

University of Liverpool

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Sunday Times ranking 31 (29)
Teaching excellence 60%
Student satisfaction 70.8%
Head teacher ranking 21 (24)
Peer ranking 32 (37)
Research quality 65.4%
A/AS-level points 364
A-levels for entry 94%
Unemployment 4.1%
Firsts and 2:1s 64.3%
Student/staff ratio 14.7:1
Dropout rate 10% (11%)

Undergraduates 13,361 (3,545)
Postgraduates 1,861 (2,442)
Teaching staff 1,004
Applications/places
31,498/4,546; 6.9:1 (-4.6%)
Clearing entry 11.2%
Bursaries 35%: £1,000-£1,300
Scholarships Various:
£600-£2,000

EU/overseas 2.8%/7.5%
Mature 11.8%
State school 85%
Lowest social classes 24%
Low-participation areas 14%
Live in 25% (100%) £67-£108

The university's relatively low dropout rate and one of the higher scores for student satisfaction among metropolitan universities say much about the quality of the student experience here. Liverpool is a city that knows how to enjoy itself and its students follow suit.

Academic standards are high, so students work and play with equal gusto. The new vice-chancellor, Professor Drummond Bone, is overseeing a £200m investment programme that will see substantial improvements to the university's fabric. A £20m upgrade to the Sydney Jones library is in progress and next year a small animal teaching hospital opens: Liverpool has one of just seven veterinary schools in the UK.

The research record is also out of the top drawer, with English, physiology, and mechanical, aeronautical and manufacturing engineering gaining the highest 5* ratings, denoting world-class status.

About one third of students (those getting any state grant) will qualify for a generous Liverpool bursary of at least £1,000. Academic scholarships worth £1,500 a year are also plentiful; those studying engineering and many science subjects who gain AAB or better at A-level can expect to benefit. Other academic awards, worth up to £2,000 a year, are available to the most able. **Open day** September 30. **Student view** Irfan Zaman, president of the guild of students: *USP* A university that is looking to the future. **Worst feature** Some people's outdated view of Liverpool.



Clay school: Wallace and Gromit creator Aardman helped design the University of the West of England's animation degree

Location In the centre of the city.
Social scene A great social life.
Rated excellent (23) Allied health professions (occupational therapy, orthoptics, physiotherapy, radiography); anatomy and physiology; archeology; business and management; civil engineering; classics and ancient history; communication and media studies; economics; English; environmental sciences; geology; French; history; law; maths, statistics and operational research; medicine; nursing; philosophy; physics and anatomy; politics; psychology; town and country planning and landscape; veterinary medicine.

Liverpool Hope University

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Sunday Times ranking 113= (109)
Teaching excellence 36.4%
Student satisfaction 66.9%
Head teacher ranking 91= (85=)
Peer ranking 89= (107)
Research quality 9.3%
A/AS-level points 216
A-levels for entry 62%
Unemployment 10.1%
Firsts and 2:1s 64.3%
Student/staff ratio 22.2:1
Dropout rate 23% (19%)

Undergraduates 4,317 (1,491)
Postgraduates 777 (1,086)
Teaching staff 246
Applications/places
8,650/1,854; 4.7:1 (+11.4%)
Clearing entry 12%
Bursaries 100%: £400-£1,000
Scholarships 550: £500-£2,000

EU/overseas 5.3%/0.4%
Mature 18.8%

State school 97%
Lowest social classes 39%
Low-participation areas 28%
Live in 24% (100%) £53-£85

Applications are booming at Liverpool's newest university, although it still has just 4,300 full-time undergraduates. Gains of 18% in each of the past two years have been built on by a further 11% rise this year.

Every student enrolling from this month will get a minimum bursary of £400, rising to £1,000 for those on a full state grant. Additionally, about 550 scholarships are offered. Anybody with AAA at A-level or equivalent will get the maximum £2,000 so-called excellence scholarship; 150 are expected to get £1,000 achievement awards; another 200 will get foundation scholarships of £500 if they meet criteria set by the awarding university school or college.

TOP TEN FOR RESEARCH

		% mark for excellence	Page
1	Cambridge	92.3	(20)
2	LSE	89.7	(37)
3	Oxford	89.1	(46)
4	Imperial College	83.4	(36)
5	Warwick	80.4	(60)
6	York	79.1	(62)
7	University College London	77.8	(39)
8	Southampton	77.2	(54)
9	Lancaster	77.1	(31)
10	St Andrews	75.8	(50)

Source: 2006 Sunday Times league table

Its two sites in Liverpool — Hope Park and Hope at Everton — are augmented by partner colleges in Blackburn, Wigan and Bury. The university, which has a large contingent of teacher training students, offers a new BA from next September in teaching modern languages in primary school.

The Desmond Tutu international centre for war and peace studies will officially open in November. The university still observes a foundation hour each Wednesday with religious services or talks by students, staff or guest speakers.

Liverpool Hope has links with business; undergraduates undertake flexible, paid work on Merseyside. **Open days** September 30; October 27; November 26; June 27, 2007.

Student view Matt Wilson, students' union vice-president: *USP* It is a small campus, so you are going to know everyone. **Worst feature** The university can sometimes seem over-parental. **Location** Part of a green, student-friendly suburb. **Social scene** You are guaranteed to make friends in freshers' week. **Rated excellent (6)** Business and management; environmental studies; geography; psychology; sociology; theology and religious studies.

Liverpool John Moores University

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Sunday Times ranking 86 (89)
Teaching excellence 53.8%
Student satisfaction 69.8%
Head teacher ranking 60= (76=)
Peer ranking 72= (79)
Research quality 17.7%
A/AS-level points 250

A-levels for entry 64%
Unemployment 10.6%
Firsts and 2:1s 48.4%
Student/staff ratio 18.3:1
Dropout rate 26% (21%)

Undergraduates 14,433 (4,670)
Postgraduates 1,323 (2,530)
Teaching staff 837
Applications/places
26,044/5,119; 5.1:1 (+0.7%)
Clearing entry 9.4%
Bursaries 60%: £400-£1,000
Scholarships 100+:
£1,000-£10,000

EU/overseas 3.2%/3.4%
Mature 15.1%
State school 95%
Lowest social classes 37%
Low-participation areas 24%
Live in 20% (100%) £59-£86

It would be hard to find a university doing more for business, urban regeneration and widening participation in higher education. Founded as a mechanics' institute in 1825, Liverpool John Moores (LJMU) knows how to position itself effectively. An art and design academy costing more than £23m has been timed to open during Liverpool's year as European Capital of Culture in 2008. It has also won £4.5m funding to establish a centre of excellence in teaching and learning to enhance students' vocational, leadership and entrepreneurial skills.

Six thousand students are placed annually with 1,500 small and mid-sized companies; 500 are on enterprise education programmes. Two-year foundation degrees are delivered at LJMU and partner colleges across the northwest. New courses include paramedic studies and community nutrition, forensic anthropology, building and plant services engineering and media professional studies.

The university steals the limelight with its scholarship scheme, which will benefit six students annually by £10,000. These vice-chancellor's awards are open to those who combine being academically gifted with excellence in other areas. Up to 100 dream plan achievers will get £1,000 per annum in return for getting AAA at A-level, while achievers awards, worth the same sum, will be nominated by students' schools. **Open days** October 30 and 31. **Student view** Jodie McDermott, students' union vice-president for communications: *USP* A university that is always progressing.

Worst feature Few sports facilities. **Location** Everything is central. **Social scene** Liverpool is completely student-oriented. **Rated excellent (14)** Building; business and management; communication and media studies; economics; hospitality, leisure, recreation, sport and tourism; land and property management; molecular biosciences; nursing and midwifery; organismal biosciences; pharmacology and pharmacy; physics and astronomy; politics; subjects allied to medicine (health studies); teacher training.