



Information about teaching on the University of Birmingham foundation pathways

Below, you'll find more information about what teaching and learning on the University of Birmingham foundation pathways is like for the English for Academic Purposes (EAP) modules.

Class size and teaching hours

With a maximum class size of just 18 students, you'll enjoy an intimate teaching experience on the foundation pathways, with plenty of one-on-one time with your tutors. Teaching hours are 9am–7pm, Monday to Friday, leaving you free on weekends to socialise with your friends or engage in independent study.

You will have a total of 20 taught hours on each Pathway. This includes your lectures, seminars, and tutorials. The number of taught hours for your Academic English classes is adjusted by level and broken down as follows:

- Academic English and Study Skills: 10 hours per week including 2 hours for tutorial appointments.
- Advanced Academic English and Study Skills: 6 hours per week including 2 hours for tutorial appointments.
- Advanced Academic Skills: 6 hours week including 2 hours for tutorial appointments.

Sample timetable

For an idea of how a week studying your foundation pathway might look, you can see a sample timetable below*:

Engineering & Physical Sciences (EPS)

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
09:00 – 10:00	English for Academic Purposes (EAP)		INDUCTION weeks 2 & 5	MATERIALS Lecture	MATHS I Seminars
10:00 – 11:00					
11:00 – 12:00		English for Academic Purposes (EAP)	LABS	MECHANICS Seminars	English for Academic Purposes (EAP)
12:00 – 13:00					
13:00 – 14:00				English for Academic Purposes (EAP)	MATERIALS Seminars 1 & 2
14:00 – 15:00	MATHS I Lecture	MECHANICS Lecture			
15:00 – 16:00					English for Academic Purposes (EAP)
16:00 – 17:00	English for Academic Purposes (EAP) 1 year students	MATHS I Lecture			
17:00 – 18:00					

* Please note that this is a sample only. Timetables change throughout the weeks. Students will not take all the sessions on the timetable; it depends on which groups you are in and which modules you are taking.

Course dates and non-teaching days

The tables below show how your course will be structured, including scheduled teaching breaks.

September-start courses (2024-25)

Welcome	23 September 2024–27 September 2024
Semester 1: September Starts	30 September 2024–13 December 2024
Christmas Vacation (no teaching)	16 December 2024–10 January 2025
Assessment period/return to teaching	13 January 2025–17 January 2025
Semester 2	13 January 2025–27 June 2025
Easter Vacation (no teaching)	7 April 2025–2nd May 2025
Revision and assessment period	5 May 2025–6 June 2025
End of Academic Year	27 June 2025
Supplementary assessment period	18 August 2025–29 August 2025

September-start courses (2025-26)

Welcome	22nd September 2025–26 September 2025
Semester 1	29 September 2025–12 December 2025
Christmas Vacation (no teaching)	13 December 2025–11 January 2026
Assessment period/return to teaching	12 January 2026–16 January 2026
Semester 2	19 January 2026–26 June 2026
Easter Vacation (no teaching)	28 March 2026–26 April 2026
Revision and assessment period	4 May 2026–5 June 2026
End of Academic Year	26 June 2026
Supplementary assessment period	17 August 2026–28 August 2026

January-start courses (2024-25)

Welcome	8 January 2025–10 January 2025
Semester 1	13 January 2025–28 March 2025
Semester 2	31st March 2025–4 July 2025
Easter Vacation (no teaching)	7 April 2025–2nd May 2025
Revision and assessment period	7 July 2025–25 July 2025
End of Academic Year	27 July 2025
Supplementary assessment period	18 August 2025–29 August 2025

January-start courses (2025-26)

Welcome	7 January 2026–9 January 2026
Semester 1	12 January 2026–27 March 2026
Semester 2	27 April 2026–3 July 2026
Easter Vacation (no teaching)	28 March 2026–26 April 2026
Revision and assessment period	6 July 2026–24 July 2026
End of Academic Year	31 July 2026
Supplementary assessment period	17 August 2026–28 August 2026

University closures

In addition to the regularly scheduled breaks above, the University will be closed and no teaching will take place on the following dates:

2024-25

- Christmas break: 16 December 2024–10 January 2025
- Easter break: 7 April 2025–2 May 2025
- Early May bank holiday: 5 May 2025
- Spring bank holiday: 26 May 2025
- Summer bank holiday: 25 August 2025

2025-26

- Christmas break: 13 December 2025–11 January 2026
- Easter break: 28 March 2026–26 April 2026
- Early May bank holiday: 4 May 2026
- Spring bank holiday: 25 May 2026
- Summer bank holiday: 31 August 2026

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