
Senate Regulation 1: Regulations governing minimum entry qualifications and language requirements for taught programmes of study

General entrance requirements for undergraduate programmes of study

1.1. The following are eligible for admission:

- (a) Holders of a degree of a University in the United Kingdom or a degree awarded by the UK Council for National Academic Awards;
- (b) Holders of the General Certificate of Secondary Education (GCSE) or the Vocational Certificate of Education (VCE) General Certificate of Education (GCE) with:
 - (i) passes in FIVE subjects with at least two at Advanced Level or
 - (ii) passes in FIVE subjects with at least one Advanced Level and at least two at Advanced Supplementary or Subsidiary Level or
 - (iii) passes in FOUR subjects with at least three at Advanced Level or
 - (iv) passes in FOUR subjects provided all are at either Advanced or Advanced Supplementary Level.
- (c) Holders of the Scottish Certificate of Education (SCE) with:
 - (i) passes in FIVE subjects with at least three at the Higher Grade;
 - (ii) passes in at least THREE subjects at the Ordinary Grade provided the candidate has passes in two subjects at GCE Advanced Level or passes in one subject at GCE Advanced Level and two at Advanced Supplementary or Subsidiary Level;
- (d) Holders of the Irish Leaving Certificate showing passes at Grade C3 or better in five subjects at the Honours Higher Level;
- (e) Holders of a Business and Technician Education Council (BTEC) National Certificate or Diploma with two passes;
- (f) Holders of GNVQ Advanced Level (or double award Vocational Certificate of Education (VCE));
- (g) Holders of the European Baccalaureate;
- (h) Holders of the International Baccalaureate (IB) Diploma;
- (i) Holders of University of Leicester Certificates of HE for courses offered by the University's Institute of Lifelong Learning;
- (j) Holders of an Open University (OU) Foundation Course Credit;
- (k) Those who have passed, at a satisfactory level, the Cambridge Pre-U;
- (l) Those who have passed at a satisfactory standard an Access Programme, with a substantial number of credits at level 3 or equivalent, which is kite marked by an Authorised Validating Agency (AVA) under the Quality Assurance Agency;
- (m) Those who have passed at a satisfactory standard a Foundation Year programme offered by the University, or approved by the University and delivered by International Study Centre;
- (n) Holders of other qualifications (including those obtained overseas) which are deemed by the University to be equivalent to the above.

- 1.2. The following notes apply:
- (a) No subject may be counted at more than one level;
 - (b) Subjects having a similar content may not be counted together;
 - (c) Grades A, B and C only of the GCSE and of the GCE Ordinary Level are accepted as pass grades;
 - (d) Grade I in the Certificate of Secondary Education is accepted as equivalent to a pass in the GCSE or GCE Ordinary Level;
 - (e) Some subjects are regarded as more suitable than others as a preparation for a University course. Advice on the choice of subjects is given below.
- 1.3. Applicants who, in the judgement of the University, submit satisfactory evidence of previous serious study and of the academic aptitude to pursue the course proposed are also eligible for admission.
- 1.4. Qualifications required for admission to a foundation degree vary from programme to programme; details can be found in the University online prospectus.
- 1.5. The general entrance requirements set out above state the minimum standard of educational attainment required for admission to the University. In order to qualify for admission to a particular course candidates may need to attain a higher standard owing to the academic demand imposed by the course itself and the competition for places. Information about the specific entrance requirements for each undergraduate course is given in the Undergraduate Prospectus which can be obtained from the University website.

Choice of subjects for entrance qualifications

- 1.6. The range of subjects which can be taken in order to gain the qualifications for university entrance is very wide and applicants may find it difficult to make an appropriate choice. 'University and College Entrance: The Official Guide' gives advice on which subjects are required for entry to particular degree courses and which are preferred. For many courses, however, no specific subjects are required and, for the great majority, only one or two subjects are specified. The following advice about the choice of subjects reflects the general opinion of those responsible for undergraduate admissions at the University of Leicester and is offered as a set of guidelines which may be of assistance.
- (a) GCSE (and other 16 + examinations):
 - (i) **English Language and Mathematics:** these subjects are specified for only a minority of degree courses but it is assumed that most applicants will have taken them. They are required for those wishing to enter certain professions in the UK (including teaching).
 - (ii) **Dual Award Science:** this qualification is acceptable. If a particular subject (e.g. Chemistry) is specified in course entrance requirements, Dual Award Science will be accepted provided it contains an appropriate component of the subject.
 - (b) Advanced/Advanced Supplementary Level (and other 18 + Examinations):
 - (i) **Subject Overlap**

Subjects having a similar content may not be counted together. Possible examples of overlap may be Biology and Human Biology, Classical Studies and Ancient History, Economics and Business Studies etc. Such overlapping subjects may be discounted in assessing whether or not an applicant meets both general and course entrance requirements. Applicants requiring advice about whether two subjects are considered to overlap should consult the relevant Admissions Tutor or the Admissions Office.

(ii) **General Studies**

This subject is accepted for certain courses; candidates should refer to Course Entrance Requirements in the Undergraduate Prospectus for details. Where it is accepted it will be counted towards the entrance qualifications provided that it is offered as part of a group of at least three subjects (e.g. as a third A level or as an AS level).

(iii) **Other Subjects**

Examinations in all subjects governed by a recognised authority (e.g. examination board) are accepted by the University.

(iv) **GNVQ Advanced Level**

The University welcomes applications from students with GNVQ Advanced Level, which is regarded as equivalent to two GCE Advanced Levels. In order to ensure that GNVQ applicants are adequately prepared for university studies, some departments may require students to have taken additional units in specific areas, a GCE Advanced Level, or other credits in addition to the GNVQ Advanced Level. Advice about this may be sought from the relevant Admissions Tutor.

General entrance requirements for taught postgraduate programmes of study

- 1.7. The qualifications for admission to a taught masters degree, postgraduate diploma or certificate, as prescribed by the regulations which follow, represent only the minimum requirements for acceptance, and satisfaction of these requirements does not entitle a candidate to admission. This applies particularly to an applicant who wishes to pursue a masters degree, postgraduate diploma or certificate in a field different from that of their first degree.
- 1.8. To be registered for a taught postgraduate programme, a candidate shall hold a degree with first or second class honours or a higher degree of a University of the United Kingdom or of the Council for National Academic Awards, or an equivalent qualification.

In special cases the Graduate Dean may, on behalf of Senate, waive the requirement that a candidate shall have obtained the qualification stipulated above, but candidates without such a qualification shall be required to satisfy the examiners in a qualifying examination or otherwise be able to satisfy Senate that they are by virtue of previous training and experience or published work, qualified to pursue an advanced course of study.

English language requirements for all taught programmes of study

- 1.9. The following regulations apply for entry to the University from the 2018/19 academic year. For the regulations which apply for entry before that date please contact the Admissions Office.
- 1.10. All applicants should demonstrate their competency in English language by successfully completing one of the following:
- (a) Secondary education in a country accepted as teaching in the medium of English. *Please see the list of approved countries for details.*
 - (b) At least one year of an undergraduate or higher degree education delivered in English by an awarding body whose home base is in a country accepted as teaching in the medium of English. *Please see the list of approved countries for details.*
 - (c) An accepted qualification in English language at a level specified for the subject area. *Please see the list of approved qualifications for details.*

Qualification	Country	Requirements
Matura/Reifeprüfung	Austria	Grade 2
GCE/O Level 1120 Syllabus	Brunei	Grade C or above
Diploma za Sredno Obrazovani	Bulgaria	Grade 5 or above
GCE O Level, English	Cameroon	Grade C or above
Bevis for Studentereksamen	Denmark	Grade 7
Ylioppilastutkinto	Finland	Grade 5
Baccalaureat L'Option International English	France	Grade 12 or above
Baccalauréat General	France	Grade 14 or above
Abitur, English	Germany	Grade 12 or above
Studentsprof	Iceland	Grade 8 (as compulsory)
Irish Leaving Certificate	Ireland	Grade C or O4/H4 or above
Luxembourg Diplome de Fin d'Etudes Secondaires	Luxembourg	45 (Bien) or above
Matriculation Certificate English	Malta	Grade C or above
Cambridge Overseas Schools Certificate (COS) English	Mauritius	Grade C or above
HIGCSE	Namibia	Grade C or above
VWO, English	Netherlands	Grade 7 or above
Vitnemal	Norway	Grade 5 or above
Matura, Advanced English Language	Poland	75% or above
Fullständigt fran Gymnasieskolan, English	Sweden	Grade VG or C or above
Maturita	Switzerland	Grade 5 or above

- (d) An accepted test in English language at a level specified for the subject area, within two years of the start date of the course. *Please see the list of approved English language tests for details.*
- (e) An English language pre sessional course at the University of Leicester at a level specified for the subject area.
- (f) The Leicester International Study Centre foundation course at a level specified for the subject area.
- (g) An undergraduate degree at one of the following Indian universities (*including affiliated colleges*)
- (i) Anna University
 - (ii) Mumbai University
 - (iii) Pune University
 - (iv) Bangalore University

- (v) University of Delhi
- (vi) University of Madras
- (vii) Indian University of Technology (IIM)
- (viii) Indian Institutes of Technology (IIT)

1.11. Applicants may be asked to successfully pass a test which is set and marked by the University of Leicester at a level specified for the subject area.

1.12. List 1: Countries accepted as teaching in medium of English

Anguilla	Fiji	Singapore
Antigua and Barbuda	Gambia	South Africa
Australia	Gibraltar	St Kitts and Nevis
Bahamas	Grenada	St Lucia
Barbados	Guyana	St Vincent and the Grenadines
Belize	Ireland	Swaziland
Bermuda	Jamaica	Tanzania
Botswana	Kenya	Tonga
British Virgin Islands	Lesotho	Trinidad and Tobago
Canada	Malawi	Turks and Caicos Islands
Cayman Islands	Malta	Uganda
Christmas Island	New Zealand	UK
Cocos Islands	Niue	USA
Cook Islands	Norfolk Islands	Zambia
Dominica	Papua New Guinea	Zimbabwe
Falkland Islands	Sierra Leone	

1.13. List 2: English language requirement by subject area for students from countries not teaching in the medium of English (see List 3 for IELTS equivalencies)

Subject		Additional requirements
American Studies	IELTS 6.5	
Archaeology and Ancient History	IELTS 6.5	
Biological Sciences	IELTS 6.5	
Chemistry	IELTS 6.0	
Communications and Media	IELTS 6.5	
Computer Science	IELTS 6.0	
Criminology	IELTS 6.5	
Economics	IELTS 6.5	
Education	IELTS 6.5	At least 6.0 in each component score for MA Applied Linguistics with TESOL and MA TESOL
Engineering	IELTS 6.0	
English	IELTS 6.5	
Film Studies and Visual Arts	IELTS 6.5	
Geography	IELTS 6.5	At least 6.0 in each component score
Geosciences	IELTS 6.0	
Historical Studies	IELTS 6.5	

History of Art	IELTS 6.5	
Law (UG)	IELTS 7.0	
Law (PGT)	IELTS 6.5	At least 6.0 in writing and a minimum of 5.5 in all other components
Management	IELTS 6.5	
Mathematics	IELTS 6.0	
Medical Sciences	IELTS 7.5	At least 7.0 in each component score
Modern Languages	IELTS 6.5	
Physics and Astronomy	IELTS 6.0	
Politics and International Relations	IELTS 6.5	
Psychology	IELTS 6.5	
Sociology	IELTS 6.5	

1.14. List 3: English Language equivalencies

		IELTS (Academic)				
		5.5	6.0	6.5	7.0	7.5
Tests	TOEFL iBT	70	80	90	100	110
	Trinity College ISE	ISE II with Merit in all components	ISE II with Distinction in all components	ISE III with Pass in all components	ISE III with Merit in all components	-
	Pearson	46	54	61	68	68
	Cambridge CPE	Grade C	Grade C	Grade C	Grade C	Grade C
	Cambridge CAE	Grade C	Grade C	Grade C	Grade B	Grade B
	TEEP	5.5	6.0	6.5	7.0	7.0
	OIBEC	Pass	Pass	Pass	Pass	Pass
ESOL Skills for Life	Level 1	Level 1	Level 2	Level 2	Level 2	
Qualifications	GCSE English language	C	C	C	B	B
	A Level English Language	C	C	C	B	B
	AS Level English Language	C	C	C	B	B
	Cambridge O level	C	C	C	B	B
	Cambridge international GCSE, English as a First Language (syllabus 0500)	C with at least 2 in speaking and listening	C with at least 2 in speaking and listening	C with at least 2 in speaking and listening	B with at least 2 in speaking and listening	B with at least 2 in speaking and listening

Cambridge international GCSE, English as a First Language (syllabus 0522)	C	C	C	B	B
Cambridge international GCSE, English as a Second Language (syllabus 0500)*	B with at least 2 in oral and aural	B with at least 2 in oral and aural	B with at least 2 in oral and aural	A with at least 2 in oral and aural	A with at least 2 in oral and aural
Cambridge international GCSE, English as a Second Language (syllabus 0511)*	B	B	B	A	A
Scottish Advanced Higher or Higher English	C	C	C	B	B
Irish Leaving Certificate	C (pre-2017) O4/H4 (2017 onwards)	C (pre-2017) O4/H4 (2017 onwards)	C (pre-2017) O4/H4 (2017 onwards)	B (pre-2017) O3/H3 (2017 onwards)	B (pre-2017) O3/H3 (2017 onwards)
International Baccalaureate	Grade 4	Grade 4	Grade 4	Grade 5	Grade 5
European Baccalaureate	Grade 6	Grade 6	Grade 6	Grade 7	Grade 7
Indian National Board Standard XII	70%	70%	70%	80%	80%
Indian State Board Standard XII	80%	80%	80%	90%	90%
WASSCE English	C6	C6	C6	C4	C4
Sri Lankan O level in English	Credit	Credit	Credit	Distinction	Distinction
HKDSE English language	Grade 4	Grade 4	Grade 4	Grade 5	Grade 5
HKAL	C	C	C	B	A
Austrian Matura/ Reifeprüfung	-	Grade 2	Grade 2	Grade 2	Grade 2
Bruneian GCE/O Level 1120 syllabus	-	C	C	B	B
Bulgarian Diploma za sredno Obrazovani	-	Grade 5	Grade 5	Grade 5	Grade 5

Cameroon GCE O Level English	-	C	C	B	B
Danish Bevis for Studentereksamen	-	Grade 7	Grade 7	Grade 10	Grade 10
Finnish Ylioppilastutkinto	-	Grade 5	Grade 5	Grade 5	Grade 5
French Baccalauréat L'option International English	-	Grade 12	Grade 12	Grade 12	Grade 12
French Baccalauréat General	-	Grade 14	Grade 14	Grade 14	Grade 14
German Abitur, English	-	Grade 12	Grade 12	Grade 13	Grade 13
Icelandic Stúdentspróf, Compulsary English	-	Grade 8	Grade 8	Grade 8	Grade 8
Luxembourg Diplome de Fin d'Etudes Secondaires		45 (bien)	45 (bien)	45 (bien)	45 (bien)
Maltese Matriculation Certificate, English	-	C	C	B	B
Mauritian Cambridge Overseas Schools (COS), English	-	C	C	B	B
Namibian HIGCSE	-	C	C	B	B
Dutch VWO, English	-	Grade 7	Grade 7	Grade 8	Grade 8
Norwegian Vitnemål	-	Grade 5	Grade 5	Grade 5	Grade 5
Swedish Fullständigt från Gymnasieskolan, English	-	VG or C	VG or C	VG or B	VG or B
Swiss Maturità	-	Grade 5	Grade 5	Grade 5	Grade 5

* Not accepted for Medicine degrees