



Nadine

My name is Nadine, and I currently work as President of the Students' Union at King's, also known as KCLSU. All universities have student unions, which are made up by students who work for their fellow students. King's Student's Union is called KCLSU.

KCLSU is an independent organisation from the university, this means we get to support students separately from the university on issues to do with problems with essay writing/exams, or if you want to change something about life at King's we can help you, we are also the place where students set up new sports clubs and student societies, these could be political, cultural, educational or if you have an interest like watching Japanese cartoons. During my final year at university I decided to run in the student officer elections we have at King's. I wrote a list of issues I wanted to improve at King's, and got a group of my friends together to help me campaign and talk to students. Then I was voted in as the President and have now spent a year in this job.

There is no normal day for me to be honest! The position is really varied. One morning I will be in committee meetings with the university representing the student opinion, other times I will be meeting with individual students and student groups who want to start campaigns or discuss academic or welfare problems they are having. Sometimes I might be at a national protest, or at my desk writing a proposal for a campaign or doing campaigns research. Examples of campaigns the Students' Union have worked on are the London living wage campaign, ensuring all our student staff are paid the London living wage, we also got students together to show support for refugees by providing clothes and winter equipment during the winter for people in Calais Refugee camp.

I really enjoy my job because it's never boring, it's really fast paced and I am working with students to make a difference to their experience at King's. I have a lot of power to make change, and to enable students who don't normally get their voices heard to make that change to which is really rewarded.

Going to University is great because not only are you able to do what many other people your age can't do for various reasons, gain a qualification in higher education. You also get to develop yourself as a person, and get involved in extra-curricular activity that will shape you and your surroundings.



Rachel

Hello, my name is Rachel Glover and I work at King's College London as a Student Money Advisor in the Student Advice Service.

What does a money advisor do?

To sum it up in a couple of sentences, my job is to help students with any money related enquiries that they might have, as well as equipping them with essential money management and budgeting skills so that they have the skills they need for their time at university, graduation and beyond.

I manage the Money Mentors project; these are students that have been trained to give their peers money support and guidance. We run campaigns throughout the year and attend lots of events across the university to spread the word about the support that the Student Advice Service and the Mentors can give to students.

Every week I am faced with new questions that I have never had before, you are constantly learning when you are an Advisor!

In the afternoon I might have a drop in where students can come a chat to me in person about any concerns they might have. At the moment I am updating our web pages and creating a video about banking in the UK for international students. As a student you would see me when you have any money related questions or concerns. This includes asking what funding is available to you as you may be entitled to extra money.

Bursaries and Scholarships

Lots of universities offer bursaries and scholarships which can provide additional funding while you study. We can also inform you how to apply for hardship funds (which is where we give you money if you need it for a particular reason), how to budget and save money, how to use a bank, where to get student discounts, how to find part time jobs, and how the student fees and tax system works.

Whatever your money worry, come and ask us! Even if you don't have any specific issues, but just want a chat about how to better manage your money I am here to help. There is so much support when it comes to student finance, so it really isn't something to worry about! We're basically here to make sure that students get all the support they need.

I love my job because I get to meet amazing students from all over the world studying a diverse range of subjects from midwifery to informatics! I also enjoy being able to help students. It makes it a very special community to be a part of.



Tobi

Hi, my name is Tobi and I study medicine at King's College London.

My degree involves learning anatomy of the human body, biochemistry and interacting with patients. It really is so varied. At school, I simply studied the three main sciences, but as a medicine student I have really got stuck into my specialist area!

Whether I'm in the labs conducting experiments on the human body, in a lecture listening to a professor explain the intricacies of the human anatomy, or even if I'm taking blood from a patient, I'm always learning new things.

A normal day for starts with lectures in the morning and ends with lectures in the afternoon! Unlike many humanities subjects, such as history or geography, who have few contact hours, but lots of time in the library, I have a more regimented, school-like timetable.

As part of this I take part in lectures, seminars, classes, labs and work with patients. As you can see, the degree really does immerse you in medicine! A huge part of this is also the on-the-job, practical learning. Just like any other doctor, I will treat patients, helping them, and helping me to develop my skills.

I love my course because it allows me to help people. I get such a buzz from making patients smile and fixing their problems. Also, since starting my degree, I must also confess that I've really enjoyed so many of the topics in my medicine degree.

But more broadly I love university because of all the friends I've been able to make. It's so great to have access to so many brilliant societies, and to be able to meet new, like-minded people.



Joe

Hi, my name is Joe and I work at King's College London as a Widening Participation Officer.

To sum up my job in a sentence, my aim is to encourage pupils whose parents haven't gone to university to apply to, succeed at and progress from the best universities.

Therefore, I spend my days with school pupils. Lots of my time is spent in schools, or organising school trips to Kings College London, and while doing this I'm constantly talking to and encouraging pupils, offering all the advice and guidance they need if they want to go to uni.

As you can see, I'm also insanely strong, and that's important, as I spend lots of my time busting myths! There are lots of things that people believe about university which simply aren't true, and I hope that I am able to crush those fears, worries and misconceptions.

For example, one of these is student finance. Understandably, lots of pupils are worried about student finance, and how will they fund their time at university. But there is so much support available. In fact, there are lots of financial advantages to going to university. You're more likely to earn more as a graduate and won't pay back loans before you earn a certain amount. It really is a brilliant investment in your future while student discounts on food, clothes, or social activities, along with being able to get a part-time job and apply for extra funding are all great benefits!

As a student, you'd see a lot of me before you even went to uni! Before you apply I'm here to offer advice and guidance. But I also work with Kings Students. Many of them are paid to also work with school pupils and encourage them to go to university. Our Student Ambassadors, as they're known, love sharing their experiences and reassuring the next generation of students!

I love my job because I spend so much time with people like you! It's also fantastic when you can reassure someone about university and allay their fears about what it might be like.

More broadly, I love university. Both in my own experience as a student, and now that I work at one, I've seen that universities are truly exciting places. Academically, socially, politically, culturally, there is so much going on, which is why everyone should have the opportunity to go!



Ben

Hi, my name is Ben Bowling . I've worked at King's College London since 1999, and I'm now the Dean of the law school and professor of criminology and criminal justice. When I was at school, I never dreamed I would have a job like this.

My job as a criminology professor is to teach students about crime, justice and punishment as part of their law degree here at King's. I give lectures to a theatre filled with 300 people, small group seminars with 10 students and give one-to-one personal tutorials.

After teaching, my most important job is do research, write articles and books. My three most recent books are called 'Global Policing', Policing the Caribbean, and Stop and Search: Police Power in Global context. Right now, I'm writing about how globalization has affected policing across Europe. I also supervise PhD students who are carrying out their own research on things like the impact of the drug war on the work of judges in Mexico, the involvement of street kids in organized crime in Bangladesh, and surveillance officers policing public protest in London.

Having said that, being Dean of faculty means that most of my time is managing people, budgets and going to meetings. A normal day for me starts with a meeting with my personal assistant, to work out what my priorities are for the day. I'll then have to balance my time spent in the classroom, or in meetings, with time to do my own research and writing.

As a student you would see me when you start at King's. I'll be there on the day you arrive, I'll greet you and introduce you to the school and to the lecturers and professors and your new friends, your fellow students. I attend our student forum meeting where students get to speak about their experience at King's, to listen to where things are going well with teaching and learning, and to help sort things out. You'll see me at our winter party, on your last day of term and at the graduation ceremony in the summer when you've got your degree.

If you take criminology – which you should because it is very interesting and exciting subject (!) – that you'll meet me in lectures and seminars. My special interests are in policing, how the police use their powers, how these are regulated by law and how we can work together to help the police work more fairly and effectively.

I love my job because every day is different, I get to meet all kinds of interesting people including students, police chiefs and judges. I've had the chance to speak to criminals about their work, how they got caught and how we can stop them from stealing, fighting and committing crime.

I love King's College because it's a great place to work, I'm surrounded by really interesting people, and I'm learning more and more about the world every day of the week. My job is often really challenging, it's never boring and there are some days that are incredibly exciting. There are few things in the world more satisfying than sharing a love of learning with young people who are inquisitive and have great ideas about how we can make the world a better place.



Jakub

Hi, my name is Jakub and I am a Biochemistry student at King's College London.

Biochemistry is all about study of chemical process within living organism, and combines both the biology of the organism and the chemistry within the organism to understand how these two interact. A major part of Biochemistry focuses on the study of how the energy from food is released, stored and utilised, but also on how the enzyme, hormones and vitamins interact with these processes. Additionally a different part of biochemistry is focused on the genetics, and primarily how the genetics influence metabolic processes.

A normal day for me starts with a short journey to London via a train, as I don't live in London. Shortly after I attend lectures or a tutorial, which give me insight into a range of topics. As a science student I also have to attend all the labs, which give me a time to apply the theory learned during lectures to a practical session. Afterward I have to relax and socialise with friends or focus on personal study.

My course is incredibly varied, and allows me to tailor my degree to not only meet my interests but also to my desired career. A biochemistry degree prepares you for a good research career but also allows you to work in many different places, such as hospitals, drug discovery and agriculture just to name a few. The skills you earn are easily transferable to other areas of science, as well as being able to work in a multi skilled environment alongside chemists, healthcare professionals and engineers allows for a diverse career path.

One of the great features of King's College London is that it's both located within London and that its campuses are spread out around the Thames river. You may only have lecture at one of the campuses but for society meeting, events, guest talks, you can always travel to all the other campuses which allows you to travel through one of the busiest and diverse cities.



Fahmida

Hi! I'm Fahmida and I study history at King's College London.

My first year of history was an overview of all the different types of history you can study at Kings. We did a bit of economic history and religious history, the history of science and medicine and disease and much much more.

After that we can start focusing on the aspects of history we wish to study. This is really exciting as I have so much choice to specialise in the areas that I'm really interested in. Eventually, I'll get to write a thesis (a really long essay) on any historical subject of my choice.

A normal day for me includes coming in for my lecture in the morning, with a seminar in the afternoon. I either buy lunch from the cafeteria or eat at one of the many cafes and restaurants nearby. I've made so many great friends since starting university and we spend many of these breaks together.

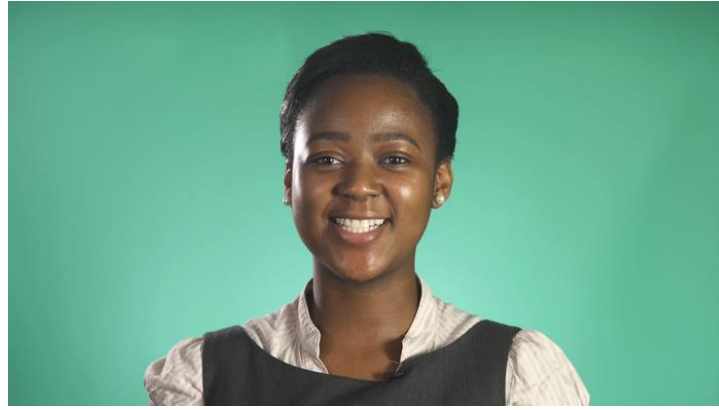
I also spend a lot of time in the library, as a large part of university life is researching and studying for assignments. This requires motivation and independence, but it really is great to be able to read so often.

In the evenings if there is a society event I'll head to that before I head home. I've been amazed at the wide range of societies and clubs on offer at university, and I love to get involved in events organised by the film society, the drama society, and even the baking club!

While other students live in student halls, I still live at home with my family, as they are nearby. However, as you've seen, this certainly doesn't stop me enjoying so many of the social activities!

I love my course because of the freedom it gives me- I can study the history of any country or subject. I could do the history of England, or the history of kings, the history of disease of the history of Africa- no two people who study history would have studied exactly the same thing.

More broadly I love university as it has introduced me to some of the most amazing people. It also lets me learn in depth the subjects that interest me, taught by lecturers who have dedicated their lives to these topics. The location is also vital, I love the hustle and bustle of the city, the vast amount of food and entertainment and shopping places on offer.



Miowa

Hi, my name is Miowa Sofekun and I study English literature at King's College London.

As an English student I read, analyse and write on novels, poems, plays and essays from all over the world and throughout time. This includes works by some really well known writers such as Charles Dickens, Jane Austen and William Shakespeare, but also some less obvious individuals such as James Weldon Johnson, Aphra Behn and Hanif Kureishi.

A normal day for me might include a 1 hour lecture in the morning which is where my professor presents on an interesting idea or topic related to the text we are studying for that week. I would then have a couple of hours in between before I have my seminar which is where I discuss with my classmates our own interesting ideas on the text.

I would usually spend that time between classes reading in preparation for my seminar and doing some research in the library. Some days I might have two or three classes but I only have a total of 8 each week because I spend most of my other time reading.

I love my course because have been able to explore the beauty of language and the techniques of writing effectively and persuasively. I have enjoyed unpacking the greatest texts of English literature and the minds of some the most amazing writers.

In addition, I love my course because I have been able to experience the history of the whole world from my chair. Through reading poems and plays and novels it has allowed me to learn about different cultures and customs in different periods of history as well as understand the politics and laws under which people lived.

I have also enjoyed engaging with professors from all over the world at different institutions and even debating and discussing my ideas with them.

Aside from that, I have also enjoyed going to see plays and taking part in poetry readings. My favourite place is the Sam Wanamaker playhouse which is a part of Shakespeare's Globe Theatre.

This is just one of the more social activities that university has to offer, and I am involved in a range of university societies. I also live in student halls, which has allowed me to meet so many new, interesting, like-minded people, and enjoy the independence of living away from home!

I love university because I have been able to study my favourite subject for 3 years. I have been able to make some great and lifelong friends at the same time as developing my interests and career. I have also met some of the most amazing teachers whom I will never forget.