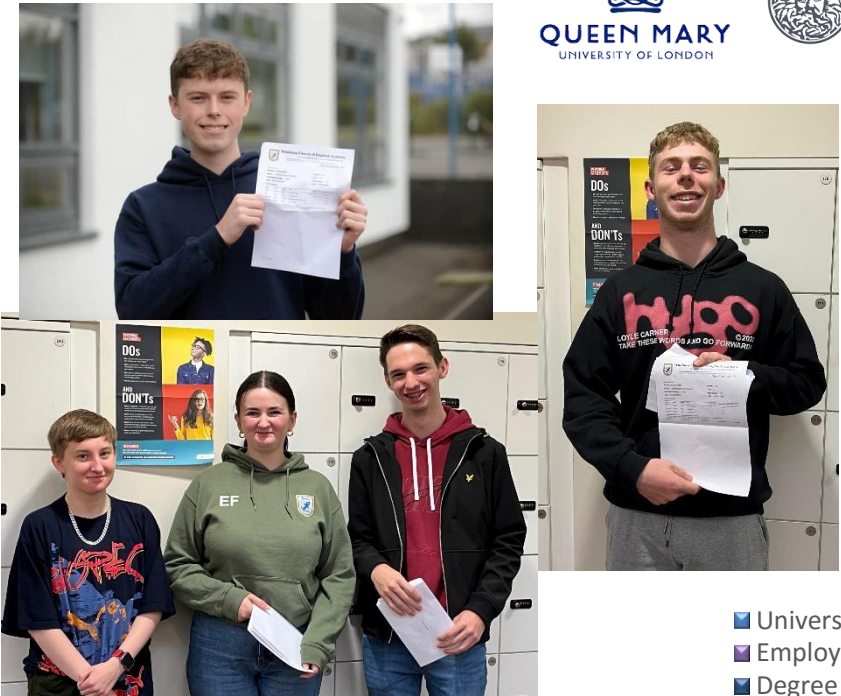


Our students gained places at...

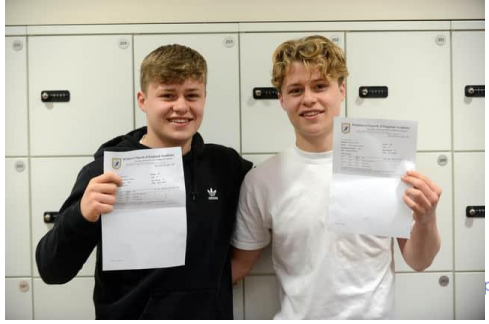


- University
- Employment
- Degree Apprenticeships
- Gap Year
- Military
- Apprenticeship
- NEET

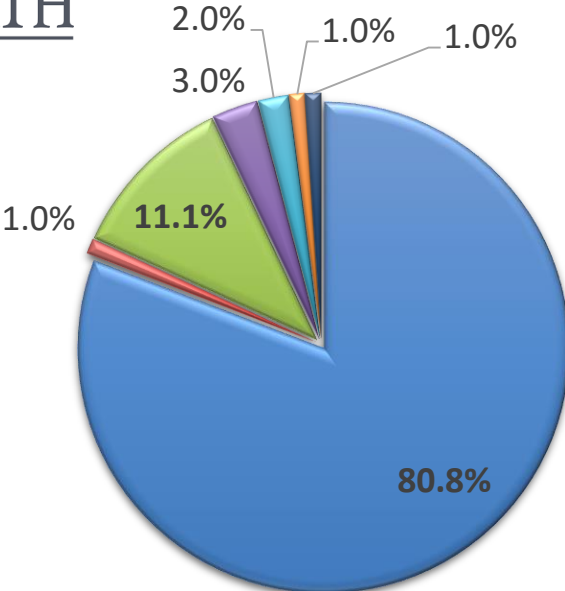
Our students gained positions with...



To study...



2023 Destinations





Applying for a place in Higher Education in 2024

Mr L Craggs Oct 2023



Headlines from this year's university enrolments

A record low proportion landed their 'firm' place – driven by 18 year-olds with worse than expected A level results.

However, with insurance offers up and the highest ever number successfully going through clearing, the proportion of England's 18 year-olds eventually placed at a higher tariff provider is up slightly on last year.

In terms of subject popularity, one notable trend has been an increase in the proportion of 18 year-old applicants accepted onto courses in computing and law.

HEI	TOTAL
Northumbria	101
Newcastle University	79
University of Sunderland	76
Leeds Beckett	33
University of Leeds	26
University of York	24
York St John University	18
University of Manchester	15
Durham University	14
Manchester Metropolitan	13
Heriot-Watt, Edinburgh	10
University of Nottingham	10
Lancaster University	7
University of Liverpool	7
University of Sheffield	7
Sheffield Hallam	7
Teesside University	7

Destinations of students from our first six cohorts since opening. Our students tend to stay local, in the ‘big northern cities’.

Many of the 130+ universities are represented here though.









In purple are the members of the ‘Russell Group’ of universities.

HEI	TOTAL
Nottingham Trent	6
University of Glasgow	6
University of Cambridge	5
Newcastle College University Centre	4
University of Hull	4
Leeds Trinity	4
Cumbria	3
Edge Hill	3
UCFB	3
University of Birmingham	3
University of Exeter	3
Edinburgh Napier	2
Hull-York Medical School	2
Liverpool Hope	2
Liverpool John Moores	2
Loughborough	2
University of Stirling	2
University of Bristol	2
University of Oxford	2
University of St Andrews	2
Queen Mary, UoL	2
University of Leicester	2

HEI	TOTAL
Cardiff University	1
Aston University, Birmingham	1
Central Lancashire (UCLAN)	1
City, University of London	1
Coventry University	1
Essex	1
Imperial College London	1
Kings College London	1
Kingston University	1
Leeds Arts University	1
Norwich University of the Arts	1
Oxford Brookes	1
Reading	1
SOAS	1
Swansea	1
The Northern School of Art	1
University College London (UCL)	1
University of Bath	1
University of Derby	1
University of Edinburgh	1
University of Gloucester	1
University of Kent	1
University of Lincoln	1
University of Warwick	1
University of Winchester	1

Do we over-focus on the Russell Group?

The Russell Group describes a group of 24 ‘research-intensive’ universities that receive greater funding. We often hear from parents that they want their young person to go to a Russell Group university.

	 Durham University	 UNIVERSITY OF CAMBRIDGE	 Newcastle University	 THE LONDON SCHOOL OF ECONOMICS AND POLITICAL SCIENCE	 Aston University BIRMINGHAM UK	 Lancaster University	 Loughborough University	 York St John University
	Durham	Cambridge	Newcastle	LSE	Aston	Lancaster	Loughborough	YSJ
Russell Group?	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No	No	No
TEF Rating	Gold	Gold	Gold	Bronze	Gold	Gold	Gold	Bronze
Completeuniversityguide.co.uk ranking 2024	8 (down 2)	1	30 (up 6)	3	41 (up 7)	10 (up 1)	7	107 (down 4)
Student Satisfaction	78%	n/a	74%	78%	77%	80%	80%	80%
Graduate Prospects	86%	91%	79%	87%	79%	79%	84%	60%
UCAS Points equivalent for entry	185	209	151	195	134	153	160	119
Top Ten for...	30 incl. [whole range]	42 incl. [whole range]	12 incl. S< Dentistry; Planning; Architecture	13 incl. Accounting; Economics; Law; Psychology; History; Maths	3 inc. Manufacturing & Production Engineering	13 incl. Social Work; Biomed; Marketing; Sport	17 incl. Sport; Planning; Architecture; Psychology	[none, but...] 27 th Linguistics 25 th Physio 24 th Sport Science 25 th Theology

Why Higher Education

- Chance to study a subject they are passionate about.
- Achieve a qualification that will lead to their chosen career.
- Gain confidence, independence, and important life skills that will widen their prospects.
- Making lifelong friends.
- Opportunities whilst studying.
- Better job prospects?
- Some employers target graduates.
- Higher earning potential.

Confusing Headlines?

THE

WORLD
UNIVERSITY
RANKINGS




PROFESSIONAL JOBS SUMMITS RANKINGS STUD

Graduate employment hits record high as gender pay gap grows

DLHE survey also reveals that more university leavers are going into professional jobs

June 30, 2016

By [Chris Havergal](#) Twitter: [@CHavergalTHE](#)



The Telegraph

Home Video News World Sport Business Money Comment Culture Travel Life W



Scholarships & housing available.

HOME » FINANCE » JOBS

Graduates earn £500,000 more than non-graduates

Degrees still matter: graduates still enjoy more money and more career opportunities, says a report

July 8, 2016 5:57 am

Student debt: some will still be repaying in their fifties

Gemma Tetlow, Economics Correspondent

 Share  Author alerts  Print  Clip  Comments


 INDEPENDENT

News Voices Culture Lifestyle Tech Sport US election Daily Edition

Student » Career Planning

Thousands of graduates working in jobs that don't require any qualifications

Record numbers of new graduates surveyed said they were in work or further study, but figures suggest the gender pay gap for first jobs is rising

Rachael Pells | Friday 1 July 2016 | 

July 4, 2016 3:51 pm

Two-thirds of UK students 'will never pay off debt'

Gemma Tetlow, Economics Correspondent

 Share  Author alerts  Print  Clip  Comments

Useful facts about UCAS

- The 2024 applicant fee is £27.50 for (up to) five choices
- Applications received by the course deadlines are given equal consideration.
- ‘Invisibility’ – universities cannot see where else students have applied.
- Apply for max. five courses
- Some choice restrictions:
 - Medicine, veterinary, dentistry – max. four
 - Oxford *or* Cambridge



2024 Cycle Key Dates

Early May	Applicants can register and start to complete their application.
September	Schools can start to submit completed applications to UCAS.
16 th October	Medicine, dentistry, veterinary sci/med and Oxford <u>or</u> Cambridge.
31 st January	Application deadline for most courses.
30 th June	Applications after this date held for Clearing.

UCAS



Since May we have been researching our options...

- ✓ Use [Unifrog](#)
- ✓ Mr Moore & SF Staff
- ✓ HE Fayre 22nd Sept
- ✓ Subject staff
- ✓ UCAS 'Course search'
- ✓ [prospects.ac.uk](#)
- ✓ [Discover Uni Home](#)
- ✓ [Which? University](#)
- ✓ [completeuniversityguide.co.uk](#)

- ✓ Compare courses - their content & delivery
- ✓ Look at fees and other costs. Bursaries and scholarships.
- ✓ Read the prospectus information
- ✓ Discuss choices – teachers, parents & friends



UCAS



Job options

Jobs directly related to your degree include:

- Chartered accountant
- Chartered certified accountant
- Chartered public finance accountant
- Economist
- Financial risk analyst
- Investment analyst
- Statistician

Jobs where your degree would be useful include:

- Actuary
- Civil Service fast streamer
- Diplomatic Services operational officer
- Local government officer
- Management consultant
- Quantity surveyor

Remember that many employers accept applications from graduates with any degree subject, so don't restrict your thinking to the jobs listed here.


Work experience

In order to find out more about work in economics, you could consider applying for a place on the [Government Economic Service \(GES\)](#) summer vacation placement scheme, which offers work experience opportunities for 6-12 weeks. Individual government departments may also be able to offer work experience and you should contact the department directly to find out more.

You could also consider work experience or work shadowing in areas such as accountancy and finance. Contact local employers to see if they can help you.

prospects.ac.uk

Related case studies



Will Brooks

Web/digital insight analyst

>

What do economics graduates do?

More than 65% of economics graduates are in employment six months after graduating, while around one-in-five go on to further study.

Nine of the top ten occupations held by economics graduates employed in the UK are business, finance or HR professions, with more than 500 graduates in the top occupation of finance and investment analyst/adviser.

Destination	Percentage
Employed	65.4
Further study	13.3
Working and studying	8
Unemployed	7.7
Other	5.6

Graduate destinations for economics

Type of work	Percentage
Business, HR and financial	54.2
Marketing, PR and sales	9.8
Secretarial and numerical clerks	8.4



2 course(s) selected

☆☆☆

BSc (Hons) Biology

Newcastle University

✕

☆☆☆

BSc (Hons) Biology

University of Sheffield

✕

[Discover Uni Home](#)

Course details

Study mode	Full time	Full time
Length	3 years	3 years

▼ Show more

National Student Survey results

What you need to consider when comparing courses

- **Number of people the data is based on** - more people mean it is more likely giving a clearer picture of student experience. Also consider the percentage of students who responded to the survey.
- **Some data may be for a course and some for a subject** - course data is more specific but subject data will st indication of students' views. Use caution when comparing the two.

[Read more about the National Student Survey](#) 

Overall, I am satisfied with the quality of the course	61%	63%
Data from (# of people)	30	25
% of those asked	57%	67%

2 course(s) selected

☆☆☆

BSc (Hons) Biology

Newcastle University

✕

☆☆☆

BSc (Hons) Biology

University of Sheffield

✕

National Student Survey results

Overall, I am satisfied with the quality of the course	61%	63%
Data from (# of people)	30	25
% of those asked	57%	67%

The data displayed is from students on	This course	This course
--	-------------	-------------

The teaching on my course

The data displayed is from students on	This course	This course
Staff are good at explaining things.	79%	88%
Staff have made the subject interesting.	59%	83%
The course is intellectually stimulating.	69%	88%
My course has challenged me to achieve my best work.	52%	63%



Visit if possible!...



<https://bit.ly/3qHc9fX>




UCAS




<https://www.Opendays.com>





[Home](#) / [Undergraduate](#) / [What and where to study](#) / [Open days and events](#)

VIRTUAL TOURS

Explore this **section** 

Here's a list of virtual tours and videos from universities and colleges, so you can see what it's like on campus and what facilities are available.

If the uni/college you're interested in isn't listed, take a look at their website or YouTube channel instead, or see if they're on Unibuddy.

[Speak to current undergraduate students on Unibuddy](#)

A B C D E F G H I J K L M N O P
Q R S T U V W X Y Z

UCAS Deadlines...

- Applications open on 2nd September.
- The first UCAS deadline is **16th October**
Oxford, Cambridge, Medicine, Dentistry and Veterinary Medicine
- The second UCAS deadline is **31st January**

NB Some universities require additional tests e.g. the BMAT or UCAT test (Medicine), TMUA, MLAT, STEP etc...there are others

Whitburn Sixth Form Deadlines:

- The first sixth form deadline is **9th October**
- The second sixth form deadline is **19th January**

c.15
weeks

108
days

c.12
'school'
weeks

63
school
days

UCAS



The UCAS Tariff...

A level and Advanced VCE

Official title: Advanced GCE and Advanced VCE

Grade	Tariff points
A*	56
A	48
B	40
C	32
D	24
E	16

Extended Project

Grade	Tariff points
A*	28
A	24
B	20
C	16
D	12
E	8



AS and AS VCE

Official title: Advanced Subsidiary GCE and Advanced Subsidiary VCE

Grade	Tariff points
A	20
B	16
C	12
D	10
E	6

Music qualifications

Certificate in Graded Examination in Music Performance

Grade	Tariff points		
	Grade 8	Grade 7	Grade 6
D	30	16	12
M	24	12	10
P	18	10	6

Size band: 3 (Grade 8), 2 (Grades 7 and 6)

Grade bands: 6-10 (Grade 8), 5-8 (Grade 7), 3-6 (Grade 6)

Offered by ABRSM, RSL, TCL and UWLQ

UCAS

Dance qualifications

Graded Dance qualifications

Official title: Certificate in Graded Examination in (Theatre) Dance

Grade	Tariff points		
	Grade 8	Grade 7	Grade 6
D	20	16	12
M	18	14	10
P	16	12	8

Size band: 2

Grade bands: 8-10 (Grade 8), 6-8 (Grade 7), 4-6 (Grade 6)

Offered by BBO, GQAL, IDTA, ISTD, RAD and RSL

Certificate in Graded Examination in Music Theory

Grade	Tariff points		
	Grade 8	Grade 7	Grade 6
D	10	8	6
M	9	7	5
P	8	6	4

Size band: 1

Grade bands: 6-10 (Grade 8), 5-8 (Grade 7), 3-6 (Grade 6)

Offered by ABRSM, RSL, TCL and UWLQ



What happens next?

Mr Craggs will send the application to UCAS. There will be an anxious wait (end of March!) before applicants receive either...

- **Unconditional offer** - As long as you complete any stated examinations you have a place. These are quite rare again.
- **Conditional offer** - if you meet the set conditions, you have a place. This normally means that you have to meet certain grade/points requirements.
- **Unsuccessful** – your application for that course has been unsuccessful and you have not been offered a place.
- **Offer** of a place on a (usually *slightly*) different course

UCAS



Firm and Insurance Choices...

When you have received responses from all of your choices you then have to choose a **firm** and an **insurance** choice by the deadline! This is all done on UCAS Track.

- **Firm** - your first choice of course. If you meet the grade requirements, you will attend this course.
- **Insurance** - your second or back-up choice. If you fail to meet the grade requirements for your firm choice, but meet the requirements for this course, you can attend this course.
- **Other offers are declined**
- **Important** – you must choose an insurance choice with a lower entry requirement and that you would be happy to go to!



What if...

I get no offers?

I don't get the required grades?

I don't get grades for my insurance choice either?

I accepted a place that asked for 3xBs and I actually get 3xAs?

..UCAS Extra
(24th Feb-4th July)

Insurance Choice

Clearing Process
(From early July)

Clearing Process
(results day)

UCAS



The Personal Statement



UCAS



The Personal Statement

- The only section your son or daughter has control over.
- Their only chance to market themselves individually.
- One personal statement for **all** choices.
- Max. 4,000 characters, 47 lines
- Min. 1,000 characters
- No spelling/grammar check
- No formatting



Write '*a love letter to your subject*' (University College, Oxford)



UCAS



Three-part Structure

Personal statements are checked against a library of those already in the system, and from a variety of websites and paper publications.

Why do you want to study the subject?



What have you done in the past that makes you particularly suitable to study the subject?



What can you offer the university?
What can you contribute to the course and the institution?

- Start with the 'lightbulb moment'
- interest in their chosen subject
- their knowledge of the subject and enthusiasm to go beyond the syllabus
- what they enjoy about study
- have they chosen the right subject for the right reasons?
- does the personal statement confirm their depth of interest in the subject?

- academic achievements, past and present
- has the candidate studied independently – include super-curricular activities like MOOCs, lectures and EPQs
- does the student appear motivated and committed?
- Any relevant work experience?

- can they survive in an intense and pressured atmosphere?
- How do they unwind and relax?
- What can they contribute to the wider life of the university.
- More about what you do rather than the standard to which you do it!

Are they even read?

The following information which is based on the findings from a survey of:

- over 70 Admissions Tutors
- from over 20 subject areas
- from a wide range of universities

Admissions Tutors were asked 'WHEN DO YOU USE THE PERSONAL STATEMENT?'

1. Selection for an offer / rejection UCAS
2. Selection for an interview (if required)
3. Asking questions at interview
4. *Occasional* consideration of borderline cases (e.g. course requires grades 'BBB', you are predicted grades 'BBC')
5. Miss the required grade in August – tutors might look at your statement, if they have spare places



If there's one key point to remember when writing your personal statement, remember the letters ABC! Activity, Benefit, Course! Universities want to see examples of the transferable skills you have obtained and how you plan to develop these skills at university. So, this is where ABC comes into play:

Activity

Maybe you've volunteered in your local charity shop or played in a sports team

Benefit

What are the transferable skills you've acquired by doing this activity? For example, leadership, communication or self-motivation skills.

Course

So you've done the activity and reaped the benefits, how does this relate to the course you're applying for?

What should applicants avoid?

Admissions tutors in the earlier survey were asked what students should avoid. Responses were...

- Waffle
- Swallowing a dictionary
- Statements with no examples or evidence
- Very ordinary interests e.g. going down the pub
- Lying (remember the interview!)
- Becoming somebody you are not
- Rushing - producing a poorly written statement
- Reducing all experiences to skills – stacking shelves in a supermarket provides an honest income – don't sell it for anything else

What should applicants avoid?

Clichéd opening lines!! **Top 10 opening lines:**

Of over 700,000 candidates who applied to university 1,779 began their personal statement: *"From a young age I have (always) been.."* and most of these continued "interested in" or "fascinated by".

"For as long as I can remember I have..." (1,451)

"I am applying for this course because..." (1,370)

"I have always been interested in..." (927)

"Throughout my life I have always enjoyed..." (310)

"Reflecting on my educational experiences..." (257)

"Nursing is a very challenging and demanding (career/ profession/ course)..." (211)

"Academically, I have always been..." (168)

"I have always wanted to pursue a career in..." (160)

"I have always been passionate about..." (160).

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/education-36101825>



Where to Start

- Think about what makes them **stand out** in an exciting and positive way.
- Show **enthusiasm** for the course they are applying for and list supporting **evidence** to back this up.
- Extra curricular activities and **relevant** work experience.
- **Skills** they can use on the course – leadership, communication, team work for example.
- Encourage them to ask you for more **ideas**.
- Allow plenty of **time**.

Avoid
online
'services'!

UCAS



Further pointers

- Typically at any university an admissions tutor will have somewhere between **2 and 5 minutes to read** a personal statement. **Brevity** is a virtue!
- Make your statement **easy to read** (remember 2 minutes!). A page full of dense prose is not a good idea. Use **paragraphs** with **white space** between. Lists can be useful.
- Do NOT lie or embroider the truth. For example claiming that you did something in your work experience and then not knowing anything about it when asked is a pretty sure way not to get an offer. Make sure the statement really is your own.

8-18

VERY IMPRESSIVE!



CARTOONSTOCK.com

Search ID: jmp080818

Since college admissions officers might see his Facebook page, Mike used Photoshop to erase the beer cans in his hands, replacing them with books.

What your young person should be doing now?

- Research
- Super-curricular e.g. lectures, MOOCs, EPQ
- Work experience
- Focus on this year's studies
- Preparing for mock exams w/c 20th November



How can you support the application process?

- Use the parents section of the UCAS website/Parent Guide publication and sign up for the newsletter.
- Offer to attend open days, you may have a different perspective.
- Don't book family holidays at key times.
- Make sure they read everything carefully that is sent to them.
- Support your young person's management of their application.

