

Making the right choices



UCAS

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Contents

By the end of this presentation, you will:

- understand the choices available to you when you leave school
- understand the different types of higher education courses
- know the next steps you need to take if you want to apply to higher education

Choices available

- Higher education
- Apprenticeships and traineeships
- Studying abroad
- Gap year
- Getting a job

Understand the options available and make choices that are right for you.

Visit ucas.com/alternatives

Apprenticeship advice

UCAS provides [apprenticeship advice](#) to help students make informed decisions about their post-16 and post-18 opportunities.

Find out about:

- the different types of apprenticeships
- how to find and apply for apprenticeships
- preparing for the application and interview process

With the predicted growth of higher and degree apprenticeships, you'll also find a dedicated [degree and professional apprenticeships section](#) on [ucas.com](#), which profiles current programmes in more detail.

Why higher education (HE)?



Essential for some career paths.



Develop new transferable skills and subject knowledge.



Increase your confidence and independence.



Broaden your experiences.



Show yourself what you can do.



Invest in your future.

HE study options

- Certificate of Higher Education (CertHE) and Diploma of Higher Education (DipHE): first and second year of a degree course.
- Higher National Certificate (HNC) and Higher National Diploma (HND): HNC is a one-year work-related course, and the HND is a two-year work-related course.
- Foundation degree: flexible vocational qualification, combining both academic study and workplace learning. It usually takes two years to complete.
- Bachelor's or undergraduate degree: a three to four-year course which can also be available as a part-time option, allowing you to study and work.

Types of courses available

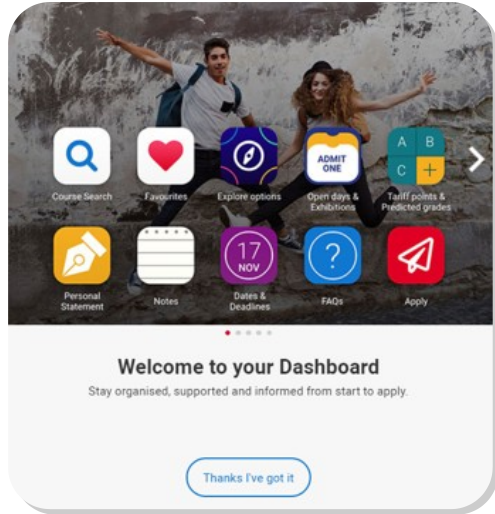
- **Single:** study one subject.
- **Joint honours degree:** divide your time 50:50 between two subjects.
- **Major/minor:** study two subjects, normally at a 75:25 ratio.
- **Combined honours programme:** study between two to four subjects, specialising in just two subjects in years two and three.
- **Modular courses:** build a personalised course by choosing modules you're interested in.
- **Sandwich courses:** courses with one year in industry or a year abroad.
- **Foundation year:** if you don't have the right qualifications, some universities and colleges offer this to help students prepare for and enter higher education.

What's right for you?

There are a number of things for you to consider when applying for higher education, such as:

- a subject **you** enjoy – you are investing time, money, and effort
- whether it's right for your career path – check with employers
- location – city or rural, transport links
- a study style that suits you
- extracurricular activities
- finances

Where to start...



Register for the UCAS Hub to explore your options, such as:

- find and favourite over 35,000 courses
- search for virtual tours and online events
- turn predicted grades into Tariff points

Head to ucas.com/hub

Research – it's free!



- Learning from others – [student videos](#) and [blogs](#).
- [Career options](#) – use the [job profiles](#) to explore different career roles and pathways, or take the [Buzz quiz](#) to find out more about individual strengths, and what roles may suit you.
- The [Career Finder tool](#) is ideal for considering options after education, including searching for [apprenticeships](#).

Additional help

UCAS Customer Experience Centre

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