



BISHOP
GROSSETESTE
UNIVERSITY

BGU Genius Guides
www.bishopg.ac.uk

UNIVERSITY JARGON BUSTER





Academic Year

The time that you attend university, which typically runs from September to the following June.

Admissions Team

The team at a university who will process your application. If you need help during the time you've applied, they can help. BGU's Admissions Team can be contacted by emailing **admissions@bishopg.ac.uk** or by calling **(01522) 583598**.

Alumni

Former students who've graduated from a particular university are classed as alumni of that university. Generally university alumni associations allow former students to keep in touch once they've finished their studies.

BA

Bachelor of Arts, the degree qualification most commonly associated with undergraduate subjects in the fields of the arts, humanities and some social sciences.

Bachelor's Degree

The qualification given to you once you've successfully completed your undergraduate study.

BSc

Bachelor of Science, the degree qualification most commonly associated with undergraduate subjects in the fields of science and some social sciences.





Campus University

A university where everything is generally in one place - the halls of residence, lecture theatres etc - as opposed to spread in various locations across a city. BGU is a self-contained campus university.

Clearing

Clearing is a system operated by UCAS whereby students without a place at university can apply for courses at universities which still have vacancies.

Combined/Joint Honours Degree

A degree where you'll study two subjects simultaneously, with your time split 50/50 between them both. Many of BGU's undergraduate courses can be studied as single or combined degrees - find out which ones at www.bishopg.ac.uk/courses

Conditional Offer

If a university offers you a conditional offer of a place, it means that it's dependent on you achieving certain grades in your exams.

Dissertation

An extended essay which forms part of an academic degree, which you'll usually carry out in your final year.





Enquiries Team

The team at a university who will give you all the information you need to make a decision on what course to study. BGU's Enquiries Team can be contacted by emailing enquiries@bishopg.ac.uk or by calling **(01522) 583698**.

Enrolment

This is the formal process of you starting at a university, where you'll be given all the important information you'll need to start your studies.

Entry Requirements

The required qualifications you'll need for entry onto a degree course. These may well be different depending on which course you choose, and at which university.

Firm Choice

An offer of a place from a university which you accept as your first choice.

Foundation Degree

A work-based qualification which you study whilst continuing to work, normally lasting for two years. You can then take a one year progression route and turn it into a full honours degree. BGU has a range of Foundation Degrees - find out more at www.bishopg.ac.uk/foundation

Fresher

If you're a student in your first year of university then you'll be a Fresher.

Freshers' Week

Your first week at university, usually packed with events and activities to help you settle in to university life.

Further Education (FE)

The level of education you generally go into after your GCSEs.





Graduate

Someone who has successfully finished their degree course.

Graduation

This is the formal ceremony where you'll collect your degree. At BGU graduation takes place in the magnificent Lincoln Cathedral and is accompanied by much celebration!

Halls of Residence

The living accommodation for students at a university. These will usually be based around blocks of rooms with some shared facilities (eg kitchens, lounge areas). BGU has a range of on and off campus accommodation - you can find out more at

www.bishopg.ac.uk/accommodation

Higher Education (HE)

The level of education generally taught at university, involving studying undergraduate and postgraduate degrees.

Honours Degree

In the UK, Bachelor's degrees are normally awarded 'with honours' after three years of study. Honours degrees can be identified by having (Hons) after the qualification - eg BA (Hons).

Insurance Choice

An offer of a place from a university which you accept as your second choice, just in case you don't meet the conditions of your firm offer.





Lecture

Many taught sessions at universities will be lectures, involving a member of academic staff talking to a large room full of students.



Masters Degree

A postgraduate degree you'd normally take once you've completed an undergraduate degree. Masters Degrees further your knowledge in a particular area and usually last for one year.

Mature Student

You're technically classed as a mature student if you're over 21 when you start your studies.

Module

Degree courses are generally split into modules - smaller units of study which focus on specific areas within a subject.

NUS

The NUS (National Union of Students) represents the rights of all student in the UK on a national level. You can find out more about their work at www.nus.org.uk





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Offer Holder Days

These are events held by a university for everyone who's applied and been offered a place, to allow them to visit and get even more information before they start.

Open Days

Universities hold Open Days throughout the year to allow you to take a look around, meet staff and students, get information about their courses and much more. Find out more at

www.bishopg.ac.uk/opendays

Personal Statement

The section of your UCAS application form where you can write about yourself and why you're suitable for the course you've applied for.

Postgraduate

You're a postgraduate student if you've completed an undergraduate degree and are continuing your studies, such as onto a Masters degree or PGCE.

Prospectus

A guide to a university, which outlines the courses on offer and more information about the university. You can read BGU's prospectus at

www.bishopg.ac.uk/prospectus





Semester

Many universities tend to split the academic year into semesters, similar to how a school splits the year into terms.

Seminar

Seminars are small group classes where you'll generally be involved in a general discussion with other students and a member of academic staff.

Student Loan

This is a loan which covers your tuition fees and living costs while you're at university. You'll only start paying it back once you're in work and earning over a certain amount. You can find out more about financial support at www.bishopg.ac.uk/money

Students' Union

An organisation run by students to represent the interests of all students at a university. They'll represent you, help with problems and contribute to the social side of being a student.

Tariff Points

The tariff points system is managed by UCAS and works out a points total for your qualifications, so that you can measure them against a university's entry requirements.

Tuition Fees

The cost of your university study. Universities will have lots of information on fees, loans and everything else to do with the money side of things. Read more at www.bishopg.ac.uk/money

Tutorial

Tutorials give you the opportunity to discuss your work with a tutor, either with others or one-to-one.



UCAS

You'll most likely apply for university through UCAS (The Universities and Colleges Admissions Service). They're responsible for processing the applications for UK universities.

Unconditional Offer

If a university offers you an unconditional offer of a place, it means that you've been accepted onto a course with no conditions - it's yours if you want it.

Undergraduate

You're an undergraduate student if you're studying for your first degree which is due to last generally three years.

