Introduction

We are committed to encouraging applications from talented students who are enthusiastic and keen to develop their academic potential whatever their personal, social and educational background. We believe that it is essential to treat every applicant as an individual and each application is given full and equal consideration.

1. Minimum academic entry requirements

Recent study requirements

To demonstrate that students are prepared for degree-level study, we expect the qualifications used to meet our entry requirements to have been achieved within the previous three academic years before the date of entry. For more information, please visit edin.ac/OurRequirements

The following is the minimum academic requirement for entry to the majority of degree programmes in the College of Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences:

SQA Highers

ABBB by the end of S5 or ABBBB/AABB from S4-S6.

In at least one year of the senior phase (S4-S6), applicants must achieve, or be predicted to achieve, three or more Highers at grade B or better (Advanced Highers at grade C or better).

In some high pressure areas BBB must be achieved in a single sitting by the end of S5 – please see Degree Finder for more information: edin.ac/degree-finder

GCE A Levels

ABB in one sitting

IB Diploma

34 points with 655 in Higher level subjects

For other qualifications please see our web pages edin.ac/inteu

Applicants should also note that achieving the minimum academic requirement will not guarantee an offer of admission. Further information is given in sections 2–4 of this leaflet.

Please note that many of the degrees offered in the College of Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences have additional subject requirements. You should check our Degree Finder for full requirements for the degree you are interested in: edin.ac/degree-finder

2. General entry requirements

In addition to the minimum academic entry requirements for your degree programme, you will also be required to meet the relevant general entry requirements.

Mathematics/Science

For most programmes in the College of Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences you must also provide evidence of an adequate level of Mathematics or an approved science. For detailed information relating to the programme you are interested in please visit edin.ac/degree-finder

3. Contextual factors

We recognise that applicants will have differing backgrounds and experience and that they will not all have had the same opportunities to demonstrate their potential. Consequently, in identifying those with the greatest capacity to benefit from the distinctive education that this University has to offer, we seek to set academic achievement in context through the consideration of a range of contextual factors. These may include:

- applicants from schools where a relatively small proportion of students progress to higher education or where the level of performance in examinations is below the national average;
- applicants who have participated on a recognised access programme including Lothians Equal Access Programme for Schools (LEAPS) and Pathways to the Professions;
- applicants who live in an area of deprivation as identified by the Scottish Index of Multiple Deprivation (SIMD) or ACORN;
- applicants who are care leavers;
- applicants whose parents or guardians have not previously attended university. In order to be able to take account of this factor, this information should be included in the UCAS application.

For detailed information on contextual factors, please visit edin.ac/select

4. Selection procedures for our programmes

The College of Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences offers over 400 different degree programmes.

As we have many more applicants than places available this means that for most programmes, achieving the minimum academic qualifications alone will not result in an offer of a place and a more detailed selection process is required.

Our selection process involves a detailed analysis of all of the information on your UCAS application.

Following assessment of the academic profile, our Admissions Officers look for:

- a well-constructed and articulate personal statement that demonstrates a clear motivation for your chosen area of study;
- demonstration of extracurricular activities;
- a supportive academic reference.

It is important to note that the selection process is not automated. The process involves a careful assessment of all relevant factors and is balanced against the overall standard of the entire cohort of qualified and suitable applicants.
Predicted grades
We use predicted grades as part of our selection procedures. It is therefore very important that your application includes predicted grades for any qualifications that you have listed on your application but have not yet completed. It is your responsibility to ensure that your referee adds these predicted grades to your application when adding your reference.

For some qualifications please note that we require both an overall predicted grade and also a prediction for each of the subjects you are taking.

5. Timescales for decision-making
We give all completed applications submitted by the 15 January deadline full and equal consideration and generally complete the selection process by late March. If you apply early in the application cycle it may therefore take some time for you to receive the final decision on your application.

Please note that we do not normally consider applications from UK/EU students submitted after the 15 January deadline.

6. How to apply
All applicants for full-time study must apply via UCAS. For further information, please visit www.ucas.com/students/apply

Applications to more than one degree programme in the College of Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences
You can apply for as many or as few programmes as you wish, within the limitations of the five choices available on the UCAS application. However, it is likely that only one offer will be made to students who apply to more than one programme within the College of Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences. If you are planning to submit more than one application, you are advised to contact the Undergraduate Admissions Office to advise them of your preference(s).

Applications for deferred entry
We support applicants who plan to take a gap year as a means of gaining valuable experience, either through work or travel, prior to commencing their studies. However, for most programmes we are only able to make a limited number of offers to deferred applicants and so it may be advisable for you to apply during your gap year rather than for deferred entry.

Please contact the Undergraduate Admissions Office directly for further advice.

Approved subjects for admission
A list of SQA Higher and GCE A Level subjects, which are accepted for general University entry purposes, can be found at www.ed.ac.uk/undergraduate/approved-subjects

If you need advice on subjects not listed here on the acceptability of any subject for particular degree programmes, or on overlapping subjects, please contact the Undergraduate Admissions Office.

EU applicants
Detailed advice on EU entry requirements can be found at edin.ac/studyingeu

7. Requesting feedback if your application is unsuccessful
We are happy to provide feedback to any unsuccessful applicant. Please contact the Undergraduate Admissions Office by email and we will aim to reply to you within 20 working days.

If you wish to appeal a selection decision, following the provision of feedback, please refer to our Admissions Feedback, Appeals and Complaints policy. This document (PDF) can be viewed at edin.ac/fac

8. Admissions enquiries
College of Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences
Undergraduate Admissions Office
The University of Edinburgh
57 George Square
Edinburgh EH8 9JU
Tel 0131 650 3565
Email CAHSS.UGAdmissions@ed.ac.uk
Website www.ed.ac.uk/cahss
Undergraduate Prospectus
edin.ac/degree-finder