University of Birmingham

Education BA (Hons)

The **BA Education (Hons)** undergraduate course at Birmingham is one of the most prestigious education degrees in the UK. It combines the academic study of childhood and education with a practical focus on career development in related areas.

The degree is interdisciplinary and combines ideas and research from areas such as education, psychology, sociology, philosophy, social policy and history. It is designed for both UK/EU and international students who have career aspirations and/or academic interests in the fields of childhood and education.

The BA (Hons) Education gives you the option in your second year to study overseas at one of our partner institutions for the first term.

Academic Studies in Education at Birmingham score consistently high in NSS for student satisfaction. Students consistently rate the enthusiasm of our teachers; the organisation of the course, the ability of our staff to explain things, and the teaching quality of the course as high. 98% of our graduates go on to work or undertake further study.

Education at UoB was ranked 13th out of 78 institutions in the Complete University Guide 2015

Education is in the Top 20 in the Guardian League Tables (Education placed 16th out of 75 Guardian 2014)

Academic studies in Education is ranked 7th out of the Russell Group of UK universities. The Russell Group is committed to maintaining the very best research, an outstanding teaching and learning experience and unrivalled links with business and the public sector.

Study here and find out why the University of Birmingham was awarded The Times and The Sunday Times University of the Year 2013-14 (http://www.birmingham.ac.uk/news/latest/2013/09/20-sep-Birmingham-announced-as-University-of-the-Year.aspx)

Course fact file

UCAS code: LX33

Duration: 3 years

Places Available: 52 across the department

Applications in 2014: 319

Typical Offer: ABB (**More detailed entry requirements and the international qualifications accepted can be found in the course details (?OpenSection=EntryRequirements)**)

Start date: September

Contact

Admissions enquiries:
Admissions Tutor
Dr Tonie Stolberg
Email: **t.l.stolberg@bham.ac.uk (mailto:t.l.stolberg@bham.ac.uk)**

The School of Education (/schools/education/index.aspx)

Details

Course details: **Modules (http://www.birmingham.ac.uk/undergraduate/courses/edu/ba-education.aspx?OpenSection=Modules)** | **Fees and funding (http://www.birmingham.ac.uk/undergraduate/courses/edu/ba-education.aspx?OpenSection=FeesAndFunding)** | **Entry requirements (http://www.birmingham.ac.uk/undergraduate/courses/edu/ba-education.aspx?OpenSection=EntryRequirements)** | **How to apply (http://www.birmingham.ac.uk/undergraduate/courses/edu/ba-education.aspx?OpenSection=HowToApply)**

The **BA (Hons) Education** aims to equip students with the academic knowledge, as well as relevant practical skills and experiences, which aid progression to professional training and to careers working with children and young people in a diverse range of settings and geographical locations.

All our modules explore how people, and especially children, develop and learn in cultures around the world. We identify and evaluate different ways of knowing about and understanding children and young people and their behaviour; with how educational policy can promote, or frustrate, attempts to develop justice; and with the skills and competencies necessary to develop graduate careers in the UK, Europe and beyond.

There are four curriculum strands.

History and Sociology

Psychology

Policy and Philosophy

Applied

Download a flyer for information on all our **School of Education undergraduate programmes (PDF, 121MB) (/Documents/college-social-sciences/education/courses/undergraduate/undergraduate-courses.pdf)**

Alternatively, visit the course pages below to view information on our two joint honours programmes:

- **BA (Hons) Education and History (/undergraduate/courses/edu/education-history.aspx)**
- **BA (Hons) Education and Sociology (/undergraduate/courses/edu/education-sociology.aspx)**

International Study Abroad

In your second year of study, you will have the option of studying abroad at one of our partner institutions for the first term. The European Educational Exchange Programme allows you to study at selected European institutions (There are currently four European Partner institutions, Oslo and Trondheim in Norway; Groningen in the Netherlands and Dortmund in Germany) and the International Exchange Programme allows students to study at one of a number of worldwide institutions through our International Office.

There are plans to extend the Programme to other institutions. All courses are taught in English, at no additional cost to your study. All students participating on the International Study Abroad Programme will receive an Erasmus grant.

Further information on the Study Abroad Programme (/undergraduate/courses/edu/ba-education-international.aspx)

Information for Schools and Colleges

Why study this course

Xin Zheng from China spent a year on the BA Education course (speaking in Mandarin)

English translation (http://www.birmingham.ac.uk/Documents/college-social-sciences/education/international-translations/xin-zheng.pdf) (97KB, PDF)

You can find out more about what students think of the BA (Hons) Education course by reading some of their profiles below.

You can also join the **The Education Society (http://www.facebook.com/#!/groups/EdSoc/)** facebook group where you can find out more about students within the School of Education and educational issues in general. The group hopes to have regular meetings, trips and speakers, and of course, plenty of socials! If you simply want to find out more about the Education Society or upcoming events, we also have a mailing list. Please email us on **educationsoc@guild.bham.ac.uk (mailto:educationsoc@guild.bham.ac.uk)**

Jessica Whiting

Saadiyah Bhayat

Grace Harding

Zoe Edwards

Myra Samra

Modules

In Year 1, students can chose a MOMD for Year 1, Year 2 and Year 3.

Year One

Compulsory

- **Introduction to Psychology (/undergraduate/courses/edu/modules/introduction-to-psychology-and-development.aspx)**
- **Equality and Diversity: Children, Families and Society (/undergraduate/courses/edu/modules/equality-and-diversity.aspx)**

Optional

- **Young People and Social Change (/undergraduate/courses/edu/modules/young-people-and-social-change.aspx)**
- **Schooling: a social and cultural history (/undergraduate/courses/edu/modules/Schooling.aspx)**
- **Contemporary Issues in Education (/undergraduate/courses/edu/modules/contemporary-issues-in-education.aspx)**
- **Philosophy of Education (/undergraduate/courses/edu/modules/philosophy-of-education.aspx)**

Year Two

Compulsory

- **Education Policy and Social Justice (/undergraduate/courses/edu/modules/education-policy-and-social-justice.aspx)**
- **Researching Childhood and Education (/undergraduate/courses/edu/modules/researching-childhood-in-education.aspx)**
- **Placement (/undergraduate/courses/edu/modules/placement.aspx)**

Optional

- **Child Development: Psychological Approaches (/undergraduate/courses/edu/modules/child-development-psychological-approaches.aspx)**
- **Global Education: issues, opportunities, futures (/undergraduate/courses/edu/modules/global-education.aspx)**
- **Teaching and Learning in Schools (/undergraduate/courses/edu/modules/teaching-and-learning-in-schools.aspx)**
- **Changing Behaviours: A History (/undergraduate/courses/edu/modules/changing-behaviours.aspx)**
- **Education and Civilisation (/undergraduate/courses/edu/modules/education-and-civilisation.aspx)**

Year Three

Compulsory

- **Researching Education (Dissertation) (/undergraduate/courses/edu/modules/dissertation.aspx)**

Optional

- **Debating Matters** (/undergraduate/courses/edu/modules/debating-matters.aspx)
- **Identity, Politics and Everyday Life** (/undergraduate/courses/edu/modules/identity-politics-and-everyday-Life.aspx)
- **Cultural Psychology and Child Development** (/undergraduate/courses/edu/modules/cultural-psychology-and-child-development.aspx)
- **Children as Citizens** (/undergraduate/courses/edu/modules/children-as-citizens.aspx)
- **Exploring Disability and Inclusion** (/undergraduate/courses/edu/modules/exploring-disability-and-inclusion.aspx)

Modules outside the main discipline (MOMD)

These are designed to give students the opportunity to study modules in areas of study outside their main degree programme. Students studying the BA in Education can choose a MOMD in Year 1, Year 2 and Year 3. There are nearly 200 modules available from a wide variety of subject disciplines.

For a list of modules please go to: **https://intranet.birmingham.ac.uk/as/registry/momd/index.aspx** (https://intranet.birmingham.ac.uk/as/registry/momd/index.aspx)

For more information on this degree programme please email **esjundergrad@contacts.bham.uk** (mailto:esjundergrad@contacts.bham.uk)

Alternatively, please contact Admissions for more information on admission and entry requirements. Email **admissions@bham.ac.uk** (mailto:admissions@bham.ac.uk) or telephone 0121 414 5488.

Fees and funding

Standard fees (http://www.birmingham.ac.uk/students/ug/courses/fees/standard) apply
Learn more about **fees and funding** (/undergraduate/fees/loans.aspx)

Scholarships
Learn more about our **scholarships and awards** (/undergraduate/fees/funding/index.aspx)

The University of Birmingham **Undergraduate Research Experience** (http://www.birmingham.ac.uk/generic/internships/funding/research/index.aspx) scheme offers financial support for undergraduates to undertake work experience or a research placement in the summer vacation. The scheme is open to all first-, second- and penultimate-year undergraduate students. It is also open to final-year undergraduate students who are in the process of applying for, or who have already applied for, a place on a postgraduate programme at the University of Birmingham.

Entry requirements

Number of A levels required: 3

Typical offer: ABB

General Studies: not accepted

- Cache Diploma Level 3: Grade A
- BTEC Level 3 Extended Diploma: DDD overall

Additional information:

Maths and English at GCSE grade C. Please note, a GCSE Science at grade C is preferred but not essential. (For students wishing to pursue a career in Primary or Early Years teaching, it is essential to hold a GCSE Science at grade C).

Other qualifications are considered – learn more about **entry requirements** (http://www.birmingham.ac.uk/students/ug/requirements)

We are keen to encourage applicants with a wide range of qualifications and prior learning experiences. These include the International Baccalaureate, international foundation programmes and BTEC, CACHE and Access to HE diplomas. Please address any queries about qualifications, APL or mature entry to the Admissions enquiry contact address: **esjundergraduate@contacts.bham.ac.uk** (mailto:esjundergraduate@contacts.bham.ac.uk)

A satisfactory Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) check is required from accepted candidates before registration for the programme

International students:

International Baccalaureate Diploma: 34 points

Standard English language requirements apply
Learn more about **international entry requirements** (http://www.birmingham.ac.uk/students/ug/requirements/international)

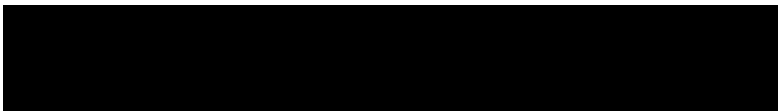
We welcome applications from international students doing foundation courses. There are no particular subject requirements but evidence of essay writing is beneficial and IELTS scores are required.

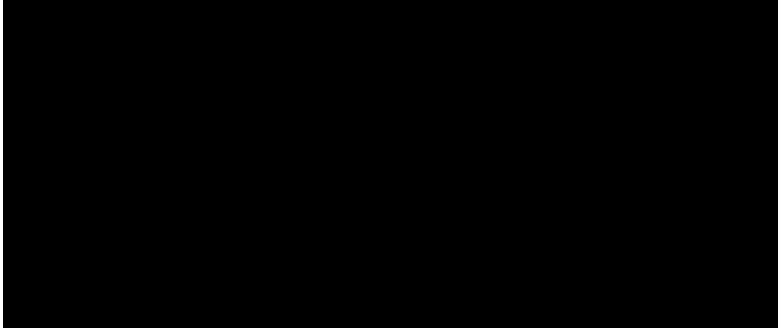
Depending on your chosen course of study, you may also be interested in the Birmingham Foundation Academy, a specially structured programme for international students whose qualifications are not accepted for direct entry to UK universities. Further details can be found on the **foundation academy web pages** (http://www.birmingham.ac.uk/students/foundation-academy/Pathways/index.aspx) .

How to apply

Apply through UCAS at **www.ucas.com** (http://www.ucas.com/)
Learn more about **applying** (http://www.birmingham.ac.uk/students/ug/courses/apply)

View the following UCAS video to learn more about how to write a personal statement





Key Information Set (KIS)

Key Information Sets (KIS) are comparable sets of information about full- or part-time undergraduate courses and are designed to meet the information needs of prospective students.

All KIS information has been published on the Unistats website and can also be accessed via the small advert, or 'widget', below. On the **Unistats website (http://unistats.direct.gov.uk)** you are able to compare all the KIS data for each course with data for other courses.

The development of Key Information Sets (KIS) formed part of HEFCE's work to enhance the information that is available about higher education. They give you access to reliable and comparable information in order to help you make informed decisions about what and where to study.

The KIS contains information which prospective students have identified as useful, such as student satisfaction, graduate outcomes, learning and teaching activities, assessment methods, tuition fees and student finance, accommodation and professional accreditation.

Learning and teaching

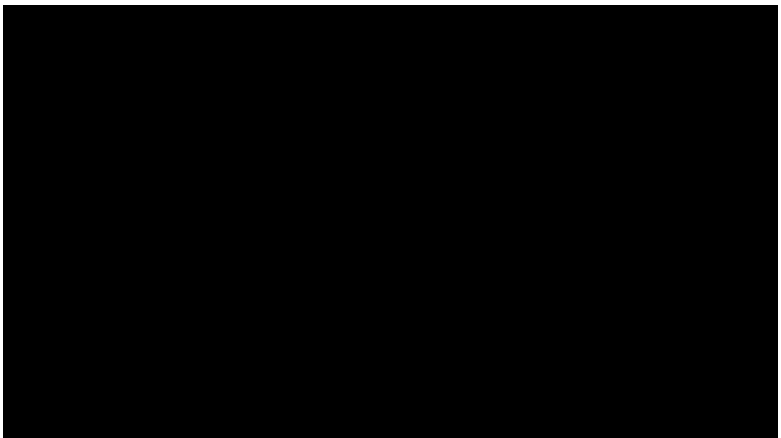
Hannah has just finished her second year on the programme and here she talks about her experience of the course, her other interests, the accommodation and her final year.

As a Birmingham student you are part of an academic elite and will learn from world-leading experts. From the outset you will be encouraged to become an independent and self-motivated learner. We want you to be challenged and will encourage you to think for yourself.

Your learning will take place in a range of different settings, from scheduled teaching in lectures and small group tutorials, to self-study and peer group learning (for example preparing and delivering presentations with your classmates). To begin with you may find this way of working challenging, but rest assured that we'll enable you to make this transition. You will have access to a comprehensive support system that will assist and encourage you, including personal tutors and welfare tutors who can help with both academic and welfare issues, and a formal transition review during your first year to check on your progress and offer you help for any particular areas where you need support. You will also have access to a wide range of dedicated e-learning, IT and library **facilities (/schools/education/facilities/index.aspx)** within the School to support your studies.

Education is concerned with real life practices and processes. The tutors in the School of Education are experienced specialists and Professors teach both lectures and seminars at all levels of study. Our teaching and assessment strategy reflect this concern with the real world. As well as learning in lectures and seminars, students are asked to undertake a variety of enquiry based learning activities; undertaking small research projects, participating in public debates and working in groups to solve problems.

Jabeen is in the final year of the course. She talks about the course and her plans after graduation.



External Examiner Comments

“The programme content is excellent. It is well structured, with some excellent foundation courses in the first year and with some modules (e.g. research methods, placement) taking place over 2 years thus allowing for progression and continuity. The module offers a rich and diverse curriculum that is highly appropriate for this degree, with some very strong specialisms on gender, history and developmental psychology. The programme is very well designed and affords students much opportunity for cross-curricular learning in ways that develop their understanding (rather than repeating debates/issues across modules). The dissertations strongly evidence this with some excellent examples of students who have thoroughly engaged with the full breadth of the degree programme.

Assessment methods

Studying at degree-level is likely to be very different from your previous experience of learning and teaching. You will be expected to think, discuss and engage critically with the subject and find things out for yourself. We will enable you to make this transition to a new style of learning, and the way that you are assessed during your studies will help you develop the essential skills you need to make a success of your time at Birmingham.

We assess students not only the basis of the knowledge they gained, but also the skills that they have acquired. You’ll be assessed in a variety of ways, and these may be different with each module that you take. You will be assessed through coursework which may take the form of essays, group and individual presentations and formal exams. Students also prepare portfolios of experiences and activities which enhances their employability on graduation. Our assessment strategy does not just deliver grades. It seeks to widen horizons and to promote self-development so that our graduates are valued for their leadership and problem solving capabilities.

At the beginning of each module, you’ll be given information on how and when you’ll be assessed for that particular programme of study. You’ll receive feedback on each assessment within four weeks, so that you can learn from and build on what you have done. You’ll be given feedback on any exams that you take; if you should fail an exam we will ensure that particularly detailed feedback is made available to enable you to learn for the future.

During your first year you will undergo a formal ‘transition’ review to see how you are getting on and if there are particular areas where you need support. This is in addition to the personal tutor who is based in your school or department and can help with any academic issues you encounter.

Related staff

Dr Kevin Myers (/staff/profiles/education/myers-kevin.aspx)

Dr Ian McGimpsey (/staff/profiles/education/mcgimpsey-ian.aspx)

Professor Deborah Youdell (/staff/profiles/education/youdell-deborah.aspx)

Dr Graeme Martin (/staff/profiles/education/martin-graeme.aspx)

Employability

Preparation for your career should be one of the first things you think about as you start university. Whether you have a clear idea of where your future aspirations lie or want to consider the broad range of opportunities available once you have a Birmingham degree, our Careers Network can help you achieve your goal.

Our unique **careers guidance service (/undergraduate/careers/index.aspx)** is tailored to your academic subject area, offering a specialised team (in each of the five academic colleges) who can give you expert advice. Our team source exclusive work experience opportunities to help you stand out amongst the competition, with mentoring, global internships and placements available to you. Once you have a career in your sights, one-to-one support with CV’s and job applications will help give you the edge.

Your Birmingham degree is evidence of your ability to succeed in a demanding academic environment. Employers target Birmingham students for their drive, diversity, communication and problem-solving skills, their team-working abilities and cultural awareness, and our graduate employment statistics have continued to climb at a rate well above national trends. If you make the most of the wide range of services you will be able to develop your career from the moment you arrive.

Transferable skills include:

- written communication developed through writing essays;
- oral communication skills gained through reasoned debates during seminars and presentations;
- ability to work as part of a team, through collaborative group work;
- research and analytical skills with the ability to judge and evaluate information;
- organisational and time management skills by prioritising tasks to ensure academic, social and work commitments are completed on time;
- negotiation, informally with peers and formally with staff;
- problem solving;
- IT skills.

Job roles directly related to the degree

Many of our graduates go onto successful careers that are open to any graduate with an excellent Honours degree from a top University, such as banking, accountancy, public services etc. We also actively encourage students to explore opportunities for gaining experience outside the UK, taking advantage of links built in the field of education in Europe and beyond.

Alumni Profiles

The interdisciplinary nature of the BA (Hons) Education degree allows you to develop your career in many different ways. Some of our ex students now work in schools whilst some have entered research. Others have used their degree to work within the theatre or heritage sites in an educational capacity whilst some have decided to pursue further study. You can find out more about the careers of some of our ex students by viewing the **Alumni profiles (/schools/education/alumni/index.aspx)**

Personal Skills Award

The University of Birmingham offers an employer-endorsed award-winning **Personal Skills Award (https://intranet.birmingham.ac.uk/as/employability/psa/index.aspx)** which recognises your extra-curricular activities, and provides an accredited employability programme designed to improve your career prospects. Many students participate in clubs and societies and volunteer in the local community. The University's Personal Skills Award accredits this putting our graduates a step ahead.

94% Students agreed staff are good at explaining things

BA (Hons) Education
Full time

To see more details and compare with other courses

Visit UNISTATS

Official data collected by HEFCE

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