Bath Spa University and Access to Higher Education

Claire Edwards
Widening Participation Outreach Officer &

AN Other
Media Communications Student – Access background Bath College
About Bath Spa University

Over 160 years old. Historic campus with modern technology
7,500 Students
A university of choice for creativity, culture and enterprise
BATH SPA UNIVERSITY

- Small University
- Beautiful grounds
- Fantastic facilities
- Numerous extra curricular opportunities
- Based in a world heritage City
KEY STATISTICS

- 84% overall satisfaction (National Student Survey)
- 6th place for teaching quality (The Times and Sunday Times Good University Guide)
- 93% of Bath Spa graduates find themselves in work or further study after six months (HESA)
- Bath is ranked one of the safest student cities in the UK (The Complete University Guide)
- A top 5 Creative University (Which? University student survey)
CAMPUSES
Bath Spa University

• We are a teaching led university:
• Leading experts, passionate about their subjects
• Top 5 Creative University (Which? University student survey)
• Open door policy. Not just guidance and support from tutors but advice on practical issues, finances, disability support, emotional matters.
• 93% of Bath Spa University graduates are in work or further study within six months – higher than the national average.
• Most courses are part of a flexible modular scheme, allowing students a good deal of choice.
• Teacher education – Rated ‘Outstanding Community’, Caring ethos, welcoming and supportive, not just a student number.
• Strong sense of community on campus

‘BSU are very proactive in offering support and guidance from both an academic and personal perspective. They want you to achieve your potential and will guide and support you with what you need, from financial advice to how to write your first assignment.’
BATH SPA UNIVERSITY

Art and Design, Media and Film, Computing
Music and Performance, English and Writing
History, Heritage and Religion,
Social Sciences, Geographical Sciences, Nutrition
Education, Business and Management
Mature and Access Student Profile

- In 2013/14, 21% (390) of our Year 1 undergraduate intake were mature students (over 21) (HESA data).
- In 2013/14, 36% (75) of those on FdAs were mature students (over 21) (HESA data).
- Typically, around 95% of access applicants are given offers (internal data).
- In 2013/14, around 5% of our Year 1 entrants were Access students (internal data).
- In 2013/14, around 21% of our mature entrants were Access students (internal data).
- In terms of degree honours classification, in general, mature and access students do as well as, if not better than traditional students, while mature Access students do better than mature students without an Access qualification (internal data).
Steps into Higher Education

What do you want to study?

• Understand the subject and content of the course
• Combination courses

Where do you want to study?

• Traditional research focused • Modern teaching focused • Institution with diverse student body including access and mature students • Bursaries • Campus • home or away • Travel

How would you like to study?

• Full-time • part-time • work-based • distance, sandwich courses
• How will the course fit in with work, childcare and/or other commitments?
Research

UCAS course finder • prospectuses • HEI websites • college careers advisors • access tutors • Key Information Sets Data • What does the institution offer e.g. employment links • Facilities • Which way do you learn best, practical, visual, creative?
IT IS STRONGLY RECOMMENDED THAT YOU ATTEND OPEN DAYS

Bath Spa University Open Day dates (All subjects both campuses)

Saturday 11\textsuperscript{th} June
Saturday 15\textsuperscript{th} October
Saturday 29\textsuperscript{th} October
Saturday 12\textsuperscript{th} November
Saturday 26\textsuperscript{th} November

Sion Hill Campus (Art and Design subjects)
Wednesday 7\textsuperscript{th} December

(Book your place on-line for all open days)
Don’t panic!
Common fears

- Fitting all the workload into an already hectic life
- Managing assignment deadlines
- Failure
- Not choosing the right course
- That I won’t be able to keep up with course demands
- Not integrating with other students
- Commuting
- I haven’t got the skills required
Top tips from current mature students at Bath Spa

- You are not alone
- Make the most of the services available
- Don't worry, you are smart enough to be here!
- Don't feel guilty
- Essays – you can start these early, you don’t have to wait
- Make use of induction week
- Set achievable goals. When you meet them it feels good!
- Timetables! A lot of people have concerns. The university if they can will try and be flexible where possible
- Grab as many opportunities as possible, there are lots at university!
PROFESSIONAL SERVICES

- Admissions and Administration
- Student Housing
- Student Support, Disability Support, Well-being and Money Advice
- Careers and Employability
- University Medical Service
Access and Mature Student Support

- Mature/Access student information point on Open days
- Welcome Week
- Peer mentor scheme
- Writing and Learning Centre
- Student’s Union Academic - mature student rep, course reps, Activities and Opportunities
Return to Learning

Pre-entry summer school

‘This event settled many of my concerns; leaving me enthusiastic, motivated and self-assured about my ability to succeed at University’

'The Brainbox coaching was excellent'

'Study Skills workshop was hugely beneficial'

'really helped settle nerves and anxieties'
Education Courses

3+1 courses

- Education (Primary Teaching Pathway) BA (Hons) + PGCE
- Early Years Education (Primary Teaching Pathway) BA (Hons)+PGCE
- International Education (Primary Teaching Pathway) BA (Hons) +PGCE

Ideal if you intend to qualify as a primary school teacher. Known as 3+1 courses.

Combinations

Possible to combine Education with another subject in our modular programme to achieve a join honours degree for example History or Psychology

Modules

Education courses share common core and compulsory modules. Sample modules in the past have included Year 1 Education for change, Introduction to primary schools,
Year 2 Understanding classrooms, issues in education studies. ***Please note modules are subject to change***

Ensure you have used the correct course code!

Course handbooks are online
This route into teaching is very flexible – you won’t have to take your place on the PGCE if you change your mind in three years time.

- At the time of application you must have met the other requirements for teacher training (currently GCSEs or equivalent Grade C or above in English language, mathematics and science).

- There is no interview for admission to the 3+1, but your personal statement must indicate clearly at least two weeks of recent experience of observing or working in a primary school. In your personal statement you need to write about this experience and discuss what you have learned from it, and also discuss why you are applying for a degree in Education Studies.

- You will be required to complete a new Criminal Records Bureau Enhanced Application through Bath Spa University.

- Ensure you apply using the relevant code for the specialised award, rather than the non-specialised three-year option.

- 60 credits including 45 at level 3, 30 of which should be at least at Merit.

- Before you can go onto the PCGE in year 4 you will still need to pass the literacy and numeracy skills test. For more information, education.gov
Entry requirements

**Foundation Degrees**
60 credits including 45 at level 3

**BA/BSc (standard courses)**
60 credits including 45 at level 3, **15 of which should be at least at Merit**

**BA/BSc (premium/ most competitive courses)**
60 credits including 45 at level 3, **30 of which should be at least at Merit**

Creative Arts, English Literature, Creative Media Practice, Creative Music Technology, Creative Writing, Drama, Film and Television Production, Acting, Education Specialized Award (3+1), Psychology

**INCLUDING** Combined Awards containing these subjects

Certain courses of study may require specific subject content at level 3 eg. English Literature, check with admissions

Some courses can require audition:
Dance, Performing Arts, Music, Commercial Music

Some courses can require interview:
Creative Music Technology, all art courses, Theatre Production, Publishing

Some courses will require experience:
Education 3+1, FD Teaching Assistants
You can apply for part-time study for most of our courses

**IMPORTANT – PLEASE CHECK UCAS FOR LATEST INFORMATION ON COURSES THAT WILL BE RUNNING IN 2017/18**
Hopes

Bear in mind what you want to achieve. The Access course will take you one step closer

Study abroad options
Better career options
To be creative
Personal growth
New friends, like minded people
Self fulfilment
Confidence
DIFFERENT THINKING