



# UNIVERSITY JARGON

COMMON PHRASES YOU MIGHT HEAR WHEN APPLYING FOR HIGHER EDUCATION.

## DEGREE



A degree is the qualification awarded upon graduation at university. Degrees are made up of undergraduate or postgraduate levels - Undergraduate degrees are typically achieved after 3 years of study, whilst Master's degrees follow after and last 1-2 years.



Students who do not make the grades for their firm and insurance choices, can apply to courses within a university that has spaces available after results have been made and offers have been accepted by students who have applied through UCAS.

## CLEARING

## CAMPUS



The site on which the university is based. This can consist of accommodation, classrooms and lecture theatres, fitness centres, the student's union and a number of other buildings.

## ASSIGNMENT & ASSESSMENT



Assignments are usually tasks set during your course, that can be written, practical or take a number of other forms. This is most similar to coursework, while assessments typically take the form of an end of term test, essays, lab reports, presentations or exams.

## STUDENT FINANCE



Student Finance is a Student Loans Company that helps students pay the cost of their courses through a loan that is paid back later, when students earn over a certain threshold and only after the student has graduated.

## UCAS APPLICATIONS



UCAS is the application system through which students apply to university. Students must provide their personal details, a personal statement, their university choices and subjects and grades.

## ACCOMMODATION



Students can live and travel from home, stay in university provided accommodation, or live in private rented accommodation - whichever suits them best due to budgets, travel time and their general preference.

## GRANT & LOAN



A loan is paid to a student to cover tuition or living costs, and is paid back in instalments when the student has graduated and is earning a certain amount. A grant is awarded to qualifying students to cover tuition fees, living costs or both, and does not need to be paid back.

## CONDITIONAL/UNCONDITIONAL OFFERS



A conditional offer depends on the grades that the student achieves in order to be confirmed. An unconditional offer guarantees the student a place immediately.

## LECTURES, LABS, TUTORIALS & SEMINARS



Lectures are taught to an entire course, where students listen and take notes on the subject. Seminars and tutorials are taught in a smaller number to allow you to discuss and study the subject with academics in more detail. Labs are practical classes that take place in campus laboratory.

## DEFERRAL



A student can accept their place or defer their offer until the following academic year. This could be to allow for a gap year, for example, before starting their course the following year, rather than the same year of their application.

## FIRM/INSURANCE CHOICES



Students must make a firm choice (their first preference) of a course and university, and also an insurance choice (a second preference). The insurance choice should have lower entry requirements than the firm choice to maximise the possibility of entering university.

## STUDENT'S UNION



An organisation that acts as the collective student voice and represents the student body at university meetings and fights for change for students made up of current and former students.

## ENROLMENT



This is the process in which students register as a member of the university, becoming an official student and allowing them to begin their studies at the university.