Academic Pre-Degree Programmes
Centre for International Foundation Programmes
“CIFP was the perfect preparation to university life. It provided a stimulating academic challenge while I made memories and friends for life.”

Shaun Jin
Malaysia
Economics

Khadiga
Libya
Medicine

“I noticed a great improvement in my language and critical thinking skills – CIFP is a good starting step in a successful academic career.”

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Hanna
Ukraine
Science

“Iyanuoluwa
Nigeria
Social Sciences

“CIFP gave me the opportunity to learn in a place that is perfect for studying. I was able to explore new topics with experienced teachers and new friends.”

“My year in St Andrews CIFP has been the best year of my life thus far. I learnt skills I will find invaluable to my undergraduate studies and future career.”
Contents

3  Why Study on a Foundation Programme?
4  St Andrews
7  The University of St Andrews
8  Centre for International Foundation Programmes
11 Fast Facts
12 Entrance Requirements
14 Medicine
20 Science
24 Management, Economics & Finance
30 Social Sciences & Humanities
34 January Intake (Science & Arts)
35 January Intake (Pathway to Medicine)
37 Student Life
38 Accommodation
40 Application-Acceptance-Admission
42 Moving on to a Degree
44 Graduation
Why Study on a Foundation Programme?

• A foundation programme is not only about subject knowledge – it also provides you with the skills you need for success at university.

• Language development is integrated with academic subject content.

• Programmes are phased to take account of your needs – we build in time to adapt to new surroundings and a different culture.

• You are a fully-registered student throughout the programme, with access to all the University’s facilities: the Library, Sports Centre, Music Centre, clubs and societies and a huge number of student events and activities.

• You will experience a wide variety of teaching styles: lectures by eminent professors in large lecture halls, student-led tutorials; small classes and seminars led by experienced tutors and teaching fellows; independent student group projects and blended learning activities through online tasks and discussion with academic staff through the University’s VLE (Virtual Learning Environment).

• Entry to degree programmes at the University of St Andrews is highly competitive. As a foundation student, you are guaranteed a place if you meet the entry requirements and pass your course successfully at the required level.
St Andrews

St Andrews is a small city with a long history. Situated on the east coast of Scotland, with spectacular views over the North Sea to the distant Grampian mountains, it was once the centre of Scottish political and religious life. It still has many fine mediaeval buildings including the dramatic ruins of its castle and cathedral. It is also famous as “the Home of Golf”.

The city of St Andrews and the University of St Andrews are closely interlinked. Over the centuries, the University has contributed to a Scottish tradition of academic excellence, while the town has grown in historical significance.

Throughout the town there are reminders of its history. There are narrow cobbled streets with fishermen’s houses; a ruined chapel on one street; a martyr’s cross on another. In among the ancient stones there are Thai and Italian and Chinese restaurants, fashion chain stores and supermarkets; bakeries and butchers; boutiques and bookshops. And everything is in easy walking distance. This is the setting for the University.

There is no separate campus – academic Schools and University Departments are scattered throughout the mediaeval town, sitting alongside small shops and supermarkets, cafés and restaurants, local schools and businesses. Students soon discover why this place is so extraordinary when they realise they have become part of an international community of scholars, attracting the best students and the best academics from all over the world to a unique small town surrounded by beautiful beaches and world class golf courses.
The University of St Andrews

St Andrews is Scotland’s oldest university, and the oldest in the English-speaking world after Oxford and Cambridge. Established in 1413, it has been a seat of learning and a destination for international students and scholars for over 600 years.

The University is highly ranked for the quality of its research, and for the quality of its teaching. Small class sizes and good facilities ensure a student experience which has frequently placed the University at the top of the National Student Survey.

In terms of research activity, St Andrews performs strongly, and received high ratings in the last UK-wide Research Assessment Exercise, confirming our academic excellence across all disciplines.

Students at St Andrews feel themselves to be part of a close-knit community, in a genuine university town, imbued with tradition.

“...The University of St Andrews is truly a special and unique place. There is no university in the world quite like it. St Andrews has pushed me academically, and expanded my horizons socially and culturally. I have had the chance to pursue new interests through societies, and have made life-long friends. I love it. I love it. I love it!”
Centre for International Foundation Programmes

The CIFP at the University of St Andrews provides foundation programmes for international students, specifically designed to enable students from a wide range of countries to be well-qualified and well-prepared for the demands of a degree programme at the University. Not all education systems equip students for the style of study required at a British university, so a foundation programme is an excellent preparation, combining academic subjects with language development and the skill set for successful studying.

These programmes are for you if you:

• are an overseas student
• would like to attend the University of St Andrews
• have graduated from high school with excellent national academic qualifications
• need to improve your English language skills
• require to increase your knowledge of your chosen subject
• would like to improve your study skills
We created our programmes because we recognise that there are many able students whose first language is not English, who will benefit from our integrated approach to the study of language and academic subjects. Even if you have a strong command of English, the demands of studying at a university like St Andrews can be very different from your previous studying experience. The types of assessment you encounter will require strong analytical skills, so you will need levels of accuracy and vocabulary which allow the demonstration of such skills. For this reason, the CIFP has developed programmes that will help international students to enhance their own specific strengths and improve on their own particular weakness. Classes are small so that tutors can monitor the progress of individual students closely, and the number of places is limited so that we can provide each student with as much individual support and guidance as possible.

We have been offering our programmes since 1990, so you can be confident of our expertise. Our programmes are not simply about learning a subject or improving your knowledge of academic English; they are also about the experience of university, and your personal development as you embark on your life as a student.
Fast Facts

Where do I study?
Your classes and lectures all take place in the University’s teaching facilities. Small group teaching – English for Academic Purposes classes and some academic seminars and tutorials – are mostly at the English Language Teaching building, Kinnessburn, which is the home of the CIFP. Lectures take place in the University’s lecture rooms on the North Haugh.

How long is the programme?
Our programmes run start in September and January, with an average of 30 teaching weeks. Start dates, end dates and vacations vary from programme to programme and the dates for each year are published on our web pages at www.st-andrews.ac.uk/elt/foundation

How many hours will I study?
You will be in class for a minimum of 20 hours a week, and if you are studying Science or Medicine, you will have additional hours dedicated to practical sessions in the laboratory.

When should I apply?
We open for applications on 1 October each year and you should to apply directly to us using the application form on our web pages.

We make decisions on applications as we receive them, so if your application is strong, we aim to make you an offer within ten working days.

We have a limited number of places for each programme, so we recommend that you apply early. If you have not yet graduated from high school, or achieved your final qualifications, you should still apply. We can make you an offer conditional on your results.

Am I qualified?
We accept students from many countries, from a wide range of educational backgrounds and with a variety of academic qualifications. Whichever school system you come from, however, you will be strong academically, with good school-leaving qualifications.

What do the fees include?
Our fees cover the major costs of your foundation year, including:

- Tuition fees
- Ensuite study bedroom in University accommodation
- Bedding
- Meal plan
- Airport transfer on arrival
- Course books
- Lab coats and dissection kits (if required)

Who would I speak to if I have a question about the programmes?
Email cifp@st-andrews.ac.uk and we will put you in touch with the programme director.
Entrance Requirements

We welcome applications from students from all over the world – we typically have some 30 different nationalities studying with us. What they have in common is that they were successful in their own country’s school system.

We are looking for evidence of a good academic record: we aim to select students who will be successful not only on their International Foundation Programme but also when they move onto a degree programme at the University.

Academic requirements
• High-school graduation certificate and final year transcripts
• A reference letter from your high school, preferably with predicted grades
• Examination certificates, if you have already taken additional external examinations

Language requirements
We require proof that you can use English effectively. Typically, this evidence will be an IELTS test report form. Most of our programmes require IELTS 6.0, but you can find programme-specific requirements on our website: www.st-andrews.ac.uk/elt/entry/foundation

Other requirements
All students are interviewed in person or on Skype, and you may also be asked to write an entrance test paper.

Students applying to study Medicine must also achieve a competitive score in the UKCAT and be successful in Multiple Mini Interviews (MMIs) in order to progress onto the BSc (Hons) Medicine at the University of St Andrews.

Our web pages have more detailed information on our requirements, by programme. www.st-andrews.ac.uk/elt/foundation/foundationprogrammes
International Foundation Programme: Medicine

Key features

- Potential to enter onto the BSc (Hons) Medicine at the University of St Andrews
- Unique blend of sciences, communication skills and academic skills integrated with medicine-related topics
- Small group teaching by specialist teachers and staff from the School of Medicine
- Intensive and academic – designed to help you succeed

Introduction

Our programme is designed to give students the foundation in sciences, communication and language skills necessary for success in a degree in Medicine.

You will be enrolled on first year Chemistry and Biology modules to prepare you for the academic demands of a Medicine degree, and our English language teachers will help you to improve your academic writing, develop good studying techniques and time management skills, all of which will help to make you a confident and effective student.

Language classes focus on writing laboratory reports, structuring essays, critical thinking and scientific methods of investigation, so that language and science are integrated throughout. Communication skills classes include analysis and practice of doctor-patient interaction, including with simulated patients, and as well as the opportunity to gain an accredited first aid certificate.

Students will interact closely with the School of Medicine staff and students, building a strong relationship from the outset.

At a glance

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If I hadn’t taken this foundation programme, I would not have known how to deal with academic assignments, presentations, essays and even academic pressure. Moreover, the teachers are super friendly with appropriate humour and distinctive characters, which makes the process of learning enjoyable and pleasant. This foundation year also allowed me to make many friends whom I will treasure for the rest of my life. Therefore I recommend it to any prospective students. This is the right place to start your life journey."
An Overview

Semester 1 includes modules in Chemistry and Biology or Psychology. Students learn how to prepare effectively for lectures, develop good note-taking skills, write up lecture notes and read related materials in preparation for seminars and tutorials. There is dedicated support from specialist tutors in Chemistry and Biology or Psychology and practical sessions in the laboratory.

The Chemistry module contains lectures on the origin of the elements, atoms and the Periodic Table, shapes and properties of molecules, chemistry of the elements, states of matter, thermochemistry, thermodynamics and kinetics.

The Biology module is an introduction to molecular and cellular biology. It covers cell diversity and the origins of life, cellular structures and fundamental processes, and examines the structure and function of DNA, RNA and proteins, and how knowledge of these led to modern developments in biotechnology. Throughout the module lectures are complemented by extensive practical classes where biological laboratory techniques are taught and practised through microscopy, DNA isolation and dissection and thin layer chromatography.

Psychology\(^1\) introduces the principal themes and methods of research in psychology. The principles and mechanisms of psychology including evolutionary, social and physiological psychology and perception.

\(^1\) Only available to Pathway students – see page 35.
Integrated Academic Skills introduces skills and strategies for successful study: effective reading; academic listening and note-taking; writing essays and scientific reports and seminar skills. Classroom activities focus on taking useful notes and applying critical thinking skills to the materials.

Communication Skills for Medicine helps students to develop an understanding of the issues involved in communication in a medical context, and to develop confidence in speaking to patients about their health. It explores non-verbal communication together with questioning and listening techniques.

Scientific Methods of Enquiry introduces the Philosophy of Science and then examines the different stages of scientific research.

Critical Thinking & Introduction to Medical Ethics
This introduction to the study of Medical Ethics concentrates on developing the skills required to analyse and evaluate the arguments surrounding core issues in Medical Ethics. Students will be expected to research topics in order to lead seminars and to contribute to the discussion.

Intensive Research Methods Course
Students are given a medical research topic and must then critically evaluate contrasting pieces of research in scientific papers, in order to defend a position. The aim is to concentrate on effective communication in oral presentations and the use of visual aids. The workshop will also raise awareness of research issues surrounding data protection and protection of participants in research.
Organic and Biological Chemistry
This course provides a foundation in organic and biological chemistry, with an introduction to the nature of bonding in organic chemistry and to the structure of simple organic compounds. Students will become acquainted with the common functional groups and how they react. They will learn the basics of organic reaction mechanisms and the basics of organic spectroscopy. The structure of the basic molecular building blocks found in biology and how these relate to macromolecules will also be explored.

Students will also be introduced to laboratory products and practice.

Psychology
This course aims to provide an introduction to the theoretical foundations, historical perspectives and modern developments of psychology; an introduction to the variety of subjects which make up contemporary psychology and a thorough grounding in the empirical basis of psychology. There are formal lectures, with a continuation of the specialised methodology and practical course exploring methods of research.

Integrated Academic Skills
Students build on skills introduced in Semester 1 and use authentic academic texts of increasing length and complexity. Written assessments will be longer and more complex in structure and content. Students will develop their research and study skills using the University Library and databases and become motivated and autonomous in their approach to study. Listening classes aim to develop an awareness of pronunciation, accent and dialect and how this affects understanding and our perceptions of the speaker.

Communication Skills for Medicine
Students build on developing verbal and non-verbal communication skills and examine cultural aspects of effective communication.
Medical Ethics uses specific case studies to explore the philosophical problems associated with some of the major issues introduced in Semester 1. Students are required to investigate these issues in preparation for structured debate and in-depth discussion. There is a strong emphasis on establishing and supporting a standpoint through the use of solid examples and reasoning, as well as challenging and refuting opposing points of view.

Seminar Discussion Skills
Students are introduced to effective strategies for participating in and also leading discussions. Students present the topics of their choice for discussion and receive extensive feedback.

Statistical Methods
This course focuses on statistical methods and their application in scientific research, including statistics, inferential techniques and presentation and analysis of numerical information.

Introduction to Medicine
This tailored course of lectures and seminars is delivered in conjunction with the School of Medicine and covers topics such as inherited diseases, tropical medicine and the history of medicine. Accompanying seminars require students to research a topic related to the lectures, and moderate a seminar based on their research.

Human Biology
This provides a working knowledge of the major organs and functional systems of the human body together with an overview of the core concepts in human biology. The common diseases which impair the function of individual organs or tissues and diseases which have multi-system effects are also considered. This course provides a grounding in human biology, delivered through a course of lectures, tutorials and practicals.
International Foundation Programme: Science

Key features

- Potential to progress onto a range of degrees in Science at the University of St Andrews
- Focused academic study integrating language skills, research skills and the study of a range of sciences
- Students join science modules with first year students from Day One of the programme
- Possibility of progression onto the second year of a degree

Introduction

This programme, designed specifically for international high school graduates whose first language is not English, provides a full-time, intensive pathway onto a wide range of degree programmes in the sciences. You can select different subject combinations including: Biology and Chemistry, Physics and Mathematics, Biology and Psychology, Geography, Earth Sciences, Computer Science and Mathematics, Mathematics and Statistics.

You will study integrated academic skills combined with science, including first year science modules. There are additional courses in Mathematics, Chemistry and Physiology dependent on your subject choice, as well as English for Academic Purposes and a range of research skills. You will have support in preparation for lectures, tutorials, and practical sessions in the laboratory and assessments in these modules, and learn to become more self-sufficient and better prepared for your degree.
The courses in the Science Foundation Programme are practical and specific. Not only do they help you with English, they also improve your ability to understand lectures, write academic essays, as well as communicating with local students and teachers. Overall, the Science Foundation Programme acts as a platform. It provides all you need to get on the high speed train called ‘University Study’.”
This programme has evolved to meet international students’ needs, and is designed to help them function effectively as undergraduates. The communication component is important, but equally important is our aim to ensure that our students develop the analytical approach to learning which is required in a British university, as well as providing a sound knowledge base which will allow them to start undergraduate studies on a more equal footing with students who have followed a British or European high school curriculum. The structure of the programme provides students with a great deal of support in the first semester, when it is most needed, but progressively enables students to work independently and collaboratively, as they will do on their degree programmes.

The introduction to Molecular and Cellular Biology covers cell diversity and the origins of life, cellular structures and fundamental processes. Examination of the structure and function of DNA, RNA and proteins allows students to consider how this knowledge led to modern developments in biotechnology. An introduction to molecular and population genetics has an emphasis on the process of evolution. Biological laboratory techniques are taught and practised through work in microscopy, DNA isolation, dissection and thin layer chromatography.

Organic and Biological Chemistry introduces students to the nature of bonding in organic chemistry and to the structure of simple organic compounds. They will learn the basics of organic reaction mechanisms and the basics of organic spectroscopy. They will learn the structure of the basic molecular building blocks found in biology and how these relate to macromolecules found in biology.

Fundamental Mathematics enables students to revise basic concepts in Mathematics and Statistics before progressing to more advanced aspects. The syllabus includes an introduction to notation and vocabulary, basic algebra, calculus, linear algebra, and basic number theory.

The Physics module covers the core subjects of mechanics, waves and optics, and also provides an introduction to lasers and optoelectronics. Semester 2 continues with the core subjects of quantum phenomena and the properties of matter, and provides an elementary introduction to the theory of relativity. It includes lectures on the origins of quantum theory, its application to atoms and other small-scale systems; the nature and composition of nuclei, atoms, molecules and solids; and a few lectures on Einstein’s relativity theory.

The Mathematics and Statistics modules are designed to introduce students to the ideas, methods and techniques needed for applying mathematics in the physical sciences or for taking the study of Mathematics further. The Mathematics module aims to extend and enhance skills in algebraic manipulation and in differential and integral calculus, to develop students’ geometric insights and their understanding of limiting processes, and to introduce them to complex numbers and matrices. The Statistics module looks at theory and application of core concepts used in a variety of fields.

The Earth Sciences courses are designed to introduce the Earth’s physical processes and development, linkages between the various components of the Earth System, and to compare Earth to the other planets in our solar system. You will learn the history of early life and the significance of evolution and extinction in the fossil record, and there is an introduction to the Gaia Hypothesis.
**Geography** introduces students to the fundamental principles of both human geography, which examines the nature of the human environment and physical geography, which introduces the characteristics of global environmental systems: the lithosphere, atmosphere, hydrosphere and biosphere. The course explores political, social and economic dimensions of geography such as population growth, global warming and the potential for sustainable development.

**Object-Oriented Programming** covers problem-solving skills, object-oriented modelling and programming. Programming exercises include object-oriented modelling, computer graphics and data structures.

**Programming with Data** looks at how data is stored, processed and analysed. This is important to consider with new ways of dealing with the volume, variety and velocity of data from many sources. The practical projects are designed to develop students’ programming skills.

**Psychology** introduces the theoretical foundations, historical perspectives and modern developments of psychology. Students will examine how research is carried out and how results are analysed and interpreted.
International Foundation Programme: Management, Economics & Finance

Key features

• Potential to progress onto a degree in Management, Economics or Financial Economics at the University of St Andrews
• Unique blend of communication skills and academic skills integrated with business-related topics
• Small group teaching with highly experienced teachers
• Intensive and academic – designed to help you develop the skills to succeed

At a glance

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Introduction

Our foundation programmes provide a bridge between high school and university, where students are encouraged to be active and reflective learners. There is a strong emphasis on developing critical thinking skills and knowledge of a range of subjects to ensure that students will succeed on their chosen university degree. Foundation students will be given individual support and assistance in order to ensure competence in essay writing, oral presentations and research methods. The content of lessons is based on business-related subject material as well as key sociological and cultural issues. We aim to produce students with the knowledge, experience and confidence to cope with the demands of the University’s highly competitive degree programmes.

This programme introduces students to Business, Management, Economics, Accounting and Finance, giving them an opportunity to discover where their strengths and interests lie.
Introductory courses in Business Studies and Social Studies delivered in Semester 1 provide an extremely useful basis for a wide variety of subjects in business, social sciences and humanities laying the foundation for some of the underlying political, philosophical and economic ideas studied later in the programme.

Students develop the skills to read and interpret academic texts and develop the language and techniques to structure arguments so that they become more skilled at writing assignments and presenting in seminars. Projects to develop research skills and our integrated approach to language and academic subjects help students to develop a more analytical approach to study. Using academic texts based on a range of business-related topics students practise writing shorter academic essays using the issues as a focus. Work is graded regularly and students receive feedback on accuracy and academic style.

**Introduction to Business**

Introduces the central concepts of Business and Management theory. It covers the everyday influences and consequences of business actions, business organisation and business decision-making and the vital impact these have on us as consumers, employers and employees.
Introduction to Psychology
Introduces the science of people and their behaviours. Students gain an initial understanding of brain structure and then apply this to understanding abnormal behaviour, mental disease, and daily social interactions. The course gives a glimpse into the whole spectrum of human activity that this discipline covers.

Social Studies
The main aims of this course are to give students a broad overview of British culture, analysing how society affects and shapes our views. Since students intend to progress on to a degree in the UK after completing their foundation year, it is important to gain an insight into a range of social issues from a British perspective.

Personal support
All students have the support of a personal tutor whom they meet regularly to discuss their progress and strategies for improvement as well as any personal issues that may affect their studies.
In Semester 2 students study a combination of Management, Economics, Finance, Marketing, Statistics and Mathematics.

The aim of this course is to provide depth to students’ understanding of business management. Management is at the heart of organisations and therefore this course has been designed to provide an insight into and perception of management from both the individual and the organisational viewpoint. Students build skills of critical awareness and developing empathy in complex situations. Studying in a UK university often requires the ability to balance conflicting perspectives by critically applying theory to an understanding of business situations.

Marketing is central to the modern business environment, firmly integrated into modern business thinking. Students study the concept of marketing, and the ways that the traditional concept has adapted to suit a more dynamic and competitive world. The course has been designed to provide an insight into marketing from the point of view of both the individual customer and the organisation. This course builds analytical skills and develops understanding of marketing as a creative subject.

The Mathematics course overviews mathematical functions, leading on to differentiation, integration, sequences and series. It provides an opportunity to review and develop knowledge of essential Mathematics which gives students a good foundation for all subjects with a quantitative aspect.
In **Economics**, students are introduced to key concepts in microeconomics and macroeconomics including the mathematics needed to understand and analyse economic problems. The focus however is on the understanding and critical analysis of economic theories, including an examination of their real life applications. This course will prepare students for more advanced study in Economics at undergraduate level.

**Accounting & Finance** considers how resources are managed in organisations – commercial, educational, governmental or charitable – and how this inevitably means financial decision-making. This programme provides a basic understanding of issues vital to the successful running of any organisation. It provides an understanding of the key methods and techniques that firms use to analyse and efficiently manage their costs. Students learn how to identify limiting factors and unavoidable costs as well as prepare financial statements and cost estimates amongst other skills and prepare them for the study of Management, Economics, Accounting or Finance on a degree programme.

The **Statistics** course introduces students to the basic techniques and concepts of statistical analysis and how data can be used to prove or disprove the relevance of theories and hypotheses in the social sciences. They practise calculations and different methods of presenting data, both numerically and graphically.
International Foundation Programme: Social Sciences & Humanities

Key features

• Potential for progression onto a Single or Joint Honours degree programme
• A thorough grounding in classical and sociological issues pertaining to a range of disciplines in the arts and humanities
• Small group teaching with highly experienced teachers
• Intensive and academic – designed to help you develop the skills to succeed
• A strong emphasis on criticality, improving analytical skills, time management and writing in authentic academic contexts

Introduction

The overall aim of the International Foundation Programme for Social Sciences & Humanities is to provide a bridge between high school and university and to equip students with a robust intellectual and linguistic foundation appropriate for the demands of an undergraduate degree programme. The combination and integration of academic study skills and academic lecture courses is designed to enable them to have a broad base of academic subject knowledge from various disciplines, the intellectual skills to critically analyse, evaluate and synthesise concepts to a high level, and an appropriate level of linguistic sophistication to express complex ideas with suitable academic precision. We aim to produce students with the knowledge, competence and skills to cope with the demands of the University’s degree programmes.

At a glance

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In Semester 1 students study courses covering a range of issues that are significant for living and studying in the UK, including politics, economics, law and the media.

These subjects provide an extremely useful basis for all academic disciplines in the Social Sciences and Humanities, and allow you to understand some of the underlying political, philosophical and economic ideas which underpin many of the subjects which you will study in Semester 2.

Using academic texts based on these issues, students develop the skills to read and interpret texts and develop the language and techniques to structure arguments so that they become more skilled at writing assignments and speaking and presenting in seminars. Doing projects to develop research skills and our integrated approach to language and academic subjects allows students to develop a more analytical approach to their studies.

In addition, through the study of novels, poetry and short stories from a variety of periods of literature, you will enhance your appreciation of literature and your ability to be an active and critical reader. You will also be introduced to a wide variety of approaches to literary criticism and will be encouraged to apply diverse strands of interpretation drawing on aspects of arts, humanities and social sciences.
In Semester 2, studies focus more strongly on International Relations, Philosophy, History and Literature. Lectures in all academic disciplines are delivered each week and students are expected to read articles and papers as well as research the topics in preparation for smaller tutorial classes. The study skills classes are structured to allow students to develop their critical thinking and independent study skills to enable them to produce longer pieces of academic writing. Feedback concentrates on research and referencing skills in an effort to integrate subject knowledge and tasks more closely.

**International Relations**
This course provides a broad introduction to International Relations (IR) as an academic discipline. It covers both historical as well as contemporary aspects and investigates how international relations have shaped world events since the outbreak of the First World War.

**Literature**
This course aims to provide an intensive study of literature including at least one Shakespearean drama, one twentieth century novel and a selection of poetry from different key periods of English literature. You will develop a strong awareness of multiple aspects of a variety of texts and an ability to apply diverse critical approaches analytically and synthetically to the interpretation of literature.

**Psychology**
You will continue to build on your knowledge and understanding of the brain, abnormal behaviour and social interactions covered in Semester 1. Furthermore, you will apply this knowledge in order to understand the links between psychology and everything from business, to learning, to sports.

**Philosophy**
A focused introduction to philosophy, introducing the principles of argument and some basic tools with which to evaluate them. It prepares students for the critical thinking that will be required in any first year university social sciences or humanities degree.
International Foundation Programme: January Intake (Science & Arts)

Key features

- Potential to move onto a Single or Joint Honours degree in the Science and Arts Faculties
- Intensive and academic, with a focus on skills and content for success in science and social science subjects

At a glance

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Introduction

With an intake in early January, this intensive multi-discipline programme enables students to progress to undergraduate degrees in September the same year.

Integrated Academic Skills gives students the language and study skills needed for future academic success. There is an emphasis on English for use in a university context, and a focus on academic reading, writing, note-taking and referencing.

Subject-specific modules prepare students for their intended area of study. Science modules include first year undergraduate modules in Chemistry, Biology, Mathematics, Physics, Psychology, Computer Science, Geography and Earth Sciences. There are additional courses in Chemistry, Mathematics, Statistics or Physiology, depending on the study route. Arts students select Management or International Relations, with additional courses in Economics, Finance, Fundamental Mathematics, History, Philosophy and Literature, depending on the study route.

Students complete a Final Written Project. This must be well-researched and should demonstrate the ability to organise and structure ideas and think analytically.

Developing skills in critical thinking enables students to analyse situations, evaluate and solve problems and think creatively. Developing good study skills helps students learn to organise their time, prioritise tasks, work to deadlines, edit and redraft their own work, motivate themselves and set realistic targets. In short, this programme teaches students to study more efficiently and effectively.
International Foundation Programme:

January Intake (Pathway to Medicine)

Key features

- January start date – ideal for December school-leavers
- Study of Science for Medicine allows early Medicine specialisation
- Clinical observation project undertaken in your home country
- Includes UKCAT preparation

Introduction

The Pathway to Medicine is part of an 18-month study route that allows students to move on to a degree in Medicine.

Part 1: Students complete the International Foundation Programme January Intake Pathway to Medicine (January to July). The programme includes modules in Chemistry and Physiology as well as integrated English language and academic skills. The Clinical Observation Project allows students to record accurate observations and reflect on clinical practice. The subsequent report will demonstrate their ability to organise and structure ideas and think analytically.

Part 2: Successful Pathway students progress on to Phase 2 of the Pathway following the syllabus for the International Foundation Programme for Medicine (September to June). See pages 14-19 and page 12 of this brochure.
Being on the Undergraduate Social Sciences Foundation Programme brought me closer to many students from different cultural backgrounds who had interesting thoughts to share. The warm atmosphere and kind teachers make the students feel at home from the first day and if I had to make the same decision again, I would definitely choose the CIFP.”

Farangiz from Tajikistan,
BSc Politics & International Relations, Warwick
Student Life

Students at the CIFP have access to all the University’s facilities to support them through their studies. The University’s libraries and online resources are available to them and they will be able to study and socialise with students from other disciplines and cultural backgrounds, which greatly enhances their experience.

Wednesday afternoons are generally free, so that they can choose to integrate into the wider student community through sport, music or the many other activities on offer.

The University has good sports facilities and a large number of clubs and societies to cater for every interest: the Sports Centre offers the chance to play basketball, squash, badminton, soccer and golf, or attend classes at the gym. There are more than 50 sports clubs including athletics, basketball, a range of martial arts, riding, sailing, ski and snowboarding, swimming, table tennis and Ultimate Frisbee.

There is an excellent Music Centre, with tuition and practice rooms available, and a number of student orchestras, bands and choirs who sing and perform at all levels.

There are student drama and debating societies, charitable and volunteer groups, national and cultural societies as well as a student radio station and newspaper. In total there are some 100 student clubs and societies catering for every taste and interest.

There is a meeting and worship place for various major faiths and religions.

The University has many unique traditions including the famous red gowns, the ‘academic families’ with senior students ‘adopting’ first year students, culminating in the Raisin Monday celebrations; the May Dip and the Pier Walk on Sunday mornings.

St Andrews may be a small mediaeval town, but it has a remarkably high number of coffee shops, cafes, restaurants and pubs, as well as the Students’ Association, where students can meet and socialise.

Students are so passionate about their St Andrews experience that their votes have made us the top multi-faculty university in the annual National Student Survey for five years running.
Accommodation

Undergraduate students studying at the Centre for International Foundation Programmes live at David Russell Apartments. This is a student dormitory complex on the west side of St Andrews, conveniently located for the CIFP building, the Faculty of Science and Medicine buildings and the Sports Centre. DRA, as it is popularly known, provides students with the benefits of independent living in five-person apartments within the security of a university residence. Each student has a comfortable ensuite study bedroom with high-speed internet access, and a shared kitchen.

David Russell Apartments

David Russell Apartments accommodates almost 900 students. It is modern and comfortable, and has won awards for its ecologically-friendly design. It has a community atmosphere, and there is a strong student support system, with a Warden and team of Assistant Wardens, who are responsible for student welfare and conduct within the complex. This means that students live in a secure environment, and have someone to turn to if they are experiencing difficulties within the hall. A member of the team is always on call, night and day. www.st-andrews.ac.uk/drafp
Meal Plan
During term time, undergraduate students have a meal plan which provides them with 14 meals per week in the central dining room: breakfast and dinner on weekdays and breakfast and lunch at weekends. The dining room is a focal point of the hall, and a great opportunity for students to meet and mingle. The University’s chefs provide nutritious, appetizing catering to suit most tastes, and vegetarian options are always available. Sample menus of typical meals can be found online at www.st-andrews.ac.uk/accommodation/catering/catered/menu and of course, mealtimes provide a golden opportunity for English practice.

Facilities
The hall provides computer rooms, common rooms, music practice rooms, games rooms and a coin-operated laundry.

Living away from home
For many students, this will be the first time that they have lived away from home and they will find that the Wardennial team at DRA work hard to ensure that life there is as enjoyable and memorable as possible, providing great memories and life long friendships.

There are various social events throughout the year such as the regular Sunday Night at the Movies, Martinmas and Candlemas Ceilidhs (Scottish dancing parties), Halloween and Christmas Window Decoration contests, Best Snowman in Hall contests (weather permitting), the American Superbowl Party, shopping trips to Glasgow, and the annual Hall Ball. Some events are organised by the hall committee and being on the Committee is a great way to get involved with hall life.
Application-Acceptance-Admission

1. How to apply
We welcome applications from overseas students who have achieved good results in their national high school system and who have a good level of English language proficiency.

We accept students from all over the world, with a wide range of qualifications, and we assess each application on its merits.

Application forms and detailed information on entrance requirements can be found on our web pages at: www.st-andrews.ac.uk/elt/foundation/applynow

Students may also choose to apply through one of our agents. We have a number of overseas representatives who are knowledgeable about our programmes and procedures and who can assist with the application process.

Our programmes are extremely popular, and places limited, so early application is advised. Applications can be submitted between 1 October and 31 July, but our Medicine programme is usually full by 1 February.

2. What happens next
We will review the application, and if the student’s qualifications are suitable, we will then arrange an interview, either in person or on Skype.

If we make an offer, it may be conditional or unconditional. Applicants must then accept the offer within the specified time limit and pay a deposit* to secure their place.

A conditional offer means that we require further documentation. This is the most common kind of offer, as most applicants apply during their final year of schooling, and cannot provide final transcripts, examination results or high school graduation certificates until later in the year.

An unconditional offer means that all of our entrance requirements have been satisfied and that a place is assured.

3. Admission
When an unconditional offer is received, it must be accepted according to the information in the offer letter. This includes paying a further deposit* to guarantee both the place on the programme and accommodation which is included in the fees.

If a visa is required, the UKVI application process can begin.

Students will receive regular communications from CIFP and may email for advice or information at any time.

*Details of our current fees, deposits and refund policy can be found online at www.st-andrews.ac.uk/elt/foundation/datesandfees201516/howtopayfees

Your Offer of a Place
Your offer letter includes a link to an information leaflet which has a huge amount of useful information about the acceptance process. We also answer all your frequently asked questions about pre-arrival matters: payments and visas; accommodation and airport transfers; semester dates, induction and a great deal more besides. Please read it!
Moving on to a Degree

Our CIFP programmes provide an entry route into undergraduate degree programmes across our faculties and are also recognised by other high-ranking British universities. Many of our students have been accepted onto degree programmes at other top institutions. We assist with the UCAS application process, providing advice and support. Successful completion of one of our foundation programmes will allow entry to a wide selection of degree programmes at the University of St Andrews. Most programmes require a High Merit or above, which the majority of our students are able to achieve.

The University of St Andrews reports grades on a 1-20 point scale. Below are the approximate equivalent percentages and CIFP descriptions.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Distinction</td>
<td>17-20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>High Merit</td>
<td>14-16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Low Merit</td>
<td>11-13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pass</td>
<td>7-10</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

International Foundation Programme for Science

Successful completion of the International Foundation Programme for Science will allow you to progress on to a degree. The following degrees are currently available as BSc (Single or Joint Honours).

- Applied Economics
- Applied Mathematics
- Astrophysics
- Behavioural Biology
- Biochemistry
- Biology
- Biomolecular Science
- Cell Biology
- Chemical Sciences
- Chemistry
- Computer Science
- Earth Sciences
- Ecology and Conservation
- Economics
- Environmental Earth Sciences
- Evolutionary Biology
- Financial Economics
- Geology
- Geography
- Management
- Management Science
- Marine Biology
- Materials Chemistry
- Mathematics
- Molecular Biology
- Neuroscience
- Physics
- Psychology
- Pure Mathematics
- Statistics
- Sustainable Development
- Theoretical Physics
- Zoology

Further details on each of these programmes can be found at: www.st-andrews.ac.uk/study/ug/prospectus
International Foundation Programme for Medicine
Successful completion of the programme and the School of Medicine’s entry requirements (page 12) enables students to move onto the BSc (Hons) Medicine at the University of St Andrews.

International Foundation Programme for Management, Economics & Finance
Successful completion of the Foundation Programme will allow you to progress onto one of the degrees listed below. Some degrees may have additional requirements, e.g. a pass in Mathematics at a specified level (for Financial Economics).

Economics
Financial Economics
Management
Management Science

Graduates of the programme have previously been accepted at other universities including: Bristol, Bath, Durham, Warwick, Southampton, Lancaster, UCL.

International Foundation Programme for Social Sciences & Humanities
Students who successfully complete this programme are eligible to enter a degree programme leading to an MA (Single or Joint Honours). Available subjects include:

Ancient History
Arabic
Art History
Classical Studies
Film Studies
History
International Relations
Maths and Statistics
Middle East Studies
Modern, Mediaeval or Scottish History
Philosophy
Psychology
Russian
Social Anthropology
Spanish
Sustainable Development

For a full list of degree programmes refer to www.st-andrews.ac.uk/study/ug/prospectus

BA International Honours: a degree awarded by the University of St Andrews and the College of William & Mary, Virginia, USA
Students who are successful on the Management, Economics & Finance or Social Science & Humanities programmes who plan to study Economics, History, International Relations or English are eligible to join our collaborative degree with the College of William & Mary in Virginia, USA.

This is a unique ‘double degree’ which allows students to study for two years in each institution and graduate with a Bachelors in International Honours with a degree certificate endorsed by both universities. Students have flexibility in structuring their programme, so can plan whether they will spend their final year, and graduate, in the US or the UK.

www.st-andrews.ac.uk/study/ug/options/routes/wm
Entry to our programmes is selective. This ensures that our completion rates are high and the vast majority of our students graduate successfully at the end of their foundation studies and move onto a degree at St Andrews at the start of the academic year in September.

Students are not restricted in their choice of university: we do not have specific partner institutions and our staff will help students to apply to other universities if they wish. Our students regularly receive offers for a wide range of courses.

In a typical academic year*:

**77% of our Science Foundation Programme** progressed on to degrees at St Andrews, including second year Computer Science, fast track Mathematics and second year Physics. Students took up offers to study Physics and Mathematics at UCL, Biomedical Science at Newcastle and Biotechnology at Nottingham. Students also received offers to study Actuarial Science and Nanoscience (Heriot-Watt), Nutrition (King’s College London) and Psychology (Bristol).

**80% of our students studying Management, Economics & Finance** progressed successfully to a St Andrews degree programme. Students also received a wide range of offers from other universities including Bath (Management with Marketing), City (Accounting & Finance), Durham (Business & Management and Accounting & Finance), Edinburgh (Economics, International Business) Exeter (Management with Marketing) King’s College London (Economics & Management) and Warwick (Economics & Politics).

**The Social Science & Humanities Programme** had a 96% pass rate with 72% of students progressing to a St Andrews degree. Students received offers from – among others – the universities of Bath, Birmingham, Bristol, Durham, Edinburgh, Exeter, Manchester, Royal Holloway and Warwick, to study a wide range of subjects.

Five students elected to join the St Andrews-William & Mary double degree programme, the Bachelor of Arts (International Honours), spending two years at St Andrews, and two years at the College of William & Mary in Virginia.

*Progression statistics from 2013-2014*
International St Andrews

St Andrews sits on the picturesque east coast of the sunniest region in Scotland. The town is just an hour north of Edinburgh’s international airport and easy to reach via road and rail.

Although compact in size, St Andrews is global in scale, attracting students and staff from more than 120 countries. Students in the Centre for International Foundation Programmes represent more than 30 nationalities, offering a culturally cosmopolitan experience and a truly international education.
Curriculum Development
As a research intensive institution, the University ensures that its teaching references the research interests of its staff, which may change from time to time. As a result, programmes are regularly reviewed with the aim of enhancing students' learning experience. Our approach to course revision is described at:
www.st-andrews.ac.uk/media/teaching-and-learning/policies/course-revision-protocol.pdf

All the information in this publication is correct at time of going to press.
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