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The British Council is the United Kingdom's international organisation for cultural relations and educational opportunities.

### **Study STEM in the UK**

With some of the world's oldest institutions, the UK is an incredible place to pursue your passion for science, technology, engineering and mathematics. Students with an interest in STEM from around the world choose the UK because of the fantastic quality of the teachers and courses and the vibrant university life. Below, we have put together a handy guide for students who want advice on what subject to choose and where to study a STEM subject.

If you're unsure where to start - many courses in the UK offer a broad selection in the first year and then specialize only in the final years.

For example, many universities offer a Bachelor in Natural Sciences which will give you the option to continue exploring a number of STEM subjects in your first year. A general engineering course allows you to look into different areas of engineering before opting for a specialism such as electrical engineering or civil engineering.

If you have a passion for a specific topic, there are also universities that allow you to jump straight into a particular area of science: whether that's robotics engineering or artificial intelligence, with a bit of research you can easily find a course that suits your unique profile.

# WHY STUDY STEM IN THE UK?

UK universities are ranked among the top universities worldwide and are well-known for their creativity and innovation in both blue skies research and applied research. In addition, undergraduate and postgraduate courses in the UK are generally shorter than many other countries, helping to reduce tuition fees and accommodation costs.



# CHOOSING A COURSE AND A UNIVERSITY

We have put together a short practical step by step guide to get you started below:



#### **OUR NEW WEBSITE:**

Our Study UK: <u>Discover You study-uk.britishcouncil.org</u> website contains even more information, for instance a section on the <u>UK education system</u>, <u>choosing the right university for you</u>, <u>courses and qualifications</u> and <u>how to apply</u>. Make sure to <u>sign up for our newsletters</u> and find a British Council Study UK fair in your home country too.

# HOW TO RESEARCH YOUR DEGREE AND UNIVERSITY

There are also many other sources of information you can use to help you decide where and what to study, but a good place to start is online research.

Organisations that publish university rankings include QS World Universities, Times Higher Education and The Guardian. You should also consult UCAS, the Universities and Colleges Admissions Service, which contains useful information about applying to a UK university, and of course don't forget to look in depth at all of the UK university websites you're considering.

Education agents are a source of advice for many students although they work for a fee. To find a British Council certified agent you can visit this online list.

If you want to know more about an institution make sure to visit their website and order a prospectus - a printed booklet advertising a school or university to potential parents or students – as these have full listings of courses on offer, details of course content and modules, and stories of previous graduates.

Many students also find it helpful to look online for blogs or videos on university websites. Many universities share these on their social media channels, and there is also lots of <u>online content</u> created by current students about their UK experience.



## WHAT CAREERS CAN YOU PURSUE AFTER A STEM COURSE?

A STEM course gives you the flexibility to access a very broad range of industries, from the financial sector to becoming a full time researcher, or working for some of the top companies globally in technology, engineering or biotechnology. STEM graduates are in high demand globally and a UK degree will give you that extra boost.

Careers in engineering today are extremely diverse and can include anything from construction to renewable energy.

Some of the top founders of start-ups today studied a scientific or technology related subject, and in the future disciplines such as robotics, data analysis and machine learning will continue to grow in importance globally, so a UK education could be your foot in the door to an exciting international career!

So, whichever subject you choose, also remember to do some quick research into what jobs you can work in once you graduate.

For more inspiring stories from UK alumni, search for our #MyUniqueFuture campaign on Instagram.

# PATHWAY COURSES AND FOUNDATION YEARS

If you do not meet the academic or English language requirements set by the university that you are interested in, then a pathways course can help you plot a route onto your chosen degree and meet the academic requirements of the UK university that you're interested in.

Foundation pathways courses help you improve your English skills and give you the confidence to start undergraduate or postgraduate study. To find out if your university offers a foundation pathway course then check their website or get in touch with their international office.