

WEBINAR- UCAS

(Representatives from a variety of universities)

13th October 2022

This is an increasingly competitive time and landscape

5 choices – all 5 need to be made by the 25th of January

Check location / course / broad range of institutions – and their high / medium / low requirements – “spread the risk”

Choose 2 ASPIRATIONAL choices

Choose 2 predicted choices

Choose 1 safe choice

Some disciplines are more in demand than others – Law and Economics at the University of Exeter, for example, has stiffer competition than others

Subject focus is very important – do the research

Think more about your own motivation – course / location – near home??

There are also more contextual offers now

Open Days very important – have questions!

Mike (University of Cambridge)

- Students have to take responsibility for their research and early enough especially if want to go to Oxbridge or applying for medicine /veterinary medicine
- Increasing number of applications now – were flexible in 2019 – now shifted – must attend open days/ webinars / go on the chat functions – Admissions staff expect students to use these now
- 1 in 5 getting offers from Oxbridge
- Oxford – need to take the BMAT test for Biomedical Sciences – can see past BMAT papers

You can get your application in for some of your 5 choices before the deadline and apply for others after – if appropriate – need to check with the institutions

Research - ask how competitive the courses are – via open days, for example, though you should find this information on the course pages usually

League Tables – include The Guardian – check the subject ones and those awards/placings that show various data such as social mobility issue.

Check the cost of living in the locations – Wolverhampton is one of the cheapest areas

Subject ratings are more important than the University rankings

Choosing a university can be more of an instinctive activity – the learning experience is really more relevant

The TED courses are great – www.ted.com – absorb yourself with the language of your chosen subject – and don't forget to include in the Personal Statement!

Time is limited on events – online resources are better now so this helps – more general / subject talks given in advance online such as at Cambridge – so can then focus on seeing colleges on the actual open day etc

Generic requirements – many disciplines – engineering / sciences – take care with science requirements – will be in specific subjects - GCSEs will be looked at (relevant ones)

Check the small print – not really flexible with the CORE requirements – if not as relevant, may be more flexible if you have a lower grade than needed

Predicted grades are a benchmark – NOT a guarantee - the competition means you may not get an offer

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