

Guest lectures.

2024

Our guest lectures are designed to inspire and inform 16 - 18 year old students on the range of opportunities open to them, giving an introduction to university study.

Lectures last approximately one hour and will require an appropriate classroom space with access to a screen/projector. We also request that there are a minimum of ten students per session.



If you would like a lecture on a course that we offer that is not listed, please get in touch with us:
schools.liason@northampton.ac.uk

Accounting/Finance

Accountants have to make judgements as well as calculations; they have to make decisions based on much more than profit and loss.

This session will look at the role of accountants and how they assist other managers to make decisions, as well as highlighting how the course provides students with the skills to apply their knowledge in the real world. It introduces a number of skills such as team working, problem solving and time management.

Acting for Contemporary & Devised Performance

This practical workshop from the academic team of UON's BA (Hons) Acting for Contemporary & Devised Performance programme introduces students to contemporary acting and devising practices. Our team of experts can lead your students in workshops on improvisation, devising skills, movement/physical theatre practices, voice, and audition preparation.

Adult Nursing

Being an Adult Nurse means being a highly qualified professional, with a great deal of technical expertise. Our role is to guide you through your journey from student to registrant. Adult Nurses work in a variety of areas and this session will introduce you to adult nursing, including some of the amazing things that nurses do and the clinical areas that you can work in – from critical care areas such as Intensive Care, to caring for people in their own homes - taking you on the journey through adult nursing, in all its many forms and showing what a difference you can make to peoples' lives.

Advertising & Digital Marketing

In this session, we will explore a creative brief. We will create a mini advertising campaign for a contemporary brand, exploring creatively and having some fun.

This hands on session will highlight to your students how this course provides them with the skills and knowledge to be successful in the real world.

Biomedical Science

Biomedical Science covers the basic medical sciences, including anatomy, physiology, biochemistry, genetics, microbiology, immunology, pathology, cancer biology and research. These subjects have wide ranging applications in diagnostics, therapeutics, forensics, pharmaceuticals and medicine. For this session we have developed a range of group activities which make learning fun and help students appreciate which biological factors make us unique and which ones contribute to disease.

Business Management/International Business Management

In this session we review how business decisions are taken in the context of the workarounds, for example the impact of the Suez Canal shipments to supply chains, climate change effects and sustainability, culture in international business, and more. We have a bank of resources enabling us to work with you to design a session to suit your students, alongside current news on what is happening in the world to affect business decision making today.

Each session is interactive and designed to introduce a typical topic we would explore on the programme.

Criminology

Do your students want to explore Criminology? Are they curious about the explanations of crime and who commits it? This session is designed to stretch their thinking about the ambiguous concepts of crime and criminality as well as giving an insight into the skills they will acquire as a Criminologist.

Early Childhood Studies

The first of our two available sessions will consider the importance of literature for children within the early years (0-8 years old) and will look at the elements of children's story books. Students will be encouraged to consider what makes a good book for children and how reading with children helps them to develop and learn.

Our second lecture for this subject provides opportunities to discuss and debate aspects of early years practice that may be considered 'tricky', for example: 'time out' for children; rules and boundaries for play activities – who decides on them; possible conflict between early years practice and parental expectations; loving other people's children, to name a few. Students will be encouraged to consider the topics from various viewpoints and evaluate the rationale behind them.

Economics

In life, we are constantly faced with situations that require us to make decisions. For example, should I take up an apprenticeship or a university offer? Should I buy a new car? Should the government increase defence or education spending?

In this interactive session we will explore the concept of 'trade offs' and 'opportunity cost' within the decision making process - at individual, household, firm, and government levels.

This session will be of interest to those studying an A Level or BTEC in Social Science, Business or Economics subject areas.

Education Studies

This is an interactive session that will explore the area of Education Studies. Education Studies is multi-disciplinary and draws on the areas of psychology, sociology, philosophy, history and anthropology. Education can change lives, and this lecture will explore the many ways that this can be interpreted and made into reality.

If you are curious about education – why does it look the way that it does? Why are our schools arranged in the way that they are? Why do some children have different opportunities to others? Does education always relate to teaching and learning? – Come and join the discussion.

English

This interactive session introduces students to our refreshed BA English degree, exploring newly introduced topics like ecological wildness, racial and class identities, digital culture, and futures of reading - issues which matter to us and our students. While we naturally cover the major historical periods that have left a lasting impression across the centuries, from the age of Shakespeare's brilliance to the unique developments of the Victorians, other strands of modules emphasise a variety of other voices, such as child heroes or Gothic villains. The programme also gives students a chance to practice their own writing, working out how best to represent themselves creatively, through scholarly settings or in workplace environments. This session has a variety of activities to get students thinking about the place and role of literary studies in the 21st century.

Events Management

Have you ever wondered how an Olympic Games Opening Ceremony comes to life? Do you join thousands watching Glastonbury each year live or on TV? Have you ever stood at, watched and loved a local fireworks display?

What does it take to pull off a successful large scale event or to be a successful Events Manager? Are your students able to think on their feet? Cope well under pressure?

This session will reveal what it takes to succeed in the fast paced, multi billion pound events industry and is ideal for BTEC Business Studies, or Travel and Tourism students, or those who have an interest in organising events.

Fashion, Textiles, Footwear & Accessories

In the UK we buy more clothes per person than any other country in Europe. Increasingly, it is understood that the current 'fast fashion' business model is encouraging over consumption and generating excessive waste, leading to unsustainable systems long term. This lecture will ask what is sustainable fashion and how do we apply circular economies to the linear supply chain? It will spotlight some of the developments taking place in fashion, to highlight ways in which we can apply methods to decrease the negative impact globally while discussing how Gen Z can be design activists for the future.

Fashion Marketing & Promotion

Who made my clothes?

In the developed world, fashion is now a global industry and the consumption of clothing has become a leisure activity. Many fast fashion items now have a lifespan of weeks from retail store to landfill.

This session is an interactive look at 'who made my clothes' and 'what brands and consumers are doing to address the issue of waste and brand management'.

Your students will gain awareness of current industry campaigns looking at production, waste and how garments at the end of their lifecycle can be reintroduced to the production process. Students will understand how they can care for the environment, become fashion activists and play their part in the future of the planet.

Geography

What do Geographers do? Using a variety of resources, including case studies of our own graduates, we will help your students to explore the wide range of careers open to Geographers. The session will also provide insights into studying Geography at university, including tips on what to look for in a course.

Graphic Communication Design

Graphic Communication Design is the creation of visual ideas that convey messages. Our interactive sessions will get students thinking about how design can be used to educate, raise awareness, entertain and solve commercial problems. How does their creativity fit in with this? How do we understand audiences? How do we connect? Our sessions cover these questions and we can also offer sessions on the basics of logo and branding design, UX and UI, running a freelance graphic design business, empathy in design and more. This session will appeal to students with an interest in Graphics, Illustration, Media, Advertising, Photography and Art.

History

Our History team can offer a range of interactive sessions on key areas within the A level History curriculum, exploring political, social and cultural history from the Tudors to the late 20th century. Sessions cover themes such as religious change, citizenship and suffrage, monarchy, war, and political and revolutionary movements. All sessions will look at how to interrogate different types of evidence, introducing students to new and exciting types of information and sources. They will be inspired to think about History in new ways and discover how studying History might help them in their future careers.

Interior Architecture & Spatial Design

What is Interior Architecture & Spatial Design? Just imagine what life would be like if all interiors were the same! Interiors are powerful - they can dictate how we use and experience space and how it makes us feel. Find out more about this fascinating and diverse subject and what it takes to become an Interior Architecture & Spatial Designer.

International Tourism Management

Have you ever wondered how a resort becomes a 'must see', world class destination? What does it actually take to successfully promote a destination in today's competitive global environment? More importantly, what does it take to make the reality exceed the marketing hype and visitor expectations?

Are your students able to be creative, innovative, think on their feet and cope well under pressure?

This session is based around key tourism management scenarios that our academic staff have encountered during their time in industry and will reveal what it takes to succeed in the fast paced, multi billion pound tourism industry.

Law

In the sessions we will provide a brief overview of our law programmes and explain how the law team supports students through their degree at the University of Northampton. It will focus on how students can develop their academic and employability skills through extra curricular events and activities, including the diverse career opportunities available for those who study law. These range from the traditional routes to becoming a solicitor or barrister, to working for NGO's or roles within academia. The taster session will cover one of the foundation areas of law and students will be given the opportunity to explore various legal issues and how they apply in real world contexts.

Marketing

“With a wider remit than ever before, marketers today face a range of challenges...marketing as a function has more responsibility than ever – to guide a business towards growth in the face of uncertain times” (CIM 2018).

The central purpose of marketing is to create customer value and to deliver customer satisfaction.

Together we will explore what this means in a memorable and fun way. Keeping a finger on the pulse of changing customer trends and expectations has always been a marketer’s priority – but anticipating these and successfully delivering customer value in a fast changing world is harder than ever. Our approach is activity based and designed to highlight the skills needed by marketers in the real world.

Our interactive sessions will demonstrate how students are taught marketing at the University of Northampton, giving them an insight into how the course develops not only their academic knowledge, but also work related and employability skills required by employers today. Together we’ll explore the world of marketing in a fun way and discover how the marketing industry offers a world of opportunities.

Multimedia Journalism

This interactive session will get your students thinking about what it takes to tell a story. Our Multimedia Journalism team are experienced journalists in their own right and can inspire students with anecdotes about what life is like as a journalist. It would be a great fit for A Level or BTEC Media, Journalism and English students.

Sessions can also be offered covering social media, fake news and how to know what you’re reading is verified.

This session will appeal to students with an interest in Media and would also complement any A Level or Media courses requiring formal reporting skills.

Multimedia Sports Journalism

This interactive session will get your students thinking about what it takes to tell the story of Sport. Our Multimedia Sports Journalism team are experienced journalists in their own right and can inspire students with anecdotes about what life is like as a Sports Journalist. It would be a great fit for A Level or BTEC Media, Journalism, English, Sports Studies or PE courses.

This session will appeal to students with an interest in a career in Sports or Media and would complement any A level or Media courses requiring formal reporting skills or writing match reports.

Music Production

This interactive session will involve a discussion around the course, some viewing of students’ lecture/performance activities, and finally a workshop exploring Ableton Live software and the Playtronica.com MIDI devices. These devices will allow us to use anything conductive – i.e., plants, fruits, people, water, metal – as instruments. This opens a world of possibility for using music and technology in endless ways: music therapy, performance, sound design, and so on.

Occupational Therapy

Occupational Therapy asks what matters to you, not what's the matter with you. This session will provide pupils with a demonstration on how amazing the human body and mind are by using interactive activities that will challenge them with simple, everyday tasks. Occupational therapists are interested in activities that individuals do every day, and how injury, trauma or disease can limit people's abilities to do activities that they want and need to do. Pupils will learn to appreciate what their body and mind is capable of and how occupational therapy makes a difference to people's lives.

Politics and International Relations

Studying Politics and International Relations aims to develop your knowledge and understanding of the nature of contemporary politics and the international order.

Our Politics and International Relations team have a wide range of specialist interests and offer several sessions for you to choose from to cover a variety of themes within the subject area. This includes lectures on Russia and Ukraine, US Politics – Trump and the US 2024 Elections, UK Politics, EU Politics, Terrorism – What is Terrorism? and Nuclear Weapons in the 21st Century. The team also offer a lecture in Torture and Enhanced Interrogation, but we advise that this session is taught only to those in Sixth Form.

Popular Music

Do your students want to explore Popular Music?

The Popular Music course at the University of Northampton offers students a variety of experiences from performing on stage, developing standard music notation ability, recording techniques and learning to use music technology. As well as self promotion and industry know how.

This session is designed to extend their understanding about Popular Music as well as giving an insight into the employability skills they will acquire.

Primary Education (QTS)

Do your pupils aspire to make a difference and transform children's life chances? If so, becoming a primary school teacher will allow them to achieve their career ambitions. This interactive session will explore the attributes of what makes an effective teacher. There will also be the opportunity to ask questions about what to expect when studying for a degree in primary education and the journey towards qualified teaching status (QTS).

Psychology

Psychology is a vast discipline, exploring the what, how, and why of our mind and behaviour. Our Psychology team hold specialisms in areas of Neuroscience, Positive Psychology, and Education, amongst other niche areas of Parapsychology, Mental Health and Evolution. This interactive session draws on the area of Social Psychology, using our relationships, our non verbal communication, and issues of activism to demonstrate the impact psychology has on our everyday lives. The session will provide students with the real world application of psychology to take home with them, and consider how they may draw on psychology in their future education and career aspirations.

Social Work

Social Work is a profession that is dedicated to enhancing the well being and quality of life for individuals, families, groups, and communities. Social Workers aim to help people overcome challenges, improve their wellbeing, promoting human rights and access to necessary resources and support. The field of social work encompasses a wide range of settings and specialties, and social workers may work in areas such as healthcare, education, child welfare, mental health, substance abuse, criminal justice, and more..

Sociology

Sociology is the study of how society is organised and how we experience life. Our Sociology Team offers a choice of two taster sessions for the subject area: the first covers Sociology more broadly, detailing the empowerment and wide applicability associated with unlocking one's 'sociological imagination' and applying it to the social issues that the students care about most. The second session explores gender biases in education and the workplace, encouraging students to think beyond gendered socialisation, and to raise their aspirations for further study and their future employability.

Sport Coaching

Sport Coaching requires the development of both practical and theory coaching skills. So whether we aspire to coach at grass roots level or within high performance teams, we use tools such as performance analysis, athlete needs analysis, psychology, physiology and pedagogy to truly understand how to work within a multi disciplinary sports team. This interactive session will introduce 'The Coaching Tool Box' as we explore the factors (or tools) a coach can implement on and off the field to create high quality athletes and teams.

Sport Management and Leadership

Do you have students interested in working in the sport industry? This interactive session helps them to explore the wide range of management and leadership careers available in sport. Sessions can be tailored to specialist areas covered in this degree, including sport event management, sport leadership, sport marketing or women in sport. This session would be of interest to students studying sport or business courses.

Sustainable Logistics & Supply Chain Management

In many of the largest economies in the world, including here in the UK, up to one person in eight is employed in logistics and supply chain management. By its very nature, the logistics industry promotes international mobility, with professionals taking up posts around the globe. A career in logistics can be the key to a lifetime of discovering the diversity of the modern world of business. Our interactive sessions introduce students to the commercial and operational challenges of shipping goods over many thousands of miles. Can you get the right thing, to the right place, at the right time?

Working with Children, Young People and Families

Childhood to Youth – a balancing act: so much of the lived experiences of young people and their families seem to be about power - who has it and why, and what this means for the lives of children and young people.

In this session, we will explore the ways that children and young people are presented simultaneously as being 'at risk' and 'risky'. We will consider what power and empowerment, risk and safety mean for children and young people, their families, and those who work with them. In looking at several key issues impacting on children and young people, we will also be able to identify a range of professionals who work to support with those issues - which may help students to think further about their own career aspirations and the impact they might hope to make.

All sessions listed are available at time of printing, please contact the team for current availability.