

# Choosing courses and universities

Katherine Pagett, Student Recruitment Manager



# GCSE Answers

Q: Define the word 'monotony'

A: Monotony is being married to the same person all your life



Q: What is the fibula?

A: A small lie

Q: Describe germination

A: The process of becoming a German



Q: What does 'benign' mean?

A: Benign is what you will be after you be eight

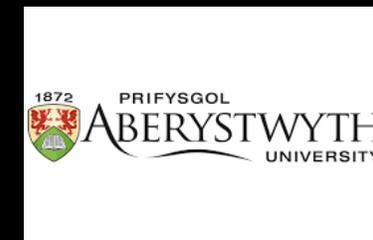




University of Exeter



Students must choose the right course at the right place for them



# There are many choices

**Where to go?**  
How many  
universities?

165+

**What to  
study?**  
How many  
courses?

33,500+



# Which subjects can students study?

- A subject specific to a career
- Subjects already studying at school
- Specific aspects of what they are already studying
- Subjects related to interests/current affairs
- New subjects





**MORE THAN**  
**80%**  
**OF EMPLOYERS**  
**DON'T SPECIFY**  
**A SUBJECT AREA**

Target jobs 2019



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In the top 3 universities most targeted by graduate recruiters  
The Graduate Market in 2023 report produced by High Fliers Research



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# What can I do with a degree in.....

**Geography** – Cartographer; Commercial/residential surveyor; Environmental consultant; Geographical information systems officer; Planning and development surveyor; Secondary school teacher; Social researcher; Town planner; International aid/development worker; Landscape architect; Logistics and distribution manager; Market researcher; Nature conservation officer; Political risk analyst; Sustainability consultant; Tourism officer; Transport planner

**History** - Academic researcher; Archivist; Heritage manager; Historic buildings inspector/conservation officer; Museum education officer; Museum/gallery curator; Museum/gallery exhibitions officer; Secondary school teacher; Academic librarian; Archaeologist; Broadcast journalist; Civil Service administrator; Editorial assistant; Human resources officer; Information officer; Marketing executive; Policy officer; Politician's assistant; Solicitor; Talent agent

**Economics** - Actuarial analyst; Chartered accountant; Compliance officer; Data analyst; Economist; External auditor; Financial risk analyst; Investment analyst; Political risk analyst; Risk manager; Statistician; Stockbroker; Business development manager; Civil Service fast streamer; Data scientist; Diplomatic service; officer; Local government officer; Management consultant; Policy officer; Quantity surveyor

**Biology** - Academic researcher; Biotechnologist; Higher education lecturer; Marine biologist; Microbiologist; Nanotechnologist; Nature conservation officer; Pharmacologist; Research scientist (life sciences); Scientific laboratory technician; Secondary school teacher; Soil scientist; Teaching laboratory technician; Anatomical pathology technologist; Animal physiotherapist; Clinical scientist, cardiac sciences; Dental hygienist; Dental technician; Dental therapist; Genetic counsellor; Health improvement practitioner; Medical science liaison; Neuroscientist; Physician associate; Prosthetist/orthotist; Science writer; Sustainability consultant; Veterinary nurse; Zoologist

**Social Policy** – Charity Officer; Civil Service; Government Social Research Officer; Health Service Manager; Housing Manager; Local Government Officer; Policy Officer; Politician's Assistant; Social Researcher; Data Analyst; Data Scientist; Detective; Education Administrator; Human Resources Officer; International Aid/Development; Public Affairs Consultant; Youth Worker

[www.prospects.ac.uk](http://www.prospects.ac.uk)



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# Is the subject right for them?

- Research what the course/career involves
- Do they enjoy the required subjects?
- Do they find relevant MOOCs/ TEDs/ documentaries/ publications interesting?
- Arrange work experience
- Go on taster courses
- Do they have the right skills and qualities?

Doing these will also help with writing the personal statement



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# Key skills to do well - medicine

Sound academic background and study skills

Interest in science

Physical stamina

Manual dexterity

Desire to help people

Cope with pressure

Excellent communication skills

Teamwork

Self-motivation

Patience

Ability to relate to many different people

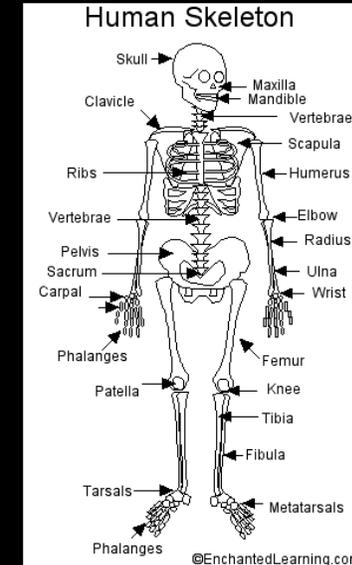
Friendly, polite and helpful attitude towards people

Ability to cope with anxious or difficult patients

Ability to gain trust and put patients at ease

Thorough and methodical approach and pay attention to detail

Ability to work long hours



You may need a skeleton

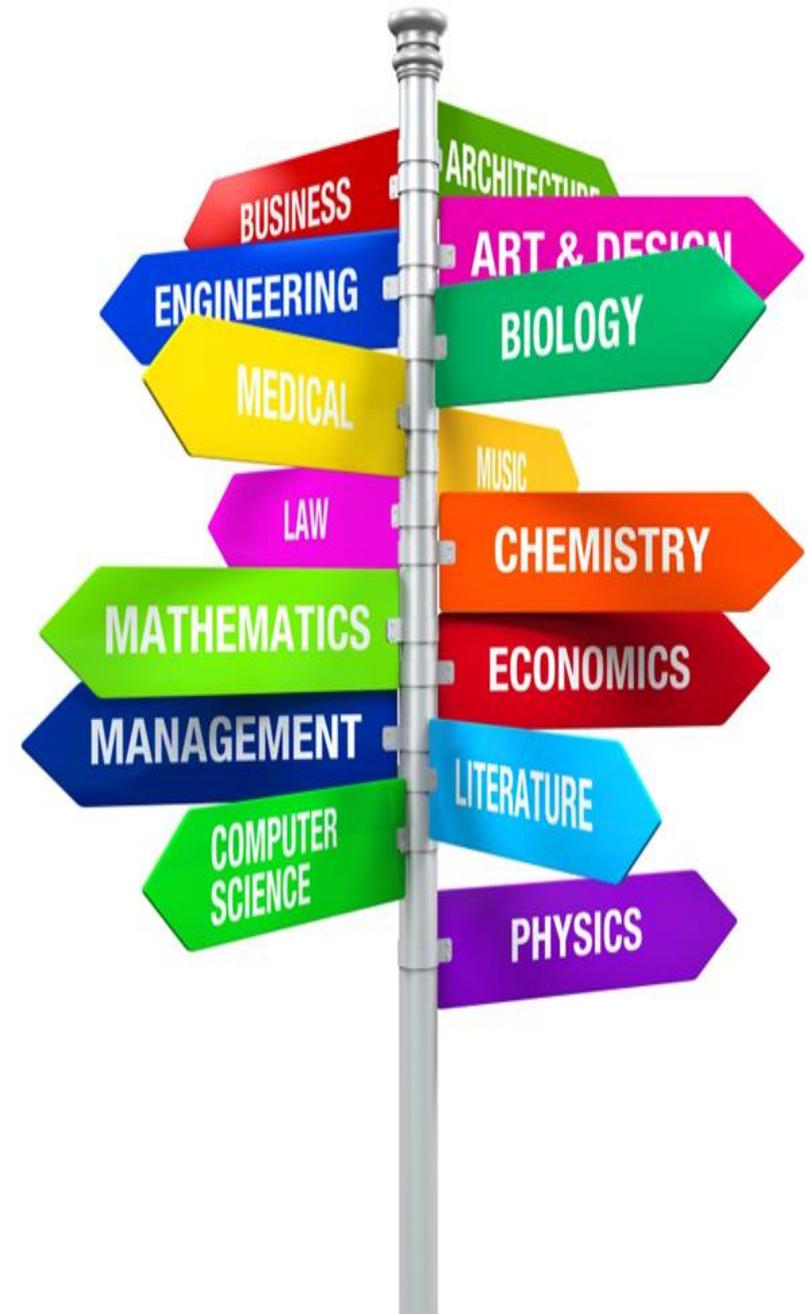
Costs an arm and a leg



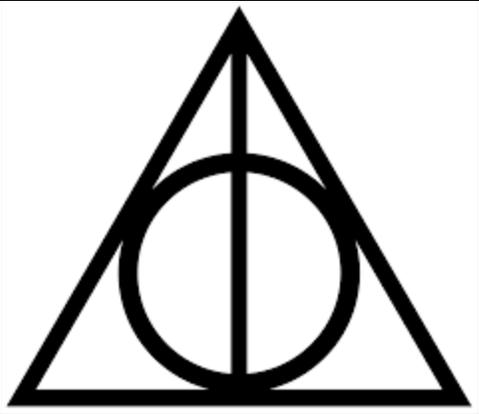
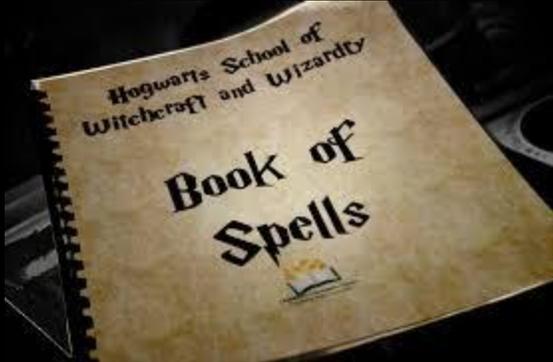
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# Choosing courses - research

- Course type
- Course content
- Entry requirements
- Teaching and assessment methods
- Graduate destinations
- Location
- Accommodation
- Finance
- Facilities
- Student support
- Student life



# Guess the society



Guess the society



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# Guess the society



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# Guess the society



# Guess the society





# Research

- Websites - UCAS; universities; Unifrog; discoveruni; Which?university
- Prospectuses
- Social Media – Facebook, Instagram, YouTube
- Visits - Open Days – [www.opendays.com](http://www.opendays.com)
- League tables



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# Top Tips

- Decide what is important to them
- Do the research - get it right
- Visit
- Work hard
- Make sure the university offers the course they want to do!



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AND REMEMBER FOR UNIVERSITY  
STUDENTS NEED TO KNOW ....

Can they cook?

Is it tasty?

Are they getting their vitamins?

Can they shop?

Can they use a washing machine?

Can they iron?

Can they budget their finances?

Will they take part?



# Thank you for listening

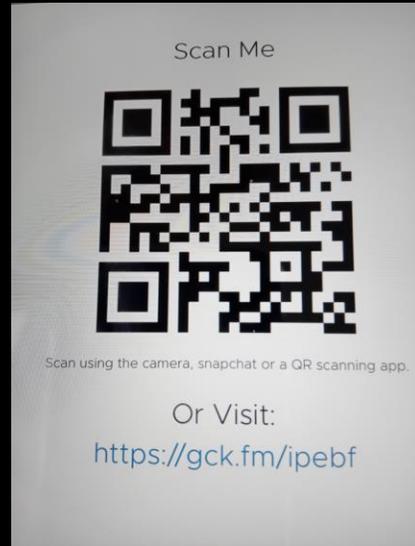
## OPEN DAYS 2024

Friday 21 & Saturday 22 June

Saturday 5 October

Saturday 9 November

*Sign up to hear more from us*



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