



CASE STUDY

James Hunt

AS Level Mathematics

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Introduction

Braintree College student James Hunt is excelling in his AS Maths studies, having returned to full-time education for the challenge of learning an academic subject and the opportunity to prepare for university.

After taking GCSEs at The Philip Morant School in Colchester, James went straight to work after school and shortly afterwards realised that qualifications would be the key to wider career opportunities. He said: “I needed a challenge so decided to come back to college to study A Level Maths as I wanted a strong academic subject on my CV, in preparation for higher education.”

Achievement

James had looked at other colleges, but applied to Braintree College where, at the age of 19, he was able to enrol as a full-time A Level student. He said: “I was impressed with the induction process: Maths lecturer Ann Butt was very helpful in explaining the content of the A Level course and the skills required to succeed. I started AS Maths in September 2007, together with Philosophy and Economics, and am really enjoying it. The flexible course structure allows me to study an Applied Maths module that links well with other subjects, there are excellent resources including notes and worked solutions, and Ann is always there to help.”

The future

James continued: “This is the perfect route back into education for me: students have a supportive relationship with teaching staff and as a mature student I get an Adult Learning Grant, which helps. I am planning for my future career and aim to complete A2 Maths next year, alongside AS Further Maths, study for a degree in either Maths or Economics, hopefully followed by a PhD, and after that possibly university lecturing. It will be hard work but it is definitely worth doing.”

