



PRIFYSGOL

ABERYSTWYTH  
UNIVERSITY

THIS IS YOUR  
STEP BY STEP

# GUIDE TO APPLYING

Name .....

School/College .....

Email .....

UCAS Personal ID .....

# Dates for Your Diary

YEAR 12

May

June

July

Aug

Sept

Oct

Nov

Dec

Jan

Feb

Mar

Apr

May

Jun

Jul

Aug

Sept

**May - September**

Researching your universities and courses

**Early Sept -  
15th January**

Applications  
from the UK or  
elsewhere in the  
EU (except Art &  
Design route B)

**Early Sept -  
15th October**

Applications  
for Oxbridge or  
medicine, dentistry  
or veterinary  
science/medicine

**16th January -  
30th June**

Late applications  
considered at  
universities'  
discretion

**26th  
February -  
6th July**  
UCAS Extra

**Mid August - Mid September**

Clearing and Adjustment

# Completing your application

**1 ► Go to:** [www.ucas.com/ucas/undergraduate/register](http://www.ucas.com/ucas/undergraduate/register)

**2 ► Register:**

Click on **Register and apply** ►

UCAS will generate a username and you will need to create your own password..... **Keep it Safe!**

**3 ► Complete Profile**

You will have 5 sections to fill:

- **Personal information (e.g school details, address etc)**
- **Qualifications**
- **Work history**
- **Personal Statement**
- **Contact details (make sure to include your personal email address)**

All five sections need to be completed before you can start an application.

**4 ► Making an application**

You can choose up to five courses\*. There is no preferred order and your chosen universities/colleges will not see where else you have applied.

**5 ► Final Check**

Once you have finished your personal statement take a final look at your application, then mark it as complete and save it!

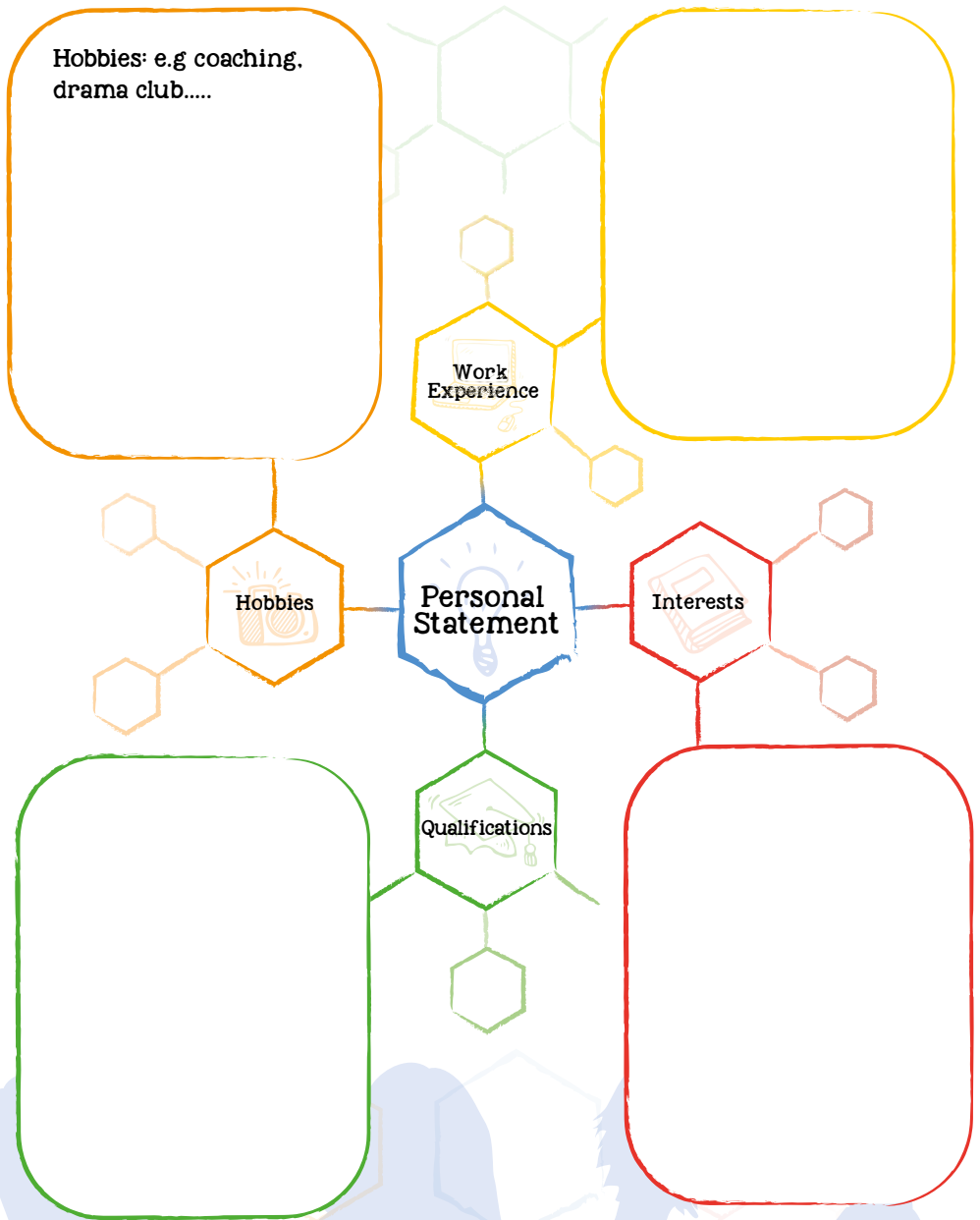
You will then need to read and agree to the declaration.

**6 ► Final Section**

- **Your teacher/adviser will write a reference of recommendation.**
- **Your completed application should be submitted to UCAS with the applicable fee. If you wish to apply for only one course at one institution, a reduced fee applies. The application fee is different if applying for one or multiple courses. Check the UCAS website for the correct amount.**
- **YOU CAN ONLY APPLY VIA UCAS ONCE PER ADMISSIONS IN A CYCLE.**

*\* If applying for medicine, dentistry, veterinary medicine, or veterinary science you can only apply to a maximum of four courses in any one of these subjects.*

# Use Mind Mapping to write a unique Personal Statement



# Tips from Aberystwyth University students on applying

Check university websites to see what skills and qualities they'd like you to have

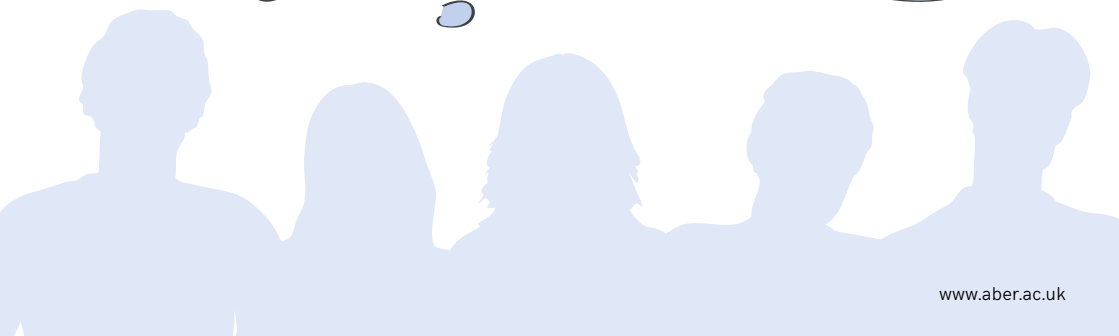
Start drafting early

Once you submit your university application, stop reading it!

Don't rush it.  
A superb personal statement will not be ready in a couple of hours or even a couple of days. It took me more than a month to complete the version I finally sent in. Sometimes it's worth taking a break for a few days, then coming back to it fresh

Make a personal statement as unique as possible.  
Read outside your course

Attend open days





# Personal Statement

## The Basics:

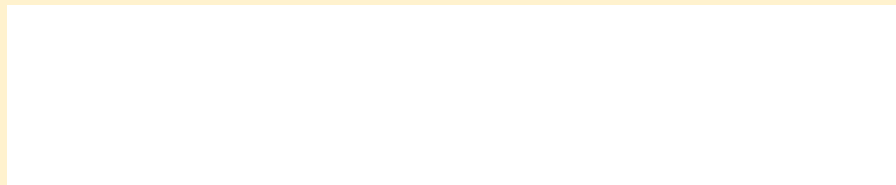
- You cannot write more than **4,000 characters** or **47 lines of text** in a standard font.
- You should write your statement using a word processor, then cut and paste into UCAS Apply. Italics, bold and underlined words will not be transferred.

## The Structure of your Statement:

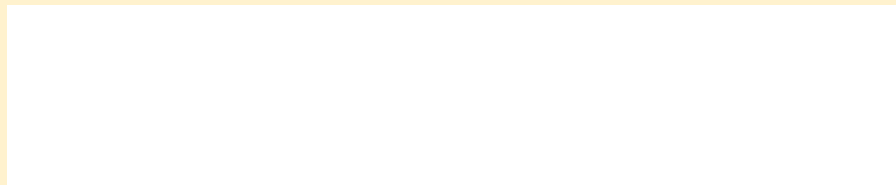
**First Section (40%) - All about the subject/s you want to study at university**

**Ideas to consider:**

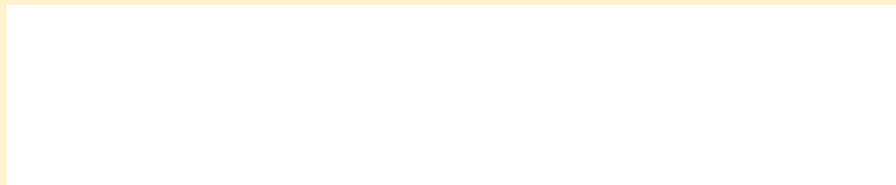
Why does it interest you?:



What do you want to learn about?:



Your understanding of the course/relevant knowledge:



Current subjects or work experience that relate to the course:



## Second Section (35%) - More about the subjects you are currently studying

### Ideas to consider:

Examples of responsibility, independent learning, team work, time management:

Work experience:

Transferable skills and complementing subjects:

## Third Section (25%) - Your extracurricular interests and achievements

### Ideas to consider:

Skills learnt / developed:

Why did you get involved?:

Future development:

# Some terms explained . . .

<b>Conditional Offer</b>	Details the conditions you will need to meet for entry onto your chosen course (e.g BBB, to include a B in Biology).
<b>Unconditional Offer</b>	An offer of a place of study without conditions.
<b>Firm Choice</b>	Of the offers you've received, this is effectively your preferred choice of course/provider.
<b>Insurance Choice</b>	From the offers received, this would typically be your second preference if you fail to meet the condition of your firm choice.
<b>UCAS Apply</b>	This is the online application system used for submitting application via UCAS.
<b>UCAS Personal ID</b>	When you apply for a place at University through UCAS you will be given a 10 digit UCAS ID number that is unique to you.
<b>UCAS Track</b>	Once you've registered and completed your application online through UCAS, you will be able to view the progress of your application, view and respond to offers, and add clearing choices through UCAS Track.
<b>Deferred Entry</b>	If you've completed the process of applying to university and you've been accepted onto a course, then decide that you don't want to start in September, you can sometimes defer your course for a year.

## Some additional resources

[www.hotcourses.com](http://www.hotcourses.com)..... list of courses and information

[www.whatuni.com](http://www.whatuni.com)..... created by students

[www.opendays.com](http://www.opendays.com)..... University Open Days

[www.thecompleteuniversityguide.co.uk](http://www.thecompleteuniversityguide.co.uk)

This website's independent UK University League Tables and Ranking helps students research degree courses and universities.

[www.thestudentroom.co.uk](http://www.thestudentroom.co.uk)

GCSE, A Level and university students share academic and social knowledge - from study help to choosing university, careers and student life.

[www.ucas.com](http://www.ucas.com)

The University and Colleges Applications Service.



## Notes



# #LoveAber

## History

Did you know that history has been taught at Aberystwyth since 1872, making our department the oldest History department in Wales, and one of the foremost in Britain.

## Geography



Did you know that there is an Antarctic glacier named after an Aberystwyth University glaciologist? Maybe you've heard of it - the **Glasser Glacier**.

## Law

Did you know that our department was one of the first British Law Schools to award Law degrees to women?

## Agriculture

Did you know that we have over 1,000 hectares of farmland, 500 dairy cows, 4 pedigree sheep flocks, arable biofuel and forage crops?



## Theatre, Film and TV

Did you know that the director of the 'Bridget Jones' Diary' films **Sharon Maguire** is an Aberystwyth graduate?

## Sports and Exercise Science

Did you know that Aberystwyth served as a mountain biking training camp for the 2012 London Olympics?



## Modern Languages

Did you know that we are one of a handful of universities in the UK to offer students the opportunity to combine the study of languages?



## Animal Behaviour/Science

Did you know that Cardigan Bay is home to the UK'S largest residential **bottlenose dolphin** population.

It is also renowned for its **seabird** populations, and mammals such as **grey seals**, and **harbour porpoises**?



## Business

Did you know that when Aberystwyth graduate **Belinda Earl** was made Chief Executive of Debenhams, she became the first female CEO ever of a high street retail chain?

## Tourism Management

Did you know that Tourism Management students have undertaken work experience placements in destinations as far afield as **New Zealand**, **Norway**, the **Canary Islands** and **France**?

## Zoology

Did you know that **IBERS** is home to a museum of historic zoological and botanical specimens?



# #LoveAber

## Physics

Did you know that the Physics department is involved in every ESA planetary mission from the **Sun** to **Saturn** and as a result the Aberystwyth University logo will be the first piece of welsh text to be in space?



## Maths

Did you know that our staff are developing mathematical models for the behaviour of liquid foams on the **International Space Station**?



## Art

Did you know that the four 'bridge and pathway' designs on the reverse of the pound coin (2004-2007) were created by School of Art graduate, **Edwina Ellis**?

## English

Did you know that we have one of the best libraries in the world, the **National Library of Wales**, right on our doorstep?



## Psychology

Did you know that we have an expert on the psychology of **Jack the Ripper** in the Department?

## Computer Science

Did you know that Computer Science graduate **Jan Pinkava** co-directed Pixar's Oscar-winning film **Ratatouille**?

## International Politics

Did you know that we are the first ever department of International Politics in the world?



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# Checklist

- Highlighted your key areas of interest
- Linked current study with future plans
- Demonstrated an understanding of the course
- Highlighted subject knowledge and an appreciation of your course in a wider context
- Supported claims with relevant evidence/examples
- Shown you are self-motivated
- Mentioned future career plans/ambitions
- Checked your grammar, spelling and punctuation
- Given it to someone else to read
- Character count is below 4000 or 47 lines
- Copied and pasted the personal statement into UCAS
- Apply and saved it

[www.aber.ac.uk](http://www.aber.ac.uk)

Aberystwyth University  
Penglais Campus  
Aberystwyth  
SY23 3DD

**Tel:** +44 (0) 1970 622021 /  
+44 (0) 1970 628786  
**Email:** [ug-admissions@aber.ac.uk](mailto:ug-admissions@aber.ac.uk)

 Facebook | [www.facebook.com/aberystwyth.university](http://www.facebook.com/aberystwyth.university)  
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