

PERSONAL STATEMENTS: TASTER LECTURE

**TAKE
YOUR
PLACE**

WHAT IS A TASTER LECTURE?

A Taster lecture, sometimes called a guest lecture or webinar, is when you access a talk either in person or online by an academic from a certain university. In these talks they speak about a specific topic and often invite discussion. This is a similar format to lectures and seminars at university, so by taking part you get insight into university level study and something to write about in your statement.

HOW DO I FIND AND CHOOSE A TASTER LECTURE?

There are two main places to find taster lectures: through the UCAS tasters webpage by selecting a taster you're interested in via subject drop downs, or via a university webpage.

You can choose a lecture made by the institution that you are interested in to get more insight into a specific course.

However, even if it a lecture is run by a university that you are not applying to, you can still write about these sessions if they are interesting and subject related.



EXAMPLE OF HOW TO WRITE ABOUT...

A TASTER LECTURE...

How does the content relate to your course or university?



Be sure to make clear how the guest lecture inspired your thinking. Show that you have engaged with it.



“To extend my mathematical knowledge, I attended a guest lecture that was delivered by a university professor. It was beneficial to experience lecture-style teaching as an applicant and I could envisage myself enjoying this as a student. The professor discussed current research investigations into the teaching of mathematics in secondary schools; I was interested to discover that girls often tended to perceive maths more negatively than boys. I am considering researching this aspect of mathematics for my undergraduate dissertation.”

Don't forget your A B C's. Like Point, Evidence, Explain in English, we can use the acronym ABC to ensure we have covered everything in our super curricular example:

Activity

Benefit

Course

'YOUR TURN' WORKSHEET

Fill in the worksheet below whilst watching the taster lecture and put together your example:

<p>A Activity</p> <p>What was the talk topic about? Was it by a specific professor at a specific university? Mention their name.</p>	
<p>B Benefit</p> <p>What knowledge did you gain from the talk? What were the most interesting areas they explored?</p>	
<p>C Course</p> <p>How will the knowledge and skills you gained from this talk help you during your degree? Did you enjoy this style of learning? What part of this subject are you looking forward to exploring further in your degree?</p>	