

Hello and let me welcome you to the University of Warwick and specifically to the economics department. My name is Jeremy Smith and I'm the head of department.

The economics department is widely regarded as one of the strongest economic departments in the country, and we've achieved this because of the people in the department, the people, is made up of you. The students that we managed to attract on onto our degree courses who are not only incredibly bright but are individuals who want to contribute to university life. And society more broadly. I'm honestly in total awe of the energy and ability of the students I interact with on a regular basis over the course of the academic year. Additionally, it's my academic colleagues who produce a research which is contributing to a deeper understanding of modern economies. And how they can adapt to future challenges. And they're also helping deliver rigorous and demanding modules to train the next generation of economists. The third group of people, are the professional support services in the department who ensure that things run smoothly for both yourselves and for me. Beyond this, when I'm not dealing with the administration of the department and representing the Department of the University, and beyond. I am also the lecturer on the modules statistical techniques B which is taught in term one for year one students Computing and data analysis, and we'll be talking about this and I will be talking about this to you early in the coming term.

And I'm also the lecturer on the compulsory year two module econometrics one. My research interests are twofold, I have worked in the area of economics of higher education, actually looking at the outcome of students on their degree courses, but almost also interested in time series econometrics and looking at forecast evaluation. If we now think about the economics department, this is going to be your home for the next three years or so, and we hope you have a very enjoyable time with us. We want you to make the most of your time by acquiring lots of subject specific and general skills which will serve you well when you move on from Warwick. It's time at Warwick will clearly be challenging for you in many ways. Be that settling into a new country, settling into university, the subjects of economics, the forming of and breaking of relationships as well as personal tragedies, which some unfortunately will experience. However, we are here to help and support you through your time with us, and that might be through the undergraduate office, which is headed by Jo Turrall, the undergraduate management team, which is headed by Elizabeth Jones. Or the student support team, which is headed by Amira Elasra. We're incredibly fortunate in economics to have students from around the world and have so many different cultures represented, and I hope over the time with us you get to meet and engage with as wide a collection of people as possible, as it'll be these people from their different backgrounds and their different life experiences, which will also be your support network. And will help turn you into a global citizen who can hopefully go out and make a difference irrespective of whatever you decide to do when you move on after Warwick. So just to finish up. It's again to welcome you into the department and hope you have a great experience during our time with us.

Thank you very much.