



The Path to University

This page is designed to help you make informed decisions about your future. When you decide to go to university, you've still got lots of choices ahead of you about what type of university you'd like to go to and what course to study. There's also lots to learn about student finance and life at university.

1 Choosing a Course

There are over 37,000 degree courses available at university; some subjects are ones you may have studied at school, but others will be completely unfamiliar. When choosing a subject to study, think about what subjects you enjoy at school, what you find interesting and how you like to learn. You can research courses at <https://www.ucas.com/explore/subjects>.

English	→	Creative Writing or Linguistics
Art	→	Photography or Animation
Biology	→	Marine Biology or Biomedical Sciences
History	→	Classics or Archaeology
Languages	→	Arabic, Mandarin or French
Maths & Physics	→	Economics, Engineering or Computing
Geography	→	Earth Sciences or Geology

2 Choosing a University

Universities fall into three main categories: city, campus and collegiate.

- City: the university accommodation and teaching spaces are spread throughout the city
- Campus: the university's facilities are all in one big area
- Collegiate: the university is divided into smaller communities known as colleges



City



Campus



Collegiate

Cardiff, Sheffield, Edinburgh,
King's College London

Warwick, Sussex, Swansea,
Bath, Exeter

Oxford, Cambridge,
Durham

What does university cost?

Tuition fees:
up to £9,250
depending on the
course

Maintenance loan
for living costs: rent,
food, books, travel,
etc

Government loan:
start repaying once
you earn over
£25,000 per year



How much do I repay per month, once I finish university?

If you earn ... per year	You repay ... per month
Below £25,000	£0 per month
£27,000	Approximately £15 per month
£30,000	Approximately £37 per month

4 Life at University

Living at University:

If you choose to live away from home, you'll often live in the university's halls of residence. Some accommodation is catered (where meals are prepared for you) or self-catered (where you cook for yourself). Living in halls can be a good way to meet people. Universities have lots of support services to help you if you are struggling



Clubs & Societies:

University offers you lots of opportunities to get involved in sports, activities and volunteering beyond your studies. You can continue with current hobbies, or try something completely new, like trampolining,

Studying:

At university, teaching happens in lectures (where information is presented to large groups) and seminars (small group discussions). Depending on your subject, you might also have labs and fieldwork. You will also be expected to study independently to complete assignments and revise for exams. Universities have lots of facilities to support with your studies.

