A GUIDE FOR
OFFER HOLDERS
2016

WARWICK
ECONOMICS
On Tuesday 12th January 2016, Sir Vince Cable visited Warwick to give a talk on whether we’re heading for a fresh economic crisis. The talk, hosted by Warwick Policy Lab and the Warwick Economics Summit, took place in a packed lecture room with students and staff from across the University in attendance.

Sir Vince Cable, a British politician who was the Secretary of State for Business, Innovation, and Skills from 2010 to 2015, discussed the 2008 financial crisis, referring to himself as the “Politician in opposition in the beginning of the financial crisis”. He then went on to offer his thoughts on the current economic environment, and turned to the “four legacies” that he saw prevailing in the current economic environment; substantial deleveraging, gigantic banking system, corporate finance and housing price rise.

The event gives you the chance to engage with politicians, policy makers and academics on major issues. Over 1,000 students and guests took their seats to watch this year’s panel, which included The Right Honourable Hazel Blears, Vicky Pryce, and also saw the return of Douglas Carswell, the only UKIP Member of Parliament, who featured on the panel in 2013 when he was a Conservative MP.

Siobhan Benita, event chair and Co-director of the Warwick Policy Lab, said:

“We covered a whole range of issues; everything from how should the European Union more effectively handle the refugee crisis, to whether the problems in China with its stock market has an impact on the global economy. We also had an interesting debate about what the election of Jeremy Corbyn to the Labour leadership actually means in terms of what young people are thinking about politics going forward.”

Following the event our students had the opportunity to talk with the panellists at a drinks reception.

Sir Vince Cable discusses the economy in Warwick Policy Lab guest lecture

To all our offer holders, We’re absolutely delighted to have been able to offer you a place to study Economics at Warwick.

Economics at Warwick is one of the best in the UK, ranked 3rd by The Times and Sunday Times Good University Guide 2016, and 2nd by the Complete University Guide 2016. Not only has our teaching been ranked as outstanding, with full marks in the most recent national teaching quality review, we also received an overall satisfaction score of 91% in the latest National Student Survey. We hope this magazine will give you a flavour of what it’s like to study here. We attract students from all around the world due to our reputation for offering rigorous and exciting training. Our aim is to ensure that not only will you graduate with a degree from one of the best Economics departments, but that you’ll reach your full potential during your time here. We offer a community that challenges and supports you in equal measure, that fosters your desire to ask questions – of yourself and of the world around you.

With best wishes,

Professor Abhinay Muthoo
Focus on academia

Dr Claire Crawford

Background
I studied Economics at the University of Lancaster and did a Masters at UCL. I then joined the Institute for Fiscal Studies, working my way up to lead the education and skills team. I undertook my PhD part-time while I was at IFS and joined Warwick in 2014.

Research
I focus on the economics of education and labour economics. I work a lot on higher education access and finance issues, and I am particularly interested in topics that identify – and ideally can point to solutions for – inequalities in outcomes. I address questions like how we can help people from disadvantaged backgrounds go to university, and the financial implications of changes to grants, loans and fees for students, universities and the government.

Achievements
My top achievements are becoming head of the education and skills team at IFS, and being offered a position at Warwick. I never pictured myself in academia – I thought I’d go to the city to do finance. A lot of students go into economics with a narrow view of where it might lead them - I certainly did - and I think it’s important to ensure we equip students with the skills to tackle a whole range of careers.

Teaching
I teach 3rd year microeconometrics. At the end of my course, I want students to be able to apply what they’ve learnt in the real world, so I use lots of empirical examples. In particular, I hope students leave my course knowing how to conduct an evaluation of a government programme if they were ever asked to do one.

Warwick
I really like the campus, particularly the fact that it’s so much a part of the local community, unlike some other campus universities.

ECO\NOMIC BRIEFINGS PROJECT
We’ve pioneered a project where you can gain an empirical awareness of macroeconomic data and the ability to understand how to interpret, present and comment on the latest economic releases from countries around the world – all as a first year undergraduate.

The Economics Briefings Project enables you to gain new skills and hands-on practical experience in data analysis and the application of Economics to the real world. It will give you something extra to talk about when you go on to apply for jobs.

MY TOP MODULE
Econometrics is the most challenging module I’ve ever studied. The mathematical understanding, computer analysis, and intuitive thinking required, has pushed my mind and abilities to their limits and beyond. However, despite the regular lamenting, it’s by far one of the most interesting things I’ve studied in my academic career.

Analysing data sets sounds dry, but believe me the surface when you comprehend statistics that can show gender differences in pay, or the affluence of ethnic minorities, or even the probability of going to a lecture based on a model, you begin to realise how fascinating maths can be. It goes beyond solving x, or squaring y. Metrics applies maths to the real world, and paints an empirical picture of what’s right or wrong with the world we live in.

Written by Daniel Ajiteru
2nd year Economics

www2.warwick.ac.uk/fac/soc/economics/current/modules/ec226/
**Focus on Extracurricular activities**

On top of an advanced education in Economics, we offer a wide range of extracurricular activities to enrich your student experience. There are activities run by both the department and the Students’ Union societies such as Warwick Economics Society and Warwick Economics Summit.

Our students also run their own high-profile events such as the Warwick Economics Summit and the Warwick International Development Summit.

**WARWICK ECONOMICS SUMMIT**

The Warwick Economics Summit is one of the largest student-run academic conferences in Europe. Set apart from the rest by world-renowned figures, engaging debates and educational workshops touching on a range of global and economic issues, including politics, development and finance.

This year’s speakers included Enrico Letta, former Prime Minister of Italy, Mark Littlewood, Director General of the Institute of Economic Affairs, and Michael Moller, Director General for the United Nations Office at Geneva.

**WARWICK POLICY LAB**

**Warwick Policy Lab** is an exciting project which aims to bring academics and policy makers closer together and to produce research and analysis that will have measurable impact.

The Policy Lab is based within the Economics Department. As a student you’ll benefit through the opportunity to attend all the guest lectures. Still to come in this year’s lecture series are Dr Kanayo F. Nwanze, President of the International Fund for Agricultural Development, Jeremy Wright, Attorney General for England and Wales, and Ciaran Martin, Director General for Cyber Security at GCHQ.

**WARWICK ECONOMICS SOCIETY AND WARWICK FINANCE SOCIETIES**

Our Warwick Economics Society offers a wealth of opportunities for you to learn, socialise and focus on your career. It’s an excellent platform to meet and network with your fellow students with similar interests. Sponsors such as Nomura, Citi and Bank of America Merrill Lynch allow the society to host events with top speakers and insights into a variety of different career pathways.

**Warwick Finance Societies** has a unique set of sub-societies specialising in different aspects of financial services. These range from Commercial Law to Warwick Women in Finance. Last year they ran over 120 events so if you have any interest in finance this is the society for you.

**DEPARTMENT SOCIALS AND TRIPS**

At Warwick Economics we’re really focused on giving you the best possible student experience. Our recent socials have included a quiz night for our first and second year students, and a night of curry and entertainment for our finalists, which included performances from the Warwick Big Band Society and a DJ.

**LIFE AS A WARWICK ECONOMICS STUDENT**

The best people to tell you what life is really like studying Economics at Warwick are our current students. Here we’ve given you a few tasters and you can read all the student blogs and case studies online.

**Bhargav Bharadwaj**

1st year Economics student from India, discusses the Economics Mentor Scheme.

“My mentors have been my best source for obtaining inside information (i.e. what you will not hear from the department/faculty) about many things: tips for first years, societies and sports clubs to join, how to go about first year (with emphasis on the fact that it is the best time in Uni to let my hair down), examination/test patterns, about choosing seminar groups etc.”

Read Bhargav’s full blog.

**Vincent Goode**

4th year Economics student from the UK, discusses his year abroad in Monash, Australia.

“Prior to my year abroad, any queries I had were dealt with and I felt extremely prepared before leaving to Australia. I also received advice from my personal tutor once we discussed my decision to go abroad. In Australia, I had constant communication with Warwick and have been able to deal with any issues extremely quickly.

It’s a unique opportunity to immerse yourself in another culture.”

Read the rest of Vincent’s case study, including how he travelled 15,000km in a second-hand car!

**Martin Li**

2nd year Economics student from the UK discusses the course.

“I thought that reading an economics degree wasn’t ‘what I’d do the more ‘traditional’ economics subjects alone; just looking at inflation and unemployment, for example. So it was a pleasant surprise to see the structure of the course being so diverse; I can tell you anything from how China grew in the 12th century to why firms irrationally spend millions on advertising.”

See what else Martin thinks about studying at Warwick.

**see what other students have to say about studying at warwick**

- **Cassandra Ignat**
  2nd year Economics student from Romania
- **Amanda Dadmon**
  1st year Economics student from Scotland
- **Will Hamilton**
  2nd year Economics student from England
- **Shivani Bagdai**
  2nd year Economics, Politics and International Studies student from India
Remember
If you have received decisions from all your UCAS university choices by 31 March, then you must decide on your Firm and Insurance choices by 4 May.
If, however, you receive all of your decisions by 5 May, then you will need to select your Firm and Insurance choices by 8 June.

If you have any queries about studying at the University of Warwick, please don’t hesitate to get in touch.

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