

Studying in the UK

There are more than 395 universities and colleges, offering over thousands of higher education courses across the UK. Typically, study programmes at UK universities lead to the undergraduate and postgraduate degrees. A Bachelor's degree is the most common type of undergraduate degree, while a Master's degree and a Doctoral Degree (also called a doctorate or a PhD) are the most common types of postgraduate qualifications. College is where many students go for two years after completing compulsory schooling at 16 in order to prepare for exams to get into university. You can also attend vocational courses at college.

All UK higher education applications are made through UCAS, the UK's national admissions service. UK university requirements usually include your academic qualifications and grades from the previous education, but some universities also require entrance tests and personal statements. If you score high chances are you will get admitted. Since the number of available places is most of the time limited and lower compared to the number of incoming applicants, additional documents such as relevant references and experiences to divide outstanding talents from very good applicants may be required. Interviews are also common as an entry requirement at renowned UK universities.

In the UK most undergraduate degree programs take three years to finish. They are generally shorter than other countries, helping to reduce overall tuition fees and accommodation costs. You may also be able to get financial help or a scholarship. In the UK, degree courses tend to be very specialised, allowing students to focus on their chosen subject from their first day. However, there are others that allow you more flexibility in what you study.

Studying in the US

More than 3,600 colleges and universities offer undergraduate degree programs in the United States. Associate degree programs are offered at two-year colleges known as junior or community colleges. Four-year colleges and universities offer bachelor's degree programs, with a small number also offering associate degree programs. Over 1,700 universities and other institutions offer graduate degree programs in the United States. Graduate Programs focus on education leading to a Master's Degree or a Doctoral Degree. Certificates or Diplomas can be earned through Summer Programs and English Language Institutes/ESL programs.

Because the U.S. university system is extensive, admissions requirements vary greatly. Highly selective universities and colleges may receive enormous numbers of applicants and accept only a small number, while other colleges may accept all applicants who meet their admission standards. For a stress-free and successful college application process, you should begin looking at schools during your junior year of high school. As you identify good possibilities, you'll need to take a few steps to ensure that you're ready to apply. These may include submitting your GPA, taking admissions exams, writing personal statements or essays, getting letters of recommendation and interviews.

One of the most attractive features of the bachelor's degree program in the United States is that it is highly flexible. You can usually choose from a wide variety of courses and create your own unique program of study. The degree is awarded after you complete a specified number of credits, which are usually completed in four years of full-time study. Tuition and fees at colleges vary based on the program of study and whether the college is public or private.

WORD FORMATION

IV Use a form of GRADUATE to complete the sentences below.

1. George _____ from the University of Edinburgh two months ago.
2. _____ studies are taken at a university after you earn a bachelor's degree.
3. Do you plan to get a job or take a gap year after _____?
4. Like many _____, George has taken a gap year to see what he wants to do next.
5. Kenneth is an _____ student who will complete his bachelor's degree in approximately two years.

V Fill in the gaps with the appropriate form of the words in capital letters.

1. All types of _____ (SCHOLAR) and financial aid for international students are highly competitive and require excellent academic records.
2. There are many undergraduate and postgraduate _____ (QUALIFY) in the UK.
3. Our university offers great _____ (FLEXIBLE) in choosing from a wide range of courses.
4. Send in your _____ (APPLY) by 20 February. We will invite the best _____ (APPLY) for an interview.
5. Every institution has different entry _____ (REQUIRE) and some institutions are highly _____ (SELECT).
6. UCAS is the UK's national _____ (ADMIT) service.
7. Did you have to take an _____ (ENTER) exam at your university?
8. Mr Taylor is an associate professor at the Department of _____ (HUMAN) and Social Sciences.
9. You can choose from a _____ (VARY) of courses here but be careful not to take on too little or too much.
10. Studying at our university will provide you with _____ (EXTEND) knowledge of forensic science.

VI You will hear someone explain the difference in meaning between ‘college’ and ‘university. Listen carefully and complete the gaps below with ONE WORD.

In the US, ‘university’ and ‘college’ are sometimes **1** .

Colleges in the US often do not offer **2** degrees, while universities usually do.

In the US, ‘university’ and ‘college’ do not have an **3** meaning so colleges and universities can call themselves whatever they want to.

In Canada and Australia, the word **4** is the usual term for higher education.

At liberal arts colleges in the US, students gain knowledge about many different academic areas and do not **5** in one subject.

Liberal arts colleges are **6** outside the US.

Students who begin their education at a two-year **7** college sometimes transfer to a four-year college or university to complete a

8 degree.

One of the differences between colleges and universities is that universities are focused on **9** .

Marymount California University is an example of a small university because it had a total **10** of just 985 students in 2016.

Princeton University is an example of a prestigious **11** university in the US.

Finally, larger universities sometimes have smaller **12** called 'colleges'.

You can find this video on YouTube: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=lWz-46NPqdk>.