

Supporting Student Choices

Education Liaison

Aims and Objectives

- Researching and choosing the right provider and course
- Alternative options to university
- Supporting students to make sensible subject choices at level 3



Choosing the right provider and course



Start the research early





What can university do for you?

Extra activities

Many jobs require a degree

Develop valuable skills

Plenty of support

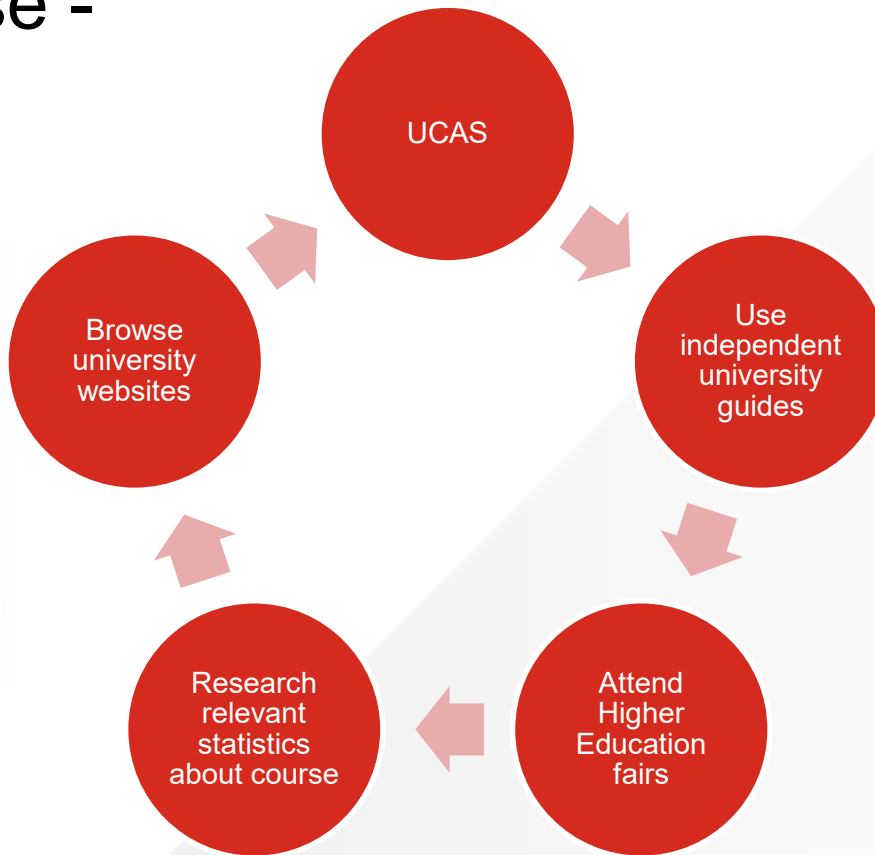
Study abroad

Work placements





Choosing a course - points to consider



In-depth course research

- **Entry requirements** – make sure they match your predicted grades
- Read **course content**, they vary between universities
- Course **assessment** – exams, coursework, ongoing assessment
- Possibility of **work placement** or study abroad
- Graduate **jobs** from this course



If still in doubt, check...

...Centigrade

“Centigrade is an online resource that helps you make the right decision about higher education. It accesses the full UCAS database for the UK to give you instant feedback on which courses would suit you best.”

“*Studies have shown that students who do the most research into Higher Education are the most likely to complete their course.*”

Helps you work out which courses suit your:

- Interests
- Abilities
- Qualifications
- Access to whole UCAS database
- Fee of £15 per user
- 30 minutes to complete

Useful HE related websites

Independent university guide



www.prospects.ac.uk

Comparing UK HE course data

UNISTATS



unistats.ac.uk/



<https://www.whatuni.com>

What do
graduates do?

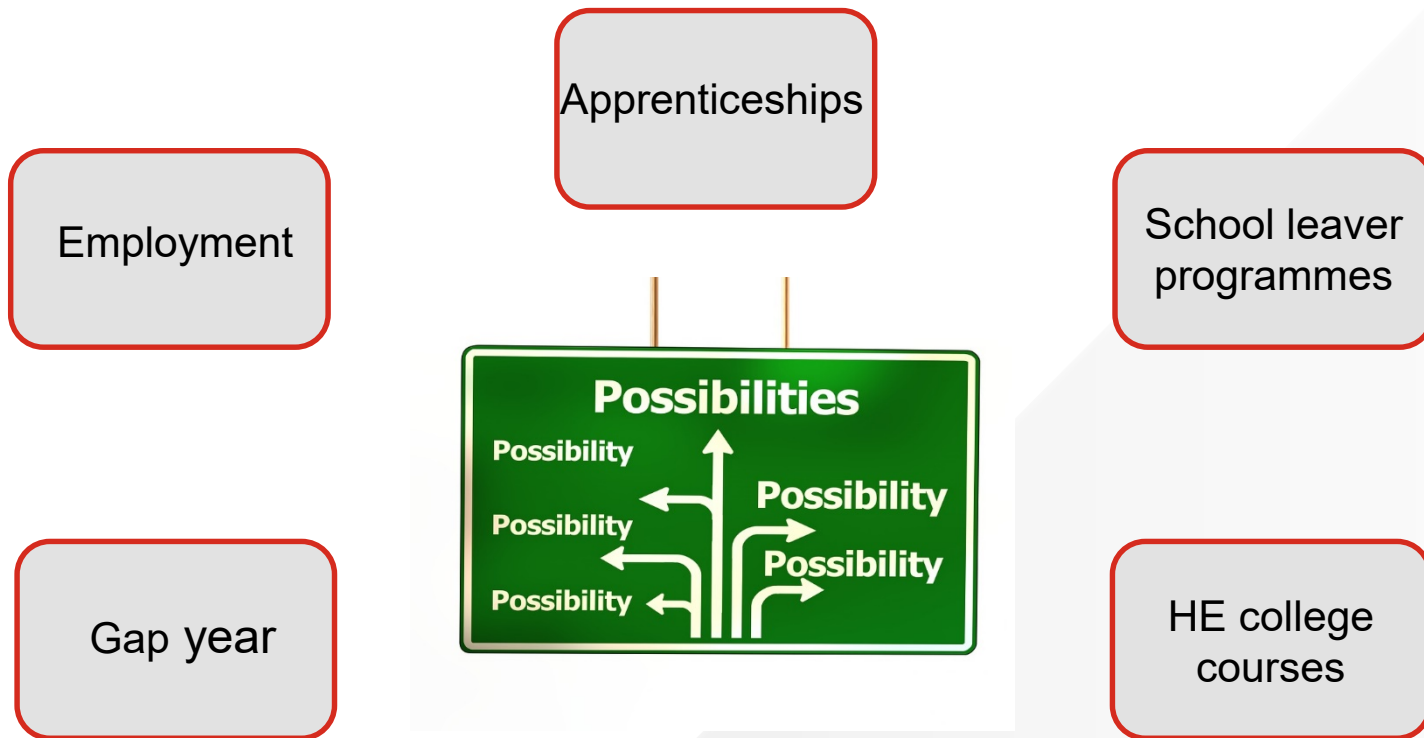
Higher Education Careers Services Unit
www.hecsu.ac.uk



HE courses at colleges
www.londoncolleges.com



Alternative options to university



Further information

Apprenticeships



- Work + part-time learning
- Specific to an area of work
- Get valuable work experience
- Gain a qualification
- Get paid

School leaver programmes



- Various levels (level 4-7)
- Good chance of full-time employment
- **Usually competitive`**

HE college courses



- HNC, HND, Foundation Diploma, Degree (level 4-6)
- Full-time or part-time
- Courses are work-related
- Can be 'topped up' for a full degree
- Opportunity to taste a job/profession

Further information

Employment



- Entry level jobs
- Lots of jobs are now apprenticeships
- Typical job sectors: business, retail, IT & digital media, recruitment, sport
- Consider career progression within an organisation

Gap year



- Travel and work/volunteer abroad
- Volunteer on a project at home
- Work and save money for university
- New experience provide insight about possible career paths
- Gain experience + develop skills
- May struggle to settle back into studies
- Expensive to travel or have unpaid job
- Wasting time could leave a bad impression

Alternative to university - useful websites

Apprenticeships



www.ratemyapprenticeship.co.uk

www.getingofar.gov.uk

Gap year



www.gapyear.com

School Leaver programmes



www.allaboutschoollleavers.co.uk

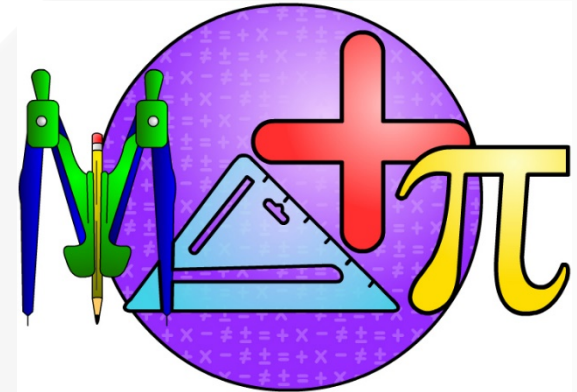
The logo for totalJobs features the word "totalJobs" in a green, lowercase, sans-serif font, with "total" in a lighter shade of green and "Jobs" in a darker shade.

Employment

- Job boards
- Specific job boards
- Company websites

Making sensible subject choices at level 3

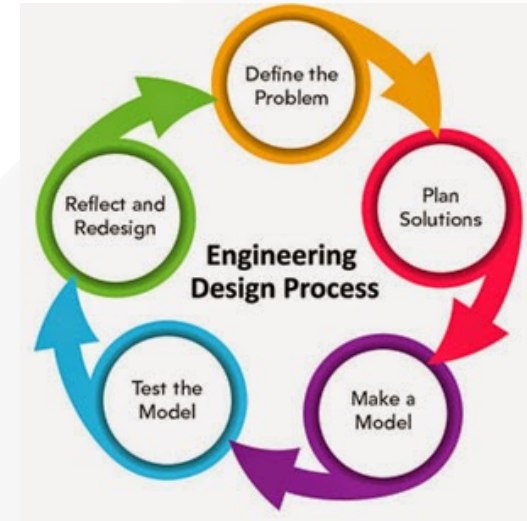
- Courses at university that require essential subjects or other requirements at level 3:
- Science based courses: usually one or two science subjects and sometimes maths
- Maths based courses: usually maths
- English and modern foreign languages: relevant subject



Making sensible subject choices at level 3

Essential subjects or other requirements at level 3:

- Humanities: **usually relevant subject**
- Art based courses e.g. fashion, fine art, graphic design: **portfolio**
- Performing Arts: **audition**
- Engineering: **usually maths and physics**
- Architecture: **arts/science**
- Sports: **one science subject**



Making sensible subject choices at level 3

- Courses that *do not* require essential subjects at level 3:
 - Business/Finance
 - Psychology
 - Education
 - Law
 - Sociology
 - Media
 - Philosophy
 - Politics
 - Archaeology
 - Classical studies
 - History of Art
 - Theology
 - Surveying



Questions