

# Attracting students to higher education

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#### My Themes

- Attracting students into HE is about a journey that starts well before the student applies and continues through to successful completion
- Attracting students is more competitive than ever
- •Advice and Guidance is vital and much will come from outside the institution, as will information
- •Information for students is a powerful tool and we are getting much better at providing it.

## Why 'attracting students'?

#### Its about a range of things:

 Conveying the distinctiveness of your own institution and of particular courses (USPs)

#### But also

- Raising aspiration and attainment so that all with the potential to benefit have a choice
- Convincing potential applicants of the benefit of HE
- Supporting students to succeed

All areas are ever harder in the current climate

# Clear, accurate information and integrity go hand in hand

If students leave without completing:

-They will have debt with little to show for it and many will regard themselves as a failure

- The institution takes a financial and reputational hit



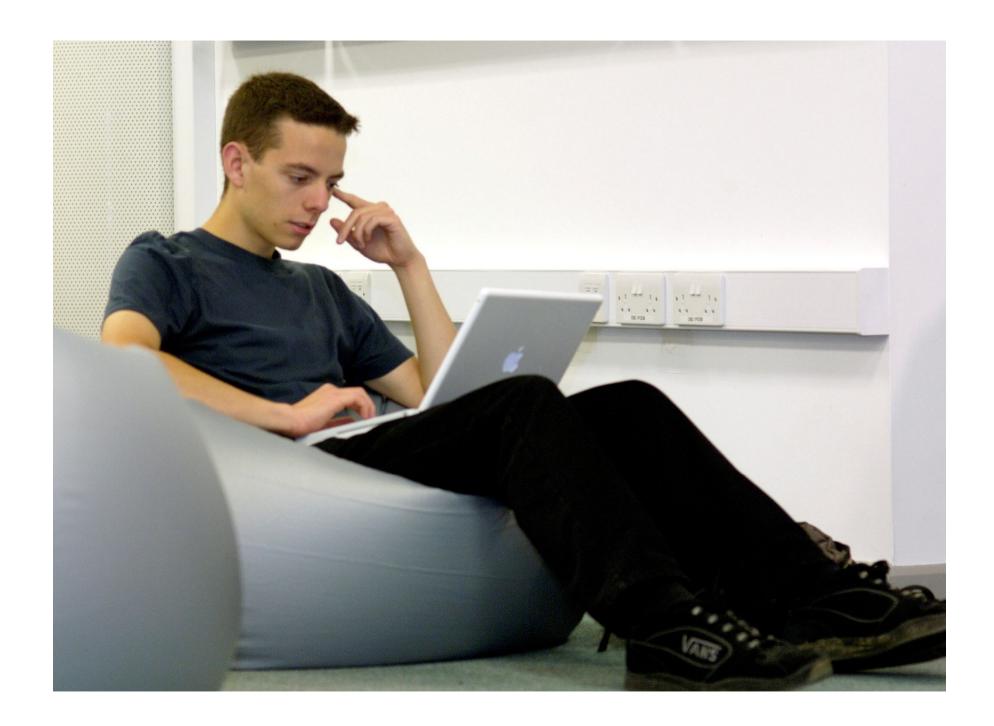
#### Information

#### A rich range of sources, especially for those from more privileged backgrounds

- Peers
- Parents
- Advisors, schools, colleges
- Social media
- Institutional websites
- Comparison websites
- Visits







#### Public information

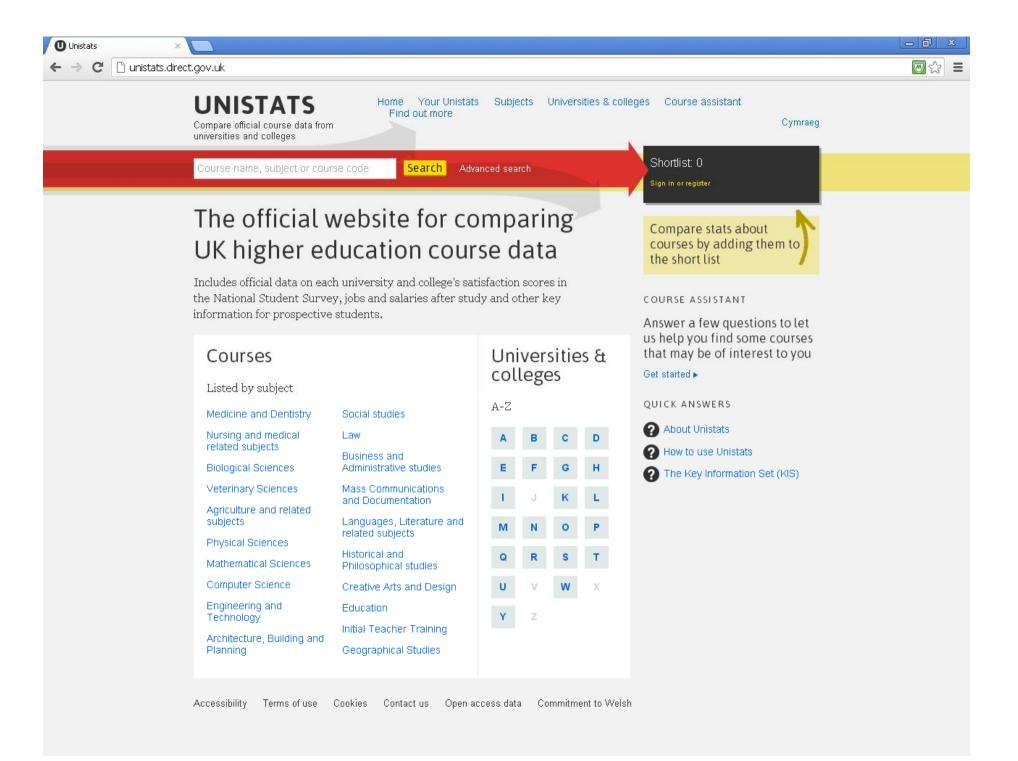


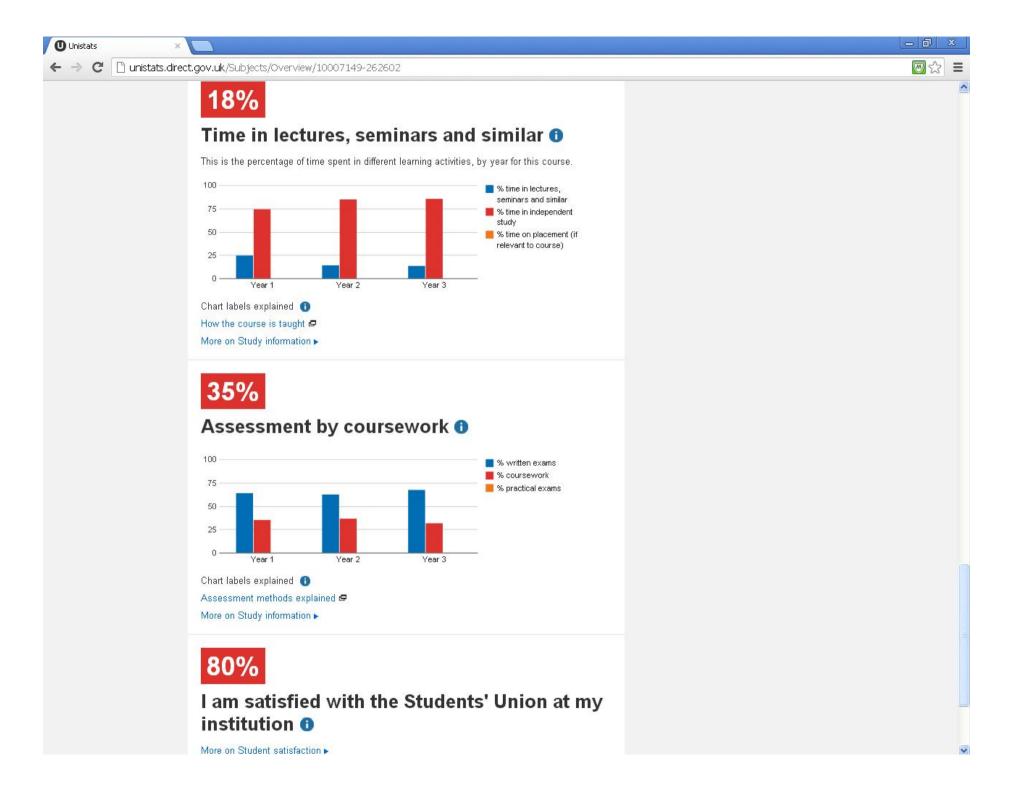
Objective information to inform decision making

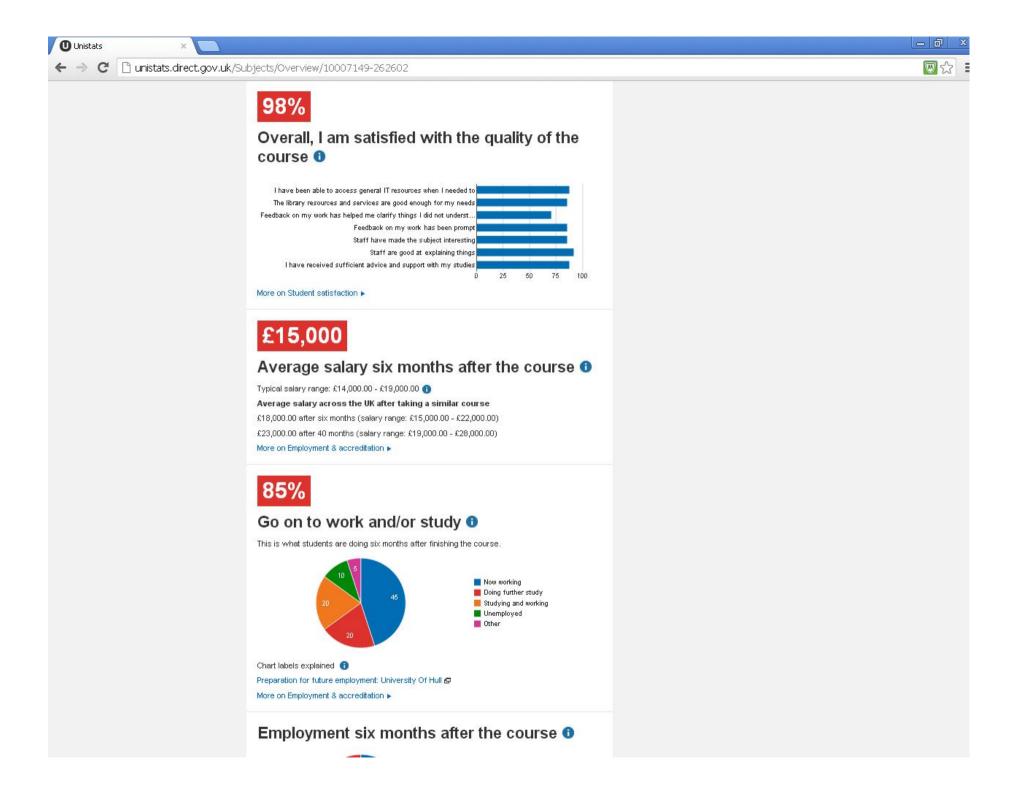
- •NSS
- DLHE
- Unistats

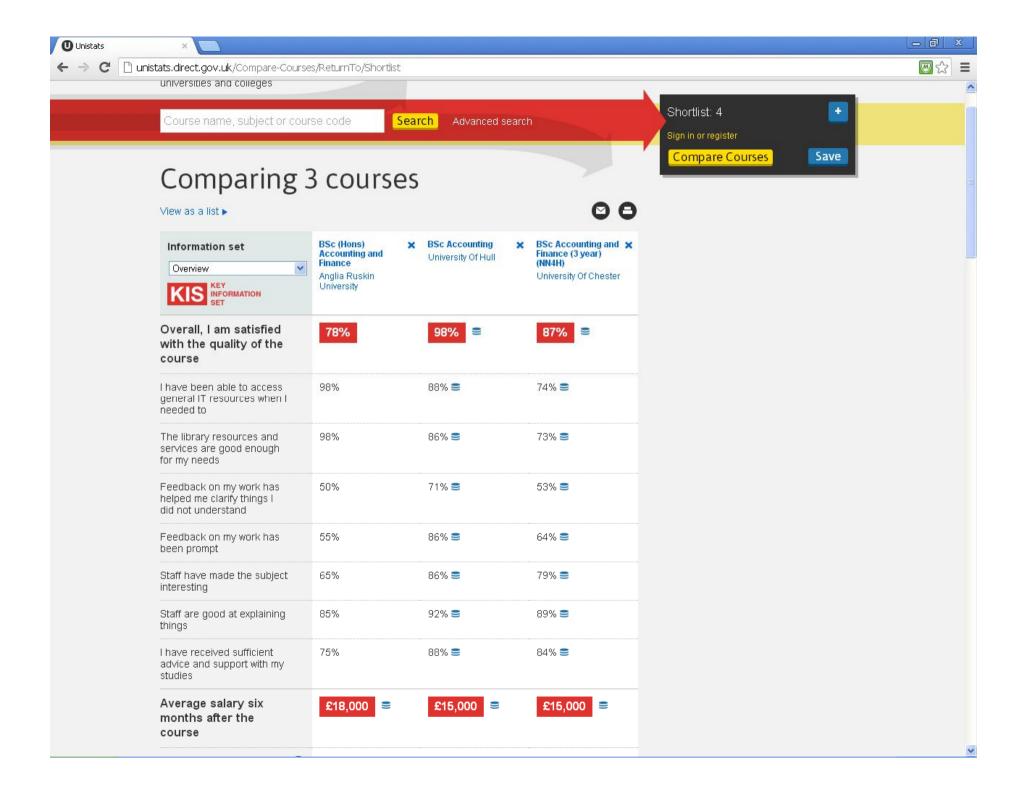
#### The new Unistats

- The KIS is central
- Data come from national surveys and institutional information
- As much information as possible is at course level
- Data are robust, comparable and searchable
- Unistats and the KIS are UK-wide
- Is being evaluated and will develop and evolve
- Data are available to third parties
- Can be reached through course pages, UCAS, Google etc









#### Twitter comments

'In Denmark our Ministry of Education uploads a PDF, meanwhile their British colleagues launch this: unistats.direct.gov.uk' 'Like the new Unistats website. Very interesting on the course im doing'

'Check out unistats!
An ace way to
compare
universities and
courses'

### **UK National Student Survey 2012**

- More students than ever before responded to the survey, 67%
- 85% said they are satisfied overall by their course
- In each of the main categories satisfaction has improved
- Assessment and Feedback rose from 68% to 70%.
- Unistats provides NSS data by institution and subject

## NSS results England 2011 and 2012

	% satisfied in 2011	% satisfied in 2012
Overall	83	84
Teaching	84	86
Assessment and feedback	68	71
Academic support	77	79
Organisation and management	75	77
Learning resources	80	82
Personal development	80	81
Student union	-	65
NHS placements	84	85

### Findings: PGT information needs

# Information currently perceived to be scattered, confusing and outdated

#### Applicants would like information on:

- Course specific application processes and deadlines
- Appropriate skills and background
- Fees and financial support
- Visa application processes
- Course content, class size, assessment methods and timetabling
- What is it like to study at institution x and what is the immediate location like

#### Student Success

# Successful outcomes are important:

- Retention and continuation
- Graduate employment
- Study





#### How to find out more

**Unistats:** <a href="http://unistats.direct.gov.uk">http://unistats.direct.gov.uk</a>

**HEFCE web-site:** www.hefce.ac.uk