

# Introduction to Higher Education: Why University?







# Where are we?

North West of England
South of the Lake District
2.5 Hours from London
1 Hour from Liverpool and Manchester





Why Consider University?

Choosing a Course

**Researching Universities** 

The Application Process

Questions



# What will University mean to you?









# Volunteer at University

LUSU (Lancaster University Students' Union) offer volunteering schemes for:

Schools work
Community Work
Environmental Work
University Events

From being a teaching assistant to youth work, crime prevention to local conservation there are opportunities for all interests, with many inherent benefits.

Participants attain many employable skills, but the benefits they **give back** through their work often outweigh any personal gain.





# Travel at University

A chance to see a new part of the world

Can go for a vacation, term or Year?

Make friends for life

Communication, confidence and team working skills





#### Sports

You can compete at 3 levels:

Novice
Inter-college (Lancaster)
Elite





#### Try Something new?

A new sport?
A different team?
Better facilities?
Regional, National and International competitions





#### **Societies**

Over 200 groups and societies
Academic related or hobby
Not all sports based

#### **Constantly growing**

In 2014/15, over 50 new societies were founded at Lancaster Carry on a life long passion Meet people with similar interests!





Advertising

American Football

Art
Airsoft
Athletics
Baking
Ballroom Dancing

Basketball Cheerleading

Cartoons and Comics
Christian Union
Comedy
Consulting
Dance

Debating Disney

Dr Who

**Economics** 

Engineering Entrepreneurs FIFA

Film

**Feminists** 

**Football** 

Gaming

**Harry Potter** 

Hip Hop
Hockey
Italian
Kickboxing

Law

Lego

Marketing

Modelling

Music

Netball

**Photography** 

Pokémon

Rugby Union/League

Rowing

**Real Ale and Cider** 

Running

Sailing

Scandinavian

**Star Wars** 

Swimming

**Tea Appreciation** 

Theatre



# Choosing a University and a Course





+ 390 Higher Education Institutions



+50,000 Courses







## Where to start?

What is your favourite subject at Sixth Form/College?

What subject have you been most successful in?

What interests you most?

What job do you want after university?



#### **Traditional Courses**

English
Mathematics
Sciences
Geography
Art





Courses often unavailable in Sixth Forms/Colleges

Accounting
Medicine
Linguistics
Ecology and Conservation





#### **Specialised Subjects**

Circus and Physical Performance
Ethical Hacking
Baking Technology Management
Pollution Science

#### **Combined Subjects**

Politics and Economics

Management and Languages

Criminology and Psychology





# Researching Universities







# Researching Universities

**Entry Requirements** 

Campus or City?

League Tables, TEF and NSS

Home or Away?

Study Abroad / Industry Links

**University Facilities** 

Accommodation



# **Entry Requirements**

Traditional qualifications or UCAS points? EPQ?

Require an Interview?

Are specific qualifications needed?

Studied at the same sitting?





# Campus?

Community and Safety

Self-contained and student oriented

More Part-time Jobs?





# City?

**Amenities and Services** 

Independence and Freedom

More Part-time Jobs?





## League Tables

Independent sources of information

Looks at both universities and departments

Examples include The Times and Sunday Times,
The Complete University Guide and The
Guardian

## However....

Different league tables use different criteria – compare sources!

_							
*	1st	<b>•</b> 0	Cambridge	592	4.14	3.33	87.8
~	2nd	<b>•</b> 0	Oxford	570	4.13	3.34	83.7
~	3rd	-2	St Andrews	525	4.38	3.13	83.3
~	4th	•1	London School of Economics	537	3.75	3.35	84.4
*	5th	•1	Imperial College London	552	3.99	3.36	90.3
~	6th	<b>&gt;</b> 0	Durham	519	4.16	3.14	83.2
~	7th	<b>4</b> 3	University College London	501	3.97	3.22	87.2
~	8th	<b>•</b> 0	Warwick	478	4.12	3.22	80.3
~	9th	<b>•</b> 0	Lancaster	402	4.17	3.15	82.6
*	10th	<b>-</b> 3	Loughborough	400	4.18	2.95	85.1
*	11th	<b>•</b> 0	Bath	479	4.16	3.17	84.9
•	12th	<b>~</b> 2	East Anglia (UEA)	407	4.16	3.11	73.9

#### Pick a subject area Main table



2018 🗸	2017	Institution	Guardian score/100
1	1	Cambridge »	100
2	2	Oxford »	98.1
3	3	St Andrews »	94.5
4	6	Durham »	84.2
5	10	Bath »	81.9
6	7	Imperial College »	81
6	4	Loughborough »	81
8	9	Warwick »	80.9
9	8	Lancaster »	80.8
10	4	Surrey »	78
10	14	UCL »	78
12	15	Coventry »	76.7
13	11	Exeter »	76.2
14	16	Leeds »	75.8
15	12	London School of Economics »	74.5
15	13	Birmingham »	74.5
17	19	York »	74.3
18	24	UEA »	74.2
19	25	Nottingham »	72.9
20	20	Sussex »	72.5
21	39	University for the Creative Arts »	72.2
22	23	Kent »	71.7



# Learning at University







Can Include:
Lectures
Laboratory practicals
Seminars
Group work
Independent study

With a variety of Assessments:

Essays

Reports

Group projects

Lab books

Presentations

Worksheets



# Example timetable for Maths



	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
9am			MATH111 (Numbers and Relations) LECTURE	MATH101 (Calculus) LECTURE	
10am					
11am	MATH111 (Numbers and Relations) LECTURE	Psychology 101 Minor Subject	MATH101 (Calculus) LECTURE	Psychology 101 Minor Subject	MATH101 COMPUTER LAB
12pm			Psychology 101 Minor Subject		MATH101 (Calculus) LECTURE
1pm					MATH111 WORKSHOP
2pm	MATH111 PROBLEM-SOLVING CLASS	MATH111 (Numbers and Relations) LECTURE	Practice for university football team (finish 6pm)	MATH101 WORKSHOP	
3pm			-		Psychology 101 Minor Subject
4pm	Psychology 101 Minor Subject		-	MATH111 (Numbers and Relations) LECTURE	•
5pm		MATH101 (Calculus) LECTURE	-		Meet Muay Thai society for event



# Applying to University







# **UCAS**

Universities and Colleges Admissions Service

Register with UCAS and apply

Add up to 5 universities (4 for some courses)

Offers on a conditional or unconditional basis



#### **Section 1 Section 2 Section 3 Section 4** Your Your Your Your personal qualifications personal reference statement details Grades Your obtained chosen courses **Predicted** grades





## What is a Personal Statement?

4,000 characters (47 lines of text) to show a university why they should consider your application

# How are Personal Statements used?

Providing basis for interview questions
Evidence of voluntary / work experience
Considering borderline cases
A chance for universities to learn about you



Imagine you are being interviewed...

"Why do **YOU** want to study this subject, and what makes **YOU** the right person for the course?"

Ultimately, your personal statement should answer this question



#### **REMEMBER:**

You can't guarantee getting an interview.

This means that your Personal Statement is your chance to stand out from other applicants and say something...

So say **something!** 







University will be what you make of it...

So make the most of it, and enjoy!





Open Days 2019
29<sup>th</sup> June
13<sup>th</sup> July
7<sup>th</sup> September
14<sup>th</sup> September

www.lancaster.ac.uk/visitus

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