



BLC

Your Future in English

**STUDY
GUIDE**
2015



"Everything was very nice and well organized. You are all very helpful and you really make an effort to help us learn English"

**Encarnacion Pena,
Spanish, aged 36**

"There are many students from different countries and the city is

**Emiliya Belova, Russian,
aged 22**

Why Bristol?

From Brunel to Banksy, Bristol has attracted great minds who have left their mark on this beautiful, vibrant city. The cultural and artistic centre of south west England, Bristol has two world-ranking universities and a strong local economy.

Bristol's international airport and good rail links make it a convenient location, with flights direct to over 50 European destinations and many cities worldwide. Bristol has a diverse population and a wealth of opportunities: a top destination for language students.

Historic sights

You can see Brunel's world famous Clifton Suspension Bridge, and visit his restored iron ship, the SS Great Britain, moored in the scenic floating harbour. Stunning Georgian houses from the 1700s sweep gracefully across the centre of this historic port.

Music and nightlife

Bristol is famous for its vibrant music scene, with plenty of live events for you to enjoy, from classical music to the latest bands at the Colston Hall and other venues around the city. There's also a great choice of bars and clubs.

Art and festivals

Be surprised by Bristol's urban art scene as you wander the streets. And keep an eye open for hot air balloons drifting over this 'capital city' of the ballooning world. Don't miss the annual International Balloon Fiesta and the world renowned Harbour Festival.

On stage

Bristol is home to the Old Vic Theatre, the longest-running theatre in the UK, and the Hippodrome, where you can see ballet, pantomime, stage shows and musicals on tour from London's West End. There are many other live performance venues and cinemas across the city.

Educational opportunities

Bristol is home to two world class universities and you will mix with a diverse international student population.

Sporting life

Take part in any sport you like from athletics to tennis, basketball to swimming: you will find them all in Bristol. Or take a seat to enjoy Bristol's professional football or rugby teams in action. International fixtures at Cardiff's Millennium Stadium are less than an hour away by train.

Out of town

From Bristol, you can catch a train to London (1½ hours) or Bath (10 mins). Visit the traditional English seaside at Weston super Mare (30 mins). Further away, but in easy reach by car, are Stratford upon Avon (birthplace of William Shakespeare), Oxford and the ancient sights of Stonehenge.

"Now, I love Bristol. I walked around the city every day and I think it is a wonderful city"

**Raul Gonzalez Maraver,
Spanish, aged 34**



96%

of BLC students thought that Bristol was a great city!



BLC has the course for you!

We listen to your goals and aspirations.

For example, do you want to be able to:

- Learn **real life English** for real world situations?
- Communicate effectively in **international business**?
- Secure **a better job** in your home country?
- Progress to a **quality UK university**?
- Improve your English for **leisure or tourism**?

Our variety of quality courses is sure to offer something to suit you. By teaching you practical, real life English and working closely with you, we make sure we meet your needs.

Be successful **English for everyday life**

- General and Intensive English courses run year-round to improve your English language proficiency for use in everyday situations, including further studies, business or leisure. See page 24

Be active **English for making friends**

- Junior Summer Programme for students aged 13–17 years at a range of levels. See page 26

Be qualified **English for examination purposes**

- Cambridge First (FCE) and Cambridge Advanced (CAE) are internationally recognised exams for students at a variety of levels, to improve your English for daily life or work. See page 28
- IELTS examination, to improve your English language skills for university entrance. See page 29
- TOEIC examination, preparing you for international communication in a professional environment. See page 30
- TOEFL examination, a course running in July and August to improve your readiness for academic work. See page 31

Be academic **English for progression to UK university**

- English for Academic Purposes is an intensive English language course for students preparing to enter university in the UK. See page 32

Be professional **English for the workplace**

- Business English helps you improve your English so that you can conduct business internationally. See page 34

Be experienced **BLC Internship Programme**

- The BLC Internship Programme is available to EU students, to give you vital experience after your studies by using your English language skills in a local business. See page 35

“Professional and friendly teachers who have patience with your mistakes. Interesting lessons with great speaking practice.”

**Alexander Cherkasov,
Russian, aged 24**

Be successful

English for everyday life

96%

of BLC students thought that their lessons were 'interesting' or 'very interesting'



"I have learnt a lot of vocabulary and grammar so I have improved my English in a really short period of time"

Delia Sancha Gujarrubia, Spanish, aged 19



My BLC

James MacPherson,
BLC Teacher

"The teachers work in a supportive team and are very committed to their jobs. This contributes to a positive working environment and the best possible learning experience for our students."

General and Intensive English

Courses to improve your English language skills for everyday situations

Course description

We offer General and Intensive English courses to improve your English language skills for use in everyday situations, including for further studies, business or leisure. The course uses a course book and supplementary materials and will provide you with essential structures and vocabulary. You will work with authentic material taken from online sources, the media, TV and radio, relevant to topic areas.

Course outcomes

- You will develop English skills in reading, writing, speaking and listening
- Your confidence in the language will improve
- Your career prospects will be enhanced by achieving a level of English required for international business
- You could progress to an academic English language course such as English for Academic Purposes, or an exam focused programme, for example FCE, CAE or IELTS, to receive an internationally recognised qualification

Key course facts

- Elementary to advanced levels*
- Minimum length: 1 week
- Number of lessons per week (lesson are 45 minutes): General: 20 (15 hours), Intensive: 30 (22.5 hours)
- Maximum class size: 14 (average class size: 12)
- Start any Monday during term time**
- Course length as required
- General English: Students aged 18 and above
- Intensive English: Students aged 16 and above, subject to meeting welfare requirements***

*Many of our courses have flexible start dates, but we advise that very low level students arrive and start courses at the beginning of each term.

**See term dates on page 39.

*** Students aged 16 or 17, who are studying Intensive English, must stay in a homestay and provide parental consent to study at BLC.



Friday afternoon electives

For students of Intensive English, these 90-minute Friday afternoon classes give you a choice of sessions to make your course as specific and useful to you as possible. BLC teachers decide which topics to run each week, based on the interests and needs of the students in the school. You are encouraged to make suggestions for classes.

The electives give you the chance to try different exam classes (for example FCE, CAE, IELTS, TOEIC, TOEFL) without being registered for a specific exam course. They also allow you to study practical English that will really help you with your future plans and goals within an English-speaking world.

Typical, popular Friday afternoon elective classes include:

- Pronunciation
- English for work (CV writing, interview tips, job-related vocabulary and role playing)
- Presentation skills
- Phrasal verbs for everyday life
- Real English for life in the UK
- Discussions and debating in English
- Academic English



Be active

English for making friends

"I was here only for 2 weeks but the course was useful to improve my English, in particular the speaking"

**Lorenzo Riva,
Italian, aged 20**

Junior Summer Programme

English with activity programme for students aged 13-17

Course description

This offers English language tuition for students aged 13–17 years in small groups, combined with a social activity programme. You can improve your English while learning about British life and culture in a fun and relaxed atmosphere. The most recent teaching methods and materials are used to ensure that all classes are imaginative and stimulating.

Sample Timetable

09.15-10.45	Lessons 1 and 2
BREAK	
11.00-12.30	Lessons 3 and 4
LUNCH	
Afternoon	Social activities

Course outcomes

- You will develop English skills in reading, writing, speaking and listening
- You will experience English life and culture through making friends, living with an English family and attending excursions and activities

Key course facts

- Elementary to advanced levels
- Minimum length: 1 week (Sunday to Saturday)
- Maximum class size: 15
- Number of lessons per week (lessons are 45 minutes): 20 (15 hours)
- Course dates: 29 June to 8 August in two 3-week cycles
- Course length: 1–3 weeks*
- Students aged 13–17 years
- Full and half-day teacher-accompanied excursions (mid-week and Saturday)
- Fees include: full board accommodation, excursions and local bus pass

*If you study on the programme for more than 3 weeks (within course dates), elements of the programme will be repeated.

Activities

Activities include things like a visit to Blaise Castle (Bristol mansion and parkland), a tour of Bristol's famous street art, sports, a trip to the city of Bath or London and shopping in a local market.**

**These are sample activities and not guaranteed for any particular week. Please see our Juniors' flyer for complete details of the Junior Summer Programme.



Be qualified

English for examination purposes

"I like the content of the course and that it focused on the CAE exam, which is my aim. The teachers were very nice and patient solving all our problems"

Maria Bueno,
Spanish, aged 24

98%

of BLC students said their English improved while studying at BLC†



Cambridge Examinations

Preparation for internationally recognised exams

IELTS Preparation

Improve your English for university entrance

Course description

These courses will prepare you for the Cambridge First (FCE) and Cambridge Advanced (CAE) examinations, which are internationally recognised as exams of excellence, focused on improving accuracy in all areas of the language.

Course outcomes

- Successful completion of a Cambridge examination at the required level
- You will improve your skills in reading, writing, listening and speaking
- Your career prospects will be improved
- FCE gives you practical English needed for everyday life (course level: intermediate to upper intermediate)
- CAE enhances your career prospects as it is good training for English at work (course level: upper intermediate to advanced)

Key course facts

- Entry level: intermediate (FCE), upper intermediate (CAE)
- Course length: up to 12 weeks
- Minimum length advised: 6 weeks
- Number of lessons per week (lessons are 45 minutes): 30 (22.5 hours; General English plus afternoon exam preparation)
- Maximum class size: 14 (average class size: 12)
- Students aged 18 and above
- Certificates are valid forever

Course description

This course will help you improve your English language skills to prepare for the internationally recognised IELTS (International English Language Testing System) examination and to progress to a UK university.

Course outcomes

- Successful completion of the IELTS examination
- You will improve your skills in reading, writing, listening and speaking
- Possible entrance to a UK university

Key course facts

- Intermediate to advanced levels (IELTS Foundation may be available for those at pre-intermediate level during busy periods)
- Minimum length: 1 week
- Number of lessons per week (lessons are 45 minutes): 30 (22.5 hours)
- Maximum class size: 14 (average class size: 12)
- Start any Monday during term time*
- Course length as required
- Students aged 18 and above

*See term dates on page 39.

Programme	Start Date	End Date	Course Length	Exam Date
FCE, CAE	5 January 2015	13 March 2015	10 weeks	FCE 13 March 2015 , CAE 14 March 2015
FCE, CAE	23 March 2015	12 June 2015	12 weeks	FCE 9 June 2015 , CAE 10 June 2015
FCE, CAE	29 June 2015	21 August 2015	8 weeks	FCE 20 August 2015 , CAE 21 August 2015
FCE, CAE	14 September 2015	4 December 2015	12 weeks	FCE 1 December 2015 , CAE 2 December 2015



"Teachers are really active and passionate, so it was a pleasure to learn the English language"

Marlene Darmandieu,
French, aged 22

Be qualified

English for examination purposes



"The teachers are knowledgeable and humorous, every member of staff is very friendly and patient. I had a good time at BLC"

Yfan Shen, Chinese, aged 23

TOEIC

Improve your English for international business communication

Course description

The TOEIC (Test of English for International Communication) multiple choice reading and listening examination will prepare you for international communication in a professional or business environment.

Course outcomes

- Successful completion of the examination
- You will improve your skills in reading, writing, listening and speaking
- Your English skills will improve for international communication and business
- Your career prospects in your home country will be enhanced, as many international companies recognise TOEIC as a professional qualification

Key course facts

- Intermediate to advanced levels
- Minimum length advised: 3 weeks
- Number of lessons per week (lessons are 45 minutes): 30 (22.5 hours)
- Maximum class size: 14 (average class size: 12)
- Start on any Monday within the blocks and finish on any Friday
- Students aged 18 and above

BLC is a TOEIC test centre. Subject to authorisation in 2015, BLC students can enjoy the convenience of:

- Taking your test on site at BLC
- Booking your exam just 2 weeks before the exam date
- Receiving results 1 week after taking the exam

BLC will send the exam certificate and statement of results directly to you.

TOEFL

Improve your English for entrance to US university

Course description

The TOEFL (Test for English as a Foreign Language) course will prepare you for the TOEFL examination, which is required for entry to universities in several countries, including the USA. The preparation and course content will improve your academic vocabulary and skills.

Course outcomes

- Successful completion of the TOEFL examination
- You will improve your skills in reading, writing, listening and speaking
- Possible entrance to a university, for example in the USA

Key course facts

- Intermediate to advanced levels
- Minimum length: 1 week
- Number of lessons per week (lessons are 45 minutes): 30 (22.5 hours)
- Maximum class size: 14 (average class size: 12)
- Students aged 18 and above
- This course runs subject to demand in July and August. Contact applications@bhc-english.co.uk for further details
- For more information, see the official TOEFL website: www.ets.org/toefl.



My BLC

Jenny Cannell,
Director of Studies

"It's great seeing students leave at the end of their courses with improved future study and work opportunities because of the time they have spent at BLC."



Be academic

English for progression to
UK university

"There is the time for everythings
... time for writing ... time for
listening ... time for speaking ..."

**Lara Dognini,
Italian, aged 45**

English for Academic Purposes (EAP)

Intensive academic English language course for students preparing to enter university

Course description

The EAP course is an intensive English language course for students preparing to enter university in the UK. It has been carefully designed to help you develop excellent study skills and language proficiency. The course consists of English language training, IELTS preparation, and academic study skills including essay writing, making presentations, note-taking, academic reading and summarising.

Students who do not qualify for our EAP course can study Intensive English or IELTS to the appropriate level.

Course outcomes

Assuming that you have the necessary academic qualifications, success on this course offers:

- English language proficiency and skills to help you to progress to a UK university

Key course facts

- Intermediate to advanced level
- Minimum length: 4 weeks
- Number of lessons per week (lessons are 45 minutes): 30 (22.5 hours)
- Maximum class size: 14 (average class size: 12)
- Courses start September, January and April (subject to demand)
- Course length: 4–12 weeks
- Students aged 18 and above

University counselling service

BLC has a dedicated University Counsellor and offers you free guidance on undergraduate and postgraduate university entrance. Our Counsellor can advise you which course is best for you and can assist you with university applications.

BLC has progressed students to many institutions including University of Bristol, University of Exeter, University of Swansea, University of Cardiff, University of Reading and University of Manchester.

Programme	Start Date	End Date	Course Length
EAP	5 January 2015	27 March 2015	12 weeks
EAP	6 April 2015	26 June 2015	12 weeks
EAP	21 September 2015	11 December 2015	12 weeks



Be professional

English for the workplace



Business English

Flexible business English courses for individuals or groups

Course description

BLC offers flexible Business English courses for individuals or groups focusing on practical English language for you to use in the workplace and international business communication.

We assess your language levels and areas of interest, as we can be flexible to your needs. We offer you a variety of topics such as international marketing, e-commerce, report writing, negotiation or presentation giving. You will work with authentic material taken from online material, the media, TV and radio, relevant to topic areas.

Course outcomes

- Your English will improve for use in business and professional contexts
- You will be better able to conduct business in an international environment

"Of course I will recommend to my colleagues and friends."

Sergey Vasilevich Ignatenko,
Russia, aged 42

Key course facts

- Intermediate to advanced levels
- Minimum length advised: 2 weeks
- Number of lessons per week (lessons are 45 minutes): 30 (22.5 hours)
- Maximum class size: 14 (average class size: 12)
- Start day can be any Monday within the blocks.
- Students aged 18 and above

For specific group enquiries, please contact groups@bhc-english.co.uk

Programme	Start Date	End Date	Course Length
Business English	13 April 2015	5 May 2015	4 weeks
Business English	29 June 2015	28 August 2015	9 weeks
Business English	2 November 2015	27 November 2015	4 weeks

"My English improved a lot in all possible skills, namely speaking, reading, listening, writing and in uses of grammar and a great range of vocabulary"

Braulio Monteiro,
Angolan, aged 19

BLC Internship Programme

Learn English in the workplace

Description

From 2014, BLC will be offering EU students the opportunity of a course at BLC followed by an internship in a local business. BLC can arrange internships for you in a variety of office environments, and you will be able to choose from a range of opportunities, subject to fulfilling the following requirements.

Programme requirements

To take part in the programme, you need to:

- Be an EU student
- Complete an English language course of at least 4 weeks
- Have an English language level of intermediate and above
- Have suitable experience or qualifications



Key facts

- BLC will identify a suitable work placement in your chosen field, to suit your studies or experience*
- Placements last from 3 weeks to 6 months
- All work placements are unpaid
- A BLC representative will accompany you to the introductory meeting with the company
- BLC will provide you with full details of the company, working conditions and times, public transport maps etc.
- BLC will provide you with a final report and certificate, detailing your successfully completed internship

*Subject to you submitting relevant information such as up-to-date CV and subject to availability.



My BLC

Ian Riddell,
BLC Teacher

"It's definitely the people. I love coming to work with people from every corner of the globe and finding out what makes them tick. A large part of my job relies on building rapport with students so it really helps that I'm genuinely interested in them."

BLC's summer courses

Spotlight on summer learning

If you want to study in the summer, BLC has a choice of courses that's sure to suit you.

Cambridge exams

FCE (First Certificate in English)

CAE (Certificate in Advanced English)

29 June–21 August 2015

(Recommended minimum course length: 6 weeks).

See page 28

TOEIC

Test of English for International Communication

29 June–28 August 2015

(Recommended minimum course length: 3 weeks).

See page 30

TOEFL

Test of English as a Foreign Language

Runs subject to demand in July and August

See page 31

Improve your skills in reading, writing, listening and speaking, while you gain vital qualifications.

Junior Summer Programme

29 June–8 August 2015

(Course length 1–3 weeks)

English language tuition for students aged 13–17 years in small groups, including an exciting programme of social activities!

See page 26



Business English

29 June–28 August 2015

(Course length 2–9 weeks)

Practical English language for individuals or groups to help you communicate in the workplace.

See page 34

And don't forget...

Our General and Intensive English and IELTS Preparation courses run year-round, including the summer months.

"I have learnt a lot of new vocabulary and I have lost the fear of speaking English"

**Manuel Polo Casado,
Spanish, aged 27**

For more information on all these courses, please refer to the main course page.

