

English Language Requirements

English language proficiency is a vital skill whilst undertaking a research degree, applicants are therefore expected to provide evidence of their proficiency in English by way of an approved test. A list of acceptable tests for UK/EU students as well as those acceptable for Overseas Students, are detailed below:

UK/EU Students

- GCSE/IGCSE English Language
Pass at Grade C
- Irish Leaving Certificate English
Grade C
- Scottish Higher or Standard Grade English
Grade C
- IELTS Academic
Overall grade 6.0, with a minimum of 5.5 in each component
- Cambridge English Certificates
 - Preliminary** - Pass with distinction and Exceptional in all 4 components
 - First** - Pass at Grade B OR Pass at Grade C plus Borderline in all 4 components
 - Advanced** - Pass at Level B2 and Weak in all 4 components
 - Business** – Pass with Distinction and Exceptional in all 4 components
 - Business Vantage** – Pass at Grade B OR Pass at Grade C plus Borderline in all 4 components
 - Business Higher** – Pass at Level B2 and Weak in all 4 components
 - Legal** – Pass at B2 and Borderline in all 4 components
 - Financial** – Pass at B2 and Borderline in all 4 components
- City & Guilds (Pitman Examination in International ESOL)
Pass at Mastery level when achieved with a pass at Mastery level in the Pitman International Spoken (ISESOL) test.
- IGCSE English as a Second Language, Syllabus 0510
Pass at Grade C
- International Baccalaureate (IB)
IB Standard or Higher Level English – Grade 4
- Pearson Test of English (Academic)
61 or above with a minimum of 51 in each of the 4 components

- European School Leaving/Matriculation Certificates

Austria - In the Matura/Reifeprüfung, 2 (gut) in English when both written and oral examinations have been taken.

Belgium - In the Diploma van Secundair or the Certificat d'Enseignement Secondaire Supérieur, the equivalent of 8/80%/grote onderscheiding/avec grande distinction in English.

Denmark - In the Studentereksamen, 10 in English.

European Baccalaureate – Grade 6.5 in English

Finland - In the Ylioppilastutkinto/Studentexamen matriculation examination, 5 (magna cum laude approbatur) in English.

France - In the Baccalaureat l'option international, Grade 11 in English

Germany - In the Abitur, 11 in English

Iceland - In the Studentsprof matriculation examination, 8 in English when taken as a compulsory modern language.

Luxembourg - In the Examen de Fin d'Etudes Secondaires, 45 (bien) in English.

The Netherlands - In the Voorbereidend Wetenschappelijk Onderwijs (VWO) diploma, 7 (ruim voldoende) in English.

Norway - In the Vitnemal - Grade 4 in English.

Sweden - In the Avgångsbetyg, VG (val godkant) in English.

Switzerland - In the Maturitätzeugnis/Certificat de Maturité/Attestato de Maturità federal maturity certificate or the federally-recognised cantonal maturity certificate, 5 (gut/bien/bene) in English.

- Pearson Test of English (Academic)

61 or above with a minimum of 51 in each of the 4 components

Overseas Students

Non UK/EU students, who do not hold a degree from the UK or other UKVI-recognised majority-English-speaking country, must have a UK Home Office approved test. As of 06 April 2015 the only accepted test providers are:

- [IELTS](#) - Applicants must have IELTS (UKVI (Academic)) awarded with an overall grade of 6.0, and no individual component less than 5.5;
- [Trinity College London](#) - Applicants must have Integrated Skills with English, awarded with level B2 or above.

Self or privately funded students must supply their certificate within 60 days of submission of PhD application. Students applying for the main studentship competition must submit their certificates by 15 August 2017.

Please note that the University is unable to accept applications with TOEIC in their history.