

# An introduction to Higher Education

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HEAD OF UK STUDENT RECRUITMENT & WP

RECRUITMENT & ADMISSIONS, LANCASTER UNIVERSITY

# 1. Experience

It's all about finding the right one

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Pointless...?



# Pointless...?

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Can you rank, in descending order,  
the following universities as listed in  
the 2023 Complete University Guide?

Exeter ...?

Bath ...?

Liverpool ...?

Lancaster ...?

Manchester ...?

Newcastle ...?

Oxford ...?

# Pointless...?

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Can you rank, in descending order, the following universities as listed in the 2023 Complete University Guide?

Exeter	...?	19
Bath	...?	8
Liverpool	...?	21
Lancaster	...?	11
Manchester	...?	17
Newcastle	...?	36
Oxford	...?	1

# A Top Ranking Global University



## Best in the North

National Student Survey 2022

## Best in the North West, 2<sup>nd</sup> in the North

Time and Sunday Times Good University Guide 2023

## 26<sup>th</sup> in the World for Sustainability

QS World University Rankings 2023

## Gold Rated for Environmental Impact

QS World University Rankings 2022

STUDENTCROWD

5<sup>th</sup> for Value for Money | 8<sup>th</sup> for Wi-Fi & Internet | 14<sup>th</sup> for Job Prospects | 16<sup>th</sup> for Campus & Facilities

## 2. Questions

Here's some things to think about

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# Home or away...?

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“Students who stay at home choose from a limited selection....Better to select the course that **best suits their interests**, not the best locally available”

“Students who study away from home have **better job prospects**... graduates who attend a local university are less likely to move and find work”

“Graduates who migrate **earn more** than those employed in their home region”

# What should I study to get a good job?

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Which of these subjects do you think had the highest percentage of students going on to highly skilled work 15 months after their course?

Biology

English  
Literature

Geography

Psychology

# What should I study to get a good job?

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Biology

English  
Literature

Geography

Psychology

# What should I study to get a good job?

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Art:	television, arts admin, web page design, tourism
Biochemistry:	forensic science, management, IT, sales
Biology:	environmental consultancy, finance, marketing
Geography:	journalism, banking, accountancy, law, sales
History:	law, finance, IT, management, computing
Law:	accountancy, banking, the media, industry, sales
Languages:	law, tourism, civil service, diplomatic service
Media Studies:	personnel, marketing, public relations
Philosophy:	law, finance, local government



# Graduate employers



# Discover Uni



Thinking about uni

Starting uni

Further information

Course search 

Cymraeg



Thinking about your uni choices?

Search and compare undergraduate courses in the UK



Search by course name and/or institution



Course name

Institution name



Search



Course Wizard

Answer 4 questions to find courses relevant to me

Start Now

# Guess the Graduate...Round 1

## Clue 1

Born in 1963 in Bristol

## Clue 2

Studied music at  
Lancaster University



**James May**

Music | 1985  
Pendle College

## Clue 3

One third of the Top Gear  
and Grand Tour presenters

## Clue 4

Nickname is  
'Captain Slow'

# Guess the Graduate...Round 2

## Clue 1

Born in 1977 in Preston

## Clue 2

Studied English and  
Philosophy at Lancaster  
University



## Ranvir Singh

English & Philosophy | 1998  
Pendle College

## Clue 3

Political Editor and  
newsreader for Good  
Morning Britain

## Clue 4

Reached the semi final in  
SCD 2020

# Guess the Graduate...Round 3

## Clue 1

Born in 1964



## Clue 3

As an actor he's played  
'Supreme Leader Snoke' in  
Star Wars...

## Clue 2

Studied Theatre Studies at  
Lancaster University

## Andy Serkis

Theatre | 1985  
County College

## Clue 4

...and he's also the man  
behind Gollum!?

# 3. Make an educated choice

Finding the right university and course for you

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How Many Higher Education  
Institutions?



How Many Courses?

# Real Degree or Fake Degree?

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**Fake**

**Fake**

**Real!**

University College  
London

**Real!**

London Southbank  
University

**Real!**

Heriot-Watt University

**Fake**

**Fake**

**Real!**

Abertay University

# Choosing the right university is tough!

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It's about doing the research to....

find the **right university**...

...offering you **the right course**

The UK is one of the best places to study in the world!

It's a global question

# WHERE ARE WORLD'S TOP 200 UNIVERSITIES LOCATED

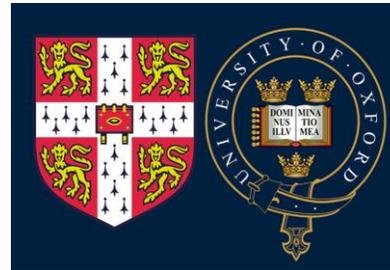


# Not all universities are the same

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**RUSSELL  
GROUP**



**MillionPlus**

The Association for  
Modern Universities



# The Russell Group

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‘So should I just apply to **Russell Group** Universities?’

# University Challenge

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Which of the following Universities are not in the **Russell Group**?

Birmingham

Bath

Bristol

Coventry

Durham

Exeter

Glasgow

Goldsmith's

Imperial

Leicester

Liverpool

Lancaster

Royal Holloway

Oxford

Queen Mary

Southampton

St Andrew's

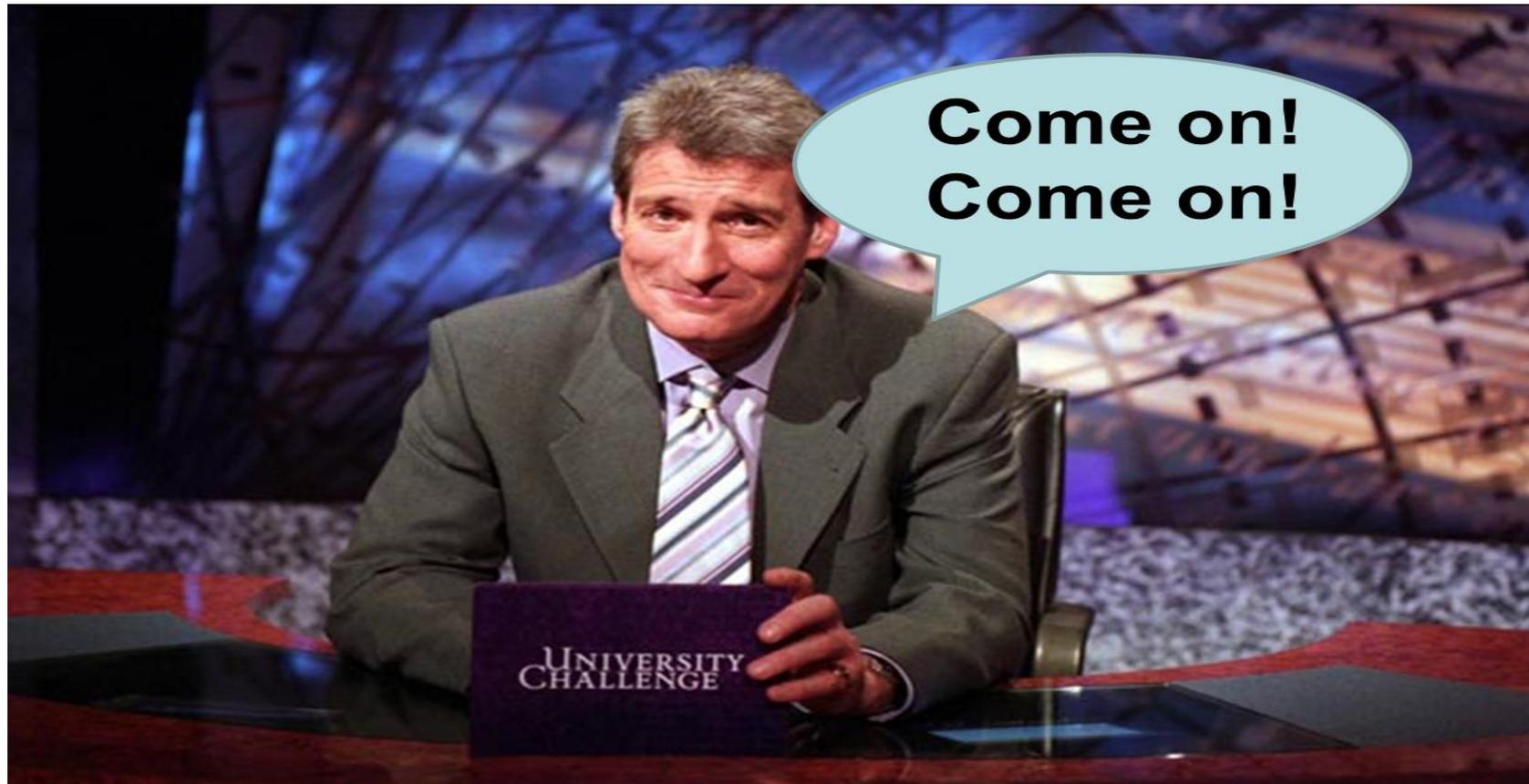
Sussex

Warwick

York

# University Challenge

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# University Challenge

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Which of the following Universities are not in the Russell Group?

Birmingham

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Goldsmith's

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Leicester

Liverpool

Lancaster

Royal Holloway

Oxford

Queen Mary

Southampton

St Andrew's

Sussex

Warwick

York

# Research intensive vs regional/vocational

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## **Type 1:** Research intensive universities

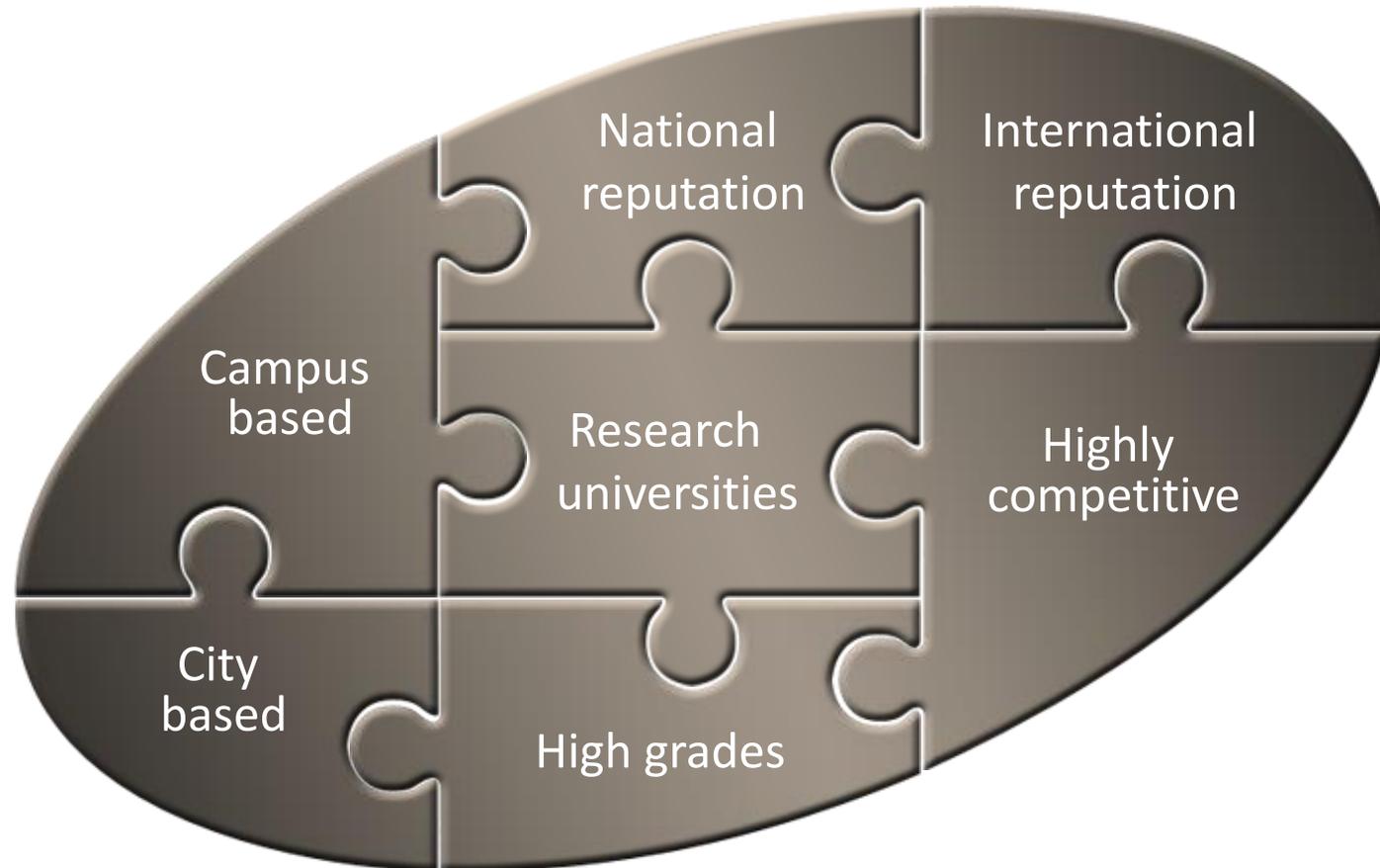
Academic and research focus , 'traditional' subjects, 21<sup>st</sup> century research, solving world problems, Russell Group and others

## **Type 2:** Regional/vocationally focused universities

Vocationally focused, greater emphasis on teaching skills and sector focused, Millennium Plus group and others

# Research Intensive University

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# What size of university?

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**Small City/ Campus based** – (10 –to 20,000 students)

Lancaster, York, Durham, Oxford, Warwick...

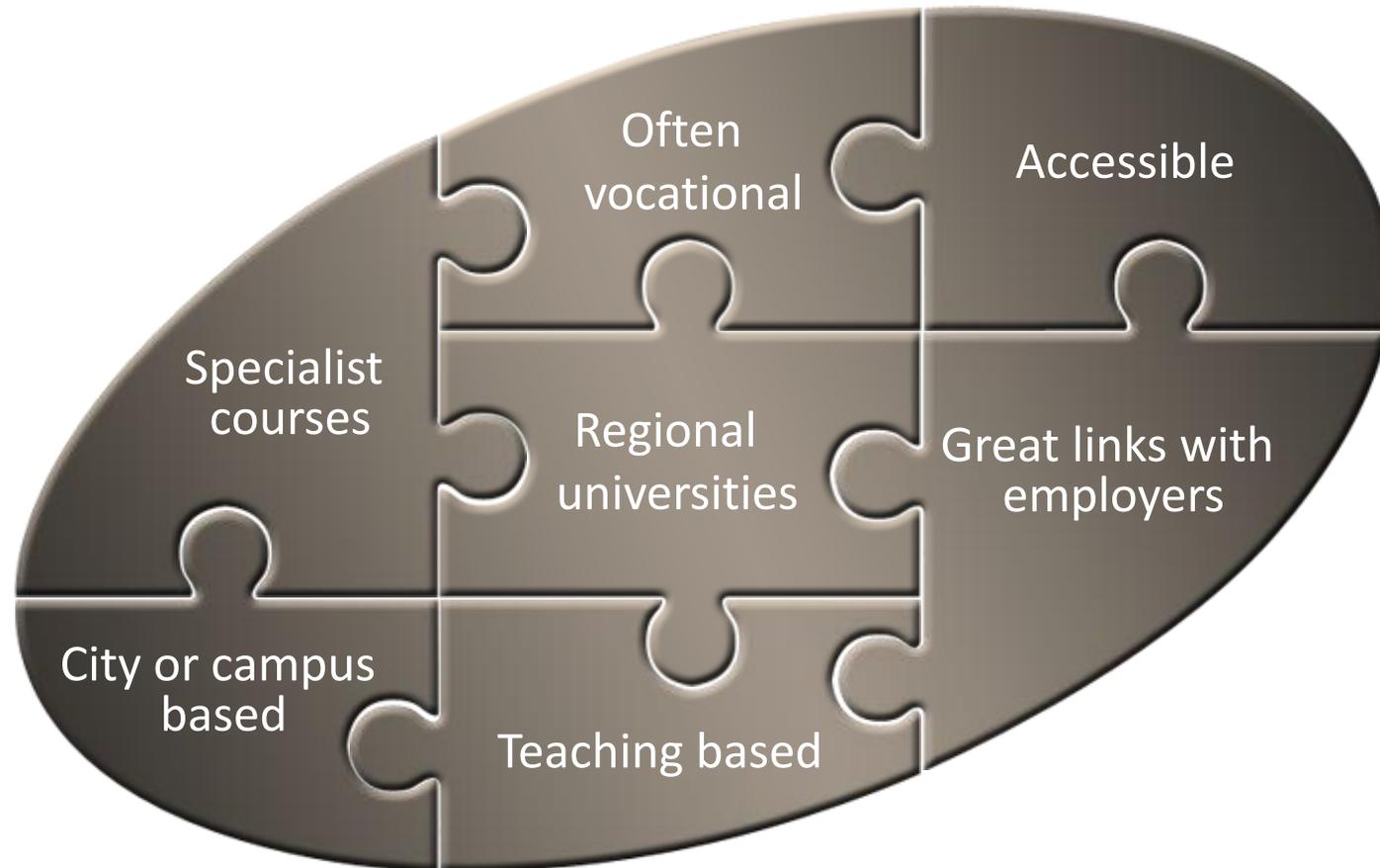
**City/campus-based** – (20 –to 40,000 students)

Manchester, Bristol, Newcastle, Leeds,...



# Regional/Vocational University

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## 4. Other 'stuff'

A few other things to think about

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# Record demand for university places



Clare Marchant UCAS CEO:

*'The number of university applicants is expected to rise from around 700,000 a year to more than a million in the next four years..*

*"Demand from 18-year-olds is rising, there's a demographic increase and international attractiveness."*





# Play Your University Cards Right!



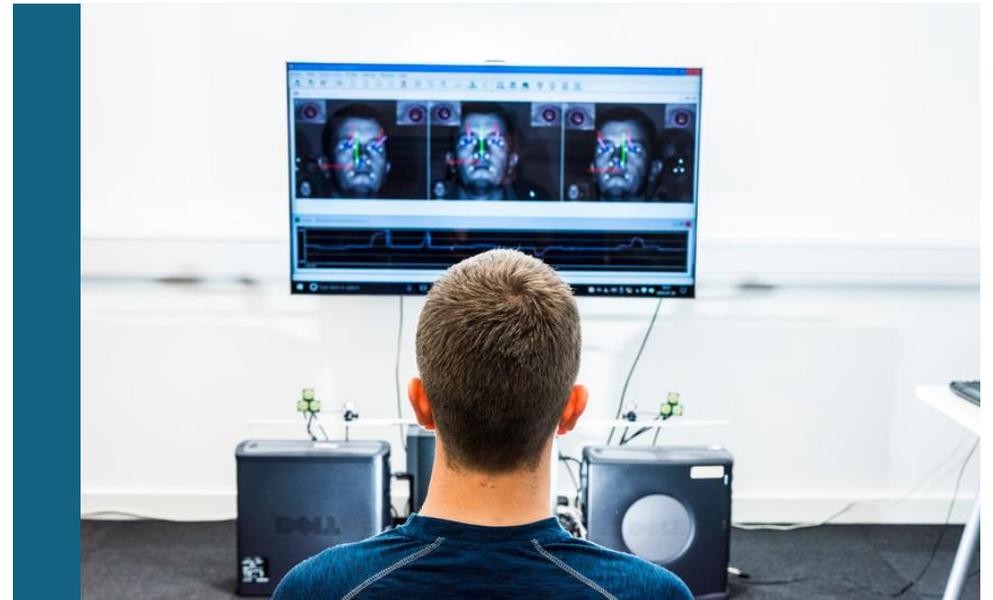
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	Applications 2022	Accepted applicants 2022
Oxford	24,080	3,300
Cambridge	22,995	3,555
Lancaster	21,120	4,440
Southampton	43,255	5,075
York	30,180	4,955
Edinburgh	77,730	6,680
King's College	70,090	7,320
Warwick	43,735	5,735
Durham	34,205	4,680
Liverpool	43,435	5,910

# Entry requirements

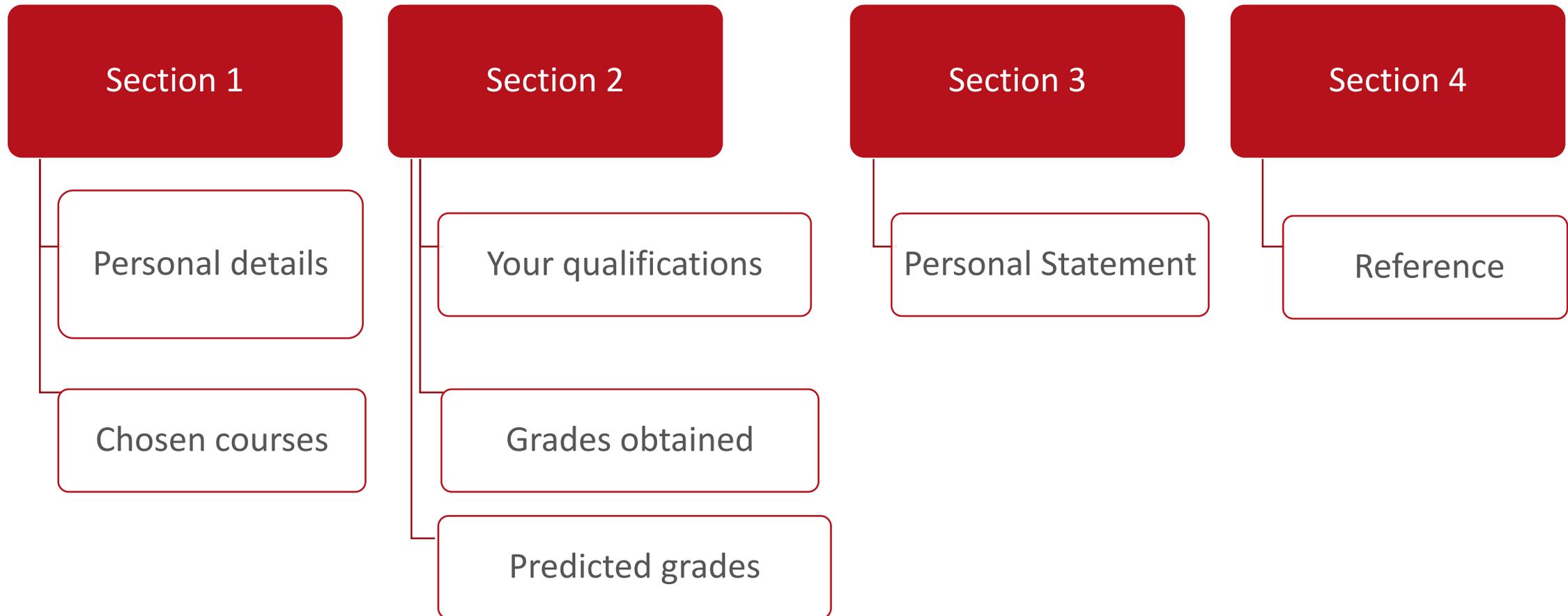
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- Does the university accept the UCAS tariff? What qualifications do they accept?
- Does the course require an interview?
- Are specific qualifications needed?
- Does the university accept resits?



# Will you be qualified?

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# Types of courses

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## Traditional Courses

- English
- Mathematics
- Sciences,
- Geography
- Art

## Courses Often Not Available at Sixth Form or College

- Accounting
- Medicine
- Linguistics
- Zoology



# Studying abroad

- Does the university offer a study abroad pathway for your subject?
- If not, what other options do they offer? (e.g. semester, week, field trip?)
- *Note: May have higher entry requirements than standard course*

## Biology (Study Abroad) BSc Hons

UCAS Code <b>C105</b>	Entry Year <b>2023</b>	A Level Requirements <b>AAA</b>	Duration <b>Full time 48 Months</b>
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# Placement/Year in Industry

- Can you take part in a placement year?
- What support is available when finding placements and whilst you're there?
- What other careers support is available?



## Economics (Industry) BA Hons

UCAS Code L111	Entry Year 2023	A Level Requirements AAB	Duration Full time 4 Years
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# University facilities

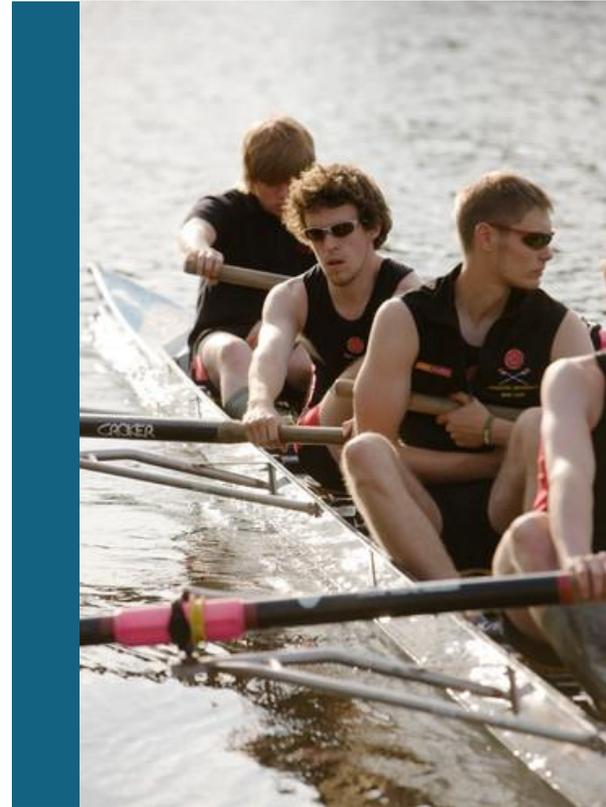
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- Study Spaces
  - Library
  - Group Spaces
- Sports Facilities
- Amenities
  - Shops
  - Restaurants
  - Post Office
  - Nighlife



# Clubs and societies

- There are over 175 societies at Lancaster
- Over 80 sports teams
- Cultural Linguistic & Religious based
- Social Political & Charitable Causes
- TV, Radio Station, Cinema



# 5. Student finance

Study first, pay later

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# Applying for Student Finance means you apply for two financial loans:

## 1. Tuition Fee Loan

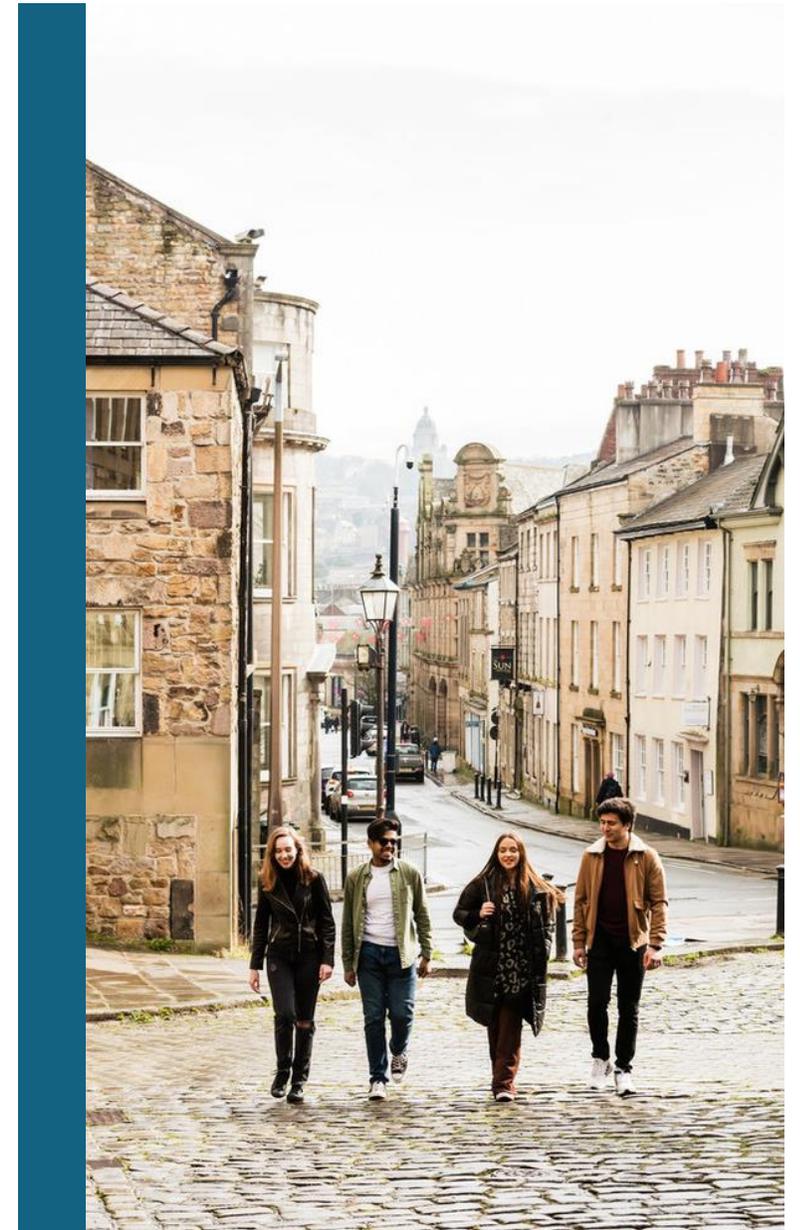


To pay university fees

## 2. Maintenance Loan



To afford to live while studying



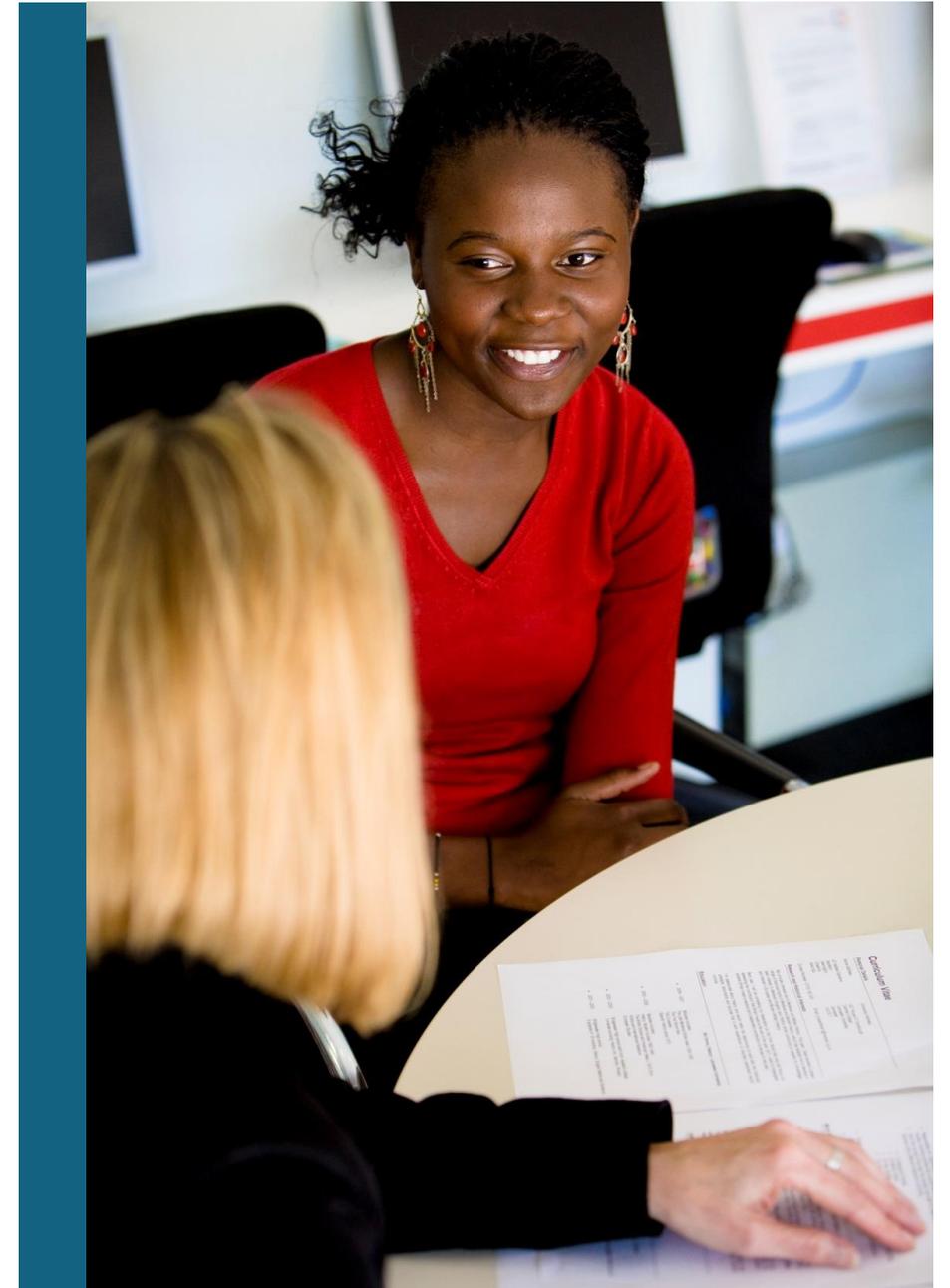
# 1. Tuition Fee Loan

Tuition fees are currently capped at **£9,250** per year

Tuition fee loans of up to this amount go straight to the university

All home students can apply for full tuition fee loan

Remember – there are no upfront fees for university!



## 2. Maintenance Loan

The Maintenance Loan is a contribution to living costs

All home students can apply for the base amount, the rest is means tested

Paid into the student's bank account

Paid in at the beginning of each term



## 3. Student Finance Grants

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Disabled Students' Allowance

Adult Dependents' Grant

Parents' Learning Allowance

Childcare Grant



## 4. Scholarships and Bursaries

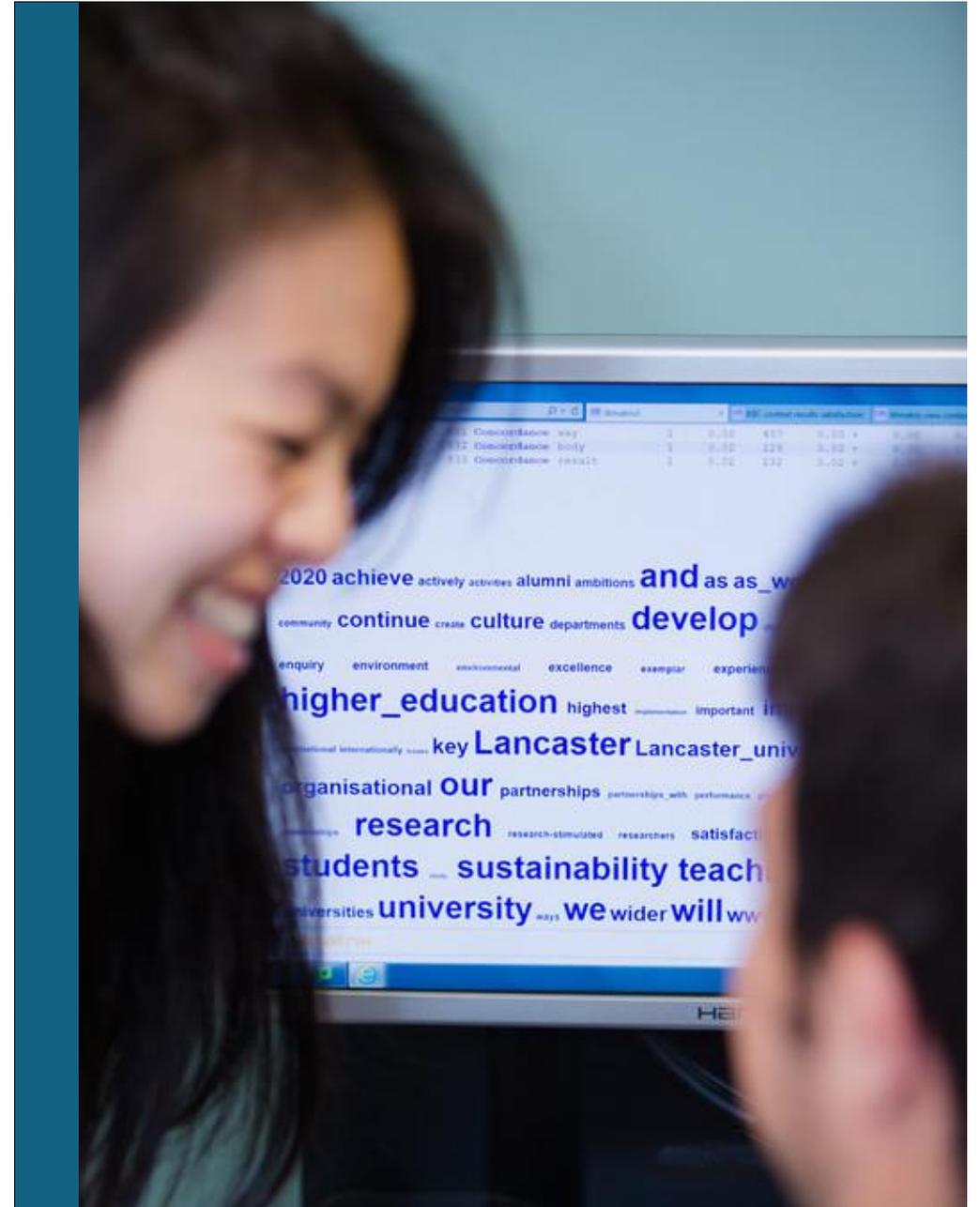
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Scholarships and bursaries are also available

They can be awarded for a variety of reasons

Not one standard application form

They don't need to be paid back



# Lancaster's Scholarships – 2023 Entry



## Lancaster Scholarship

**£2,000**  
for the first year of study only

**For UK Applicants**  
paying home fees who firmly accept their offer

**AAA+ (or equivalent)**  
Plus at least 5 GCSEs grade A/7 or above

**All full-time UG degrees**  
For October 2022 entry

## Lancaster Opportunity Scholarship

**£1,000**  
per year of study

**For UK Applicants**  
from either a low participation neighbourhood and/or are care experienced

**In receipt of a contextually lower offer to study at Lancaster**  
For October 2022 entry

**All UG degrees**  
Except MBChB Medicine & Surgery

## Lancaster Global Scholarship

**£5,000**  
for the first year of entry  
(undergraduate only)

**For International Applicants**  
Liable for international tuition fees

**A\*A\*A (or equivalent)**  
Plus at least 5 GCSEs grade A/7 or above

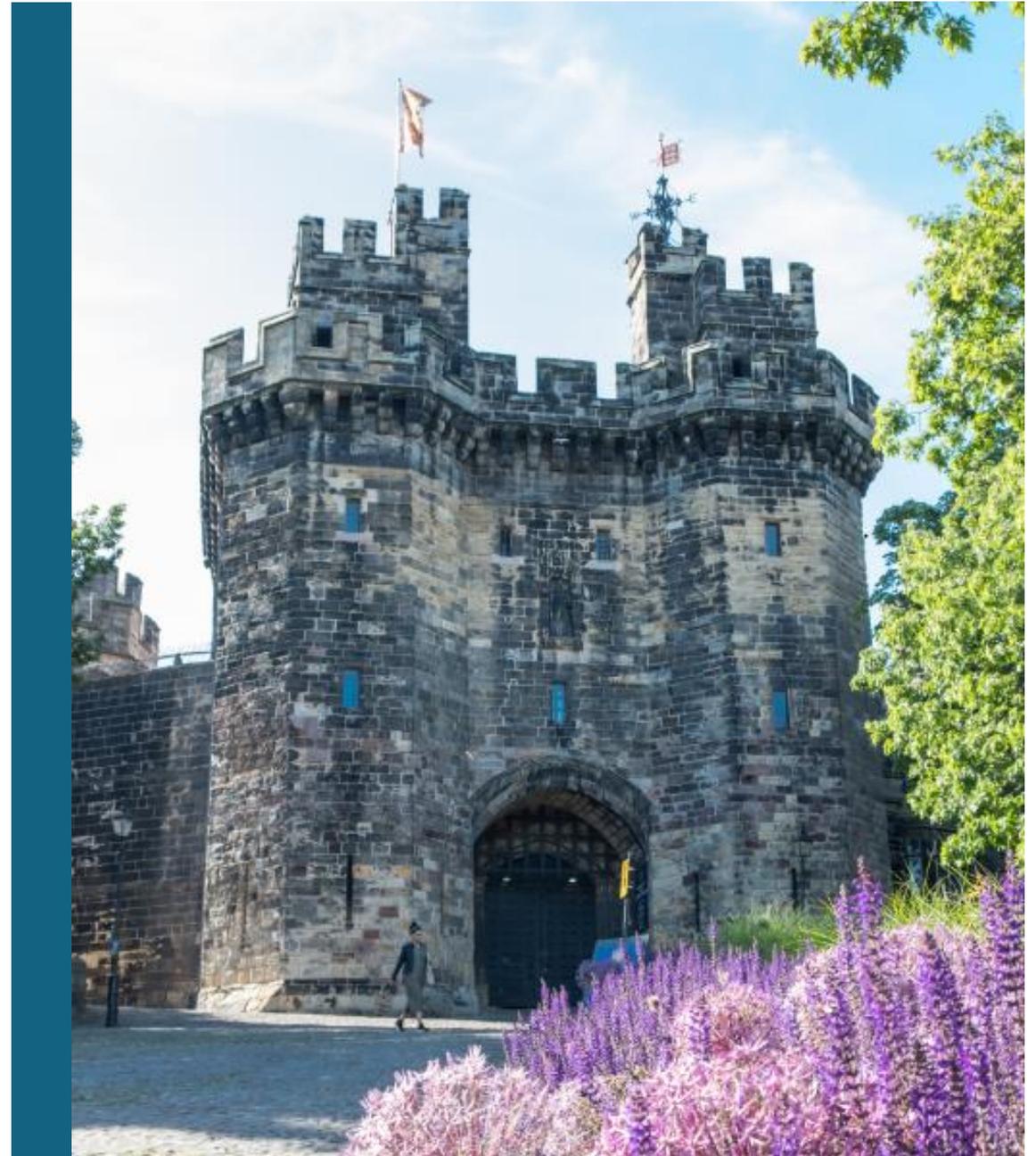
**All full-time UG degrees**  
For October 2022 entry

**Please see our website for more information on all scholarships and bursaries**

# The Repayment System 23/24

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- Repayments begin from the April after students graduate.
- Everyone pays 9% of anything earned after £25,000.
- Repayments are based on what is earned and not what is owed.
- After 40 years the loan is written off.



# Repayment Scale

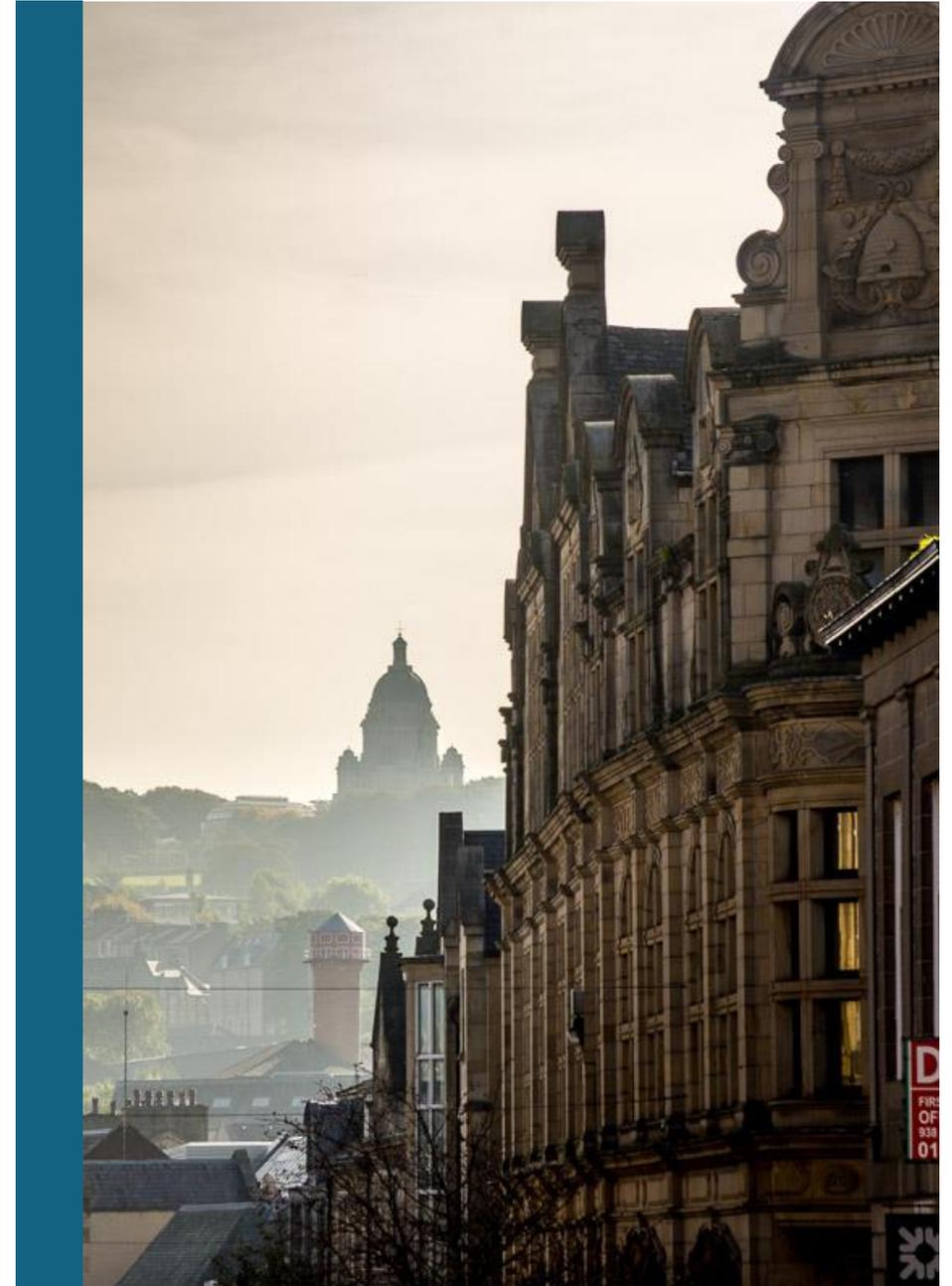
Salary (before tax)	Monthly Repayment Post Academic Year 23/24
£25,000	£0
£28,000	£17
£30,000	£32
£35,000	£69
£40,000	£107
£50,000	£182

*Approximate monthly repayment from April 2027 based on estimated first RPI linked new plan type increase*

# Interest

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- Interest is added as soon as the first payments are made
- While in study, interest is applied at **RPI**
- RPI is Retail Price Index and the rate is set annually
- When you enter repayment, interest rates will be linked to what you earn, from RPI only to RPI



## 6. Research

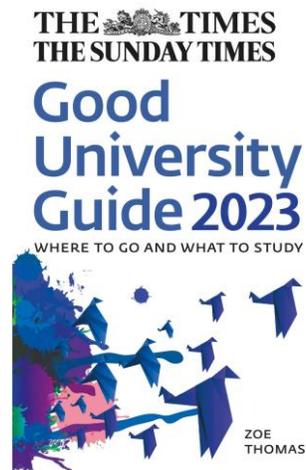
Give yourself time to do the research

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# Research



# UCAS



# Subject leagues tables are best



The collage features three prominent ranking tables:

- QS TOP UNIVERSITIES**: A table with columns for Rank, Overall Score, University, and Location. The top 16 entries are:

RANK	UNIVERSITY	LOCATION
1	100.0 MIT Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT)	USA
2	99.2 Harvard University	USA
3	99.0 University of Cambridge	UK
4	98.9 UCL (University College London)	UK
5	98.8 Imperial College London	UK
6	98.7 University of Oxford	UK
7	98.5 Stanford University	USA
8	98.3 Yale University	USA
9	98.2 University of Chicago	USA
10	96.1 California Institute of Technology (Caltech)	USA
10	96.1 Princeton University	USA
12	94.2 ETH Zurich (Swiss Federal Institute of Technology)	Switzerland
13	92.8 University of Pennsylvania	USA
14	92.6 Columbia University	USA
15	92.5 Cornell University	USA
16	92.1 Johns Hopkins University	USA
- THE COMPLETE UNIVERSITY GUIDE INDEPENDENT-TRUSTED**: A table with columns for University Name, Entry Standards, Student Satisfaction, Research Assessment, Graduate Employment, and Overall Score. The top 10 entries are:

University Name	Entry Standards	Student Satisfaction	Research Assessment	Graduate Employment	Overall Score
1 Cambridge	500	4.19	2.90	84.9	1000
1 London School of Economics	541	4.00	2.96	79.7	950
1 Imperial College London	560	3.99	2.94	85.1	975
1 St Andrews	507	4.15	2.72	87.7	933
1 University College London	621	4.15	2.72	75.4	926
1 Warwick	609	3.96	2.84	82.9	891
1 Bath	504	3.99	2.60	82.9	859
1 Exeter	470	4.16	2.71	77.1	854
1 Loughborough	460	4.17	2.62	81.8	852
1 York	431	4.12	2.71	74.4	842
- ACADEMIC RANKING OF WORLD UNIVERSITIES 2009**: A table with columns for 2008 Rank, 2009 Rank, Change, and Institution. The top 10 entries are:

2008 Rank	2009 Rank	Change	Institution
1	1	0	University of Cambridge
2	2	0	University of Oxford
3	3	0	Imperial College London
4	4	0	University of Warwick
5	5	0	University of Edinburgh
6	6	0	University of York
7	7	0	University of Manchester
8	8	0	University of Liverpool
9	9	0	University of Nottingham
10	10	0	University of Hull

# The UCAS Hub



A screenshot of the UCAS Hub website interface. The page is divided into several sections: 'UNDERGRADUATE 2022 APPLICATIONS' with a red 'A' logo and a sign-in button; 'FAVOURITES' with a list of universities and a map of Great Britain; 'TARIFF POINT CALCULATOR' with a grid of grades; 'YOUR EVENTS' with a search bar and event listings; and 'EXPLORE YOUR FUTURE' with a search bar and three featured course categories: 'Historical and philosophical studies', 'Music', and 'Architecture, building, and planning'. There are also two advertisements for 'unibuddy' and 'FOUND A COURSE YOU LIKE?'.

- Customisable
- Detailed breakdown of your choices
- Events listings
- Course/ University Map
- FAQs
- Personal Statement Builder

# How do you apply?

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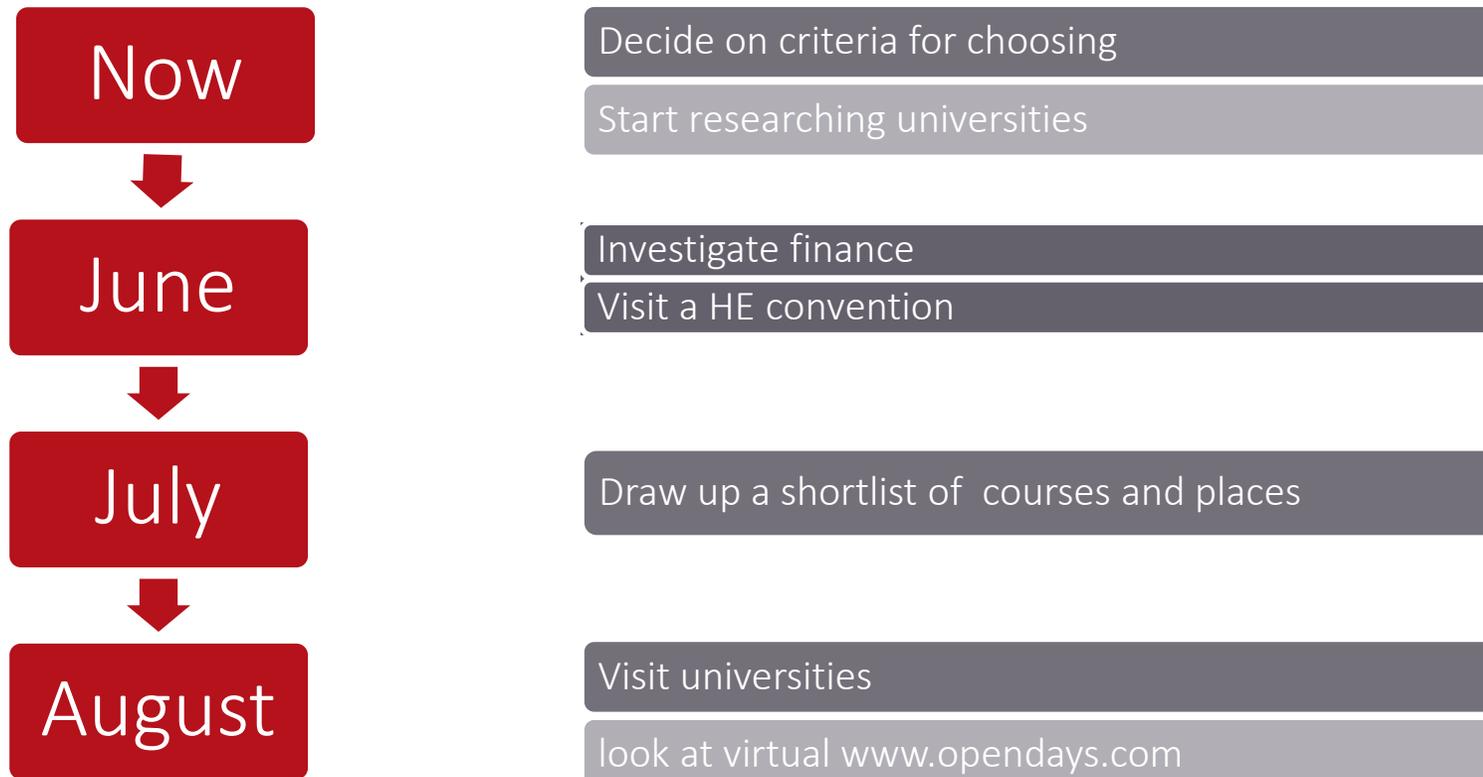
Apply to up to **five** Universities (4 for some courses)

UCAS deadline is January 31 2024 (16 Oct 2023 for Oxbridge)

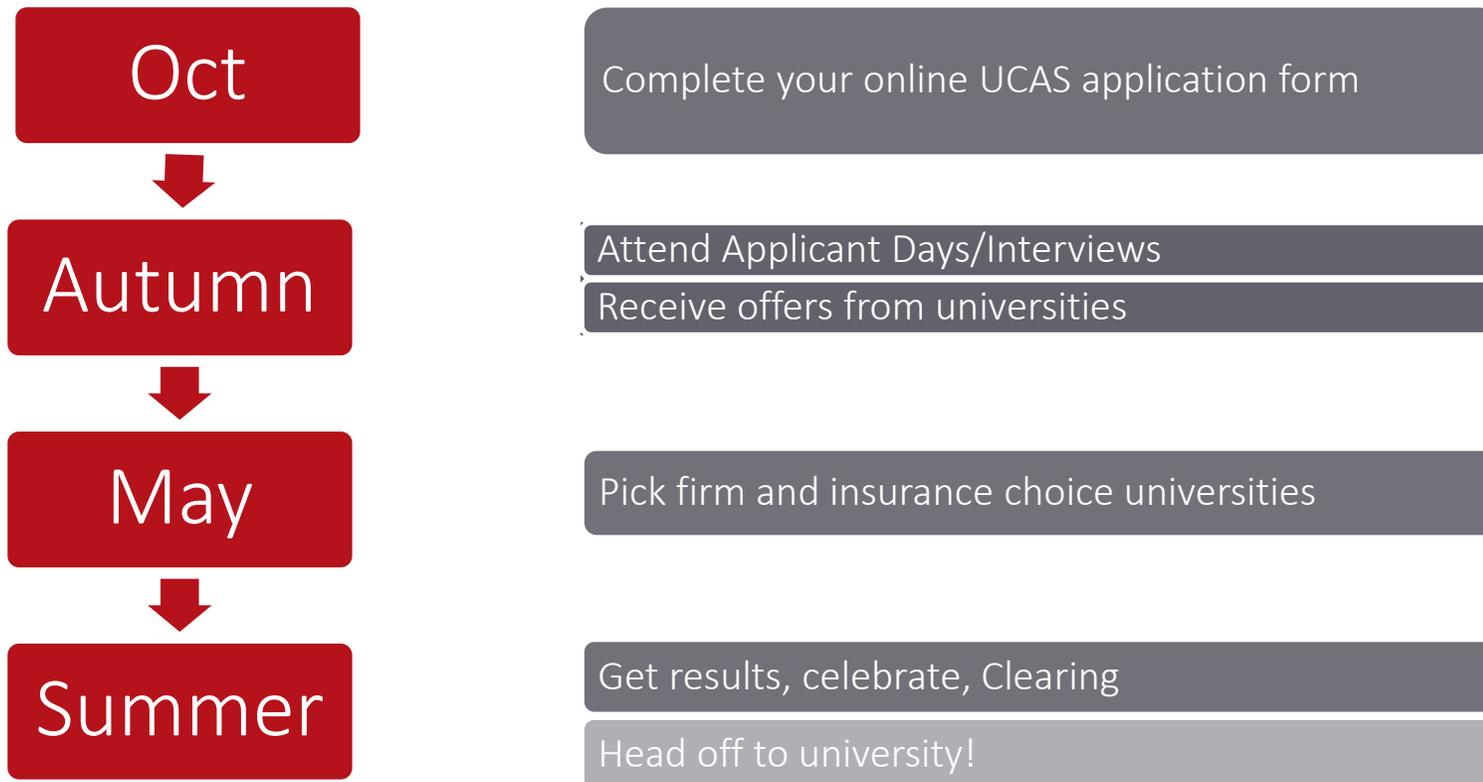
Universities offer places, conditional/unconditional

Deferred Entry – GAP Years?

# Sixth form: Ideal timeline year 1



# Sixth Form: Ideal timeline year 2



# Thanks for Listening



Undergraduate  
Prospectus



Chat to our  
Students



Open Days &  
Campus Tours



Undergraduate  
Courses

[schools@lancaster.ac.uk](mailto:schools@lancaster.ac.uk)