



## The Workshop Newsletter

## Your AS Results – March 2011

### What If Your AS Scores Are High?

If your January grades/scores are high in one or more modules, you will rightly be very pleased with your scores. You now need to be thinking about how it might affect your choice of university/medical school/veterinary school. You should be considering how high can I aim and what else do I need to do now to compete with the very best? You will need to get good, relevant work experience, so you can demonstrate your interest and commitment. If you are looking for additional experience to strengthen your UCAS application and you are studying towards Medicine or Veterinary Medicine you should also consider attending either Medsim or Vetsim in July where you can work with doctors and Vets in teams using a variety of clinical skills.

[Strengthen my UCAS](#)

### What If Your AS Scores Are Low?

If your January grades/scores are low in one or more modules, you have several options to consider.

#### Do I re-sit?

Firstly you can re-sit the module in June, or even next year if necessary. Before considering a re-sit think seriously about how much work you can put in to significantly improve your score. Your final A level grade is determined by your total score, not by the 'grade' for each module. So, for instance if you were to improve a module score by 3 marks, you may have just moved from a 'B' to an 'A' for that module, but you still have only 3 extra marks towards your overall AS or A grade. You have to ask yourself if it was worth the extra revision effort at the expense of study time in your next/current module.

### Can I do anything to get a better AS grade?

You should discuss with your tutor and/or examinations officer about this as an option. If you 'decline' the award then you can continue to add marks to your module scores to get a better AS grade next year, if for instance you are not taking the subject to A2 but still need a very good AS grade. If your AS grade is not awarded this summer, then on your UCAS application you will put 'Result pending' as the AS is not complete, although you may have sat the 3 modules.

If you are struggling with getting the very top grades you need to plan to have as many options open to you as possible if you should fall short for your first choice. For Medical and Veterinary students there are opportunities at **Medsim** and **Vetsim** to learn about options for studying abroad that do not affect your UK applications and also alternative routes to becoming a doctor or a Vet.

[Go the extra mile](#)

### How Do I Decide Which AS Level To Drop?

Again check entry requirements carefully about which AS maybe more appropriate to your university course. In medicine you might want keep Geography rather than Art for instance. It may be simply the one you are getting the lowest scores in, unless it is required at A2 level, of course! If it is a choice between 2 AS subjects and your performance is equal in both, then maybe stick with the one you are enjoying the most.

If you are uncertain about which subjects are right for you, either for progress to university or even which subjects to study at university then you need to find out more about the different subjects you are studying at A level or possibly at university.

[I want to win my place](#)

### Becoming A Stronger Candidate

If you are happy with your AS results you need to stay ahead, if your results weren't what you expected now is the time to start thinking about how you can become a stronger candidate.

With university applications up almost a fifth up on last year competition for places is fierce. Read our top ten tips to stand out and go the extra mile and win your place.

Some students left the winter conferences with work experience and they keep in touch with the Doctors or Vets others have not thought that far ahead think now and beat the competition.

**+ Talk to students:** Current students are a great resource to you, talk to them about why they chose their institution, and ask to see their UCAS personal statement, ask them about their interviews. For those attending the spring or summer conferences make the most of the time you spend with current students.

**+ Current affairs:** When you are called for an interview the chances are they may ask your opinion on a hot topic. Start buying the newspapers or reading online articles for the latest stories.

Read the rest of our top ten tips:

[Beat the competition](#)

### and Finally ... Thank you to Nottingham University!

We would like to thank Nottingham University for the free accommodation they kindly supplied to some of our Medlink & Vet-Medlink delegates, which enabled us to support some students who would not otherwise have had the opportunity to attend such a conference.