

10 reasons to consider university

Considering university? Here are ten reasons, why higher education could be your next step!

My name is Aanisha, I'm a third year Medical Biochemistry student at Leicester University. After completing my A-levels, with some research, I found a couple of courses I was interested in and I landed my spot on the biological sciences course. The advantage of this course, much like other degrees, is that you can choose to continue your degree only in the subjects you interested in.



1. Find your passion

You don't need to have a specific career in mind when applying to courses. There are thousands of courses available in every subject, you will find the course for you. Moreover, university courses are designed to help you find what topics in the subject you're most interested in and would like as a job. When starting your first year the modules (topics) you will cover will be very broad covering basic knowledge, as you go into second and then third year you will narrow down to topics you're most interested in. By the end of third year you will have a better idea of what you want to do in your professional career, you may find your passion in the field and know the ideal job you want to go for.

2. An internationally recognised qualification

Earning a degree in any discipline is a recognised qualification around the world to all employers. Even if the job you apply for isn't related to your degree, employers will still value it's worth. Not everyone can earn a degree! Gaining a university degree shows you are an expert person in the subject you studied and know what you are talking about. Being a graduate student, you are more likely to be employed than someone who hasn't completed a degree. This shows, it can be easier to find a job with a degree than without.

3. Developing key skills

The skills you develop at uni are things employers look out for when finding employees. During tutorials and seminars, which are small groups of students working with professors solving problems or tasks, you will improve skills like; problem solving, communication skills, teamwork, and leadership. Joining clubs and societies are other great opportunities to improve these transferable skills! In university, you will start to do a lot of learning and reading textbooks on your own, helping you to become more organised and develop great time-management. University is a great steppingstone into the working life, employers

expect you to work without supervision, the many skills you will develop at university will help you thrive under pressure.



4. Make some money

In 2018 most British graduates earned £10,000 more than non-graduate annually. This means, straight out of university you can make more money than most non-graduates, in any field. You wouldn't need to waste time climbing the professional ladder and apply for high paid jobs immediately. Having a chance to develop your skills, character, knowledge and techniques in your subject are main reasons employers look for graduates to employ.

5. Amazing facilities and equipment

Depending on the uni you join, they will have cutting edge equipment that could cost up to millions of pounds. Within your degree, you will have opportunities to use specialised equipment that would also be used in places of work. Giving you a first-hand opportunity to practice using these facilities with the help of professionals in your degree. Having an opportunity to learn techniques under no pressure and a safe environment is invaluable, you can also have a fun time doing what you love. You'll have a chance to make the most of sports facilities like a pool and gym too. I love using my uni gym because they have a sauna and a jacuzzi to relax in after a long gym session. Moreover, the huge libraries on campus are a brilliant place to study and meet friends between your lectures or doing all nighters for last minute deadlines!

6. Experience, experience, experience!

Degrees will offer subject specific experience that you will be able to use when applying for graduate jobs. For example, Leicester university law school has a court room, which can be used to roleplay and give students the opportunity to debate cases like a real-life situation. It's an exciting and fun way to practice what you learn in lectures. Other subjects like



science, will include lab experience when you get to use fancy equipment and expensive tools to complete experiments that you would in a research or hospital lab.

7. A meeting with experts

Another great reason to join student life, is meeting specialists and professionals in your degree who will teach and mentor you. You will be taught by people who are leading professors in the subject, the content will be up to date with leading research. Moreover, when you become a student you will get a personal tutor, they will be a specialist in your degree and may even be one of your lectures. Your personal tutor is your go-to-guy for anything you're not sure about whether its school related or not. They're an extremely useful tool, because they can help you find opportunities or other professionals to help you advance your professional and academic career.

8. A year off

University is a great opportunity to see different cities and explore different cultures. While doing your degree you have many options to take a year out to do something else after your first year. Some of these things include spending a term, semester or even the whole year abroad in another country. You could be anywhere across the world such as USA, Australia, France, Italy or China! You could also spend up to a year doing a placement, which is when you work for a company as an employee, most of the time you'll be paid too. This is great when applying for jobs, as this gives you a great deal of experience and puts you ahead of other students. If you do really well some placements can offer you a permanent job, ready for you once you finish your degree. Some universities allow you to get an extra degree, this is known as an intercalated degree. When you graduate you will leave with two degrees instead of just one!

9. Freedom

When moving to a university, it's not just the degree that you need to consider. With great freedom comes great responsibility! Becoming more independent, makes you more responsible and grows your self-confidence. You'll meet new people, and have a chance to broaden your horizons during your time at uni. Whether you decide to stay at home or live away, you find that you will be in control of your own learning and be responsible for yourself.

10. Social life

The social life at university is amazing, whether you decide to join a club, society or just chill with friends, there is no limit to the things you can do. Student union will organise student nights with free goodies and fun themes, listen to great music and have an unforgettable night with friends. The student union organises fun events during term too. For example, I love the plant and poster pop up shops where they have discounted prices just for students! The societies and clubs are all student lead, and each have their own uniqueness so there will always be a family to join if not you can always make your own society. Joining the woman's rugby team is a decision I've never regretted, I've been with them for two years now and the girls are so inviting making it feel like a home away from home. We have social events, as well as training twice a week and the exhilarating weekly games that sometimes takes us to neighbouring unis.



Women's Rugby Varsity 2019: The rugby varsity games are held annually at the Welford stadium the official grounds for the Leicester tigers. Where our university goes head-to-head with another local university.

Going to university will develop your character and improve your skills. You will gain invaluable experiences that will stay with you forever, meet new people and further your knowledge. You can discover your passion and find your ideal job, while meeting experts in the field and gaining their advice. A university degree will open many doors, you can continue to study and complete a master's degree or go into the working world and start earning money.