



Grade 11 Introduction to UK Universities

Mon 4th Feb 2019

The Basics

- All UK applications go through a central admissions system (UCAS)
- UK applications are the first to go
- There will be a lot of preparatory work before and over the summer
- **YOUR PREDICTED GRADES ARE CRUCIAL!**

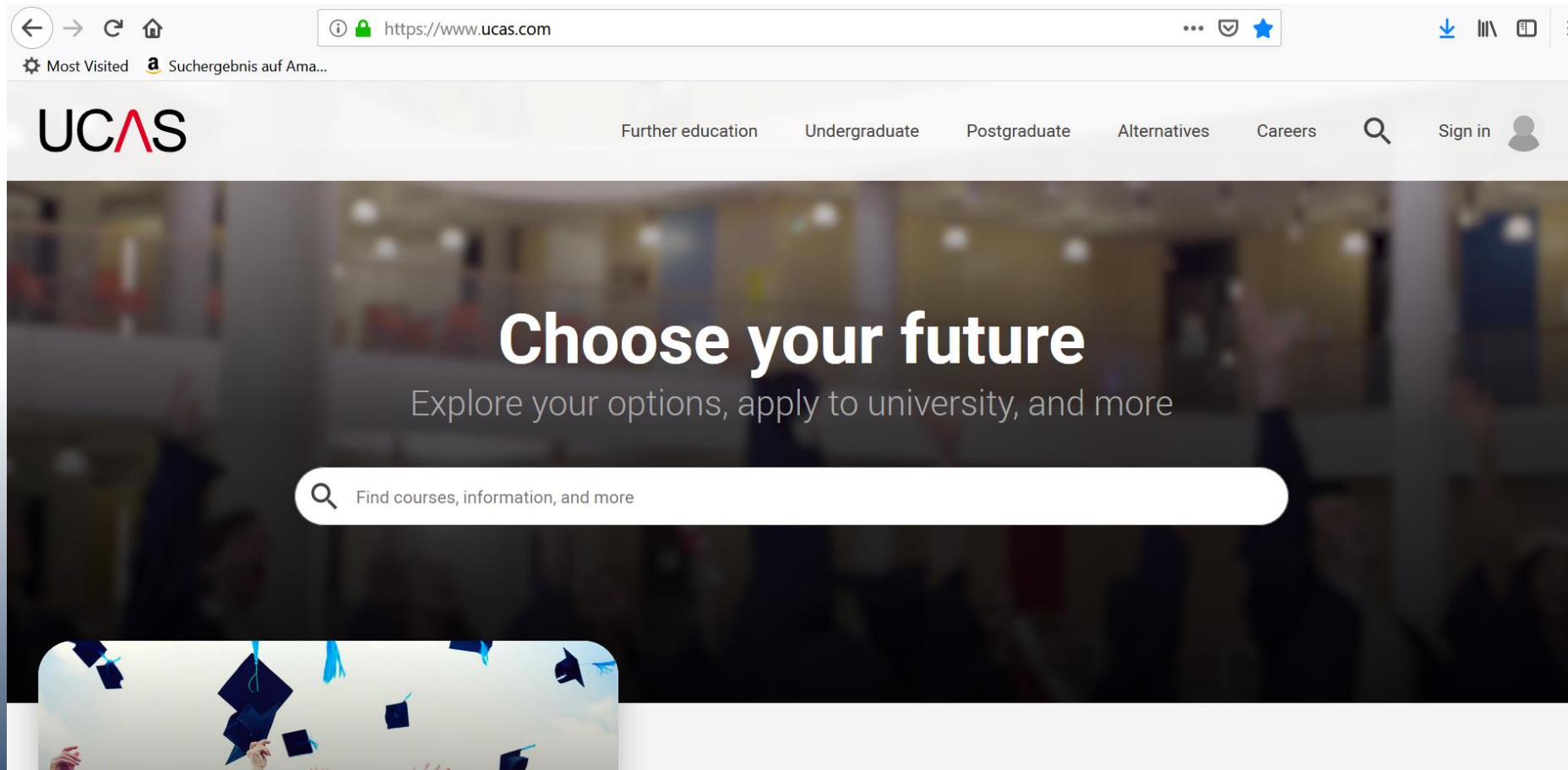


How it works

- Application online via UCAS (www.ucas.com)
- Five course choices (four for medical sciences)
- You will need to write a personal statement
- The school will have to write your reference



www.ucas.com



The image shows a browser window displaying the UCAS website. The browser's address bar shows the URL <https://www.ucas.com>. The website header features the UCAS logo on the left and navigation links for Further education, Undergraduate, Postgraduate, Alternatives, and Careers on the right. A search icon and a 'Sign in' button with a user icon are also present. The main content area has a dark background with the text 'Choose your future' in large white font, followed by the subtitle 'Explore your options, apply to university, and more'. Below this is a white search bar with a magnifying glass icon and the placeholder text 'Find courses, information, and more'. At the bottom of the page, there is a horizontal strip showing a graduation ceremony with blue caps being tossed into the air.

LEIPZIG INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL



How to find entry requirements

Pearson BTEC Level 3 National Extended Diploma (first teaching from September 2016)	DDM	Minimum entry requirement: DDM in related subjects.
Scottish Higher	A A B B	Minimum of 4 Highers at AABB obtained at a single sitting or 3 Advanced Highers at BBB. Those seeking to qualify over two sittings will be expected to exceed this minimum. Also required: English at Standard Grade 1, 2 or 3 or National 5 at Grades A, B or C.
International Baccalaureate Diploma Programme	32 points	For entry into First Year, a minimum of 32 points required, including at least 5,5,5 at HL. For entry into Second Year, a minimum of 36 points, including at 6, 6, 6 at Higher level in subject(s) selected. English at a minimum of Standard level required.
Leaving Certificate - Higher Level (Ireland) (first awarded in 2017)	H2, H2, H2, H3, H3	A minimum of 5H with 3 at H2 AND 2 at H3 OR AAABB, obtained in a single sitting. (The grading within band B must be at B2 or above). Also required: O in English or English Language
Scottish Advanced Higher	A B B	Second year entry may be possible in most school



How it works

- Teachers will have to provide predicted grades
- UCAS passed on application to universities
- Universities respond with acceptance, offer or rejection



How it works

- Many courses require entrance exams. E.g.: medicine (UKCAT, GAMSAT), law (LNAT), humanities at Oxbridge (TSA)
- Many courses require a certain subject combination & points. E.g.: medicine (38+ points with 6/7 in HL Chemistry and Bio)



When it happens

- Summer 2019
 - EoY exams
 - Research & prep over the summer
 - Fill out “information for referees”
- September 2019
 - Write personal statement
 - Take any admissions tests
 - Create shortlist of universities



When it happens

- **NB: applications for Oxbridge and/or medical sciences have to be with UCAS by Oct 15th!**
- LIS deadline 1st October
- All others must be in by 15th Jan
- **BUT . . .**
- At LIS all applications must be complete and paid for (£23 – 2018 fee) by November 29th



When it happens

- October 2019 - May 2020:

Universities either give you

- An Unconditional offer (you're in!)
- A Conditional offer (you're in if you fulfil the entry requirements).
Most common
- A Rejection (Bad luck!)



When it happens

- Five weeks after the last response you will have to choose your:
 - Firm acceptance (your no.1 uni)
 - Insurance acceptance (the uni you want if you don't get into no.1)
- May 2020: Your IB exams



Exceptions

- You reject all offers or all the universities reject your application
- **DON'T PANIC**
- UCAS Extra (as of March 2020) allows you to apply for one course at a time
- UCAS Clearing (as of August 2020): Universities publish available courses after all applicants have replied



Exceptions

- Oxbridge (the fancy universities) and medical sciences
- Early application deadline
- Aptitude test
- **VERY HARD TO GET IN!**
- Other exception: art schools & conservatoires



Exceptions

- Deferred entries (applying to study in 2021)
- This is the same procedure and the place is held for a year
- OR apply in Sept. 2019. Advantage: no predicted grades!



Choosing your course

- Choose realistically (based on predicted grades and subject combinations)
- All five (four) subjects should be related (don't choose civil engineering & music, chemistry & English lit)
- Relevant extra curricular activities are important and helpful (looks good on personal statement)
- Ensure you take all the tests



Your personal statement

- You'll get guidelines and samples
- 4000 characters, 47 lines
- Your personal statement needs to convince the university why they should choose YOU!
- Academic abilities, prizes & awards, personal character & abilities, extracurricular work, anything else
- Language, tone & presentation VERY IMPORTANT



Your referee

- Will come from a small pool of reference writers
- Your teachers will all provide us feedback on your work in their subjects
- The references all have the same level of English and the same rigorous standards
- Work closely with UCAS reference guidelines



The Money

- Tuition fees in the UK cost up to £9,250 (2019) – for UK students
- UK Government gives tuition loans to EU students (2019)
- Study in Scotland is FREE (might change) – for Scottish students
- Living costs in UK generally higher than Germany



Where to start?

- www.ucas.com
- University guides (in paper or online)
- University open days and/or university tours
- Other subject guides
- Your teachers
- Your parents
- ME!





Are there any questions?