Gateway
Programmes
Kickstart your journey to Higher Education

• Study at the UK’s top university for student experience (National Student Survey 2022)
• St Andrews is ranked top in the UK (Guardian University Guide 2023) and Scottish University of the Year (The Times and Sunday Times Good University Guide 2023).
• Gateway offers begin at BBBB

“The Gateway programmes made St Andrews an option that was open to me. I was able to meet my offer conditions in S6 thanks to the slightly lower entry requirements.”

Josh
3rd Year Modern History and Social Anthropology student
**The University of St Andrews** is committed to achieving a diverse and vibrant student community made up of the best and brightest students, regardless of the route they have taken to access higher education. We recognise that diversity comes not only through nationality, but also from a wide range of backgrounds, experience and educational paths.

Our Gateway programmes provide supported entry into degree-level study at St Andrews. This includes pre-arrival and transitional support to ensure you have the best possible start at St Andrews and go on to achieve your full potential.

**Gateway to Arts**

Students on the Gateway to Arts enter the first year of undergraduate study with a specific Honours degree route in mind. You will study modules relevant for your chosen route.

**Gateway to Science**

Students on the Gateway to Science enter the first year of undergraduate study with a specific Honours degree route in mind. You will study modules relevant for your chosen route.

**Gateway to Physics and Astronomy**

The Gateway to Physics and Astronomy is an alternative entry route to a BSc or MPhys degree in Physics or Astrophysics. The programme offers an interactive and tailored first year, focused fully on the study of Physics, Astrophysics and Mathematics.

**Gateway to Medicine**

The Gateway to Medicine gives students who have completed S5 or S6 the opportunity to study at first-year undergraduate level. Students who successfully achieve all requirements of this programme will progress into the six-year Medicine A100 course at St Andrews.
Gateway to Arts and Science programmes

What are they? The Gateway to Arts and Gateway to Science programmes are tailored programmes with additional support.

Who can apply?
Typically, candidates for Gateway programmes are those who have fallen short of standard requirements and meet some, if not all, of the contextual criteria below:

- live in Scotland in an area of deprivation as defined by the Scottish Government as SIMD20
- attend a low progression school
- are Care Experienced as defined by their local authority
- are a registered young carer.

Applicants under serious consideration for this route will be required to attend an informal meeting with the Access Manager and a member of academic staff to discuss their application in more detail.

Entry requirements
Applicants will be considered for a place on the Gateway to Arts or Gateway to Science programme if they have not obtained the required grades to study their chosen subject at St Andrews but we see that they have the potential to do well.

Individual applications are considered based on contextual admissions information as well as academic performance. These factors determine whether and offer will be made, and specifically what it will be.

Minimum grades are BBBB at Higher which should include the standard Faculty entry requirements. This could be taken over more than one sitting or include a combination of Highers or Advanced Highers.

Structure and progression
Gateway to Arts or Sciences students can study a wide range of subjects in our Faculties of Arts or Science*. Like students on other programmes, Gateway students will study up to three subjects in their first and second years. Information about the range of subjects is available online: www.st-andrews.ac.uk/subjects

Provided that students on the Gateway meet the academic requirements in their second year (just like every other student), they will be transferred from the Gateway programme onto their chosen named Honours degree route. Gateway students will be treated as any other first year student; they will attend the same classes and have a traditional first year experience, with the addition of extra support built into the programme (see page 7).

* Some subjects require previous subject knowledge.
**Typical structure of the Gateway to Arts programme**

This diagram shows an example of a student entering the Gateway to Arts programme intending to move to Honours in English. This student chose a Joint Honours route. They could, however, have taken Single Honours in any one of the three subjects or a joint combination.

* As long as appropriate grades are achieved in all three subjects the options are: Single Honours in English, Film Studies or Social Anthropology or Joint Honours in English-Social Anthropology, Film Studies-Social Anthropology or as illustrated English-Social Anthropology.
Typical structure of the Gateway to Science programme
This diagram shows an example of a student entering the Gateway to Sciences programme intending to move to Honours in Geography. This student chose to change pathway completely and graduate with a Geography degree, however, they could have chosen to take one of the degree routes offered within Biology.
Additional support
Gateway students will have a dedicated point of contact within our Admissions team. This contact will provide the advice and support needed for a smooth transition to university and ensure that students always know where to go when they need advice, whether it be for academic or personal reasons. Students are allocated an Adviser of Studies who will ensure that they select the correct modules, and that they have as many course options available to them as possible. They will also be given additional subject tutoring from senior students to support their academic studies as part of the package of support offered by the University.

Scholarships and funding
Gateway students are encouraged to apply to the range of scholarships offered by the University. Students will also be eligible for their tuition fees to be paid by SAAS. www.st-andrews.ac.uk/study/fees-and-funding

How can I apply
Applications should be made through UCAS, before the UCAS deadline of the last Wednesday of January in the year of entry, using one of the following course codes.
Gateway to Arts: Y003
Gateway to Science: CFG2
www.ucas.ac.uk
Applicants should ensure their personal statement focuses on the main subject that they are interested in studying.
Gateway to Physics and Astronomy

What is it? The Gateway to Physics and Astronomy is an alternative entry route to a BSc or MPhys degree in Physics or Astrophysics at the University of St Andrews. The programme offers an interactive and tailored first year, focused fully on the study of Physics, Astrophysics and Mathematics.

Who can apply? The programme is open to talented and enthusiastic students from Scotland who meet some or all of the University’s widening participation criteria:

- eligibility for Education Maintenance Allowance
- eligibility for free school meals
- be in the first generation of their family to go to university
- be looked after (or have been looked after) as a result of a local authority order
- you are a young carer
- reside in an area of socio-economic disadvantage
- attend a school with low progression to higher education.

Entry requirements Applicants should be predicted to achieve – or have achieved – grades of at least ABBB, including A in Mathematics and B in Physics (or vice versa). These may be over two sittings where necessary.

Potential applicants should contact the University’s Admissions team to determine their eligibility and are also encouraged to make informal contact with admissions staff in the School of Physics & Astronomy.

Offer decisions are made based on a consideration of potential to succeed academically on the programme, taking into account the background, academic record and personal circumstances of the applicant.

Structure and progression Students enrolled via the Gateway programme study alongside other first-year physicists and mathematicians, as well as undertaking Gateway-only modules. These modules are specifically designed for Gateway students; they provide a highly interactive first year course in physics, mathematics and study skills.

After successfully completing their first year, students enrolled via the Gateway will then progress to the second year of the BSc or MPhys degrees offered within the School of Physics & Astronomy, which include Theoretical Physics, Physics, Astrophysics and joint degrees with Mathematics.

Additional support The Gateway programme provides a highly supportive learning environment with approximately 30 contact hours per week in the first year and includes tailored academic and pastoral support for students. Students also benefit from small class sizes.

Scholarships There are a number of scholarships available for students on our Gateway programmes, including some specifically for Gateway to Physics and Astronomy students. We would strongly encourage potential students to look at the information available online or ask a member of Admissions or School staff for further details.

How can I apply? Applications are made through UCAS using the relevant course code:

- Physics and Astronomy (Gateway BSc): FH31
- Physics and Astronomy (Gateway MPhys): FH3C

Suitable applicants may be invited to St Andrews in February or March to discuss their application with admissions staff in the School of Physics & Astronomy before offers are made.
Gateway to Medicine

What is it? The Gateway to Medicine is a one-year full-time programme taught at the University of St Andrews in the Faculty of Science with contributions from staff in the School of Medicine. Pupils can apply at the end of S5 or S6 if they narrowly missed out on the grades required to study Medicine. Those applying at the end of S5 will study on the Gateway to Medicine as an alternative to S6 in school.

Who can apply?
To be eligible for the Gateway to Medicine programme an applicant must be in S5 or S6, be studying Highers or Advanced Highers and be eligible for their tuition fees to be paid by SAAS.

Applicants must meet at least one of the following criteria:
- have engaged with a Reach project
- reside in an area of socio-economic disadvantage
- are being looked after (or have been looked after) as a result of a local authority care order
- are a registered carer
- attend a school which has low numbers of pupils who progress to higher education
- attend a school which has low attainment in relation to Highers and Advanced Highers.

Entry requirements
The entry requirements are as follows:
- BBBB at Highers which must include Chemistry and one other subject from Biology, Mathematics or Physics. These must have been obtained in one sitting in S5.
- If Biology, English and Mathematics have not been passed at Higher each must normally have been passed at National 5 (A or B) or equivalent.

Structure and progression
Gateway to Medicine students will study first-year modules in Biology and Chemistry, plus one other module alongside other undergraduate students.

At the end of this year to progress to the full medical programme students must have:
- passed all first-year modules at grades specified at time of entry to Gateway to Medicine
- achieved a suitable UCAT score
- a pass in the Multiple Mini Interview (MMI).

If all modules are passed but not at the grades specified at time of entry, students can remain in the Faculty of Science with the opportunity to transfer to a BSc Honours programme where pre-requisites have been met.

Additional support
There is a variety of support in place for students on our Gateway to Medicine programme:
- designated support person from the Admissions Team
- a designated Adviser of Studies
- support in preparing for UCAT and MMI
- additional support module which includes tutoring in Biology and Chemistry as well as medicine specific content to help prepare for the transition to A100.

Scholarships
Scholarships for the Gateway to Medicine are available as well as the opportunity to apply for further support upon entry to a named degree programme.

www.st-andrews.ac.uk/study/fees-and-funding

How can I apply?
- Potential applicants should visit Gateway to Medicine - Subjects - University of St Andrews (st-andrews.ac.uk) where they can check eligibility and Register their interest
- On receipt of the Note of Interest, a Pre-Application form will be sent to gather further information
- Pre-Applications will be assessed by our Medical Admissions Team
- A link to make formal applications to the university will be sent to suitable candidates around June of the year of entry
- Interviews will be conducted over the summer months and offers will be made in time for applicants to enter the programme in September of the same year.
Find out more about Gateway to Medicine
Life at St Andrews

St Andrews offers you an unforgettable student experience. You will find more than you would ever expect from a town of our size. The University is packed full of sports clubs, societies, events and traditions. Whether you have existing activities you want to continue or explore whole new areas, you will always find something to get involved in.

Societies and Sports
• Over 180 clubs and societies, across a huge range of interests, causes and cultures.
• The University also has ‘super-societies’ covering areas such as charity fundraising, debating, LGBT+, theatre, music, radio, film and volunteering to which all students have access.

yourunion.net/activities

• More than 50 sports at all levels.
• Sports Centre: gym, strength and conditioning suite, technical climbing wall, all-weather pitches, a four-court indoor tennis centre and an eight-court indoor sports arena.
• Inter-hall, national and international sports competitions.

www.st-andrews.ac.uk/sport
Get in touch

**Gateway to Arts**
Admissions: gatewayto@st-andrews.ac.uk

**Gateway to Science**
Admissions: gatewayto@st-andrews.ac.uk

**Gateway to Physics and Astronomy**
Admissions: gatewayto@st-andrews.ac.uk
School of Physics & Astronomy: physics@st-andrews.ac.uk

**Gateway to Medicine**
Admissions: gatewayto@st-andrews.ac.uk
School of Medicine: medical.admissions@st-andrews.ac.uk

Find out more about our Gateway programmes and how to take your next steps.

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Twitter: @uniofstandrews
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Photographs by: Spencer Bentley, broad daylight, Linda Gibson, Ian Gordon, Callum Hyland, Oli Walker/Tilted Frame Photography, Laurence Winram and University of St Andrews.

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