, chemical engineering, genetics, materials science or medicine.



### Career prospects

Our suite of MSc pharmacy will prepare you for pursuing careers in various disciplines in the pharmaceutical industry including: analytical sciences, formulation development, project management, regulatory affairs, scientific writing and further studies. Recent graduate roles include: Associate Product Manager, AstraZeneca; Formulation Scientist, 3M; Senior Regulatory Approval Officer, Ministry of Health, Malaysia.

# MSc Regenerative Medicines Manufacturing\*

## Programme overview

This course will enable you to develop a comprehensive understanding of the broad class of medicines called advanced therapy medicinal products (ATMPs). These products include tissue engineered constructs and cell and gene therapies such as stem cell products and CAR-T cell immunotherapies. The course will cover fundamental biological science underpinning these medicines and also the wider commercial considerations for translating them from lab bench into clinic, including typical industrial manufacturing processes and regulatory considerations. Taken together, this will create a strong foundation for a career in industry or academia either in research and development or in business development.

## Core modules

- > Laboratory Competency Training
- > Advanced Laboratory Skills
- > Professional Development and Research Communication Skills
- > Cell and Molecular Biology
- > Applied Biotechnology
- > Regenerative Medicines Manufacturing: from lab bench to industry
- > Advanced Materials, Devices and Manufacturing Processes for Regenerative Medicine
- > Design and Manufacture of Regenerative Medicine Products
- > Dissertation project



### Why choose this course?

This course has been shaped with input from industry on skills and training needs of the sector. It will provide industry-relevant skills for manufacturing advanced therapies including cell therapies such as stem cells and CAR-T cells, along with tissue engineered products. Research in Allied Health Professions and Studies ranked 5th out of 97 UK higher education institutions (REF 2014). Top 25 in the UK for Biological Sciences (Sunday Times University Guide, 2019).



### Entry requirements

A good honours degree (minimum lower 2nd class) from a recognised university in a biological, biomedical or biochemistry based subject.



### Career prospects

The focus of the course on industry challenges will provide a strong foundation for careers both in industry and academia across research, development and commercial sectors.

\*Subject to full approval.

# MSc Stem Cells and Regenerative Medicine

## Programme overview

This course has been designed to provide you with a high level of scientific knowledge and understanding - from the molecular to the whole system level. It's our aim to enable you to develop an informed and critical appreciation of recent scientific developments in stem cell biology, its clinical and industrial application, as well as a practical skill set for further research and learning, e.g. PhD studies. To ensure this established course remains at the forefront of its field we have recently redeveloped its module content and structure\*.

## Core modules

- > Laboratory Competency Training
- > Essential Laboratory Skills
- > Professional Development and Research Communication Skills
- > Cell and Molecular Biology
- > Applied Biotechnology
- > Stem Cell Biology and Differentiation
- > Tissue Regeneration
- > Ageing and Regenerative Medicine
- > Dissertation project



### Why choose this course?

Combination of theoretical and practical modules to provide a comprehensive curriculum in stem cell biology and regenerative medicine. Research in Allied Health Professions and Studies ranked 5th out of 97 UK higher education institutions (REF 2014). Top 25 in the UK for Biological Sciences (Sunday Times University Guide, 2019).



### Entry requirements

A good honours degree (minimum lower 2nd class) from a recognised university in a biological, biomedical or biochemistry based subject.



### Career prospects

Graduates from this course are prepared for a research-focussed role in industry, including the developing clinical field of stem cell therapies of regenerative medicine, or academia. Recent graduates have gone on to secure roles in further research, in the form of a PhD or research assistant, or undertaken careers in the commercial and clinical sectors.

\*Course re-development subject to approval.

# Top-up modules in Biomedical Science

## Overview

We offer a range of accredited top-up modules from our BSc Biomedical Sciences (Hons) degree for science graduates who have a non-accredited Honours degree but wish to pursue a career as a biomedical scientist. These modules will allow you to obtain the academic competences that are required to apply to the Health Care and Professions Council (HCPC) for registration as a Biomedical Scientist. All modules are available via on-campus attendance and most are available by distance learning.

## Core modules

- > Applied Molecular Biology
- > Cell Biology
- > Cellular Pathology
- > Clinical Microbiology
- > Haematology & Transfusion Science
- > Human Physiology
- > Immunology
- > Medical Biochemistry
- > Microbiology\*\*

\*\*Not available via distance learning.

## Professional accreditation

All modules are accredited by the Institute of Biomedical Science (IBMS).



### Why choose this course?

Modules accredited by the Institute of Biomedical Science. Study on campus or via distance learning. Ideal for those who wish to register as a Biomedical Scientist but currently hold a non-accredited degree. Top 25 in the UK for Biological Sciences (Sunday Times University Guide, 2019).



### Entry requirements

A non-accredited undergraduate degree in Biomedical Science or a related field such as biology or biochemistry. Before applying to study any of these top up modules students will need to contact the IBMS to have their current non-accredited degree assessed for eligibility to 'top-up' and for confirmation on which modules will be required.



### Career prospects

Top-up modules offer you the opportunity to enhance your knowledge and skills in order to develop your career. These modules will allow you to obtain the academic competences that are required to apply to the Health and Care Professions Council (HCPC) for Registration as a Biomedical Scientist.

# PhD

## Overview

We offer an extensive range of exciting research opportunities through our suite of PhD programmes. As a research student at Aston, you will make a tangible and original contribution to knowledge in your chosen specialist area and develop your research and professional capacities to the highest level. There are a range of research projects available to highly motivated students in fields including:

- > Applied Health
- > Basic and Applied Neurosciences
- > Molecular Biomedical Research
- > Cell and Tissue Biomedical Research
- > Ophthalmic Research.

In addition to already established projects we also welcome you to submit your own relevant research proposal.

## Research environment

By studying a postgraduate research qualification at Aston you will become part of an exciting and vibrant research environment, one that will enable you to work alongside leaders in their field, and engage in various events and seminars. You will also have the opportunity to join our dedicated research society which organises a range of social and academic events.



### Entry requirements

UK equivalent of a First or Upper Second Class Honours degree in a relevant subject, or have an MSc and/or similar award or experience deemed to provide evidence of research potential. Non-native English language speakers will need to meet minimum English language requirements.

## Find out more

Full details of all of our postgraduate research opportunities including entry requirements, fees and funding at [www.aston.ac.uk/lhsphd](http://www.aston.ac.uk/lhsphd)

# Continuing Professional Development

## Overview

We offer a range of flexible professional learning opportunities for those looking to develop their career and enhance their knowledge and skills. Our qualifications are recognised by the professions / industry and are regularly reviewed by relevant professional experts. Many are also accredited by appropriate professional bodies.

## Course types

**Short Courses** - varying from skills workshops to blended learning programmes involving distance learning, these courses are non-credit bearing.

**Standalone Modules** - credit bearing modules which may be taken alone or alongside other modules.

**Graduate Diploma** - an undergraduate level qualification for those that have already obtained a degree.

**Professional Accreditation** - courses delivered by Aston University to prepare you for professional examinations, such as those required to join the GOC Therapeutics Register for Independent Prescribing.

**Postgraduate Certificate** - known as a PgCert, this is a 60 credit masters level qualification.

**Postgraduate Diploma** - known as a PgDip, this is a 120 credit masters level qualification.

**Master of Science** - known as an MSc, this is a 180 credit masters level qualification, typically involving a research project or dissertation.

**Professional Doctorate** - this substantial course will enable you to be at the forefront of your academic discipline through taught and research elements.

## Subject areas

- > Audiology
- > Biomedical Sciences
- > Neurophysiology and Neurosensory Sciences
- > Optometry
- > Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Science
- > Psychology

## Find out more

Find full details including course listings, entry requirements and fees at [www.aston.ac.uk/lhscpd](http://www.aston.ac.uk/lhscpd)

# School of Languages & Social Sciences



For full details of entry requirements for each course please visit the course page on our website:  
[www.aston.ac.uk/lss](http://www.aston.ac.uk/lss)



**The School of Languages and Social Sciences is one of only a handful of academic units in the UK to span both the Humanities and Social Sciences. In doing so, it draws on a particularly rich and distinguished tradition of teaching, scholarship and research.**

During the 1970s and 1980s, the Department of Modern Languages (French, German, Linguistics), as it was then known, was one of the UK's pioneers of the study of language in contemporary society. In 1995, reflecting the growing interest in and awareness of Europe, it became the School of Languages and European Studies. In 2004, we adopted our current title.

Since then, the School has grown rapidly in student numbers and in its academic coverage and now comprises four academic departments: English, Languages and Translation Studies, Politics and International Relations as well as Sociology and Policy.

Our distinctive combination of subjects gives a unique perspective on language and society, both in their own context and in relation to each other.

The School of Languages and Social Sciences is a closely integrated, innovative, multilingual and multidisciplinary School with an international outlook. Our degree programmes combine a rigorous disciplinary grounding with a cross-disciplinary, practical and issue-focused perspective.

## Quality

The School of Languages and Social Science has 100% of its REF submission for Modern Languages and Linguistics rated at 4\* or 3\* for research environment, ranking Aston joint 1st in the UK. Our belief is that research should always be practical, relevant and feedback into your education. By always focusing on the latest and most impactful research, we produce fresh and industry informed curricula that prepare you for the job market.

## Double MA in Europe and the World

Studying at Aston University and Sciences Po Lille

### Programme overview

Develop skills in critical analysis of contemporary European integration, in both English and French. Further your practical skills in European issues through an EU-focused internship during the second year of study. An innovative, 2-year Masters programme taught in Birmingham and in Lille, which offers students an internationally-oriented understanding of European and international affairs.

### Core modules

- > The European Union – A Web of Institutions
- > The EU as a Global Actor
- > Dissertation Module

### Elective modules

- > Leaders and Leadership in a European and Global Context
- > Europe's Regions and their Governance
- > Europe and East Asia Religion and Politics
- > Corruption & Crime- Terror Nexus: Defense
- > International Political Communication
- > Rogue States
- > Governance of Global Problems
- > Critical Approaches to Security Studies
- > International Political Economy
- > EU Law and Policy Making
- > EuroSim: Learning Negotiation Through Simulations
- > Interest Groups and Lobbying in the European Context
- > Corruption & Crime-Terror Nexus: Internal Security
- > Post-Migration Europe

### Why choose this course?

Offering a unique, international perspective on Europe's role in global perspective, this course also gives students the experience of living and studying in two different countries, with the opportunities for personal growth this entails. Modules are relevant and contemporary, exploring today's political situations. You will also become an active member of the Aston Centre for Europe - a thriving research hub which organises debates, study visits, conferences and seminars on current international issues.

### Career prospects

Gain the knowledge, analytical and transferable skills to pursue further postgraduate research or a successful career in the public and private sector. Typical careers include: employment in international organisations (EU, WTO, UN etc), research in policy-oriented domestic or international think tanks, careers in government administration, further postgraduate research at PhD level journalism and international marketing or business.

## Joint MA in Multilevel Governance and International Relations

With integrated professional training

Studying at Aston University and Sciences Po Rennes

### Programme overview

You will develop an excellent understanding of multilevel governance and international relations by studying at Aston University and at Sciences Po, in Rennes (L'Institut d'Etudes Politiques). This programme will challenge you to engage fully with study opportunities in both learning institutions, developing life-long skills and open up new professional opportunities. You will also have the opportunity to undertake a related internship.

### Core modules

The modules on offer, and the content of the modules is subject to change.

- > International Relations Theory
- > Governance of Global Problems

### Elective modules

- > Research Methods
- > Leaders and Leadership in a European and Global Context
- > Europe's Regions and their Governance
- > Asia-Europe Relations: between Inter-regionalism and Bilateralism
- > Religion and Politics
- > Security and Defence in Europe
- > International Political Communication
- > International Ethics and Literature
- > Transatlantic Relations in Historical Perspective: The US and Europe
- > International Security
- > Comparative and International Political Economy

### Why choose this course?

This course gives students the experience of living and studying in two different countries, with the opportunities for personal growth this entails. Modules are relevant and contemporary, exploring today's political situations. You will also become an active member of the Aston Centre for Europe - a thriving research hub which organises debates, study visits, conferences and seminars on current international issues.

### Career prospects

Pursue further postgraduate research, or a successful career in the public and private sector. Typical careers include: employment in international organisations (EU, WTO, UN etc), Research in policy-oriented domestic or international think tanks, careers in government administration, further postgraduate research at PhD level, journalism and international marketing or business.

## MA in the European Union and International Relations

### Programme overview

You will broaden your global perspectives on issues of governance and contemporary international relations, and develop wide-ranging skills of critical analysis and approaches to the study of European integration and international relations. You will study at a leading centre for research on contemporary Europe and international relations, and forge a career working for international organisations, governments and global political institutions.

### Core modules

The modules on offer, and the content of the modules, is subject to change.

- > The EU as a Global Actor
- > Concepts and strategies for Social Science

### Elective modules

- > Leaders and Leadership in a European and Global Context
- > Europe's Regions and their Governance
- > Europe and East-Asia
- > Religion and Politics
- > Corruption & Crime-Terror Nexus: Defense
- > Rogue States
- > EuroSim: Learning Negotiation Through Simulations
- > EU Law and Policy-Making
- > Rethinking European Integration
- > Corruption & Crime-Terror Nexus: Internal Security
- > Post-Migration Europe
- > Conflict, Security and Development
- > Freedom versus Security? Justice and Home Affairs in Europe
- > Changing China: People's Republic in the 21st Century

### Why choose this course?

Our modules are relevant and contemporary, exploring today's political situations. You will also become an active member of the Aston Centre for Europe - a thriving research hub which organises debates, study visits, conferences and seminars on current international issues.

### Career prospects

Gain the skills to pursue further postgraduate research or a successful career in the public and private sectors. Careers pursued by our students include: international organisations (EU, WTO, UN etc.), research in domestic or international think tanks, careers in government, journalism, international marketing or business.

## Joint MA in Conflict and Security

Studying at Aston University and Metropolitan University of Prague

### Programme overview

This one-year Master's Degree offers students an exceptional opportunity to pursue a graduate programme with a focus on conflict and security. You will gain a comprehensive overview of multilevel governance and international relations related to conflict and security, taking into account British and Czech perspectives. Students spend the first semester at Aston University, where they study a number of core and optional modules. The second term takes place at Metropolitan University Prague, where they study additional modules and complete a final dissertation. All modules are taught in English.

### Core modules

- > Critical Approaches to Security Studies
- > Concepts and Strategies for Qualitative Social Science

### Elective modules

- > International Relations Theory
- > Religion and Politics
- > Corruption and Crime-Terror Nexus: Defense
- > Rogue States
- > Governance of Global Problems
- > Politics in South Europe
- > Human Security, Peacekeeping and Peacebuilding
- > Conflicts and Conflict Resolution
- > Conflicts in Central, Eastern Europe and Post-Soviet States
- > Actorness and Power in Global Security
- > Contemporary Analysis of East Asian Security

### Why choose this course?

Offering a unique, international perspective on conflict and security, this course also gives students the experience of living and studying in two different countries, with the opportunities for personal growth this entails. Modules are relevant and contemporary, exploring today's political situations. You will also become an active member of the Aston Centre for Europe - a thriving research hub which organises debates, study visits, conferences and seminars on current international issues.

### Career prospects

Gain the knowledge, analytical and transferable skills to pursue further postgraduate research or a successful career in the public and private sector. Typical careers include: employment in international organisations (EU, WTO, UN etc), research in policy-oriented domestic or international think tanks, careers in government administration, further postgraduate research at PhD level, journalism and international marketing or business.

# MA in International Relations and Global Governance

## Programme overview

This programme is ideally suited to internationally oriented careers in the public or private sector. Through this programme, graduates gain a high-level understanding of political and economic power in a globalised world. Studying modules on topics such as Religion and Global Politics, Security and Defence in Europe and International Political Communication and Leaders, students develop wide-ranging insights into political behaviour and skills in the critical analysis of contemporary political issues. This programme is ideally suited to internationally oriented careers in the public or private sector.

## Core modules

- > International Relations Theory
- > Governance of Global Problems

## Elective modules

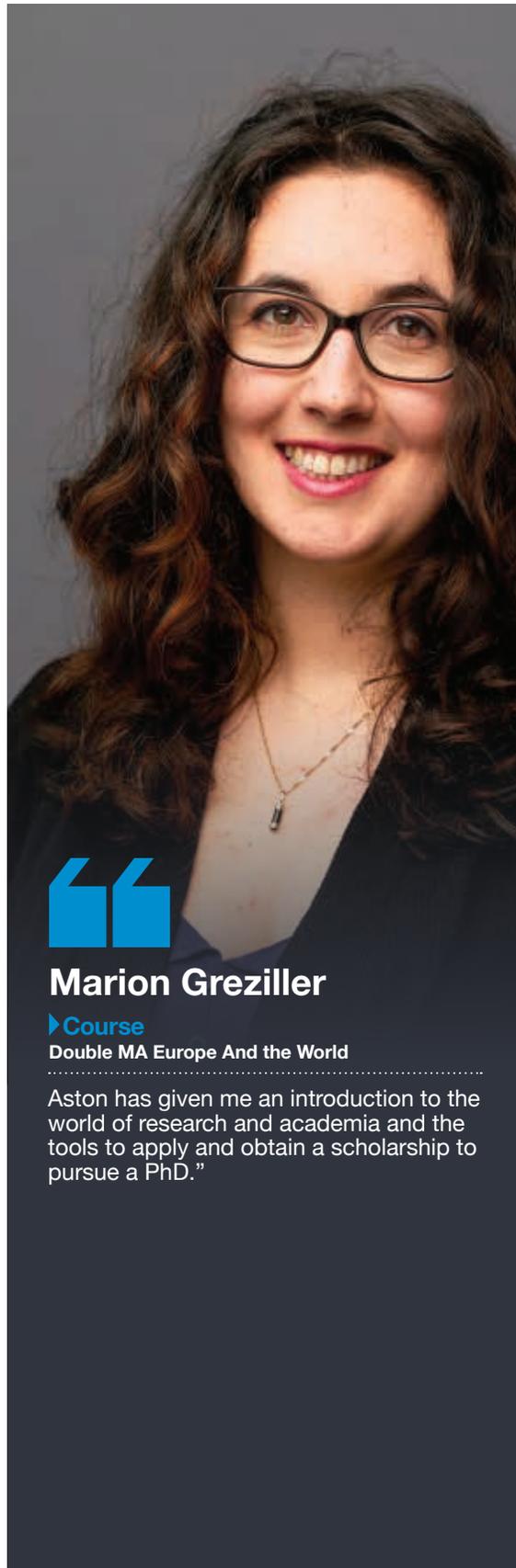
- > The EU: A Web of Institutions
- > Critical Approaches to Security Studies
- > Europe and East Asia
- > Leaders and Leadership in the European and Global Context
- > Religion and Politics
- > Corruption and Crime-Terror Nexus: Defense
- > International Political Communication
- > EuroSim: Learning Negotiation Through Simulations
- > International Political Economy
- > Rethinking European Integration
- > Corruption & Crime-Terror Nexus: Internal Security
- > Transforming African Politics
- > Conflict, Security and Development
- > Freedom versus Security? Justice and Home Affairs in Europe
- > Changing China: People's Republic in the 21st Century

## Why choose this course?

Enjoy active membership of the Aston Centre for Europe, -a thriving research hub which organises debates, study visits, conferences and seminars on current international issues - and have the opportunity to take part in a week long study trip to visit the EU institutions and related organisation in Brussels.

## Career prospects

Gain the skills to pursue further postgraduate research or a successful career in the public and private sectors. Careers pursued by our students include: international organisations (EU, WTO, UN etc.), research in domestic or international think tanks, careers in government, journalism, international marketing or business.



## Marion Greziller

**Course**  
Double MA Europe And the World

Aston has given me an introduction to the world of research and academia and the tools to apply and obtain a scholarship to pursue a PhD."

# Double Masters in Governance and International Politics

Studying at Aston University and Otto-Friedrich-Universität, Bamberg

## Programme overview

You will develop a deep understanding of issues of contemporary research in the field of governance and international politics, whilst benefitting from the combined expertise of teaching staff in two institutions: first year at Aston University, second year at Bamberg University. Gain skills in critical analysis of contemporary European integration, in both English and German language.

## Core modules

- > International Relations Theory
- > Governance of Global Problems

## Elective modules

- > The EU: A Web of Institutions
- > The EU as a Global Actor
- > Europe's Regions and Their Governance
- > Critical Approaches to Security Studies
- > Europe and East Asia
- > Leaders and Leadership in the European and Global Context
- > Religion and Politics
- > Corruption and Crime-Terror Nexus: Defense
- > International Political Communication
- > EuroSim: Learning Negotiation Through Simulations
- > International Political Economy

## Why choose this course?

Offering a unique, international perspective on the concept of governance, this course also gives students the experience of living and studying in two different countries, with the opportunities for personal growth this entails. Modules are relevant and contemporary, exploring today's political situations. You will also become an active member of the Aston Centre for Europe - a thriving research hub - and have the opportunity to take part in a week-long study trip to visit the EU institutions and related organisations in Brussels.

## Career prospects

Gain the knowledge, analytical and transferable skills to pursue further postgraduate research or a successful career in the public and private sector. The careers pursued by our students vary greatly, but typical careers include: employment in international organisations (EU, WTO, UN etc), research in policy-oriented domestic or international think tanks, careers in government administration, further postgraduate research at PhD level, journalism and international marketing or business.

# MA Forensic Linguistics

## Programme overview

This programme provides a thorough grounding in the broad spectrum of forensic linguistics. We see the discipline as including the study of the language of the law, providing investigative assistance and then possibly evidence to the Courts, and also incorporating knowledge of the sister discipline of forensic speech science. Students will therefore learn about legal and forensic contexts, about linguistic insights and methods of analysis and about how the two can be brought together in the application of language description to these contexts. Strong links with police and other end users and the fact that the teaching staff includes practitioner forensic linguists, give you unique access to real world data for student learning and research work.

## Core modules

- > Linguistics in legal contexts
- > Analysing written and spoken discourse
- > Research methods for forensic linguistics
- > Language as evidence
- > Forensic speech science
- > Practical applications in forensic linguistics
- > Dissertation

## Why choose this course?

Choose this course if you are interested in how the analysis of language can assist in the delivery of justice.

## Career prospects

While there is no well-trodden professional route for forensic linguists, past students have moved on to jobs with the police and security services, and into careers in research. The course is also an excellent foundation for studies at PhD level.

# MA in Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages (TESOL)

## Programme overview

Designed for those who would like to obtain a substantial postgraduate qualification in the field of TESOL, you will have the opportunity for in-depth investigations into language pedagogy and theory of language use. Suitable for experienced teachers as well as those with little classroom experience, this programme helps you make informed decisions on different aspects of TESOL.

## Core modules

- > Theory and Practice of English Language Teaching
- > Language Awareness
- > Research Methods
- > English Teaching Practice \* (core if less than 2 years' teaching experience; option for more experienced teachers)

## Elective modules

- > Analysing Discourse
  - > Teaching Young Learners
  - > Course and Materials Design
  - > Language Contact and Multilingualism
  - > Language and Literature in Education
  - > Research Topics in TESOL
  - > Technology in Teaching and Learning
  - > Communicating across Cultures
- (Please note that not all options will be offered every year)

## Professional accreditation

Credits may be awarded if you have the DELTA diploma.



### Why choose this course?

The programme modules represent a balance between pedagogy and linguistic theories, with an emphasis on linking theory with practical classroom application. Teaching practice provides an introduction to all the practical issues involved in TESOL, while also offering opportunities to experiment with new approaches and to develop your teaching skills and professional expertise. The elective modules and the dissertation enable you to specialise in particular areas of interest.



### Career prospects

The MA TESOL is a substantial qualification which will enhance career options in the global contexts of English language teaching, and graduates of the programme are working as TESOL teachers all over the world.

# MA in TESOL and Translation Studies

## Programme overview

You will acquire additional expertise in translation theory and skills to pursue a career in TESOL. The course is designed for those who have little or no teaching experience, and builds on our extensive experience and highly successful distance learning Masters programmes in TESOL.

## Core modules

- > Theory and Practice of English Language Teaching
- > The Translation Industry: Theoretical and Practical Perspectives I
- > Translation Technology I: CAT Tools and Localisation
- > Multilingual Specialised Translation

## Elective modules

- > Language and Literature in Education
- > Language Contact and Multilingualism
- > English Teaching Practice
- > Teaching Young Learners
- > Technology in Teaching and Learning
- > The Translation Industry: Theoretical and Practical Perspectives II
- > Translation Technology II: Machine Translation, Post-editing, Audiovisual Translation
- > Business and Enterprise Skills for Translators
- > Translating for International Institutions
- > Specialised Translation: French/German/Spanish <> English
- > Translation for Business: Arabic/Chinese/Portuguese <> English

## Professional accreditation

Aston is a corporate member of the Institute of Translation and Interpreting (ITI).



### Why choose this course?

Demand for translators and interpreters is increasing rapidly, as organisations become more globalised. You will learn the practical and professional skills of translation and gain real-world experience through our placement module. Practising translators and industry representatives, and you will have the opportunity to work towards Chartered Institute of Linguists' and TRADOS certification. Demand for teachers of English as a foreign language is also growing every day, as English becomes more used worldwide. By doing this Masters, you will obtain a substantial postgraduate qualification in the field of TESOL.



### Career prospects

Graduates have gone on to work as translators, technical editors and translation project managers for translation companies and software developers, both in the United Kingdom and abroad. Graduates of the TESOL programmes also work as teachers all over the world.

# MA in Translating for Business and International Institutions

## Programme overview

This innovative programme prepares you both for a professional career in the global language industry and for ongoing research. You will learn about the business of translation from professionals working in the industry and gain practical, hands-on, experience through our placement module.

## Core modules

- > The Translation Industry: Theoretical and Practical Perspectives
- > Translation Technology I: CAT Tools and Localisation
- > Multilingual Specialised Translation
- > Business and Enterprise Skills for Translators
- > Dissertation
- > Practical translation modules

Practical translation modules:

- > Specialised Translation Practice: French – English
- > Specialised Translation Practice: German - English
- > Specialised Translation Practice: Spanish - English
- > Translation for Business: Arabic - English
- > Translation for Business: Chinese - English
- > Translation for Business: Portuguese - English

## Elective modules

You can choose two of the following modules:

- > Translating for International Institutions
- > Translation Work Placement
- > Translation Technology II: Machine Translation, Post-editing, Audiovisual Translation

## Professional accreditation

Aston University is a corporate member of the Institute of Translation and Interpreting (ITI)



### Why choose this course?

Demand for translators and interpreters is increasing rapidly, as organisations become more globalised. Apart from developing your translation skills, this programme equips you to fully integrate into the vibrant international translation market. It allows you to gain real-world experience through our placement module. You will also benefit from guest lectures from practising translators and industry representatives, and will have the opportunity to work towards Chartered Institute of Linguists' and TRADOS certification.



### Career prospects

Recent destinations for our graduates include in-house or freelance translation, mainly working for business, institutions and public service. Our graduates also work as project managers for translation agencies, technical editors and software developers, both in the UK and abroad.

# PhD

## Programme overview

Our PhD programme is designed to train Doctoral students who aspire to become future academics or professional industry researchers.

## Research strengths

Our research strengths are embedded in our academic departments:

- > English
  - > Languages (French, German, Spanish) and Translation Studies
  - > European integration in comparative political, security, social and economic context
  - > International Relations
  - > Politics
  - > Sociology & Policy
- You are strongly recommended to explore these before applying.

## Programme content (including any research methods courses)

During year one of the programme (or years one and two for part time students) research students must complete our ESRC-accredited research methods training modules and work towards submission of the Qualifying Report examination. The Qualifying Report is between 6,000 and 10,000 words and is a summary on the progress of a student's research. Assessment is conducted through a viva voce examination whose purpose is not only to ascertain a student's academic potential but also to provide independent advice on a student's research. Students who are successful in the Qualifying Report examination then follow the full PhD programme route through to submission of the final thesis. PhD students have three years full time or six years part time from their research start date in which to submit the thesis.

## Research environment

We have an exciting and vibrant research environment that enables you to engage in various research events and seminars. There is also a dedicated research society which organises social and academic events.



### Entry requirements

- > A Masters degree or an equivalent qualification. A minimum of an overall merit grade (or equivalent), with merit in the dissertation is normally required.
- > IELTS: 6.5 (minimum 6.5 in writing and reading and minimum 6.0 in speaking and listening)
- > TOEFL iBT: 93 (minimum 26 in writing, 22 in speaking, 19 in listening, 18 in reading)
- > Pearson Academic: 63 (minimum 63 in writing and speaking, and 57 in reading and listening)
- > Cambridge Certificate of Proficiency in English (CPE): Grade B
- > Cambridge Certificate in Advanced English (CAE): Grade A

# MAKE YOUR MOVE AND CHOOSE THE ASTON MASTERS

Applying is easy, just follow our five step guide

## 1 Choose your Masters

By the time you have got to this page, chances are you are pretty sure which course is right for you. If not, flick back through the brochure or browse our website [www.aston.ac.uk](http://www.aston.ac.uk) for some inspiration.

Don't forget, our Admissions Team are on hand to answer any questions you might have and advise you on which course is most suitable for you.

## 2 Complete your application

After checking that you meet our entry requirements, complete the simple online application form which can be found from your chosen course page.

## 3 We assess your application

We'll take a look over your application to make sure that you are suitable for the course. Don't worry, if we have any further questions, we will send you an email.

## 4 We'll be in touch

We'll let you know whether your application has been successful. If we offer you a place, you will receive either a conditional or unconditional offer.

## 5 Accept your place

You need to let us know that you are accepting your offer.

All you need to do is follow the link in your offer email to send us your acceptance documents and pay your deposit as outlined in your offer email.

*Remember*



**GET IN TOUCH**

If you need any advice or have a question about the application process, contact the Admissions Team by emailing [ask@aston.ac.uk](mailto:ask@aston.ac.uk) or phone +44 (0)121 204 4910.



**CHECK YOUR EMAILS**

All contact will be made over email, so make sure that the email address you use on your application is the one that you use and check on a regular basis



**SEE FOR YOURSELF**

We hold regular events to give you a chance to visit campus as part of an open event, meet our staff at fairs around the world, or through webinars and webchats

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### Content of this Prospectus

The information contained in this Prospectus is relevant for applications to postgraduate programmes in the academic session September 2019 - June 2020. Whilst information in this prospectus is correct at the time of going to press (October 2018), Aston University does not guarantee its accuracy or completeness and information in this Prospectus may differ from information that is issued to applicants as part of an offer.

FOR YOUR  
FUTURE   
THE ASTON  
MASTERS  
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