



Choosing, Applying and Personal Statements

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Choosing...

Search courses

Where do you normally live?*: ▼

Search courses available in*: Clearing 2016 2016 2017

*This helps us to show courses that are available to you. [Click here for more info](#)

Search by **any** or **all** of the following

Course:

Provider:

Location:

Search >

Don't know what to study?

Need help finding courses? Browse subjects and find out what's available.



Browse >

UCAS Search tool

Use our new search to find undergraduate courses and courses at conservatoires.

We'll be adding all our other courses soon – until then, click the links below.

- [Postgraduate courses](#)
- [Postgraduate teacher training courses](#)
- [Foundation degrees](#)



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For example...



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“...[English Literature] explores **human experience and imagination** as it has been expressed in written form over more than five centuries. It also affords insight into how rhetorical structures of narrative and metaphor **shape everyone’s perception of the world...**”

“**Mechanical engineers** are responsible for the **analysis, design and manufacture** of an enormous range of industrial products and systems - almost anything with moving parts, from **washing machines to aircraft**. You will use **fundamental physics, complex mathematics** and **state-of-the-art engineering software**, as well as your **creative and inventive skills**, in designing and improving products.”



What else...?

- Course content / Modules / Flexibility

Geography, Society and Environment MA

UCAS code 3K3W Duration Up to 4 years Delivery type Full Time

Study location Edinburgh

Overview

Programme content

Entry requirements

Overview

The Course

The Geography, Society and Environment programme is designed for school leavers with a strong interest in subjects such as human geography, physical geography, social policy and modern studies. The programme combines theory and practical work drawn from these main subject areas and it offers the opportunity to study towards an inherently interesting and broadly defined university degree.

The MA in Geography, Society and Environment runs alongside a number of professionally accredited undergraduate programmes that offer opportunities for students to transfer between programmes, including into postgraduate study where a range of accredited taught degrees are available, leading to careers in areas such as:

- Real estate development
- Urban and regional planning
- Urban strategies and urban design
- Carbon management
- Water resource management.

The programme is designed as an undergraduate four year Scottish Master of Arts (MA) Honours degree. Students also have the option to graduate after three years with a BA (Ordinary) degree. The programme draws equally from four separate discipline areas, of which three can be seen as belonging to social science, and the fourth to physical science. The social science discipline areas that contribute to the degree are: Human Geography, Economic Geography, and Environmental Planning. Meanwhile, Physical Geography subjects represent the fourth discipline area included in this degree.

Career Prospects

Graduates from the School of Energy, Geoscience, Infrastructure & Society find employment in a wide range of sectors – public, private and voluntary. Many graduates from our focused, professionally accredited, programmes target employment in specific professions. Applicants to the MA Geography, Society and Environment programme are generally not yet looking to enter a specific profession or career path, but are seeking a broad, interesting and varied education in a contemporary social science based subject

Programme content

Level 1

Note that the below programme structure is provided to illustrate distribution of teaching and is subject to developmental change.

Semester 1	Semester 2
Introductory Microeconomics Property, Development and Planning 1 Mathematics for engineers and scientists 1 History of the Built Environment	Property, Development and Planning 2 Introduction to the Environment Introduction to Human Geography Introductory Macroeconomics
Students also take part in a residential study tour of a major British city.	

Level 2

Semester 1	Semester 2
Surveying and monitoring in the built and natural environment Principles of Property Valuation Governance and Participation Urban Political Economy	City Life and Difference Design of Place Urban and Real Estate Economics Environment and Behaviour

Level 3

Semester 1	Semester 2
Contemporary Appraisal Urban Design, Theory and Practice Geology and Soil Properties Transportation Engineering A	Planning Theories Environmental Engineering Geotechnics & Intro to Soil Mechanics Energy and Buildings



What else...?

- Course content / Modules / Flexibility
- Study Abroad?
- Research?



What kind of job...?

*“There are a variety of careers open to English and Scottish Literature graduates. You can choose to work in **publishing, teaching, arts administration** or a **media-related career** such as **PR, media or advertising**.*

*Graduates have also gone on to work in the **finance** or **business** sectors.*

Some students pursue postgraduate study.”

*“Studying engineering [...] prepares you for a career as a **professional engineer in the UK or abroad** and all courses meet the requirements of the UK professional engineering bodies.*

*Typically many of our graduates move on to work in **internationally leading engineering companies**, in **technical, consultancy and managerial** roles, including **company directorships**.*

*Alternatively, many of our graduates have gone on to work in other areas, including the **civil service**, **education**, the **armed forces** and the **financial sector**”*



What kind of job...?

Employers look for excellent graduates from a range of academic backgrounds.

Ask universities about their Careers Service, what kind of support is available to students, and what their graduates go on to do.



Applying...

What do we want?



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Entry requirements vary from institution to institution.
Research in prospectuses and online.
Don't apply if you won't meet the minimum requirement!

Admissions Requirements?



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Entrance requirements:

- Vary from institution to institution
- May change if over two sittings
- Subject-specific vs general requirements
- Additional tests or interviews?

If in doubt – **check with University** directly before applying.



Introducing BSc Biological Sciences

Biological Sciences is a good option to choose if you have no subject specialisation preference at this stage. You will specialise as you progress each year.

Expand all



Contract all



What you will study



Where you will study



Learning and assessment



Entry requirements



Typical offer

The typical offer is likely to be:

- SQA Highers: AAAAA.
- A Levels: AAA.
- IB: 37 points with 555 at HL.

Minimum entry requirements

- SQA Highers: AABB by end of S5 or AABBB/AAAB (S4-S6), to include Biology and Chemistry; grade A is required in one of Biology, Chemistry, Mathematics or Physics. Qualified applicants are strongly advised to take Biology and Chemistry at Advanced Higher level where possible. National 5: Mathematics or Physics at grade B. English at grade B.
- A Levels: ABB in one sitting, to include Biology and Chemistry; Grade A is required in one of Biology, Chemistry, Mathematics or Physics. GCSEs: English at Grade B. Mathematics or Physics at Grade B.
- IB: 32 points overall and award of IB Diploma with 555 at HL to include Biology and Chemistry. Diploma must include Mathematics or Physics at SL 6.

The UCAS System



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What you need to know:

- The UCAS deadline is the **15th January**. Universities aim to have responses to all on-time applications by the **31st March**.
- Some people may receive early offers. You are **no more likely to get in** if you apply early!
- You can discuss your child's application with universities / UCAS as long as they **name you in the personal details section**
- It **does not matter** what order an applicant's choices are in
- Universities **can only see** applications to their own university – they **can't see where else** the pupil has applied to

Sensible UCAS choices



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What you need to know:

- Use the 5 UCAS choices to make 'aspirational' as well as 'safe' applications.
- No more than 2 applications to the same institution
- If they're deciding between French and Medical Sciences – applying for both is just delaying a tough decision!

What happens next?



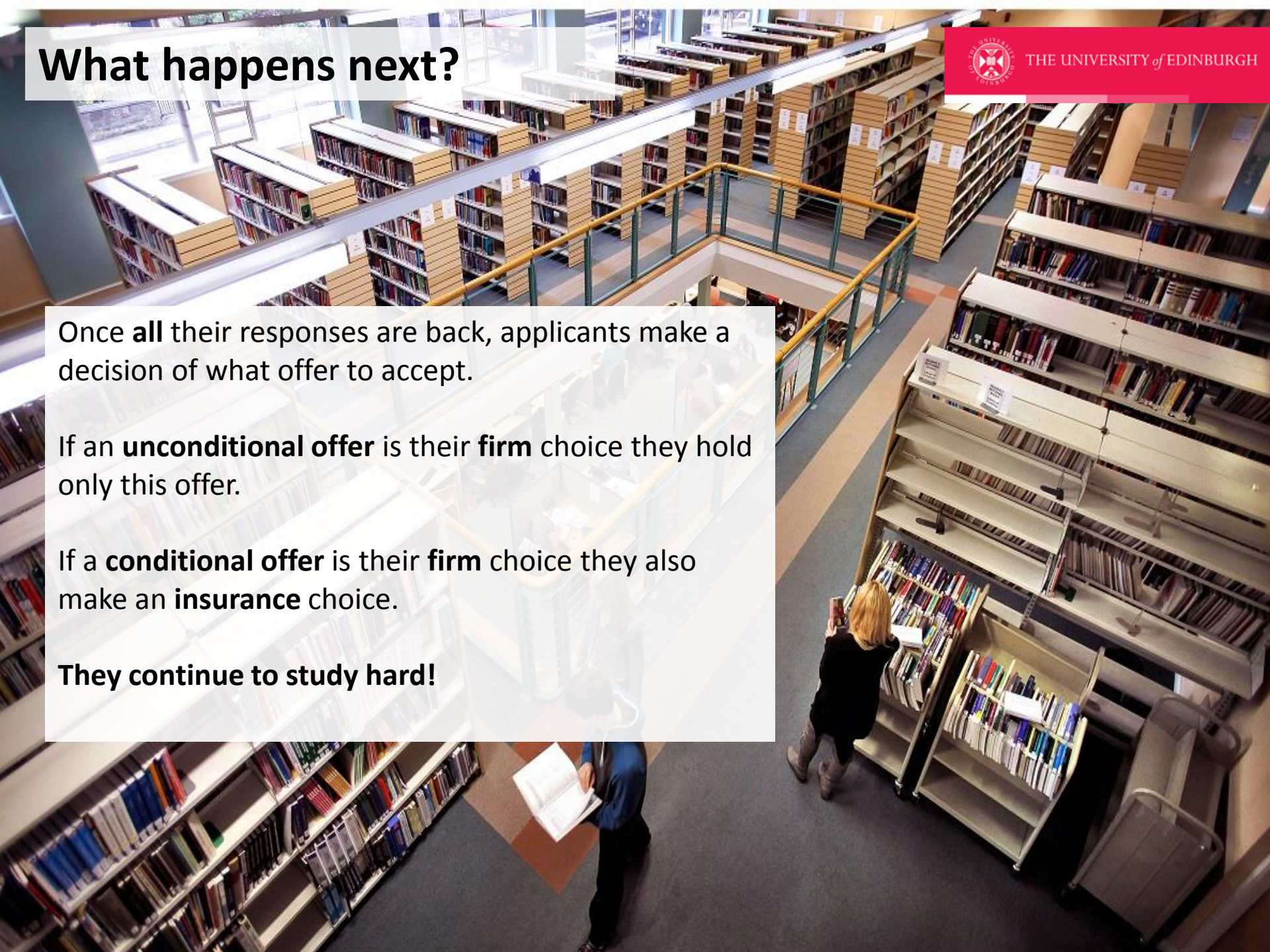
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Once **all** their responses are back, applicants make a decision of what offer to accept.

If an **unconditional offer** is their **firm** choice they hold only this offer.

If a **conditional offer** is their **firm** choice they also make an **insurance** choice.

They continue to study hard!



Personal Statement - Key points



It is:

Free text

47 lines or 4000 characters (including spaces)

Put together in Microsoft Word or similar

No formatting

Needs to show:

- Passion for the subject
- An effort to research the subject (work experience / career exploration)
- Understanding of skills the applicant has that will make them achieve as a university student / professional in this area
- Personal achievements and outside interests

What do I write...?



There are two main elements to the personal statement:

- Showing a **genuine interest in** and **some effort to research** the subject area – this includes **specific work experience** if it's a vocational degree
- Showing **personal qualities and skills** that make you stand out / show you'll be successful at university.

How do I find out more?



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Prospectuses, UCAS guide, Course leaflets, Independent guides

Internet

Careers library

Higher Education Conventions

Open Days

Student Union websites

SAAS website

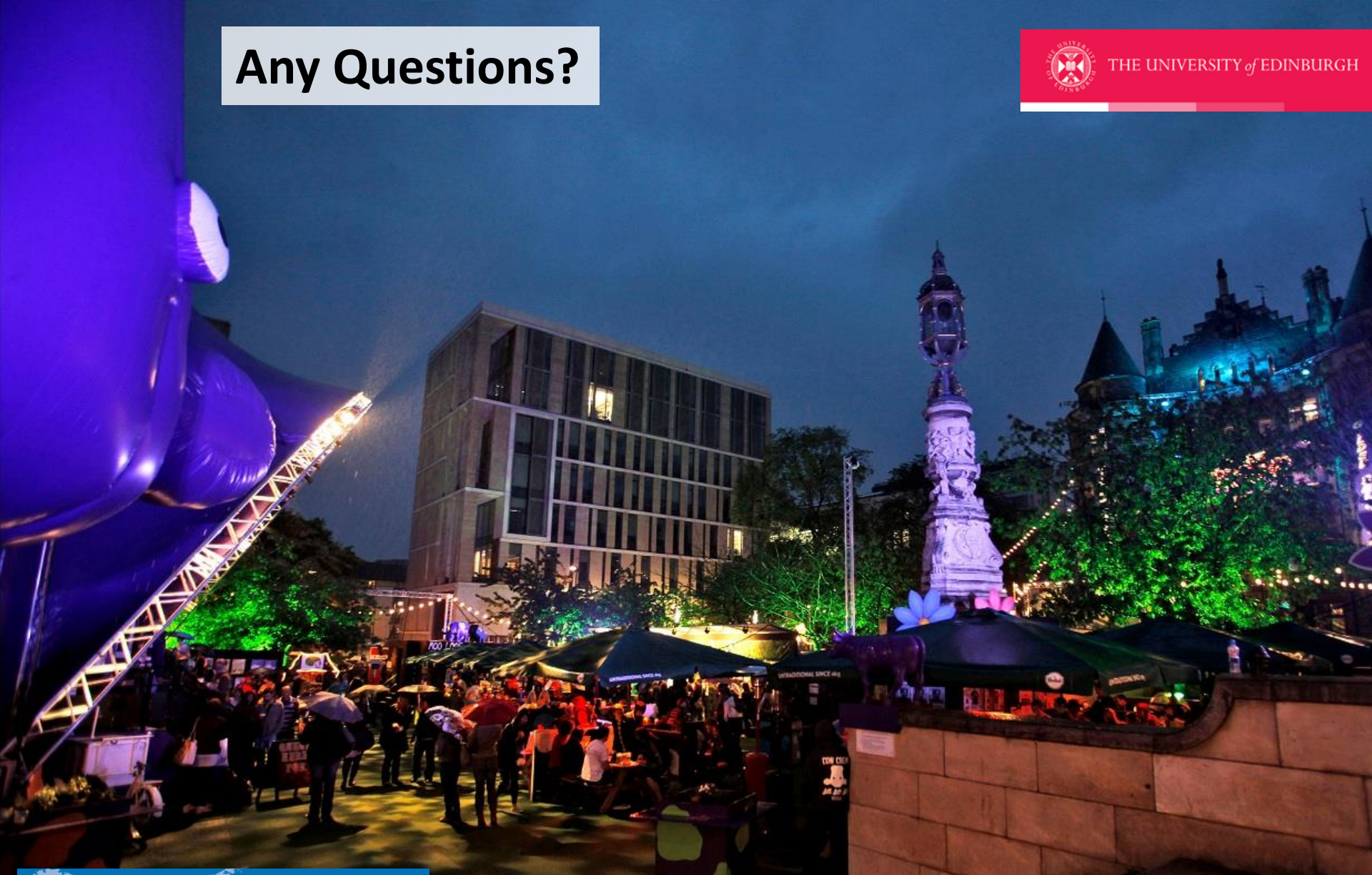
University bursaries webpages

UCAS written / video guides

Any Questions?



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