**English Language**

**Introduction**

The purpose of this document is to define what is acceptable for meeting the University’s English language requirement.

* GCSE English Language grade C or Grade 4, or above
* Country equivalencies for GCSE English Language grade C/4 as defined on the Qualification Database
* iGCSE English as a First Language grade C, Second Language grade B, in all four elements
* International Baccalaureate English grade 4 at either standard or higher level where the IB meets the normal, academic, entrance requirements
* AS Level in English Language or English Literature
* A level in English Language or English Literature
* European Baccalaureate English 6 (Language 1/2) or 7 (Language 3)
* Successful completion of a University of Surrey Pre-sessional English Language programme immediately preceding the main degree programme
* Pearsons Test of English - the test must have been taken within two years of the start of the course
* IELTS (Academic) - the test must have been taken within two years of the start of the course
* TOEFL (ibt)- the test must have been taken within two years of the start of the course
* Trinity College London Integrated Skills in English (ISE) - the test must have been taken within two years of the start of the course
* Cambridge Certificate of Advanced English
* Cambridge Certificate of Proficiency in English

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| IELTS (Academic) | 6.5 overall with 6.0 in each band | 7.0 overall with 6.5 in each band | 7.5 overall with 7.0 in each band |
| Cambridge Certificate of Proficiency | 176 overall with 169 in each component | 185 overall with 176 in each component | 191 overall with 185 in each component |
| Cambridge Certificate of Advanced English | 176 overall with 169 in each component | 185 overall with 176 in each component | 191 overall with 185 in each component |
| Pearsons Test of English | 62 overall with 56 in each component | 68 overall with 62 in each component | 74 overall with 68 in each component |
| TOEFL (ibt) | 92 overall with 20 in each component | 100 overall with 22 in each component | 110 overall with 25 in each component |
| Trinity College London  Integrated Skills in English (ISE) | ISE III with a pass in each skill | ISE III with a merit in each skill | ISE III with a distinction in each skill |

Postgraduate students do not need to provide an English Language test where:

1. They are a national of a majority English speaking country;
   * Antigua and Barbuda
   * Australia
   * The Bahamas
   * Barbados
   * Belize
   * Canada
   * Dominica
   * Grenada
   * Guyana
   * Jamaica
   * New Zealand
   * St Kitts and Nevis
   * St Lucia
   * St Vincent and the Grenadines
   * Trinidad and Tobago
   * United States of America
2. They have studied for a minimum of 2 years, and successfully completed within the past 5 years, a qualification at least equivalent to a UK Bachelors, taught in a majority English speaking county:
   * Antigua and Barbuda
   * Australia
   * The Bahamas
   * Barbados
   * Belize
   * Dominica
   * Grenada
   * Guyana
   * Ireland
   * Jamaica
   * New Zealand
   * St Kitts and Nevis
   * St Lucia
   * St Vincent and the Grenadines
   * Trinidad and Tobago
   * The UK
   * United States of America

1. They have studied for a minimum of 2 years, and successfully completed in the past 5 years, a qualification at least equivalent to a UK Bachelors, from a Russell Group university, taught entirely, or in part, at an overseas campus.

**Other qualifications**

Other tests, qualifications, or degree level study from elsewhere are not normally acceptable as evidence of competence in English, even when the degree is said to be taught in English, except in exceptional circumstances (see below) .

**Multiple qualifications**

In some cases a student will present a variety of pieces of evidence, sometimes conflicting, regarding English Language ability.

The principle here is to judge the student on the MOST RECENT piece of evidence, except that an IELTS taken no more than 6 months before the end of a degree course takes precedence over degree study. Where a student registers for an IELTS test but subsequently withdraws without taking the test, they are judged on the other criteria.

**Exceptions**

Exceptionally, the University will, on a case-by-case basis, consider whether applicants not meeting the English Language requirement by any of the above means have sufficient evidence demonstrating their proficiency at the appropriate standard in each skill area (listening, speaking, reading and writing). Evidence could include, employment history, previous English Language test results, or degree level study that falls outside of this policy. As well as providing evidence of ongoing use of English, applicants will also be interviewed.

Applicants who meet the English Language requirement by one of the above means may be asked to demonstrate their English proficiency by taking a recognised test where the application suggests a shortcoming

**Annual Review**

These guidelines will be reviewed on an annual basis, with a report to ASC.

Sam Matthews

Head of Admissions

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