



General

JOURNALISM

The National Council for the Training of Journalists (NCTJ) operate a clearing house system for applicants wishing to undertake a one year pre-entry journalism course.

You should apply from September 2000 for entry to courses in September 2001. These courses are very competitive so you should apply as early as possible.

Applicants of all ages come from a wide variety of academic backgrounds, so you could be in competition with graduates. Relevant work experience is very important.

Address of NCTJ

NCTJ

Latton Bush Centre,
Southern Way,
Harlow,
Essex,
CM18 7BL
Tel: 01279 430009

SOCIAL WORK

The Social Work Admissions System (SWAS) deals with applications to most non-graduate and post-graduate courses leading to the Diploma in Social Work.

The closing date for applications is 15th December 2000 for courses starting September 2001. Any late applications received up to 16th May 2001 will be forwarded to the institutions provided they still have vacancies.

You can apply for a maximum of three courses which will be considered by the institutions at the same time.

APPLICATION DATES

A fee of £14.00 is payable when you return your application form to SWAS N.B. The Diploma in Social Work cannot be awarded to you if you are under 22 years of age. Entry to these courses is highly competitive, particularly for younger applicants. Those under 21 must offer similar qualifications to those required for a degree course and all applicants must offer a minimum of nine months work experience with two different client groups. This does not have to be continuous work experience. For example, voluntary work once a week would satisfy the conditions.

USEFUL REFERENCE MATERIAL:

Getting into Social Work.
UCAS 01242 544610.

Address of SWAS

SWAS

Rosehill, New Barn Lane,
Cheltenham,
Gloucestershire, GL52 3LZ
Telephone:
01242 223707 for Application Packs
01242 544600 for General Enquiries

APPLICATIONS TO OTHER ADVANCED COURSES BY DIRECT APPLICATION TO THE INSTITUTION

There are a number of courses that form a progression from your current level of study for which you can apply direct to the

institution concerned. These include a number of HND courses that are not in UCAS. Information on these courses can be obtained from the 'Compendium of Higher Education' (see page 6).

DRAMA, DANCE, MUSIC

The independent colleges offering diploma qualifications accept direct applications only. Places on these courses are highly competitive and will involve an audition as part of the selection procedure.

ART FOUNDATION COURSE

These one year courses are available locally at Beverley College, Grimsby College, Hull College, North Lindsey College and Wyke Sixth Form College. Many 'A' level Art students undertake this course to broaden their portfolio before applying for a degree or HND in Art and Design. Many institutions demand this additional qualification if 'A' levels have been studied.

ACCOUNTANCY FOUNDATION

A one year course for students intending to enter Chartered Accountancy, but who do not wish to enter through the degree route. Currently, there are no such courses locally, the nearest being in Leeds.





Money matters

MONEY MATTERS

Tuition fees and income - related loans for 2001

This information covers the following courses - Degrees, Higher National Diplomas, Diplomas of Higher Education and Post-graduate Certificates of Education. The system of financial help for tuition fees and income related loans is currently administered by local authorities. Regulations apply to all applicants. All students may be liable to make a contribution of up to £1,050 towards tuition fees. The amount payable will be judged on personal circumstances.

The government is also introducing more help in the form of non-repayable bursaries for mature students (dependent on need). Young students from disadvantaged backgrounds will also benefit from a rise in the parental contribution threshold and non-repayable bursaries. Income-related loans will be available to all students under the age of 55 on most courses. A part of this will be means-tested.

EXCEPTIONS

MEDICINE & DENTISTRY

For the first four years of the course students will be treated on the same basis as others. From Year 5 onwards means tested bursaries will be available, no contribution will be required towards tuition fees.

HEALTH RELATED COURSES

For the following courses students can apply for National Health Service bursaries - Nursing/Midwifery (diploma and degree)/Occupational Health/Radiography/Speech and Language/Dietetics/Prosthetics/Orthoptics/Chiropractic/Dental Hygiene/Dental Therapy/Physiotherapy. You may also be eligible for part of the student loan.

Contact your local authority to make applications and to find out more. You are advised to apply as early as possible to ensure your loan will arrive when your course starts. Make sure you have obtained your National Insurance Number. You will also need a copy of your birth certificate.

LOCAL AUTHORITIES

1. IF YOU LIVE IN THE BEVERLEY, BRIDLINGTON OR GOOLE AREAS YOUR LOCAL AUTHORITY IS:

**East Riding of Yorkshire Council
Grants & Awards Section
County Hall
Beverley
HU17 9BA
Tel: 01482 885188**

2. IF YOU LIVE IN THE KINGSTON-UPON-HULL AREA YOUR LOCAL AUTHORITY IS:

**Kingston-Upon-Hull City Council
(Student Awards)
Essex House,
Manor Street
Kingston-Upon-Hull
HU11 1YD
Tel: 01482 613300**

3. IF YOU LIVE IN THE GRIMSBY/NORTH EAST LINCOLNSHIRE AREA YOUR LOCAL AUTHORITY IS:

**NE Lincolnshire Council
(Student Services)
39 Heneage Road
Grimsby
DN32 9ES
Tel: 01472 323323**

4. IF YOU LIVE IN THE SCUNTHORPE/NORTH LINCOLNSHIRE AREA YOUR LOCAL AUTHORITY IS:

**The Directorate of Education and Personal Development
North Lincolnshire Council
(Student Awards)
PO Box 35,
Hewson House
Station Road
Brigg DN20 8XJ
Tel: 01724 297286**



OTHER SOURCES OF FINANCE

As a student you could face severe financial hardship. It may be necessary to look for alternative sources of income. Here are some brief suggestions:

- Part-time work whilst studying. Many Universities operate Job Shops to help students find part-time and vacation work.
- Vacation work. See above and ask your local Career Development Centre about holiday jobs.
- A year out working before university.
- Sandwich Courses.

Any of the above will also give you work experience which will go towards a portfolio of useful skills. Some degree courses carry awards and bursaries with them. For some degree courses financial sponsorship may be an option. There are also College/University administered Access or Hardship funds which the institutions will inform you about. Some help may also be found by approaching educational charities - your Career Development Centre will have information about these.

GRADUATE FINANCES AND DESTINATIONS

Because of the changed situation, in that the average student will inevitably have some debts by the time they graduate, it is worth noting the following key points.

- Advertised graduate starting salaries in 1997-98 ranged between £5,000 and £35,000.
- After three years in a 'Career Job', a typical graduate's earnings increased by 56%.
- By the age of 33, graduates are paid significantly more than non-graduates.
- The majority of first degree graduates find jobs within six months of completing their courses.
- Two-thirds of new graduates who find jobs within six months are employed in managerial, professional or technical jobs.
- Fewer than one in thirty are unemployed.

Information taken from What Do Graduates Do? AGCAS. At the end of last year UCAS reported that graduate unemployment has reached a 10-year low. Unemployment is now at its lowest.

FURTHER INFORMATION

Financial Support for Students.

A Guide to Grants, Loans and Fees in Higher Education. Government information about fees and loans. Free booklet issued every year.

Department for Education and Employment

Freephone 0800 731 9133

Website www.open.gov.uk/support/index.htm

'Awards'

Directory of Scholarship and Bursary Awards = ISCO

'Students Money Matters'

Gwenda Thomas. Trotmans.

'University Scholarships and Awards'

Brian Heap. Trotmans. A guide detailing bursaries, scholarships and other awards on offer from universities.

'Funder Finder'

Database available at Career Development Centres.

'Springboard Sponsorship and Funding Directory'

CRAC/Hobsons Publishing PLC.

Results service

During August and September each year a national Results Service campaign runs to help students who are still looking for a place at a University or College of Higher Education. This may include students whose results are better, or worse, than anticipated and who may now need to change their plans.

The service is run locally by Careers Advisers and begins as soon as exam results are published. Individual interviews are

offered to students during which the range of options open to them are discussed. These may include alternative courses, employment opportunities (including Modern Apprenticeships), taking a year off or the resitting of exams. Students still seeking a course in higher education will find resources are available to provide up to date information on late places. Leading sources of information are the ECCTIS database, a computer program, updated on

a daily basis, using the Internet, which lists course vacancies nationwide and the UCAS Website, which offers a clearing service. This can be used by the student and Careers Adviser to find out which suitable courses still have vacancies. Direct contact can then be made with the institution(s) concerned, in order to discuss a student's suitability. If you find yourself needing help once your exam results arrive make sure you contact your local Career Development Centre quickly.



Employment prospects

EMPLOYMENT AND JOB SEARCH

You may prefer to seek employment following your course rather than enter higher education, but what are the prospects and what sort of planning and research is necessary?

EMPLOYMENT PROSPECTS

The job market has changed quite considerably in recent years and there are now fewer permanent job opportunities for leavers with 'A' level, GNVQ Advanced or BTEC National qualifications. However, firms still need to recruit from time to time, although you may find you have to be more flexible in the range of jobs you are prepared to consider. It is worth noting that there may be more opportunities for those willing to move to other areas.

ADVANCED MODERN APPRENTICESHIPS

Advanced Modern Apprenticeships are a new government initiative to give 16 to 19 year olds, who leave school or college, the opportunity to gain high quality vocational qualifications at the same time as being employed.

The qualifications offered at 18 will be at NVQ level 3 and above and will usually take about 18 months to complete. This is because young people can build on previous qualifications and experience.

Further information is obtainable from your local Career Development Centre about availability and recruitment.

DESPITE THESE CHANGES, CAREER OPPORTUNITIES ARE USUALLY AVAILABLE IN THE FOLLOWING AREAS:

- Accountancy
- Administration
- Banking
- Beauty Therapy
- Building
- Building Societies
- Business Management
- Caring (including Nursing)
- Catering
- Clerical
- Construction
- Engineering
- Hairdressing
- Hotel Management
- Information Technology
- Insurance
- Laboratories
- Merchant Navy
- Retail Management
- Surveying
- Travel and Tourism
- Uniformed Services

This is not intended to be an exhaustive list, merely a starting point for you. Through developing your own ideas and job search skills you may be able to gain employment in other career areas.