Our students receive a first-class education

The University of Reading prides itself on producing graduates that are ready to make a positive contribution to the world. We attract and select the best students.

We are one of the top 1% of the world’s universities. This position reflects our academic reputation and commitment to delivering an excellent all-round education. We offer degrees that are highly regarded by employers throughout the world.

In the National Student Survey 2012, 88% of students at Reading were satisfied with the quality of their course, compared with a sector average of 83%. Little wonder then that there are currently nearly seven applications per place at Reading.

Once our students are here, they can expect an outstanding education in an inspiring environment and to be taught by academics who are passionate about their subject, and conducting research of international standing that informs their teaching.

Reading provides support to allow each student to achieve their full potential not just in their academic studies, but also in valuable employability skills.

‘All our undergraduate courses have a placement opportunity.’

The Practice of Entrepreneurship is a 20-credit module offered to second year, third year and postgraduate-level students from any degree discipline. The aim is to help students develop their entrepreneurial skills and provide them with the ‘nuts and bolts’ of business start up. Hundreds of local, international and national organisations and companies such as Microsoft, IBM and PricewaterhouseCoopers liaise with the University to provide work experience, placement opportunities and sponsor degrees for our students. Many students go on to take up permanent jobs with their placement employers. Henley Business School and communications giant O2 provide two exciting and potentially career-defining scholarships annually.

Students can also choose to gain experience abroad with one of many international partner institutions or take up a language as part of their course to enhance their CV.

‘92% of recent Reading graduates are employed, in further study or volunteering.’

University of Reading students have access to a wide variety of curriculum-enhancing facilities:

- Students can go on placement or internships with companies such as Microsoft, IBM and PricewaterhouseCoopers.
- Hundreds of local, international and national organisations and companies such as Microsoft, IBM and PricewaterhouseCoopers liaise with the University to provide work experience, placement opportunities and sponsor degrees for our students. Many students go on to take up permanent jobs with their placement employers.
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‘The University of Reading is the only university that dedicates five credits of every degree to career management skills.’

Adam Ball
BSc Mathematics

‘Working alongside studying definitely makes managing money easier but it also gives you great experience, time management skills and an opportunity to meet lots of new people’
Our postgraduate students; a vital part of University life

They represent almost 45% of our total student population. We have nearly 8,000 postgraduate students from all over the UK and another 141 countries.

Postgraduate students can either follow a taught programme, which includes an MA, MSc, PGCE and MBA, or take a research degree such as a PhD.

An outstanding research environment

Our postgraduate research students benefit from Reading’s outstanding research environment. Many programmes have an international focus, involving collaboration with our overseas educational partners and alumni.

The University of Reading enjoys great success in bidding for research funding. Of our current £50 million annual research funding, around £34 million comes from external grants and contracts.

Sir David Attenborough spoke to PhD student Robin Blake at the butterfly conservation conference held at the University

Excellent facilities

Our £400 million investment programme over the past decade has created outstanding facilities for students. We continue to invest in new buildings and amenities to support our research, including our Centre for Integrative Neuroscience and Neurodynamics, Chemical Analysis Facility, Centre for Advanced Microscopy, and our Design Innovation Research Centre. The University library provides support through multi-media resources and group study areas. We also host many specialist collections, including the world renowned Beckett Collection.

Students are supported by internationally renowned academics

A dedicated home for research students

In addition to their School or Department, all our postgraduate research students become members of the Graduate School – a hub for all doctoral research activity across the University providing:

• a supportive environment to work and meet others
• training in professional and personal skills to help with their PhD
• a series of career events
• support from a dedicated team of administrative professionals

The University Graduate School at Old Whiteknights House