

# Information for School Leavers

## Admission in 2020 to the College of Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences

[www.ed.ac.uk](http://www.ed.ac.uk)



THE UNIVERSITY *of* EDINBURGH

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.

## 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](http://edin.ac/OurRequirements)

## Contextual factors and widening access offers

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.

For more detailed information on these contextual factors, please visit [edin.ac/context](http://edin.ac/context)

There you will also find a contextual data checker, to check if your application will be flagged for additional consideration. There are two types of flags that we can assign an application, 'Plus flag' and 'Flag'. Full details on what each flag means for your application can also be found by following the link above.

We look at three main things when making widening access offers:

- Your home postcode: we look at whether or not you live in a geographical area of the UK that is defined by government data as being an area of deprivation.
- Your school or college: we look at the academic attainment and, in some cases, the percentage of students from your school or college who progress to higher education.
- Whether you are care experienced.

We **don't** look at factors such as gender, ethnicity, parental occupation or whether you've attended a state or independent school/college when making widening access offers.

## Academic entry requirements

To be considered for an offer of a place all applicants must meet the following requirements:

### SQA Highers

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

Applicants with a Plus flag: ABBB by the end of 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 our Degree Finder for more information: [edin.ac/degree-finder](http://edin.ac/degree-finder)

### GCE A Levels

ABB in one sitting, i.e. one session of exams.

### IB Diploma

34 points with 655 in Higher level subjects.

For other qualifications please see our web pages [edin.ac/inteu](http://edin.ac/inteu)

Please note that many of the degrees offered in the College of Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences have additional subject requirements. Please also note that the following degrees have higher academic entry requirements than are listed above:

MA (Hons) Economics and Mathematics

MA (Hons) Economics and Statistics

MA (Hons) Philosophy and Mathematics

You should check our Degree Finder for full requirements for the degree you are interested in: [edin.ac/degree-finder](http://edin.ac/degree-finder)

### English language

For all our programmes you must provide evidence that your level of English will enable you to succeed on your chosen programme of study. For detailed information, please visit [edin.ac/OurRequirements](http://edin.ac/OurRequirements)

## Selection procedures for our programmes

The College of Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences offers over 300 different degree programmes.

As we have many more applicants than places available this means that for most programmes, achieving the academic entry requirements 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.

### **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.

### **How to apply**

All applicants for full-time study must apply via UCAS. For further information, please visit [www.ucas.com/students/apply](http://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](http://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**

The Scottish Government has confirmed that it will meet the cost of tuition fees for eligible EU students starting their degree in 2020-21, for the duration of the course. There has been no confirmation of funding arrangements for anyone seeking a deferred place to study in 2021.

Detailed advice on EU entry requirements can be found at [edin.ac/studyingeu](http://edin.ac/studyingeu)

### **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](http://edin.ac/fac)

### **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](mailto:CAHSS.UGAdmissions@ed.ac.uk)  
Website [www.ed.ac.uk/cahss](http://www.ed.ac.uk/cahss)

### **Undergraduate Prospectus**

[edin.ac/degree-finder](http://edin.ac/degree-finder)

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Cover illustration of Teviot, in the University's Central Area, by **Sarah Julia Campbell**, BA (Hons) Illustration.

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