

The University of the Highlands and Islands: School Presentation

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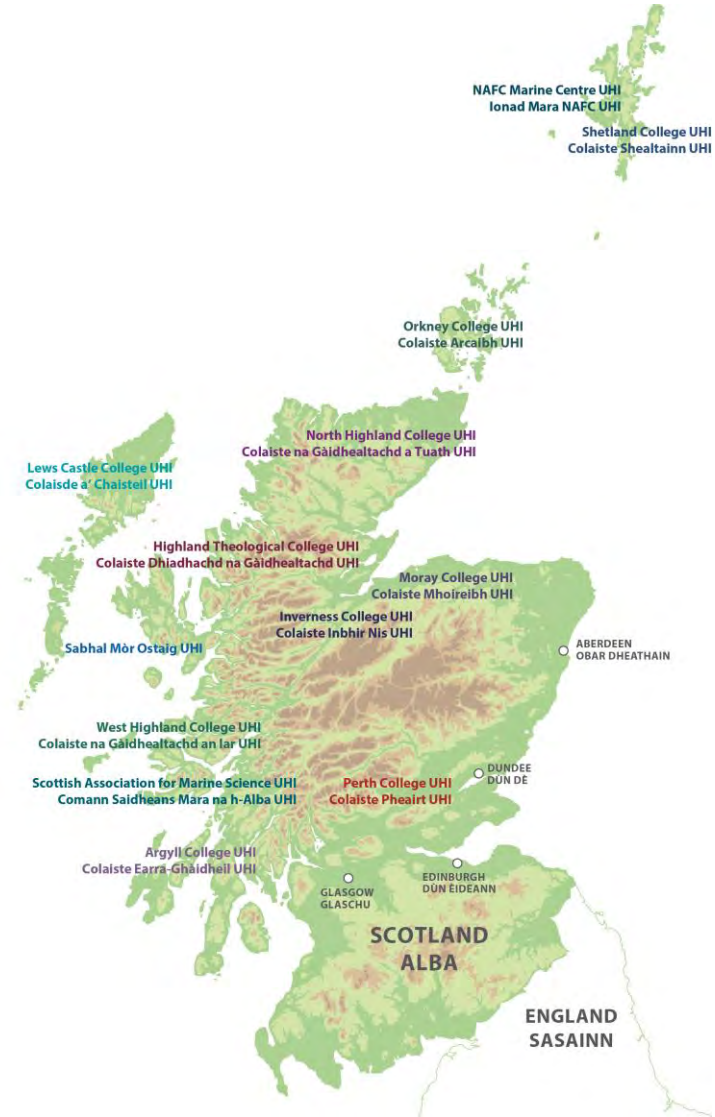
Who are we?

- The University of the Highlands and Islands:
 - Is the UK's leading integrated university encompassing further and higher education.
 - Total higher education students **8300**
 - Total further education students **31,243**
 - Is the only university based in the Highlands and Islands, Moray and Perthshire.
 - Provides access to undergraduate and postgraduate study and research opportunities.
 - Operates through a partnership of thirteen colleges and research institutions.
 - Offers a diverse range of courses, many taking advantage of our region's unique environment, landscape and culture.



Where are we?

We have a network of colleges and research centres, spread across the Highlands and Islands of Scotland.



Curriculum overview

Arts, humanities and social science

- Archaeology; Art; History; Literature; Philosophy, Politics and Economics; Scottish Cultural Studies; Social Sciences; Sociology and Criminology; and Theology.

Business and leisure

- Accounting and Finance; Adventure Performance and Coaching; Adventure Tourism Management; Business and Management; Coaching and Developing Sport; Events Management; Golf Management; Health, Fitness and Exercise; Hospitality Management; Marine and Coastal Tourism; Professional Golf; Soft Tissue Therapy; Sport Management; Sports Therapy; and Tourist Guiding (North Highlands).

Computing and IT

- Computer Science; Computing; and Interactive Media.



Curriculum overview

Creative and cultural industries

- Applied Music; Audio Engineering; Contemporary Art and Contextualised Practice; Contemporary Textiles; Contemporary Film Making in the Highlands and Islands; Drama and Performance; Fine Art; Music Business; Popular Music; Technical Theatre; and Visual Communication and Design.

Education and childcare

- Child and Youth Studies; Childhood Practice; Primary Teaching (PGDE); and Secondary Teaching (PGDE).

Energy, engineering and construction

- Aircraft Engineering; Architectural Technology; Civil Engineering; Construction Management; Engineering (electrical, electronic, design, energy, marine, mechanical, power); Fabrication Welding and Inspection; and Quantity Surveying.



Curriculum overview

Gaelic medium studies

- Gaelic and Communication; Gaelic and Development; Gaelic with Education; Gaelic and Traditional Music; Primary Teaching (PGDE); and Secondary Teaching (PGDE).

Health and wellbeing

- Beauty Therapy; Complementary Therapies; Dental Technology; Hairdressing; Health Studies; Oral Health Science; Psychology; and Social Services.

Science and Environment

- Applied Sciences; Arboriculture and Urban Forestry; Archaeology and Environmental Studies; Environmental Science; Equine Business Management; Forestry; Gamekeeping with Wildlife Management; Geography; Marine Science; Sustainable Development; and Sustainable Forest Management.



Entry requirements

- Based on the unique range of courses on offer at the University of the Highlands and Islands, an offer of a place is not always based on academic ability alone.
- We accept a wide range of equivalent qualifications and recognise that there is a variety of routes through which qualifications may be gained and ways in which readiness for higher education study may be demonstrated.
- **What qualifications do you need?**
 - Information on minimum entry qualifications are provided in the course summary in the prospectus or on our website.
 - If you do not have the standard entry requirements we would still encourage you to apply.
- **Do you need to complete your qualifications in one sitting?**
 - No, we will accept qualifications gained over more than one sitting.



Progression routes

- We aim to provide a learning structure which helps students reach their goal no matter where they start from.
- We do this by offering a range of alternative progression routes through our degree courses.

Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5
HNC	HND or DipHE	BA or BSc	BA or BSc (Hons)	
CertHE	DipHE	BA, BEng or BSc	BA, BEng or BSc (Hons)	
CertHE	DipHE	BEng	BEng (Hons)	MEng

We also offer a BSc (Hons) Geography accelerated degree that can be completed in three years rather than the traditional four.



Study and Assessment

- **Students study through a combination of:**
 - Face-to-face and video conference lectures
 - Tutorials
 - Private study
 - Online through the university virtual learning environment (Blackboard)
- **How long will a course last?**
 - Full time: 4 years @ 40 hours per week
 - Part time: 8 years @ 20 hours per week
 - Number of hours per week indicates the total number of hours that should be dedicated to the course, which includes time spent in lectures/tutorials and time spent on individual study and research.



Blackboard

Students can access an online/virtual classroom.

Features include:

- Information about the course
- Tutor contact information
- Course materials
- Activities to reinforce and develop what a student has studied
- Guidance on books and articles a student should read to extend their knowledge and experience
- Discussion boards where a student can read other students ideas and opinions and post their own
- Chat rooms to communicate in real time to other students and tutors
- Information about assessments



The application process

- **Choosing a course:**

- Browse our list of subject areas or view the A-Z of courses.
- Pay particular attention to the minimum entry requirements for each course.
- Consider future career plans when choosing a course.
- You can also use the UCAS website to compare courses and universities – www.ucas.com
- Attend an open day – visit www.uhi.ac.uk/opendays
- Attend a UCAS higher education careers convention.

- **Applying:**

- Applications are made online at www.ucas.com
- An applicant can make up to five choices in one UCAS application.
- The applicant fee is: £12 for one course; £23 for multiple courses.



The application process

Key UCAS dates and deadlines

Mid-June	Applicants can register and start to complete their UCAS application.
Mid-September	Schools can start to submit completed applications to UCAS.
15 October	Application deadline for medicine, dentistry, veterinary science/medicine and for courses at Oxford <u>or</u> Cambridge.
15 January	Application deadline for most courses.
15 March	Application deadline for many art and design courses (check courses/institutions for deadlines).
30 June	Applications submitted after this date are held for clearing.

**Applications received by the key deadlines
are given equal consideration.**



The UCAS application

- Every applicant has six sections to complete:
 - Personal details
 - Student finance (UK and EU only)
 - Choices
 - Education
 - Employment
 - Personal Statement
- Your reference is added after you have submitted your application to UCAS.
- UCAS will then pass completed applications to chosen colleges or universities.



Make your personal statement stand out from the crowd!



At some universities lecturers can receive up to 200 personal statements per week.



The personal statement

- Include academic achievements, past and pending.
- Undertake research on courses / institutions of interest:
 - Pay attention to the entry requirements for each course.
 - Note down the qualifications, qualities and experiences that each course is looking for.
 - Link the range of skills you have developed both inside and outside of the classroom to the entry profiles of your chosen course(s).
 - Think of other examples that can be used within the personal statement, e.g. projects, events, volunteering, fundraising activities that you have been involved in.
 - Explain how these activities may have developed skills, such as confidence, communication skills, team working, etc.
- Explain why you are interested in the subject area and why you would be a good student.
- Show your knowledge of the subject and enthusiasm to go beyond the syllabus.
- Demonstrate your commitment to the course and include what you enjoy about studying.
- Start working on your personal statement early, e.g. 3-4 months prior to submitting your UCAS application.



Decision-making by institutions

Colleges and universities will review:

- Personal Statement
- Reference
- Qualifications
- Interviews
- Portfolios
- Auditions

They may make one of three decisions:

- **Unconditional** offer
- **Conditional** offer
- **Unsuccessful** offer

Institutions may also offer a place on an alternative course.



Replying to offers

- When decisions are received from all of your choices you will need to reply online by a set date.
- You can hold a maximum of two offers:
 - **Firm** – your first choice. If you meet the conditions of the offer you will be offered a place.
 - **Insurance** – acts as a back-up choice and only comes into play if you are not placed with your firm choice.
- If you do not receive any offers you can make an additional choice through the Extra scheme.

Make sure you reply to offers by the deadline date.

If you don't offers will automatically be declined.



UCAS Extra

- UCAS Extra is your final chance to secure a place before entering UCAS clearing.
- Students eligible for Extra:
 - Used all five choices
 - All choices unsuccessful, cancelled or offers declined
 - No option for firm or insurance choice
- www.ucas.com/extra



Exam results

- If you hold a conditional offer, once exam results are published, admissions staff will check to see if you have met the conditions of your offer.

If you have met the conditions of your firm choice. It's time to celebrate!

If you haven't met the conditions of your firm choice, but meet the conditions of your insurance choice, you will be placed at your insurance choice. It's also time to celebrate!

If you have not met the conditions of your firm or insurance choice, you will be entered into a process known as **Clearing**.

If you meet and exceed the conditions of your offer, you are eligible for **Adjustment**. This gives you the opportunity to reconsider where and what to study whilst still holding a firm offer.



UCAS Clearing

- If you have not met the conditions of your firm or insurance choice, you will be entered into a process known as **Clearing**.
- Clearing is a service that unplaced applicants can use to find available courses.
- It is also for applicants who have submitted their UCAS application after the 30 June.
- Clearing begins in July each year, but doesn't really begin until summer results are through in August.
- You can only apply for one clearing choice at a time.
- Applicants in clearing are recommended to contact institutions to discuss course vacancies prior to making any changes online via Track.
- Once a verbal offer of a place has been given by an institution applicants will be advised to enter their choice details online via Track for final confirmation to be received.
- www.ucas.com/clearing



Accommodation

From September 2016 new student residences will be available at our Inverness College UHI and West Highland College UHI (Fort William) campuses. The accommodation will be professionally managed by Cityheart Living (Scotland) Ltd.

- **Inverness College UHI**
 - A few minutes walk from the campus, the new purpose-built student residence offers 150 en-suite bedrooms with shared kitchen and living areas.
- **West Highland College UHI**
 - The dedicated, on campus, student accommodation has 40 en-suite bedrooms with shared kitchen and living areas.
- **Further information:**
 - www.uhi.ac.uk/accommodation



Accommodation

- The following five campuses also offer dedicated student accommodation:
 - Lews Castle College UHI (Stornoway)
 - NAFC Marine Centre UHI (Shetland)
 - Perth College UHI (Perth)
 - Sabhal Mòr Ostaig UHI (Skye)
 - Scottish Association for Marine Science UHI (Oban)
- Further information:
 - www.uhi.ac.uk/accommodation



Why choose the University of the Highlands and Islands?



University of the
Highlands and Islands
Oilthigh na Gàidhealtachd
agus nan Eilean

Research Excellence Framework 2014:
Times Higher Education*

Frèam Sàr-mhathas Rannsachaidh 2014:
Times Higher Education*

65% of research rated as **world leading** or **internationally excellent**

65% de rannsachadh air
thoiseach air càch san
t-saoghal no sàr-mhath gu
h-eadar-nàiseanta



***Best performing young university in Scotland**

***Na toraidhean as fheàrr am measg oilthighean òga an Alba**



*Ranked **63** in the UK, **↑33** places

***63** mh anns an RA, **↑33** àiteachan



Why choose the University of the Highlands and Islands?

Choice of campuses

- There's a course and a campus for everyone.

Specialist subjects

- Students can study one of our specialist courses reflective of the unique environment, culture and heritage of the Highlands and Islands of Scotland.

Small class sizes

- Students will have a more personal experience of university, and our friendly staff are always available to help and support students throughout their studies.

Excellent support

- Whether a student chooses to study online or on campus, they will be supported by expert staff throughout their time studying with us.



Why choose the University of the Highlands and Islands?

Flexible entry/exit points

- We provide a learning structure which helps students to reach their goal no matter where they start from.
- We do this by being flexible with our entry requirements and offer a range of alternative progression routes through our courses
- Our undergraduate degrees offer accredited exit points at appropriate levels of higher education (HNC, HND or CertHE, DipHE)

Technological expertise

- We are a leader in the use of online and video conference technologies to deliver undergraduate courses to students, wherever they are based.

The affordable option

- If an applicant already lives in the Highlands and Islands they don't have to leave home and incur debts when they choose to go to university; we're right here on their doorstep.



Contact details

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Keep in touch

