



BRITISH ACADEMY

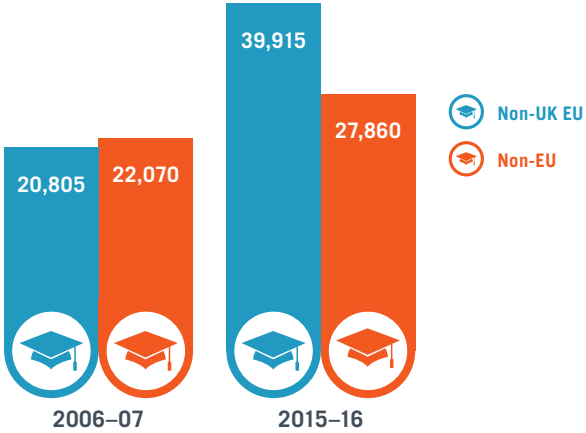
INTERNATIONAL STAFF AND STUDENTS IN UK HIGHER EDUCATION

SUMMARY

The UK higher education sector attracts staff and students from all over the world. This diversity creates a vibrant environment for work and study and is fundamental to the UK's excellence in research and innovation and the global competitiveness of our universities. In this leaflet, we show how the academic workforce and student body in different disciplines draw on individuals from outside the UK.

STAFF

In the last 10 years, UK higher education has attracted increasing numbers of staff from outside the UK.



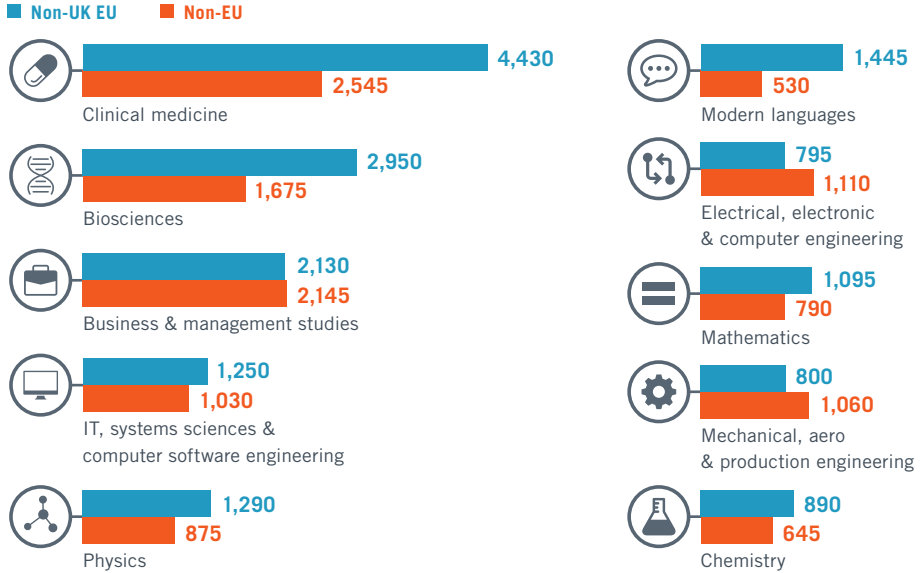
From 2006-07 to 2015-16, the number of non-UK European Union (EU) staff increased by

92%

Over the same period, non-EU staff numbers have risen by 26% and UK staff by 11%

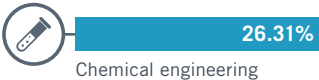
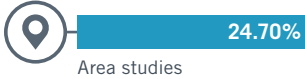
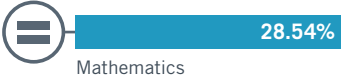
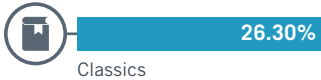
Total number of staff from outside the UK

Most of the disciplines recruiting the largest total number of staff from outside the UK are non-humanities and social sciences (HSS) disciplines, with the exception of Business & management studies and Modern languages.



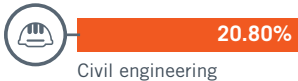
Top ten disciplines by number of staff from outside the UK 2015-16

However, many of the disciplines with the largest proportion of staff from the non-UK EU staff fall within the humanities and social sciences.



Top ten disciplines by proportion of non-UK EU staff 2015–16

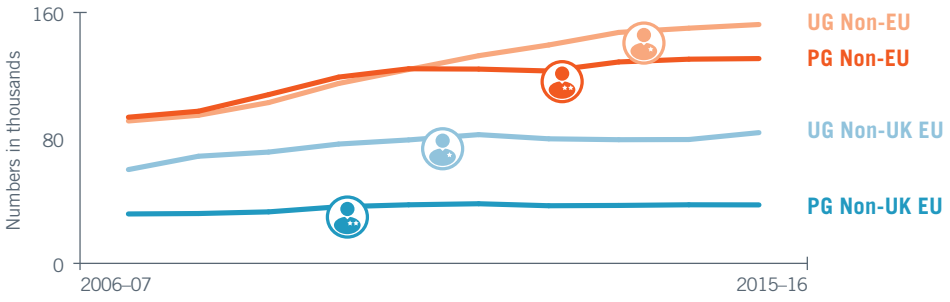
Conversely, the disciplines with the largest proportion of staff from outside the European Union are mostly non-HSS disciplines.



Top ten disciplines by proportion of non-EU staff 2015–16

STUDENTS

UK universities have attracted growing numbers of students from outside the UK over the last 10 years. In the academic year 2015–16, 37% of postgraduates and 10% of undergraduates were from outside the EU. Non-UK EU students made up 10% of all postgraduates and 5% of all undergraduates.



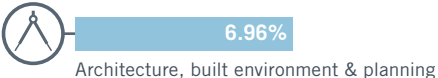
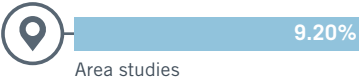
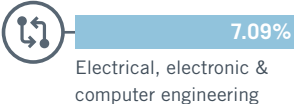
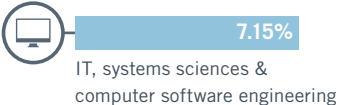
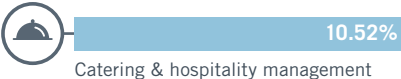
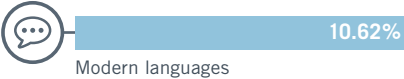
Student numbers 2006–07 to 2015–16

Business & management studies recruits the largest number of students from outside the UK at both undergraduate and postgraduate level, by some margin. The other subject areas with the largest number of students from outside the UK represent a range of disciplines.

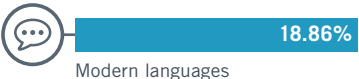
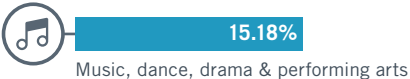
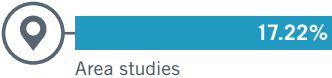
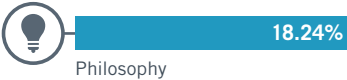
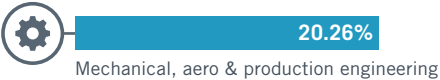
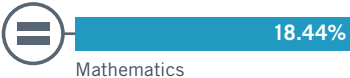


Top ten disciplines by number of students from outside the UK 2015–16

But when students from outside the UK are considered as a proportion of the total student body, the picture changes. Of the disciplines with the highest proportion of non-UK EU students, seven out of ten at undergraduate level and six out of ten at postgraduate level, are in the arts, humanities and social sciences.

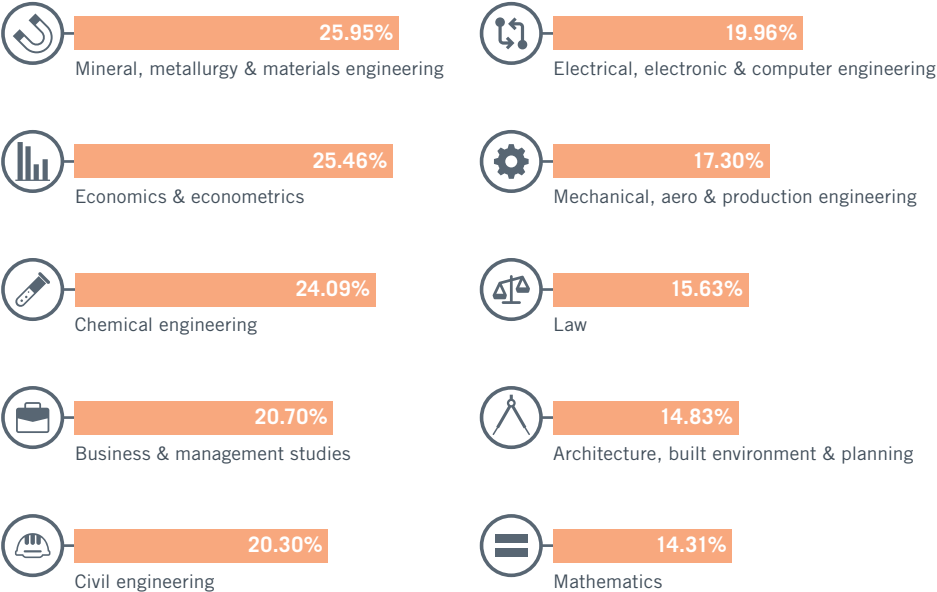


Top ten disciplines by proportion of non-UK EU undergraduate students 2015–16

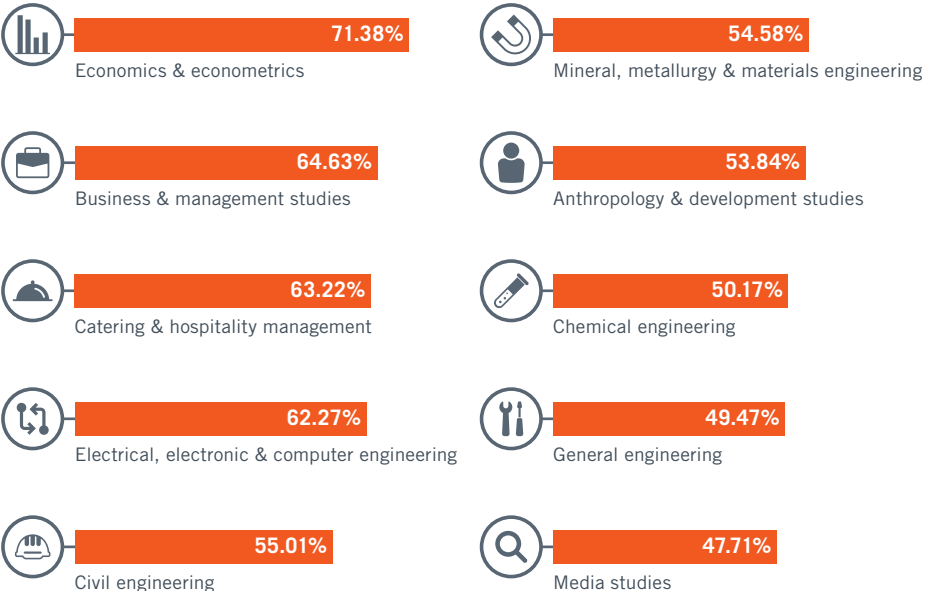


Top ten disciplines by proportion of non-UK EU postgraduate students 2015–16

For students from outside the EU, engineering disciplines dominate the tables, but humanities and social sciences also feature strongly, particularly Economics & econometrics and Business & management studies.



Top ten disciplines by proportion of non-EU undergraduate students 2015–16



Top ten disciplines by proportion of non-EU postgraduate students 2015–16

ABOUT THE DATA

This publication is based on aggregated data commissioned from the Higher Education Statistics Agency (HESA)* on full-time equivalent (FTE) staff and students at UK higher education providers between the academic years 2006–07 and 2015–16. FTE gives an indication of volume of activity, as it measures an individual's workload compared to a standard full-time, full-year workload.

Given the remit of the British Academy, the HESA datasets have been categorised and analysed from the perspectives of humanities and social sciences (HSS) and other non-HSS disciplines on the basis of HESA cost centres. EU figures do not include UK staff and student numbers. 'Non-EU' refers to nationals of countries outside the EU and UK. Student data are divided into postgraduate and undergraduate categories.

HSS disciplines

Anthropology & development studies
Archaeology
Area studies
Business & management studies
Catering & hospitality management
Classics
Continuing education
Economics & econometrics
Education
English language & literature
Geography & environmental studies
History
Law
Media studies
Modern languages
Philosophy
Politics & international studies
Social work & social policy
Sociology
Sports science & leisure studies
Theology & religious studies

Non-HSS disciplines

Agriculture, forestry & food science
Anatomy & physiology
Architecture, built environment & planning
Art & design
Biosciences
Chemical engineering
Chemistry
Civil engineering
Clinical dentistry
Clinical Medicine
Earth, marine & environmental sciences
Electrical, electronic & computer engineering
General engineering
Health & community studies
IT, systems sciences & computer software
Mathematics
Mechanical, aero & production engineering
Mineral, metallurgy & materials engineering
Music, dance, drama & performing arts
Nursing & allied health professions
Pharmacy & pharmacology
Physics
Psychology & behavioural sciences
Veterinary science




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The British Academy, established by Royal Charter in 1902, champions and supports the humanities and social sciences across the UK and internationally. It aims to inspire, recognise and support excellence and high achievement across the UK and internationally. As a Fellowship of over 900 UK humanities scholars and social scientists, elected for their distinction in research, the Academy is an independent and self-governing organisation, in receipt of public funding. Views expressed in this booklet are not necessarily shared by each individual Fellow, but are commended as contributing to public debate.

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