



APPLYING TO UNIVERSITY



CELEBRATING

150 

YEARS

1870 - 2020

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THINKING OF GOING TO UNIVERSITY?

There are many reasons to go to university:

Being passionate about a subject and having a personal interest in the course topics.

Studying for a degree gives you the chance to develop your knowledge to a greater extent and learn from experts in the field.

Achieving a qualification so you can progress onto your chosen career path.

For example, if you have a particular career or job in mind, such as becoming a nurse or a lawyer, respectively you will need a specific degree in Nursing or Law.

Developing valuable skills and knowledge that will enhance your future career prospects.

Higher education degrees are designed to enhance your key transferable skills, which will appeal to a lot of employers and allow you to gain valuable experience and expertise.

Meeting new people and expanding your network.

Going to university is an exciting time of transition, and for many people it provides their first opportunity to live away from home and take on new and increased responsibilities.

Studying a degree is a real investment in your future.

Financial support is available for tuition fees and living expenses to help you make the most of student life.



“The job I wanted required me to have a degree, so that’s what spurred me on to apply. When I spoke to some businesses, they actually recommended DMU so I went to an Open Day. The lady I spoke to was really informative and I found the day to be really inclusive. What really sold it to me were the amazing facilities and programmes offered, from DMU Global to DMU Replay and PhD opportunities.

Edmar Machado
Computer Science BSc (Hons)



CHOOSING A COURSE AND UNIVERSITY

There are more than 50,000 different university courses available at upwards of 150 different institutions across the UK.

The variety of courses is vast, and you can choose from traditional subjects such as English and History, or more vocational subjects such as Journalism and Business.

With so many important choices to make, it is strongly advised that prospective students start their research as early as possible so they can make informed decisions about their choices.

TOP TIPS FOR RESEARCHING YOUR OPTIONS:

1. Use the UCAS website's search function to research courses and subject areas you're interested in.
2. Read university prospectuses and websites to find more information. In particular, review the module options available, opportunities to undertake work experience or even travel internationally, as well as any graduate opportunities.
3. Visit as many open days or taster days as possible to get a feel for student life, these don't just have to be physical events, many universities have been running virtual open days and even virtual campus tours.
4. Take the chance to speak with current students to check which university is the right fit for you — visit UCAS fairs, join online chats or look out for applicant groups on Facebook.

CHECKLIST

It is important to make sure you choose the right course and university for you. Below are some questions to think about when trying to shortlist your options:

COURSE

- Do I have the necessary skills/work experience?
- Have I met the entry criteria?
- Am I passionate about studying this course and will I enjoy it?
- Do I have a specific career in mind for the future? If so, what qualifications will I need?
- Does the course have good graduate prospects? Be sure to research about industry links, work experience opportunities and academics who can provide the relevant experiences to start your career.

CAMPUS

- Does the university have modern facilities that will help me develop the skills I need in my future career.

CITY

- Is the city student-friendly, and affordable?

COST

- What is the cost of living in the area?

LIVING

- Is the accommodation modern and does it have en-suite options?
- Is it close to campus and the city centre?

APPLYING TO UNIVERSITY – THE PROCESS

As a prospective student, you should apply for university places online through the UCAS application form. This will require you to submit information such as employment history, education details, and a personal statement.

UCAS stands for the Universities and Colleges Admissions Service, and is the organisation responsible for managing students' applications to higher education courses in the UK.

The application process will take approximately 18 months from starting your initial research to enrolling on your chosen degree programme.

Students usually apply by the UCAS deadline of 15 January but most universities accept applications all year round so don't worry if you have missed the deadline or have changed your mind about what to study or where to study. Contact the university to find out more.

TOP TIPS FOR COMPLETING YOUR APPLICATION

- You don't have to complete the application in one sitting, save your progress and sign back in anytime.
- Keep your username and password safe.
- You can complete the application form in any order.
- Read instructions carefully – use the '?' icon for more information.
- Proofread all sections before submitting.
- Print a copy of your finished application.
- It will cost you £26 to submit up to five applications.

Our bespoke toolkit will help you easily understand the process of applying to university. Visit dmu.ac.uk/whychooseuni to find out more about our live streams with our specialist advisers, take a virtual tour of our campus and watch our students sharing their experience of university life at DMU.



"For me, I had a change of heart and applied to uni quite late. I didn't think I'd get a response in time to start a course, but I heard back before I changed my mind. It was actually a relief, and it was nice to receive phone calls throughout my application from students to check how I was doing and if I had any questions.

Torie Herbert
Textile Design BA (Hons)





The application process can be summarised in four key stages:

RESEARCH

Read the information provided on the UCAS website, university websites, and university prospectuses, as well as attend open days and taster sessions to help you select the courses and universities you like most.

APPLICATION

Applications open in September, and you can begin your application online through the UCAS website.

You need to apply by mid-January for most courses, except for applications made to Oxford and Cambridge universities, and for degrees in Medicine, Dentistry and Veterinary Science, as these are due in mid-October.

Your school or college will also include an academic reference as part of your application, so it's good to be aware of any internal deadlines.

FINALISING YOUR CHOICES

Once your application has been submitted, UCAS will send your application to your university choices. The universities will carefully consider your application and inform you of their decision via UCAS Track by the end of March.

Once you've heard back from all of the universities you applied to, you will need to choose one firm (first) choice and one insurance (second) choice by early May. This will need to be updated on UCAS Track, and once this has been done your other choices will be removed.

RESULTS AND CONFIRMATION

If you meet the conditions of your firm offer, your place will be confirmed with your firm choice. If you have not met the requirements of your firm choice, but have achieved the grades for your insurance choice, your insurance choice will confirm your place.

If you have changed your mind about where or what to study, or you haven't met the grades required for both your firm and insurance choices, you can enter into Clearing, allowing you to approach other universities to secure a place.

WRITING YOUR PERSONAL STATEMENT

WHAT IS A PERSONAL STATEMENT?

It is a key part of your university application and is included in your UCAS form. It has a limit of 47 lines or 4,000 characters.

WHO READS IT?

University admissions tutors, who are typically academic lecturers. They are often passionate about their subject and experts in their field.

WHY IS IT IMPORTANT?

It is an opportunity to demonstrate your passion and interest for your chosen course. You should mention your transferable skills and any relevant experience, as this will highlight why you want to study the course and demonstrate why you are a suitable candidate.

WHAT SHOULD YOU INCLUDE?

Although there isn't a set structure for writing a personal statement, there are four key paragraphs we recommend you include to help you achieve a strong, in-depth statement which emphasises your passion and suitability for the course.

The four key paragraphs to include are:

REASONS FOR CHOOSING YOUR COURSE/PROFESSION

- Begin with an engaging opening paragraph that grabs the reader's attention.
- Justify your choice of subject/course and demonstrate your strong desire to study this area.

SUITABILITY FOR THE COURSE

- Talk about your current studies or skills and how they complement your chosen course.
- Explain how your current skills and knowledge in the subject area will help to support your progress at university.
- Show that you've researched the course and understand what it will involve.

WORK EXPERIENCE AND ADDITIONAL SKILLS

- Include any skills you've gained from work experience, part-time employment and voluntary work.
- Highlight any additional skills and knowledge that you have.

EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES, FUTURE PLANS AND ASPIRATIONS

- Provide an insight into you as a person – include details of relevant hobbies and interests.
- Reflect on your future plans and write about how the university course you have chosen fits into your desired career path and aspirations.



"When it came to writing my personal statement, I wanted to highlight my qualities rather than listing them, like a CV. It was actually a really reflective process as I had to think about how I wanted to present myself to the person reading my application.

Maryam Mehdiyeva
Pharmacy MPharm (Hons)

For tips from our students on writing your personal statement, visit:
dmu.ac.uk/whychooseuni

PERSONAL STATEMENT TIPS

DO

- ✓ Start with a mind map or make a list of what you want to include.
- ✓ Start drafting your personal statement in a Microsoft Word document and then copy and paste it into the relevant section of the UCAS application form.
- ✓ Be prepared to write and then rewrite your statement again in order to produce a strong final version. Remember to continually save your work!
- ✓ Pay careful attention to accuracy, spelling and grammar.
- ✓ Give examples to justify the points you make, and be as concise as possible.

DON'T

- ✗ Copy work from other sources – UCAS uses sophisticated software to check personal statements for plagiarism.
- ✗ Make reference to any specific university choices, and if you are applying to different courses/subject areas, ensure that your personal statement is applicable to all of them, as you can only write one personal statement for all five of your application choices.



"I found that I had a lot of one-to-one support when I applied to DMU that I didn't get at other universities. I was really impressed by how they'd researched my disability to be more supportive in how it would impact me on the course. They even let me have an interview on my own instead of in a group.

Charlotte Tracey
Speech and Language Therapy BSc (Hons)

INTERVIEWS

Some students will be invited by the university to attend an interview as an additional stage in the application process.

The interview is an important part of the selection process, and should be considered as an extension of the UCAS application form.

It also gives admissions tutors an opportunity to learn more about you, and equally provides you with more information about the course and university.

You are likely to be invited to an interview if you are applying for:

- Courses that lead to a profession. You will need to have a comprehensive understanding of the career and the relevant skillset required to be successful within the profession.
- Courses at institutions that are competitive, as an additional method of shortlisting strong applicants.
- Courses that require a bespoke skill or competence, for example Nursing or Fine Art.



PREPARING FOR YOUR INTERVIEW

Research the course carefully to make sure you are aware of the modules and any opportunities it offers, such as placements, internships or trips.

Think about common questions and areas that you might be asked about, such as:

- What do you enjoy in your current studies?
- Why have you chosen to apply to this university/for this course?
- What are your career ambitions?
- Details of any work experience/part-time jobs/voluntary work you may have undertaken.
- Information relating to your awareness of related current affairs.

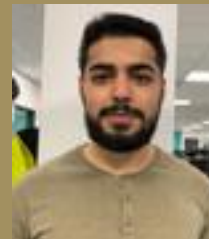
BEFORE THE INTERVIEW

You need to know the following:

- Format of the day.
- Where and when the interview will take place, so you can plan your journey and arrive in plenty of time.
- The dress code.
- What you need to take with you, for example a portfolio, any certificates, proof of identity.

DURING THE INTERVIEW

- Relax – remember that you've been invited to the interview because you've already shown potential as a strong applicant.
- Make eye contact and smile.
- Listen to the questions carefully and consider your replies.
- Include examples and provide context when answering questions.
- If you don't understand a question, politely ask the interviewer to rephrase it or clarify.
- Be enthusiastic – admissions tutors will be looking for applicants who share their enthusiasm for the subject.



“When you start university, you have this idea of what you want to do, but you really find out your passion on a placement. I found that going on a placement helped me get a better perspective of what it would be like to work in the industry and it wasn't so different from learning at university, it was an easier transition than I had expected.

Yusuf Munir
Computer Science BSc (Hons)

NEXT STEPS

Now that you have read through this guide, here's what to do next:

- Take a look at dmu.ac.uk/whychooseuni or prospectus and the UCAS website for more information on the courses you are considering.
- Visit one of our Open Days or taster days, as this is the best way to get first-hand experience of what it would be like to study at DMU. For more information, please visit dmu.ac.uk/opendays
- Join our **2021: Applying to DMU** Facebook group, where you can connect with other applicants and ask any questions.
- Once you have made all the important decisions, make sure you submit your application within the specified deadlines.
- Feel free to get in touch with us if you have any questions about applying to university – we're more than happy to help.

T: +44 (0)116 2 50 60 70

E: enquiry@dmu.ac.uk

W: dmu.ac.uk

JARGON BUSTER

There are many new words and phrases you might come across when applying to university, so we've created a useful guide to help you understand what they all mean.

ACADEMIC

Bachelor's degree

This is a full undergraduate degree qualification which normally takes three to four years to complete on a full-time basis.

BA BSc, LLB, BEng, BEd

These titles refer to the subject discipline of your course. For example, BA is Bachelor of Arts, BSc is Bachelor of Science.

Foundation degree

Foundation degrees can offer a different route onto a bachelor's degree for anyone with qualifications slightly below those required for the course.

Sandwich course

This is a course which incorporates a placement year, where you will spend a year working in industry.

Single honours

An undergraduate degree for which students study a single subject.

Joint honours/ combined honours

An undergraduate degree for which students study more than one subject, for example English and Film Studies BA.

Undergraduate

The first level of study in higher education.

Postgraduate

Higher education study for students who have completed an undergraduate degree. This may be a master's degree or a PhD.

APPLYING TO UNIVERSITY

Prospectus

A prospectus is a catalogue produced by universities detailing the courses and facilities available at each institution.

UCAS – Universities and Colleges Admissions Service

The organisation responsible for providing the service that deals with university applications as well as offering general advice and guidance.

Personal ID

The 10-digit number given to students when registering on UCAS Apply.

Conditional offer

An offer made to an applicant by a university or college, whereby the applicant must fulfil certain entry criteria before they can be accepted to study on the course.

Unconditional offer

An offer given to an applicant by a university or college, whereby the applicant has satisfied the entry criteria and can attend the course.

UCAS Extra

This service is for students who have used all of their five choices on their UCAS application and have either been unsuccessful or wish to change their chosen courses/universities. This runs from February until July and students can make one application at a time.

Clearing

Clearing allows students who either didn't receive offers, declined their offers, didn't get the grades they needed, or have not previously applied to university to apply for courses that still have places available.

Deferred entry

This is when somebody makes an application but delays the start of their course until the following academic year.

Firm choice

The university offer that an applicant has accepted as their first choice.

Insurance

The offer that an applicant has accepted as their second choice if they do not meet the requirements of their firm offer. Usually the insurance choice will have lower entry requirements.

Personal statement

A personal statement forms part of the UCAS application. Applicants use this document to explain their suitability for the course and their reasons for applying. Applicants can only write one personal statement for all five of their application choices.

Tariff

The UCAS Tariff is used to allocate points to post-16 qualifications for entry to higher education.

STUDENT LIFE

Fresher

First-year students are often referred to as 'freshers'.

SU – students' union

This is an organisation run for students, by students. A university's students' union represents the student voice and help run social events, sport clubs and societies.

FINANCE

Tuition Fee Loan

Money borrowed from Student Finance England to cover the tuition fees of your chosen course.

Maintenance Loan

Money borrowed from Student Finance England to help fund the cost of university, such as accommodation, food and travel expenditure.

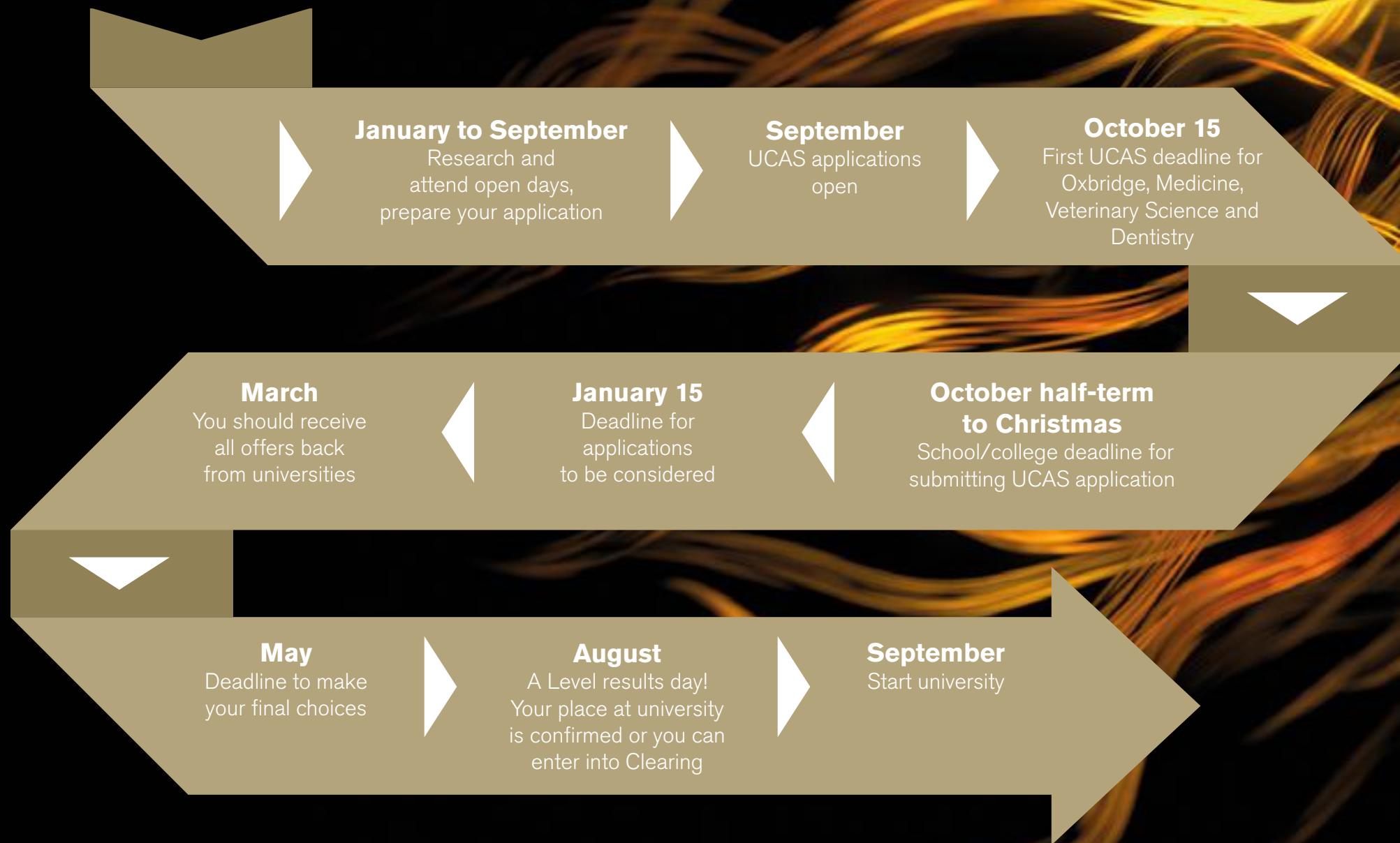
Means-tested

Money that is assessed based on the income of an applicant's household.

Scholarships and bursaries

These are non-repayable grants to support students through university. Scholarships are usually awarded in recognition of excellence and achievement and bursaries are usually awarded in relation to personal circumstances.

UCAS APPLICATION TIMELINE



UNDERGRADUATE COURSES 2021/22

Allied Health Sciences	UCAS
Biomedical Science BSc (Hons)	120
Diagnostic Radiography BSc (Hons)	120
Health and Wellbeing in Society BSc (Hons)	104
Healthcare Science (Audiology) BSc (Hons)	128
Medical Science BMedSci (Hons)	120
Nutrition BSc (Hons)	112
Speech and Language Therapy BSc (Hons)	ABB
Applied Social Sciences	UCAS
Criminology BA (Hons)	104
Criminology with Psychology BA (Hons)	104
Criminal Investigation and Policing BA (Hons)	104
Degree in Professional Policing BA (Hons)	104
Education Studies BA (Hons)	120
Education with French, Mandarin or Spanish BA (Hons)	120
Education Studies with Psychology BA (Hons)	120
Psychology BSc (Hons)	120
Psychology with Criminology BSc (Hons)	120
Psychology with Education Studies BSc (Hons)	120
Psychology with Health and Wellbeing in Society BSc (Hons)	120
Social Work BA (Hons)	120
Work with Communities and Young People Foundation Degree (FdA)	72
Art, Design and Architecture	UCAS
Animation BA (Hons)	104
Architecture BA (Hons)	136
Architectural Technology BSc (Hons)	112
Art and Design Foundation Diploma	32
Building Surveying BSc (Hons)	112
Concept and Comic Art BA (Hons)	120
Design Crafts BA (Hons)	112
Fine Art BA (Hons)	112
Game Art BA (Hons)	120
Graphic Design BA (Hons)	104
Graphic Design and eMedia Foundation Degree (FdA)	32
Graphic Design (Illustration) BA (Hons)	104
Interior Design BA (Hons)	112
Photography with Video Foundation Degree (FdA)	32
Photography and Video BA (Hons)	112
Product and Furniture Design BA (Hons)	112
Product Design BA (Hons)	112
Product Design BSc (Hons)	112
Quantity Surveying and Construction BSc (Hons)	112

Business and Management	UCAS
Accounting and Business Management BA (Hons)	112
Accounting and Economics BA (Hons)	112
Accounting and Finance BA (Hons)	120
Advertising and Marketing Communications BA (Hons)	112
Business and Management BA (Hons)	112
Business and Marketing BA (Hons)	112
Business Entrepreneurship and Innovation BA (Hons)	112
Business Management and Economics BA (Hons)	112
Business Management and Finance BA (Hons)	120
Business Management and Human Resource Management BA (Hons)	112
Economics BA/BSc (Hons)	120
Economics and Finance BSc (Hons)	120
Economics and International Relations BA (Hons)	112
Economics and Politics BA (Hons)	112
Human Resource Management BA (Hons)	120
International Business BA (Hons)	120
International Marketing and Business BA (Hons)	112
Marketing BA (Hons)	120
Computer Sciences	UCAS
Artificial Intelligence BSc (Hons)	104
Business Information Systems BSc (Hons)	104
Computer Games Production BSc (Hons)	104
Computer Games Programming BSc (Hons)	104
Computer Science BSc (Hons)	112
Computing BSc (Hons)	104
Computing for Business BSc (Hons)	104
Computing HND	56
Cyber Security BSc (Hons)	112
Digital Forensics BSc (Hons)	112
Digital Technology Innovation BSc (Hons)	104
Foundation Year in Computing	56
Information and Communication Technology BSc (Hons)	104
Internet of Things BSc (Hons)	112
Mathematics BSc (Hons)	112
Software Engineering BSc (Hons)	112
Creative Technologies and Media	UCAS
Communication Arts BA (Hons)	104
Film Studies BA (Hons) (single honours/with languages)	104
Film Studies BA (Hons) (joint honours)	104
Journalism BA (Hons) NCTJ accredited	104
Journalism BA (Hons) (joint honours)	104 – 112
Media and Communication BA (Hons) (single honours/with languages)	104
Media BA (Hons) (joint honours)	104
Media Foundation	56
Media Production BSc (Hons)	104
Visual Effects (VFX) BSc (Hons)	104

Engineering and Energy Sustainability	UCAS
Aeronautical Engineering BEng/MEng (Hons)	112 – 120
Electrical and Electronic Engineering BEng/MEng (Hons)	112 – 120
Energy Engineering BEng (Hons)	112
Engineering Year Zero	56
Mechanical Engineering BEng/Meng (Hons)	112 – 120
Mechatronics BEng/MEng (Hons)	112 – 120
Fashion and Textiles	UCAS
Contour Fashion BA (Hons)	112
Contour Fashion (Communication) BA (Hons)	112
Fashion Buying with Design BA (Hons)	112
Fashion Buying with Marketing BA (Hons)	112
Fashion Buying with Product Development BA (Hons)	112
Fashion Buying with Merchandising BA (Hons)	112
Fashion Communication and Styling BA (Hons)	112
Fashion Design BA (Hons)	112
Fashion Management (Level 6 Top-Up) BA (Hons)	112
Fashion Textile Design BA (Hons)	112
Footwear Foundation Degree (FdA)	32
Footwear Design BA (Hons)	112
Textile Design BA (Hons)	112
Humanities	UCAS
Creative Writing BA (Hons) (single honours/joint honours)	104
English and Creative Writing BA (Hons)	112
English Literature BA (Hons) (single honours/joint honours)	112
English Literature with French, Mandarin or Spanish BA (Hons)	112
English Language BA (Hons) (single honours/joint honours)	104
English Language and English Literature BA (Hons)	112
English Language with French, Mandarin or Spanish BA (Hons)	104
English Language with TESOL BA (Hons)	104
History BA (Hons) (single honours/joint honours)	112
History with French, Mandarin or Spanish BA (Hons)	112
International Relations and Politics	UCAS
Business and Globalisation BA (Hons)	112
International Relations BA (Hons) (single honours/joint honours)	112
International Relations and Politics BA (Hons) (joint honours)	112
Politics BA (Hons) (single honours/joint honours)	120
Public Administration and Management BA (Hons)	112
Law	UCAS
Business Law LLB (Hons)	112
Business Management and Law BA (Hons) (joint honours)	112
Law LLB (Hons)	120
Law and Criminal Justice LLB (Hons)	112
Law and Economics BA (Hons) (joint honours)	112
Law, Human Rights and Social Justice LLB (Hons)	112

Music	UCAS
Audio and Recording Technology BSc (Hons)	104
Creative Music Technology BA (Hons)	104
Digital Music Technology BSc (Hons)	104
Music Technology BAsc (Hons)	104
Music Technology Foundation Degree (FdSc)	32
Music, Technology and Performance BA (Hons)	104
Nursing and Midwifery	UCAS
Midwifery (Pre-Registration Midwifery) BSc (Hons)	120
Nursing with Registration (Adult Nursing) BSc (Hons)	112
Nursing with Registration (Child Nursing) BSc (Hons)	120
Nursing with Registration (Learning Disability Nursing) BSc (Hons)	112
Nursing with Registration (Mental Health Nursing) BSc (Hons)	112
Paramedicine BSc (Hons)	112
Associate Ambulance Practice (DipHE)	96
Performance Arts and Arts Festivals Management	UCAS
Arts and Festivals Management BA (Hons) (single honours/joint honours)	112
Dance BA (Hons) (single honours/joint honours)	112
Drama BA (Hons) (single honours/joint honours)	104 – 112
Performing Arts BA (Hons)	112
Global Arts Management (Level 6 top up) BA (Hons)	112
The Leicester School of Pharmacy	UCAS
Forensic Science BSc (Hons)	112
Pharmaceutical and Cosmetic Science BSc (Hons)	104
Pharmacy MPharm (Hons)	120
Pharmacy MPharm Year Zero	112

UCAS TARIFF POINTS EXPLAINED

A-level		AS-level		Extended project		BTEC Extended Diploma (QCF)	
A*	56	A	20	A*	28	D*D*D*	168
A	48	B	16	A	24	D*D*D	160
B	40	C	12	B	20	D*DD	152
C	32	D	10	C	16	DDD	144
D	24	E	6	D	12	DDM	128
E	16			E	8	DMM	112
						MMM	96
						MMP	80
						MPP	64
						PPP	48

The contents of this document are correct at the time of going to press. You are advised to check our website before making an application in case there are any changes to the course you are interested in, as the information on our website will always take precedence.

Alternative formats

Where possible, DMU publications or specific sections can be supplied in alternative media. For further information, please contact the Enquiry team by calling **+44 (0)116 2 50 60 70** or emailing enquiry@dmu.ac.uk


For further information about our courses visit dmu.ac.uk/ugcourses, while for a more detailed UCAS Tariff guide visit dmu.ac.uk/UCAS


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