



University
of Glasgow

Economics and business economics

Undergraduate study



‘I very much enjoyed the strong tie between students and the teaching body at Glasgow. The openness and individual help and support were very much appreciated.’

Viola Dub, MA (SocSci) with Honours in Economics, 2008



Choose Glasgow

Introduction

The University of Glasgow is rated as one of the top 100 universities in the world (*Times Higher Education QS World University Rankings*).

All of our students study for degrees that are recognised and respected by employers throughout the world, but we can guarantee you will receive a lot more besides. Some of the key benefits of student life at Glasgow are

Satisfied students

Our students report high levels of satisfaction with their studies. According to the independent National Student Survey, an impressive 90% of the University’s final-year students rated themselves as satisfied with their course in 2009, well above the national average of 81%.

Flexible course choices

We offer more than 900 degree programme combinations and our flexible system allows you to study a broad range of subjects during your time at university and, in many cases, makes it possible to delay choosing specialist subjects until the end of second year.

Teaching based on research

Glasgow is a research-led university, which means that you will be taught by academics at the forefront of knowledge in their subject areas.

A student experience worth having

You will take away more than a degree from Glasgow. Over the last 550 years our students have built up a fantastic array of initiatives to keep you engaged, entertained and energised. The result is a student experience to be proud of. We have

- four award-winning student media teams
- over 100 clubs and societies
- two undergraduate student unions
- sporting facilities for all levels of fitness
- a study abroad and exchange programme that offers opportunities to study across the world as part of your undergraduate degree.

‘Glasgow is an exciting place, rich in culture, groaning with history, but most of all I found it to be welcoming.’

Laura Sayers graduated in 2001 and is a BBC Radio 1 producer

Our campus

The University’s compact main campus combines grand historical buildings with up-to-the-minute facilities. It’s centred on a neo-gothic building with a spire offering breathtaking views across the city.

Come and visit us

Open Day

www.glasgow.ac.uk/openday

In June and September we hold an Open Day to allow you, your family and teachers to visit us on campus and see a little of the city.

Open Day allows you to speak to academic staff, find out more about courses, tour the facilities, visit student accommodation and see for yourself what life would be like as a student at Glasgow. If you have a long way to travel you can also stay in one of our student residences.

Alternative visiting arrangements

Open Day is the best way for you to get a comprehensive picture of what being a student here would be like. However, if for any reason you can’t make it on that date, then we will be able to make alternative arrangements.

To find out more visit:
www.glasgow.ac.uk/afternoonvisits.

Applicants’ Visit Day

At Glasgow we go the extra mile. If you receive an offer of a place at Glasgow, we will invite you to visit us before making your final decision. Applicants’ Visit Day usually takes place in March. Details will be sent to you together with your offer of a place.

Where can I find out more?

You can find out more about our programmes at: www.glasgow.ac.uk/economics or you can email us at: economics@lbss.gla.ac.uk.

Adam Smith, the world's most famous economist, was aged 14 when he started as a student in Glasgow, returning later to work as a professor. His major work – The Wealth of Nations – established political economy as a subject of study and remains influential to the present day.



www.glasgow.ac.uk/economics

Economics

Degrees: MA (SocSci), MA, BAcc, LLB

Typical offer

Highers	AABB (first sitting) AAAB (two sittings)
A-levels	AAB (first sitting) AAA (two sittings)
IB	34 points

For entry requirements visit www.glasgow.ac.uk/undergraduate/degrees/entryrequirements

Economics is traditionally divided into two broad categories: microeconomics and macroeconomics.

Microeconomics involves the decisions of individual units, such as a firm producing goods and trying to make a profit or a household earning income, buying products and trying to achieve the highest level of satisfaction.

Macroeconomics looks at the factors that determine the total output of the economy as a whole and analyses the mechanisms that cause inflation, unemployment and growth.

All of our students study the principles of microeconomics and macroeconomics, but there is also a great deal of choice within our programmes. You will have the opportunity to develop an interest in fields, such as government policy, developing countries, the economics of business, and international trade and finance.

What can I expect in first year?

In first year you will study:

- Introduction to the market mechanism
- International trade
- Economic development
- Macroeconomics
- Macroeconomic policy in an open economy.

What can I expect in second year?

In second year you will study:

- Intermediate macroeconomics
- Intermediate microeconomics
- Introduction to mathematical economics
- Economic data analysis.

What happens next?

Honours

At the end of your second year you will decide on your subject specialisation for Honours study in years three and four.

We offer two degree programmes:

- Economics – which involves applying economic analysis to a wide range of issues
- Business Economics – which involves studying areas of economics directly relevant to business.

The two subjects can be taken as Single Honours degrees or as a combined programme. Alternatively, both can also be studied in a Joint Honours degree alongside another subject or a foreign language that you have also studied in your first two years. Joint Honours programmes are available with the majority of social sciences and arts subjects. In addition, there is a wide range of Honours combinations with accountancy and law.

If you enrol for an Honours degree in Economics or Business Economics you will take some compulsory courses and also choose some topics from a range of elective courses.

In **Economics**, Junior Honours (year three) compulsory courses include:

- Microeconomic analysis
- Macroeconomic analysis.

These courses develop advanced analytical tools that can then be employed in relation to other Economics courses. You will also take a course in Econometrics, which involves the statistical techniques of economic analysis.

In Senior Honours (year four) the compulsory course of **Government and the economy** puts the skills you have developed in your first three years into action by studying current policy issues. In fourth year you will also:

- work in teams on a series of projects that will develop your understanding of a range of important issues
- present your results to your classmates
- write a dissertation on a topic of your own choice.

In **Business Economics**, your Junior Honours (year three) compulsory courses will normally include two courses on the economics of business. These put economic tools to work analysing activities inside a business.

In Senior Honours (year four) you will study two courses in finance. These explore how stock markets and other financial markets work and how the strategic decisions of corporations interact with financial markets.

For further flexibility, these courses are also available as elective courses for students following an Economics programme.

In both Honours programmes you can also choose from a wide range of courses, including:

Knowledge of economics is indispensable for understanding current affairs. Take a close look at recent major news stories: economics is central to the key issues. It also complements many other disciplines, including accounting, law, management, statistics, sociology and psychology.

In studying economics you will learn how individuals and society make choices about how scarce resources are used, what products are produced and who gets to consume them. These choices depend on evaluating costs, benefits, risks and effects on others. The constraints affecting these choices are many and include income, technology, natural resources and time.

- Environmental economics
- Regional economics and the Scottish economy
- International finance
- The economics of housing policy
- Economics of development and policy in less developed countries
- Economics of team sport
- International trade.

Can I study abroad?

You can choose to spend part or all of your second or third year at another university within the EU as part of the Erasmus student exchange scheme. Alternatively, you can study in the United States, Canada, South America, Australia or New Zealand. Information is available on our website: www.glasgow.ac.uk/studying/exchange

What are my career prospects?

There is strong evidence that our graduates are in demand by a wide range of employers due to their developed skills in research, analysis, communication, team working, decision making and problem solving.

Economists find themselves working in a range of related and unrelated sectors, such as:

- manufacturing
- government agencies
- communications
- banking
- insurance
- investment
- retailing
- transport
- consultancy firms
- charities.

‘Scotland at its artsy, riotous, high-octane, good-time best.’

Lonely Planet



City of Glasgow

What is it like living and studying in Glasgow?

Named as one of the world’s top ten cities by independent travel guide *Lonely Planet*, Glasgow attracts the largest student population in Scotland. The city’s reputation for friendliness means that wherever you come from, you’ll soon treat it as your second home.

Music and nightlife

In an average week Glasgow hosts 123 bands, 72 classical composers, 49 choirs, 38 orchestras and 21 jazz bands. Renowned for discovering acts from Franz Ferdinand to Primal Scream, the city has fantastic venues for live music including King Tut’s Wah Wah Hut – voted UK’s best live venue by listeners of Radio 1 three years in a row.

More than 700 bars, pubs and nightclubs mean no two nights in Glasgow are the same. Whether you’re after a record-breaking 100-foot long bar where everyone can be a barfly (the Horseshoe), or a pub with a log fire, stuffed stags’ heads and kilted staff that’s as appealing as it is unpronounceable (Uisge Beatha), Glasgow has a venue to suit. Dance until you drop at the Subclub, or travel back to 1920s America at the Vegas clubnight on the Renfrew Ferry, it’s up to you.

Festivals

At least one festival every month of the year shows Glasgow loves to celebrate. Some of our favourites include Glasgow International Comedy Festival, Celtic Connections folk music festival, Glasgay, Piping Live!, Glasgow Film Festival and Aye Write!, the city’s book festival.

Culture

The city of Glasgow owns one of the richest collections in Europe, displayed in 13 museums and art galleries – and admission is free. You are spoilt for choice, with the city’s famous Burrell collection vying for attention beside Scotland’s most visited attraction, the Kelvingrove Art Gallery & Museum, located next door to the University.

Sport

The city will host the Commonwealth Games in 2014. Across the world people know Glasgow as home of Celtic and Rangers football clubs, but with no fewer than 27 public fitness centres including swimming pools, running tracks, 11-a-side pitches and tennis courts, you’re guaranteed to find something to get involved with, whatever your level of fitness.

Campus culture

Are you craving cosy campus living or do you prefer big city excitement. Whichever is your style, you’ll be impressed by the University’s excellent location in the compact West End. Just two miles from the city centre, with great bus and underground links, the West End has a reputation as the bohemian, trendy and cosmopolitan quarter of Glasgow.



What our students say

‘Glasgow is such a diverse and vibrant city with lots to offer and a great social scene with a fantastic range of bars, clubs and music venues.’

Alexander Hutchison

‘I chose Glasgow because compared to the other cities I visited it just seemed like a much more lively place. I think the high student population makes it a very young city.’

Elizabeth Ritz

‘The campus at Glasgow is unbelievably beautiful. It’s hard to believe sometimes when walking down busy Byres Road and turning into University Avenue, that this Hogwarts is situated right in the heart of the West End.’

Beverley Simpson

‘Glasgow is very vibrant. The West End is like the village within the city.’

Sarah Gibson