

Undergraduate Courses in the UK

Undergraduate programmes at British universities usually last three years. The academic year begins in September or October and runs to the end of June. It is traditionally divided into three "terms" (usually autumn, winter, spring), although in recent years many institutions have introduced semesters.

Students who complete their course receive a degree. There are three possible levels of degrees:

Bachelor's degree (BA, BSc, BEng, etc.)

Master's degree (MA, MSc, MEng, MBA, etc.)

Doctor's degree (PhD)

*You can say: My friend has a BSc **in** electrical engineering.*

Students who are studying for their first degree are called **undergraduates** (or undergraduate students), and those doing their second degree – **postgraduates** (postgraduate students). People who have completed their university course are called **graduates**.

While at university, students attend **classes** and **lectures**. They may also have tutorials and seminars. They also do some research into their subject of study. Some universities offer "sandwich courses", where students spend some time (usually a year) working in industry. A lot of universities offer **honours courses** – with a wider area of subjects, more work, but also an honours degree at the end.

How to apply

All applicants **apply for** places at university through the **Universities and Colleges Admissions Service (UCAS)**. UCAS is a centralised **application** and **admissions** system. You complete only one **application form** for up to six institutions or six courses at one or more institutions. If you want to apply for medical courses you may only make four choices.

Universities then contact applicants to inform them if their application is **accepted** or **rejected**. They also let them know what "A" level results they will need. For example, to get a place on a civil engineering course at Cardiff University you have to get BBB for a MEng and CCC for a BEng - and one of the "A" levels has to be maths.

Fees

The **tuition fee** covers the cost of instruction and other academic services. Tuition fees are different for **home students** and **overseas students**. Currently, the maximum tuition fee for home students is £ 1,125 a year. Students can apply for subsidized student **loans** and **maintenance allowances** to help pay the cost of **accommodation** and other **living expenses**.

In the first fragment of the text, *Undergraduate Courses in the UK*, find words or phrases which mean:

courses

universities or high schools

"lessons" students must go to

a course with work placement

In the second fragment of the text, *How to apply*, find words or phrases which mean:
people who want to get a place at university

In the third fragment of the text, *Fees*, find words or phrases which mean:

tuition

a kind of grant

foreign

place where you stay

Undergraduate Courses in the UK

Undergraduate programmes / British universities / three years

The academic year / September or October / the end of June.

three "terms" / recent years / many institutions / semesters.

Degrees

Students / attend

Sandwich courses

Honours courses

How to apply

All applicants / send / applications

Universities / inform / if / application ... and about ...

Fees

At British universities / tuition fee / the cost of instruction / academic services.

tuition fees / home students / overseas students.

Home students / £1,125

Students / help from the government / in the form of ...

Polish Universities

You have to p..... entrance e..... to get a place most state universities in Poland. Sometimes there is a school certificate c..... and the applicants with the best exam results can enter. In state universities, **tuition**..... is free. In private universities students have to pay a f..... The academic year is usually into: the winter and the spring one.

Students a..... classes, which are obligatory, and , which are usually optional. Each semester finishes with end-of-semester exams.

To finish the **course**.... successfully, students write a Master's or a Bachelor's dissertation on the basis of their r..... At the end of a three-year course they usually get a bachelor's (a BA or a) or a master's d..... (an MA or a)

Complete the following sentences:

1. I'm an engineering Bialystok Technical University.
2. I hope to get a Master's and an engineering diploma when I finish.
3. We classes and most lectures.
4. We don't pay for, but a..... costs and living e..... are high.
5. After graduating, I hope to research some problems of genetic biology.

Now talk about studying at a Polish university. What could you say about the following?

1. Entrance regulations
2. Fees / different types of universities
3. The academic year and the course requirements
4. University degrees