

General Entry Requirements

University Centre at Blackburn College (UCBC) accepts a wide range of qualifications. The information on this page is an outline of the general entry requirements for our undergraduate courses. This information is meant to act as a general guide and applicants should check the specific entry requirements for the course they are interested in. Each course has its own web page which contains entry requirements along with other useful information.

Applicants are normally expected to have completed a Level 3 qualification, (ie A-levels or equivalent) and a minimum of 3 GCSEs including Maths and English. Some courses have specific requirements. Applicants without the standard entry requirements, but can demonstrate relevant work / life experience will be considered on an individual basis, and may be asked to attend an [interview](#).

The general entry requirements give an indication of the number of UCAS tariff points you are likely to be asked for on each course. If you are not familiar with the UCAS tariff you should visit the UCAS website http://www.ucas.com/students/ucas_tariff/ which lists the qualifications you will be likely to be taking and the points related to it.

Our minimum entry requirement for Degree level study at UCBC is 200 UCAS tariff points, which can be made up from one of the following:

- Two GCE A2 level passes
- BTEC National Diploma/Certificate – pass with Merits
- The new 14-19 Diplomas
- One double award VCE Advanced level or equivalent
- Other qualifications such as Scottish Highers, Welsh Baccalaureate, Irish Leaving Certificates, International Baccalaureate, with the required UCAS points

Our minimum entry requirement for Foundation Degree or HND level study is 120 UCAS tariff points which can be made up from one of the following:

- One GCE A2 level pass
- BTEC National Diploma/Certificate
- The new 14-19 Diplomas
- Other qualifications such as Scottish Highers, Welsh Baccalaureate, Irish Leaving Certificates, International Baccalaureate, with the required UCAS points

Our minimum entry requirement for HNC level study is 80 UCAS tariff points which can be made up from one of the following:

- One GCE A2 level pass
- BTEC National Diploma/Certificate
- The new 14-19 Diplomas

- Other qualifications such as Scottish Highers, Welsh Baccalaureate, Irish Leaving Certificates, International Baccalaureate, with the required UCAS points

Mature Students

If you are over the age of 21 you may be referred to as a 'Mature student'. A considerable number of our student body is made up of students 21 and over. It is never too late to return to study and we welcome applications from mature students. If you do not have the standard entry requirements you may have gained knowledge and skills from relevant work or life experience and therefore we would consider your application on an individual basis. We would take into account your experiences and we may ask you to attend an [interview](#) to discuss this in more detail.

Alternative entry routes

We may require successful completion of an alternative entry route to a threshold level recognised as being appropriate for entry to Higher Education. For example many mature students study qualifications such as the Access course, which we recognise as an alternative entry route for many of our courses.

Additional selection criteria

Meeting the minimum entry requirement for a course does not guarantee a place. Academic achievement is only one of many factors taken into account when assessing an application. UCBC are committed to having a fair and transparent admissions process, and applicants are considered on an individual basis. When considering an application we take into account your grades, predicted grades, reference and personal statement. From your [personal statement](#) we take into account your motivation and commitment to succeed and any relevant experience you may have.

In addition to this some courses invite applicants to [interview](#) and may ask for a portfolio of appropriate work, and this forms part of the application process.

English Language

All students applying to UCBC must show that they have a good level of spoken and written English. The following qualifications are accepted.

UK Qualifications

- GCSE or IGCSE English
- GCE O level English
- AS Level English
- A Level English Language
- Scottish Certificate of Education - Standard Grade English
- Scottish Certificate of Education - Higher Grade English
- Irish Leaving Certificate - Ordinary Level English

All of these qualifications should be passed at Grade C or above, except for: AS Level English (Grade E or above), A Level English Language (Grade E or above) and the Scottish Certificate of Education (Grade D or above).

International Tests in English

If English is not your first language, you will need to demonstrate your ability to study in English. You must be competent in English as a spoken and written language. We accept a range of English Language qualifications including

TEST	UNDERGRADUATE COURSES	POSTGRADUATE COURSES
IELTS	6.0	6.5
TOEFL Paper based	550 and TWE of 4	600 and TWE of 5
TOEFL Computer based	213 and TWE of 4	240 and TWE of 5
TOEFL iBT	80+ with 18 in writing subscore	90+ with 23+ in writing subscore
Cambridge Advanced	C	B
Cambridge Proficiency	C	B
International Baccalaureate	Standard Level (Grade 4 in English)	Standard Level (Grade 5 in English)

We will also consider you for entry if your previous course was delivered and assessed in English.

If you have an English qualification that is not listed above please contact the [International Office](#) for advice.

Conditional/Unconditional offers

UCBC makes both conditional and unconditional offers. An unconditional offer means that you are guaranteed a place at UCBC. A conditional offer (which is more standard) usually means that you must obtain specified grades from your examinations. Once an offer has been made you can view this information on UCAS Track. Please read the offer carefully and contact us immediately on 01254 292594 option 2, if there is anything you are unsure about. If you do not meet all the

requirements specified in the conditional offer, you may still be admitted onto the course you have applied for, or onto an alternative course where places are still available. This will not normally be known until the Confirmation period in August.