Course Specification

Published Date:	18-Apr-2019
Produced By:	Oliver Jones
Status:	Validated

Core Information

Awarding Body / Institution:	University of Wolverhampton		
School / Institute:	International Academy		
Course Code(s):	BC012Z01US	Full-time	6 Months
Course Title:	Pre-Masters in Science		
Hierarchy of Awards:	University Statement of Preparatory Studies Pre-Masters in Science University Statement of Credit Pre-Masters in Science		
Language of Study:	English		
Date of DAG approval:			
Last Review:	2017/8		
Course Specification valid from:	2015/6		
Course Specification valid to:	2023/4		

Academic Staff

Course Leader:	Ms Carol Bailey
Head of Department:	Mrs Angela Molinari

Course Information

Location of Delivery:	University of Wolverhampton
Category of Partnership:	Not delivered in partnership
Teaching Institution:	University of Wolverhampton
Open / Closed Course:	This course is open to all suitably qualified candidates.

Entry Requirements:

Entry requirements are subject to regular review. The entry requirements applicable to a particular academic year will be published on the University website (and externally as appropriate e.g. UCAS

This course is designed for international students who have achieved at least a Higher Diploma/HND (equivalent to two years of a UK degree programme) or otherwise fall short of the academic qualification for entry directly to a Master's course i.e. may have a non-honours degree. Our Regional Offices, in-country Education Advisers and UK-based Admissions team can advise on how applicants' qualifications equate to UK study levels.

There are two entry points to the Pre-Masters course:

- January (one semester route). Applicants should hold a non-honours/ordinary degree in a subject cognate with the destination Masters course OR a cognate HND with significant relevant work experience. They should provide evidence of an English level equivalent to IELTS 6.0 (with minimum 5.5 in all elements) or above. This route is also recommended for candidates holding an honours degree which does not include a major piece of independent project work.

Applicants hoping to progress to the named specialist routes MSc Biomedical Science (Cellular Pathology) and MSc Biomedical Science (Haematology) MUST do the two semester route which starts in September, even if they have an ordinary degree and IELTS 6.0/equivalent.

Where a top-up degree in the chosen subject already exists, candidates should apply for this rather than for the Pre-Masters route.

All applicants must provide evidence of their English language level.

Distinctive Features of the Course:

1. The Pre-Masters course will enable you to develop your academic English language ability while building up knowledge, expertise and academic credits in your subject area, to the point where you are ready to enter postgraduate study.
2. The subject modules have been carefully selected to allow progression to specific Masters programmes.
3. Working together with UK students on your subject modules will help you integrate more fully into the life of the University, before you begin your postgraduate degree.
4. The University of Wolverhampton has invested significantly in its teaching facilities, and receives consistently high student satisfaction ratings with regard to learning resources and IT infrastructure. This course will provide you with the skills you need to fully exploit our excellent resources.
5. Following completion of the Pre-Masters, students may progress onto one of the following Masters courses at the University of Wolverhampton (or a similar course at another UK University which recognises the programme):

- MSc Applied Microbiology and Biotechnology
- MSc Fire Scene Investigation
- MSc Forensic Genetics and Human Identification
- MSc Forensic Science

- MSc Biomedical Science
- MSc Chemistry
- MSc Instrumental Chemical Analysis.

Educational Aims of the Course:

As a student on the Pre-Masters, you will develop;

- a strong foundation for study in your chosen subject area
- academic language and research skills which will help you think critically, become independent learners and successfully articulate your views
- subject-specific skills that will enhance your learning and aid you in further study
- lifelong learning skills which will enable you to contribute to society at large

In this course, you will study a mixture of subject specific modules and more general modules that will deepen your English language and learning skills appropriate for higher education. The subject modules will be drawn principally from NQF level six, but may include a module from level 5 if this offers essential skills not taught at level six. The remaining modules will be English language, with some of the material being based in the subject context.

You will also develop your capabilities to study in a specific subject, at a level that will enable you to begin a postgraduate degree at the University of Wolverhampton or another UK University which recognises the programme.

Intakes:

January

Major Source of Funding:

OTHER FUNDING

Tuition Fees:

Tuition fees are reviewed on an annual basis. The fees applicable to a particular academic year will be published on the University website.

Year	Status	Mode	Amount
2017/8	H	Full Time	£4250.00
2017/8	EU	Full Time	£4250.00
2017/8	Overseas	Full Time	£4250.00
2018/9	HEU	FTPYR	£4335.00
2018/9	Overseas	FTPYR	£4335.00
2019/0	Overseas	FTPYR	£4335.00

PSRB:

BC012Z01US (Full-time)

Professional Accreditation Body:

The British Council

Approved	Start	Expected End	Renewal
06/Mar/2018	31/Mar/2022	31/Mar/2022	01/Apr/2022

Course Structure:

January (Full-Time)

Year 1

Module	Title	Credits	Period	Type
6EG014	Academic English for International Students	20	SEM2	Core

Linked Option Group Rule: Select a minimum of 40 credits and a maximum of 40 credits from the linked (*) groups.

*** For this option group you must choose a minimum of 20 credits and a maximum of 40 credits**

Students entering the course with IELTS 5.5 must study 6EG010, otherwise take a subject module.
For progression to MSc Applied Microbiology and Biotechnology you must take 5AB030 AND 6AB002.
For progression to MSc Fire Scene Investigation you must take 6FS009 AND 6FS006.
For progression to MSc Forensic Genetics and Human Identification you must take 6FS009 AND 6FS006.
For progression to MSc Biomedical Science (All routes) you must take 6BM010 AND 6BM009.
For progression to MSc Chemistry or MSc Instrumental Chemical Analysis you must take modules two from 6CH002, 6CH004 OR 5CH008 (5CH008 can only be taken by students who have not already done 5CH009).

6AB002	Plant Biotechnology	20	SEM2
6FS006	Honours Project (20 credits)	20	SEM2
6FS009	The Expert Witness	20	SEM2
6BM009	Clinical Biochemistry and Clinical Immunology	20	SEM2
6BM010	Medical Microbiology	20	SEM2
6CH002	Advanced Chemical Analysis	20	SEM2
6CH004	Advanced Physical and Materials Chemistry	20	SEM2

*** For this option group you must choose a minimum of 0 credits and a maximum of 20 credits**

Students entering the course with IELTS 5.5 must study 6EG010, otherwise take a subject module.
For progression to MSc Applied Microbiology and Biotechnology you must take 5AB030 AND 6AB002.
For progression to MSc Fire Scene Investigation you must take 6FS009 AND 6FS006.
For progression to MSc Forensic Genetics and Human Identification you must take 6FS009 AND 6FS006.
For progression to MSc Biomedical Science (All routes) you must take 6BM010 AND 6BM009.
For progression to MSc Chemistry or MSc Instrumental Chemical Analysis you must take modules two from 6CH002, 6CH004 OR 5CH008 (5CH008 can only be taken by students who have not already done 5CH009).

5AB030	Analytical Techniques in Biosciences	20	SEM2
5CH006	Integrated Practical	20	SEM2

Learning, Teaching and Assessment

Academic Regulations Exemption:

Section 4.4.3 - Exemption from the requirement to compensate marginal failure of a Level 6 module.

Approved by AFRSC on 24th May 2012.

Reference Points:

FHEQ Level Descriptors

QAA – (FHEQ), (2008) *Framework for higher education qualifications in England, Wales and Northern Ireland*

Equality Act 2010

Learning Outcomes:

UC Course Learning Outcome 1 (UCCLO1)

Identify key concepts and theories appropriate to your chosen subject context.

UC Course Learning Outcome 2 (UCCLO2)

Address complex problems using techniques of analysis and enquiry appropriate to your discipline.

UC Course Learning Outcome 3 (UCCLO3)

Demonstrate a range of transferable skills appropriate to your chosen Masters course and subsequent career, including: communication skills, the ability to initiate and carry out projects independently, and digital/information literacy.

Overview of Assessment:

Module	Title	Course Learning Outcomes
5AB030	Analytical Techniques in Biosciences	UCCLO1, UCCLO2, UCCLO3
5CH008	Integrated Chemistry 2 (Organic and Analytical)	UCCLO1, UCCLO2, UCCLO3
5CH009	Integrated Chemistry 1	UCCLO1, UCCLO2, UCCLO3
5FS001	Crime Scene Investigation	UCCLO1, UCCLO2
5FS002	Forensic Biology and Anthropology	UCCLO1, UCCLO2, UCCLO3
6AB001	Microbial Biotechnology	UCCLO1, UCCLO2, UCCLO3
6AB002	Plant Biotechnology	UCCLO1, UCCLO2, UCCLO3
6BC002	Gene Manipulation and Bioinformatics	UCCLO1, UCCLO2, UCCLO3
6BM006	Cellular Pathology and Clinical Genetics	UCCLO1, UCCLO2, UCCLO3
6BM008	Haematology and Transfusion Science	UCCLO1, UCCLO2, UCCLO3
6BM009	Clinical Biochemistry and Clinical Immunology	UCCLO1, UCCLO2, UCCLO3
6BM010	Medical Microbiology	UCCLO1, UCCLO2, UCCLO3
6CH001	Advanced Organic and Inorganic Chemistry	UCCLO1, UCCLO2, UCCLO3
6CH002	Advanced Chemical Analysis	UCCLO1, UCCLO2, UCCLO3
6CH004	Advanced Physical and Materials Chemistry	UCCLO1, UCCLO2, UCCLO3
6EG010	English in Context 1 Part A	UCCLO2, UCCLO3
6EG014	Academic English for International Students	UCCLO1, UCCLO2, UCCLO3
6FS001	Forensic Science for Policing	UCCLO1, UCCLO2, UCCLO3
6FS006	Honours Project (20 credits)	UCCLO1, UCCLO2, UCCLO3
6FS008	Advanced Forensic Biology and Pathology	UCCLO1, UCCLO2
6FS009	The Expert Witness	UCCLO1, UCCLO2, UCCLO3
6GK009	Preparing for Postgraduate Study	UCCLO1, UCCLO3

Teaching, Learning and Assessment:

Depending on the subject of study, you may undertake any of the following:

- Reading – both core and supplementary reading from books, journals and electronic

  Depending on the subject of study, you may undertake any of the following:

  - Reading – both core and supplementary reading from books, journals and electronic sources
  - Case Analysis – to look at the application of theory and practice, to identify problems and recommend solutions.
  - Group discussions – on provided themes to draw out and share personal experiences and learning amongst the wider group.
  - Student presentations/student led seminars.
  - Problem-based learning approaches.
  - Lectures and workshops.
  - Group and individual tutorials
  - Personal reflection.
  - Group role play and project work.
  - Assessment preparation and feedback.
  - Individual and group presentations.

- Peer feedback
- Laboratory based practicals.

Student Support:

A core strand through this course is the development of learning skills appropriate to both general and subject-specific study. In some modules the development of these skills are explicit; in others they are embedded within the curriculum. Tutorials, workshops, seminars and meetings provide the primary opportunities for students to interact with staff on module-related topics. All modules provide at least one of these forms of face-to-face support.

The English modules will help enhance key language skills to enable postgraduate study.

You will also be able to access the learning services of the University of Wolverhampton. For example:

- Learning & Information Services (LIS) provide general academic skills support to all students. You can attend a drop-in session for an individual, one-on-one discussion with a Learning and Skills Librarian for advice on areas such as academic writing, assignment planning, exam preparation and time management. In addition, there is a regular timetable of bookable workshops covering information and digital literacy skills, including academic referencing. Students are supported by a designated Liaison Librarian who is available to support research and project work. Further details on the LIS skills for learning page http://www.wlv.ac.uk/lib/skills_for_learning.aspx.

- In the Faculty Student Services you can find advice on matters such as enrolment, course transfers, extensions to work deadlines, timetabling, transcripts of study, academic regulations, finance, visas, immigration, and graduation.

- The University Counselling Service offers individual appointments, and workshops on topics such as confidence-building, stress management, time management and giving presentations. http:/www.wlv.ac.uk/counselling
- The Students' Union Advice and Support Centre (located in MD Building on City Campus), offers independent advice and guidance on areas as diverse as academic, finance, international and housing matters, impartially and in confidence. The ASC also has a wealth of generic information to support students in areas such as health, consumer, employment, legal and personal matters.

On beginning your course, you will be assigned a personal tutor, who will help you reflect on your learning progress, act on assessment feedback, and collect evidence of your achievement for future employers.

Feedback – module tutors provide personalised written feedback following all summative assessments. The mechanism for feedback from formative tasks varies between assessments, but will always be provided in some form. On occasion tutors may provide generalised verbal feedback to the whole group on points relating to an assessment. You may also be asked to give feedback to your peers and to your tutors.

Employability in the Curriculum:

The aim of this course is to allow successful candidates to progress onto a Master's course in their chosen area at the University of Wolverhampton [or at another UK University which recognises the programme], which will serve to enhance their employment opportunities in the future.