

# Mathematical sciences at Bath

## Our student stories



UNIVERSITY OF  
**BATH**

# The best people to tell you what it's like to **study maths at Bath** are our students.



This brochure has been written by maths students, based on questions they had before they started their course.

If you have any specific questions about living or studying here, please speak to staff and students at an Applicant Visit Day, or contact us directly – see back page for details.



**Katie Stoyale,**  
BSc Mathematical Sciences  
with placement



**Curtis Elvin,**  
BSc Mathematics

**Ellis Caird,**  
MMath Mathematics

# Written by students, for students



**Sam Cook,**  
MMath Mathematics  
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with placement



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MMath Mathematics

**Hannah Mathews,**  
MMath Mathematics



# The step-up to university maths

“University maths is **very different to school** in the sense that it involves proving things using logical arguments rather than just calculating things. This was quite a daunting prospect for me at first, but I found that I got used to it quite quickly.”

*Sam*



“The actual maths we do isn’t too challenging. The hardest part that I have found is getting used to writing maths properly, in a structured way.”

*Rhys*

“I was initially very nervous about coming to uni, especially with a course as large as maths. Once I arrived, it all seemed to be a lot easier and I met some of my bestest friends right away during the first week.”

*Rebecca*

“My first-year timetable was not as full as I thought it would be. I had **plenty of time** between some lectures to go to the library or hang out with friends in the Students’ Union. It also seemed to fit perfectly around the boxing and music societies I chose to take part in.”

*Curtis*

# A typical week

"Each unit in my first year had at least **two lectures a week**, usually **one problem class**, and a **tutorial**. This meant that per unit we would learn new content for two hours, but the rest of the time was dedicated to understanding it."

*Rebecca*

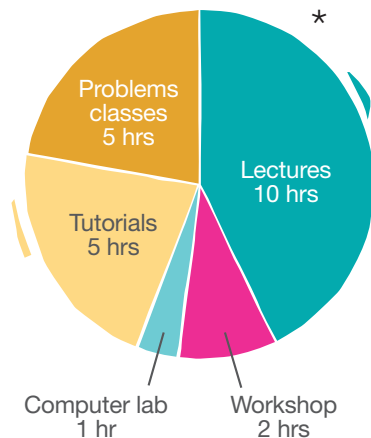
During **problems classes**, the lecturer goes through problems and explains the solutions step by step.

"Most lecturers **publish the course notes** beforehand, so you can view them before and during the lectures, and annotate them if you prefer."

*Sam*

"Tutorials are in **smaller groups** and are **more personal**. If you get stuck with anything in a lecture, they are the best times to ask for help, and even outside of tutorials the **tutors are always happy to answer questions** via email."

*Sam*



"Although sitting in a lecture theatre of 200 people can be a bit intimidating at first, everyone is **really friendly**."

*Hannah*

**Group tutorials** normally take place weekly for each unit you're studying. Each tutor group includes only around 15 students, so you can discuss the course content in detail.

*\*This pie chart is intended to give you an idea of your potential first year timetable breakdown and does not include time spent on independent study. Your actual timetable may vary.*

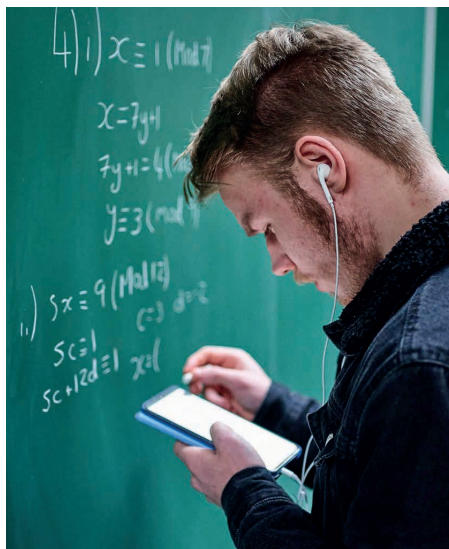
# Managing the workload

"Uni life is definitely different to school. I quickly realised that the challenge of uni is staying committed and on top of the workload."

*Rebecca*

"My **Personal Tutor** made a big difference to my confidence and gave me helpful hints on how to stay on track, and where I should be at any given moment throughout the course."

*Curtis*



You'll be assigned a **Personal Tutor** who you'll meet in your first week.

You'll also have a **Peer Mentor** who is normally a maths student in a year above. They'll be able to help you with any questions you have about living or studying here.

"I would meet with my Personal Tutor every week or two during the first year. He suggested making a study plan for the holidays to make sure I would cover all the material for exams. For coursework, he directed me to places where I could seek help, like the Uni's **Mathematics Resources Centre (MASH)**."

*Rebecca*



**MASH** is a drop-in service that helps all students at the Uni with maths and statistics problems.  
[go.bath.ac.uk/mash](http://go.bath.ac.uk/mash)



"Support in first year has been great! There are **weekly help sessions** that are unit-based and not compulsory, so I can just pop in and ask any questions I have on a lecture or homework sheet."

*Rhys*

"The University has lots of **support** available. There is a **wellbeing drop-in service** seven days a week which has been really helpful when I've been stressed or struggling with uni.

*Hannah*



# Course content

"The first semester covered so many different topics that it really **broadened my horizons** on the different fields of mathematics I could go into later down the line."

*Curtis*



"The course content has become increasingly hard but it's **always felt manageable** as we've learnt a bit more week by week. Plus, there is always the chance to seek help, either from my tutors or through MASH."

*Rebecca*

"First year covers a **wide range of topics**, one of which was **learning how to code**. This was something I hadn't had a chance to do before so was quite intimidated at first. However, it's now one of my favourite parts of the degree and I get to do really cool things like use it to decode cyphers."

*Hannah*

"Being able to take units from the physics department during my degree is a huge benefit."

*Ellis*



Depending on the course you're studying, you'll have the opportunity to **explore areas outside of maths** with optional units from other departments.





# Go on a year-long placement

Going on placement could **improve your employability**, whilst giving you the chance to **try out a possible career path** to see if it's right for you.



If you haven't applied for a course with a placement, you can switch after you've started your course.



Our Placements Team are **subject experts** which means they know our maths courses well and will be able to match you to the right employer.  
**[go.bath.ac.uk/science-placements](https://go.bath.ac.uk/science-placements)**

"Bath is really big on placements, and for good reason! The support network and the connections the Uni has is excellent. The **Placements Team** run weekly sessions to help you prepare your CV and in second year this moves on to interview skills (including mock interviews), with loads of events every week put on by employers such as GSK and JP Morgan."

*Sam*

"Coming to Expedia I was hoping to learn more about travel technology and data analytics. I've certainly been able to learn enough where I can confidently say that I'd like to work in this industry."

*Harvey Williams, on placement at Hotels.com Expedia Group*

"I'm so glad I went on placement because it gave me a lot of direction in terms of where I wanted to take my course. I got insight into how maths can be used to help real people."

*Anisah Kaleemullah, on placement at the Department for Work and Pensions*



Instead of going on placement you could choose to **study for a year at a university abroad**. You'll experience another culture whilst studying a course similar to what you would at Bath. **[go.bath.ac.uk/study-abroad](https://go.bath.ac.uk/study-abroad)**

*Securing a placement or study year abroad involves a competitive application process and therefore cannot be guaranteed. Overseas opportunities are subject to Covid-19 travel restrictions.*

# Moving to Bath

For most students, the first week at Bath will be **Freshers' Week** which is all about **finding your way around, meeting new people** and **getting used to a new routine**.



"Rent in Bath is quite expensive but there's a good student community and it's a **really safe city**."

*Hannah*

Bath has been ranked as the **2nd safest University City** in the UK in the most recent THE Student Experience Survey (2018)

2<sup>nd</sup>



Oldfield Park is a popular location in Bath for student accommodation. Most students live in the city from their 2nd year but some prefer to do this from the start.

[go.bath.ac.uk/student-accommodation](http://go.bath.ac.uk/student-accommodation)

"The campus itself is fantastic as it only takes 15 minutes to walk from one end to the other. Everything is really close by in first year."

*Sam*

"The lake on campus is a good place to go, throw on some music or a podcast and chill."

*Rhys*

"One of the main attractions to Bath for me was its location. Bath really is a **gorgeous city**, with loads of **walks** and **green areas** close to campus which are great for de-stressing."

*Sam*



"One of the good things about maths at Bath is that the course is huge. You're very likely to have other mathematicians close by in your accommodation, and this common ground makes it really easy to make friends."

*Sam*

The SU put on lots of events throughout the year from day trips to movie nights.

We even have a bar and club on campus for great nights out.



[instagram.com/thesubath](https://www.instagram.com/thesubath)

# Join a society

Joining societies is an easy way to meet other students who have similar interests to you. You can also develop new skills and gain work experience with volunteering opportunities.



"I've joined a few societies including **BUMS (Bath University Maths Society)**, rowing and debating. These tend to have weekly events where you can go, meet friends and have a good time."

*Rhys*

There are **over 160** **student groups** on offer, from societies to volunteering: [thesubath.com/groups](http://thesubath.com/groups)



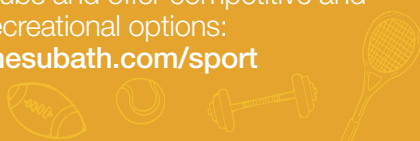
"I've joined **Bathematicians**. They recently ran an event called **crypto challenge** where we had to crack different cyphers and codes. This was fun, and it is always great to see other maths enthusiasts. I also went to a guest lecture."

*Rhys*



## Did you know?

We have around **50** sports clubs and offer competitive and recreational options: [thesubath.com/sport](http://thesubath.com/sport)



"I'm bad at pretty much all sports and was a bit worried that everyone would be pro athletes as the Uni has a reputation for being sporty. However that wasn't the case at all and lots of people are equally as unsporty as I am."

*Hannah*

# Ways you can find out more



Read our student blogs: [blogs.bath.ac.uk/students](https://blogs.bath.ac.uk/students)

## Chat to a current student:

In early 2022, offer holders will have the opportunity to **ask a student** any questions about living and studying at Bath. You don't need to do anything, simply look out for a call or email from a current student sometime in early 2022.

## Join us on social media:



[www.facebook.com/uniofbath/](https://www.facebook.com/uniofbath/)



[www.twitter.com/uniofbath](https://www.twitter.com/uniofbath)



[www.instagram.com/uniofbath/](https://www.instagram.com/uniofbath/)

## Contact the Department

[mathsapplicants@bath.ac.uk](mailto:mathsapplicants@bath.ac.uk)  
01225 386989

$$\frac{1}{\sigma \sqrt{m}} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \exp\left(-\frac{(x-\theta)^2}{m}\right) dx$$

$$\frac{dP}{d\theta} = i(P(\theta) - P(\theta_0))$$

$$\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} (a-b(x))^2 dx = 1$$



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We may make changes to our courses in response to, for example, feedback from students, developments in the field of studies, the requirements of accrediting bodies, or any unforeseen or unavoidable circumstances.

Please check our online course pages to ensure you have the most up-to-date information. Find out more about this and other important University terms and conditions [go.bath.ac.uk/ugp-important-terms](https://go.bath.ac.uk/ugp-important-terms)