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This document is part of the Academic Regulations, Policies and Procedures which govern the University's academic provision. Each document has a unique document number to indicate which section of the series it belongs to.

3A – STANDARD ADMISSIONS REGULATIONS

Undergraduate programmes

1 SCOPE AND PURPOSE

- 1.1 Undergraduate applicants must have a set of skills required to fulfill the demands of the programme. These regulations outline the requirements for applicants to be admitted to Bournemouth University undergraduate programmes, including foundation degrees.
- 1.2 These regulations will inform all admissions decisions including the setting of entry requirements for new programmes.

2 KEY RESPONSIBILITIES

- 2.1 Head of Admissions will review the admissions regulations as appropriate.

3 LINKS TO OTHER BU DOCUMENTS

[3B - Admissions Policy \(Taught Programmes\)](#)
[3P - Recognition of Prior Learning \(RPL\) Policy and Procedure](#)
[3H - English Language Policy](#)

4 STANDARD ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

- 4.1 Undergraduate applicants require a minimum of GCSE grade 4 or grade C in English and Mathematics or qualifications considered by BU to be equivalent at Level 2 of the Framework for Higher Education Qualifications (see Appendix A).
- 4.2 Non-UK applicants for whom English is not their first language must offer evidence of English language ability in all four components: Listening, Speaking, Reading and Writing. The standard English language requirement of an undergraduate taught programme is IELTS (Academic) 6.0 with a minimum of 5.5 in writing, speaking, listening and reading.
- 4.3 The standard entry requirement of an undergraduate programme (level 4 entry) is a minimum of 2 A-Levels or qualifications considered by BU to be equivalent at Level 3 of the Framework for Higher Education Qualifications. For Foundation degrees, a minimum of 1 A-Level or equivalent is required.
- 4.4 The standard entry requirement of a level 0/level 3 programme is a minimum of 1 A-Level or qualifications considered by BU to be equivalent at Level 3 of the Framework for Higher Education Qualifications. A combination of academic and experiential learning (such as work-based learning or extra-curricular activities in a relevant field) will be considered on its individual merits and may be acceptable if the applicant does not possess traditional qualifications. Non-UK applicants for whom English is not their first language must offer evidence of English language ability in all four components: Listening, Speaking, Reading and Writing. The standard English language requirement of a level 0/level 3 programme is a minimum of IELTS (Academic) 5.5 with a minimum of 5.5 in writing, speaking, listening and reading.

- 4.5 Entry requirements based on academic or professional qualifications from outside the UK are determined using guidance from UK NARIC (www.ecctis.co.uk/naric/Default.aspx) as well as other external bodies such as UCAS, British Council, overseas governments and international market experience and expertise. Official translated transcripts will be required if qualifications are not certificated in English.
- 4.6 Other qualifications will be considered for entry to an undergraduate programme if listed on the Register of Regulated Qualifications (<https://register.ofqual.gov.uk/>) and will be assessed by benchmarking against traditional qualifications using agreed methods.
- 4.7 Level 3 Advanced Apprenticeships will be considered for entry to an undergraduate programme if they lead to industry recognised standards or qualifications.
- 4.8 If an applicant has completed multiple qualifications at Level 3 of the Framework for Higher Education Qualifications, academic achievement will be calculated from a maximum of four A-Levels or equivalent. Applicants who have completed an Access to HE Diploma will be able to supplement their grades with a maximum of one A-Level or equivalent qualification.
- 4.9 The University is not able to accept multiple qualifications in the same subject.
- 4.10 A combination of academic and experiential learning (such as work-based learning or extra-curricular activities in a relevant field) will be considered on its individual merits and may be acceptable if the applicant does not possess traditional qualifications.

5 NON-STANDARD ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

- 5.1 Some programmes require applicants to evidence subject knowledge with an appropriate qualification and grade in a relevant subject area.
- 5.2 Some programmes may have additional entry requirements if the application form alone does not demonstrate an individual's potential to succeed. Accredited or regulated programmes may have additional requirements to satisfy the guidelines of the relevant organisation.
- 5.3 Programmes that lead to a profession may require a level of experience in a relevant vocational area or similar work in closely related fields.
- 5.4 Applicants to programmes that lead to a professional qualification may need to undertake an Occupational Health and Enhanced Disclosure Barring Service/International Police check, the outcomes of which will be taken into consideration as part of the admissions process. Our website will indicate if these checks are required or not.
- 5.5 All applicants are required to provide a personal statement and an academic reference as part of their application. For some professional programmes, an additional professional reference is required. The University is unable to accept a reference from a friend or family member and may not be able to accept references from a personal email address.
- 5.6 An interview may be required to assess competency, communication skills, motivation to study or other attributes as required by a professional organisation.
- 5.7 A portfolio review may be required to assess ability or to demonstrate how an applicant's previous experience contributes to achieving the course learning outcomes.
- 5.8 There are additional requirements for students applying for direct entry to a programme with existing credit. Please see 3P Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL) and UKCT Policy.

- 5.9 Applicants may be admitted to level 6 of a programme with credit and advanced standing on successful completion of an HND/Foundation degree (awarded by a UK HEI, Pearsons or SQA) or an equivalent qualification in a partner institution, the learning outcomes of which are demonstrably appropriate in terms of knowledge, understanding and skills, and which may carry at least 120 Level 4 and 120 Level 5 credits. A minimum level of performance may be specified.

6 REFERENCES AND FURTHER INFORMATION

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- 6.1 This policy was reviewed according to the University's [Equality Analysis Procedure](#) in May 2019.

Appendix A: Qualifications and Grades considered equivalent to GCSE Grade C or 4 in Mathematics

Qualification	Grade
Access to HE Diploma (12 Level 2 Credits) up to and including 2014	Pass
Ascentis Level 2 Certificate in Mathematical Skills	C
A Level in relevant subject (e.g. Accounting, Physics, Chemistry, Statistics, Design and Technology, Psychology)	C
Bachelor's Degree	2:2
Certificate or Diploma of Higher Education	60%
City & Guilds Adult Numeracy (up to and including 2012)	Pass
CSE Mathematics	1
Free Standing Maths qualification	C
WJEC GCSE in Mathematics: Numeracy	C
Functional Skills Level 2 in Mathematics	Pass
GCSE Application in Mathematics & GCSE Methods in Mathematics	C
GCSE Arithmetic	C
International Baccalaureate Middle Years Programme	4
Key Skills Level 2 Application of Number	Pass
NVQ Level 2 Mathematics	Pass
O Level Mathematics or Arithmetic	Pass
Open University Y182 - Starting with Maths	Pass
RSA Numeracy Level II	Pass
Essential Skills Level 2 Application of Number	Pass
Standard Grade in Mathematics (Scotland)	3
National 5 in Mathematics (Scotland)	C
Essential Skills Level 2 Application of Number (Wales)	Pass
International Baccalaureate Mathematics or Mathematical Studies (Standard Level)	S5

Qualifications and Grades considered equivalent to GCSE Grade C or 4 in English

Qualification	Grade
A Level	C
Bachelor's Degree	2:2
Certificate or Diploma of Higher Education	60%
CSE English	1
GCSE English Language or English Literature	C
Key Skills Level 2 Communication	Pass
Functional Skills Level 2 in English	Pass
NVQ Level 2 English	Pass
IGCSE English - First language (Syllabus 0500 or 0522)	C
IGCSE English - Second language (Syllabus 0510 or 0511)	C
International Baccalaureate Middle Years Programme	4
International Baccalaureate Standard Level English Language/English Literature	S5
Level 1/Level 2 Certificates	C
Level 2 Essential Skills Communication (Northern Ireland)	Pass
Standard Grade in English (Scotland)	3
National 5 in English (Scotland)	C
Level 2 Essential Skills Communication (Wales)	Pass