

# The Higher Ideas challenge



Higher Ideas helps students to find answers to their questions about higher education courses. Sounds simple? With Higher Ideas, it is. But with other programs, books, and web sites, it can be surprisingly difficult.

Listed below are ten example questions that a student might ask, with brief notes about how to find the answer using Higher Ideas. In each case the instructions assume you are starting from the Higher Ideas main menu page.

Contact Careersoft if you would like a demonstration version of Higher Ideas. Or watch the Higher Ideas challenge video at [www.careersoft.co.uk/challenge](http://www.careersoft.co.uk/challenge)

The Higher Ideas challenge is to answer these simple questions using Higher Ideas, and then to try to answer them using any other resources that your students may have access to. See if Higher Ideas really does make it much easier for your students to get answers to their higher education questions.

- 1. I'm doing 2 A-levels: ICT, and graphic design. I'm enjoying them, and I think that I may go on to university. Problem is, I don't know what courses I might do there. What courses would be good to look at?**

Click on the *A-level* icon (or other qualification type as applicable) and you'll get taken to a list of subjects. Tick the ones that you are interested in, and then click on *Search*. Higher Ideas suggests some degree-level study areas for you to look at, related to the subjects you chose. Click on a study area to find out more about it and see what degree-level courses are offered.

(Or if you are on some track other than A-levels, then try that instead. Try International Baccalaureate *Islamic history* and *social and cultural anthropology*, or BTEC *interactive media*.)

- 2. I want to do Biology at a university in the north of England. What universities can I go to?**

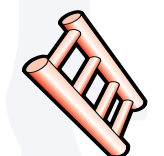
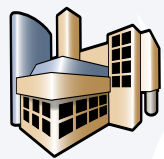
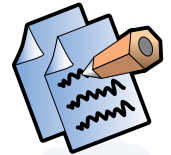
Click on the *Study areas* icon in the indexes area at the bottom left of the main menu page. Choose *Scientific* from the list on the left of the page, and then *Biology* from the list on the right of the page. Now in the biology study area, click on the *Courses* tab, and then click on the yellow map of the UK to exclude all the areas you are not interested in. The courses list will adjust to show only those courses that are in the areas you want.

- 3. I might do physics at university – perhaps on its own, or more likely in combination with some other subject. What other subjects could I combine it with?**

Click on the *Study areas* icon in the indexes area at the bottom left of the main menu page. Choose *Scientific* from the list on the left of the page, and then *Physics* from the list on the right of the page. Now in the physics study area, click on the *Combinations* tab to see all the 'physics and...' combinations available.

- 4. What degree-level drama courses are there? And I mean courses that are about drama, not just courses that have 'drama' in the title.**

Click on the *Study areas* icon in the indexes area at the bottom left of the main menu page. Choose *Performing arts* from the list on the left of the page, and then *Drama* from the list on the right of the page. Now in the drama study area, click on the *Courses* tab to see all the drama courses. Note that quite a lot of drama courses don't have the word 'drama' in their title. Higher Ideas knows which courses are about drama, even if they do not have the word 'drama' in their title.



Continued overleaf

- 5. I'm thinking about a career as an ecologist. I know there are some ecology courses around, but are there any other courses that I might look at if thinking about being an ecologist?**

Click on the *Careers* link, and then choose the *Science, mathematics and statistics* category, and then choose *Ecologist* from the list. Higher Ideas shows a list of suggested study areas to consider if thinking of a career as an ecologist.

- 6. I want to go to university but I haven't got any ideas for what to study there. The two things that I really enjoy are writing and sport – is there anything I could do that connects with those interests?**

Click on the *Ideas generator* icon. Tick *Writing* and *Sport* on the list of interests, and then click on the *Search* button. Higher Ideas suggests higher education study areas that could be of interest to you. Click on any item on the list to find out more about it, including a list of courses to consider.

- 7. A friend of mine is thinking about doing 'Cognitive science' at university. What is 'Cognitive science', and what do you do on a cognitive science course?**

Click on the *Study areas* link in the indexes area at the bottom left of the main menu page. Enter the first few letters ('cog') in the search box, and click on the *Search* button or hit the keyboard enter key. Click on *Cognitive science* from the list on the right of the page. The *Description* tab of the cognitive science study area tells you what it is and what you might do on a course.

- 8. I was thinking of doing course C200 at Edinburgh, but I think that this may be a 4 year course. Is it, and if so, what other courses are there like it but shorter?**

Click on the *Courses* icon in the indexes area at the bottom of the main menu page. On the course index page, type 'C200' into the top box and 'edin' (first few letters of 'Edinburgh') in the bottom box, and then click on the *Search* button. The search results list shows the name and duration of this course. Click on the 'i' circle to the left of the course name. This takes you to the course details. Look for the name of the study area this course belongs to and click on it. When you go to the study area, you can use the study area *Courses* tab to find other courses like this one.

- 9. Lots of the agriculture courses I am interested in are done at Harper Adams University College – can you show me where it is on a map?**

Click on the *Institutions* link in the indexes area at the bottom of the main menu page. Type 'harper' into the search box, and then click on the *Search* button. The search results list shows 'Harper Adams University College' – click on that link. This takes you to a page with the address of the institution, and on the right of the page is a yellow map of the UK with a red dot showing where it is.

- 10. I'm in KS4 and choosing my A-levels this term. After my A-levels, I'll probably go to university, perhaps to study pharmacology. What A-levels do I need to choose if I want to keep this option open?**

Click on the *Study areas* link in the indexes area at the bottom left of the main menu page. Type 'pharm' (first few letters of 'pharmacology') into the search box, and click on *Search*. Choose 'pharmacology' from the list, to go to the pharmacology study area. Now in the pharmacology study area, choose the *Qualifications* tab to see what A-levels you are likely to need to get onto a course in pharmacology.

Contact Careersoft today for your Higher Ideas evaluation copy and ordering information, and start helping your students to find the answers that they need.