Reading Scholars is a year long programme consisting of ten strands, which aims to give you a real taste of life as a university student, an insight into studying at degree level and also advice and guidance on higher education in general. Featuring input from leading academics and current undergraduate students, the programme seeks to challenge you academically and enhance your current studies.

WHEN AND WHERE?
The programme takes place at the University of Reading’s Whiteknights campus, and you will participate in four events throughout the academic year. These will include:

- In January, an introductory session to the University and programme, an opportunity to meet your mentor and fellow Reading Scholars.
- In February, an academic session within your chosen strand.
- In April, a second academic session in your chosen strand.
- In June/July, a three day residential summer school that aims to increase your subject knowledge as well as enhancing some of the key skills needed to succeed at university.
- In September of Yr13, we also run an optional UCAS application workshop.

Events will typically run from 9.30am-3.30pm.

Participation costs for all students are covered, including transport, food, refreshments and accommodation for the summer 2019 residential.

In addition to attending on-campus events, you’ll also take part in e-mentoring from January to July, where you will be paired with a student mentor currently studying a subject related to your chosen strand.

'I feel Reading Scholars widened my knowledge base in the art and design field, especially graphic design, and I made use of this knowledge in my Art AS level and in producing my portfolio and personal statement for university applications. Finally, it gave a feeling of what it is like to study a design course at university, which in turn helped inform my university choices.'

Ed (Art & Design)

ART & DESIGN
You will experience a range of forms of art and design, as well as undertaking sessions in the history of art. Your practical sessions may include print-making, photography, graphic design and clay modelling. You will have the chance to specialise in either art or design, and you will leave with material to include in your portfolio to give you an edge when making your university applications.

Subject requirements:
You should have an interest in applying for a related subject at university.

BIOLOGY
Working in university laboratories to carry out practical experiments as well as experiencing lectures, you will learn more about Biological techniques which have a real world relevance. You will also gain an insight into related fields such as Biomedical Engineering.

Subject requirements:
You should be studying towards an A-level in Biology or equivalent qualification, as well as have an interest in applying for a related subject at university.
You will participate in lectures, seminars and workshops, looking at literature from a range of authors and periods of history, exploring, analysing and critiquing these texts with the support of academics, mentors and fellow scholars.

You will choose to specialise in either French, German or Spanish for the duration of the programme, where you will experience practical language learning sessions designed to enhance your subject knowledge. You will also experience lectures to develop your understanding of the culture and history of nations using these languages.

You will undertake both practical sessions in our laboratories and lectures, covering each of these subject areas. This will give you a great insight into what studying each of these subjects at university would be like, as well as developing your knowledge to support you in your studies.

A mix of practical workshops and lectures, this strand will give you a thorough understanding of how these related subjects further our knowledge of the past. You will go on a journey through history, exploring different cultures and civilisations, spending time within each subject area.

ENGLISH LITERATURE

You will participate in lectures, seminars and workshops, looking at literature from a range of authors and periods of history, exploring, analysing and critiquing these texts with the support of academics, mentors and fellow scholars.

Subject requirements:
You should be studying towards an A-level in English Literature or equivalent qualification, as well as an interest in applying for a related subject at university.

HISTORY, CLASSICS & ARCHAEOLOGY

A mix of practical workshops and lectures, this strand will give you a thorough understanding of how these related subjects further our knowledge of the past. You will go on a journey through history, exploring different cultures and civilisations, spending time within each subject area.

Subject requirements:
You should be studying towards an A-level in History or equivalent qualification, as well as an interest in applying for a related subject at university.

LANGUAGES

You will choose to specialise in either French, German or Spanish for the duration of the programme, where you will experience practical language learning sessions designed to enhance your subject knowledge. You will also experience lectures to develop your understanding of the culture and history of nations using these languages.

Subject requirements:
You should be studying towards a A-level in French, German or Spanish or equivalent qualification, as well as an interest interest in applying for a related subject at university.

MATHEMATICS

You will participate in sessions designed to show you how mathematical techniques can be applied to the real world, gaining an insight into areas such as experimental design and mathematical modelling of the spread of disease.

Subject requirements:
You should be studying towards an A-level in Mathematics or equivalent qualification, as well as an interest in applying for a related subject at university.
Physcial Geography & Environmental Science

Are you interested in how the world around us? Do you wonder how we perceive the world around us? Whilst on the Psychology strand, you’ll explore the inner workings of the world’s most complex machine: the human brain.

Subject requirements:
You should be interested in applying for a related subject at university.

By experiencing both practical workshops and lectures, you will participate in sessions designed to develop your knowledge of the environment around us. You will experience sessions in both subject areas, designed to give you an insight into how you would experience these subjects at degree level.

Subject requirements:
You should be studying towards an A-level in Geography or equivalent qualification, as well as an interest in applying for a related subject at university.

‘Reading Scholars was an excellent way to make my university choice and think about what career I want to have. The organised events gave me loads of opportunities to meet people with similar interests and aspirations. This programme gave me the confidence in one of the most important decisions – in which field I want to extend my knowledge.’

Diana (Chemistry, Food Science & Pharmacy)

How do I apply?

To apply for this programme, you will need to:

- Meet the eligibility criteria specified below
- Gain consent from your school/college, and your parents/carer to participate in this programme
- Complete an application form available at: [www.reading.ac.uk/reading-scholars](http://www.reading.ac.uk/reading-scholars), specifying your first and seconds choice of strand
- Complete the online form, or send your application and supporting documents to us either via email: outreach@reading.ac.uk
- The closing date for applications is Friday 9 November 2018

Please note that we will accept photocopies of the application form.

Who can apply?

To be eligible for this programme, you will need to:

- Have achieved at least 5 A*-C GCSE grades or equivalent, including in English Language, Maths and Science.
- Be on track to achieve at least BBB at A-level (or equivalent). Students who are not at this level and would benefit from the additional support that the programme provides are also encouraged to apply.
- Be attending a state school or college.

We particularly welcome applications from students interested in studying at the University of Reading.

Due to the nature of funding for this programme, priority will be given to students who meet one or more of the following selection criteria:

- Is in or has been in care of local authority
- Asylum seeker/refugee
- Has a disability
- Eligible for Free School Meals/ Discretionary school payments.
- Family income of less than £25,000
- Lives in postcode where less students than average progress to higher education (POLAR 4 quintile 1 or 2)
- Black, Asian or Minority Ethnic
- No parental attendance at HE

What are the benefits?

By engaging in this programme, you will:

- Be supported in developing your academic ability.
- Learn new techniques and gain practical experience relevant to your chosen strand.
- Receive detailed information and guidance on higher education and the UCAS application process.
- Develop and strengthen the personal and social skills that will help you in higher education study.
- Meet new people with similar interests to yourself.
- Engage with current University of Reading students and learn what it really is like to study at a university.
- Participate in e-mentoring with a current student, via a secure and safe online platform.
- Get to take part in fun activities and a residential event in the summer.

Our commitment to you

We aim to provide:

- a safe and supportive environment for all participants
- Ongoing support after completion of the Scholars programme whilst you complete your university applications

We in turn expect our Reading Scholars students to:

- Attend all of the on-campus events
- Actively take part in e-mentoring (send a minimum of one message per week)
- Reply in a timely fashion to all correspondence from University of Reading staff
- Follow our Code of Conduct

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- Follow our Code of Conduct

If you complete the Reading Scholars programme and apply to University of Reading we guarantee to make you a conditional offer for your choice with UCAS are eligible to apply for a scholarship of £1000.

If you complete the Reading Scholars programme, apply to University of Reading and put us as your first choice, you will be eligible for a Two grade drop on your offer for most courses.

All Reading Scholars students who put University of Reading down as their firm choice with UCAS are eligible to apply for a £1000 Bursary in their first year.

Please note that we will accept photocopies of the application form.

The closing date for applications is Friday 9 November 2018.
IN THE TOP 200 UNIVERSITIES WORLDWIDE

94% OF GRADUATES IN WORK OR FURTHER STUDY SIX MONTHS AFTER GRADUATING\(^1\)

98% OF RESEARCH RATED OF INTERNATIONAL STANDING\(^3\)

£500m CAPITAL INVESTMENT IN TOP-CLASS TEACHING, RESEARCH AND STUDENT FACILITIES OVER THE LAST DECADE

Destinations of Leavers from Higher Education (DLHE), 2016

QS Worldwide University Rankings 2018

Research Excellence Framework 2014

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### READING SCHOLARS 2019

For more information, please contact:

**Global Recruitment UK**

University of Reading

LO27 London Road Campus

4 Redlands Road

Reading, RG1 5EX

E: outreach@reading.ac.uk

T: (0118) 378 3846

/f/theschoolofreading

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