

Chemistry cont.

	Teaching quality %	Student experience %	Research quality %	Entry standards (UCAS points)	Graduate prospects %	Overall score
=30 Lincoln	94.2	91.9	42.2	113	80.9	86.6
32 Swansea	90.5	87.1	43	126	81.2	86.5
=33 Newcastle	77.5	73.7	62.7	131	84.2	86.4
=33 Leeds	77.2	75.5	50.2	151	85.3	86.4
35 Queen Mary, London	81.7	79.7	62.5	133	78.7	86.3
36 East Anglia	73.4	67.5	54	129	93.2	86.2
37 Manchester Metropolitan	87.7	84.2	45.5	122	82.4	86
38 Keele	87.6	85	48	115	82.2	85.9
39 Sussex	84.6	61.3	43.5	141	86	85.3
40 Nottingham Trent	86	79.7	59	111	78.1	85.2
41 Lancaster	87.3	79.5	30.2	134	82.1	84.2
42 Hull	89.6	84.2	35.2	110	81.2	83.9
43 Greenwich	83.7	80	32.8	122	—	82.6
44 Kent	82.9	80.5	40.2	107	79.7	82.3
45 Huddersfield	88.9	81.8	18.5	125	80.2	82.1
46 Sheffield Hallam	88.7	84.5	—	106	91.5	81.8
47 Central Lancashire	96.7	90.1	—	119	80	81.5
48 Bradford	84.8	79.1	25	106	76.0*	79.4
49 Kingston	84	83.4	38.5	99	68.6	78.9
50 Reading	73	65.4	36	118	78.4	78.7
51 Salford	77.8	80.3	37	119	64.7	77.2
52 De Montfort	62.5	60.2	—	96	68.8	67

Employed in high-skilled job	51%	Employed in lower-skilled job	11%
Employed in high-skilled job and studying	4%	Employed in lower-skilled job and studying	0%
Studying	19%	Unemployed	6%
High-skilled work (median) salary	£27,000	Low-/medium-skilled salary	£20,000

Civil Engineering

Leading a shake-up of the top 10 of our Civil Engineering table, Cambridge has swapped places with Oxford to take the No 1 spot, from third place last year. Cambridge's lead returns it to the position it held for 16 years until three years ago, and its civil engineering students average an eye-watering 227 UCAS tariff points – the highest entry standards. Runner-up Imperial occupies the same position this year as last and has a peerless research quality rating, based on the results of the Research Excellence Framework 2021. Strathclyde and Bath sit fourth jointly, while Bristol loses five places to rank ninth and University College London has fallen 11 places to 20th. While the older institutions dominate the upper end of our rankings, the highest rates of student satisfaction with teaching (as derived from our latest National Student Survey analysis) are found at modern university Hertfordshire (29th overall), while West London comes top for students' evaluations of the broader experience and ranks 42nd overall. Abertay, Nottingham and Sheffield also place in the top three for student satisfaction measures, while civil engineering students at Anglia Ruskin place the university bottom for satisfaction with the wider experience, a position Sheffield Hallam holds for teaching quality.

As the future brains behind the design, construction and maintenance of roads, bridges,

pipelines, processing plants, buildings and harbours, civil engineering students learn how to apply physics, maths and mechanics to structural design. Professor Carlo Prato, head of the School of Civil Engineering, University of Leeds, notes that civil engineers are also “integral to the provision of everything from clean air and water to renewable energy and carbon reduction.” As well as A-levels and Scottish Highers, BTEC qualifications are a popular means of entry into a civil engineering undergraduate degree, but applicants should check with individual universities as to their preferred entry requirements.

Some degrees in the subject are four year courses leading to an MEng; others are sandwich courses that include a work placement.

A regular among the top 10 subjects for graduate prospects, civil engineering ranks seventh this year. When surveyed 15 months on from their degrees, more than 85% of graduates were working in high-skilled jobs and/or furthering their studies. Promising average starting salaries of £28,500 put civil engineering =17th out of 70 subject areas for earnings. But a decrease in demand brought applications under 22,700 in 2023 and fewer than 3,900 undergraduates were accepted onto courses.

Civil Engineering

	Teaching quality %	Student experience %	Research quality %	Entry standards (UCAS points)	Graduate prospects %	Overall score
1 Cambridge	81.6	80.9	77.2	227	97.2	100
2 Imperial College	81.5	82.4	81	192	100	98.8
3 Oxford	80.8	76.1	77.5	216	94	97.7
=4 Bath	86.7	84.6	49.5	179	98	95.3
=4 Strathclyde	84.4	82.9	52.8	191	95.9	95.3
6 Sheffield	90.6	87.5	66.8	157	92.2	95.2
7 Leeds	86.8	85	64.8	178	91	95
8 Southampton	88.2	84.5	70	160	91.2	94.7
9 Bristol	83.3	79.9	68	182	91.2	94.4
10 Edinburgh	77.3	76.1	55.5	184	100	94
11 Glasgow	76.6	72.5	61.5	207	93.2	93.9
12 Dundee	87.6	83.9	50.2	180	91.2	93.8
13 Nottingham	90.8	90.5	59	143	89.7	93
14 Manchester	79.5	74.6	63	154	96.9	92.3
15 Surrey	81.7	83.4	55.2	129	100	91.8
=16 Loughborough	78.9	77.9	72	140	93.5	91.4
=16 Liverpool	84.2	82.8	57	140	93.1	91.4
18 Heriot-Watt	78.5	74.3	55.5	167	94.2	91.3
19 Birmingham	75.1	74.1	63.7	148	98.2	91.2
20 University College London	74.7	73.4	70	163	91.3	90.8
21 Queen's, Belfast	78.6	69.3	51	149	98.7	90.5
=22 Cardiff	81.3	82.3	54	143	92.6	90.4
=22 Abertay	89.6	90.7	24.2	—	92.9	90.4
=24 Swansea	83.2	82.4	48.8	141	92.5	90.1
=24 Ulster	84.6	81.8	49.8	131	93.6	90.1
26 Brighton	83.2	89	36.5	121	96.3*	89.1
27 Northumbria	84.4	87.3	43	144	87.5	89
28 Newcastle	76.1	73.3	58.5	131	93.5	88.4
29 Hertfordshire	92.2	87.6	33	110	—	88.3

Civil Engineering cont.

	Teaching quality %	Student experience %	Research quality %	Entry standards (UCAS points)	Graduate prospects %	Overall score
30 Aberdeen	75.3	74.9	35.8	155	95.7	88.1
31 Exeter	78.1	72.9	47	145	91.4	87.9
32 Edinburgh Napier	83.8	82.8	22.8	132	93.1	87
33 Birmingham City	90.5	87.5	17.5	118	91.2	86.9
34 Greenwich	81.5	85.2	31.5	123	91.9	86.7
35 Nottingham Trent	80.9	78.2	38	121	90.6	86.1
36 Central Lancashire	84.7	82	23	128	—	85.6
37 West of England	77.6	72.3	30.8	130	93	85.3
38 Glasgow Caledonian	80.6	78.1	12.8	164	86.2	85.1
39 Liverpool John Moores	73.3	70.4	45.5	129	90.6	85
40 West of Scotland	81	77	16.5	—	91.3	84.6
41 Aston	74.2	74.2	35.2	138	—	84.2
42 West London	87.8	91.1	13.8	110	83.8	83.6
=43 City	72.2	70.1	32.5	122	92.9	83.5
=43 Bradford	83.3	82.8	27	115	83.3	83.5
=43 Portsmouth	83.7	81.1	21	112	86.6	83.5
=46 Plymouth	71	69.8	32.5	122	92	83
=46 Derby	84.5	77.6	14	120	—	83
48 Salford	76.6	72.6	33.2	129	83.3	82.6
49 Coventry	76.7	69.9	23.5	118	88.9	82.2
50 Wolverhampton	83.8	75.7	18.2	92	—	80.6
51 Brunel	71.8	75.2	33	137	76.6	80.4
52 Teesside	71	67.9	18.8	116	88.5	79.9
53 London South Bank	79.2	72.9	27.3	123	73.8	79.5
54 Leeds Beckett	82.3	82.1	24.5	105	72.5	79.2
=55 Kingston	81	76.8	17.2	113	74.1	78.6
=55 Bolton	72.4	73.1	22	106	—	78.6
57 East London	88.7	88.3	21.2	104	64	78.3
58 Sheffield Hallam	64.8	53.6	30	128	—	77.3
59 Anglia Ruskin	66.4	50.9	23.8	119	—	75.7

Employed in high-skilled job	77%	Employed in lower-skilled job	6%
Employed in high-skilled job and studying	5%	Employed in lower-skilled job and studying	1%
Studying	4%	Unemployed	4%
High-skilled work (median) salary	£28,800	Low-/medium-skilled salary	£21,000

Classics and Ancient History

St Andrews takes the lead in our new Classics and Ancient History table, ousting Oxford into second place after two years at the top. St Andrews' win is resounding: it is top for graduate prospects – with 96.5% of graduates engaged in high-skilled jobs and/or further study within 15 months of their degree, boasts peerless rates of student satisfaction with teaching quality and the wider experience, and also has the highest entry standards. After its 16-year reign at the top of the table came to an end three years ago, Cambridge sits fifth this year. For research quality in

the subjects, Warwick ranks No 1, based on results of the latest Research Excellence Framework 2021, where it is closely followed by King's College London and Manchester, which tie in our analysis. After those at St Andrews, students at Birmingham and Swansea reported the second and third highest rates of satisfaction with teaching quality, while for the wider experience Swansea is followed by Leicester in the top three. Conversely, Manchester finishes bottom for each of these student-led measures. Independent schools dominate provision of Latin and Greek at A-level, producing some of the highest average grades of any subject (at more than half of the universities in our table entrants averaged over 144 UCAS points, equal to three As at A-level).

Classics takes in the broad literature, history and culture of Ancient Greek and Roman societies spanning 1,500 years, and can include architecture, religion and philosophy. Some courses will want Latin or Greek A-level, while others will allow students to learn the languages from scratch once they have enrolled. Several universities teach the subjects as part of modular courses, but not on their own. "Almost all classics departments welcome students with qualifications in any subject and make language study optional. Employers will love you; my former students run museums, civil service departments, schools, pop groups, theatres, banks, advertising agencies, and travel, data analysis and broadcasting companies. One is now an MP," says Professor Edith Hall, Department of Classics and Ancient History, University of Durham.

Classics and ancient history rank =56th in our new employment table of 70 subject areas, based on 56.1% of graduates working in high-skilled jobs and/or studying when surveyed 15 months after their degrees. Although not an ingredient of our subject ranking overall, in our pay index the subjects fare a little more strongly, placing =46th. The demand for classics courses continued an upward trend in 2023, when the subject attracted nearly 8,200 applications, while the numbers enrolling increased more modestly and just under 1,400 students were accepted onto degrees.

Classics and Ancient History

	Teaching quality %	Student experience %	Research quality %	Entry standards (UCAS points)	Graduate prospects %	Overall score
1 St Andrews	97.2	92.9	42.5	204	96.5	100
2 Oxford	86.2	65.5	60	193	91.3	97.3
3 Durham	84.9	77.7	57.8	179	86.8	95.6
4 Glasgow	84.7	76.6	62.5	176	—	95.5
5 Cambridge	—	—	48.8	187	84.2	94.8
6 Warwick	89.3	82.4	65.8	141	77.8	94.4
7 Exeter	86.7	82.9	61.5	164	76.4	94.2
8 King's College London	79.5	67.8	65.5	147	77.2	91
9 Nottingham	89.4	83.6	51.5	136	78.6	90.9
10 Leeds	85.9	82.9	52	146	77.9	90.7
11 Birmingham	93.8	85.4	54.2	137	66.7	90.6
12 Manchester	76	63.3	65.5	144	82.3	90.5
13 Royal Holloway	84.5	78.1	53.5	126	84.7	90.2
14 University College London	83.2	78.5	44.2	172	73.9	88.9
15 Kent	88.3	74.6	58.8	109	73.8	88.7
16 Bristol	82.5	76.6	52.8	147	71.3	88.3
17 Edinburgh	76.3	70.9	51.5	168	69.3	87.2
18 Swansea	92.5	88.2	45.2	113	65.1	86.3
19 Liverpool	79.3	69.3	43.5	130	81.4	83.4