

A photograph of three people walking on a paved path in a garden-like setting. On the left, a man in a black jacket and blue jeans walks towards the center. In the middle, a woman in a purple hoodie and black pants walks towards the right. On the right, a woman in a grey blazer and black skirt walks towards the right. The background features green foliage, trees, and a black fence.

# MSc Welcome & Introduction

**Professor Thijs van Rens**

**Director of Graduate Studies (Taught Degrees)**

**18 September 2023**

**WARWICK**

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## This presentation

- Introductions
- Introductory Maths and Statistics
- MSc programmes
- Course structure and module choices
- Assessment, feedback and exams
- Supporting you
- Beyond study

**This session is being recorded and will be made available to watch online at any time**

**The slides have also been uploaded on our induction [website](#)**

# Introductions



- Professor Thijs van Rens
- Director of Graduate Studies (Taught Degrees)
- S2.105
- [J.M.van-Rens@warwick.ac.uk](mailto:J.M.van-Rens@warwick.ac.uk)
- Teaching
- Research interests

# Introductions



**Professor Ben  
Lockwood**  
Head of  
Department



**Dr Claudia Rei**  
Deputy HoD  
(Teaching &  
Learning)



**Dr Alex Karalis  
Isaac**  
Deputy Director  
of Graduate  
Studies



**Dr Mahnaz  
Nazneen**  
PGT Senior Tutor

# Introductions – Postgraduate Office



**Carolyn  
Andrews**  
Programmes  
Manager PGT



**Robin Flint**  
Assistant  
Programmes  
Manager



**Andrea Wyld**  
Programmes  
Coordinator  
(MSc)



**Chau Ho**  
Programmes  
Coordinator  
(MRes)



**Marion  
Nicholson**  
Programmes  
Administrator



**Aysa Ozcan**  
Student  
Engagement &  
Experience  
Coordinator

## How to contact us

- Email [economics.pgoffice@warwick.ac.uk](mailto:economics.pgoffice@warwick.ac.uk) or visit the Postgraduate Office in room S1.132
- Visit our [Get in Touch page](#) for frequently asked questions
- When writing emails, please use professional language and academic titles where appropriate
- Allow sufficient time for a reply and avoid making last minute requests
- Please don't send the same message to different email addresses as this duplicates work



# Economics in Numbers



We ranked

**1st**

in the Good University  
Guide 2023



We ranked

**2nd**

in the UK in the most  
recent Research  
Excellence Framework  
(REF) 2021



View more  
key statistics



## We focus on:



Delivering **outstanding teaching and learning** that benefits society



Delivering **innovative research** that extends the frontiers of the discipline



Producing **policy-relevant research** that enhances wellbeing



Building a **diverse and inclusive community** in which all staff and students can reach their full potential



Creating an environment based on **respect, integrity and accountability** for one's actions



# Things to do during induction

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- Look at the [induction timetable](#)
- Read the [induction checklist](#) for guidance on the key things to do in your first few weeks
- Check out our [MSc web pages](#)
- Look at [My.Warwick](#)
- Spend some time reading the [MSc Student Handbook](#)



## Welcome week

- Welcome week runs from 25 September - 1 October and is a programme of events and activities to help settle in and adapt to life at Warwick.
- Although the week is primarily aimed at students not taking a pre-sessional course, you are very welcome to sign up for events during the weekends and in your free time next week.
- Further details are given at: [Welcome Week | University of Warwick](#)

# Introductory Maths & Statistics

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- [EC961 Moodle resources](#)
- Lectures take place in this room from 2.00-5.00pm today and then from 10.00am-1.00pm tomorrow
- Classes will start from 2.00pm-5.00pm tomorrow
- Your allocated class will be published in [Tabula](#) at 5.00pm this afternoon



## Introductory Maths & Statistics

- There will be online multiple-choice (MCQ) tests in Moodle
- **Test 1** on Monday 25 September (12.00-1.00pm)
- Optional **second attempt for Test 1** on Monday 2 October (12.00-1.00pm). We will use your highest mark.
- **Test 2** on Wednesday 4 October (9.00-12.00pm)

Test weighting in the Econometrics modules		
Course	Test 1	Test 2
MSc Economics	4%	8%
MSc EIFE	4%	8%
MSc BES	8%	12%

# Introductory Maths & Statistics

- If you require **extra time** for tests/exams due to reasonable adjustments, please register with [Disability Services](#)
- This will officially enable us to give you the required extra time.
- Please also let the **Postgraduate Office** know so they can arrange with IT to give you extra time for the online tests ([economics.pgoffice@warwick.ac.uk](mailto:economics.pgoffice@warwick.ac.uk)).

# Your MSc Programmes

- MSc Economics
- MSc Economics and International Financial Economics
- MSc Behavioural and Economic Science (Economics Track)



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# Overview of the year

## Autumn Term

Focusing on core modules

- Microeconomics
- Macroeconomics (Econ/EIFE)  
or Psychology modules (BES)
- Econometrics (continues in Spring - Econ/EIFE)

## Spring Term

Applying skills and exploring deeper ideas

- Research Methods (Econ/EIFE)
- Optional modules

## Summer Term/vacation

Developing the skills needed to carry out original research in economics

- Dissertation (Econ/EIFE)
  - Submission deadline 11 Sept 2024
  - Proposal 24 June 2024
  - Proposed title and supervisor: 8 April 2024
  - Start thinking about a topic: Now!
- Project (BES)
  - Submission by end of August 2024

# Teaching and Learning

- The year will go by very fast!
- Research-led teaching
- Moodle will be used to allow for personalised teaching, shared use of resources and interactive learning
- Many modules have a sign-up resource to help you form study groups
- 15 CATS module means 150 hours of study consisting of contact hours and independent study



## Delivery of Teaching and Learning

- Most teaching will be in-person in the Autumn Term via weekly **synchronous lectures** and **Support and Feedback classes**
- This may be supplemented by pre-recorded **asynchronous lectures** on some of our modules.
- Teaching in the Spring Term will be based on a **blended learning approach**, which combines in-person and online interactions
- The balance between classroom and online elements will vary between modules.

# Course structure: MSc Econ & MSc EIFE

	Pre-term	Term 1	Term 2	Term 3 & Summer
<b>Required Optional core</b>		EC901 Microeconomics A or EC9D3 Microeconomics B <b>30 CATS</b>		
<b>Required Optional core</b>		EC9D4 Macroeconomics A or EC9D5 Macroeconomics A <b>30 CATS</b>		
<b>Required Optional core</b>	Pre-sessional Maths and Stats	EC902 Quantitative Methods: Econometrics A or EC910 Quantitative Methods: Econometrics B <b>45 CATS</b>		
<b>Options</b>			Three optional modules (list varies between courses) <b>15 CATS each</b>	
<b>Research</b>			Research Methods	EC959 Dissertation <b>30 CATS</b>

# Course structure: MSc BES (Econ Track)

	Pre-term	Term 1	Term 2	Term 3 & Summer
Optional core		EC901/EC9D3 Microeconomics A or B <b>30 CATS</b>		
Optional core	Pre-sessional Maths and Stats	EC907/EC987 Quantitative Methods: Econometrics A or B <b>30 CATS</b>		
Core		PS922 Issues in Psychological Science <b>15 CATS</b>		
Core		PS923 Methods and Analysis in Behavioural Science <b>15 CATS</b>		
Options			Five optional modules from the course list <b>15 CATS each</b>	
Research				PS916 Research Project <b>30 CATS</b>

## Optional Core Modules

- Register for **Micro A** and **Macro A** if you have studied typical undergraduate modules in Micro/Macro
- Take **Micro B** and **Macro B** if:
  - You have a first-class undergraduate degree
  - You have strong Maths ability ( $\geq 60\%$  on EC961 Test 2)
  - You have strong analytical skills or intend to do a PhD
- AB/BA combinations should not be taken without good grounds (such as previous very asymmetric training/experience in macro and micro)



## Optional Core Modules

- **Econometrics A** covers fundamental econometrics research skills. **Econometrics B** will supplement the development of these key professional skills by looking at more advanced topics.
- Take Econometrics B if you are familiar with (or are prepared to fill in any gaps on your own):
  - t and F tests of linear restrictions;
  - Heteroskedasticity and Serial correlation;
  - Estimation – in the presence of above problems;
  - Dummy variables;
  - Exogeneity vs Endogeneity.

## Optional Modules

- See [Handbook](#) and the [MSc webpage](#) for available options
- **Provisionally** choose **three** from your list (differs between variants). MSc BES choose **five** modules.
- Then, you must register your provisional option choices with University via [eMR](#). The system opens on 27 September.
- Follow the onscreen instructions and see the registration [guidance](#)
- Deadline: Monday 16 October
- Module choices automatically update on Tabula

## WBS Modules

- For MSc Econ, MSc EIFE: one IB-coded WBS module can be chosen:
  - IB9X7 Derivative Securities
  - IB9Y2 Behavioural Finance (also available to MSc BES)
  - IB9Y4 International Financial Management
- You must register for one of these WBS modules on eMR if you are interested
- BUT: numbers on these are capped, random selection used in the case of excess demand! If you are selected, you can't then change your mind.

## WBS Modules

- WBS modules are challenging technical courses
- EC modules 62% average mark – WBS 54%
- To take these modules, you must have a strong mathematics and statistics/econometrics ability, and have studied relevant topics at UG level e.g. Asset Pricing/ Corporate Finance
- If you have done little maths or stats/econometrics before your MSc, please avoid these modules
- If, by Monday 16 October, you realise you have struggled in Maths/Stats or the Term 1 core modules, do not sign up for these modules



## Further module information

- Attend the Presentation of Options meeting to hear from those teaching Economics modules on Friday 6 October
- Information on MSc BES optional modules in Psychology and WBS can be found in the [module catalogue](#)
- The PG Office can make changes on eMR for you during first three weeks of the Spring Term (apart from IB-coded modules)
- Possible an option might not run due to low numbers.
- EC991 Topics in Applied Microeconomics is not running in 23/24.

# Assessments

- Modules are assessed by a mix of methods in the form of formal examinations and coursework, including:
  - Problem Sets
  - Essays
  - Modelling and Data Analysis
  - Class Presentations
  - Research Projects



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# Feedback

## Coursework

- Marks returned within 20 days with written individual feedback
- Generic feedback is given for larger modules, including a CDF showing the mark distribution

## Exams

- Marks released in February and June
- Generic exam feedback after September resits
- Those resitting will see their exam script (some exceptions)

## Other feedback sources

- Problem set solutions
- Support and Feedback classes
- Advice and Feedback hours
- Revision classes

# Marking and Exam Schemes

## Marking criteria

- The pass mark for modules is 50%
- The mean mark for our core modules is typically around 62%
- To obtain a mark of 70%, your work needs to be very good
- Although we do use the full marking scale of 0% to 100%, in practice marks of above 80% are quite rare (<10%, typically).

## Exam Schemes

- You need to pass at least 150 CATS, including all required core modules, and achieve at least 40% in any failed module(s)
- Progression to dissertation is not automatic: it depends on the number of failed exams

## Degree classification

- Degree classification is based on your weighted award average
  - $\geq 70.0\%$  Distinction
  - 60.0-69.9% Merit
  - 50.0-59.9% Pass
  - $\leq 49.9$  Fail
- This marking scale is typical for the UK, but might be unexpected for anyone who has studied abroad. Please become familiar with it.

# Attendance

- You are expected to attend all your lectures and classes
- We want to be sure that you are coping with your work and not falling behind
- We ask that you meet fourteen [Monitoring Points](#)
- You will be contacted should we become concerned about your missed Monitoring Points or class attendance record
- You can submit a maximum of 2 absence per year because of short-term illness using the [self-certify sickness form](#)
- Email completed forms to [economics.pgoffice@warwick.ac.uk](mailto:economics.pgoffice@warwick.ac.uk)

## Supporting You

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- **Personal tutors**; your allocated tutor will be shown in Tabula and meetings take place in week 1
- **Senior Tutor** is Dr Mahnaz Nazneen
- Academic & Pastoral Support Drop-in sessions during induction (see [timetable](#) for details)
- [Wellbeing drop-in sessions](#) in term time
- If you are having problems on a module, see the lecturer or class tutor first
- Then, bring it up with your student representatives



## Mitigating Circumstances

- If you need to miss an exam or test due to illness or personal problems, please use the Personal Circumstances portal in Tabula to inform us
- Read about [self-certification](#) for deadlines
- Specific coursework extension requests (with supporting evidence) can also be submitted through Tabula
- These are subject to approval by the Postgraduate Office.



# Institutional Support

- [Wellbeing Support Services](#)
- [The University Health Centre](#)
  - Please register with a GP before you get sick
  - NHS 111 service: dial 111 for non-emergency fast help
- [The Students' Union](#)
  - Nightline service: 9pm to 9am student-run listening service
  - 02476522199
- [Student Information Centre](#)
  - Enquiries about Student Records, Student Finance and Accommodation

## Academic Support

- Induction sessions
  - Learning to Learn in Economics
  - Academic study skills
- Maths/Stats weekly drop-in sessions
- Refresher Maths for Economics
- Stata Helpdesk
- Advice and Feedback Hours
- Dissertation Helpdesks
- Economics Librarian
- Compulsory training courses
  - [Introduction to Referencing](#)
  - [Avoiding Plagiarism](#)

Full details are given on our [Academic Support](#) webpage

# IT Support

- [Guide for new students](#)
- For help contact the [IT Services Help Desk](#) or [Economics IT support](#)
- Keep your files safe in the cloud with [OneDrive](#) or your H:Drive. Don't save your work on your laptop
- Use [OneNote](#) for lecture notes and other material
- [STATA](#) - both Econometrics A and B use it exclusively
- Introductory Moodle courses:
  - [STATA](#), [LaTeX](#), [R](#)

# Study Facilities

## Department of Economics

- Study Rooms  
S1.136, S1.138, S1.139 & S1.140
- Kitchen - S1.129
- Common Room - S1.131 & S1.133
- Group Work - S1.135 ([book in advance](#))
- Bloomberg - S0.55 ([book in advance](#))

## University

- [PG Hub](#) and [Library](#)



# International Students

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- There is a webpage for [international students](#), which includes [immigration advice](#)
- Welcome sessions for international students on Wednesday 4 and Friday 6 October
- Student visa holders:
  - Limited to working 20 hours per week
  - Full time jobs or internships in the vacation periods are not permitted
  - [Change of study location](#): Students should remain in the UK until the end of the Summer Term.



## Beyond Study

- Warwick Economics Lecture Series
- Social Events
- Student Societies
- Student Opportunity
- Graduate Student Staff Liaison Committee (GSSLC): please consider nominating yourself as a student representative
- Sport: Football and Volleyball



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# Preparing for Life After Warwick

## Careers

- Check out our [website](#) and [Student Careers](#)
- Attend the Careers Session on Friday 6 October
- Finance roles: Sept/Oct deadline
- Internship Scheme ([WISE](#))
- Job vacancies advertised via MS Teams (details to follow)

## Employability

- Networking: [mentoring](#) and [LinkedIn Groups](#)
- Key skills from your degree are explained in the [handbook](#)
- Look at the [Warwick Award](#)
- [IT skills training](#)
- [English Language skills](#)
- [Foreign language skills](#)

# Finally

You must be **fully enrolled** to attend any teaching

If you have not already done, please go to the Student Opportunity Hub and the PG Office to complete your University and Departmental enrolment

## Today

- Lectures: 2.00-5.00pm
- Welcome Reception: 5.00-6.00pm in the Chancellor's Suite

## Tuesday-Friday

- Lectures: 10.00am-1.00pm
- Classes 2.00-5.00pm (see [Tabula](#) for details)

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**Thank you**  
**Any questions?**