

# UPREP TALK

University Placement and Preparation

Every other Wednesday

08:30 - 09:15 am

Secondary Hall, Chaofah City Campus

Presented by



Emily Graham  
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# UPREP TALK 2025

# Applying to the UK & Europe

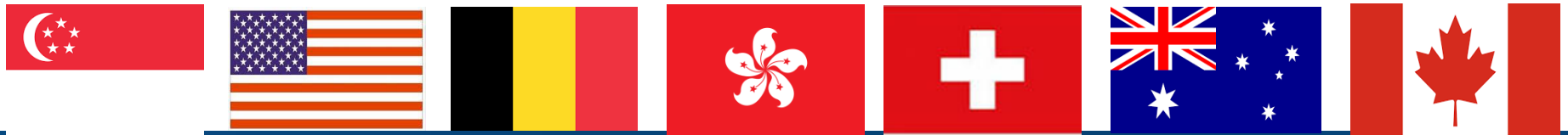
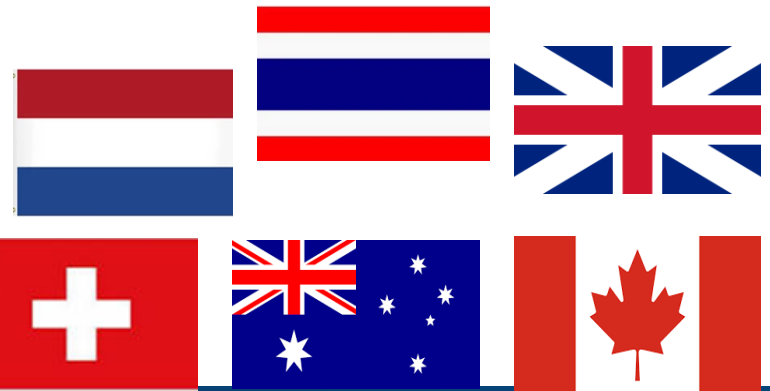
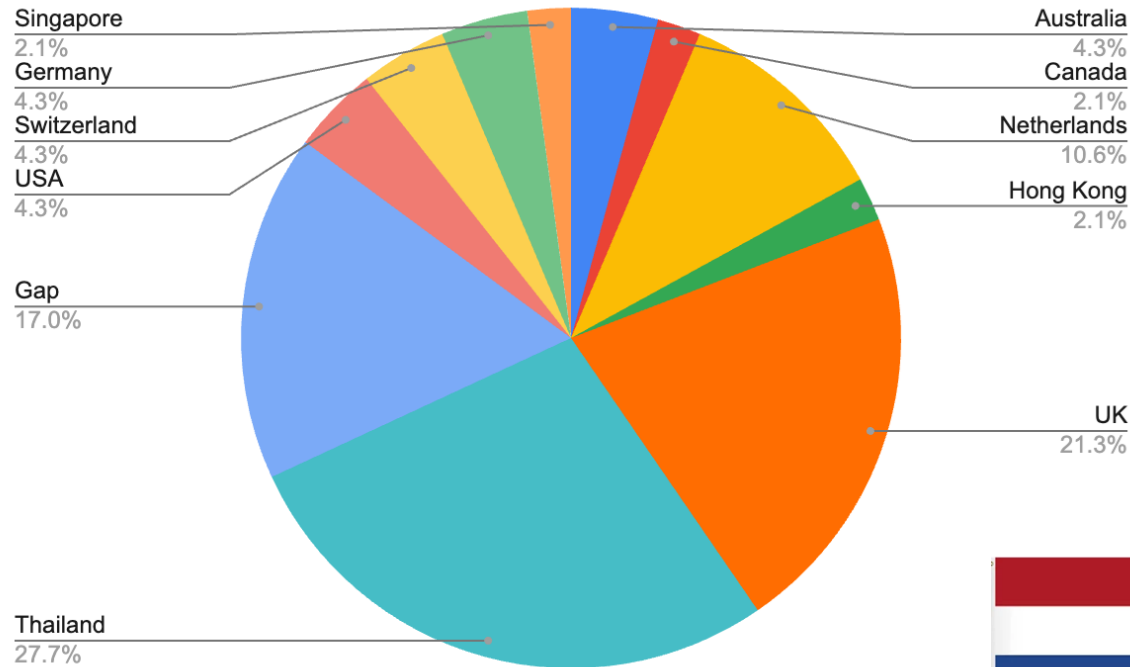


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# Where did HeadStart students go in 2025?



# YES!

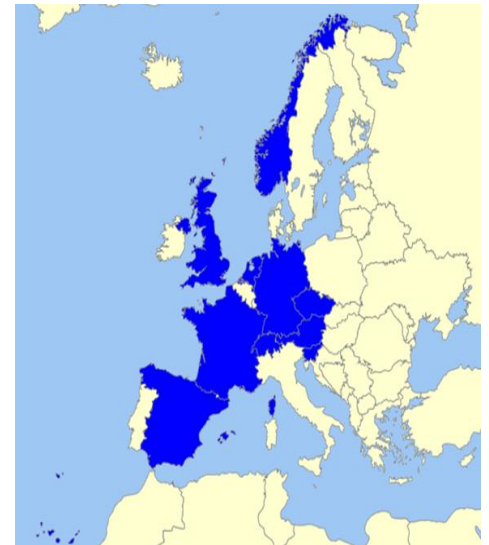
## Top Destinations:

- Netherlands
- UK

## Other Destinations

- Germany
- France
- Spain
- Switzerland

# Do HeadStart students want to study in Europe & UK?



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# Similarities & Differences

## Similar:

- Most teach many courses in English
- Most focus on single disciplines e.g. Law (although multi-discipline courses such as Liberal Arts are getting more popular)
- Most have different tiers / types of higher education
- Many well established / highly ranked institutions

## Differences:

- Length of course varies, 3-5 years
- Some countries have very separate types of university
- These offer very different types of degree
- Admission requirements vary hugely - from EE at A level to A\*A\*A!
- BTECs accepted more widely in UK

Some have specific entry requirements that will require additional preparation or a particular A-Level profile.

# What do European Universities want?

- To know students WANT to do their course
- To know students CAN do their course
- That they will take advantage of the opportunity
- That they are a good 'fit' for *their particular programme*



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# University Admissions Officers' Report

| Factor                         | % citing |
|--------------------------------|----------|
| Academic qualifications        |          |
| Passion for subject            |          |
| English proficiency            |          |
| Positive attitude to study     |          |
| Independent thinking / working |          |
| Mathematical competency        |          |
| Perseverance / task completion |          |
| Presentation skills            |          |
| Group work                     |          |
| Intercultural awareness        |          |

# University Admissions Officers Report

| Factor                         | % citing |
|--------------------------------|----------|
| Academic qualifications        | 100%     |
| Passion for subject            | 95%      |
| English proficiency            | 95%      |
| Positive attitude to study     | 91%      |
| Independent thinking / working | 90%      |
| Mathematical competency        | 80%      |
| Perseverance / task completion | 79%      |
| Presentation skills            | 72%      |
| Group work                     | 60%      |
| Intercultural awareness        | 38%      |

# Two

## Research University

- Traditional academics
- Research orientated
- Wide range of subjects
- Theoretical / methodological
- E.g. Law / Biology / Theology



# Systems

## Applied University

- Professional practice
- Preparation for specific profession
- Practical / work based
- E.g. Hospitality, Business, Food Science



# For

## Research Universities

- Netherlands / Germany: Research University
- Switzerland: Doctoral / Research Universities
- Austria: Comprehensive Universities
- Finland: University



# Example...

## Applied Universities

- Netherlands / Germany: University of Applied Science (UAS)
- Switzerland: University of Applied Science / Arts
- Austria: UAS
- Finland: UAS



## Research university (WO)

Dutch VWO diploma equivalent = 3-5 GCSE subjects grade C or above plus 3 A Level subjects grade C or above (total 6 different subjects)

## Higher professional education (HBO)

Dutch HAVO diploma equivalent = 4 GCSE subjects grade C or above plus 2 AS Level subjects grade E or above (total 6 different subjects)

However, many courses require higher grades and / or specific subjects

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# 2 Systems

## Example: Netherlands



Map Sources: UNCS, ESRI.  
The boundaries and names shown and the designations used on this map do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by the United Nations. Map created in Sep 2013.

# Specific Entry Requirements: Germany



- University entry qualification - equivalent of ABITUR - check [Anabin](#)
- Need 4 subjects (3 A level, 1 AS level) - including a LANGUAGE / MATHS or SCIENCE
- C grades are usually the basic entry requirement
- If not - you must do a Foundation Year at a 'Studienkollegs' / do an entry test
- Proficiency in German may be required
- Additional grade requirements / relevant extracurricular activities e.g. internships



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# Term 1 Year 13

| MAY               | JUN                     | JUL | AUG                               |
|-------------------|-------------------------|-----|-----------------------------------|
| AS Exams          | AS Exams                |     | Results                           |
| SEP               | OCT                     | NOV | DEC                               |
| Applications open | UK Early Entry deadline |     | HeadStart UK application deadline |



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|                                     |                    |                          |                                            |
|-------------------------------------|--------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------------------------|
| JAN<br>Resit Results<br>UK deadline | FEB                | MAR<br>Offer<br>deadline | APRIL                                      |
| MAY<br>A2 Exams                     | JUN                | JUL                      | AUG<br>Results<br>Clearing /<br>Adjustment |
| SEP<br>Visas                        | OCT<br>Uni starts! | NOV                      | DEC                                        |



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|                                                                                                                     |                                                      |                                                      |                                                                                                  |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <p>JAN</p> <p><b>Netherlands</b><br/><b>Numerus</b><br/><b>Fixus</b><br/><b>deadline</b></p> <p>Sweden deadline</p> | <p>FEB</p> <p><b>Ireland</b><br/><b>deadline</b></p> | <p>MAR</p> <p><b>Denmark</b><br/><b>deadline</b></p> | <p>APRIL</p> <p><b>France</b><br/><b>deadline</b><br/><b>Netherlands</b><br/><b>deadline</b></p> |
| <p>MAY</p>                                                                                                          | <p>JUN</p>                                           | <p>JUL</p> <p><b>Germany</b><br/><b>deadline</b></p> | <p>AUG</p>                                                                                       |

# Rest of Europe: Term 2 & 3 Year 13



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# What do you need?

## Students will be asked for

- An application form
- A personal statement / letters of intent or motivation / personal essay
- Past educational record
- Proof of language competency
- Predicted grades
- Proof of ability to pay...

## They may also be asked for

- Reference
- A portfolio
- An interview (Skype or face-to-face)
- An audition
- Additional work / essays
- University tests / examinations
- Proof of (English) language proficiency



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# Students also need

Current / valid passport

Academic certificates

Language certificates

Certified copies / translations

A credit card that works internationally

## Check university websites

# Finding and applying for a university / course

UK - UCAS Apply - application form, 5 applications but can apply to other courses later if unsuccessful (UCAS course search - to find courses)

Netherlands - Studielink - 4 applications at a time but can add / remove until enrollment (Use StudyFinder to find courses)

Germany - Uni-assist - Use DAAD to find courses

# Cost of application?

Between 1000-3000 Baht



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# Personal experiences

Mr Martin Bayer - father of Kai Yi  
(Graduate 2025) now studying in Germany

Mr Reece Edouard - ex-student at  
HeadStart who studied in the UK

# Unifrog

ACCESS ALL THE TOOLS BELOW

Exploring pathways

Careers library

✕ Careers favourited

Go to tool >

Subjects library

✕ Subjects favourited

Go to tool >

Know-how library

✓ Guides favourited

Go to tool >

MOOC

Make your first shortlist

Start >

Personality profile

✓ Quiz completed: INTP

Start >



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## UK universities

124 guides and videos

Go >

## US universities

101 guides and videos

Go >

## European universities

98 guides and videos

Go >

## Useful stuff

54 guides and videos

Go >

## Asian universities

46 guides and videos

Go >

## Wellbeing

36 guides and videos

Go >

## UK apprenticeships

35 guides and videos

Go >

## World of work

32 guides and videos

Go >

## Australasian universities

23 guides and videos

Go >

## Canadian universities

23 guides and videos

## Citizenship

19 guides and videos

## Oxbridge

14 guides and videos



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# European universities

Watch, favourite or read more...

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Jump to:

[Preparing to apply](#)

[Finance](#)

[Applications](#)

[Post application](#)

## Preparing to apply



### Why study in the Netherlands?

What's so great about studying in the Netherlands?



[Read the guide >](#)



### Study in the Netherlands: visas and permits

What you will need and how to get it



[Read the guide >](#)



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## Types of higher education in the Netherlands: research universities vs. applied science

What's the difference?

[Read the guide >](#)



## How to convert non-Spanish qualifications for Spanish public universities

Getting to grips with the noto acceso

[Read the guide >](#)



## Why study in Spain?

6 reasons why you should study at a Spanish university

[Read the guide >](#)



## Why study in Ireland?

Whatever you're interested in, Irish universities have a lot to offer

[Read the guide >](#)



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### The French university system explained

Oui, c'est compliqué!

[Read the guide >](#)



### Hospitality schools in Switzerland: everything you need to know

Find out why Switzerland is the place to study Hospitality

[Read the guide >](#)



### Study in Austria: a comparison of two cities

The difference between studying in a bustling metropolis and a smaller rural city

[Read the guide >](#)



### Study in the Czech Republic: preparing to apply

Find out all the details about the application process for Czech universities

[Read the guide >](#)



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**The cost of studying in Sweden**

Find out how to budget for tuition, accommodation and living expenses



[Read the guide >](#)



**The cost of studying in Italy**

How much should you budget for?



[Read the guide >](#)



**Study in Germany: the 5-step application process**

Our guide will take you from beginning to end



[Read the guide >](#)



**Applying to study in Greece**

From choosing your course to booking accommodation



[Read the guide >](#)



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### Student life in Poland

What to expect from university life in Poland

[Read the guide >](#)



### Study in the Czech Republic: finding accommodation

Everything you need to know about finding a place to live while you study

[Read the guide >](#)



### Study in Belgium: visas explained

Which visa do you need to apply for?

[Read the guide >](#)



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### How to fill in the UK UCAS form: a step-by-step guide



Advice on filling in the UCAS form

[Read the guide >](#)



### Discussing your disability in UK applications and interviews



Tips on how to give your university all the relevant details

[Read the guide >](#)



### How to apply to university in Scotland



In five steps

[Read the guide >](#)



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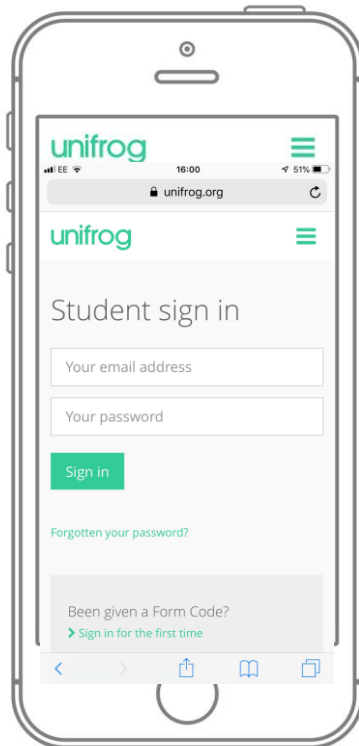
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# Parents & Guardians, get signed up!



Go to [www.unifrog.org/student](http://www.unifrog.org/student) and click 'Sign in for the first time'

You'll be asked for some details and a form code. This is what you need:

**HSISparents**

After signing up, log into Unifrog using your email address and password via the sign-in page!

# UPrep Parent Sessions

| Dates 2025/26                      | Topic                                                               |
|------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1: 27 <sup>th</sup> August 2025    | Introduction to UPrep                                               |
| 2: 10 <sup>th</sup> September 2025 | Your child's 5 year plan                                            |
| 3: 24 <sup>th</sup> September 2025 | Choosing subjects and careers                                       |
| 4: 8 <sup>th</sup> October 2025    | Comparing different university systems                              |
| 5: 29 <sup>th</sup> October 2025   | Applying to Thai universities                                       |
| 6: 12 <sup>th</sup> November 2025  | Application and standardised testing                                |
| 7: 26 <sup>th</sup> November 2025  | Applying to the UK and Europe                                       |
| 8: 10 <sup>th</sup> December 2025  | Applying to USA and Canada                                          |
| 9: 7 <sup>th</sup> January 2026    | Applying to Australia, New Zealand                                  |
| 10: 21st January 2026              | Applying to Asian universities                                      |
| 11: 4 <sup>th</sup> February 2026  | Alternative pathways and gap years                                  |
| 12: 4th March 2026                 | Fees, funding and finances                                          |
| 13: 18th March 2026                | UPrep For Parents by Parents going to the Netherlands and/or the UK |
| 14. 29th April 2026                | Applying to Oxbridge                                                |
| 15. 13th May 2026                  | Applying to Ivy League and top US universities                      |

# To book an appointment, get in touch!



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**Secondary**  
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# Can you help?

## We are looking for volunteers

Do you (or a contact) have expertise in these areas?

- Hospitality / Tourism
- Engineering / Architecture
- Computing / Digital Media
- Charities / Development
- Food and Beverage
- Entrepreneurship
- Medical / Psychology
- Art / Design
- Entrepreneurship / Marketing / Commerce





**QUESTIONS?**



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