SO, WHAT’S UNIVERSITY REALLY LIKE?

2017/18 Taster Weeks

City Outreach

www.city.ac.uk
Hello!

Want to find out what life at university is really like?

The Widening Participation Outreach team is uniquely placed to help you to make well informed, realistic decisions about your future. Through our in-depth knowledge of higher education, career routes and insight into industry, we are able to help you develop the skills, knowledge and grades you need to fulfil your potential.

This guide outlines our subject-specific University Taster Weeks. These events offer you a fantastic opportunity to experience university life for an entire week by taking part in a range of exciting and engaging activities. These weeks are designed to give you a better understanding of what it is like to be a university student. The Taster Weeks balance academic lectures, seminars and workshops with social activities and provides you with an opportunity to meet current staff and students.

Take a look at what’s on offer. We look forward to seeing you at City soon!
University Taster Week

Who will lead the University Taster Weeks?
Your Taster Week at City will be delivered by academic staff at the University, students and external staff. Undergraduate students will act as ambassadors during the week and will guide you through the activities. This means that you will have a great opportunity to quiz them on their university experience and to find out first-hand what life is like at university. All of the staff you will work with are trained in working with young people and they are DBS cleared.

Do I need to have perfect grades to attend?
To be offered a place on one of our weeks you need to be predicted five GCSEs at grades 6 to 9 (previously A* to B). Your teacher has given you this prospectus because they think you have the potential to go to university. As well as good grades, you also need to meet one of the following criteria in order to attend:
• Neither of your parents attended university, or
• You receive free school meals at school, or
• You come from a social group that is currently under-represented in higher education, for example, if you are a student with disabilities or if you are in care.

What do I have to pay?
Nothing – the programme is completely free! We provide refreshments and lunch free of charge each day and we will even reimburse you for your travel costs – just save your travel receipts. You will need to make your own way to and from the University each day.

Do I have to apply to City, University of London if I attend a University Taster Week?
Not at all! Our team works to encourage students to think about higher education generally, not just higher education at City.

Sign me up! How do I apply?
You can apply online by visiting https://forms.city.ac.uk/forms/69769. Take your time completing the application form and make sure that a parent/carer is with you because they will need to complete part of the form too.

When is the deadline for applications?
You need to have your completed application to us by 19th January 2018 for the Year 9 and 10 University Taster Weeks. The deadline for our Year 12 University Taster Weeks is 23rd March 2017.

What if I have to cancel?
If you realise that you are unable to attend the programme, please let us know as soon as possible. We ask that you do this at least 14 days prior to the event.

Tracking Students
City, University of London is, along with over 70 other UK Universities, a member of the Higher Education Access Tracker (HEAT). The HEAT tracking database measures the impact of our programmes by linking participant data to student outcomes. Allowing us to explore in detail the relationship between outreach participation and student success.

All data collected is processed and stored in accordance with the Data Protection Act 1998 and City, University of London’s Data Protection Policy.
To find out more, visit www.heat.ac.uk.

Where can I find out more?
Contact Sharmin Kamaly
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London, EC1V 0HB
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What is a University Taster Week?
Our University Taster Weeks give you the chance to take part in lectures, group discussions and practical work as if you were a university student. We offer a variety of Taster Week subjects. You can select your favourite on the application form. Our Taster Weeks give you a chance to see what university life is like and develop some key skills along the way.

The Taster Week programme runs from February to July.

So, it’s like attending university for a few days. Will it be difficult?
The material we cover should stretch you; however, we know you are a bit younger than our typical university student so the activities are set at an appropriate level. You’ll experience a different way of learning as well, since university is very different to being at school.

We also offer extra activities, including careers workshops, information sessions on financing university study and applying to university, social events and field trips.
Where is City, University of London and how do I get there?

City’s main campus is on Northampton Square in Islington. Our nearest London Underground stations are Angel (Northern Line) and Farringdon (Circle Line; Hammersmith & City Lines; National Rail Services). Both of these stations are a ten-minute walk from City.

There are also several bus routes that run by Northampton Square. Please check the Transport for London website (www.tfl.gov) for routes and timetables.

How long has City been around?

Quite a while! City was established in 1894 as the Northampton Institute, but our Law School and School of Health Sciences are even older, dating back to 1852 and 1877. Some of the earliest degrees City offered included Mechanical Engineering, Electro-Chemistry and Horology (the art and science of measuring time).

In 1908, when London hosted the Olympic Games for the first time, City’s Great Hall played host to the boxing competition, in which Great Britain won 14 of the 15 medals awarded. When the First World War broke out a few years later, City’s academics and students played their part, using their expertise to produce munitions and telegraph sets, and helping wounded ex-servicemen retrain and find employment.

After the Second World War, City began to expand, offering a wider range of courses (including Optometry and Computing) and welcoming more students and academic staff.

In 1966, City was granted a Royal Charter to become a University. The same year, the Lord Mayor of London was appointed as the Chancellor of the University. This relationship continues today and as the Lord Mayor of London changes every year, this makes City, University of London quite unique!

Some of the highlights in City’s history over the last fifty years include a visit in 1971 from the Astronauts of Apollo 15, the establishment of the Department of Journalism in 1976 (City is now renowned as one of the leading UK centres for studying Journalism), and the establishment of the Cass Business School in 2001.

What is the University like?

City, like many universities in London, is very diverse: students come to study here from all over the country and from all over the world. At last count, we had students from over 150 countries and academic staff from over 50 countries! One of the highlights of life at City for many of our students is the opportunity to meet people from different cultures and backgrounds.

From its beginnings as the Northampton Institute, City has been well known for its ability to prepare students for successful careers. We have close links with business and the professions, so many of our students spend a year of their degree working full time on a professional placement. Once they graduate, these students are more successful in securing employment. While studying for their degrees, students learn key skills that will help them succeed in their professional lives.

Research at City is also very important; many of our academics are undertaking research that is changing our world. For example, Professor Jo Wood of the School of Informatics is working with Transport for London to study how people use the city’s Bicycle Hire Scheme. He has has created a videographic to show the routes of over five million journeys in under two minutes. In the School of Arts & Social Sciences, academic staff working in the field of food policy explore how we can make food production more sustainable and what we can do to curb childhood obesity.

The University’s facilities include a state-of-the-art broadcasting studio, where our Journalism students develop their skills and prepare their final projects; a simulated nursing ward, where students from the School of Health Sciences prepare for their clinical placements; and extensive Engineering laboratories. In 2015, we also opened a new Sports Centre close to our main campus.
Year 10 Psychology University Taster Week

Have you ever wondered why people behave the way they do?

During this week you will take part in interactive workshops and group challenges, learning about cognitive, abnormal and social psychology trying to work out why we all think differently.

You will find out about famous psychology experiments, learn how to maximise your memory, find out more about psychological disorders and how to treat them, as well as studying optical illusions and what they tell us about the brain.

You will also have the chance to design your own experiments, work with clinical and occupational psychologists to find out more about the work they do and put theory into practice by analysing people’s behaviour and creating patient treatment plans.

Who is it for? Year 10 students interested in finding out more about psychology.

When is it happening? This is a five day programme which runs from 19th – 23rd February 2018, from 10am to 3.30pm

And where? City’s Northampton Square campus

How many places are available? 30

How should I apply? Turn to page 5 for details on how to apply.

“I think the Psychology Taster Week was great and I really enjoyed my time here. It was educational and fun at the same time. I gained a lot of information about how human beings act the way they do. I learnt all about what psychology is about.”

“I learnt how optical illusions affect our eyes and brain.”

Year 10 Business and Enterprise University Taster Week

Who wants to be the next Lord Sugar?

This fast-paced course will give you a taste of what it is like to study business by taking part in group challenges and attending workshops delivered by academics and business experts.

After attending sales, marketing and PR workshops delivered by a star from the hit TV show “The Apprentice”, you will develop a business concept and use what you just learned to turn this idea into a profitable business. You will also learn about stocks and shares and play an interactive trading game where you will take on the role of a stockbroker. In addition, you will visit a business where there will be the chance to interview employees about their roles. At the end of the week, you will put your entrepreneurial skills to the test by designing and pitching an innovative business idea to a panel of judges.

Who is it for? Year 10 students interested in finding out more about business.

When is it happening? This is a five day programme which runs from 5th – 9th March 2018, from 10am to 3.30pm

And where? City’s Northampton Square campus

How many places are available? 30

How should I apply? Turn to page 5 for details on how to apply.

“I loved the University Taster Week and it has encouraged me to take up business in my studies: it’s my thing!”

“I enjoyed meeting successful people from the industry.”
"In addition to learning more about the many types of engineering, I developed life skills such as teamwork, problem-solving, listening and leadership."

"We found out a lot of interesting subjects about decoding, cryptology and its history."

"I think the gamelan was interesting, as I learnt the music of another culture. I enjoyed playing the gong."

"The drumming workshop was great fun and those running it were brilliant. I also thought the music technology workshop at LSO was amazing and look forward to getting my CD."

Year 10 STEM University Taster Week

Do you want to discover more about STEM?

Come along to this Taster Week to get an overview of the four key areas: science, technology, engineering and maths. You will be involved in group challenges, take part in workshops and classroom-based activities to really get you thinking. These will be led by academics from City, postgraduate students and industry experts.

You will experience a flight simulator and formula one car with a chance to work in one of our labs to find out about a range of engineering sectors including aeronautical, automotive, mechanical, electrical and civil engineering. You will create your own games using coding, solve maths problems with our professors and explore the sciences.

Who is it for? Year 10 students interested in finding out more about how science and maths relate to engineering.

When is it happening? This is a five day programme which runs from 12th – 16th March 2018, from 10am to 3.30pm

And where? City’s Northampton Square campus

How many places are available? 30

How should I apply? Turn to page 5 for details on how to apply.

Year 10 Music University Taster Week

Interested in the music industry?

Take advantage of this unique opportunity to experience studying music at both City, University of London and with the London Symphony Orchestra. This fun and fast paced course incorporates workshops delivered by university academics, record company representatives and musicians from the London Symphony Orchestra.

Workshops include creating your own music video, trying your hand at gamelan and African drumming, becoming a DJ, as well as creating your very own music track after a music technology taster session at the London Symphony Orchestra. These tracks will be showcased to the public at the end of the week at a live music event which you will be responsible for organising.

There will also be workshops on writing music for films, as well as an opportunity to see a musical in the West End to see how music is used in large-scale theatrical productions.

Who is it for? Year 10 students who would like to find out more about music at university.

When is it happening? This is a five day programme which runs from 16th – 20th April 2018, from 10am to 3.30pm

And where? City’s Northampton Square campus

How many places are available? 30

How should I apply? Turn to page 5 for details on how to apply.
The Pathways to the Professions University Taster Week will give you a taste of what it is like to study a variety of different subjects at university. You will take part in interactive workshops full of group challenges including:

- Finance: take part in an interactive trading game and learn about investment
- Law: think and act as lawyers making judgements on criminal cases in a mock trial scenario
- Business: use business strategies to turn your ideas into a profitable business
- Psychology: work with a clinical psychologist to figure out why clients are behaving in a particular way and learn more about how the brain processes optical illusions
- Engineering: build bridges to a specification, program traffic lights and create and race electric buggies
- Journalism: interview people to create your own newspaper article, blog or radio show.

Activities will also be offered in computing and health.

Who is it for? Year 9 students who would like to experience lots of different university subjects.

When is it happening? This is a five day programme which runs from 4th – 8th June 2018, from 10am to 3.30pm

And where? City’s Northampton Square campus

How many places are available? 30

How should I apply? Turn to page 5 for details on how to apply.

Year 9 Pathways to the Professions University Taster Week

Not sure what your options are or where your interests lie?

If you are interested in the social sciences and want to explore international politics, sociology, journalism or psychology, this is the taster week for you. Academic staff will deliver lectures and workshops to provide an overview of what these subject areas entail at university and in the world of work.

You will conduct research like real social scientists, explore how the mind works and you will have a chance to be a journalist, working with experts who currently teach at City or work in companies like the BBC.

Who is it for? Year 10 students interested in the social sciences.

When is it happening? This is a five day programme which runs from 30th April – 4th May 2018, from 10am to 3.30pm

And where? City’s Northampton Square campus

How many places are available? 30

How should I apply? Turn to page 5 for details on how to apply.

Year 10 Social Science University Taster Week

Have you ever wondered how society functions?

The tasks were really fun and gave me a chance to express myself freely.”

“I always wanted to go to university but was unsure of what to expect. Now I am more determined to go.”

“Attending the university was one of the best decisions I feel I’ve made and now know more than I ever did about university.”

“I learnt how to interview someone without feeling nervous and how to be a TV presenter in the interactive studio.”

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And where? City’s Northampton Square campus

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I learnt how to interview someone without feeling nervous and how to be a TV presenter in the interactive studio.”
At this Taster Week, you will take part in taster sessions focused on nursing, midwifery, applied biological science and other allied subjects such as psychology and speech and language therapy, covering both theory and practical learning.

You will treat mock patients, do nutrition exercises in our labs, practise taking blood pressure as well as receiving extensive career advice including a one-to-one guidance interview, information about finding suitable work experience and a personal statement workshop. You will also work in groups on a research task, enabling you to develop some key skills which will help you at university.

Who is it for? Year 12 students who would like to find out more about nursing and midwifery and other allied subjects

When is it happening? This is a five day programme which runs from 2nd – 6th July 2018, from 10am to 3.30pm

And where? City’s Northampton Square campus

How many places are available? 30

How should I apply? Turn to page 5 for details on how to apply.

“My favourite part was the legal debate and advocacy workshop as I have always been interested in debating and court cases that come with being a lawyer.”

“During this Taster Week, you will get a taste of what it is like to study law at degree level. You will take part in interactive workshops delivered by academics and experts from the law industry.

Acting and thinking as lawyers, you will use legal terms, make judgements on criminal cases and take part in your own mock court trial. You will learn about the classifications of theft, murder and manslaughter and you will have the opportunity to take a tour of the Inns of Courts and practise interview questioning techniques. You will become scenes-of-crime officers and gather evidence from a mock crime scene. Once evidence is gathered you will conduct experiments and analysis to solve the crime.

Who is it for? Year 10 students who would like to find out more about law and criminology

When is it happening? This is a five day programme which runs from 18th – 22nd June 2018, from 10am to 3.30pm

And where? City’s Northampton Square campus, with some workshops taking place at The City Law School

How many places are available? 30

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Year 12 Nursing and Midwifery University Taster Week

Interested in the health sector?

Who is it for? Year 10 students who would like to find out more about law and criminology

When is it happening? This is a five day programme which runs from 18th – 22nd June 2018, from 10am to 3.30pm

And where? City’s Northampton Square campus, with some workshops taking place at The City Law School

How many places are available? 30

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Year 10 Law and Criminology University Taster Week

Thinking about a career as a barrister or solicitor?

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Who is it for? Year 12 students who would like to find out more about nursing and midwifery and other allied subjects

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This Taster Week will introduce you to the wide range of health subjects that can be studied at university. You’ll experience taster sessions in radiography, optometry, speech and language therapy, psychology and biomedical engineering, covering both theory and practical.

You will get to use university equipment such as x-ray machines, giving you great first-hand experience! There will also be extensive career advice including a 1:1 guidance interview, information about finding suitable work experience and a personal statement workshop. You will also work in groups on a research task enabling you to develop some key skills which will help you at university.

There will also be an opportunity to meet professionals from various health-based careers in a speed networking session.

Who is it for? Year 12 students who would like to find out more about degree subjects within the health sector.

When is it happening? This is a five day programme which runs from 2nd – 6th July 2018, from 10am to 3.30pm.

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“Thank you for organising and running the Health Professions University Taster Week, it was a wonderful and inspiring experience. It has helped me gather a better insight into optometry as well as radiography, which I may consider studying at university. Also, many, many thanks to the ambassadors who helped us all during the week and kept us motivated.”