READING SCHOLARS 2021
Year 12 Higher Education Experience
REAdING SCHOLARS 2021

Reading Scholars is a year long programme consisting of fourteen 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, 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 – online event.
- In February, an academic session within your chosen strand – online event.
- In March, a second academic session in your chosen strand – on-campus event.
- In July, a four 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 – on-campus event.
- In September of Yr13, we also run an optional UCAS application workshop.

Events will typically run from 9.30am-3.30pm.

You will participate in a project related to your strand, designed to prepare you for work you will undertake at university.

Participation costs for all students are covered, including transport, food, refreshments and accommodation for the summer 2020 residential. Because the first two events are online, you should have access to a computer and internet connection to enable your participation in these events.

You will be mentored throughout the programme by one of our current students. They will support you to participate in on-campus events, and will also provide e-mentoring between events.

Whilst the March and July events are currently planned to be on-campus, it may be the case that these need to be delivered online. Where this is the case, we will take all steps we can to reflect the same content but online. The benefits for completing the programme will remain the same.

‘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)

ARCHITECTURE
You will gain an insight into what being an Architecture student here at Reading is like, through a mixture of lectures, seminars and practical drawing workshops, designed to provide you with material to include in your portfolio. You will be able to visit the facilities available to Architecture students, and speak directly to academics and current Architecture students.

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

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.
BUSINESS
Finding out about the range of degrees offered through our business school, you will spend time in lectures and seminars covering subjects including business and management, accounting and finance.

Subject requirements:
Studying towards an A-level or equivalent in Maths is an advantage but not essential. You should have an interest in applying for a related subject at university.

CHEMISTRY, FOOD SCIENCE & PHARMACY
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.

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

EDUCATION
You will gain an insight into the different degrees available to students through the Institute of Education, including the BA in Primary Teaching (QTS), and the BA in Education Studies. You will experience how these courses are delivered, understand the role of placements as part of the course and how these are supported, and how specialists within our departments can give you an advantage in your post-university career.

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

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.

FILM, THEATRE AND TELEVISION
Experiencing the fantastic facilities available in the purpose-built Minghella Studio, you will experience practical and theoretical sessions designed to give you a rounded experience of the courses delivered by the Film, Theatre and Television Department. You will get to analyse and discuss films, performances and plays, as well as utilizing your own creativity to put together your own pieces of work and performances.

Subject requirements:
You should have 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:
It would be helpful, though not essential, if you are 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 an A-level in French, German or Spanish or equivalent qualification, as well as an interest in applying for a related subject at university.

LAW
You will get an introduction to how law is created and applied, particularly through decisions in difficult cases. You will spend time in lectures and seminars that look at a variety of interesting areas of law and show you how to think like a lawyer.

Subject requirements:
You should have an interest in applying for a related subject at university.
PSYCHOLOGY
Are you interested in how the human mind develops over a lifetime? Do you wonder how we experience and perceive the world around us? Y ou will investigate what we study Psychology at University level. You will, amongst other things, also hear sessions on 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.

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.

PHYSICAL GEOGRAPHY & ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE
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.

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.

‘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)
OVER 200 COURSES TO FIND OUT ABOUT

98% OF RESEARCH IS RATED OF INTERNATIONAL STANDING¹

94% OF GRADUATES IN WORK OR FURTHER STUDY SIX MONTHS AFTER GRADUATING²

ABOUT US

READING SCHOLARS 2021

For more information, please contact:

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