

Beyond Aquinas 2011

The Aquinas
College guide to
full time and
part time study
at University



Name _____

Tutor Group _____

A message from
Dr Ambrose Smith - College Principal



Maybe you have always wanted to go to university or maybe you have never even thought about it. Wherever you lie in this spectrum, I would thoroughly recommend that you think seriously about it. You can study full-time or part-time, and the range of courses has never been wider. Remember that the government expects that at least half of all people your age

will have a degree or equivalent.

During your lifetime many aspects of the world will change hugely. You need the highest standard of education you can get to help you adapt and cope with these changes: you will probably get it at a university.

A handwritten signature in black ink, which reads "Ambrose Smith". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

DECIDING YOUR FUTURE

The summer tutorial programme has been put together to help you decide what you will do when you leave Aquinas College.

Topics covered include

- Introduction to Higher Education - both full time and part time.
- How to look for suitable University courses
- Reflection on your experiences and skills and indentifying any gaps which could be developed over the next year before you leave Aquinas.
- How to prepare applications
- Applying to UCAS

Outcome required

This tutorial programme should help you make a decision about what you intend to do when you leave Aquinas College. It is very important that you keep your mind open to the different options available so if you do change your way of thinking at a later date you are making an informed choice.

You will receive the results of your AS examinations on Thursday 19th August 2010. During the following week you may enrol for your A level courses. It is helpful if you have an idea of what you may wish to do when you leave Aquinas at this appointment so the enrolling tutor can check you are on target and give advice.

MAKE SURE YOU KEEP THIS BOOKLET. IT IS YOUR PERSONAL COPY OF INFORMATION YOU WILL REQUIRE OVER THE NEXT FEW MONTHS.

SECTION ONE - MAKING CHOICES



A confused student...recently.

Both your happiness at university and your career prospects afterwards depend on making the right choice. You will need to choose something which will keep you interested and motivated for an average of three years! A wrong choice may lead you to "drop out" and with a false start behind you potential employers may question your commitment.

Is my choice of course likely to affect my career path?

It depends. If you want to be a doctor or an engineer then you must study medicine or engineering. However, higher education will equip you with a variety of skills, and most employers value a good degree in any subject, so long as you show the necessary personal qualities and motivation. Contrary to popular belief, for example, you do not need to study mathematics at university to be an accountant.

Where do I start?

If you really like one of your existing subjects, you can simply study it further. However, you could use it as a "start point" to look at related areas. For example, if you are studying physics, consider astronomy or acoustics. If you are studying geography why not land economy or town planning?

If you like languages, you will have the opportunity to study a new language from scratch, as well as continuing one you have studied at Aquinas. "Combined degrees" gives the flexibility to change direction during your course as your interests develop.

If you want to study elsewhere in the EU, choose a university which takes part in the Erasmus project. Alternatively some courses offer a year studying in the United States; such courses certainly include American Studies, Business, and quite a number of science courses too.

TYPES OF COURSES AVAILABLE

Courses beyond A level/OCR but below Degree Level

Even if your exam passes are modest, you may still get onto one of the following vocational courses available at a college of Further Education such as Stockport College, or a New University such as Bolton or Edge Hill.

Foundation Year

An alternative to re-sitting sciences, maths or technology A levels for those aiming for technological or scientific degrees but without strong or appropriate A level grades. Some medical, dentistry or arts and humanities degrees also have pre-entry options, but often with quite high grade requirements - this is for students who have sometimes studied the "wrong" A levels. For these students the foundation year will make up any shortfall.

Art and Design Foundation Diploma

A one year prerequisite for those aiming for a studio based design course. Raises awareness of the full range of design courses/ careers and improves skills/ portfolio. Can be a "stand alone course" e.g. Stockport College or one which is integrated into continuation degrees e.g. University of Central Lancashire etc who describe this as "Year Zero".



Higher National Diplomas (HNDs)

Usually two years, always vocational; subjects such as: business, design, computing, sport, social care, engineering etc. The part time version is called Higher National Certificate (HNC) taking two years with one day or two evenings per week at College or University. The qualification is somewhere between two thirds and three quarters that of HND. Both types of Higher National qualifications are popular with those who don't get the grades for entry to a vocational degree, as they can be "converted" to degrees with further study for between one and three years.

"FIRST DEGREE" COURSES

Single Honours Degrees

Cover just one subject in considerable depth, but even here the second, third (and sometimes fourth) year can offer specialist options within the subject.

Joint Honours Degrees

Is the study of two subjects, not always in equal proportions. Where one subject is dominant this is the "major option". Descriptions have meaning here: for example English with History tends to mean that English is dominant. English and History usually means a more equal subject balance.

Combined or Multi Disciplinary Degrees

Allows for two to three subjects to be studied from a modularised range of courses giving great flexibility. Both joint and combined allow for the fusion of the obviously vocational with the traditionally academic, e.g. English and Business at Manchester Metropolitan University.

Modern Language Courses

Expect to spend a year abroad either at a partner university where you will be taught in the native language, or as a Foreign Language Assistant in a school. Languages can be studied on their own or as a combined degree.

Teacher Training

Check that the course offers Qualified Teacher Status (QTS). If a first degree course or post graduate course is listed in the Teacher Training Guides available in the LRC Careers Library, then you can be sure it has QTS.



Jane's story

Jane left college in 2009 and decided to study English at the University of Bangor (North Wales). "I wanted to get away from home so I chose a university that could give me an great education but also quick access to the outdoors as I love climbing" said Jane. "I know I could have done something more obviously vocational but my research reassured me that the analytical skills gained from a degree in English apply to many highly paid graduate jobs.

SECTION TWO - SOURCES OF HELP

People

Careers Advisers- Raymond Carr, Paula Byrne- available in the LRC along with Teresa Turnbull, Careers Information Assistant. Your Group Tutor and Subject Tutors can also be of considerable help.

Senior Tutors are available for consultation most lunchtimes in the LRC Careers Resources Area.

Loretta Harden and Roger Preston- Advice on Medicine Dentistry and Veterinary Science (Science Office).

Niall Macdonald for information and Advice on Oxford and Cambridge applications, Law Office.

Student Support Advisers Tom Dixon and Jane Marwood- Support for students who may lack the confidence to take their place in Higher Education (Student Support Office in G5)

Sharon Deaville and Carol Moran- Help with sending your application to UCAS (Office- near main reception).

Printed Careers Material

The LRC has a large range of HE materials including prospectuses for all UK Higher Education Institutions. Below is just a sample.

- "The Big Guide "- Lists courses by subject and entry requirements.
- "Degree Course Offers" - Reflects A level grades/tariff points which institutions actually accepted in the most recent year of course entry.
- "Getting Into" series - Useful guides to entry to some of the most competitive areas of Higher Education including "Oxbridge", Law, Medicine, Dentistry, Veterinary Science, Psychology etc.
- "The Music Education Yearbook".
- "The Progression Series" books on subjects as diverse as: Economics, Finance and Accounting, Psychology, Sports Science Physiotherapy.
- "How to complete your UCAS Personal Statement" and "Creating your UCAS application"
- Guides to Admissions tests: LNAT, UKCAT and BMAT.

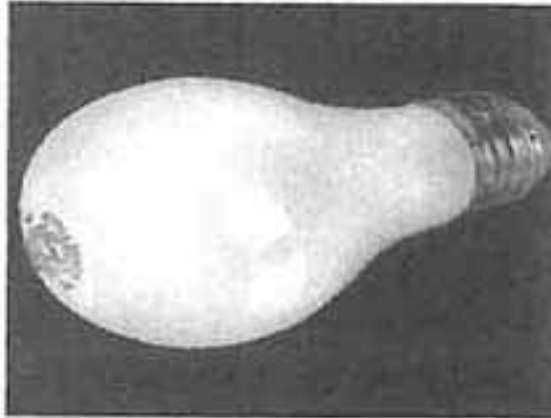
Websites and Software Support

Careers Course on Moodle: Degree Course Descriptions; over 60 degrees explained.

Looking for suggestions for H.E. Courses? Try using "Higher Ideas" on the College network or do "The Stamford Test" available on the UCAS website. wwwucas.com-The official University and Colleges Admissions Service website giving access to the "apply", applications system, Course Search facility and much more besides.

opendays.com gives details of all UK HE open days.

STILL IN THE DARK?



Ten bright ideas for choosing a university course!

- Do one of the IT based interest guides e.g. **“The Stamford Test”** (UCAS Website) or **“Higher Ideas”** (on the college network).
- Explore the UCAS website using features such as the alphabetical subject listings and testing the subject choices facility to see what joint honours options are available.
- Get the leaflet **“Ideas for higher education courses”** from the LRC.
- Visit the **“Degree Course Descriptions”** site on Moodle-Careers
- See **“Progression Guides”** in the LRC Careers area.
- Go to university open days. See www.opendays.com for dates.
- Talk to your subject or group tutors as they very often have a strong knowledge of careers and courses that emerge from their subject.
- Visit the **UCAS subject conventions** held in big cities like Manchester or London. Focusing on areas like medicine and health, art and design or music/performance, these give you the chance to talk to university tutors and their students. www.ucas.com/students/exhibitions
- Talk to older brothers and sisters and your parents who many have been to university themselves!
- Find out what other students have chosen, especially if they have a similar subject profile ask them about the rationale behind their choice.

Useful websites on the Internet

Try accessing some of the following websites to find relevant information on the internet.

UCAS

www.ucas.ac.uk

Search for university courses by subject or area. Enquiries for applicants 08714680468

Open Days

www.opendays.com

Lists dates for open days at universities and colleges.

Yearoutgroup

www.yearoutgroup.org.uk

Information on gap years

Guardian

<http://education.guardian.co.uk>

University rankings

Fulbright Commission

www.fulbright.co.uk

Study in America

WorldWide Volunteering

<http://www.www.org.uk>

Volunteering database

Apprenticeships

www.connexions-stockport.com

Lists all current apprenticeship vacancies.

Job Vacancies

www.cnx2jobs.com

Job vacancies held by Connexions services across Greater Manchester.

On-line Careers Subscriptions

We subscribe to the following careers packages that are accessed through Moodle. Look on Moodle for a demonstration of how to use them. There are also individual help guides.

Adult Directions

Careers matching program that provides the user with a personalised report.

To access Adult Directions the following will be required.

User Name: c21290

Password: talkgoal25

Higher Ideas

Matching your qualifications to university courses.

No password or codes necessary.

E-clips

Helps you find careers and lifestyle information.

Password: 2089may08

Degree Course Descriptions

ID: coa4294

Password: Aquinas

If you or a friend require this flyer in a different format (large text, different colour), please contact a member of LRC staff.



Careers

Your LRC Link for Careers materials is **Teresa Turnbull**. Please ask **Teresa** or any member of the LRC team if you require written or electronic information or help in using the LRC.

Availability

The Careers Library is available whenever the LRC is open. The opening times of the LRC are:

Term time:

Mon-Tue 8.00am-7.30pm
Wed-Thurs 8.00am-5.30pm
Friday 8.00am-5.00pm



Vacation:

Mon-Thurs 9.00am-4.00pm
Friday 9.00am-3.30pm

Finding Resources

The Careers Library is located in the LRC, on your right as you enter the double doors.

The resources are divided into two main sections.

General Information - this section is broken down to four headings covering topics that include education and work and training.

Occupational Areas - twenty three different job families.

The majority of career resources are available for loan but certain items are reference which can only be used in the centre.

You may reserve any career resource that is out on loan by completing a reservation card at the LRC counter.

If you would like to recommend or suggest a resource for the careers library please ask a member of the LRC team or fill a suggestion slip.

Prospectuses

"Prospectuses" are the universities own guide to their courses and facilities.

We stock prospectuses for all UK colleges and universities and some for Ireland.

If there are any specialist Colleges you think we should have a prospectus for, please let us know and we will order it.



Looking for Work

Employment/training information is updated regularly and can be found in a file labelled "Opportunities". Information can also be found on Moodle. Go to crx2jobs.com for job vacancies held by Connexions Services across Greater Manchester.

Always look out for information on the Careers section of Moodle.

Careers Advice

Our Careers Advisers Raymond Carr and Paula Byrnes (Paula is from the Connexions Service) are available in College to provide careers guidance to our lower and upper sixth students.

They give impartial advice to those looking at both full-time and part-time H.E., work and work based training. Raymond and Paula both run appointment and drop-in sessions. Drop-in sessions are for queries that can be answered quite quickly whereas booked appointments allow more time for in depth guidance.

Go to the LRC counter where staff will book appointments and advise when drop-ins are held.

H.E. Advisers

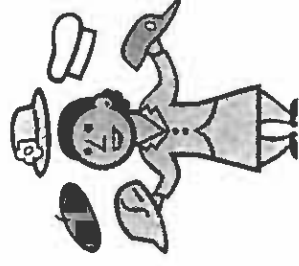
The College has a close partnership with several local Universities. Advisers from the Institutions regularly visit College to give advice check the student information screen for details.

Senior Tutors

Senior Tutors are available in the LRC Monday to Friday, periods 4 and 5 to give UCAS advice. They also have specific areas of interest/subject areas, details of which can be found on Moodle.

Careers Assistant

Teresa Turnbull our Careers Assistant is available to help with locating and using career resources at most times during the week.



UNDERSTANDING THE UCAS TARIFF SYSTEM

What is the UCAS Tariff points system?

The UCAS Tariff is the points system used by universities and colleges to compare qualifications and so make offers to applicants.

When a University makes an offer to a student, the offer may be based on grades that have to be achieved e.g. A,A,B or C,C,D or they may stipulate a number of points e.g. 340 points, or 200 points or a mixture of both e.g. 260 points including a C grade in Geography. Making an offer based on points is the UCAS Tariff system. The Tariff helps universities and colleges when deciding on course entry requirements and making conditional offers.

Use of the Tariff may also vary from department to department within any one university or college, and may in some cases be dependent on the programme being offered.

- Tariff points can be collected from a range of different qualifications, e.g. GCE A level with BTEC Nationals.
- There is no ceiling to the number of points that can be accumulated.
- There is no double counting. Certain qualifications within the Tariff build on qualifications in the same subject. In these cases only the qualification with the higher Tariff score will be counted. For example AS level and A2 level - if you have an A level in a subject you can not include the points for an AS in the same subject.

UCAS has a 'ready reckoner' to enable you to work out your total points score on their website at ucas.com

The following are the tariff points for some of the more common qualifications. See the UCAS website for the complete list.

1. The Extended Project (Stand Alone)

This is a qualification where students complete a research project. Students select a subject which interests them, carry out research and write up their findings.

More information about the extended project will be given out in June.

Grade	Tariff points
A*	70
A	60
B	50
C	40
D	30
E	20

2. OCR Nationals

Grade		Tariff points
National Diploma 12 units	National Certificate 6 units	
		360
		320
		280
D		240
M1		200
M2/P1		160
P2	D	120
P3	M	80
	P	40

3. GCE A Levels

Grade					Tariff points
GCE & AVCE Double Award	A level with additional AS (9 units)	GCE A level and AVCE	GCE AS Double Award	GCE AS & AS VCE	
A*A*					280
A*A					260
AA					240
AB					220
BB	A*A				200
BC	AA				180
	AB				170
CC					160
	BB				150
CD	BC	A*			140
DD	CC	A	AA		120
	CD		AB		110
DE		B	BB		100
	DD		BC		90
EE	DE	C	CC		80
			CD		70
	EE	D	DD	A	60
			DE	B	50
		E	EE	C	40
				D	30
				E	20

Once you have thought of a subject you would like to study at University it is important that you look on the University website on the internet or obtain the University prospectus to find out the detailed entry requirements. (Many of the prospectuses are in the Careers Library.)

The entry criteria may not just involve the grades you are required to achieve at 'A' level but the University website may also tell you if you can expect an interview, if you have to keep a log of work experience or a portfolio of art work. Many offers will also expect you to have certain GCSE grades so check you meet the criteria.

On the UCAS application a student can apply for up to five courses. We recommend that your choice of courses do not require all the same grades or number of points. For example - if you are a high achiever and think you will get an A grade and two B's do not have all your choices as A,B,B but maybe three A,B,B then one/two B,B,B and possible a B,B,C or in points not all 320 points, but three courses where you need 320 points, two with 300 points and a 280 point course.

Activity

On the following pages there are a number of case studies relating to students and predicted grades. The purpose of this activity is to help you understand the UCAS tariff point system in order for you to calculate how many points you may be able to achieve based on your predicted grades. (Predicted grades will be decided by your subject teachers in September after the AS results but if you have done January AS exams you may have an idea yourself what you could achieve). When you understand the points system and what Universities are expecting you to achieve in order to get an offer from them it will help with your research. You can then match your predicted grades to courses which may interest you.

Work out how many UCAS points the following students may achieve and decide whether they should apply for the course.

Case Study One -Yasmin

Yasmin wants to go to University to do a BA in Geography. She has looked at Keele University. Part of the entry requirements are as follows.

GCSE/Standard Grade

Subjects and grades required	English Language and Maths/Science GCSE with grade C or above
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Volume and depth of study/Tariff points and Grades

Volume and depth of study (GCE A level or equivalent)	Minimum number required: 2 Number preferred: 3
Tariff score	Points accepted: 280 - 300 Minimum points required from qualifications with the volume and depth of A level or equivalent: 200
GCE A/AS level grade range	

GCE A level

Acceptability	Acceptable on its own & combined with other qualifications
Subjects and grades required	Environmental Science at grade C or Geography at grade C.

Yasmin gained seven GCSE's including C's at English, Maths and double award Science. She is predicted to get

Geography A Level grade C
 English Language A Level grade C
 PE A Level A level grade D
 Biology AS Level grade E
 Extended Project grade B
 General Studies A level grade C

How many points is Yasmin predicted to achieve? It is advisable for Yasmin to apply for this course?

Case Study Two - Lucy

Lucy would like to study Law at University. She has seen a course at De Montfort University which requires the following Course Specific Requirements

Course Specific Requirements	
Interview/Audition may be required	Yes
Foundation Degree Acceptable for Entry	Yes

GCSE/Standard Grade

Subjects and grades required	Five GCSE subjects at grade C or above including English, or equivalent
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Volume and depth of study/Tariff points and Grades

Volume and depth of study (GCE A level or equivalent)	Minimum number required: 2 Number preferred: 3
Tariff score	Points accepted: 300 Minimum points required from qualifications with the volume and depth of A level or equivalent: 240
GCE A/AS level grade range	

GCE A level

Acceptability	Acceptable on its own & combined with other qualifications
Additional Information	At least two subjects should be taken at A2 level or equivalent. General Studies accepted.

Lucy gained nine GCSE's including Maths, English and Science and she is predicted to achieve the following grades

Law A Level grade B
 English Language A Level grade C
 History A Level A level grade D
 General Studies A Level grade D

How many points is Lucy predicted to achieve? Is it advisable for Lucy to apply to De Montfort?

Case Study Three - Lee

Lee is interested in going to Nottingham Trent University to study Psychology.

Course Specific Requirements

Course Specific Requirements	280 UCAS Tariff points with a minimum of 2 A-levels at Grade C.
Institution's Policy on Unit Grades Information	The University welcomes the availability of unit grade information which may be taken into account in exceptional circumstances.

GCSE/Standard Grade

Subjects and grades required	GCSE English Language and Mathematics at grade C or above. KSU Application of Number Level 2 accepted if GCSE Maths Grade D achieved.
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Volume and depth of study/Tariff points and Grades

Volume and depth of study (GCE A level or equivalent)	Minimum number required: 2 Number preferred: 3
Tariff score	Points accepted: 280 Minimum points required from qualifications with the volume and depth of A level or equivalent: 280
GCE A/AS level grade range	

GCE A level

Acceptability	Acceptable on its own & combined with other qualifications
Excluded Subjects	Dance, Performing Arts and Music.
Additional Information	Science subject preferred.

Lee gained seven GCSE's including Maths and Science and he got a D in English Language which he is re-sitting. He is predicted to achieve the following A levels.

Psychology A Level grade B
 Biology A Level grade D
 Maths AS Level grade D
 Sociology AS Level grade C
 General Studies A Level grade D

How many points is Lee predicted to achieve? Is it advisable for Lee to apply to Nottingham Trent University?

Case Study Four - Michael

Michael is looking to go to Manchester Metropolitan University to do a four year Business Studies Sandwich course. Part of the entry requirements are as follows

GCSE/Standard Grade

Subjects and grades required	GCSE grade C In English language and mathematics
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Volume and depth of study/Tariff points and Grades

Volume and depth of study (GCE A level or equivalent)	Minimum number required: 2 Number preferred: 3
Tariff score	Points accepted: 240 Minimum points required from qualifications with the volume and depth of A level or equivalent: 180
GCE A/AS level grade range	

He gained seven GCSE's including English, Maths and science.

His predicted A level grades are as follows

A Level Double Applied Business C, C

Accounting A Level C grade

History AS Level D grade

General studies A level D grade

How many points is Michael predicted to achieve? Is it advisable for Michael to apply to Manchester Metropolitan University?

Case Study Five - Amber

Amber has a passion for acting which has really developed over the last couple of years. She had a small part in the school production and gained an A grade at GCSE Drama but she is not a member of a theatre group and has not got involved with the college production. She had heard that The Liverpool Institute for Performing Arts is a good place to study so she is thinking of applying for their acting course. Part of the entry requirements are as following

Course Specific Requirements

Course Specific Requirements	Applicants should be educated to A level standard (or equivalent), we do not ask for specific subjects to be studied. In addition to education we also take the following factors into account: 1) Experience, detailing examples of a range of acting roles 2) Communication Skills 3) Interdisciplinary experience and interest in other aspects of performing arts 4) Enterprise. Entry is via UCAS and by audition.
Interview/Audition may be required	Yes

Volume and depth of study/Tariff points and Grades

Volume and depth of study (GCE A level or equivalent)	Minimum number required: 2
Tariff score	Points accepted: 180

GCE AS

Acceptability	Not acceptable
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GCE A level

Acceptability	Acceptable on its own & combined with other qualifications
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Amber is predicted the following grades

English Language A level C grade

Performance Studies A level C grade

Media Studies AS Level B grade

Film Studies AS Level B Grade

General Studies A Level E Grade

How many points is Amber predicted to achieve and is it advisable for Amber to apply for this course?

Case Study Six - Omar

Omar wants to study chemistry at University. He knows he will not achieve three A grades but is hopeful of gaining the following predicted grades.

Chemistry A level B grade
Biology A level B grade
Maths A level C grade
Graphic design AS level C grade
General Studies C grade.

His friend has told him unless he achieves at least one A grade at A level he can forget studying chemistry at University. He has started looking on the UCAS website under course search and the first few Universities he has looked at do want at least an A grade Durham, Sheffield, Leeds, Liverpool and Warrick. Then another friend told him about the HEAP Guide - a book in the LRC which lists most subject areas and the Universities that offer courses and the grades they require. There is also the Progression Series. Omar finds the HEAP guide and looks under chemistry and he sees the following.

Where could he possibly apply to study Chemistry with the above grades?

CHEMISTRY

(see also **Biochemistry** and **Engineering (Chemical)**)

There is a shortage of applicants for this subject despite the fact that it is the basis of a wide range of careers in the manufacturing industries. These focus on such areas as pharmaceuticals, medicine, veterinary science and health, agriculture, petroleum, cosmetics, plastics, the food industry, colour chemistry and aspects of the environment such as pollution and recycling.

Useful websites www.rsc.org; www.chem.ox.ac.uk/vrchemistry.

NB The points totals shown to the left of the institutions are for ease of reference only. It must not be assumed that tariff points are always used by institutions or that they can be substituted for an offer in grades. The level of an offer is not necessarily indicative of the quality of a course.

COURSE OFFERS INFORMATION

Subject requirements/preferences GCSE English, mathematics/science subjects usually required. A/B grades often stipulated by popular universities. **AL** Two science subjects including chemistry required.

NB In 2010 universities and colleges will differ in their use of GCE AL/AS unit grade information, A* grades, the Extended Project, the Advanced Diploma and the Cambridge Pre-U examination when considering applicants and making offers. Check with your chosen universities and colleges for the latest information.

Your target offers and examples of courses provided by each institution
360 pts and above

Cambridge - A*AA (Nat Sci (Chem)) (IB 38-42 pts)

Durham - AAA (Nat Sci (Chem))

Imperial London - AAA (MSci/BSc Chem; Chem Rsch Abrd; Chem Mgt; Chem Cons Sci; Chem Fr Sci; Chem Fn Cheml Proc; Chem Medcnl Chem; Chem Ind)

London (UCL) - AAAe-BBBe (Chem courses) (IB 32-36 pts)

Oxford - AAA (Chemistry) (IB 38-42 pts)

- 340 pts** Durham - AAB-BBB (Chem courses)
 St Andrews - AAB 2nd yr entry (Chem courses) (IB 31-34 pts)
 Sheffield - AAB-ABB (Chem Chem Eng)
- 320 pts** Bristol - ABB-BBB (Cheml Phys; Chem courses)
 East Anglia - ABB (MChem Chem N Am; Chem Ind; Chem Analyt Foren Sci; Chem Euro; Biol Medcni Chem; Env Chem) (IB 32-33 pts)
 Exeter - ABB-BBC (Biol Med Chem)
 Leeds - ABB (Nanotechnology)
 Liverpool - ABB-BBC (Chem Nano; MChem Chem; Chem Bus St; Chem Ind; Medcni Chem Pharmacol) (IB 28-32 pts)
 Manchester - ABB-ABC (Chem; Chem Pat Law; Chem Ind Exp; Chem Bus Mgt; Medcni Chem) (IB 33-32 pts)
 Newcastle - ABB (MChem Chem courses) (IB 32 pts)
 Nottingham - ABB-BBB (Chem Mol Phys; Chem Ind; Medcni Biol Chem) (IB 32 pts)
 Southampton - ABB-BBB (BSc Chem; Chem Medcni Sci; Chem Ocn Earth Sci)
 Sussex - ABB (MChem Chem; Chem Foren Sci)
 Strathclyde - ABB-BBC (Chem courses)
 Warwick - ABB (Chem; Chem Mgt; Chem Medcni Chem; Biomed Chem; Chem Biol) (IB 34 pts)
- 300 pts** Bath - BBB-ABB 300-320 pts (Chem; Chem Mgt; Chem Drug Dscvry) (IB 34 pts)
 Birmingham - BBB-BBC (Chem; Chem Analyt Sci; Chem Bio-org Chem; Chem Fr; Chem Euro; Chem Aabd; Chem Bus Mgt; Chem Env Sci; Chem Pharmacol; Chem Psy) (IB 31 pts)
 Cardiff - BBB-BBC 300-280 pts (Chem courses)
 East Anglia - BBB (BSc Chem; Chem N Am; Chem Analyt Sci; Biol Medcni Chem; Env Chem; Chem Phys) (IB 31-33 pts)
 Edinburgh - BBB (Chem; Chem Analyt Chem; Chem Col Sci)
- Leeds - BBB (Chem courses except under 320 pts; Chem joint courses; Medcni Chem) (IB 30 pts H chem 6 pts)
 Leicester - BBB (MChem Chem; Chem USA; Chem Euro)
 Plymouth - 300 pts (Analyt Chem)
 Queen's Belfast - BBB-BBCb (MSci Chem Chem) (IB 27-30 pts H655)
 St Andrews - BBB 1st yr entry (Chem Geosci; Chem Comp Sci; Chem Fr/Ger/Spain; Chem Sci) (IB 31-34 pts)
 Sheffield - BBB-ABB (Chem Comput Drug Des; Chem Ent Mgt; Chem Ind; Chem Euro; Chem Maths; Chem Jap; Chem USA) (IB 29-35 pts)
 Sussex - BBB-ABB (BSc Chem; Chem Foren Sci) (IB 32 pts)
 York - BBB (Chem; Chem Biol Medcni Chem; Chem Mgt Ind; Chem Res Env) (IB 32 pts)
- 290 pts** Reading - 290-320 pts (MChem Chem courses)
- 280 pts** Bangor - 280-340 pts (MChem Chem)
 Glasgow - BBC-BCC (Chem; Chem Foren St; Chem Medcni Chem; Chem Maths; Chem Euro) (IB 28 pts)
 London (QM) - 280 pts (Chem courses)
 Loughborough - 280 pts (MChem: Chem Analyt Chem; Medcni Pharml Chem; Chem Foren Analys; Chem Spo Sci; Chem IT) (IB 30 pts)
 Newcastle - BBC (BSc Chem courses)
 Northumbria - 280 pts (MChem Chem)
 Queen's Belfast - BBC (Medcni Chem)
 Strathclyde - BBC (Chem; Chem Teach) (IB 28 pts)
 Teesside - 280 pts (Foren Chem; App Chem)
- 260 pts** Aberdeen - 260 pts (MChem Chem) (IB 30 pts)
 Bradford - BCC 260 pts (Chem Pharml Foren Sci)
 Heriot-Watt - BCC 2nd yr entry (Chem courses)
 Kent - 260 pts (Foren Chem; App Chem Sci)
 Lancaster - BCC-BBB (Env Chem)
 Northumbria - 260 pts (Chem Foren Chem; Chem Biomed Sci; Pharm Chem; App Chem)
 Nottingham - BCC (Chem courses except under 320 pts)
 Plymouth - 260 pts (App Chem)
 Queen's Belfast - BCC (BSc Chem courses)
 Reading - 260-290 pts (BSc Chem courses)
 Surrey - BCC-CCC 260-240 pts (MChem Chem; Chem Foren Invstg; Medcni Chem; Comp Aid Chem) (IB 30 pts)
- 240 pts** Aberdeen - CCC (BSc Chem; Env Chem; Med Chem)
 Aston - 240-300 pts (App Chem; Chem courses)
 Central Lancashire - 240 pts (Chemistry)
 Dundee - 240 pts (Biol Chem)
 Hull - CCC-BBB 240-300 pts (Chem courses)
 Leicester - CCC (BSc Chem) (IB 30-28 pts)
 Loughborough - 240 pts (BSc Chem: Chem Analyt Chem; Chem Foren Analys; Chem Spo Sci; Medcni Pharml Chem; Chem IT)

- 220 pts** **Bangor** - 220-280 pts (BSc Chem; Env Chem; Mar Chem; Chem Euro; Chem Ind; Chem Comp Sci; Chem Biomol Sci)
Glamorgan - 220-260 pts (Chem; Chem Biol)
Heriot-Watt - CCD 1st yr entry (Chem courses)
Keele - 220-280 pts (Chem courses) (*IB 26-28 pts*)
Nottingham Trent - 220 pts (Chem courses; Pharm Medcni Sci)
- 200 pts** **Brighton** - 200 pts (Pharm Chem Sci; Analyt Chem Bus)
Derby - 200 pts (Chem Biol)
Kingston - 200-280 pts (MChem Chem; Chem Ind; App Chem; Chem Hum Biol; Chem Bus; Medcni Chem)
Manchester Met - 200 pts (Chem; Chem Euro; Medcni Biol Chem; Analyt Chem; Foren Chem) (*IB 24 pts*)
- 180 pts** **Greenwich** - 180 pts (Chem; Chem Fr)
Liverpool John Moores - DDD-CCC (Medcni Chem; Pharml Chem)
Sunderland - 180 pts (Chem Pharml Sci)
- 160 pts** **Huddersfield** - 160-280 pts (Chem; Chem Ind)
London Met - 160-200 pts (Chem; Biol Medcni Chem; Cos Sci)
- 120 pts** **London Arts** - 120 pts (Cos Sci)
West Scotland - DD or bbc (Chem; Medcni Chem)
- 80 pts** **London (Birk)** - 80 pts under 21s (over 21s varies) (p/l Chemistry)
- Open University** - (Mol Sci - contact +44 (0)845 300 6090 or www.openuniversity.co.uk/you)

WORK BASED - PART TIME STUDY

Foundation Degree

Foundation Degrees are work-related, higher education qualifications, which enable you to gain credit for work-based learning. They are more flexible than full time university degrees so this means you can access them without the usual formal qualifications. However, they allow you to progress to other professional qualifications and honours degrees.

Foundation degrees can be delivered part time, full time or via distance learning etc. You can study in the workplace at a further or Higher Education College or a university. Employers such as BMW, KLM, Norwich Union, the Police and the hotel company Raddisson Edwardian are already on board.

These are some of the courses currently available:

Environmental/ Microbiology
Tourism Public Sector Management
Clothing & Textile Design
New Media Design
Construction Professions
Child Care/ Education
IT/ Network Management
Engineering
Forensic Science

This original list has now expanded considerably, and there is now a very wide range of foundation degree courses available at most institutions.

For more information go to: www.foundationdegree.org.uk

James's Story



James completed his A levels in 2008 and wanted to avoid full time university fees. He joined Chester based aircraft manufacture Airbus as an apprentice where wings for the new A380 "Superjumbo" are made. About to complete his foundation degree he plans to progress on to an honours degree and beyond all of this whilst earning £12k p.a. with Airbus paying for his education!

VOCATIONAL QUALIFICATIONS

Many jobs have their own qualifications which can be studied part time. Although not strictly degrees, qualifications like NAEA for estate agents can be converted into degrees. *See Raymond or Paula for details.*



The Open University

The Open University (OU)

The only university dedicated to distance learning. Study is via a variety of different methods including; (from home) written materials sent through the post, via computer using the OU website and email and also via telephone tutorials. Students also attend summer schools or other short residential.

The OU's style of teaching is called 'supported open learning'. This means you learn in your own time by reading course material, working on course activities, writing assignments and perhaps working with other students.

Nearly all OU students are part-time. About 70% of undergraduate students are in full-time employment and more than 50,000 are sponsored by their employers. Recent years have seen a 25% increase in the numbers of 19-25 year old OU students due to the lower fees charged.

For more details visit www.open.ac.uk



Professional Apprenticeships

Skills Solutions of Manchester offer an exciting way to gain your Management Degree whilst working. Opportunities are likely to be available throughout the year in: Management. If you are on course for A Levels or equivalent success call: 0161 233 2656 or go to: www.skills-solutions.org.uk

Siemens of Manchester (the company behind the BBCs "I Player" system) also have a management degree/ professional qualification apprenticeship called the Siemens Commercial Academy. Opportunities are available in human resources, accounting, procurement and logistics. Go to www.sca.siemens.co.uk or see Moodle Careers for details.

Researching My Options

Selecting the right Higher Education course and university is a complex task. It is very important that you thoroughly research your options. This guide is to help you focus on areas you should be thinking about.



Step One

Do I want or need to study at University?

Have I an idea of a career path I would like to follow it is?

If not try

Adult Directions which is a careers matching program on the college system. It will provide you with a personalised report, and/or

Higher Ideas - matching qualifications to university courses

Stamford test on the UCAS website.

There are also E-clips and Degree Course descriptions - see the careers leaflet at the end of this booklet.

Does my chosen career require a degree qualification?

I am still not sure of a career path but I know what subject or subjects I am interested in.

Subject/s

I can't decide on a single subject, so which combined subject courses interest me?

What level or type of course do I want to do? Degree: HND: Foundation course; other?

Note!

Different courses and qualifications will have different entry requirements and expectations. These depend partly on the number of places available and the number of students applying. Popular courses will ask for higher grades and popular universities will have higher entry requirements.

ENTRY PROFILES

For many courses UCAS have included entry profiles. These are available online via the UCAS course search. If a course has an EP symbol next to it there will be a profile available.

Profiles aim to improve the match between further education and higher education by giving more detailed information about the criteria for entry; not just qualifications, but also other characteristics such as transferable skills.

They should increase the likelihood of success in getting you onto your chosen course because they will help you see where you need to target your efforts when completing your UCAS application.



Step Two

Do I know the entry requirements for the subject/s I wish to study - if not go onto the UCAS website - course search and start finding out!

What grades do I think I will be able to achieve for my A levels?

Which Universities do the courses I am interested in? What are the minimum entry requirements for my chosen course(s)? On the UCAS application I can pick up to five choices. Do my grades match up to the entry profiles.

Option 1

Option 2

Option 3

Option 4

Option 5

Are there any specific entry requirements for my subject? (particular A level subjects, work experience)

What kind of jobs do graduates from the course go on to do?
(Look on the individual University course detail websites - it usually gives information about employability and the types of jobs graduates do)

I think I can achieve the typical offer for my subject and type of course.
What else is there to think about?

Do I want the chance to study abroad?

Do I want the opportunity to do work placements?

Do I want a sandwich year, working as part of the course in industry, commerce, public service etc? Are there any benefits?

What kind of assessment do I prefer; coursework, examinations, regular assessment or end of year?

Have I looked closely at the content of the course - some Universities study different areas so make sure you are aware of the module/unit content?



Step Three

Now I have found a number of possible Universities which offer the course/s I am interested in - Where do I want to study? Consider the questions below.

Do I want to live at home, within a couple of hours' travelling or further away?

Do I want to be in a big city, a town, in the countryside or by the sea?

Do I want to be in a self-contained campus or part of a town or city?

Can hall accommodation be guaranteed for first-year students?

Will the cost of living matter to me? (Halls of residence can be £3000 or more per year depending where you study)

Does the size of the institution matter to me? Do I want to be at a small, median or large institution?

Does the reputation of the institution matter to me?

Do I have special requirements that could affect my choice e.g. sports facilities, support with education,



Step Four

Now you need to make a short list of Universities which meet your criteria - potential grades, type of University, accommodation issues, other course requirements and other facilities.

Now is the time you should be thinking of visiting these Universities.

The following pages detail some of the University Open Days over the next few months.

SECTION FIVE

UNIVERSITY OPEN DAYS

Would you spend £10,000 on a car without having a look at it first? I doubt it!

Students should not really apply to a University until they have had a look at what they have to offer, the location, do they like to campus etc You could be committing to three or four years of your life and at current figures nearly £10,000 of tuition fees so it is important that you take the time over the next couple of months to visit some Universities to get a general feel.

While you have some spare time after your AS examinations it would be well worth visiting some Universities to see what they are like. It may help you decide if you want to apply to University. Information about University open days are contained on the individual university website or some of the open days are detailed on a website - www.opendays.com You need to book a place with the University to attend their Open Day



JOIN US ON THE BIG YELLOW BUS ON WEDNESDAY 23RD JUNE 2010 TO
ATTEND THE MANCHESTER METROPOLITAN UNIVERSITY OPEN DAY.

LEAVING COLLEGE AT 9.30AM

RETURNING between 1-2PM

COST £2 RETURN

- PLEASE RESERVE YOUR SEAT WITH SUE SNELSON ON STUDENT RECEPTION - LIMITED NUMBER OF PLACES AVAILABLE.

DATES FOR SOME UNIVERSITY OPEN DAYS

JUNE OPEN DAYS		
Date	University	University
2 nd June	Lancaster University University of Salford	University of Edinburgh University of Manchester
5 th June	University of Chester	University of Manchester Edge Hill University University of Sheffield University of Leicester
9 th June	Lancaster University University of Salford	Sheffield Hallam University
12 th June	University of central Lancashire Oxford Brooks University	Lancaster University Liverpool Hope University Manchester Metropolitan University
13 th June	Keele University	Loughborough University University of Birmingham
16 th June	University of Salford	University of Birmingham University of Nottingham University of Leeds University of Bristol
17 th June	University of Huddersfield	University of Leeds University of Nottingham University of Liverpool
		Manchester Metropolitan University Liverpool John Moores University

JULY OPEN DAYS		
1 st July	University of Sheffield	Lancaster University University of Salford
2 nd July	University of Sheffield University of Leicester Leeds metropolitan University Newcastle University	University of Hull
3 rd July	Newcastle University	Nottingham Trent University
5 th July	University of Bradford York St John University	University of Leicester
AUGUST OPEN DAYS		
20 th August	University of Salford University of Northampton	Keele University
21 st August	University of Central Lancashire	University of Lancaster
SEPTEMBER OPEN DAYS		
6 th Sept	University of Edinburgh	Loughborough University
7 th Sept	University of Sheffield	Loughborough University
9 th Sept	De Montfort University University of Leeds	Lancaster University Nottingham Trent University
10 th Sept	University of Liverpool	Bristol University
11 th Sept	University of Nottingham University of Birmingham York St John University	University of Leicester Staffordshire University

On your UCAS application you are able to list up to five choices. Your short list is.....

University	Course	Grades/Points required



Preparing to make an Application



How to promote yourself?

- What are your strengths?
- What would you like the person reading your application to know about you?
- How can you show that you are serious about the position or course?



Preparing your application

- It is important that you think carefully about experiences you have had that can support your application
- Remember you may be competing against 40 plus applicants – what makes you different?
- Why should the University or Employer pick you?



When completing your application try to include some of the following areas.

- What skills have you developed during your courses – research, presentation skills, working with others?
- Have you gained experience in working in a related environment?
- Do you do any voluntary work?
- Are you a member of a team – have you shown leadership qualities?



- Do you play a musical instrument/part of a band?
- Are you involved in extra curricular activities in college
 - India project
 - Duke of Edinburgh
 - Young Enterprise scheme
 - Sports teamIf not join in and get involved.



Between now and September

- Research your options and universities.
- Start your personal statement – look in careers section on moodle.
- Visit Universities – look on the web site for the open days. www.opendays.com
- Do some voluntary work.
- Complete additional work experience over the summer holidays.

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August Re-enrolment Interview

- AS results are published on
Thursday 19th August
- Appointments will be issued in July for the week beginning 23rd August.

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September 2010

- Personal Statements will need to be completed.
 - Deadlines for applications have to be met
 - Medicine, Veterinary Medicine, Dentistry, Oxford and Cambridge applications
- 24th September 2010**

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All other applications have to be completed by the

26th November 2010.

To guarantee that it will meet the UCAS deadline

BUT

For Competitive Courses
THE SOONER THE BETTER!!

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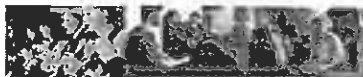
The UCAS deadline is in January however once you have handed in the completed form and before it can be sent to UCAS

- Your Tutor needs to write a reference
- Your Senior Tutor needs to check the application form
- Eddie Moore needs to make a final check
- Sharon Deaville has to collate all the information and forward it to UCAS

THIS TAKES TIME

and we have over 700 applications so the sooner you complete your part the quicker it will be sent to UCAS.

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- What the Upper Sixth has learnt!
 - Research more into course content and the required grades for a course.
 - Visit universities sooner – ask questions on lecture time per week, tutorial time, type of research set/assignment work.
 - Start your personal statement sooner
 - Hand the application form into the office at Aquinas once the ST had checked it.

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Job Applications

- Many employers start advertising vacancies for A level leavers from December.
- Regularly check moodle as all vacancies that come from Connexions are put onto the site.
- Closing dates for Apprenticeships are usually around March time.

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CV writing

Raymond Carr – College Careers Manager
delivers sessions on CV writing – watch out
for details in the bulletin.

Obtain a copy of the booklet –
'Beyond Aquinas – Looking for Jobs'
from the Careers Section in the LRC.

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Make the most of your time now start your
RESEARCH and think carefully when
completing your personal profile – time
spent now will save time later on.

THANK YOU FOR LISTENING

Making an Application

When you make an application to UCAS you need to prepare a personal statement. This is one of the most important elements. It is your opportunity to sell yourself and secure an offer of a place. It's crucial that your statement reflects your personality, as well as showing your motivation and commitment to your chosen course.

What do I write?

Your personal statement should give extra information you believe to be relevant to your choice of course and which doesn't appear anywhere else on the application.

Think of it in four sections

Section One	Section Two	Section Three	Section Four
Why this subject and this course? How it fits in with your career aspirations. How your AS/A2 studies lead towards this course.	What academic skills have you developed through your studies which will enable you to complete the course successfully?	All other activities in or out of college and the skills you've developed through them. E.g. work experience, voluntary work, extra curricular activities including sport.	A conclusion summing up your application.

Also don't forget

- Other forms of achievement such as Duke of Edinburgh's Award.
- Particular interests you have in your current studies.
- Details of non-examined subjects you are studying which could be relevant.
- Details of any industrial or professional sponsorship or placement you have secured or applied for, such as a year in industry.
- If you are applying for deferred entry, your reasons for doing this and your plans for your gap year.

2	Have you completed a piece of coursework, homework, assignment that you were proud of? What skills did you develop?
3	What work experience have you done which is relevant to your chosen career? Or if you have done work experience but not related to the course what skills did you develop? Does the course you wish to apply for state you must have a minimum period of work experience in a certain field?
4	What part time job/s have you done/doing now? What skills have you developed?
5	Note down your interests and hobbies. Explain any events you have been involved in. Have you organised any events linked with your interest/hobby? State the skills you have developed.

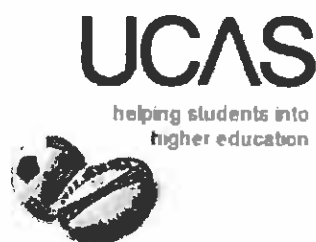
6	Do you do any voluntary work? Explain what you do and where?
7	Do you play sport? Are you a member of any clubs? Have you won any awards? Have you shown any leadership skills/team working skills? Have you coached younger members? Have you any qualifications in sport - leadership, coaching, umpiring?
8	Do you play a musical instrument? Have you taken and passed any exams (higher level)? Are you a member of a band? Have you been on any music tours?
9	Have you been involved in any activities at college? India project, complementary studies, charity work. Have you been on any college trips?
10	Is there anything else you are involved with? Are there any achievements that you are particularly proud of?

There is no ideal or recommended way to structure your statement, and no right or wrong format, but here are some hints to help you get started.

- **Your course.** Show you've researched your chosen course. Why are you interested? What sparked your interest? What specific topics do you enjoy? If you're applying for more than one course, try to identify common factors. What skills have you developed whilst studying for your A levels?
- **Career path.** If you have an idea of the career path you would like to follow, explain how the course fits.
- **Work experience.** Both related and unrelated to your course choice. Be specific about what you learned. Refer to transferable skills gained, for example, communication, planning, time management and problem solving.
- **Personal achievements.** Include any personal achievements and what they demonstrate: for example, participation in a fund-raising event may have involved teamwork, research and organisation skills, commitment and perseverance. Describe any positions of responsibility you've had, such as student mentor or team leader.
- **Extra-curricular activities.** You should include activities that support your course choice and describe any visits you have made for example, visits to art galleries for art courses or to hospitals for nursing.

You will have entered a lot of information about yourself already, so don't repeat any of that, and only mention hobbies if they have contributed to the development of your skills and personality, and if they support your application.

THE UCAS“APPLY” SYSTEM



Before you start your online UCAS form you will need to "register with UCAS". To do this go to www.ucas.co.uk, go to APPLY.

Then Student login 2011. Select register 2011; accept terms and conditions then complete initial details. The next screen is previous contacts with UCAS select here "I have none of the above", next screen is postal address, then nominate a password making a note of it below, answer the four security questions, if you have done everything correctly you should then see Register Success. To start to complete the main part of the form click on Login, to the question "how are you applying" answer "through a school or college", then put the Aquinas buzzword:

Allshallbewell11

A username is then created for you; please make a note of it and your password in the table below. You will need them to log on to APPLY. Give a copy of this table to your group tutor and save the detail as a word file for reference

User name	
Password	

You are now ready to start completing your UCAS form. Apply can be accessed from any computer with internet connection - just log on with your username and password from the apply login page.

Before starting to fill in your online application you should access the **Students** button at the very top of the UCAS homepage and then click on **Before You Apply**. This will answer any queries you may have about using APPLY. If you encounter any difficulty whilst filling in your form, online help can be accessed by selecting help from any screen in APPLY. The help text displayed will relate directly to the task you are completing at the time. Alternatively, telephone Customer Services on 08714680468.

MEDICINE, VETERINARY MEDICINE AND DENTISTRY

Applicants will already be aware of the work experience/ voluntary work necessary for a successful application. Entry is very competitive, and it is likely that you will have outstanding GCSE results (mainly A* or A) as well as mostly A grades in your AS level examinations. You will also need minimum predicted A level grades at A,A,B as well as a high level of motivation - academic success alone will not be sufficient. Nearly all medical schools require you to sit an additional entrance test, ie the UKCAT. www.ukcat.ac.uk whilst Oxford, Cambridge, Imperial and UCL require medical applicants to sit the BMAT test as do would be veterinarians applying to Cambridge and RVC go to: www.admissionstests.cambridgeassessment.org.uk

The 26 University Medical and Dental schools that require candidates to take the UKCAT test as part of the admissions process are as follows:

University of Aberdeen; Brighton and Sussex Medical School; Barts and The London School of Medicine; Cardiff University; University of Dundee; University of Durham; University of East Anglia; University of Edinburgh; University of Glasgow; Hull York Medical School; Keele University; King's College London; Imperial College London Graduate Entry; University of Leeds; University of Leicester; University of Manchester; University of Newcastle; University of Nottingham; University of Oxford Graduate Entry; Peninsula College of Medicine and Dentistry; Queen's University Belfast; University of Sheffield; University of Southampton; University of St Andrews; St George's, University of London; Warwick University Graduate Entry.

The closing date for registering to take this test is **27 September 2010**. However, due to high demand, students should register to take this test immediately to ensure they get a test slot at their chosen test centre.

UKCAT registration opens:	4 May 2010
UKCAT testing begins:	6 July 2010
Bursary and voucher application deadline:	27 September 2010
UKCAT registration deadline:	27 September 2010
UKCAT testing deadline:	8 October 2010
UCAS application deadline:	15 October 2010

To register and book a test, please go to the UKCAT website at www.ukcat.ac.uk.

Costs for UKCAT are as follows

UKCAT - UK Clinical Aptitude Test:

- Sit the test between 6 July and 31 August 2010 (test fee £60 EU / £95 Non EU)
- Sit the test between 1 September and 8 October 2010 (test fee £75 EU / £95 Non EU)

See Loretta Hardern (Science office) to discuss these careers.

Applications to Oxford and Cambridge

Oxbridge applicants, must see Niall Macdonald (Law office), the Oxbridge tutor to discuss applications before we break up for summer. You should also see Niall when you come into college to discuss your A2 courses.

"Oxbridge" only select the most academically successful students, anyone applying should have excellent GCSE results (usually As and A*s), A grades at AS level and predicted A grades for A2. They also need to be highly motivated and have the potential and ambition to achieve at the highest level. Subject tutors can give you realistic advice about your suitability.

See "Getting into Oxford and Cambridge" available in the LRC and <http://www.oxbridge-admissions.info> where there is a huge wealth of information about colleges and the application process and is a "must visit" location. Many Oxbridge courses and colleges administer examinations or tests (check this out in the prospectus or website), and most applicants will be invited for a technical and demanding interview.

UCAS applications for these courses have a college deadline of Friday 24th September and a UCAS closing date of October 15th. With such a short timescale you must complete most of your UCAS form during the summer break. Particularly useful are the profiles from the UCAS Course search (www.ucas.co.uk) now produced by many institutions.

Applications for Law and History

Because the number of applicants for Law is so high, an examination the LNAT has been established for a number of law schools for which there will be an entry fee. Since these are not tests of knowledge but of fundamental intellectual skills, no prior legal study will be necessary. Check it out at www.lnat.ac.uk. There is also the HAT test for Oxford Historians, see www.history.ox.ac.uk/prosundergrad/applying/hat_introduction.htm



apply

View all

Welcome > View all

This is an example of the application form for UCAS. Be very careful when completing the information especially the areas *

Personal details

Personal

Title	Mr
Gender	Male
First/given name(s)	John
Surname/family name	Smith
Preferred first name	
Previous surname at 16th birthday	
Postal address	1 Nangreave Road, Stockport, SK3 6TH
Is your permanent home in the UK?	Yes
Home address	
Home telephone number	0161 483 9456
Mobile number	07768756745
Email address	jsm91@hotmail.co.uk
Date of birth	10 September 1991
Country of birth	United Kingdom
Date of first entry to UK	
Nationality	UK national
Dual nationality	
Area of permanent residence	Stockport *
Residential category	UK Citizen or EU National *

Reference numbers

Unique Learner Number
 Independent Safeguarding Authority (ISA) Number
 Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL) Number
 International English Language Testing System (IELTS) Number

* This is a number you should have received from school.

Student support

Fee code
 Student support arrangements

Care - Not Ol. Private finance.
 02 LA, SAAS, NIBd, EU, ChI, IoM or Student Finance *
 England *
 Stockport *

↓ where the council tax is paid to.

Mailings from UCAS

Do you want to receive information by text message? No
 Do you want to receive information by email? Yes
 Do you not want to receive information by post? Yes

Nominated access * If you want a parent or guardian to speak to UCAS on your behalf put their name here .
 Full name of nominee
 Relationship to you

Criminal convictions

Criminal convictions No

Disability/Special needs

Category No disability
 Please give details of any special needs

✓ Additional information

Ethnic origin White
 National identity British
 Dual national identity

Activities in preparation for higher education: 1

Sponsor
 Start date
 Duration (days)
 School year
 Location

Activities in preparation for higher education: 2

Sponsor
 Start date
 Duration (days)
 School year
 Location

Have you been in care?	No
Duration in care	
Parental education	Yes
Occupational background	Engineer
I would like correspondence from Welsh universities, colleges and UCAS to be in Welsh	No

✓ Choices

University of Leeds (L23)

Philosophy (V500)

Campus: Main Site (-)	Live at home?: No
Start date: September 2010	Deferred entry?: No
	Point of entry:

The University of Liverpool (L41)

Philosophy (V500)

Campus: Main Site (-)	Live at home?: No
Start date: September 2010	Deferred entry?: No
	Point of entry:

The University of Manchester (M20)

Philosophy (V500)

Campus: Main Site (-)	Live at home?: Yes
Start date: September 2010	Deferred entry?: No
	Point of entry:

If you apply for this course you may be invited to attend an interview or audition or provide a portfolio, essay or other piece of work.

The Manchester Metropolitan University (M40)

Philosophy (V500)

Campus: Main Site (-)

Live at home?: Yes

Start date: September 2010

Deferred entry?: No

Point of entry:

The University of Sheffield (S18)

Philosophy (V500)

Campus: Main Site (-)

Live at home?: No

Start date: September 2010

Deferred entry?: No

Point of entry:

Previous UCAS application number (if known)

✓ **Education**

Aquinas College (33435, 09/2008 - 07/2010, FT)

GCE Advanced Level

These are the A levels you are taking.

<u>Biology</u>	08/2010
<u>General Studies</u>	08/2010
<u>Geography</u>	08/2010
<u>Philosophy</u>	08/2010

AQA Don't forget
AQA * General
AQA Studies.
AQA

GCE Advanced Subsidiary (first award 2001)

<u>Biology</u>	B	08/2009	AQA
<u>Economics</u>	C	08/2009	AQA
<u>Geography</u>	C	08/2009	AQA
<u>Philosophy</u>	A	08/2009	AQA

Include all your AS grades even the one you dropped.

This is the date you received your results not the date you took the exam.

Stockport School, Stockport (33461, 09/2003 - 07/2008, FT)**GCSE**

<u>Biology</u>	B	08/2008	AQA
<u>Business Studies</u>	A*	08/2008	AQA
<u>Chemistry</u>	B	08/2008	AQA
<u>English Language</u>	A	08/2008	AQA
<u>Geography</u>	B	08/2008	AQA
<u>German</u>	C	08/2008	AQA
<u>History</u>	A	08/2008	AQA
<u>Mathematics</u>	A	08/2008	AQA
<u>Physics</u>	B	08/2008	AQA

GCSE Short Course

<u>Citizenship Studies</u>	A	08/2007	WJEC
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Key Skills Qual (New)

<u>Information Technology</u>	Pass	08/2008	AQA	2
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✓ EmploymentMartins Newsagent

Address: London Road, Stockport, Cheshire

Nature of work: paper boy

From February 2005 to September 2008, part-time

Personal statement

SECTION EIGHT- MONEY MATTERS

At the time of writing this the government had not set the rates for 2011/12. An announcement is expected after the general election.



There are two main university "costs": **maintenance costs and tuition fees.**

'Maintenance' covers essential expenditure on items such as food, accommodation, travel, study equipment (books, paper, etc). To cover these costs, students apply to Student Finance England for a loan. The amount you can borrow is linked to your parents' income. It is reviewed annually and we expect that 2011/12 figures will range between £4000 for those living at home to just over £5000 for those living away. Students going to London can usually borrow up to 40% more than the general "away" figure. Students from lower income families may receive a non-repayable grant (£2,906 in 10/11). Further grants are available for students with disabilities or dependents.

University tuition fees are paid by you but you are able to obtain a loan for the fees which is repaid once you are in work earning more than £15,000 per year. Universities charges are not yet set for 2011/2012 but as a guide in 2010/11 the cost will be £3290 per year. The tuition fee loan is paid directly to the University once you have enrolled on the course.

All universities offer means tested, non-repayable cash gifts called Bursaries (£310 to an average of £1000, possibly higher!). The UCAS website has a "bursary comparator". Scholarships exist for science and engineering courses. Students on professional construction courses can apply for the generous INSPIRE scholarship programme (more details on Moodle). For Healthcare courses except medicine and dentistry, tuition fees will be paid by the NHS, and you will also be able to apply for an NHS bursary.

You can start to apply for the financial support from December 2010. It does not matter that you will not know where you will be going but get your application in as early as possible to reduce any potential delays at the start of your first term at University.

You apply on-line at www.direct.gov.uk/studentfinance Tel 0845 300 5090

PAYING THE BILL!



Now for the painful bit... You can pay online by credit or debit card (the details of which you need to enter before your application is sent to your referee).

When you have a completed form with your senior tutor's initials, you may now open up your online form and send to referee. Finally take your completed, doubly signed form together with your payment receipt number to Sharon Deaville or Carol Moran in the main office near to reception. They will then process the rest of your form. Your online application will not reach UCAS without payment and the signed printout.

It costs £21 for two to five choices on your form and £11 for just one.

PS..... if you are applying for an art foundation course check to see if you apply via UCAS or, as in some cases via direct application to the institution. Closing dates for art and design courses can vary between January 15th and the final week of March. Check the UCAS site for details.

SECTION TEN - KEY DATES FOR 2011 ENTRY

Most students will register for UCAS on Careers Day 8/7/10.

Early Summer Oxbridge applicants visit Oxford and Cambridge.

July Potential applicants for Medicine, Veterinary science, Dentistry and Oxbridge see tutors.

Applicants for above courses complete most of the online application **over the summer**. Other applicants should try and make significant progress with their application.

Friday 24th September - College deadline for completion of application for the above (UCAS deadline October 15th).

September -October work on your application with the help of your group tutor /senior tutor/Raymond or Paula.

22nd October- complete UCAS-Apply by this date.

26th November - **College deadline for all applications** (UCAS deadline 15th January). Applications received after college date cannot be guaranteed to meet UCAS deadline.

(late) February - for those with no offers, or those who have rejected all offers, **UCAS EXTRA** begins.

UCAS requires applicants to make firm and insurance choices around this time.

March 24th Art and design courses second closing date.

30th June closing date for **UCAS EXTRA**

18th August (provisionally) - those exam results are out today! The clearing process begins immediately for the small number of students not meeting their offer.

Answers

CASE STUDY ONE – Yasim

Yasim gained seven GCSE's including C's at English, Maths and double award Science. She is predicted to get

Predicted Points

Geography A Level grade C	80 points	
English Language A Level grade C	80 points	
PE A Level A level grade D	60 points	
Biology AS Level grade E		20 points
Extended Project grade B		50 points
General Studies A level grade C	80 points	
Total	300 points + 70 points	

She has 300 points from A levels and she is predicted a C grade in Geography. She has C grades at Maths English and Science at GCSE level so Yasim does appear to be on target to meet the qualification entry criteria so she could apply. If she visits the University before she applies she may be able to speak to the admissions tutors and get a feel for the type of student they are looking for. She may get some hints as to what to put into her personal statement.

CASE STUDY TWO - Lucy

Lucy gained nine GCSE's including Maths, English and Science. She is predicted to get

Law A Level grade B	100 points
English Language A Level grade C	80 points
History A Level A level grade D	60 points
General Studies A Level grade D	60 points
	300 points

Lucy needs 300 points for this course with at least 240 points coming from A levels. As she did not pass her fourth AS level in the first year she gained no points however if she can get the grade D in General Studies and achieves the other predicted grades then she will have enough points to satisfy the qualification entry criteria. Her application would be strengthened if she had completed a work placement in a legal environment. Again if she visits the University before she applies she may be able to speak to the admissions tutors and get a feel for the type of student they are looking for. She may get some hints as to what to put into her personal statement.

CASE Study Three - Lee

Lee gained seven GCSE's including Maths and Science and he got a D in English Language which he is re-sitting.

He is predicted to achieve the following A levels.

Psychology A Level grade B	100 points	
Biology A Level grade D	60 points	
Maths AS Level grade D		30 points
Sociology AS Level grade C		40 points
General Studies A Level grade D	60 points	
	220 points	70 points

Lee is predicted in total 290 points but only 220 from A level so he will not have the required points. He is also retaking GCSE English so he would not get a place without it.

I would advise Lee to look for other Psychology courses where fewer points are required.

CASE STUDY Four – Michael

His predicted A level grades are as follows

A Level Double Applied Business C,C	160 points	
Accounting A level C grade	80 points	
History AS Level D grade		30 points
General studies A Level D grade	60 points	
	300 points	30 points

If Michael does achieve the above grades he will have sufficient points and therefore could apply for this course. He perhaps should look for courses with a higher points requirement as well and keep the Manchester Met course as a possible insurance place.

CASE STUDY FIVE – Amber

Amber is predicted the following grades

English Language A level C grade	80 points	
Performance Studies A level C grade	80 points	
Media Studies AS Level B grade		50 points
Film Studies AS Level B Grade		50 points
General Studies E grade	20 points	
	180 points	100 points

Amber has 280 points in total and 180 points from A levels. According to the entry criteria The Liverpool Institute for Performing Arts does not accept AS level qualifications in the points calculation, they only want points from A levels so with General Studies she will just have enough. However, Amber has not got the experience of a range of acting roles which if in competition with many other students would have made her application stronger. Advise Amber to look for other courses and compare the points required. Suggest that she visits the University and speak to the admission tutor to see what they say about her lack of experience and whether it is worth applying.

CASE STUDY SIX – Omar

Using the information from the HEAP guide Omar could research further into the Universities listed requiring 280 points as he may achieve this many from his subjects. He could look at the Universities requiring 300 points but from the guide it looks as though they want three A levels so further research will be needed. He will gain a further 80 points by achieving a grade C in general studies but he would have to check with the individual Universities to see if they would accept general studies as part of the offer. However General Studies may help his case and confirm his place if he narrowly misses the points requirement when he receives his results on results day.

Chemistry A level B grade	100 points	
Biology A level B grade	100 points	
Maths A level C grade	80 points	
Graphic design AS level C grade		40 points
General Studies C grade.	80 points	