



### In the newsletter this month



Times World Rankings released



USA College Day moves online



UCAS Virtual Exhibitions



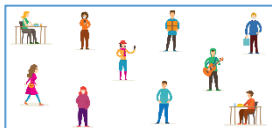
Growth of hybrid jobs

### Universities doing everything they can to place students at their first-choice course



Alistair Jarvis, Chief Executive of Universities UK, said: "Universities and their admissions teams are doing everything they can to accommodate students on their first-choice course. The policy U-turn on A-levels has created significant challenges for universities caused by late movement of students between institutions. The welcome confirmation of the additional teaching grant for high costs subjects and the lifting of the cap on medicine, dentistry, veterinary and teacher training places will help to support capacity."

### Graduate market running at 50-60% of usual hiring rates, but varies by sector



The Institute of Student Employers (ISE) are providing a weekly analysis of the graduate labour market. This week Charlie Ball writes that while the graduate labour market has suffered significant damage, particularly in the arts - which may be the worst-affected sector in the UK, things are far worse for non-graduates. Many key graduate employment sectors - in health, social care, IT, finance - have been much less affected than many other areas of the economy. Retail, hospitality, travel and accommodation employers have all taken long term hits. The level of vacancies is running at about 50-60% of normal rates. To follow the updates click [here](#).

### 2020 A level Trends



In her analysis of the A levels studied this year, Mary Curnock Cook writing for the Higher Education Policy Institute (HEPI) reports that Spanish has now overtaken French as the most popular Modern Foreign Language (MFL) but that MFL as a group of subjects continues to decline with only 3.3% of the total share of entries this year. Curnock Cook also identifies that "English is now a Modern Foreign Language for boys and that Physics is a foreign language for girls too" with such low uptakes. Read the article [here](#).

### China making the greatest gains in Times Higher Education World Rankings announced last week



While, The US still dominates the top spots with eight out of 10 top positions, half of the US' top 20 institutions in last year's ranking have slipped this year. The UK's University of Oxford occupies the top spot for the fifth consecutive year but the success story is China. China has the first Asian university in the top 20 with Tsinghua University climbing three places to joint 20th this year. The country has also doubled its number of top 100 representatives, from three to six, in the past year, while all bar one of its top 20 institutions in last year's ranking have improved or maintained their performance. Read more about the results [here](#).

### Cambridge Masterclasses will not go ahead this term



Cambridge University have stated that they will not be running the usual series of Autumn masterclasses in light of the Covid-19 pandemic. They would usually take place on Saturdays throughout the year. Looking ahead to 2021, the university will follow government guidance to make decisions about running Subject Masterclasses. They say "health and wellbeing of our visitors, staff and students remains our priority, and as such we will only run these events if we are confident that appropriate measures are in place". Read the update [here](#).

## USA College Day will be online this year on 26<sup>th</sup> September



USA College Day is the largest US university fair in Europe. The 43rd year of College Day will see a wide variety of US universities exhibit at this virtual event for prospective undergraduates, parents and teachers. The event is organised by the Fulbright Commission and registration is required. Last year's [events programme](#) provides a flavour of what to expect and as institutions continue to confirm their places for the 2020 event, the University Search tool will be updated with their profiles. To register for this event click [here](#)

## Medical Interview Prep Questions from BMAT providers KAPLAN



Kaplan have produced a few free resources on their website for prospective medical students. To find some interview questions for panel and multiple mini interviews (MMIs) as well as sample answers click [here](#) (you just need to scroll down the page to find them).

## Study in Australia and New Zealand Open Days to go ahead in London in November



Study in Australia or New Zealand - Open Days are scheduled to go ahead at Australia House in London in November. These are FREE information events designed to give students, parents and careers advisors the chance to find out more about studying at Australian and New Zealand universities. There will be opportunities to meet and talk to many universities from all around Australia and New Zealand under one roof. You can find out more about courses, universities, accommodation options, campus lifestyles and facilities, as well as details of practicalities including how the application process works. To register click [here](#).

## National Law Admissions Tests (LNAT) what are they and when are the deadlines?



The LNAT is used by universities to help select the right applicants for undergraduate law courses. The test doesn't test knowledge of law but assesses aptitude for the skills required to study law. It is a two-part test: multiple choice questions based on passages of text, and an essay. It is used in collaboration with other admissions processes such as UCAS application and academic qualifications. LNAT Testing begins on 1 September 2020. Oxbridge candidates need to register and book the LNAT test slot by 15<sup>th</sup> September in order to sit the test on before 15 October 2020 (UCAS deadline).

## Half Term Virtual Law Careers Fair – Monday 26<sup>th</sup> to Friday October 30<sup>th</sup>



Aimed at undergraduates but open to school students too, the fair promises to bring top firms and law schools together in one virtual place. Students can research training contracts and internships and what is required to secure them. The day also promises live workshops and presentations from law firms, plus other events. This is a good research opportunity to ask questions and find out first-hand about the entry opportunities to Law and crucially how to secure them. [Law Fair 2020](#)

## UCAS Virtual Exhibitions focusing on different subjects from September to November



UCAS virtual exhibitions will provide an opportunity for students to chat to subject teachers and admissions staff, compare universities and courses and find out about related careers. Talks to current students about what university life is really like and get advice on UCAS applications, personal statements and student finance. **Business, Law and Finance** 30 September; **Social Sciences, Humanities and Teaching** 23 – 24 October (Half Term); **Maths, Engineering & Computing** 2 – 3 November; **Creative Subjects** 13 – 14 November. Register for these and other events [here](#).

## New BTEC Explorer courses to develop skills, knowledge and employability



BTEC Explorer courses are interactive and designed to enhance skills, career sector awareness and increase employability. Offered in Business, Construction, Health and Social Care, IT, Computing and Digital Industries, Engineering & Manufacturing and Early Years and Childcare. Courses could enhance a CV and help with choosing future options. All courses take 2-4 hours to complete over 4 days and carry a nominal charge of £2.99 (admin fee) to complete. See details [here](#).

## Supra-Curricular enrichment with Oxford University's online lectures



Students considering applications to the most competitive universities will need to demonstrate their academic interests and intellectual curiosity. Oxford's online lecture series provides a wealth of opportunities to expand academic interests with thought provoking topics such as "Can Maths tell us how to win at Fantasy Football"; "Energy Efficiency in a Post Lockdown World" and "How to Universities deliver Economic Value". Listings can be found [here](#):

## Clifford Chance Virtual Work Experience



Clifford Chance are offering three new virtual work experience programmes aimed to provide a deeper understanding of different legal practice groups but all with a global perspective. Available to all school and university students from a law or non-law background. The three programmes are: [Climate Change Global Virtual Experience](#); [Cyber Security Global Virtual Experience](#); [Business and Human Rights Global Virtual Experience](#)

## Barclays Lifeskills Virtual Work Experience



Barclays Lifeskills have expanded their free online work experience resources to include, short films; interactive worksheets exploring a wide variety of jobs as well as content focusing on the skills required in financial services and the range of careers in this sector. Students can also work through a placement simulation in their own time, working with different departments in a digital transformation agency, helping to solve problems and complete real-life tasks

## Applications for Google Apprenticeships open next month



D Google Apprenticeship applications will open in October. These include, [Level 3 Digital Marketing](#), [Level 3 Infrastructure Technology](#), and [Level 4 Software Development](#). These are for the October intake next year. Apprenticeships run for 15 - 24 months duration. Google are inviting potential applicants to reach out with questions on [uk-apprenticeships@google.com](mailto:uk-apprenticeships@google.com).

## Growth of Hybrid Jobs



Hybrid jobs combine elements and skills of other, previously separate, roles. According to Burning Glass Technologies who hold a database with over 1 billion current and historical job posting, 'one in eight job postings is now highly hybridized.' For example, professions that relied on hard skills e.g. coding, programming, data analysis) now also need soft skills such as creative thinking and design. Read the full article on the [FutureLearn Blog](#)

## Your Careers Helpline



Get in touch with your enquiries big or small. The helpline is open between 9.00 am and 5.00pm Monday to Friday at [helpline@futuresmartcareers.co.uk](mailto:helpline@futuresmartcareers.co.uk). Jacquie is looking forward to hearing from you!

## Contact Us directly



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