

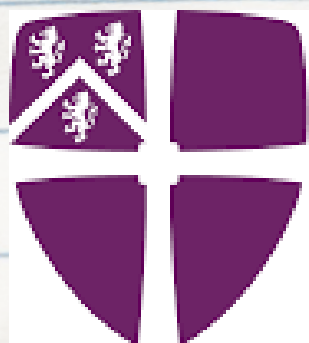
THE STUDENT BLOG



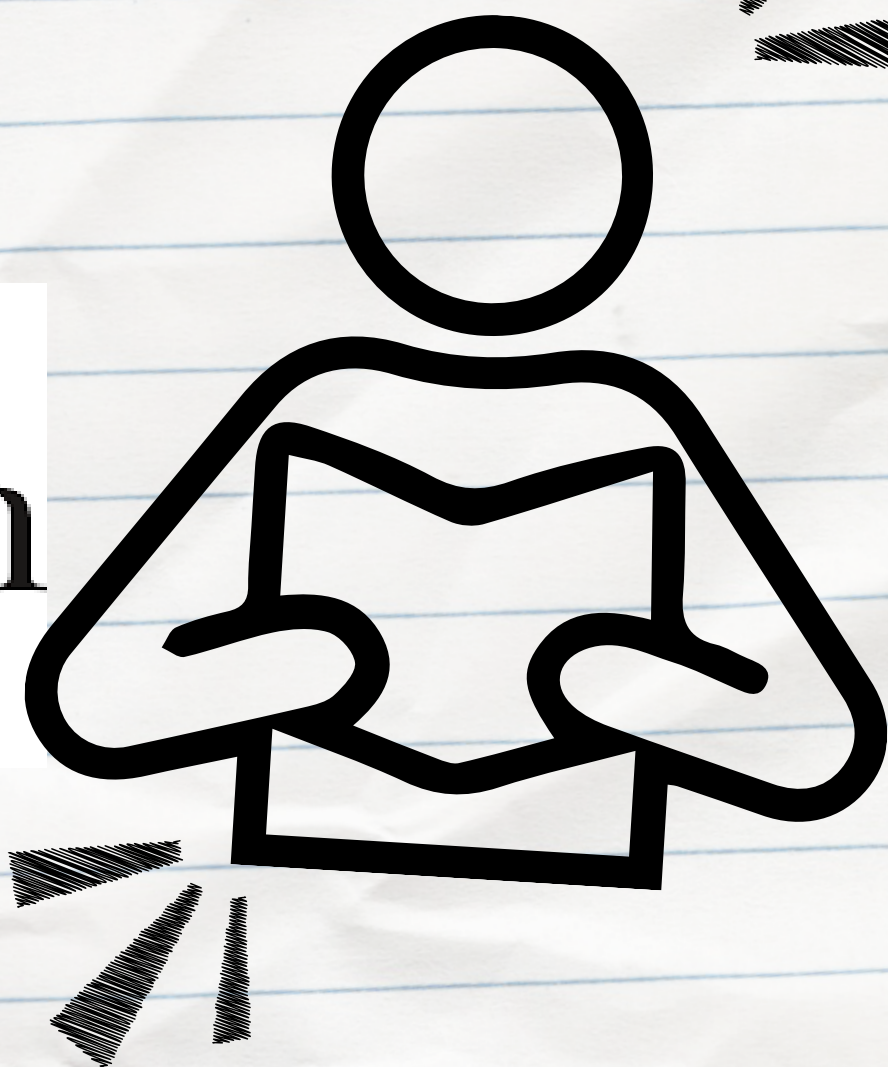
THINKING ABOUT
UNI?



SIM



**Durham
University**



UNIVERSITY:

DURHAM UNIVERSITY

COURSE:

LAW

**FAVOURITE SCHOOL
SUBJECT:**

ENGLISH

HOBBY:

BASKETBALL

**HOW DID YOU KNOW UNIVERSITY
AND HIGHER EDUCATION WAS THE
RIGHT NEXT STEP FOR YOU?
WHAT MADE YOU REALISE YOU
WANTED OR NEEDED TO GO?**



I do not think there was one single moment when I knew university was the right next step. It was gradual. Growing up in a city, I was surrounded by ambitious, career-focused people, and I saw how education could open doors. Part of my motivation was practical. I wanted to be successful, financially independent, and able to build a stable future. Seeing others do well made me realise I had to take my education seriously. University also felt like a place where I could be independent, grow, challenge myself, meet different people, and create more options for my future.

WHAT HELPED YOU FEEL MORE CONFIDENT ABOUT APPLYING – WAS IT A PERSON, AN EVENT, RESEARCH, A SCHOOL VISIT, OR SOMETHING ELSE?



What helped me feel more confident was a mix of research and seeing people around me take that step. It made university feel less distant and more realistic. Speaking to people who had already gone through the process also helped because it made the application process seem more manageable.

Researching courses, universities and career paths gave me a clearer sense of what I was working towards. I think confidence came from understanding that university was not just an abstract goal, but a practical next step that could give me more opportunities, independence and direction.

WERE YOUR EXPECTATIONS OF UNI DIFFERENT TO WHAT YOU EXPERIENCED ONCE YOU GOT THERE?



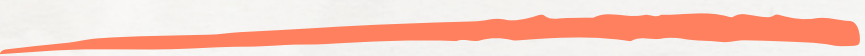
I expected university to be mainly about studying, independence and meeting new people. Those things were true, but I did not realise how much adjustment would be involved. The academic side was more independent than I expected. You have to manage your own time, keep up with work, and ask for help when needed. You also need to be socially active, and find balance while taking time to settle in. It is not always instant or easy. University gave me more than I expected; it helped me find balance and feel more prepared for the world.

WHAT'S ONE PIECE OF ADVICE * YOU WOULD GIVE TO SOMEONE WHO'S NOT SURE WHETHER UNI IS RIGHT FOR THEM?



I'd say do not feel pressured to have your whole future figured out before applying. Instead, think honestly about what you want university to give you, whether that is a subject you want to study, independence, career options, or personal growth. University is not the only route, and it is not right for everyone, but it can be valuable if you use it actively. Speak to people who have gone, research the courses properly, and ask yourself whether the experience would help you move closer to the kind of life you want.

THE STUDENT BLOG



TELL US IN THE
COMMENTS WHAT TOPICS
YOU'D LIKE OUR
PARTNERSHIP ASSOCIATES
TO COVER!

