Welcome to the Department of Mathematics at Imperial College London

This Welcome booklet is for students starting in October 2019, under the codings of G100, G102, G103, G104, G125, G1F3, G1G3, GG31, G1GH. Students on the Joint Mathematics and Computing programme (JMC) will have different arrangements set up by the Computing department.

We look forward to welcoming you to the Department and hope you have a wonderful time studying with us! Please do not hesitate to contact the relevant person from the contact list given in this document prior to your arrival / any time you are with us with any questions you have.

Information for new students will be updated on the website, please make sure you check regularly for any changes or new information:

www.imperial.ac.uk/mathematics/undergraduate

For College-wide activities, please see events for new students on:

www.imperial.ac.uk/students/new-students/

Please note that the information in this welcome booklet is subject to change — please make sure to check emails and the website as noted above for any new information.

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**Things to do now!**

Register with the College on e-service (starting in early September 2019).

If applicable, please fill out the Health Form attached to the original email sent to you from the Department with this booklet and return to Mrs Donna Pile-Grant, by 13th September at the following address: maths-student-office@imperial.ac.uk

Do some MATHS! See covering email and page 16 of this booklet
Welcome letter from Head of Department
Professor David van Dyk

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South Kensington Campus
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Professor David A van Dyk
Head of Mathematics Department

August 2019

Dear First Year Student,

It is a pleasure to formally welcome you to the Mathematics Department at Imperial College.

Going to University is a big step and I am sure that you will remember this time as a milestone in your life. Imperial is a fantastic place to spend your University years, and as such it is highly competitive to get a place here. You have done well to gain entry! And, I am delighted that you decided to take up our offer of admission and join us.

I hope that you continue to excel, to enjoy Mathematics, and that you take advantage of the lectures, facilities and teaching support available. It is important to realise that College is very different from school and this time is a transition to a more mature education style. University study will require considerable commitment from you - it is a challenging course. I hope you enjoy it.

Again, welcome!

Best wishes for your first year with us.

Yours sincerely,

Professor David A van Dyk

Welcome letter from Departmental Student Representative (Dep Rep), Lorenz Wolf

Dear incoming First-Year Student,

Welcome to Imperial and congratulations on becoming part of the Mathematics Department and the Imperial Community!

My name is Lorenz Wolf and I am in my third year. During your first year, I will be your departmental academic representative, the link between you, the students, and the faculty. I will be working together with the faculty and the team of year reps (to be elected during autumn term) to help solve any problems experienced by students and improve the student experience at Imperial.

Now that you have a rough idea of who I am, I would like to give you some tips for your first year. Firstly, make a lot of new friends during the first weeks. Probably my favourite thing about Imperial is the International community with students from all around the world and from all sorts of different backgrounds. So make use of it! For some, it might be super easy to start conversations and for some, it might be harder, but really try to push yourself out of your comfort zone and take initiative. Remember that most people will be coming to Imperial not knowing anyone and will be happy to make a new friend. Plus there are plenty of events during your first few weeks giving you the opportunity to mingle.

Secondly, join societies. At imperial we have more than 300 societies from sectors such as Sports, Culture, and Technology. As a maths student, you will be automatically part of MathSoc and the RCSU giving you access to some amazing events throughout the year. Societies allow you to get involved in an environment outside of maths, which is great if you want to get a break from your problem sheets.

And also maybe a few tips for the academic side of things at Imperial... It might seem obvious but you’d be surprised how far these three things will get you: 1) go to lectures, 2) do your problem sheets and 3) ask if you need help. Being at lectures and problems classes (or just hanging out in the common areas like one of the computing rooms, the MLC, or the Maths Common Room) allows you to interact with the lecturers and to catch up with your friends. Problem sheets are an important part of the course and help you to develop better problem-solving skills and more in-depth knowledge of the content. Last but not least, use the support that is available to you. You have problems classes, peer tutorials, and your peers to get help with any questions.

I hope these tips help you to make the most of your first year and enjoy your time at Imperial. If you have any questions feel free to drop me an email or once the term has started approach me in person. Until then enjoy your summer!

Your academic departmental representative,

Lorenz Wolf

lorenz.wolf37@imperial.ac.uk
Hey Freshers!

Congratulations on your results and welcome to Imperial! I’m Aishy, and I’m your MathSoc President this year. MathSoc is the student run society that represents all Maths and JMC students. We do a large variety of things from holding social events throughout the year and also bringing you plenty of opportunities to help get your careers kickstarted with our sponsors.

We’ve got an exciting line up of events planned for Freshers’ week to help get you settled into life at Imperial. First of all there’s the Mums and Dads event on Thursday evening where you’ll get matched with a family and of course there’ll be free food! The Royal College of Science hosts a pub crawl straight after this which we hope you will join in with as well, we’d love to see as many families as possible.

After this we aim to have socials once in two weeks. These will include bowling, Wii nights, bar nights and pub crawls, and we’ve already got a storm cooking for Halloween. We’re always keen to get new events up and running so if you’ve got any ideas please do come speak to myself, Sorcha (Second year) or Ludovica (Third year), your social secs for this year. Our flagship events of the year are our Christmas Dinner and End of Year Ball, so keep your eyes peeled for early bird ticket releases for these events. (Tickets sold out in minutes last year!) To keep up-to-date with all the events we have planned and to check out all the cool stuff we did last year, follow us on Facebook and Instagram.

If you’d like to get in touch with us at any time before or throughout the year do get in touch through our Facebook or Instagram or email us as mathssoc@ic.ac.uk or feel free to approach me if you see me around Huxley (look out for my excessive MathSoc jumper usage)

Having been in your shoes two year ago, my top tips for surviving Freshers week would be:

- Get involved! You’ll make most of your friends through clubs and societies, halls and your course so get involved everywhere you can
- Ask questions, don’t worry, everyone is probably in the same position as you and as equally confused as you are, asking questions does no harm
- Have fun! Enjoy the slightly more care free vibe of freshers week before term kicks in properly

I look forward to meeting you all in October and I hope you’ll all enjoy your time as a part of MathSoc.

Aishy Chidambaram
aishwarya.chidambaram17@imperial.ac.uk

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General information
Prior to starting

Registration:

Please make sure you officially REGISTER online on the Student e-Service as soon as possible (from the start of September) as per the instructions College will send you via email. For more information, look on:

www.imperial.ac.uk/students/new-students/undergraduates/before-you-arrive/registration/

You will need to complete all of your personal details, including uploading a photo, online.

Please print your “Registration Confirmation” page and keep it with you just in case you need it later on at the start of year.

International students will need to upload their passport photo page and visa page (if applicable).

The Department also asks you to send in the Medical/Health Form (if applicable) which can be found as an attachment to the email sent with this booklet, by 13th September.

Email access and Microsoft Office 365:

All communications from the Department will be sent to your College email address. Please be sure that you check this daily. Information on how to access this will be sent to you by the College.

The College uses Microsoft 365 for your emails. Once you have completed Imperial’s online registration process, you can use your College credentials to get Microsoft Office 365 software for free.

With Microsoft 365, additional benefits include you being able to install the latest version of Microsoft Word, Excel, PowerPoint, OneNote and much more on compatible, personally-owned devices. Read more on:

www.imperial.ac.uk/admin-services/ict/self-service/connect-communicate/office-365/
Term dates & induction
The dates of term for the 2019 – 2020 session are:

Autumn term (Term 1): Saturday 28th September - Friday 13th December 2019
Spring term (Term 2): Saturday 4th January - Friday 20th March 2020
Summer term (Term 3): Saturday 25th April - Friday 26th June 2020

Please note that you are required to be in attendance during term time. Where necessary please arrange flights, holiday, work etc. well in advance to ensure that you comply with this College regulation. For more information, please go to the Registry website: [www.imperial.ac.uk/admin-services/registry/term-dates/](http://www.imperial.ac.uk/admin-services/registry/term-dates/)

Induction week
College-wide induction
Term starts on Saturday 28th September.

For all students living in Halls, you will be able to move in on Saturday 28th September. Please see the Accommodation website: [www.imperial.ac.uk/students/new-students/undergraduates/arrivals-and-induction/moving-into-halls/](http://www.imperial.ac.uk/students/new-students/undergraduates/arrivals-and-induction/moving-into-halls/) or email the office for more information: accommodation@imperial.ac.uk.

The weekend of the 28th - 29th of September will include a number of College led activities for new students, both for those in halls and those living at home.

Please see all events for all new students on: [www.imperial.ac.uk/students/new-students/welcome-week/undergraduate/](http://www.imperial.ac.uk/students/new-students/welcome-week/undergraduate/)

ID cards
If you are living in the Halls, your ID card will be sent there for you. If you are not living in the Halls, you will need to pick it up from the Department’s UG office, Huxley 649, after you start.

[www.imperial.ac.uk/mathematics/undergraduate/](http://www.imperial.ac.uk/mathematics/undergraduate/)

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Mathematics Department induction

Induction for all first year maths students will start on:

**Monday, September 30th at 9.30 in the Clore Lecture Theatre, Huxley Building, 2nd Floor**

The doors will be open from 9.15am, you are welcome to come early and start meeting some of your coursemates. You will be asked to sit with your personal tutor groups - you will be sent an email with specific information the Friday before, please look out for this! Please do not be late!

The Department will also be open the weekend of **28th-29th September** for you to stop by and pick up your welcome information early if you wish to. The UG Office will be open on Saturday 10am - 4pm and Sunday 10am to 2pm. The office is 649 in the Huxley Building (6th floor).

The first week will include welcome talks, important information on the degree programme, meeting your Personal Tutor in addition to social activities. **Your lectures and classes will also start this week.**

The induction programme will continue throughout the first few weeks, you will receive a full schedule the week before by email. The full induction schedule will also be posted online in September: [www.imperial.ac.uk/mathematics/undergraduate/](http://www.imperial.ac.uk/mathematics/undergraduate/)

Please contact maths-student-office@imperial.ac.uk with any concerns regarding the start of year.

1st Year Programme

1st Year Modules

The first year of all Imperial maths degrees, regardless of the coding, is the same. We want you to have a good foundation of knowledge enabling you to study more advanced maths in the later years.

Your first year programme will start with the module “Introduction to University Mathematics”. This intensive 4-week module will introduce you to the foundations of higher level mathematics. After this introduction, you will study the following core modules throughout the rest of the Autumn Term to the end of the Spring Term:

Core/compulsory topics (for all students):
- Analysis I
- Linear Algebra and Group Theory
- Calculus and Applications
- Probability and Statistics
- Introduction to Computing

In the Spring Term, you will also study the shorter module:
- Introduction to Applied Mathematics

Throughout the two Terms, you will have tests and assignments to help you gain feedback on your understanding. Final exams on all core modules will take place in the Summer Term. After exams, the Year 1 culminates in the “Individual Research Project”, a chance for you to delve deeper into a specific area of mathematics based on your interests and options from the project supervisors.

[www.imperial.ac.uk/mathematics/undergraduate/](http://www.imperial.ac.uk/mathematics/undergraduate/)
An example of a possible 1st year mathematics student’s Autumn Term week 6 timetable is shown below (weeks 1-4 will be dedicated to the Introductory Module). Please note that this is only an example to show the breakdown of lectures, etc.; the 2019-2020 timetable has not yet been finalised. Before you arrive you will be sent information on how to access your electronic timetable which will be populated with the core lectures and classes (some things will not appear on these calendars and you will need to add these yourself).

The teaching day for UGs runs weekdays from 9AM to 6PM (except Wednesdays where no teaching is scheduled for after 12noon). You could have classes or meetings scheduled at any time between these times. Although lectures and problems classes for Year 1 Maths students are all common, you will have individual times for tutorials/meetings, so you will need to make a note of these for yourself so as to not miss them.

In the sample timetable below, in yellow are the lectures and in green the problems classes for all students take. In orange are extra sessions that you will have scheduled individually at some point during the week, the time and place for these will change per student, below is just a possible example. In blue is the optional Imperial Horizons course (see more information later in this booklet). In addition, if taking a language as a G104 student or an extra English class for international students, you will have language classes to add into your schedule.

Free time is set for independent work on your studies and time to meet with other students for study groups. In addition, numerous activities/specialty lectures/careers events are scheduled throughout the year and you are encouraged to take full advantage of everything Imperial has to offer. One thing you will quickly learn is that time management is the key to everything!

Lectures and classes in the Department of Mathematics start at the designated time (on the hour) and generally end 10 minutes to the hour to enable time for breaks/movement from one room to another.

Sample Timetable Term 1, week 6

| Assessments in scheduled weeks take over other scheduled timeslots (computing may take over other computing tutorial sessions) |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 9-10 | 10-11 | 11-12 | 12-1 | 1-2 | 2-3 | 3-4 | 4-5 | 5-6 |
| Monday | Intro to Computing | Calculus and ... | Analysis I ... | Intro to Computing Tutorial | |
| Tuesday | Probability and Statistics | Calculus and ... | Analysis I ... | Problems Class | Problems Class | Horizons |
| Wednesday | Personal Tutorial | Probability and Statistics | Linear Algebra and ... | Sports/Societies, no classes | |
| Thursday | Linear Algebra and ... | Calculus and ... | Analysis I ... | Problems Class | Peer Tutorial |
| Friday | Probability and Statistics | Linear Algebra and ... | Language (G104) | Problems Class | |

Lectures in Yellow, Problems Classes in Green, Scheduled individually per week in Orange, Optional in Blue

Unscheduled time is for independent/group study

Learning at University

One thing you will quickly notice once you start at College is how different learning at university is to school.

In your lectures you will need to be taking good notes so that you can review these later, and although there are usually opportunities at the end to ask questions, most of your “work” and asking of questions will need to be done outside of lectures in your own time.

Many of your lecturers will use a Blackboard Learn page (the College VLE system) to display module information (eg. notes, problem sheets, recommended reading or pre-lecture reading material, links to video recordings), but some will use separate websites. Information will be given at the start of year lectures.

Your core modules will also include Problems Classes. The main purpose of the weekly classes is to discuss the lecture material and to sort out any difficulties arising from question sheets set by the lecturers. You can ask questions from the lecturer or PhD students in the sessions to help you, work with peers on questions, or just work quietly on your maths. At times you will also engage in group work or other interactive work in the classes, investigating the maths and working on questions together.

Each module will give you a number of problem sheets to tackle. It is very important to spend adequate time on these. You will probably have found Mathematics relatively easy at school or college. Don’t be surprised if you find that you need to work much harder at Mathematics at university, where the subject is more about problem solving and rigorous proof than about tackling routine exercises and calculations. Most students should expect to struggle with at least some of the questions we will give you. You will also find that you will need to work hard throughout the year and that last minute revision before the examinations will not be a recipe for success even if this was your strategy at school.

www.imperial.ac.uk/mathematics/undergraduate/
In the module "Introduction to Computing" you will learn to programme using Python. No previous computing experience is necessary. Programming is a useful tool for mathematics and you will use it in assignments in later years.

To help you with the transition from school to university level Mathematics, we try to give you as much support as possible in the first year. In addition to the problems classes, lecturers have office hours and you will have two small tutorials—one with your Personal Tutor, an academic, and one with a peer tutor, in which to go over questions in more depth. The best way to get the most out of your time here is to make sure you have done a lot of independent work before coming to these tutorials so that you can get the help you need, engage with the extra questions being asked, and know what to ask yourself.

Typically, you will need to spend around 40 hours per week on Mathematics (including lectures and tutorials). You will find, however, that solving problems and understanding concepts is more satisfying and productive without time constraints. As a previous student has said—first year is all about learning how to “struggle” with a question, to really understand how to break it down and solve it. We expect you to spend as much time as necessary to understand Mathematics. The hour guideline is set for the typical student, you may need less or more time to understand the material depending on your personal background, knowledge and engagement. The first year is as much about learning about yourself, the way you study, as well as it is about the Mathematics!

Imperial Horizons

The Imperial Horizons programme allows you to take a non-maths module from a number of different options, including modules such as: Entrepreneurship, Biomolecular Hacking, Sound Technology or Korean. The programme has been designed to broaden students' education and enhance their career prospects. It is a great opportunity to expand your knowledge (and CV!) and to meet new people. The modules run on Tuesdays from 4-6 PM and do not interfere with your maths lectures. Please read more about the programme on: www.imperial.ac.uk/horizons. You need to apply to the programme separately by October 7th 2019. You will take one I-Explore module (Horizons are included in these) for credit as part of your degree. www.imperial.ac.uk/study/ug/i-explore.

Year Abroad students (G104 coding)

Students taking the Year Abroad course G104 intending to go to one of our European partner universities need to have at least a GSCE (or equivalent) in their chosen language and they MUST register for classes in their chosen language as soon as possible after registration opens on 3rd September. More information can be found on: www.imperial.ac.uk/languages/year-in-europe

The enrolment form is through the Horizons page, on www.imperial.ac.uk/horizons/enrolment. You will need your CID number which is on the email you receive from College once you have accepted your offer of admission. Make sure you indicate that you are a Year Abroad Student on enrolment form.

Note that while in general you have to pass the language examinations at the end of Years 1 and 2 in order to stay on G104, your language examination results are not counted towards the Honours Marks of your Mathematics degree.

Our current Year Abroad programme options also include a year at MIT. Students interested in this option will be asked to apply separately in Year 2 to be accepted. Limited spaces are available.

International Students

If you are an international student and your first language is not English, studying mathematics in English, especially if doing so for the first time, can be a challenge.

To support you, special English language classes are offered to students in Term 1. Students will be selected to attend based on a language test. You may also wish to request to join the classes.

The Centre for Academic English also offers evening and lunch-time classes to support students. These are free to attend and are an excellent way to hone down your language skills. www.imperial.ac.uk/academic-english
Contacts in the Department

Director of Undergraduate Studies:
Professor David Evans
Professor Evans oversees the academic side of the undergraduate experience. He can be emailed at david.evans@imperial.ac.uk

Senior Tutor: Dr Chris Ford
The Senior Tutor oversees student welfare and student progression including interruptions of study. He is also the Disabilities Officer in the Department. Dr Ford can be emailed at ma.st@imperial.ac.uk

Year 1 Tutor: Davoud Cheraghi
The Year 1 Tutor works with the Senior Tutor to oversee their year. You should contact the Year Tutor with any concerns about absences, missing tests/courseworks due to illness, and personal academic progression.

Undergraduate Liaison Officer:
Mrs Inkeri Hibbins
The UG Liaison Officer helps with student support services in the Department. Students can see Inkeri at any point for either welfare or academic issues. You can find her in the Huxley Building in room 632, or she can be emailed at i.hibbins@imperial.ac.uk

Student Experience Coordinator:
Ms Sai Yoghananthan
The Student Experience Coordinator works closely with the Student Wellbeing reps, MathSoc and student leadership and activities initiatives. She can be emailed at s.yoghananthan@imperial.ac.uk.

Undergraduate Office - Huxley Building 649
The UG Office is the student hub for all UG students studying in the Maths Department. They deal with a range of student enquires which include:

- General enquires relating to student studies and the Department
- Module and programme registrations
- Information on examinations
- Handing in and pick-up of coursework
- Help with College IT systems such as Blackboard, Student e-Service, Outlook Calendar
- Requests for important letters such as reference requests
- Illness forms and mitigation requests
- Timetabling and room bookings
- Student record enquires/changes such as change of degree code applications
- Collection of ID cards (at the start of the academic year)

Please come and see us between the hours of 9.30am – 4.30pm Monday to Friday or you can email the Office at maths-student-office@imperial.ac.uk.

Education Office Manager: Ms Helen Haines
The Education Office Manager manages the Undergraduate Office, and is also responsible for the academic timetabling, running of the examinations, and the student record keeping for the Department. If you have any enquiries on these areas of work please email Helen on h.haines@imperial.ac.uk.

Undergraduate Teaching Administrator: Mrs Donna Pile-Grant
The Undergraduate Teaching Assistant primarily deals with students studying in their 3rd and 4th years. Donna can be emailed on d.pile-grant@imperial.ac.uk

Undergraduate Office Administrative Assistant: Miss Valerie Nicol
The Undergraduate Office Administrative Assistant primarily deals with students studying in the 1st and 2nd years. Valerie can be emailed on v.nicol@imperial.ac.uk

Admissions and Exams Administrator: Ms Gertrud Levit
The Exams Officer looks after the running of the yearly examinations in May/June and during that period can be emailed on g.levit@imperial.ac.uk
Getting ready for independent work

One of the biggest changes from school to university is the amount of independence you have around your learning - you will need to manage your time, your work and consolidating and practicing your knowledge and skills. The work at Imperial is demanding and fast-paced. Even in topics you are already familiar with, you may be presented with very challenging problems. So it is very important that you consolidate and practice your knowledge of mathematics before you arrive. This is particularly important if you have had a gap year. Students also find that university-level mathematics involves a different way of thinking about the subject. When you come to university, be prepared to challenge yourself and your thinking. You are here to learn and learning often comes from learning from your mistakes.

The College has an online resource for learning and study skills tips - take a look on: www.imperial.ac.uk/students/success-guide/ug/.

What to review prior to arrival

We expect you to have a very good understanding of school mathematics when you start at Imperial. Included in the mailing you received this booklet in, you will have been sent a list of topics we recommend you refresh your memory on prior to the start of term. Most will hopefully be very familiar, however, some may even be new to you. Students come to Imperial with different educational qualifications and we know that certain topics are not covered by everybody at school, so some of these topics may be revised briefly in lectures during the first few weeks.

To make the start of your course a lot easier, you are urged to:

1) study anything unfamiliar on the “topics to review” list and practice any which you are not confident with

2) watch the short introductory videos made by current students for you on these topics. You will have been sent a link by email to access the videos. If you haven’t received this, please email i.hibbins@imperial.ac.uk to request this and make sure to include your CID number in the email.

We like to say that “mathematics is not a spectator sport”. The best way to learn maths is to do maths. The videos and supplementary material will include some basic problems for you to try out.

How to solve the question may not be self-evident, so take some time to think about it. Pause the videos/write out the problems, think about what they are asking, and what methods and knowledge you have to solve the question.

Don’t worry if you can’t do all of them, you will go through them once you come to College. But do try them out, get your brain working again after a nice long summer break!

Recommended Reading

If you have a bit of extra time over the break, a few excellent books, which will help you to prepare for the different style of mathematics that you will study here, are:


This book is an excellent support for your first year mathematics programme and will be referred to in your Introduction to University Mathematics module.


How to Think Like a Mathematician by Kevin Houston, published by Cambridge University Press (ISBN: 978 052 171 9780)

Lecturers will usually recommend a selection of books at the start of a module. These will generally be available in the main College Library or can be ordered if necessary. Through the library you will also have access to numerous e-journals, e-books and newspapers.

Computer/Calculator?

Some of you may be thinking about buying a new calculator or computer. Although a simple calculator can be useful for some coursework, you will not be allowed to use calculators in exams and any complex calculations are better done using programming. The Department has desktop computers for use by students, although many also find it useful to have their own laptop.

For information about computing facilities in the College and the purchase of machines and/or software go to www.imperial.ac.uk/ict. College will send you details of how to activate your College Computer Account before you arrive.
Getting around campus

All maths lectures and classes primarily take place in the Huxley Building at 180 Queen’s Gate.

The main lecture theatre for 1st Year lectures is the Clore Lecture Theatre, on the 2nd floor. This is on the right hand side on the same level you enter the building from on Queen’s Gate.

Problems Classes usually take place on the 3rd floor of the Huxley Building, in Rooms 340, 341 and 342.

The two main Departmental rooms undergraduates can use for working and relaxation are the Maths Common Room (sofas, board games, computers, tables, whiteboards for working on) on the 2nd floor next to the Clore, and the Maths Learning Centre (MLC) on level 4 (main computer room with additional tables for individual work, small side rooms for tutorials and a small soft seated area). There are also two other smaller computer rooms, 408 and 410, that students can use. 410 is designated as a silent work area.

Most of the maths academic and administrative staff offices are on levels 5, 6, 6M and 7 of Huxley Building; although as we are a large department, a few of your tutors may be in different buildings around South Kensington. The Mathematical Finance section is located in Weeks Building.

Please see: www.imperial.ac.uk/media/imperial-college/visit/public/SouthKensingtonCampus.pdf for the South Kensington Campus Map. The Huxley Building is point number 13.

Social Activities in the Department

The Department’s Mathematics Society, MathSoc, run by undergraduates, organises social and careers events and talks by visiting speakers. Look out for regular activities and special events like the annual Christmas Dinner.

Plus! is an informal lunch time club which meets several times a term to chat about interesting and unusual mathematical problems. If you took part in the Mathematics Olympiads in the past, you may be interested in joining Plus!

The UG Colloquium is a weekly lecture series run by undergraduates for undergraduates. Come and listen to talks about independent research your fellow students are undertaking (or just an interesting problem they have come across and looked into), or present a talk of your own! The Colloquium also organises the joint Warwick and Imperial Maths Conference, WIMP.

Women in Maths get-togethers take place biweekly and hold talks from academics and alumni in an informal social atmosphere.

Other events such as wellbeing events and research and inspirational talks by academics will take place regularly, look out for advertisements and come along to hear something new and meet other students and staff.

Look out for all of the external activities happening in the Union (clubs and societies) or talks and workshops around College: imperial talks and events (open to the public), careers events, workshops and events at the Enterprise Lab, and of course if living in Halls, you will have Halls events to enjoy.

And don’t forget that you are in the heart of London - enjoy your surroundings, with the V&A, Science Museum, Natural History Museum, Royal Albert Hall, Hyde Park and other great locations just minutes away - make sure you take some down time to enjoy your other passions besides maths!

The Union’s Mums and Dads scheme is one where new first year students are placed into a “maths family” with older students acting as the “parents” - a great way to get the “insider” information on the course and College! Sign up on the Union website. A special family welcome activity will take place in the first week of term.
FAQ: Who do I go to help with...?

Trouble settling in/adjusting to life at University

Your Personal Tutor is your main point of contact on most issues, especially settling in at University. If you have any concerns/feeling low/homesick, not settling in/meeting people, make sure to speak with your Personal Tutor or the UG Liaison Officer. If you are living in the Halls, you should also speak with your Hall Senior or Warden. Just make sure you talk to someone! Also, if you notice any of your friends feeling low, encourage them to speak to someone.

Computer / IT issue

The ICT Helpdesk on the 4th floor of Sherfield can help with most issues. Their website is www.imperial.ac.uk/admin-services/ict - you should log your support query via the website form to ensure the right person responds.

Language Support

Your Personal Tutor can help you identify any concerns with your language skills, and may refer you to the Centre for Academic English. The Centre for Academic English offers short intensive evening classes—please take a look on www.imperial.ac.uk/academic-english/current-students/undergraduate. For international First Year students, an English support module runs throughout the year. If you have not been asked to attend the module based on your English test results, but would like to do so, please contact the Undergraduate Liaison Officer.

Disability Advisory Service

If you have a registered disability/a long term health issue or if you had special arrangements during school exams, please do let us know as soon as possible (please fill out and return the form on the last page). It is important that the College has all of the paperwork in place in order to support you in the most appropriate manner. Specific advice is available on the Disability Advisory Service Website: www.imperial.ac.uk/disabilityadvisoryservice, or by email disabilities@imperial.ac.uk.

The Senior Tutor, Dr Ford, is the Department's Disability Officer for UG students and can help you to identify your support needs. You will be asked to meet with the Disability Advisory Service and depending on your needs support options will be reviewed. You can also speak with the UG Liaison Officer.

Learning Difficulties

Your Personal Tutor or UG Liaison Officer may identify any issues you may have, but this will be referred to the Senior Tutor. We will then work with the College Disability Advice Service to identify your needs and provide support where available.

Health issues interfering with studies (body or mind)

You should alert your Personal Tutor or the UG Liaison Officer as soon as you can; this will be discussed with the Senior Tutor to help assess the likely impact on your studies. All students should make sure that they are registered with a Doctor either at the Imperial College Health Centre (if living in campus accommodation/in the catchment area) or near their home. Contact the Health Centre via: www.imperialcollegehealthcentre.co.uk/ and phone: 020 7584 6301. The Health Centre has triage clinics for urgent issues every weekday morning from 8:30 to 10AM. The College has a Counselling service that is free for students to use: www.imperial.ac.uk/counselling/ contact them via email for appointments: counselling@imperial.ac.uk. There is also a Dental Clinic on campus—call 020 7589 6623 for information.

Stress

Your Personal Tutor can discuss your concerns, as well as the UG Liaison Officer or the Senior Tutor, and we can help you to find possible solutions. The College runs a number of stress management workshops—information will be sent on email. The Health Centre has helpful information on their website: www.imperialcollegehealthcentre.co.uk/exams-and-stress/. You may also contact the Student Counselling Service for support, www.imperial.ac.uk/counselling/.

Absence from college

If you are absent for one or two days, you can self-certify your absence. For three or more days you must inform your Year Tutor, and for a week or more you must request permission from the Senior Tutor. Where this is due to mitigating circumstances, and where this interferes with an assessment, you must complete a Mitigating Circumstances form (more information on forms will be given at start of year).
Course concerns

If there are any potential concerns with your course of study, be it content, difficulty or structure of deadlines and/or workload, the Director of Undergraduate Studies, Professor David Evans, is happy to discuss the concerns with you. Your Student Year Reps and Departmental Representative and the UG Liaison Officer are also here to help liaise between the students and the staff, so you can always approach them with concerns over the academic programme.

Financial troubles

Your Personal Tutor can discuss your concerns with you. You should also visit the Student Hub to talk to someone in the Student Financial Support office, www.imperial.ac.uk/fees-and-funding for assistance. There may be hardship funds available depending on your circumstances. The Union Advice Centre can help with financial concerns as well, including debt advice: advice@imperial.ac.uk. You should discuss the situation with the Senior Tutor or the UG Liaison Officer if the situation is severe and is affecting your studies.

If you are studying full-time, the College recommends that you do not work part-time during term time so that you can fully concentrate on your studies. Many students work in the summer to help pay for expenses during the year. If you do need to work during term time, the College advice is to work no more than 10–15 hours per week, which should be principally at weekends and not within normal College working hours so as to not interfere with your lectures and classes. Please be careful with your time and ask for help if you are finding that work is interfering with your studies. Your primary objective while at Imperial should be your academics!

References

Your Personal Tutor is your primary referee, so you should make sure that they know you well enough to write a reference for you. Other good people to ask for references are: Project Supervisors (especially Year 2, 3 and 4 project supervisors) and the Year Tutor. The Senior Tutor may provide a reference if you are unable to gain a reference from any of the above. You should always make sure you ask people who know you well and thus can write a good reference for you.
We look forward to meeting you on 30th September at 9.30am in the Clore (doors open at 9.15am) for the start of the UG Maths Programme.

Reminder - the UG Office in Huxley 649 will also be open 10am-4pm on Saturday 28th September and 10am-2pm on Sunday 29th September for you to pick up your welcome information.