

UCAS

Tuesday 30th January 2024

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The logo for UCAS, featuring the letters 'UCAS' in a bold, sans-serif font. The 'U', 'C', and 'S' are black, while the 'A' is a vibrant red. The letters are set against a light gray rectangular background.

UCAS

The Process Starts Now!

UCAS

Why University?





Why University?

- **Increases earning potential**
- **An opportunity to develop and learn**
- **Gain transferable skills**
- **New personal experiences**































Why Not?

- Delay to earning
- Parents' financial pressures
- Long term financial considerations (£28K = £5pcm)
- Academic fatigue - gap year?



Alternatives

Apprenticeships – www.targetcareers.co.uk

	Level 6 R&D Packaging Degree Apprenticeship Programme Unilever	 Degree apprenticeship	 09/02/2019
	 5+ years	 Competitive	
	 Degree qualification		
<hr/>			
	Apprentice Chartered Surveyor	 Degree apprenticeship	 13/02/2019
			 £350.00 per week
<hr/>			
<small>ADVERTISE HERE</small>			
	Service Desk Analysis Apprenticeship CVC Holdings	 Advanced apprenticeship	 14/02/2019
	 2 years	 £18,000	
	 Professional qualification		
<hr/>			
	School Leaver Management Degree Apprentice McDonald's Restaurants Ltd	 School leaver programme/scheme	 15/02/2019
	 5+ years	 £16,000	
	 Degree qualification		
<hr/>			
	Marketing 2019 (Osterley, West London) Sky	 Higher apprenticeship	 15/02/2019
	 3 years	 £19,000	
	 Professional qualification		



Which Course?

- **THE MOST IMPORTANT DECISION!**
- **Choose something that interests you and you're good at**
- **Enjoyment v Employability**
- **With v And**
- **Contact time**
- **How will it be taught?**
- **How will it be assessed?**
- **Student satisfaction & employment rates**
- **A year in industry**

<https://www.whatuni.com/advice/ultimate-guides/how-do-you-pick-degree-subject/44207/>

<https://www.whatuni.com/degrees/courses/>

UCAS Which University?

- **Entry requirements**
- **Location - distance & transport**
- **Campus / town / city**
- **Facilities**
- **Accommodation**
- **Student satisfaction**
- **Student support**

UCAS Which University?

unifrog



www.unifrog.org www.whatuni.com

UCAS

Home v Abroad



The University of Hong Kong



UNIVERSITY OF AMSTERDAM



Trinity College Dublin

Coláiste na Tríonóide, Baile Átha Cliath
The University of Dublin



Home v Abroad

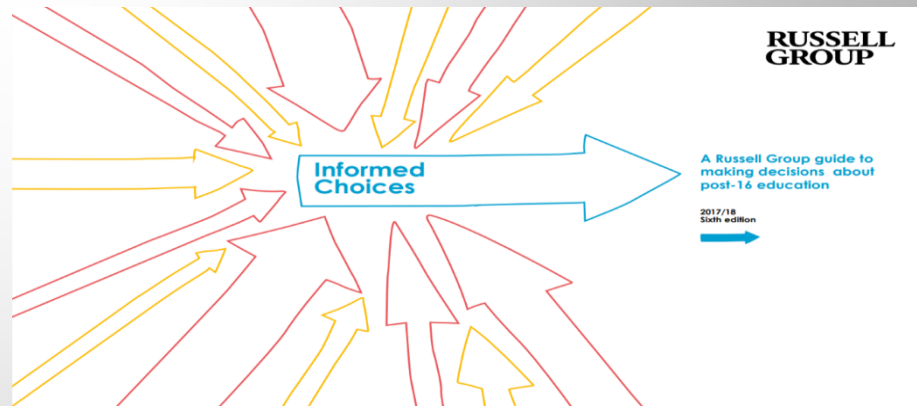
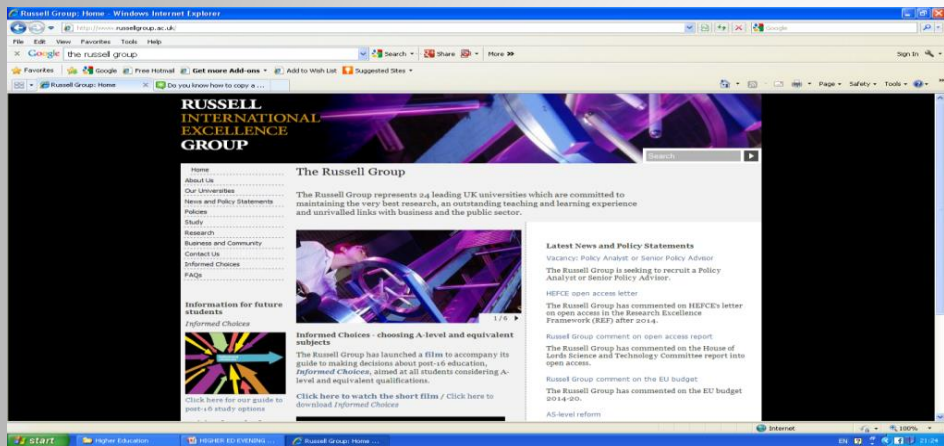
- **Cost of Tuition**
- **Living Costs**
- **Transport**
- **Language**
- **Start point**
- **Qualifications**
- **Visas**
- **Student loans**



Advice

- University league tables are all different
- For independent information visit www.qaa.ac.uk www.ucas.com and <http://unistats.direct.gov.uk/>
<http://unistats.direct.gov.uk/>
www.thecompleteuniversityguide.co.uk/
- Look at 'new' universities – for many subjects, they offer excellent courses and teaching

UCAS The Russell Group





University Info

www.russellgroup.ac.uk

Informed Choices latest – useful information including subjects required for different degree courses

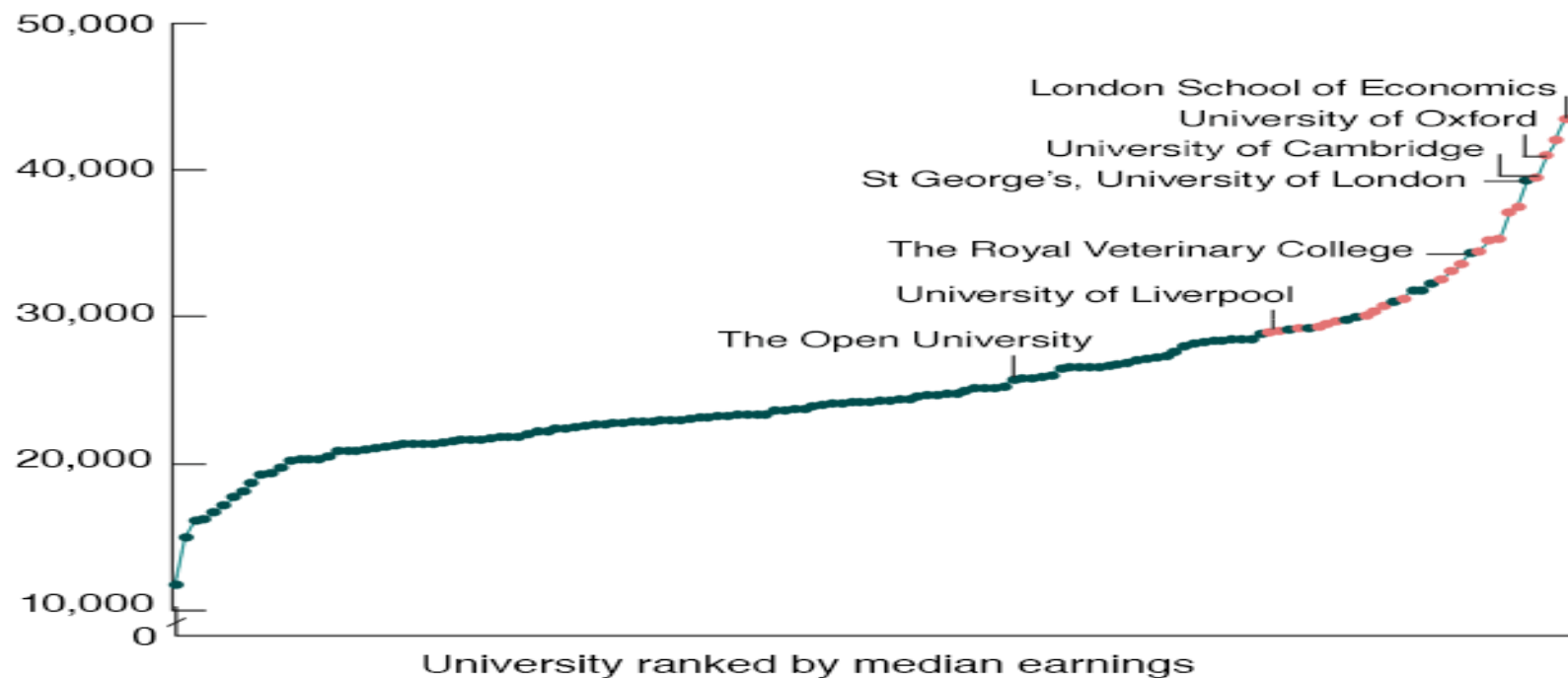
www.thecompleteuniversityguide.co.uk

has information on careers, university profiles, league tables by region, course, further advice on choosing the right course/university for you

Graduate earnings by university

Median annual earnings, five years after graduation (£)

● Non Russell Group ● Russell Group





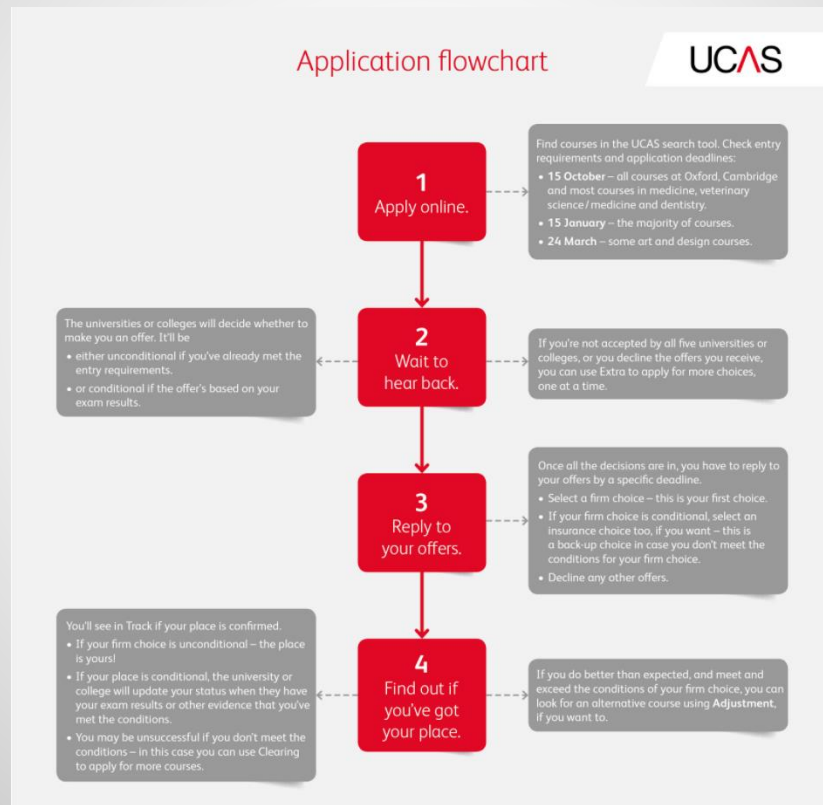
Research

USEFUL WEBSITES

- <https://www.thetimes.co.uk/article/good-university-guide-in-full-tp6dzs7wn>
- <https://www.theguardian.com/education/universities>
- www.unistats.com
- www.studentbook.org
- www.push.co.uk



The Application Process





‘APPLY’ – the UCAS Internet Applications System

- **Completed online with a password**
- **The student can work from any online device**
- **The UCAS referee can check on the student’s progress at any stage**
- **The completed application is sent online to UCAS**



‘APPLY’ – the UCAS Internet Applications System

- **Students can follow the progress of their application through UCAS Track**
- **The UCAS form is the responsibility of the student; we will advise, but what goes on the form is up to the student.**



University Choices

- Five University choices
Universities do not see the student's other choices
- Payment to UCAS by debit / credit card for 2024 is £22.50 for one / £27 for up to five
- Medicine, Vet Med, Dentistry only 4 + 1 back-up



UCAS Grades

- **Based on performance in the Summer Year 12 internal UCAS exams.**
- **Work throughout the year will be considered but the examination takes precedence**
- **Not based on what the student wants/needs**



UCAS Grades

- **Students must make sure that they apply for a spread of universities with a range of entry requirements – they should never focus only on the most prestigious ones, especially for the most competitive courses**



Additional Tests

**BMAT - for certain Medicine, Veterinary Medicine
and related courses**

UCAT - for Medicine or Dentistry

LNAT - for Law

STEP - for some Mathematics degrees



Admissions Tests

- Some universities may have additional admissions tests for certain courses or may require Portfolios of work to be produced.
- Both Oxford and Cambridge have additional admissions tests – MAT, HAT, PAT, ELAT, CAT, MLAT, TSA...
- *It is the student's responsibility to ensure they are registered for any additional tests they need to sit.*



The UCAS Form

This has sections on the following:

- **Personal Details**
 - **University and Course choices**
 - **Qualifications**
 - **Jobs and Work Experience**
 - **Personal Statement**
 - **School Reference inc. Predicted UCAS grades**
-
- **Most Universities will not interview you prior to giving you an offer, therefore this is all they will see!!**

UCAS The UCAS Process

- Summer internal UCAS exams 3rd-12th June
- Friday 14th June UCAS/Next Steps day. Advice on application process & writing Personal Statements.
- 10th July – UCAS exam results & UCAS grades
- July - Sept - working on UCAS application so that the form is ready as early as possible in the Autumn term of Year 13
- UCAS forms checked and corrected and references added: 2- 3 week process.

UCAS University Replies

- Correspondence is through UCAS.
- Possible invitation to attend an interview, applicant day, audition or submit a portfolio.
- Most offers will be conditional on gaining certain grades or points at A level eg. AAB/136 points
- Follow the progress of application on UCAS Track.
- When all offers are received students choose a 'firm' and an 'insurance' offer. The insurance choice should be a sensible, back up choice with lower grade requirements.

UCAS University Replies

- If students fail to meet offers they can go through 'EXTRA' and then 'CLEARING'.



The Personal Statement

Name: [REDACTED]
Course applied: Bsc Accounting for Management

TOO MUCH
INFO;
OCCASIONAL
WAFFLE

I am currently a final year student studying Accountancy, English Literature (AS and A2 in the one year). From my childhood I have always been interested in, and practised, dealing with numbers. Whether it was counting objects from my buggy, or calculating profit from sales of my drawings, I have always had a passion to learn more about and engage in numeracy. Studying accountancy, has been really exciting for me, as I love seeing how each figure affects the overall 'landscape' of the accounts, and how one misplaced item can ruin the whole balance. I know that if I put my head down, work hard and focus, I can achieve a good result from this subject. I have considered other numeracy careers such as banking, however, I feel the role of Accountants suit my passion more adeptly, and for this reason I have decided to choose Accounting as my university course. My ambition is to one day become a Chartered Accountant, and I believe that studying Accounting in university will be another stepping stone towards reaching this goal.

LISTING
A LEVELS
NOT NEEDED

FOCUSES
ATTENTION
ON NEGATIVE

DATED
EXAMPLE

Outside of the Educational surroundings, I have partaken in many activities and tasks which have helped me become more responsible. One example is from a few years ago; I was part of a select board, which included a former Home Secretary, which was put together in order to familiarise ourselves with

SPELLING/GRAMMAR

UCAS The Personal Statement

- The most important section of the form
- It should have an academic focus and be directly related to the chosen course
- Applicants should demonstrate enthusiasm, aptitude and suitability for chosen course
- Relevant further reading, research & work experience should be included
- This is an opportunity for applicants to 'sell themselves'
- UCAS referees will give guidance



The Personal Statement

What can be done now?

- **Further reading research**
- **Work experience**
- **MOOCs**
- **Courses, workshops, seminars & lectures**



The Personal Statement

It's easy for admissions tutors to tell the difference between a personal statement that demonstrates preparation over a long period of time and one that has been done at the last minute.



The Personal Statement

- **Make sure you have the right experience, reading and focus for the course you apply for.**
- **Get on with your application - offers are finite**
- **Consider applying to Summer Schools**
- **Attend Open Days - is there are preference for a campus or a city-based university?**
- **Be realistic. Students should only apply for those courses with the grade requirements that they are predicted to achieve.**



Next Steps

- **Personal statement prep**
- **Research in to courses & universities**
- **UCAS day 14th June - post-exams**
- **University open days - June**
- **UCAS exam results & UCAS grades - 10th July**
- **Early applicants (Oxbridge / Medicine / Dentistry & Vet Med) deadline 15th October**
- **SRMS internal deadline - 29th November**



If you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact me by email m.stedman@srms.kent.sch.uk

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