

Applying for University in September 2011 (UCAS)

Paul Gerrard

Director of Sixth Form Studies



What is UCAS?

- University & Colleges Admissions Service
- The application process for anyone who wants to study a full-time undergraduate course eg. degree or HND
- You apply electronically on line
- On line
- Students have from mid-September to 14th of January to apply



What is UCAS ?

- You apply through school
- The school is registered as a centre
- You will be given a “buzzword” which registers you with our school as a centre
- Once your application is completed you send it electronically to your referee (the school) via Apply



What is UCAS ?

- The school then write your reference & submit the completed form to UCAS.
- There is a charge for this - £19?
- Will go on the school bill at the end of the academic year
- UCAS is not necessarily for everyone
- Connexions?



Tariff Points

- Is a points score system for entry to higher education
- Grade A – 120
- Grade B – 100
- Grade C – 80
- Grade D – 60
- Grade E – 40
- AS grades are half the A2 points score



The A* at A2 (only)

- Have to get 90% in your A2 modules
- 180/200
- 270/300



Entry Profiles

- Provide information about a course so that candidates can make informed decisions about the courses that they apply for.
- Course content
- Entry requirements – tariff points
- Skills
- Qualities etc ...
- Home page – what to study.



The different types of qualifications

- What to study – home page
- Scroll down – Chose the type of qualification that suits you.



UCAS decisions

- Students receive one of three decisions through UCAS



Conditional Offer

- An offer subject to the student meeting certain conditions
- Usually based on exam results eg
- 280 tariff points from 3 A levels
- Or BCC
- Grades in certain subjects may be specified eg B in maths



Unconditional Offer

- Offer means that the student has already met the entry requirements
- University is happy to accept them
- Offer usually made to students who have already completed their qualifications



Rejection

- The student is not offered a place
- A reason for the rejection does not have to be given



Extra

- Students do not receive an offer from their 5 choices
- You can apply again BEFORE clearing
- Operates from February to early July
- Available courses highlighted on www.ucas.com



Clearing

- Students do not meet the grades from their conditional offer
- Starts the day A level results are published



CUKAS for musical performance

- For students wishing to apply for courses in MUSIC performance
- Runs parallel to UCAS
- Can apply to both simultaneously
- www.cukas.ac.uk



Biomedical admissions

- For students applying to courses in MEDICINE & VETINARY SCIENCE
- The test enables to institution to chose between applicants whose academic results are extremely similar
- Taken before students submit their UCAS form
- 4th November seems to be the date this year
- www.bmat.org.uk



Law admissions

- For applications to LAW courses
- Again distinguishes between top level candidates whose results are very similar
- www.lnat.ac.uk
- Usually taken before students submit their UCAS application



Oxford & Cambridge

- Applications by Friday 7th October
- Internal school deadline for all other applications Friday 18th November



What now?

- The job you want to do will influence which university course you chose
- Start with what job you want to do
- Work back from there
- What courses put you on that career pathway?
- What are the entry requirements for the relevant course?



Careers

- www.careers-portal.co.uk
- www.connexions.gov.uk/occupations
- www.worktrain.gov.uk/
- www.ajobin.com
- www.afuturein.com
- Try the STAMFORD TEST – link from the UCAS website via finding the right course – LHS What to study.
- Centigrade (online)



Universities

- www.universityoptions.co.uk
- www.whatuni.com
- <http://www.timesonline.co.uk/TimesGoodUniversityGuide>
- www.opendays.com

