



Advice and guidance for students applying to University post-BHASVIC

So you are applying after a year (or two) out or perhaps considering other options. Maybe your grades did not meet the original requirements of your first choice.

I hope this might be some useful information as you will re-apply through BHASVIC.

Contacts & Help:

We can support you:

- Checking your **UCAS Apply form**
- Checking your **personal statement**
- Updating your **reference** (although we will use the one we have on file)
- With any **guidance or information** if needed. This booklet is a useful first point of call so please take a read through first.

I am happy to meet if needed, or liaise through email.

General Office will normally put students in touch with me.

Nikki Fabry

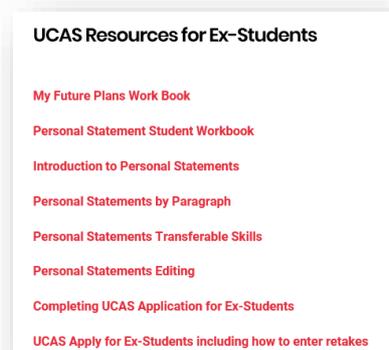
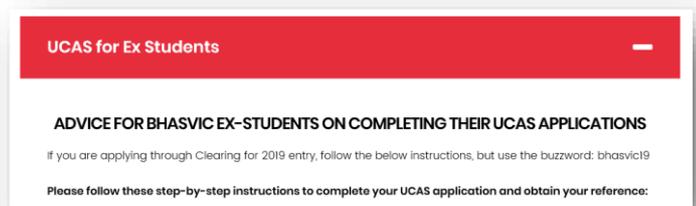
Guidance manager / HE lead

n.fabry@bhasvic.ac.uk / 01273 859820 (direct dial)

1. Your application:

You will need to:

- **Complete a UCAS Apply form.** Follow the instructions on our college website here <https://www.bhasvic.ac.uk/student-dashboard>
- This will link it to the college and we can add your reference.
- **Your college reference is checked** and put into the past tense. If there is anything helpful we can add (extenuating circumstances etc. please tell us).
- **Complete a personal statement.** If you need support you will find them on the ex-student section above.
- When you have sent the application, **check your emails.**
- **You will be aiming to complete any application by around mid-November.**



The **Completing UCAS Apply PowerPoint** is a step by step guide for filling in your UCAS form (correctly) if you are stuck!

2. Help researching options:

You will need to:

- You will have used at some stage the **My Future Plans Workbook in A1**. It is available also for download in the resources section.
- Much of this may well not apply, but it is designed to give you the **most useful links to any research** that you are undertaking for potential courses.
- **Useful websites** include <https://university.which.co.uk/> - highly recommended.
- **When looking at courses** on which university use the name, you don't have to enter in a location

UCAS Resources for Ex-Students

[My Future Plans Work Book](#)

[Personal Statement Student Workbook](#)

[Introduction to Personal Statements](#)

[Personal Statements by Paragraph](#)

[Personal Statements Transferable Skills](#)

[Personal Statements Editing](#)

[Completing UCAS Application for Ex-Students](#)

[UCAS Apply for Ex-Students including how to enter retakes](#)

The screenshot shows the UCAS search interface. At the top, there are two tabs: 'Courses' and 'Universities'. Below the tabs, there are two input fields: 'Course name eg psychology' and 'Location: city, town or county'. The 'Course name' field contains the text 'nursing' and has a magnifying glass icon. The 'Location' field contains the text 'sheffield' and has a location pin icon. Below the 'Location' field, there is a dropdown menu showing 'Sheffield' with a location pin icon. There is also a close button (X) next to the location input.

The screenshot shows the UCAS search interface with the 'Predicted grades' section expanded. At the top, there are two tabs: 'Predicted grades' and 'More filters'. Below the tabs, there are three tabs: 'A-levels', 'SQA Highers', and 'UCAS Points'. The 'A-levels' tab is selected. Below the tabs, there are four dropdown menus for selecting predicted grades. Each dropdown menu has a minus sign (-) on the left and a plus sign (+) on the right. At the bottom right, there is a 'Done' button.

And use the predicted grades section to put in your actual grades

3. Useful things to know:

- **Universities may accept on lower grades than advertised** – it all depends on how competitive the courses are. **RING THEM** and ask. You hold actual grades, not predicted. It is just the time and cost of a phone call to admissions to ask whether they are likely to make you an offer.
- There is actually no point **adding choices to your UCAS form that are unlikely to result in an offer** – phone and check!
- **Clicking on the course on Which University** will give you much useful information

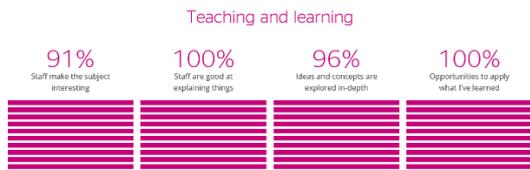
The screenshot shows a university course listing. At the top, there is a photograph of a large, modern university building with a green lawn in front. Below the photograph, there is a location pin icon followed by the text 'Queen Margaret University, Edinburgh | Edinburgh'. Below that, the word 'Nursing' is written in a large, bold font, followed by a right-pointing arrow (>). Below 'Nursing', there is the text 'BSC (HONS) 4.0 YEARS FULL-TIME 2020' and 'UCAS Points: 104-108'. The word 'Nursing' and the arrow are circled in red.

- **Check out requirements and number of students receiving offers**
- **But look further – student satisfaction is important and this is up to date info**

B,C,C

Must include Biology or Human Biology at A Level (Chemistry, Physics may also be considered) AND either English, or a suitably discursive subject such as Philosophy, History, Modern Studies or Religious and Moral Education. Maths and English at GCSE minimum.

21% Applicants receiving offers



What students say

SOURCE: NATIONAL STUDENT SURVEY

We've crunched the numbers to see if overall student satisfaction here is high, medium or low compared to students studying this subject(s) at other universities.

90% HIGH
Adult nursing

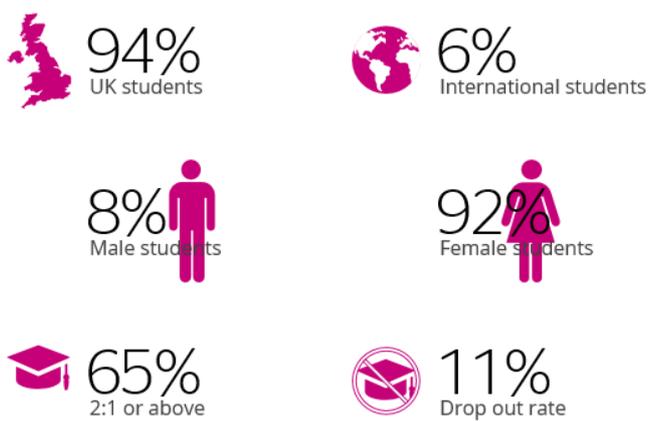
Student voice



- **This information below is gold-dust** – very useful info on what grades were accepted

Who studies this subject and how do they get on?

SOURCE: HESA



Most popular A-Levels studied (and grade achieved)

Biology	C
Psychology	B
Home Economics	B

- Draw up a shortlist
- Phone them

4. Foundation years:

- **Foundation years are excellent for getting into universities of your choice.**
- Yep it's an extra years study, but may be better for you than retakes, and really ups your study skills to enable you to get onto the degree of your choice. Stats show students who begin a foundation year are more successful in their final degree result, and more go on to study Masters and PhDs. Around 60% will change degree choice through their foundation year as well!
- **Yes it's funded with a student loan** but you only pay this when you are earning a decent wage.
- **This is important** – depending on the course and your A-levels, you may well still get onto the full degree (e.g. a Business degree if you have a Business A-level) so again **PHONE THEM.**
- **The tariff points vary considerably** and are often very achievable.

The screenshot shows a search interface with a search bar containing 'nursing foundation' and a red 'Search' button. Below the search bar are three filter buttons, with the first one labeled 'A-Levels'. Below this are two panels of search results.

Left Panel: Nursing Foundation Results

- University of Surrey | Guildford: **Nursing Studies (Registered Nurse Mental Health Nursing) with Foundation Year >**
BSC (HONS) 4.0 YEARS FULL-TIME INCLUDING FOUNDATION YEAR 2020
UCAS Points: 96-120
- Birmingham City University | Birmingham: **Adult Nursing (September) with Foundation Year >**
BSC (HONS) 4.0 YEARS FULL-TIME INCLUDING FOUNDATION YEAR 2020
UCAS Points: 88

Right Panel: Business Foundation Results

- Oxford Brookes University | Oxford: **Foundation in Business >**
BA/BSC (H) 4.0 YEARS FULL-TIME 2020
UCAS Points: 88
- London South Bank University | Kensington and Chelsea: **Business Foundation Course >**
ED CERT 1.0 YEAR FULL-TIME 2020
UCAS Points: 48-64

5. Universities to try:

- **This is by no means at all an exhaustive list** but some universities that have been way down on the list for some of our students but they have ended up very happy at (and may have reduced offers) are:

Sheffield Hallam, Nottingham Trent, Liverpool John Moores, Manchester Met, Chichester (great and just down the road), Leeds Beckett, Canterbury Christchurch, Huddersfield (yep!), Solent, Bournemouth, Portsmouth, Surrey, UAE, UWE.....

Northbrook is a great Creative Arts uni (again down the road)

And there are plenty of other options.

6. Open days:

- **Please go!**
- You wouldn't buy a house without viewing it first so why pay a uni over £30K and spend 3 years of your life somewhere without visiting it first.
- <https://www.opendays.com/> is a great one stop shop!

IMPORTANT: Don't feel you have to put down **all** your 5 choices by mid-November – add two or three then any more on UCAS Track in your pyjamas at home once we have processed and sent you UCAS form off, and you have made your final decisions.

You can make one choice if you like by the way – that's fine.

6. A complete change of path:

- Consider **Access courses at local FE**
 - These are **one year courses** that will give you everything you need to get into uni.
 - They are funded by an **Advanced Learner Loan** that is absorbed by your student loan when you start uni so a great way to make a complete U-turn.
 - **Check out East Sussex College** <http://www.escg.ac.uk/study/access-to-he/> and **GB Met** <https://www.gbmc.ac.uk/access-to-higher-education> for more info.
 - You usually have to be 19 to start but phone them – they may take you from 18.
-

7. Last words:

- **Be creative.** Into Sport - <https://www.ucfb.ac.uk/> always looks fun.
- **Think of what you might do as a job after uni.** Specialist degrees such as HR, Accounting and Mental Health Nursing might be more useful than Business or Psychology.
- **Use the time off to think wisely.**
- **Don't despair** – plenty of great opportunities out there – just might be a slightly longer path.
- **Get in touch** if you need to,
- **Contact unis** for information.

Good luck!

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