

Schools and Colleges update

Spring 2015

Extended project qualification

The University of Birmingham has reviewed its position on the Extended Project Qualification (EPQ) and for 2016 entry we will be including the EPQ in our offers where students are taking this in addition to their A levels*.

Applicants who offer the EPQ and meet our offer criteria will be made the standard offer for their programme of choice and an alternative offer which will be one grade lower plus a grade A in the EPQ. For example where our standard offer is AAA, the offer would be AAA or AAB plus A in the EPQ.

We believe that this recognises the importance of independent learning and the value of this qualification as preparation for Higher Education.

* with the exception of our Medicine (A100) and Dentistry (A200) programmes

For more information please see our website www.birmingham.ac.uk/undergraduate/requirements/index.aspx

ON TRACK FOR OPEN DAYS 2015



Registration is now open for students interested in visiting the University; our open day dates are:

- ❑ Friday 26 June 9.00am–4.00pm
- ❑ Saturday 27 June 9.00am–4.00pm
- ❑ Saturday 12 September 9.00am–4.00pm
- ❑ Saturday 17 October 9.00am–4.00pm

Our undergraduate open days give students the perfect opportunity to hear first-hand from our current students and teaching staff about living and learning at Birmingham. To book to attend one of our open days please visit www.birmingham.ac.uk/opendays

Further information is also available from this link and a programme of activities for our June open days is now available here.

Students can plan their day using the Open Day mobile app; they can create a personal schedule of events by downloading our FREE interactive mobile application from the iPhone App Store, iTunes or Play stores (search UoBopenday), or visit www.birmingham.ac.uk/contact/app-store.aspx available to download from 1 June 2015.

RGS-IBG's Geography Ambassador Scheme

University of Birmingham students have recently been trained as Geography Ambassadors as part of the Royal Geographical Society (with IBG)'s scheme. This is a nationwide programme through which our undergraduate and postgraduates are trained to support by running engaging and interactive sessions on geography for your class-groups. These sessions are provided free for schools.

These Geography Ambassador sessions are a way of exploring the value of geography to further study at GCSE, A Level, university and careers, and draw particularly on our students' passion for

geography and experience of applying to and attending university. The Ambassadors are well prepared to discuss these aspects with your pupils. Ambassadors can also support careers and options evenings and become involved in a wider range of activities in your school such as supporting fieldwork.

If you would like any further information about the Geography Ambassador programme or to book a session for your school, please email Simon Faulkner, the Coordinator for the Ambassadors programme at the RGS-IBG via s.faulkner@rgs.org. www.rgs.org/Ambassadors



Clearing and adjustment

As the exam period nears completion we are busy putting in place plans to ensure that both students and teachers are supported throughout adjustment and clearing, which can be an anxious and stressful time. This includes:

- Providing advice on options available to students
- Making decisions on near-miss candidates as quickly as possible
- Clearing and Adjustment Hotlines from 8.00am on Thursday 13 August
- Publication of any courses able to admit students through Adjustment and Clearing
- Adjustment and Clearing Open Days on Friday 14 and Saturday 15 August, giving students considering taking up an adjustment or clearing offer the opportunity to visit the University

We will keep Teachers and Careers Advisors fully updated of our plans through our e-newsletters. If you are not currently receiving these and would like to, please contact schools-liaison@bham.ac.uk

Student Recruitment services

The Student Recruitment team travel the country visiting schools presenting on a wide range of topics about all aspects of higher education. Our services are in high demand with over 200 school visits taking place in the last academic year, and therefore booking early is highly advised.

If you would like to book one of our higher education experts to come and visit your school during the 2015/16 academic year or would like more information about the rest of our services or if you would like to book, please contact schools-liaison@bham.ac.uk

Vice-Chancellor's Distinguished Lecture Series:

What Produces Democracy?

Professor Geoff Eley

On Wednesday 1 July, 6pm the University of Birmingham holds a keynote lecture delivered by Professor Geoff Eley entitled: 'What Produces Democracy? Revolutionary Crises, Popular Politics and Democratic Gains in Twentieth-Century Europe'.

Geoff Eley is the Karl Pohrt Distinguished University Professor of Contemporary History, as well as being a faculty member of the German department at the University of Michigan. He is an internationally renowned scholar with broad research interests including German and British history, global history, the European left, nations and nationalism, citizenship, social theory and the relationship of history to theory and the social sciences.

This lecture forms part of the 'Vice-Chancellor's Distinguished lecture series' which aims to reflect on the major social, cultural, and policy issues of our time.



Professor Eley will be at the University as part of the Institute of Advanced Studies Distinguished Visiting Fellowship Scheme: www.birmingham.ac.uk/research/activity/ias/index.aspx

Please register for this event at: www.birmingham.ac.uk/events/lectures/Geoff-Eley.aspx Registration is essential; this is not a ticketed event.

Reasons to celebrate nursing

The BNurs Nursing programme at the University of Birmingham is revelling in its latest successes.

The Complete University Guide ranked the University of Birmingham 3rd in the UK for nursing in its recently 2016 published league tables. The programme is distinctive in that in Year 1 it provides students with the experience of nursing in Adult, Mental Health and Child and Public Health clinical settings, before students express a preference about which of those fields of nursing practice they wish to study in years 2 and 3.

Following on from that success, current student Samantha Lunn was named as Student Nurse of the Year in the Children's category at the Student Nursing Times Awards on 7 May.



Find out more about our BNurs Nursing programme: www.birmingham.ac.uk/bnursnursing