

All about Higher Education

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All about Higher Education

Overview

- What is Higher Education?
- Why do a degree?
- Choosing an institution – factors to consider
- Choosing a subject – where to start
- Making the right choices



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What is it?

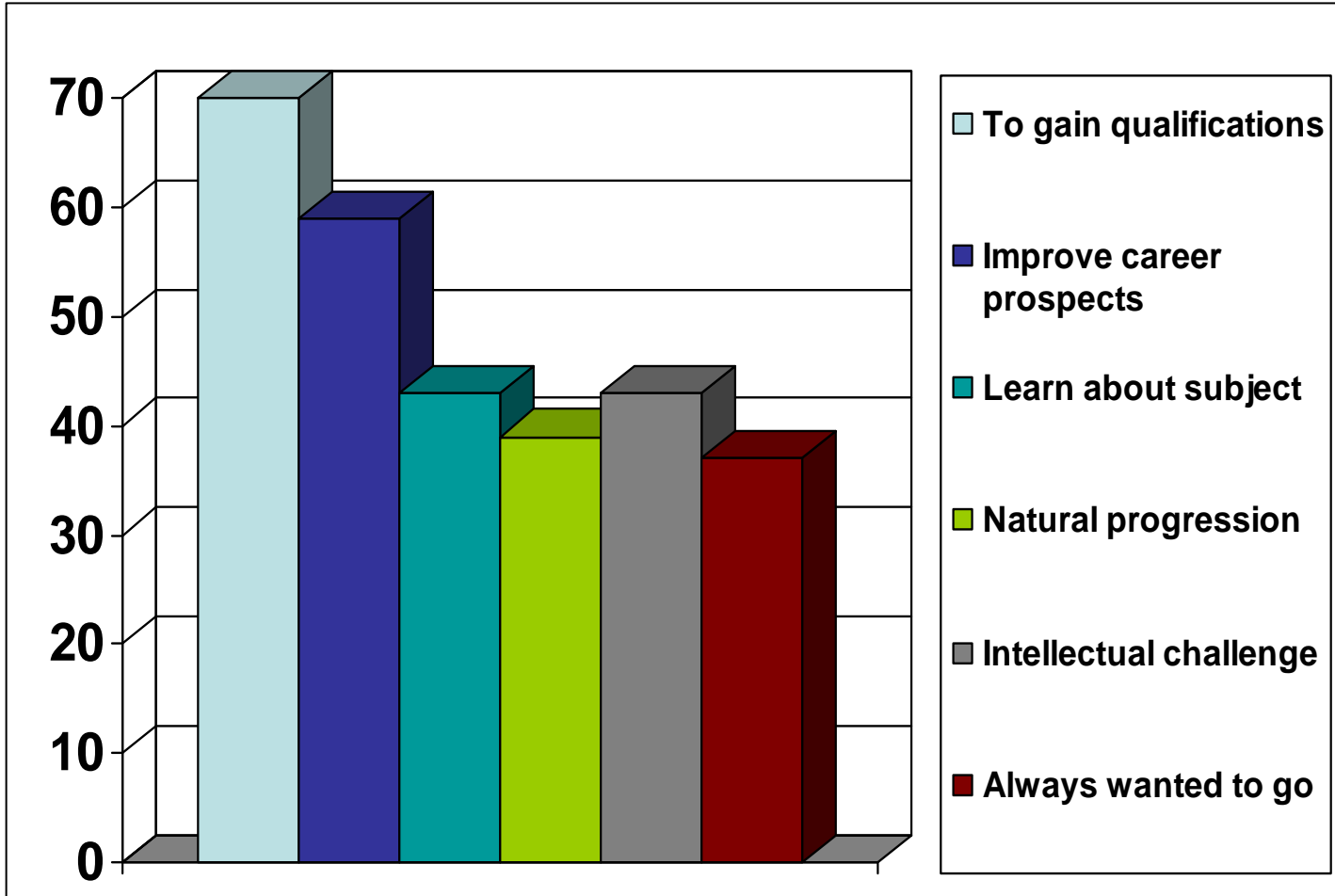
Academic or vocational – courses on offer

- HNC / HND
- Foundation Degrees
- Top Up Degrees
- Bachelors Degrees
- Masters Degrees
- Single, Joint or Combined Honours
- Part time or full time study
- Sandwich course / a year abroad



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Why do a degree?



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Why do a degree?

Transferable skills are skills and attributes you acquire in one area that are equally applicable in other areas:

- Confidence
- Self –reliance
- Interpersonal skills
- Communication skills
 - Written
 - Verbal
- Organisational skills



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Which university?

There are over 300 different institutions...

Types of institution

- Oxbridge
- Redbrick/Civic Universities
- Modern Universities
- Colleges of Further Education
- Specialist Colleges



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Which subject?

There are over 53,000 courses available across the country, in 327 Higher Education institutions.....

- Sciences, Engineering
- Medicine, Dentistry, Veterinary, Health
- Arts
- Social and Environmental Studies



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Which subject?

Selecting the right course and institution takes time and research

Starting Points....

- Identify your academic strengths and weaknesses
 - be honest, seek advice
- Why do you enjoy particular subjects?
 - what type of person are you?
- Think about your career ambitions ...

The sooner you start the more successful your search will be!



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Which subject?

- **Chosen Career requires specific degree**
 - tend to be clinical or engineering courses
- **Should I take an accredited course?**
 - What difference will AMBA, RIBA & BPS acronyms make?
- **Specific career but unsure what course to take**
 - Business or Journalism for example
- **Love of subject but unsure which institution**
 - Where's the best place to study English ?
- **I enjoy Law but don't think I want to be a Lawyer**
 - Will this affect my chances of being offered a place?
- **No idea what I want to do after graduation?**
 - Combined honours or gap year?



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What grade should I be predicted?

Architecture (+ portfolio)	AAA
Dentistry (+ work experience & interview)	AAA + B @ AS-Level
Medicine	AAA + B @ AS-Level
Veterinary Science	AAB + B @ AS-Level
Law	AAA-AAB
English Language and Literature	AAB
History	
Psychology	
Accounting	ABB
Artificial Intelligence	
Business Studies	
Politics	
Civil Engineering	BBB
Chemistry	BBC
Nursing (+ work experience)	BCC



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Which university?

Is it the place for you?

CHECKLIST

- Do your predicted grades match the requirements?
- Is their course exactly what you want?
- Can you afford the travel/living expenses?



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Which university?

Comparing institutions helps to get it right

- Location
- Support and advice
 - Personal tutors, welfare support, peer assisted study groups
- Facilities and the 'student life'
 - Think about libraries, I.T. provision as well as the Students' Union
- Cost of Living
- University Open Days
 - Always visit 2 or more and think about questions to ask in advance



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How to start, where to look

There are loads of places to look...

- UCAS website – www.ucas.com
- University Prospectuses
- Higher Education Conventions
- Independent Guides
- Newspaper League Tables
- Social networking sites & current students
- Open Days

The University of Liverpool Open Days in 2011:

Friday 24th & Saturday 25th June; Saturday 1st

October



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Assessing your application

•Admissions Tutors look for:

- Intellectual ability
- Whether you suit the course
- Evidence of motivation and commitment
- Well-rounded applicants
- Extra-curricular activities

They will use:

- Your academic profile
 - A Levels
 - Additional AS / A Levels
 - Key skills
 - GCSEs
- Your personal statement
- Your reference



All about Higher Education Admissions Tutors

- Like early applications
- Commitment
- Well rounded students
- Reasons
- Future
- Determination and Enthusiasm



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“Is it worth it...?”

Why bother?

Life experience

Independence

Broadening horizons

Realise your full potential

The average graduate earns over £160,000 more over their
lifetime than non-graduates!



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