



UNIVERSITY OF
BIRMINGHAM

PRESESSIONAL ENGLISH PATHWAYS

SEPTEMBER 2019-20

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of English

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PRESESSIONAL ENGLISH PATHWAYS

If you hold a conditional offer or an unconditional offer to study at the University of Birmingham, there is a wide range of preessional English courses starting throughout the year to help you prepare for your academic studies.

ABOUT THE COURSES

The preessional courses are designed to help you improve your English language and academic skills in a relatively short period of time. They offer flexible entry points for:

- Undergraduate or Foundation students
- Postgraduate students (taught and research)
- PhD students (flexible start dates)
- Study Abroad students

THE COURSES AIM TO DEVELOP:

- Accuracy and fluency in English for academic study
- The ability to write academically using accurate referencing and avoiding plagiarism
- A range of reading skills for academic texts
- Grammatical competence
- Seminar and presentation skills
- Critical thinking skills
- The ability to listen to lectures and discussions and take notes
- Skills for working independently and with others
- Specialist vocabulary to allow you to take part in academic discussions
- Study skills

All students have full access to the University library resources, IT services, sport facilities and social opportunities.

REQUIREMENTS FOR SUCCESSFUL COMPLETION OF YOUR PRESSIONAL PROGRAMME

- The achievement of the appropriate final mark for all assessed work (examinations and assessed coursework)
- A minimum of 90% attendance

If the offer for your academic course is conditional on a specific English level then you have the option of successfully completing a preessional course instead of taking IELTS.

The length of course you should attend to fulfil this condition depends on your present level of English.

Students who attend a preessional course DO NOT take IELTS at the end of the course.



THE ASTON WEBB BUILDING

Course Selector

Foundation 1

For programmes starting in September go to diagram 1.

Foundation 2

For programmes starting in January go to diagram 2.

Undergraduate 3

For programmes starting in September go to diagram 3.

Study Abroad 3

For programmes starting in September go to diagram 3.

Postgraduate 3

For programmes starting in September go to diagram 3.

Unconditional 4

For programmes starting in September go to diagram 4.



COURSE INFORMATION FOR 2019-20

ENGLISH FOR ACADEMIC PURPOSES PRESSIONAL (UNDERGRADUATE)

Course dates	42 weeks: 30 September 2019–18 September 2020 31 weeks: 13 January–18 September 20 weeks: 27 April–18 September 15 weeks: 2 June–18 September 10 weeks: 13 July–18 September 6 weeks: 10 August–18 September
Foundation January start	For programmes starting in January, we offer 11-week and 6-week preessional courses. 11 weeks: 30 September–13 December 6 weeks: 4 November–13 December
Class times	Monday to Friday. All lessons are 50 minutes in duration followed by a ten minute break. Lessons are scheduled between 9.00am and 6.00pm.
Taught hours per week**	15.5 hours tuition (or 19 classes of 50-minute lessons)
Independent study periods	12–15 hours
Non-teaching hours	There are no lessons on Saturdays or Sundays and University closed days. There is a one-week teaching break from 13 December –13 January and 6 July–10 July. Public holidays are on 1 January, 10 April, 13 April, 8 May, 25 May and 31 August.
Minimum enrolment age	16
Maximum class size	18

ENGLISH FOR ACADEMIC PURPOSES PRESSIONAL (BUSINESS MANAGEMENT ENGLISH)

Course dates	20 weeks: 27 April–18 September 15 weeks: 2 June–18 September 10 weeks: 13 July–18 September 6 weeks: 10 August–18 September
Class times	Monday to Friday. All lessons are 50 minutes in duration followed by a ten minute break. Lessons are scheduled between 9.00am and 6.00pm.
Taught hours per week**	15.5 hours tuition (or 19 classes of 50 minute lessons)
Independent study periods	12–15 hours
Non-teaching hours	There are no lessons on Saturdays or Sundays and University closed days. There is a one-week teaching break 6 July–10 July. Public holidays are on 8 May, 25 May and 31 August.
Minimum enrolment age	18
Maximum class size	18

ENGLISH FOR ACADEMIC PURPOSES PRESSIONAL (POSTGRADUATE)

Course dates	42 weeks: 30 September 2019–18 September 2020 31 weeks: 13 January–18 September 20 weeks: 27 April–18 September 15 weeks: 2 June–18 September 10 weeks: 13 July–18 September 6 weeks: 10 August–18 September
PhD offer holders*	For PhD programmes starting in January and April, we offer 11-week and 22-week preessional courses. 11 weeks: 30 September–13 December 11 weeks: 13 January–27 March 22 weeks: 30 September–27 March
Class times	Monday to Friday. All lessons are 50 minutes in duration followed by a ten minute break. Lessons are scheduled between 9.00am and 6.00pm.
Taught hours per week**	15.5 hours tuition (or 19 classes of 50-minute lessons)
Independent study periods	12–15 hours
Non-teaching hours	There are no lessons on Saturdays or Sundays and University closed days. There is a one-week teaching break from 13 December–13 January and 6 July–10 July. Public holidays are on 1 January, 10 April, 13 April, 8 May, 25 May and 31 August.
Minimum enrolment age	18
Maximum class size	18

FOUR-WEEK ACADEMIC ENGLISH SKILLS COURSE (INTENSIVE COURSE FOR STUDENTS WITH AN UNCONDITIONAL OFFER)

Course dates	Four weeks: 10 August–4 September
Class times	Monday to Friday. All lessons are 50 minutes in duration followed by a ten minute break. Lessons are scheduled between 9.00am and 6.00pm.
Taught hours per week**	15.5 hours tuition (or 19 classes of 50-minute lessons)
Independent study periods	12–15 hours
Non-teaching hours	There are no lessons on Saturdays or Sundays and University closed days. There is a public holiday on 31 August.
Minimum enrolment age	16
Maximum class size	18

* Applicants with conditional offers to study a PhD beginning in September 2020 should apply to study on either the English for Academic Preessional Business Management English programme for the Birmingham Business School, or the English for Academic Purposes Preessional Postgraduate for all other schools.

** Sample timetables for preessional courses are available on our website: www.birmingham.ac.uk/International/bia/preessional

University Academic Term Dates are: Autumn Term: 30 September 2019–13 December 2019, Spring Term: 13 January 2020–27 March 2020, Summer Term: 27 April 2020–19 June 2020. Preessional courses (except the four-week course) continue until 18 September 2020.

1 ENTRY REQUIREMENTS FOR SEPTEMBER FOUNDATION PRESSIONAL PROGRAMME

Four-year Foundation Pathways Programmes leading to all degrees except Law and English Literature: IELTS 5.5 overall with at least 5.5 in each band requirement in your offer letter

Your current IELTS score	Preessional course length required	Tuition fee
4.0 (4.0 in all skills)	31 weeks: 13 January–18 September	£11,160
4.5 (4.0 in all skills)	20 weeks: 27 April–18 September	£7,200
5.0 (4.0 in all skills)	15 weeks: 2 June–18 September	£5,400
5.0 (4.5 in all skills)	10 weeks: 13 July–18 September	£3,600
5.5 (5.0 in all skills)	6 weeks: 10 August–18 September	£2,160

Four-year Foundation Pathways Programmes leading to a degree in Law or English Literature: IELTS 6.0 overall with at least 5.5 in each band requirement in your offer letter

Your current IELTS score	Preessional course length required	Tuition fee
4.0 (4.0 in all skills)	42 weeks: 30 September 2019–18 September 2020	£15,120
4.5 (4.0 in all skills)	31 weeks: 13 January–18 September	£11,160
5.0 (4.0 in all skills)	20 weeks: 27 April–18 September	£7,200
5.0 (4.5 in all skills)	15 weeks: 2 June–18 September	£5,400
5.5 (5.0 in all skills)	10 weeks: 13 July–18 September	£3,600
6.0 (5.0 in all skills)	6 weeks: 10 August–18 September	£2,160

2 ENTRY REQUIREMENTS FOR JANUARY FOUNDATION PRESSIONAL PROGRAMME

Four-year Foundation Pathways Programmes (except Law and English Literature): IELTS 5.5 overall with at least 5.5 in each band requirement in your offer letter

Your current IELTS score	Preessional course length required	Tuition fee
5.0 (4.5 in all skills)	11 weeks: 30 September–13 December	£3,960
5.5 (5.0 in all skills)	6 weeks: 4 November–13 December	£2,160

Four-year Foundation Pathways Programmes leading to a degree in Law or English Literature: IELTS 6.0 overall with at least 5.5 in each band requirement in your offer letter

Your current IELTS score	Preessional course length required	Tuition fee
5.5 (5.0 in all skills)	11 weeks: 30 September–13 December	£3,960
6.0 (5.0 in all skills)	6 weeks: 4 November–13 December	£2,160

Please note that these courses are not suitable for students holding an offer for a One-year Foundation Pathways Programme.



3 ENTRY REQUIREMENTS FOR ALL UNDERGRADUATE AND POSTGRADUATE PRESSIONAL PROGRAMMES

IELTS 6.0 overall with at least 5.5 in each band requirement in your offer letter

Your current IELTS score	Preessional course length required	Tuition fee
4.0 (4.0 in all skills)	42 weeks:* 30 September 2019–18 September 2020	£15,120
4.5 (4.0 in all skills)	31 weeks:* 13 January–18 September	£11,160
5.0 (4.0 in writing)	20 weeks: 27 April–18 September	£7,200
	22 weeks (PhD): 30 September–27 March	£7,920
5.0 (4.5 in writing)	15 weeks: 2 June–18 September	£5,400
5.5 (5.0 in writing)	10 weeks: 13 July–18 September	£3,600
	11 weeks (PhD): 30 September–13 December	£3,960
	11 weeks (PhD): 13 January–27 March	£3,960
6.0 (5.0 in writing)	6 weeks: 10 August–18 September	£2,160

IELTS 6.5 overall with no less than 6.0 in any band requirement in your offer letter

Your current IELTS score	Preessional course length required	Tuition fee
4.5 (4.0 in all skills)	42 weeks:* 30 September 2019–18 September 2020	£15,120
5.0 (4.0 in all skills)	31 weeks:* 13 January–18 September	£11,160
5.0 (5.0 in writing)	20 weeks: 27 April–18 September	£7,200
	22 weeks (PhD): 30 September–27 March	£7,920
5.5 (5.0 in writing)	15 weeks: 2 June–18 September	£5,400
6.0 (5.5 in writing)	10 weeks: 13 July–18 September	£3,600
	11 weeks (PhD): 30 September–13 December	£3,960
	11 weeks (PhD): 13 January–27 March	£3,960
6.5 (5.5 in writing)	6 weeks: 10 August–18 September	£2,160

IELTS 6.5 overall with at least 6.5 in each band requirement in your offer letter

Your current IELTS score	Preessional course length required	Tuition fee
4.5 (4.0 in all skills)	42 weeks:* 30 September 2019–18 September 2020	£15,120
5.0 (4.5 in all skills)	31 weeks:* 13 January–18 September	£11,160
5.5 (5.0 in writing)	20 weeks: 27 April–18 September	£7,200
5.5 (5.5 in writing)	15 weeks: 2 June–18 September	£5,400
6.0 (6.0 in writing)	10 weeks: 13 July–18 September	£3,600
6.5 (6.0 in writing)	6 weeks: 10 August–18 September	£2,160

IELTS 7.0 overall with no less than 6.5 in any band requirement in your offer letter

Your current IELTS score	Preessional course length required	Tuition fee
5.0 (4.5 in all skills)	42 weeks:* 30 September 2019–18 September 2020	£15,120
5.5 (5.0 in all skills)	31 weeks:* 13 January–18 September	£11,160
6.0 (5.5 in writing)	20 weeks: 27 April–18 September	£7,200
	22 weeks (PhD): 30 September–27 March	£7,920
6.0 (6.0 in writing)	15 weeks: 2 June–18 September	£5,400
6.5 (6.0 in writing)	10 weeks: 13 July–18 September	£3,600
	11 weeks (PhD): 30 September–13 December	£3,960
	11 weeks (PhD): 13 January–27 March	£3,960
7.0 (6.0 in writing)	6 weeks: 10 August–18 September	£2,160

* 42- and 31-week EAP courses are suitable for all undergraduate and postgraduate students who require a longer course. Students will transfer to the appropriate UG/PG/BME programme in April.

4 STUDENTS WITH UNCONDITIONAL OFFERS CAN APPLY TO STUDY ON OUR FOUR-WEEK INTENSIVE ACADEMIC ENGLISH SKILLS COURSE

Unconditional offer	4 weeks: 10 August–4 September	£1,440
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SPONSORS

If you are sponsoring a group of students or employees and would like more information or a quotation for a bespoke preessional course please contact: preessional@contacts.bham.ac.uk

'The Preessional English Programme was an incredible experience because I learnt so much such as improving my speaking, listening, reading and writing skills. There were also some day trips and it was very exciting for me to get to know the UK. I found it important to be taught how to give presentations. They prepared us very well to be ready when we go to the University. When I studied in my Preessional course, I improved my English in a short time. They taught the English language very clearly and intensively.'

Tresna Heryandi from Indonesia



'I have studied English at home and in the United States. The Preessional English course was the best way to improve my language.'

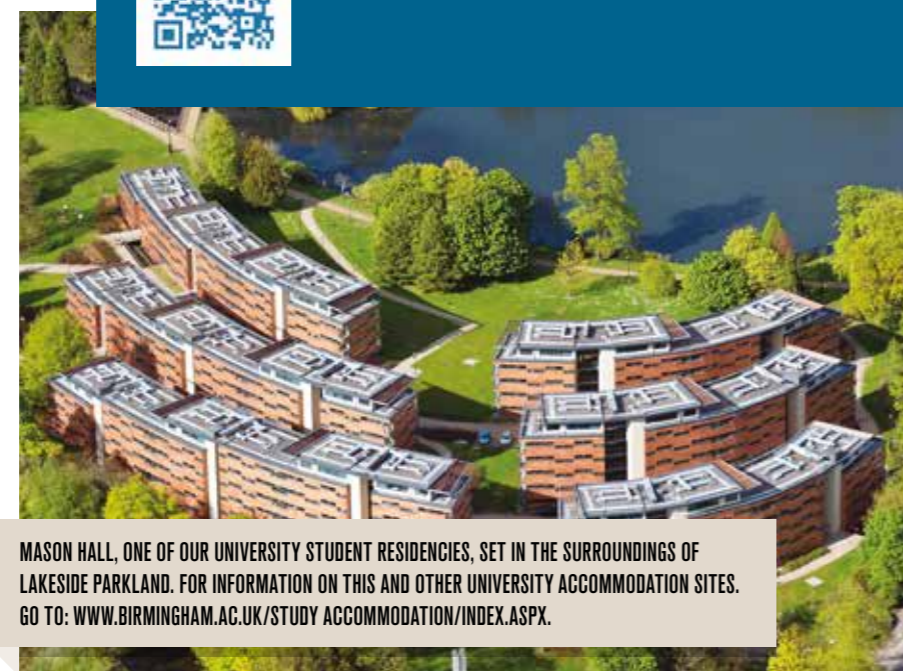
Saad Alqahtani from Saudi Arabia



To find out more about what it's like to study at the Birmingham International Academy, watch the video featuring our staff and students at: www.youtube.com/watch?v=Xc9SL0MBXBs.



To take a drone tour of the Edgbaston Campus watch: www.youtube.com/watch?v=lq6RQ8LylMQ.



MASON HALL, ONE OF OUR UNIVERSITY STUDENT RESIDENCIES, SET IN THE SURROUNDINGS OF LAKESIDE PARKLAND. FOR INFORMATION ON THIS AND OTHER UNIVERSITY ACCOMMODATION SITES. GO TO: WWW.BIRMINGHAM.AC.UK/STUDY/ACCOMMODATION/INDEX.ASPX.



COURSE INFORMATION FOR 2019-20

English for Academic Purposes (EAP)

- Preessional courses offered during term-time and the summer with flexible entry and exit points.
- The length of course you attend will depend on your current level of English (IELTS score) and the requirements of your main University of Birmingham offer.

Business Management English (BME)

- 20-, 15-, ten- and six-week preessional courses specifically for postgraduate students with conditional or unconditional offers for the Birmingham Business School.

Four-week Academic English Skills Course

- An intensive preparation for academic study designed for students with an unconditional offer.

First week of every programme

- Introduction to your course and full timetable.
- Full orientation to familiarise yourself with all the University's facilities and support services including computer clusters and welfare facilities.
- Your classes begin.

Last week of your programme

- The last week of your programme is usually timetabled for assessment and feedback on your progress.

Our teaching staff

- Our tutors are qualified and experienced.

Timetable

- All classes are scheduled between 9.00am and 6.00pm, Monday–Friday on the University campus.

Accommodation

- You can book self-catering accommodation on the University campus and obtain information about accommodation in the private sector through the website: www.birmingham.ac.uk/study/accommodation/index.aspx.
- For all queries about the availability and cost of accommodation throughout the year, please contact Housing Services: living@contacts.bham.ac.uk.

Day trips and social programme

- Day trips throughout the year to places of cultural and historic places of interest, eg, Warwick Castle, Bath and Oxford.
- The social programme runs for the ten-, six- and four-week preessional courses. This can include sports activities and local trips to the cinema and museums. Some extra costs may apply (up to £10 approximately per activity). For more information about weekend day trips, and any additional costs which may apply to local trips and events organised as part of the social programme, please contact: biatrips@contacts.bham.ac.uk.

Under-18s

- The University is committed to ensuring a safe environment for all its students and supporting their welfare. All students under the age of 18 are required to live in University managed accommodation. Students under 18 will undertake a daily check-in and have the support of a dedicated BIA Welfare Officer.

Advice on applying for your entry clearance visa to come to the UK or extending your visa to continue your studies in the UK

- All enquiries about applying for your visa to come to the UK, or to continue your studies once you are here, are dealt with by IST (International Student Team)

If you need advice about new visas, visa renewal and visas for dependants (husbands/wives and children) of students please contact IST online via the website www.birmingham.ac.uk/International/students/support-international.aspx.

Admissions policy regarding length of course you can attend

- If you are eligible for the 31-, 20-, 15-, ten- or six-week course it may be possible to consider you for a longer course if there are sound academic reasons for doing so. If you are interested in this option please contact preessional@contacts.bham.ac.uk.

Deadline for receipt of applications

- Five weeks before the start date of the course you wish to attend. Please note that the University reserves the right to close applications earlier in the event that the course is full. Due to high demand for the Preessional course you are advised to apply as early as possible.

Tuition fee

- The tuition fee includes all course materials as well as weekend day trips.
- Please note that we may run a day trip where subsidised costs apply. Where additional costs for any day trips or social activities do apply, you will always be advised in advance.

Cancellations and refunds

- For details of the preessional refund policy, please go to: www.birmingham.ac.uk/International/bia/preessional/refund-policy.aspx.

HOW TO APPLY

For more details on how to apply for a preessional course, please go to: www.birmingham.ac.uk/International/bia/preessional

ENQUIRIES

If you have any enquiries about the Preessional English courses, including the length of course that you should attend, please contact us: preessional@contacts.bham.ac.uk +44 (0)121 415 8492

ACADEMIC ENGLISH

International students studying at the University of Birmingham can access our Academic English e-learning resource bank. This is a collection of innovative flexible online materials designed to take your academic English to the next level at your own pace and at a time which suits you.

For more information, visit: www.birmingham.ac.uk/academic-english



UNIVERSITY OF
BIRMINGHAM

Edgbaston, Birmingham,
B15 2TT, United Kingdom
www.birmingham.ac.uk



This leaflet was written several months in advance of the start of the academic year. It is intended to provide prospective students with a general picture of the programmes and courses offered by the School. Please note that not all programmes or all courses are offered every year. Also, because our research is constantly exploring new areas and directions of study some courses may be discontinued and new ones offered in their place.

Please note the information in this brochure is correct at time of publication but may be subject to change. (August 2019)

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