Supporting International Students into Higher Education

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BSc Geography

2012 Grad, Grizedale College

Officer Training Corps, Nightline, Fell Running

Hong Kong, Laos, London
The Animal Game

It’s simple...

• List 3 animals, any animals.
• List 3 characteristics for each of the animals

E.G: Lion= Strong, brave, fierce.
By the end of today..

International Specific Admissions Requirements

Visa Application- Top Tips

The Benefits of Supporting Social Integration
Admissions Advice:

Subject Specific Requirements

These can cause confusion and deter students from making applications

These grades apply to everyone here, although they do fluctuate between institutions, and may be subject to change over time so please do confirm if necessary. These are for guidance.

GCSE Grade B- Most common: Math for all our LUMS subjects, Environmental science, Engineering, Philosophy, Chemistry, Biology, Psychology. These are to make sure students are at correct level to manage the course.

For those without GCSE’s we can check the home qualification equivalent...
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Qualification</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>China:</td>
<td>As a general rule accept HUIKAO at 80% for grade B. If less, check with</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>International Office for guidance</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Malaysia:</td>
<td>Higher School Certificate (STPM) / Matriculation Certificate) Grade B</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hong Kong:</td>
<td>Hong Kong Diploma of Secondary Education (HKDSE) Grade 4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Iran:</td>
<td>Pre-University Certificate or National Entrance Examination (Kunkur)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Transliteration: Peeshdaneshgahe. 10 in Pre-Uni Cert/Kunkur OR 16 in HSD/CCSE</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nigeria:</td>
<td>Foundation year required</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Saudi Arabia:</td>
<td>Foundation year required</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Singapore:</td>
<td>Singapore/Cambridge O Level B</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Country</td>
<td>Qualification</td>
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<td>-----------------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Germany:</td>
<td>Grade 4 in Abitur/ZAH OR 2 in Realschulabschluss / Mittlere Reife or equivalent</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>France:</td>
<td>Baccalauréat (General) OIB: (Option Internationale) 12 (11.5 for OIB)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Iran:</td>
<td>10 in Pre-Uni Cert/Kunkur OR 16 in HSD/CCSE</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Italy:</td>
<td>Diploma de Esame di Stato or Diploma Matrita Grade 6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spain:</td>
<td>Grade 5 in Titulo de Bachiller or 8 in ESO</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Romania:</td>
<td>Diploma de Baccalaureat Grade 6 in Baccalaureat OR Grade 8 at Grade 10 (Compulsory Education Graduation Diploma)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bulgaria:</td>
<td>Diploma za zavarsheno sredno obrazovanie Grade 3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Subject Specific Requirements

Alternatively (and more easily) we will also accept the required subject at 65% in the IFY.

Some subjects require a grade A at A-level, eg. Maths, Physics, Medicine, Economics (study abroad) etc. This generally translates to 75% in their foundation.

Subject Specific Issues: A level English Literature is required for our popular English literature+ Creative Writing course- any literature studies will do, e.g. home language.

Please do always confirm these with myself or admissions first!

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The GCSE rule...

We require international students to have 2 years post GCSE study before applying to our courses.

This only applies to those who have studied GCSE in their home country, then want to progress to a degree course.

Not applicable to those who have completed their home country secondary education (unless specified).
# Our pre-sessional English courses

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>4 Week EAP Course</th>
<th>10 Week Pre-sessional Course</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Begins 2\textsuperscript{nd} September</td>
<td>Begins 16\textsuperscript{th} July</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Completion date Friday 27\textsuperscript{th} September</td>
<td>Completion date 21\textsuperscript{st} September</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Requirements: IELTS 6.0 with minimum 5.5 in each component</td>
<td>Requirements: IELTS 5.5 with minimum 5.0 in each component</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cost £TBC</td>
<td>Cost £3,020</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Completion of course does not require re-taking of IELTS

Lancaster also runs Study Start, a 2 week induction course designed to help international students get the best possible start in their degree. For further information on any of the preparation courses, please contact Email: lael@lancaster.ac.uk Tel: +44 (0)1524 595052.
1. Not providing the correct documents - common issue is not providing the original qualifications.

Admissions team of their university will provide a CAS confirming documents required to provide to Gov.

2. If there is more than 28 days between the end of the current visa and the start date of the programme, they will need to return home to do their visa application.
3. Don’t lie on the form, even if they think it can affect their application. We recently had one who lied about having a previous refusal and now has a 10 year ban.

4. Apply no earlier than 3 months before the start date of the course. Need CAS for application. As long as you have everything required, there should be no grounds for refusal.

Always welcome to call to have this checked over before submitting.

Always welcome go to campus and book session.
5. The main reason for refusal is maintenance – ensure that they keep the correct funds in the bank account for a 28 day period **before applying**, always check the currency conversion as these can fluctuate and take them below the required amount on the day the Entry Clearance Officer looks at the form.

We have seen examples of fluctuations of even just a few pounds - unfortunately this will still lead to refusal. We recommend printing out the conversion on the day you submit and attaching the sheet alongside application.
Facilitating Social Integration
The Value of Social Integration

Having an international campus isn’t simply a reflection of international percentages.

**Successful integration will benefit us, you and the students.**

Successful integration can increase academic performance, reduce drop out and lead to greater destination measures.

A key way to address this is through encouraging conversational English.

We will look at 3 methods: In the classroom, outside of your colleges and at their destination institution.

Teachers are all very busy - so these tips are student lead and should not generate additional workload.
In The Classroom

Encouraging students interact with other non-native English students whom they are not familiar with.

This can ease students into making class contributions- often a nerve wracking concept. It can assist in identifying each others areas for development.

And into mixing with students from other backgrounds.

Becoming familiar with building rapport is seen as one of the most effective learning and teaching techniques for international students.

Jackson (2003)
Outside of the College

The isolation that many international students suffer as result of coming to the UK to study can vary enormously but is an ever-present theme.

Culture shock is exacerbated by the difficulties that many students have in making friends, especially in London.

Buddy/Mentor programmes:

A peer who has already completed the year/term that the new student is starting and who can provide guidance and support.

Can address: Language difficulties, confidence in speaking, accustom to other cultures.

Can students be paired with a student who has already graduated their course, but remained in the city?

Bamford (2003)
At their destination institution

Activity Based Socialisation

Without committed engagement, it is easy to feel there is a lot of activity in the first week but nothing since then.

Students appreciate the help that they had receive in induction, although feel that they would benefit from more assistance in settling in.

Hughes and Wisker (1998)
Students report the usefulness of initial and ongoing induction and orientation, both academic, and emotional and cultural. This sort of induction reduces the wastage of ‘emotional energy’ on ‘culture shock’.

Hughes and Wisker (1998)
International students have the advantage of already being proficient in independent living skills which UK students require time to attain. Many international students I have spoken to are not aware that year 1 does not impact your grade - make sure they are aware of this!

Make students agree to join at least 1 society and to stick with it!

Connect students which those already at the institution.

This could be a prime opportunity to gain that language confidence.
Public Speaking
Travel across UK
Confidence building
Conversational English
Project Planning
Budgeting
Diverse cohorts
CV building
How can we support you?

What techniques have you found successful?
Contact Information

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The Times and Sunday Times University of the Year