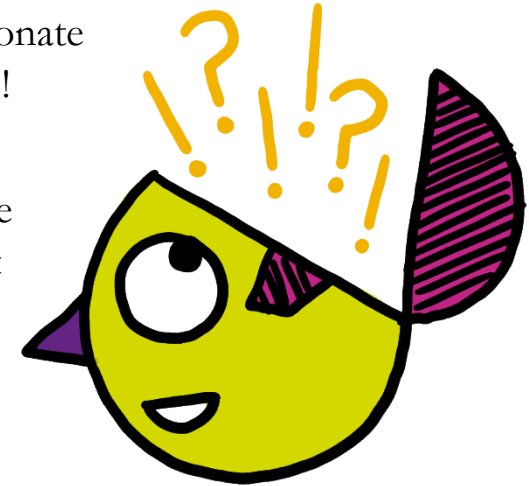




Course Enjoyment

University offers a fantastic opportunity to learn a subject that you are truly passionate about. Imagine studying your favourite topic all year long, for 3, 4 or even 5 years! Make the most of this opportunity to immerse yourself in a course that you love.

There are over 37,000 courses to choose from at nearly 300 universities across the UK. This means that choosing what to study can be very difficult. Make sure that you don't rule anything out too early. There are so many weird and wonderful degrees that you may just love. For instance, King's College London offers a degree in Digital Culture, which is the study of the internet and social media. Imagine studying Facebook, WhatsApp and Tumblr!



Other immensely interesting degree options at King's include:

- Film studies
- Neuroscience (the study of the nervous system)
- Pharmacology and molecular genetics (the study of genes and how they link to diseases)
- Religion, politics and society (the study of how religion has shaped, and is shaped by, politics and society)
- War Studies (the study of wars past and present)

Whatever you choose, make sure you enjoy it. Having the opportunity to thoroughly enjoy studying for three years or more is one of the great benefits of university.



Career

Gaining a university degree makes a student more employable, and more likely to earn more over their lifetime.

However, when choosing what to study, you should never be too pre-occupied with future career prospects. Being truly passionate about the course is more important. While studying, students then develop a range of transferrable skills which can be applied to a variety of jobs.

This means that you don't have to study Law to become a lawyer, or study Journalism to be a journalist. Meanwhile, most History students don't become historians, while Physics or Chemistry students will not necessarily become scientists.

Whatever course they study, students develop transferable skills. Employers most often seek these skills, rather than a particular degree.

In addition, there are a variety of activities that students can engage in outside of their studies at university which can make them more employable. Primarily, university societies offer students the chance to improve their CVs. If a student wanted a career in journalism, writing for the student newspaper and joining the journalism society would certainly impress future employers.

Universities also have careers services which can provide advice and guidance on how to access particular careers.





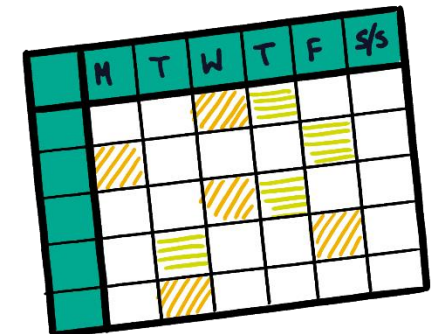
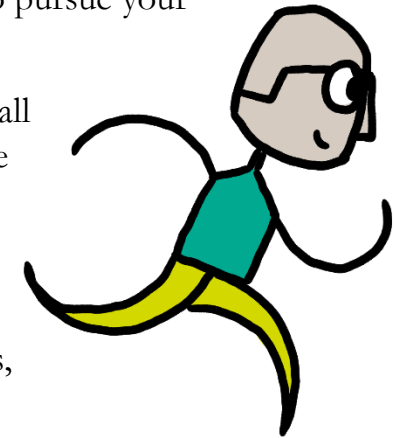
Social Life

University is packed full of social opportunities! Whether it's sport, music, drama, cooking, dancing, politics, art, film, star wars, computer gaming, tiddlywinks, or whatever you are interested in, university offers the opportunity to pursue your social interests.

The main way in which students do that is through university societies. These are student clubs that all can join and enjoy a particular interest. For example, the film society will have cinema screenings, the music society would put on gigs and concerts while the sports societies would organise matches and games.

Every university also has a Student Union. Student Unions are run by students, for students, providing social activities and campaigns. As a student you can also stand in Student Union elections, where you can represent other students.

Beyond the organised elements of university social life, simply going to university exposes you to so many new types of people. At King's, for instance, there are over 27,000 students from 150 countries. Studying at a university offers you the chance to meet so many new, interesting and different people.





Studying Abroad

While at university, students also have the opportunity to go and study abroad! Students who study language degrees will spend time in countries where their language is spoken. For instance, if you are studying Spanish, you may spend a year in Spain, Argentina, Cuba or Ecuador. If you are studying French you may spend time in France, Cameroon, Madagascar, or Switzerland. This gives you the opportunity to experience entirely new cultures, allowing you to immerse yourself in another language.

However, you don't need to study a language to study abroad. Many universities give students the opportunity to study in other countries as part of a variety of degrees. Perhaps as part of your politics degree, you could study in Washington and visit the Whitehouse? Perhaps as part of a geography degree you could visit the Himalayas and complete field work. There are so many exciting options!

Studying abroad is hugely enjoyable, while employers also find it really impressive.



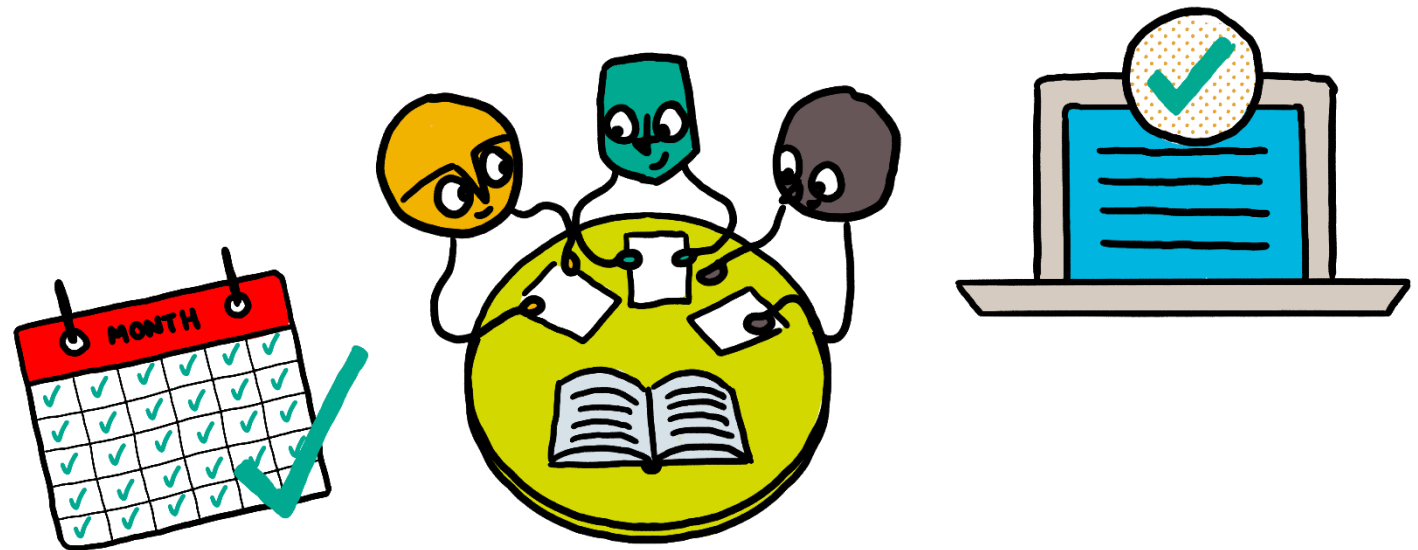


Developing Transferrable skills

Around two-thirds of jobs do not ask for a particular degree. For example, if you want to be a lawyer, you don't have to study Law. Similarly, if you study History, that doesn't mean that you'll necessarily become a historian. Instead, you could become a journalist, a management consultant, a barrister, a teacher, an investment banker, or a whole host of other careers.

This is because while studying for your degree you develop **transferable skills**. These are skills that you can use in a variety of different contexts, whether at work, or at school. For instance, studying for a degree develops skills such as:

- Time management
- Research
- Essay Writing
- Debating
- Explaining
- Organisation
- Team work
- IT and presentation skills

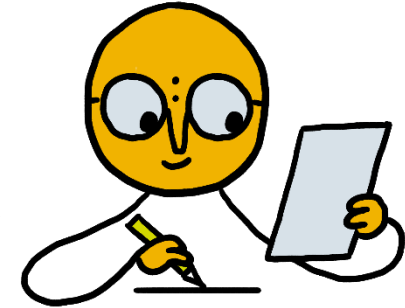




Developing Independence

University gives you the opportunity to develop independence in three ways:

1. **Independent Learning.** University study requires you to be an independent learner. Your teacher isn't there to nag you about your homework! Instead, you need to motivate yourself to read, think and complete assignments.



2. **Independent Living.** As an adult at university, you'll be expected to do all the tasks that adults do! That includes shopping, cooking, laundry, transport and getting up in the mornings!

3. **Independent Socialising.** Going to university allows you to really expand your social circle. Meet new people, try new hobbies, and decide what sort of student you want to be!

