

ADMISSIONS

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

Your ability to succeed and benefit from your course is the University's first concern in setting its entry requirements. We accept applications from individuals with a wide range of qualifications, including all post-16 qualifications in the UK, with full recognition given to relevant Key Skills, Functional Skills and vocational qualifications, including the new Advanced and Progression Diplomas. The University also considers applicants with other qualifications, including approved Access to HE courses, Open University credits and various professional qualifications.

To enter a degree course, you must satisfy or expect to meet our general requirements for entry, as well as your chosen course's specific entry requirements.

Minimum entry requirements exist as a guide to the level of education required to study on each course. We will decide if your qualifications meet these requirements when we consider your application. It is important to realise that our decision will be based on your overall suitability for the course and not only on whether you meet the minimum entry requirements.

You can find out which entry requirements apply to the course that you are considering by checking the relevant course listing in this prospectus.

CURRICULUM 2000 EQUIVALENCES

Offers to our courses are made using UCAS tariff points. The UCAS Tariff is a point-based system used to report achievement required for entry to higher education in a numerical format. It establishes agreed comparability between different types of qualifications and provides comparisons between applicants with different types and volumes of achievement. A table showing the numerical points awarded for all of the various UK qualifications is available on the UCAS website at www.ucas.com

Most of our courses require a Level 3 qualification. The following is a list of some of the UCAS Tariff bearing Level 3 courses that are acceptable for entry on their own, or in combination with other qualifications. For the full listing and tariff point tables please refer to www.ucas.com

- GCE A levels
- GCE A level Double Award
- Advanced Extension Award
- Diploma in Foundation Studies (Art and Design)
- Progression Diploma
- Advanced Diploma
- BTEC National Certificate
- BTEC National Diploma
- OCR National Diploma
- OCR National Extended Diploma
- Welsh Baccalaureate
- Scottish Higher
- Scottish Advanced Higher
- Irish Leaving Certificate
- International Baccalaureate
- Advanced Apprenticeships
- Work-based Learning: NVQ Level 3
- Cambridge Pre U.

ACCESS TO HE DIPLOMA

The Access to HE Diploma is a qualification that was phased in between 2007 and 2009 to replace the old Access to HE Certificate. We require a minimum 60 credits, including 45 at Level 3, for entry onto a degree course.

THE EXTENDED PROJECT

The University welcomes the opportunity that the Extended Project will give to applicants. It will

demonstrate their creativity and their abilities to learn independently, to communicate and to collaborate. We will be offering an Extended Project module to students in Years 12 and 13 during the school holidays.

INTERVIEWS

You may be invited for an interview before an offer is made. This could be the normal practice for that particular course, or it could be because your application is unusual in some way and the University wants to check that it is the right course for you. You may be interviewed individually or as part of a group. Interviews are usually arranged using the UCAS track system.

AUDITIONS

All performance courses require attendance at an audition. You will be sent further information about your audition requirements when applying.

PORTFOLIOS

Some courses require you to submit a portfolio or attend an interview with a portfolio. A portfolio should consist of a collection of work and is used to demonstrate the creative and technical skills that you will bring to the course. The collection of work should be chosen to show you in the best possible light and demonstrate a breadth of skills appropriate to the pathway in which you are seeking a place.

Normally, we would expect the portfolio to contain several pieces of work which ideally should show a variety of skills developed over time. It is often useful to include evidence of the progression of creative thought and the development of technical skills.

Traditionally, a portfolio would be a physical folder of artworks. Increasingly however, many other forms of presentation are more appropriate. For example, you may wish to present a portfolio of digital artefacts on a CD, or exhibited at a given website address.

CREDIT FOR PRIOR LEARNING AND EXPERIENCE

If you have relevant work experience or qualifications, you may be able to get exemptions from part of your chosen course. We can assess your past experience and/or qualifications and where possible allow them to count against a new course you are planning to study.

You can apply to gain academic credit if you have done one of the following:

- completed relevant work or voluntary experience
- passed a credit-rated module at a college or university
- gained a professional qualification
- participated in other courses or training.

If your claim is successful, you may be exempt from parts of the course or start it at a higher level.

Advantages:

- reduces the time of study
- gets your experience valued
- avoids repetition of learning
- makes financial savings
- gets your learning 'credit-rated'
- puts your academic credits towards qualifications.

Your Course Leader will be able to discuss this possibility with you, and you may need to start this process well in advance. You can combine Credit for Learning (APL) and Credit for Learning from Experience (APEL) to be able to start your course at a higher level. Fees will be incurred to accredit this prior learning and/or experience.

You can also apply to transfer credits that you have achieved at another university, via our Credit Accumulation and Transfer Scheme (CATS).