

University of Leicester

How long does it take by train to reach you?

From Derby to Leicester, it's 20-30 mins depending on which train you catch. It's then only a short walk to campus from the station.

What will university life look like in 2021?

We have a lot of developments happening on campus, like Freemans Common, which will have more eateries and on campus accommodation for students. You can see all our developments here: <https://le.ac.uk/about/strategy-development/campus-development>

We are hoping that in 2021 our learning will be all in person. At the moment, we are using a blended learning approach. You can read more about this here: <https://le.ac.uk/ignite>

What are your most popular courses?

All of our courses receive a lot of interest because of the research-led and quality teaching we provide. Medicine and Law are our most competitive and popular courses. We are very open about the applications and places on our courses. You can view these in our prospectus.

What courses do you offer?

American Studies, Archaeology and Ancient History, Biological Sciences, Chemistry, Criminology, Economics, Finance and Accounting, Engineering, English, Film Studies, Geography, Geosciences, History, History of Art, Informatics, Law, , Management, Marketing and Human Resource Management, Mathematics and Actuarial Science, Media and Communication, Medical Sciences, Medicine, Midwifery, Modern Languages, Natural Sciences, Nursing, Operating Department Practice, Physics and Astronomy, Physiotherapy, Politics and International Relations, Psychology, and Sociology.

Most come with a Study Abroad/Year in Industry option. You can view more details here: <https://le.ac.uk/study/undergraduates/find-a-course>

Is an AS grade a useful qualification?

All of our courses only require 3 A Levels. It can be useful depending on what degree you want to go into (e.g. Further Maths can lower offers in certain degrees). We usually recommend doing an EPQ instead, as these can lower offers in many of our courses. Look at the course for more details.

What grades on average do I need to get accepted?

It depends on the course, but, at Leicester, anywhere between AAA - BBC. You can view full details by checking out our course search option: <https://le.ac.uk/study/undergraduates/find-a-course>.

What are your facilities like?

At Leicester we are constantly developing our facilities. Academically we have high quality equipment for you to use. We have a recently updated Students Union Building which has lots of great eateries and social spaces for you to make use of and we have an O2 Academy on campus that has some great events on too. We have one gym/sports centre on campus and we also have one in the Student Village. Another highlight is our Library that is open 24/7 in term time. It has a range of different books, e-resources, and study rooms to suit everyone's style of learning. Check out all our facilities by taking our campus tour <https://www.le.ac.uk/maps/?pin1=virtualtour#virtual-tour>

In general, what grades are required for Engineering courses at uni?

We ask for ABB (BEng) and AAB (MEng), this changes from university to university. We also have subject specific requirements which you can view here: <https://le.ac.uk/engineering/study/undergraduate>

Which courses take up the most time? Which are the most demanding?

Every course is different but the courses that involve a lot of work are Medicine and Allied Health Professions courses at University of Leicester. This is due to the placements and practical work. All our courses have a lot of contact hours but we give you time so you can learn independently and have free time to fully immerse yourself in the student experience of studying with us.

Is accommodation always available? What is the average cost?

£85-160+ depending on what you want. The more details you want (ensuite, studio, catered etc.) the more expensive it becomes. Our accommodation is guaranteed for first years (as long as they apply before the 4th September). You can choose to stay over the summer too, so it is always available yes.

What proportion of graduates get into employment (linked to their degree) with 6 months of graduating?

Just over 94% of our students are in work or further study after graduation. There are many jobs that just ask for a degree (not a specific) so we find some of our students get subject specific jobs and others use their degree to explore different paths. We have a careers service that support you in finding work and experiences to support your studies and development. These offer a lifelong service so you can get support after you graduate too. Read more

here: <https://le.ac.uk/study/undergraduates/careers/career-development-service>

Do you think it's going to be easier to get in to universities, if less people want to go because of the pandemic?

We think that we will still receive the same, if not more, number of applications, due to the population rise of students. However, at Leicester we are continuing to take a holistic approach to ensure we are sensitive to the current situation.

Are universities lowering offers because of the pandemic?

At University of Leicester, we have always taken a holistic approach and offer contextual offers for our courses. This means we take into account predicted grades, GCSE performance, personal statements, and references to ensure we give you a fair chance at getting into our university. If you feel like something has significantly impacted you, then we will take this into account.

Would I be able to maintain my gaming life outside of university, as I'm part of a successful E-sports Fortnite team?

Absolutely- we have a gaming society you could join at University or you could carry on with your Fortnite team. Who knows- you might get some new recruits!

What %/hours is lectures/independent work on average? How many hours do you spend studying on average?

This again depends on the course. Timetables run 9-6 Monday to Friday, but they usually never take up the whole day (so you might get a lie in!). You'll have more of an emphasis on independent learning and it is your choice how you manage your time. Some students choose to stay on campus 9-5 and do their assignments and independent learning where others are night owls and do their work in our late at night. We have a library open 24/7 during term time to suit everyone's learning.

If someone had a criminal record, would it affect their chances of completing a degree?

We may not be able to accept you onto our course. If you have a criminal record you will need to get in touch.

What GCSE grades do I need to be accepted into University?

It depends on the course and university so you need to research the one's you are interested in. Typically, most courses ask for at least a 5 in Maths, English, and Sciences. Though this changes on course and university.

Do Universities automatically think better of a student that studied in a private school rather than a state school?

Not at all!

What makes your university different from others?

At Leicester we offer a range of courses that have amazing qualities of their own and a supportive environment. In general, the thing that sets us apart is that we are a research-led institution and the only university in the world that is a memorial to the first world war. Being a research-led institution means that the academics who are teaching you, and who you will see in the department, are doing innovative work to change the world and make it a better place. You'll be learning for people and the height of their practice. We also have strong values in creating a sustainable campus that is supporting our community, the world, and expanding to give you the best resources so you can excel academically, socially, and after university. Have a look at the link to find out more:

<https://le.ac.uk/study/undergraduates/why-leicester>

Is there any way you can make your application more appealing to have a higher chance of getting accepted?

The first thing is make sure you are meeting all the requirements for that course. The other thing to focus on is your Personal Statement. This is your opportunity to tell us about you and stand out. A lot of courses don't interview before they offer students a place so the more you can tell us about how you're the best student for the course - the better! Start your statement early so you have enough time to draft and think about the academic skills, transferable skills, and how you've developed your knowledge in this area. This is what we want to know. To get more tips on best practice watch our short video here:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZtMqq1ixlJE&list=PLkBZZhQeuA80RRX0f914N2lHuZkUqs85n&index=8&t=5s>

Is having top grades and no work experience better or worse than having mediocre grades and lots of work experience?

It depends on the course you apply to. For courses like medicine, you must have the grades and work experience to be accepted. If a course requires work experience you must have this to be considered. If a course doesn't require it then you don't need to write about it in your personal statement. You want to be choosing the best examples to show off your knowledge and skills in our personal statement. Grades are one of the things we look at first and we use this to decide whether to offer a student a place. If you meet our requirements you are more likely to get an offer. Another thing to bear in mind is the subject specific requirements. If our degrees are asking for specific subjects you need to be studying them to be considered.

How far away is your university from my school?

It's 56.4 miles. By car it is 1 hour, 8 minutes (straight down the M1 so nice and easy), 1 hour 30 by bus and train public transport.

Do you think it is beneficial to get a job whilst you are at university? Does it affect your student loan if you have a part time job?

It's very much down to you. Some students don't work, some students work in their holidays and some full time whilst at university. We recommend you work out what your weekly budget would be just with your maintenance loan then figure out if it's realistically enough for you to survive on. If it's not you might want to get a job to support yourself. Having a job offers many opportunities to develop your transferable skills and make friends too! A lot of our students choose to work for the university via our Unitemps platform. This involves working as an ambassador (students you see on open days and maybe at your school), working in our hospitality sections, and professional services. The key thing is finding the balance. Always make sure you're leaving yourself enough time to study and immerse yourself in all the fun student experience on offer!

Virtual Resources

- **University Website:** www.le.ac.uk
- **On Demand Content:** <https://le.ac.uk/study/on-demand>
- **Live event content:** <https://le.ac.uk/study/live-line-up>
- **Chat to staff, students and regular blogs:** <https://le.ac.uk/chat>
- **University Prospectus:** <https://le.ac.uk/open-days/digital-prospectus>
- **We are Citizens of Change Video:** https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2Qh_-e52YRk
- **What we have been doing in lockdown- virtual citizens of change:**
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Op4ghpjzAe8>
- **360 Campus Tours:** <https://www.le.ac.uk/maps/?pin1=virtualtour#virtual-tour>
- **General Coronavirus Updates:** <https://le.ac.uk/coronavirus>
- **Accommodation:** <https://le.ac.uk/study/undergraduates/accommodation>
- **Subject-specific Course Videos:** <https://le.ac.uk/study/on-demand>
- **YouTube Digital University Advice (Personal Statements, Student Finance and other Higher Education Advice):** www.youtube.com/user/UniversityLeicester/playlists
- **Personal Statement Springboard (MOOCs, Guided Reading, Work Experience, and Competitions):** <https://le.ac.uk/study/undergraduates/teachers/statement>
- **University of Leicester MOOCs:** <https://le.ac.uk/study/distance-learners/moocs>
- **Business Taster:** <https://www.le.ac.uk/blackboard/29313>
- **School of Chemistry subject talks and student insights:**
<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCmRVBjjApUZj-cN6SbCb64Q>
- **Things you probably don't know about the US Civil Rights Movement by Professor George Lewis:** https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=j1jfKGBu_g0&feature=emb_logo
- **University of Leicester Laboratory Session:**
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XRrYQm2nEHg&feature=emb_logo
- **Centre for Hate Studies:** <http://www.centreforhatestudies.com/>
- **Joe Orton Creative Writing Competition:** <http://www.ednawelthorpe.co.uk/annual-competition/>
- **University of Leicester Pro bono Society:** www.uolprobono.co.uk
- **University of Leicester Creative Computing Demo:**
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yoEOPerviQg&feature=emb_logo
- **Observe GP:** <https://rcgp-news.com/t/49LX-TB11-A05DSRQUF3/cr.aspx>
- **University of Leicester: A Day in the Life of a Maternity Assessment Unit Midwife:**
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=u3Qs_S5a6tc&feature=emb_logo
- **University of Leicester Clinical Placements:**
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=g7nOCEzJ_2I&feature=emb_logo
- **#WednesdayWisdom Webinars:** <https://myleicester.le.ac.uk/form/FSOwebinars>
- **Parents Page:** <https://le.ac.uk/study/undergraduates/parents>
- **Benefits of HE:** <https://youtu.be/oxP4cp-5rA4>
- **Post-16 Options:** <https://youtu.be/RvjCaKtFI4>