



Grade 11 Introduction to UK Universities

Mon 15th March 2021

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!**

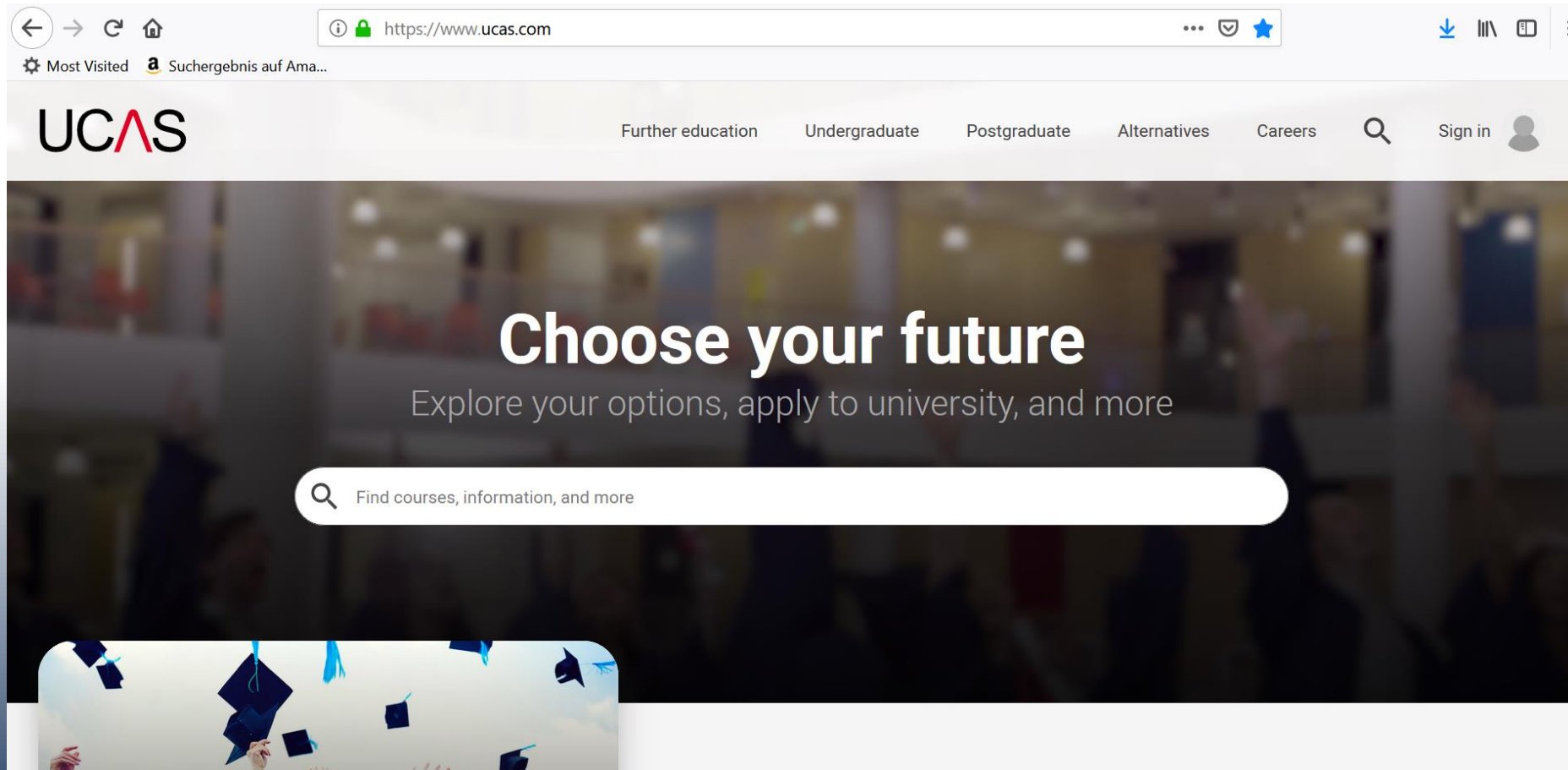


How it works

- 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' in the center. On the right side of the header, there is a search icon and a 'Sign in' button with a user profile icon. The main content area has a dark background with a blurred image of a graduation ceremony. The text 'Choose your future' is prominently displayed in white, with the subtitle 'Explore your options, apply to university, and more' below it. A large white search bar is positioned in the center, containing the text 'Find courses, information, and more' and a magnifying glass icon. At the bottom of the page, there is a horizontal strip showing a close-up of blue graduation 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

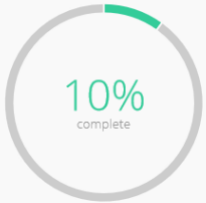


www.unifrog.org

unifrog

HOME SHORTLISTS LOCKER APPLY HELP   TEACHER >

Hello Justin, here's a summary of your progress so far...



9th
in year group

Want to move things forward? We recommend you...

Start a different pathway (UK uni, app or college) 0.8%

[See all your tasks](#) v

ACCESS ALL THE TOOLS BELOW

Exploring pathways

Careers library
x Careers favourited
[Go to tool >](#)

Subjects library
x Subjects favourited
[Go to tool >](#)

Know-how library
x Guides favourited
[Go to tool >](#)



How it works

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



How it works

- Many courses require entrance exams. E.g.: medicine (UKCAT, GAMSAT, BMAT), 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 2021
 - EoY exams
 - Research & prep over the summer
 - Start to shortlist your unis in Unifrog
 - Record your activities and competencies in Unifrog
- September 2021
 - 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 2021!**
- LIS deadline 9th October 2021
- All others must be in by 15th Jan 2022
- **BUT . . .**
- At LIS all applications must be complete and paid for (€30 – 2020 fee) by December 10th 2021



When it happens

- October 2021 - May 2022:

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 2022: Your IB exams



Exceptions

- You reject all offers or all the universities reject your application
- **DON'T PANIC**
- UCAS Extra (as of March 2022) allows you to apply for one course at a time
- UCAS Clearing (as of August 2022): 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 2022)
- This is the same procedure and the place is held for a year
- OR apply in Sept. 2022. 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

- EU passport holders are now considered international students and are charged international fees - that varies
- In addition to that, students need to pay for a student visa, health insurance and show enough funds in their bank accounts
- See the links in the handout for specifics



Where to start?

- www.ucas.com
- Unifrog
- 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?