SELECTING UK UNIVERSITIES AND COURSES

APPLYING FOR A MARSHALL SCHOLARSHIP
The Commission has established partnerships with leading institutions in the UK.

Marshall applicants are invited to indicate two preferred universities. Whilst Marshall Scholarships are tenable at any British University, expressions of interest in studying at universities other than Oxford, Cambridge and London are particularly welcomed. Candidates are especially encouraged to consider the Marshall Partnership Universities.
Higher education in the United Kingdom is provided in a wide variety of universities and one or two specialised institutions and business schools. A full list of institutions at which Marshall Scholarships are tenable can be found in UK Institutions. In certain instances, awards may be held at other institutions which offer degree courses in partnership with and validated by a university. Please click on the map for details of UK Institutions. Alternatively please make use of our course finder tool to browse eligible master’s degree programmes at every university across the UK.

Candidates are advised to find out all they can about British universities and the availability of their chosen programme of study or research since facilities vary from one institution to another. Some programmes which are commonly available in the universities and colleges of the United States are not found in British universities and, where they are available, different kinds of preparation are required.

In 2014 a system for assessing the quality of research in UK higher education institutions (HEIs) called the Research Excellence Framework (REF) was introduced. It has replaced the Research Assessment Exercise (RAE). For further information please see [http://www.ref.ac.uk/](http://www.ref.ac.uk/).

Candidates can also make use of Postgrad.com or Prospects Website to find out which UK Institutions offer specific courses and subjects.

For general information about universities (these guides are aimed at undergraduates but can be useful for an overview on the universities):

- Complete University Guide (The Independent)
- Guardian University Guide

For general information about studying in the UK:
Fellowships like the Rhodes and Marshall are open to all types of candidates in any discipline. Every
RESEARCH EXCELLENCE FRAMEWORK

Shows where the best work is being done at universities in the UK
THEY DO THINGS A LITTLE DIFFERENTLY ACROSS THE ATLANTIC…

- Terminal Master’s degrees in 1-2 years
  - Two tracks: TAUGHT and RESEARCH
  - Test the waters before PhD
  - OR do a PhD/DPhil in 3 years…

- New perspective: some disciplines look very different
- Only a few hours of lecture/seminar a week
- Libraries closed evenings and weekends
- Degree courses have different names: MPhil, DPhil, MSt
  - use our “de-coding” advice
- MORE focused… LESS structured…
GENERAL CONTEXT

- Why does it make sense for you, personally, to complete your graduate studies in the UK?
- How is the British approach to your discipline different from the American approach?
- As a UK-based graduate student,
  - what archives would you visit?
  - which research groups could you join?
  - where would you travel within the UK, and why?
WHAT ARE YOU LOOKING FOR IN A UK UNIVERSITY?

- Old (800+ years old) or new (since WWII)?
- Traditional or modern?
- Urban or rural?
- College system?
- Small or large?
- Geographic area?
HOW MUCH DO YOU KNOW ABOUT THE UK?

• Favorite British TV show / movie / book?
• How familiar do you think you are with UK current affairs? What are your sources?
FILL IN THE BLANK

• In the UK, I’m interested in pursuing ____ [insert field of study].
• It would be especially relevant/helpful to study this topic in the UK because ____.
• While I’m in the UK, I could further explore my interest in ….. by…..
• While I’m in the UK, I could also…….