

# Taster Days.

**2025-26**

**Aimed at learners aged 16-18, university Taster Days are a fantastic opportunity for students to visit our campus and get a real taste of what university life is like.**

Taster Days usually follow a similar format but can be tailored entirely to meet your requirements.

We offer a wide variety of interactive sessions; including; an introduction to HE, personal statement workshops, interview skills and a budgeting game.

Our Taster Days can also include an optional campus tour and Student Life presentation, subject to availability.

Alternatively, we have subject talks available from faculties across the university, please see below for details.



If you would like to make a booking, please complete the form and return to us, or contact **[schools.liaison@northampton.ac.uk](mailto:schools.liaison@northampton.ac.uk)** if you have any queries.

## Things to think about.

We appreciate that it can be difficult to choose a subject session for your students, particularly if there are diverse interests within a year group. Here some pointers to think about to ensure that the session is as beneficial as possible for your class.

### **What do your students want to study?**

Is there a particularly large group of History students or has one A Level proved to be very popular? Is there a shared interest that would appeal to the majority if you have a small group? Is there a particular career that your students are interested in and they need to study a degree course in that?

### **How many students are in your group?**

Subject sessions require a minimum of 10 participants to run. An activity with fewer students would not be realistic to the experience they would get at university. If you have a small group, it might be better for them to stay together to provide more interaction. If your group is larger, splitting them into a few subjects might provide more options if you have a group with mixed interests.

### **Do you have students that really don't know what to do?**

Are any students in your class not thinking about going to university, unsure of what subject they want to do, or would just benefit more from a more general session, rather than a specific subject talk? The aim of a Taster Day is to inspire the students, so putting them into a subject talk in which they have no interest will leave them bored and disengaged. We offer alternative sessions which can take place alongside the subject sessions and are designed to cater for those students.

## **Taster Day Agreement:**

**A minimum of 10 students is required for the day to go ahead.**

### **Risk Assessment:**

It is advised that you carry out your own Risk Assessment ahead of your visit to us in addition to reviewing our risk assessment for the day. The team will be more than happy to arrange a convenient time for you to visit campus to do this. Please ensure that you raise any issues or concerns as soon as possible. We can provide a University risk assessment on request, in addition to your own being conducted. Our University risk assessment does not cover transport providers.

### **Conduct and Behaviour Management:**

Student conduct is the sole responsibility of school/college staff. We ask that accompanying staff address any conduct issues in a timely manner to prevent disruption to the group as a whole. University staff will raise any concerns over whether this has been appropriately addressed should the behaviour continue. In instances where we do not feel that the staff member present has full control of the situation we may request that the trip organiser intervenes, this could include removing disruptive individuals from the sessions/activities for the remainder of the event.

### **Student/Teacher Ratio:**

Please ensure that ratios of students to teachers are appropriate and adhere to your school/college policies and requirements. University staff will lead sessions and activities but should not be included in the count of accompanying staff.

### **Additional Requirements:**

If a member of the visiting party (staff or students) have additional requirements please let us know as soon as possible. We will do everything we can to accommodate additional requirements to ensure that the individual(s) enjoy their time on campus, however if we are not informed with adequate prior notice (minimum 2 weeks) we may be restricted in what we can offer.

### **Lunch/breaks during the event:**

The team will schedule appropriate lunch and comfort breaks into the event, during these breaks student conduct is again the responsibility of accompanying staff and not of University representatives. Should students have any allergens or requirements these should be made clear to catering staff prior to ordering. As standard, lunch is not provided however there are a number of places on campus where students can purchase lunch and these will be pointed out on arrival.

### **Student Ambassadors:**

Our student ambassadors will lead campus tours and participate in some of the activities that make up the day. Please note that student ambassadors are not DBS checked and appropriate ratios of your students and accompanying staff should be such that groups are accompanied at all times.

### **Talks:**

Other subjects may be available upon request. Please note, a minimum of 10 students is required per subject session.

## Subject Talks.

### Accounting and 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.

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### Acting for Stage and Screen

This practical workshop 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.

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### 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.

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### 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.

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### 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.

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## **Business Management/International Business Management**

This session explores how national and global developments influence business management and decision making, with a focus on issues such as climate change, sustainability, and the role of culture in international business. Backed by a comprehensive bank of resources and current case studies, we work with you to design a session tailored to your students' needs.

Each session is interactive, relevant, and introduces the core themes students will encounter throughout the programme.

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## **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.

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## **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.

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## **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.

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## **Esports**

With a degree in Esports, you can gain a foothold in the world's fastest growing entertainment industry, moving far beyond just gameplay. You will learn about key topics such as event management (from LANs to large scale arena events), sponsorship, broadcast and livestreaming, team coaching and player management. Crucially, developing highly transferable skills in data analysis, digital literacy, strategic problem solving and working in teams are covered. In this guest lecture, you will explore what the esports industry expects from individuals in roles such as Esports Team Manager, Event Organiser and Content Creator, and the skills you'll need to succeed in this rapidly expanding global market.

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## 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.

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## Fashion, Textiles & Footwear

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.

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## 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.

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## Finance

Having a profitable investment portfolio is not guaranteed. Investment analysts have to make decisions based on a wide range of available information to enhance their investment performance. The aim of the sessions is to give students an introductory view into the financial world, with a focus on the role of different types of financial institutions and the use of financial products for investment decision making.

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## Geography

**Please note, this will be offered as a virtual session only**

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.

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## Graphic 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.

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## BA Human Resource Management

### People, Power, and the Future of Work – Discover Human Resource Management

Who decides who gets hired at your favourite football club? Who supports mental health at work? Who helps design the jobs of the future?

Welcome to the world of Human Resource Management (HRM), where people, strategy, and innovation come together to shape the future of work.

In this interactive session, you'll step into the role of an HR professional and tackle real world challenges faced by businesses today. From recruiting talent and promoting wellbeing to driving diversity and leading change, you'll explore how HRM influences everything from part time jobs to global organisations.

You'll also hear how studying BA HRM at the University of Northampton can open doors to exciting careers in leadership, people development, and workplace transformation. Whether you're passionate about helping others, solving problems, or making a difference, this session will show you how HRM could be the perfect path for your future.

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## 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.

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## Hospitality Management

Have you ever wondered how a hotel becomes the place everyone wants to stay, or how a restaurant earns its reputation for unforgettable dining?

What really goes on behind the scenes to make sure every guest has a great experience, from the moment they arrive to the moment they leave? More importantly, how do hospitality professionals make sure the reality lives up to (and even beats) the glossy adverts and five star reviews?

This interactive session introduces real life hospitality management scenarios drawn from our staff's own industry experience. Students will explore what it takes to work in hotels, restaurants, resorts, and events, from handling busy check ins and demanding guests to planning creative menus and running smooth operations.

It's all about teamwork, problem solving, and thinking on your feet in a fast paced, people focused industry that's worth billions worldwide. Students will get a taste of how exciting and rewarding a career in hospitality can be and what skills they'll need to succeed.

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## 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.

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## 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.

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## 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.

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## Marketing

In today's hyper connected, data driven world, marketing is no longer just about selling products - it's about creating meaningful experiences, building authentic relationships, and delivering value at every touchpoint. Modern marketing blends creativity with analytics, storytelling with strategy, and technology with human insight. It spans digital platforms, social media, influencer collaborations, and AI powered personalization, all while staying rooted in understanding consumer behaviour and societal trends. At its core, modern marketing is a dynamic, evolving discipline that empowers brands to connect, engage, and grow in ways that were unimaginable just a decade ago.

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.

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## 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.

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## 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.

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## 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.

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## 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.

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## 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.

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## 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).

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## 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 demonstrates 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.

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## 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 Local Authority Children's services, Adult social care, Education, mental health, Substance use and many more.

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## 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.

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## Sport & Exercise Science

With a Sport & Exercise Science degree, you can help athletes and teams to enhance performance and become record breakers, as well as improve the health and wellbeing of young and old alike.

If you enjoy learning about how to refine technique and movement, optimising athletes' training programmes, and developing the right nutritional strategies alongside building athlete's mental resilience and focus – Sport and Exercise Science is for you. In this guest lecture, you will explore how sport and exercise scientists personalise interventions that not only push the boundaries of athletic potential but also ensure long term health and wellbeing for everyday people.

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## **Sport Rehabilitation and Conditioning**

With a Sport Rehabilitation and Conditioning degree, you can help people recover from injury and optimise their physical functioning. You will gain very practical skills in injury assessment, manual therapy, and be able to prescribe the correct rehabilitation exercises and programmes in a wide range of settings, including professional sport, private clinics, the armed forces, and the NHS. In this guest lecture, you will learn about how knowledge of the human body and therapeutic approaches can set you up for a dynamic and impactful career in healthcare and performance.

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## **Sport & Exercise Psychology**

With a degree in the Psychological Science of Sport & Exercise, you will develop the knowledge and skills needed to understand and enhance mental factors impacting performance, participation and wellbeing in sport and exercise. You will delve deeply into areas such as motivation, confidence, and team cohesion, learning evidence based psychological techniques to help athletes achieve peak performance. The exercise component explores how psychological principles are applied to promote and sustain physical activity and healthy lifestyles. In this guest lecture, you will learn about how the importance of the mind body relationship and the practice of Sport & Exercise Psychologists in roles across elite sport, health promotion, and education.

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