Educational Research PhD Applications

How we assess applications

A. The FASS Admissions office receives applications via the online portal. As the documentation comes in and the admissions file is complete, they are then referred to the department via the online admissions system.

B. The Postgraduate tutor makes an initial assessment of the application and then sends it to prospective supervisor/s for a second assessment. The criteria used by both are as follows:

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<th>Excellent</th>
<th>Good</th>
<th>Fair</th>
<th>Poor</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1.</td>
<td>Match with supervisor</td>
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<td>2.</td>
<td>Research Proposal</td>
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<td>3.</td>
<td>Qualifications and CV</td>
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<td>4.</td>
<td>References</td>
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<td>5.</td>
<td>English Language</td>
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1. Match with potential supervisor interests and wider department research interests
2. Quality of research proposal.
   - Indication of ability to write to the appropriate standard
   - Indication of ability to theorise.
   - Feasibility of design.
3. Academic qualifications. (An average of 60% in Masters courses is the University’s recommended guideline)
4. Potential as indicated in the two academic references
5. English scores (Overseas students)

Minimum Requirements:
- TOEFL – Paper Based. Minimum direct entry -580 - good scores required for the reading & writing elements
- TOEFL – Internet Based. Minimum entry iBTOEFL - 93.
- Minimum scores of 21 writing; 21 listening; 22 reading and 23 speaking.
- IELTS - Minimum direct entry - 6.5.
- Minimum score 6.0 for reading & writing and 5.5 for listening and speaking.

Applicants who do not meet the minimum entry requirements may be subject to a conditional offer - condition being attendance on the appropriate ELPP course.

English Language Preparation Programme - http://lancs.ac.uk/users/international/elpp.html

There are three courses - 30 wks – January to August; 12 wks – July to Sept; 4 wks - Sept

If a student’s English test is older than 2 years they will be asked to re-test.

Note: the availability of potential supervisor/s is a factor – some academics are up to quota and may not have space to take on new supervisees.

C. The candidate is informed of the decision via the Admissions Portal.

Paul Trowler
Research Students’ Tutor (08 2011)