

# ENGLISH LANGUAGE COMPETENCE

The University teaches and assesses its courses in English and your work will be examined alongside students whose first language is English. We look carefully at your own English language skills and qualifications when considering your application. If English is not your first language, or if your previous education was not conducted fully in English, you will need to provide documented evidence of your English language competence. For undergraduate entry, we would normally be looking for IELTS 5.5 or equivalent. There are details of English language equivalences on our website, these include TOEFL, GCE, UCLES and AQA. For further information visit [uwl.ac.uk/intUGentry](http://uwl.ac.uk/intUGentry)

If you have alternative qualifications which are not listed on our website, please consult the International Office to find out if these are acceptable.

e-mail [learning.advice@uwl.ac.uk](mailto:learning.advice@uwl.ac.uk)

If you do not have an English language qualification, but would like to do a course here, we have a number of English language courses which, on successful completion, will give you an English language award recognised by the University. This will allow you to enrol onto the appropriate course. The full portfolio of courses can be found on page 69.

## PRE-SESSIONAL

The Pre-sessional is an intensive period of study before the start of a semester. It is designed to equip individuals who have gained a place on one of our undergraduate or postgraduate courses to enhance both study skills and improve language skills necessary to facilitate success in academic studies. It will also help identify skills appropriate to specific tasks and audience and encourage students to implement them with confidence. Students will learn to develop individual reflective skills and increase awareness and ability to work productively within a group.

## HOW WILL I BENEFIT FROM IT?

It will be particularly useful to anyone returning to education as a mature student, or if you are coming to study in Britain for the first time. It will help you to settle quickly into your life as a student here and onto your university course of choice. You will have the opportunity to meet other students from both the UK and the rest of the world and make some friends before your course begins.

## SUMMARY

The Pre-sessional will help you to develop your study skills, plan towards personal, academic and career goals and prepare you to achieve your potential in higher education. Starting from an individual perspective, you will focus on recognising your current strengths and weaknesses and self-motivation in relation to academic study. Approaches to learning, personal and sensory learning styles, self organisation and time management will also be included.

You will be asked to set yourself targets and complete a personal action plan, which will help to improve your learning and performance. From an individual perspective, you will be asked to reflect on how you use your skills in working with others, understand group dynamics and the role(s) played within a group.

---

## WHAT WILL I LEARN?

We will prepare you for future study by introducing you to:

- study skills and learning styles – identifying current personal strengths and learning skills
- finding information – developing research skills, referencing and bibliographies
- time management – self organisation, time management skills and setting personal targets
- effective and ineffective listening habits and strategies – taking and making notes
- the characteristics of academic writing – getting started on writing: introduction to essay/report writing
- types of plagiarism and how to avoid it
- pre-writing strategies – knowing your target audience and structuring your work
- formal conventions for academic writing
- working with others – understanding individual roles in group work and handling conflict
- group presentations versus individual presentations
- taking part in discussions
- critical reading
- critical thinking.

## LENGTH OF COURSE

The course lasts for four weeks. The first three weeks are class contact and the fourth week is portfolio completion and individual tutorials.

## HOW MUCH DOES IT COST?

The course is free to all students who have accepted a full or part-time place at the University. If you do not continue with your studies here, course fees will be applicable and any deposit paid for your follow-on course will be kept by the University.