

What is The Russell Group?

The Russell Group is a catch-all term for a group of universities with a shared focus on research and a reputation for academic achievement. The group includes the original six [red brick universities](#), with its member universities usually spotted near the top of the university league tables.

There aren't any specifically different [entry requirements](#) for a Russell Group. Universities and courses all have their own entry requirements. But given their strong reputation, it makes sense that the entry requirements are likely to be high.

You can find a course's entry requirements here on The Uni Guide [by searching now](#).

Some universities choose not to be part of any group – and this shouldn't be viewed negatively.

History of the Russell Group

The origins of the Russell Group go back to 1994, with 17 original members setting out to ensure that their interests were represented to government. The heads of these universities would meet informally in the Hotel Russell in London, which is where the name came from.

New universities have been added along the way, with the group becoming an official, incorporated organisation in 2007.

List of Russell Group universities

There are currently 24 universities belonging to the Russell Group:

- [University of Birmingham](#)
- [University of Bristol](#)
- [University of Cambridge](#)
- [Cardiff University](#)
- [Durham University](#)
- [University of Edinburgh](#)
- [University of Exeter](#)
- [University of Glasgow](#)
- [Imperial College London](#)
- [King's College London](#)
- [University of Leeds](#)
- [University of Liverpool](#)
- [London School of Economics & Political Science](#)
- [University of Manchester](#)
- [Newcastle University](#)
- [University of Nottingham](#)
- [University of Oxford](#)
- [Queen Mary, University of London](#)
- [Queen's University Belfast](#)
- [University of Sheffield](#)
- [University of Southampton](#)
- [University College London](#)
- [University of Warwick](#)
- [University of York](#)

<https://www.informedchoices.ac.uk/>

The screenshot shows the homepage of the Informed Choices website. At the top, the Russell Group logo and 'Informed Choices' text are visible. Below this is a navigation bar with various links. The main content area features a teal background with a group of diverse students at the bottom. Two large circles are overlaid on the image: a purple circle on the left containing the text 'I don't know what degree I would like to study' and a pink circle on the right containing 'I know what degree I want to study'. A large green arrow points from the bottom left towards the purple circle. The browser's address bar shows 'informedchoices.ac.uk' and the Windows taskbar is visible at the bottom.

1. If you **DON'T** know what degree to study and **KNOW** what A levels you are considering

The screenshot shows a web browser window with the URL informedchoices.ac.uk/which-degree. The page content includes a list of subject categories, each with a right-pointing arrow:

- Science and maths
- Social sciences (the study of society and relationships)
- Creative arts
- Humanities (the study of human culture)
- Languages

Below the list, there is a paragraph of text:

At university you can study languages from around the world, from French, German or Spanish, to Russian and Japanese. There are also opportunities to study a language alongside a second subject as part of a joint honours degree.

Some courses will require you to have experience of that particular language. For others, experience studying a different language may be enough and you may be able to start a new language from scratch. Joint language degrees (such as French and Spanish, for example) do not always require you to have studied both before you get to university. Check the subject requirements for individual courses carefully.

At the bottom of the page, there is a purple button with the text "Now choose your subjects".

2. Expand the boxes to find out a brief summary of that subject.
3. Now click on 'Now choose your subjects' at bottom.

Subjects you could take

Choose at least three subjects to study at sixth form or college to find out which university courses could be open to you. If you're not sure what you want to take yet, start with the subjects you enjoy and are good at.

Russell Group universities accept a wide range of qualifications. If you're not taking A Levels, find out more about other **qualifications** or read our **FAQs**.

Please remember Informed Choices is only a general guide. You should check individual universities' websites or prospectuses for their specific requirements.

Information about degree courses and universities can be found on the **UCAS website**.

4. Click on **AT LEAST THREE** subjects



Accounting	Ancient History	Arabic	Archaeology	Art & Design *	Bengali	Biblical Hebrew
Classical Greek	Computing / Computer Science	Critical Thinking	Dance	Design Technology **	Drama & Theatre Studies	Dutch
English Literature	Environmental Science	Food Technology	French	Further Mathematics	General Studies	Geography
History	History of Art	ICT	Italian	Japanese	Latin	Law
Music	Music Technology	Performing Arts	Persian	Philosophy	Physics	Polish

5. Then click 'Next' at the bottom right

Next >

Degrees you could take

Universities each offer hundreds of different degree courses. Below are some of the most common subject areas.

Click on the tiles to find out more.

Russell Group universities accept a wide range of qualifications. If you're not taking A Levels, find out more about other [qualifications](#) or read our [FAQs](#).

Please remember **Informed Choices** is only a guide, so check **individual university websites** for specific entry requirements.



Download your results

Share

7. You can also download or share your results

6. It then shows you what degrees may be available to you based upon your subject choice

Based on one or more of the subjects you've chosen, these degrees may be open to you

Anthropology	Archaeology	Architecture	Art and design	Biochemistry	Business Studies	Childhood Studies	Chinese languages	Classical Studies	Drama	Education / Education Studies
Environmental Science / Studies	Geography	Geology/Earth Sciences	History of Art	Law	Linguistics	Management Studies	Marketing	Media Studies	Nursing and Midwifery	Occupational Therapy
Optometry	Orthoptics	Philosophy	Planning	Politics	Psychology	Religious studies / Theology	Social policy	Sociology	Speech Therapy	Sports Science / Physical Education

<https://www.informedchoices.ac.uk/>

The screenshot shows a web browser window with the URL <https://www.informedchoices.ac.uk/>. The page header includes the Russell Group logo and the text "Informed Choices". The main banner features the text: "What you study at sixth form or college can affect your options at university and your future career. Use Informed Choices to help you understand which subjects open up different degrees, particularly at Russell Group universities." Below this text are two circular buttons: a purple one on the left with the text "I don't know what degree I would like to study" and a red one on the right with the text "I know what degree I want to study". A large green arrow points from the purple button to the red button. The background of the banner shows a group of diverse students looking at a laptop. The browser's taskbar at the bottom shows various application icons and the system clock displaying 09:15 on 12/10/2020.

8. If you **KNOW** what degree to study and **DON'T KNOW** what A levels you are considering

What degree do you want to study?

Click on a degree below to find out what subjects you may need to study at school or college.

This is not an exhaustive list of degrees and many universities will offer more options, such as joint honours, which means studying two subjects as one degree.

Informed Choices is only a guide, so please check individual universities' websites for detailed requirements. Before starting, you should read our terms of use.

More information on degree courses and universities can be found on the [UCAS website](#).



Accountancy	Actuarial Science	Aerospace Engineering	American Studies	Anthropology	Applied Mathematics	Archaeology	Architecture	Art and design	Biochemistry	Biology	Biomedical Sciences
Business Studies	Chemical Engineering	Chemistry	Childhood Studies	Clinical Languages	Civil Engineering	Classical Studies	Computer Science	Dentistry	Drama	Economics	Education / Education Studies
Electrical / Electronic Engineering	Engineering (General)	English	Environmental Science / Studies	European Studies	Finance	Food and Nutrition Studies/Science	French	Geography	Geology/Earth Science	German	History
History of Art	Italian	Japanese	Law	Linguistics	Management Studies	Marketing	Molecular Science	Mathematics	Mechanical Engineering	Media Studies	Medicine
Music	Nursing and Midwifery	Occupational Therapy	Optometry	Orthoptics	Pharmacology	Physics	Physiotherapy	Planning	Politics	Portuguese	



9. Click on a degree you are considering

Geology/Earth Sciences

This is the study of how the earth was formed and shaped over time and has applications in environmental research, oil and gas exploration, the water industries, mapping and remote sensing and engineering.

10. You can also download or share your results

Download your results

Share

11. At the bottom it will tell you which A Level subjects you will usually need

Any two of these subjects are usually essential

Biology

Chemistry

Economics

Further
Mathematics

Geography

Geology

Mathematics

Physics

Psychology