

### HIGHER EDUCATION EXPLAINED

VANESSA CHETWYN OUTREACH OFFICER

### Independence

- Move away from home
- Developing life skills
- Responsible for own finances
- Independent learning

### Experience a different part of the country (or world!)

- Study in a different country
- Student exchange via the ERASMUS scheme
- #DMU Global





### Meet New People

- Course
- Accommodation
- Clubs/Societies
- All walks of life

Societies at DMU Over 80 to 30 00 50 to 30 to 3 Bollywg Cockta Dodge ulture Societ RAG – Raise & Give

>> Realise your ambition

**Rock Society** 





The DMU student experience: At the heart of everything we do

### Become Employable

- Internationally recognised qualification
- Shows employers that you have worked at an advanced level.
- Demonstrates commitment and motivation

### Transferable Skills

- Important workplace skills which employers are looking for
- Relevant across the sector
- Communication, problem-solving, leadership, initiative, team-work, presentation, time-management, prioritisation, networking



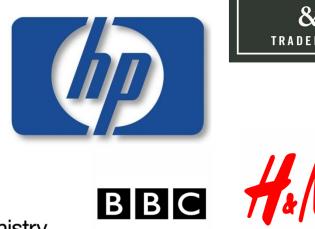




### Work Placements

50% of employers will not recruit graduates without work experience

- Internships
- Sandwich Courses
- Part time/over holidays



NHS

ĽORÉAL

Ministry of Defence









### **Graduate Schemes**

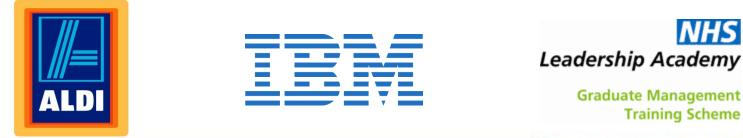
> 60% of graduate schemes are open to graduates with any degree discipline.

Aldi – Area Manager Graduate Scheme: £40k rising to £65k after 4 years

IBM – Various graduate roles: Starting at £30K with substantial benefits packages

NHS – Graduate Management Training Scheme: £24k plus

100's of schemes advertised on www.graduate-jobs.com







What to research Where do you Start? Course Campus **C**ity Cost







## Course

Choosing what to study is the first difficult decision students have to make.
 There are over 50,000 degree courses to choose from....

Conventional:

English, Maths, Biology, Psychology, Fine Art, Graphics, Business Studies

...to the not so conventional: Computer Game Art, Footwear Design, Forensic Science, Robotics, Aeronautical Engineering, Performance Golf, Viking Studies





## Course

Things to consider when choosing a course.....

Do you enjoy the subject? - You will be studying it for 3 or 4 years.
Career - what are the graduate destinations for that particular subject.
Modules – What will you be studying each year? Can you choose modules?
Teaching methods – Practical and theory split.
Assessments – how is the course assessed?
Work experience – can you do a placement as part of your course? What industry links does the course have.
Accreditation – is the course professionally accredited? Often gives exemptions.

Entry requirements – what do you need to gain entry on to the course.





# How to decide what / where to study

### UCAS

at the heart of connecting people to higher education

#### BTEC qualifications (QCF) (Suite of qualifications known as Nationals)

Grade						
Extended Diploma	Diploma	90 credit Diploma	Subsidiary Diploma	Certificate		
D*D*D*					420	
D*D*D					400	
D*DD					380	
DDD					360	
DDM					320	
DMM	D*D*				280	
	D*D				260	
МММ	DD				240	
		D*D*			210	
MMP	DM	D*D			200	
		DD			180	
MPP	MM	DM			160	
			D*		140	
PPP	MP	MM	D		120	
		MP			100	
	PP		м		80	
				D*	70	
		PP		D	60	
			Р	м	40	
				P	20	

#### A level grades and the UCAS points system

Points value for single A level grade		Points value for three A level grades		Points value for two A level grades	
A*	140	A* A* A*	420	AA	240
А	120	A* AA	380	AB	220
В	100	AAA	360	BB	200
С	80	AAB	340	BC	180
D	60	ABB	320	сс	160
E	40	BBB	300	CD	140
		BBC	280		
		BCC	260		
		ccc	240		
		CCD	220		
		CDD	200		
		DDD	180		
		DDE	160		
		DEE	140		

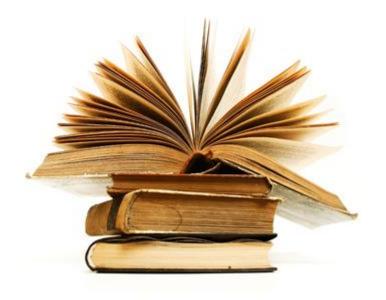




# Where to research

# Course

- Prospectuses
- University websites
- Higher Education exhibitions
- Open days
- League tables NSS, Guardian, Times
- UCAS website







# Where to research

UCAS

Home / How it all works / Apply / Members & providers / Data & analysis / News & events / About us



#### Don't know what to study?

Need help finding courses? Browse subjects and find out what's available.



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#### UCAS Search tool

Use our new search to find undergraduate courses and courses at conservatoires.

We'll be adding all our other courses soon – until then, click the links below.

- Postgraduate courses
- Postgraduate teacher training courses
- Foundation degrees





## Where to research

Where do you normally live?*: England									
Search by any or all of the following									
Course: astro									
Provider: Enter a unive									
Location: Enter a coun		Search >							
Availability Courses open to new applicants	Results   Map view     7 providers found								
Applying through Extra Show courses in Extra (6)	City University London								
Single/Combined subjects	Single subjects								
<u>Single subject</u> (7) <u>Joint subjects</u> (3)		Qualification MEng (Hons)	Duration 4 Years	Study mode Full-time					
Combined (0) <u>Major with a minor subject</u> (1)		3) Qualification MEng (Hons)	Duration 5 Years	<b>Study mode</b> Full-time with a placement (sandwich)					
Major with more than one minor (0) Triple subjects (0)		Qualification BEng (Hons)	Duration 3 Years	Study mode Full-time					
Other type of combination (0)									

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# What to research Campus & City



Where do you want to live? - At home or move away!
What kind of university? - City based or a contained campus.
Reputation – consider league tables, rankings, specialism's etc
Traditional vs Modern – consider facilities, academic standards etc
Facilities - Lab space, industry standard equipment, journals etc
Accommodation – how close to the university is it?
Transport links – is it easy to get home? Do you need to travel to and from campus?

Visit the surrounding area – how safe is it? Do you feel comfortable living there? What is there for students to do in the area?





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## Accommodation

If you plan on moving away to study you need to research in to where to live.

#### Halls of Residence

- Usually university owned
- Best option for first year students safe and secure
- Can house between 5 to 10 people per flat
- En-suite or shared facilities
- > Average cost is £83 per week inc Gas, Electricity and Water
- Some halls are catered, have free wi-fi, Sky TV etc but cost more!











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If you plan on moving away to study you need to research in to where to live.

#### **Privately rented**

➤Lots of student housing in and around university campus owned by private landlords and letting agencies.

- Great option in the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> year if you want to move in together with friends you've made.
- Often cheaper rent but you need to set up your own utility accounts and pay bills each month.







## Accommodation

Things to consider....

**Check your contract** – once you have signed on the dotted line it can be difficult to opt out. Have your contract checked over beforehand.

**Know your landlord** – research in to letting agencies and landlords. University departments should be able to tell you of reputable firms to use.

**Do your research** – check out the area, crime rates, safety etc.

**Share the responsibility** – when setting up utility accounts put it in everyone's name, open a joint billing account etc.

**TV Licence** – don't get caught out! If you have an individual contract and a lock on your door you; legally you have to have your own licence.





## Cost

- Unfortunately studying at university is going to be expensive.
- However financing yourself at university is easily manageable.
- Weigh up the costs of being a student locally vs moving away.
- Tuition fees of up to £9,000 no upfront costs
- Cost of living accommodation, food, travel costs, course costs (averages around £7,000 a year)



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## Cost

> There is a substantial student finance package available to make university affordable for all students.

Tuition Fee Loan – all students can apply for up to £9,000 a year to cover the cost of tuition fees. Paid directly to the university from the student loans company.
Maintenance Loan – all UK students can apply for £5,550 a year on average (more if living in London and slightly less in living at home) to help with living costs. Paid in instalments directly to the student.
Maintenance Grant – means tested pot of money. Students whose household income is below £42,620 are eligible for free money up to £3,387 a year.

> Loans do not have to be paid back until after graduating and once the student is earning over £21,000 a year.





## What next...?





### **Application Process**



September 2014 UCAS cycle opens Begin writing personal statements **15<sup>th</sup> October** First UCAS Deadline Oxbridge, Medicine, Vet Science

UCAS

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January – September 2014 **Internal Deadline Research Universities** After Oct half term but September 2015 Attend Open Days before Christmas UNIVERSITY and the start of the **August 2015** best years of your life! **Results Day! Confirmation &** Clearing January 15<sup>th</sup> 2015 June 2015 May 2015 Universities consider You should have made You should receive all applications and begin to your final choices. offers back. make offers



# Recap....

- Deciding to go to university is a big decision that needs careful consideration over the coming months.
- Weigh up all the benefits of going to university as opposed to not....career progression, finances, life experience etc.
- Start thinking about subjects you enjoy, and research in to different courses. Use the UCAS website as a starting point.
- Book on to Open Days and visit different universities both local and away.
- > Talk to people....teachers, family, friends, university staff and students ask questions!
- Consider the cost implications can you afford to go to university? Can you afford not to go to university?
- Over the summer start planning your personal statements and get a head start with your application.

Start early, make informed decisions!





# **Any Questions**





