





Before we get started.....

Please check that you have a copy of: Making the right A Level Choices Student Booklet.

Making the right A Level choices

Year 11



Session objectives

By the end of the session you will be able to:

- **1** Relate A Level choices to university degrees
- **2** Prioritise the factors that will affect your A Level choices
- **3** Feel more confident about the process of making A Level choices



Session overview

- **1** Starter: celebrity quiz
- **2** Compare A Level requirements for university
- **3** Factors affecting your A Level Choices
- 4 I don't know my future plans!

5 Discussion



About us



Helen Drummond Director of Partnerships



www.causeway.education



About us





Katie Buckingham Head of Programmes





1. Celebrity quiz





Guess the degree course and A Level choices

Emile Sande

Greg Davis

Tom Daley

Clean Bandit

Tinie Tempah Emma Watson















Discussion

- Are there any courses that sound interesting to you?
- Are there any courses or universities you haven't heard of?
- Are there any subject/course combinations that surprise you?









2. Case studies

What A Levels should I choose if I already know what I want to study at university?



Case studies

Read the university course descriptions and find out:

- 1. A Level requirements (grades & contextual offers)
- 2. Essential A Levels
- 3. Recommended or helpful A Levels
- 4. A Levels that are not accepted
- 5. GCSE requirements or any other entry requirements

Complete the grid in Activity 2 in your booklet for each course.

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Case studies

CASE STUDY 4





COURSE NAME: BA Architecture

INSTITUTION: The University of Manchester and Manchester Metropolitan University UCAS CODE: K100

BA Architecture is an innovative collaboration between The University of Manchester and Manchester Metropolitan University. The course, which is appraised by the Architects Registration Board (ARB) and the Royal Institute for British Architects (RIBA), allows you to take the first step to becoming an architect. You will benefit from the expertise of specialist practice and research-active lecturers, who provide a rich and stimulating environment in which to study architecture.

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

AAA at A2 level.

⊘,

CONTEXTUAL/ACCESS OFFER:

AAB - If you're a UK applicant under the age of 21, or have been in care for more than three months, we'll use contextual data alongside your undergraduate application in order to build up a full and rounded view of your achievement and potential.

SPECIFIC SUBJECT REQUIREMENTS

- A mixture of science or maths and humanities or arts subjects is preferred, but not essential.
- Art or Fine Art A-levels are particularly welcomed; however, please note that
 applicants with three arts-based subjects (for example, Art, Graphics and 3D Design,
 or Art, Photography and Design and Technology), or a BTEC Extended Diploma in
 Art and Design on its own will not be considered as meeting our entry requirements.
- · We do not require a pass in the Science Practical Assessment.
- General Studies is welcomed but not normally included as part of the standard offer.

GCSE REQUIREMENTS

Applicants must demonstrate a broad general education including acceptable levels of Literacy and Numeracy, equivalent to at least Grade C or 4 in GCSE/iGCSE English Language and Mathematics. GCSE/iGCSE English Literature will not be accepted in lieu of GCSE/iGCSE English Language.

Example:

Course Name & UCAS Code	A Level Grade Requirement (+ contextual offer)	Essential A Level subjects	Recommended or helpful A Levels	Any A Levels not accepted	Any GCSE or other requirements
BA Architecture K100	AAA Contextual offer: AAB	None	Art or Fine Art particularly welcomed. Mixture of science and humanities or arts subjects preferred, but not essential.	General Studies 3 arts-based subjects or a BTEC Extended Diploma in Art & Design on its own.	Grade C or 4 in GCSE English Language and Mathematics





3. What factors might affect your A Level choices?





Diamond 9 activity

I enjoy these subjects the most	I like the teacher	
There are certain subjects that I need for the degree course I want to do	I am good at these subjects	My friends are choosing these subjects
It's perceived as a "hard" subject	My parents/carers are keen for me to take these subjects	It's a popular subject at my school/college







Discussion

- What did you write on the blank square?
- Does the diamond 9 change if you choose your personal priorities?
- Would anyone prioritise "my friends are choosing this subject"?
- Would anyone prioritise "the teacher"?

Now pause the video again and have another go at the activity following this discussion.





4. What if I don't know what I want to do at university yet?





4. What if I don't know what I want to do at university yet?

1. The best way to start thinking about A Levels and university courses is to start by considering the subjects you currently enjoy.

2. Go to The Uni Guide A-Level Explorer:

https://www.theuniguide.co.uk/exploratory-widgets/a-level-explorer



3. Use the dropdown menu to enter the A level subjects you might consider. The website generates **exact**, **close** and **unexpected matches** based on what other students have chosen with similar courses

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4. What if I don't know what I want to do at university yet?

Complete Activity 4, in your activity booklet or make a note on paper of the results.

Discussion:

Which courses were suggested as:

- Best Matches, Close Matches, Unexpected Matches
- Which of these degree courses would you consider?
- Which degree courses would you not consider?
- Did any of the results surprise you?





A Level 1	A Level 2	A Level 3

Degree courses:

Best matches	Close matches	Unexpected matches	





5. Round up



Discussion

- 1. Is there such a thing as a poor combination of A Levels?
- 2. What happens if you are good at everythin
- 3. Which subjects are seen as the "hard"





The future of work

- Popular A Level subject change over time, they go in and out of fashion
- Jobs in the social sectors, such as healthcare and teaching are currently very popular

Your voice

- Go to www.sli.do
- Enter event code: W2020
- Respond to the feedback questions





Thank you