



PATHWAYS

2024/25

YOUR **FUTURE**, STARTS **HERE**

qahighereducation.com/pathways





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**SCAN TO
VIEW OUR
DIGITAL
PROSPECTUS**

WELCOME TO QA



Moving to the UK for university is an important decision, which requires a high level of commitment. Here at QA Higher Education, we recognise the commitment it takes for you, and your family, to embark on this journey. We will be at your side for every step, from submitting your university application, arriving on campus, learning new subjects in class, to completing your final exams.

Pathway programmes are specifically designed for you. You will build your knowledge and confidence both in the English language and your specialist subject, to ensure you're ready to join the next stage of your undergraduate or postgraduate degree. You will study and learn in small groups in an engaging and encouraging environment, helping you to become more self-reliant and independent in both your studies and life.

We will be there to support you from day one, helping you make the most of your time and achieve academic success. But that's not all. We are also committed to providing a fun and enriching experience for you in the UK. Once you arrive, there will be plenty of opportunities to get involved in the social aspects of university life, including joining a sports club, becoming a member of a society, representing your classmates on a committee, or even catching up with a friend for tea at the end of the day.

Through your pathway journey, you will learn the skills, knowledge and confidence to independently pursue your studies in the UK. However, as our growing alumni know, you will always be welcome here – be it for extra support, or simply the chance to check in with new pathway students.

We very much look forward to welcoming you to QA Higher Education Pathway Colleges, and helping you begin your journey towards achieving your ambitions.

Ruth Court
Director of Pathways

University
of South
Wales

2 hours
from London by train



**Northumbria
University
NEWCASTLE**

Newcastle • London • Amsterdam

Newcastle: 3 hours
from London by train
London: 4 minutes
walk from Liverpool Street Station



1 hour 20 minutes
from London by train





PRE-SESSIONAL ENGLISH

Want to build your English language skills to successfully study at a UK university?

Whether you intend to study at foundation, undergraduate or postgraduate level in the UK, our online Pre-Sessional English course combines academic and social language skills to help you get there.

The Pre-Sessional English programme is ideal if you want to:

- Meet the English language requirements needed for a QA partner university programme
- Develop your vocabulary, academic writing, reading, listening or speaking skills
- Develop your confidence in an English-speaking academic environment

STEP ONE

Choose the degree you wish to progress onto.

- The IELTS requirements for your degree may influence whether you need to complete a 5, 10 or 15 week Pre-Sessional English course
- Choose when you want to start your degree
- Depending on your English level, choose the correct Pre-Sessional English intake to start your university studies

Follow the application process to submit your application.

STEP TWO

Study your Pre-Sessional English programme.

- Depending on your chosen degree and your IELTS, this could be 5, 10 or 15 weeks
- Develop your English language level
- Focus on developing your reading, writing, speaking and listening skills, as well as, vocabulary grammar and pronunciation in both academic and social settings
- Familiarise yourself with UK academic culture
- Gain the necessary skills to successfully complete a UK university programme

STEP THREE

Successfully pass your Pre-Sessional English programme and progress onto your chosen degree in either September, January or May. Also available as a standalone programme.

Find out more:
qahighereducation.com/PSE

PROGRESSION OPTIONS

- Accounting and Finance
- Applied Sciences
- Architecture/Architectural Design
- Arts (Performance and Visual)
- Built Environment
- Business
- Communication and Media
- Computer Science, IT and Digital Technologies

- Design
- Education
- Engineering
- English
- Fashion
- Geography and Environment

- Journalism
- Law
- Psychology
- Social Sciences
- Sport





INTERNATIONAL FOUNDATION PROGRAMMES

Develop your academic study skills and English language ready to progress on to an undergraduate degree with a UK university.

International Foundation Programmes are ideal if you:

- Have 12-13 years of schooling, or local equivalent (e.g. 5 GCSEs at A-C/9-4)
- Have IELTS 4.5 or above (minimum of 4.0 in each component) from a UKVI Approved Centre
- Want to study an undergraduate degree at a UK university

STEP ONE

Choose your:

- Undergraduate subject and course
- University

Follow the application process to submit your application.

STEP THREE

Successfully pass your International Foundation Programme and progress on to Year One of your undergraduate degree.*

Find out more:
qahighereducation.com/IFP

STEP TWO

Study your International Foundation Programme.

- 2-4 terms depending on your IELTS level
- Develop your English language level
- Study pathway-specific content to build your subject understanding
- Familiarise yourself with UK academic culture
- Prepare for undergraduate study
- Study on campus and benefit from access to all of the university facilities and services that you can expect throughout the duration of your studies

**Have IELTS 5.5 (with a minimum of 5.5 in each component)?
See International Year One on page 12**

*In some instances there may be additional entry requirements for your chosen undergraduate degree.

LOCATION AND PROGRESSION OPTIONS

Subjects you can progress onto:

	Northumbria University	Solent University	University of South Wales
Accounting and Finance	✓	✓	✓
Applied Sciences	✓	✓	✓
Architecture/Architectural Design	✓	✓	✓
Arts (Performance and Visual)	✓	✓	✓
Built Environment	✓	✓	✓
Business	✓	✓	✓
Communication and Media	✓	✓	✓
Computer Science, IT and Digital Technologies	✓	✓	✓
Design	✓	✓	✓
Education			✓
Engineering	✓	✓	✓
English	✓		
Fashion	✓	✓	✓
Geography and Environment	✓		
Journalism	✓		✓
Law	✓		✓
Medical	✓		
Psychology	✓	✓	✓
Social Sciences	✓	✓	✓
Sport	✓	✓	✓





INTERNATIONAL YEAR ONE

Equivalent to the first year of an undergraduate degree, these programmes fully prepare you for joining the second year of your chosen degree.

International Year One is ideal if you:

- Have good High School grades, or equivalent
- Have IELTS 5.5 overall (with a minimum of 5.5 in each individual component) from a UKVI Approved Centre
- Want to study an undergraduate degree at a UK university

STEP ONE

Choose your:

- Undergraduate subject and course
- University

Follow the application process to submit your application.

STEP THREE

Successfully pass your International Year One and progress on to Year Two of your chosen undergraduate degree.

Find out more:

qahighereducation.com/IY1

STEP TWO

Study your International Year One.

- Study subject-specific content to build your knowledge and understanding
- Develop your confidence and study skills to fully prepare for the second year of UK undergraduate study
- Familiarise yourself with UK academic culture
- Study on campus and benefit from access to all of the university facilities and services that you can expect throughout the duration of your studies



LOCATION AND PROGRESSION OPTIONS

Subjects you can progress onto:

	Northumbria University Newcastle	Northumbria University London	University of South Wales
Accounting		✓	
Business Management	✓*	✓	✓
Entrepreneurship	✓		
Finance		✓	
Human Resource Management	✓	✓	✓
International Business		✓	
Logistics, Procurement and Supply Chain Management		✓	✓
Marketing		✓	✓
Tourism and Events Management	✓	✓	

*Includes an option of a placement year with Northumbria University Newcastle.





PRE-MASTER'S

A Pre-Master's programme is the perfect preparation for studying one of our Master's degrees. Pre-Master's are suitable if you are looking to study a postgraduate degree but require additional support to meet the entry requirements.

Pre-Master's are ideal if you:

- Hold a third-class, pass or ordinary degree from a UK university, or equivalent
- Have IELTS 5.5, or above (minimum 5.5 in each component)
- Wish to develop your written and spoken English language skills
- Want to build expertise in the fields of Business, Computing or Engineering
- Wish to boost your research, comprehension, and presentational skills in an analytical academic context

STEP ONE

Choose your:

- Postgraduate subject and Master's course
- University

Follow the application process to submit your application.

STEP THREE

Successfully pass your Pre-Masters with a 50% pass rate, and progress onto your chosen Postgraduate degree.

Find out more:
qahighereducation.com/pre-masters

STEP TWO

Study your Pre-Master's.

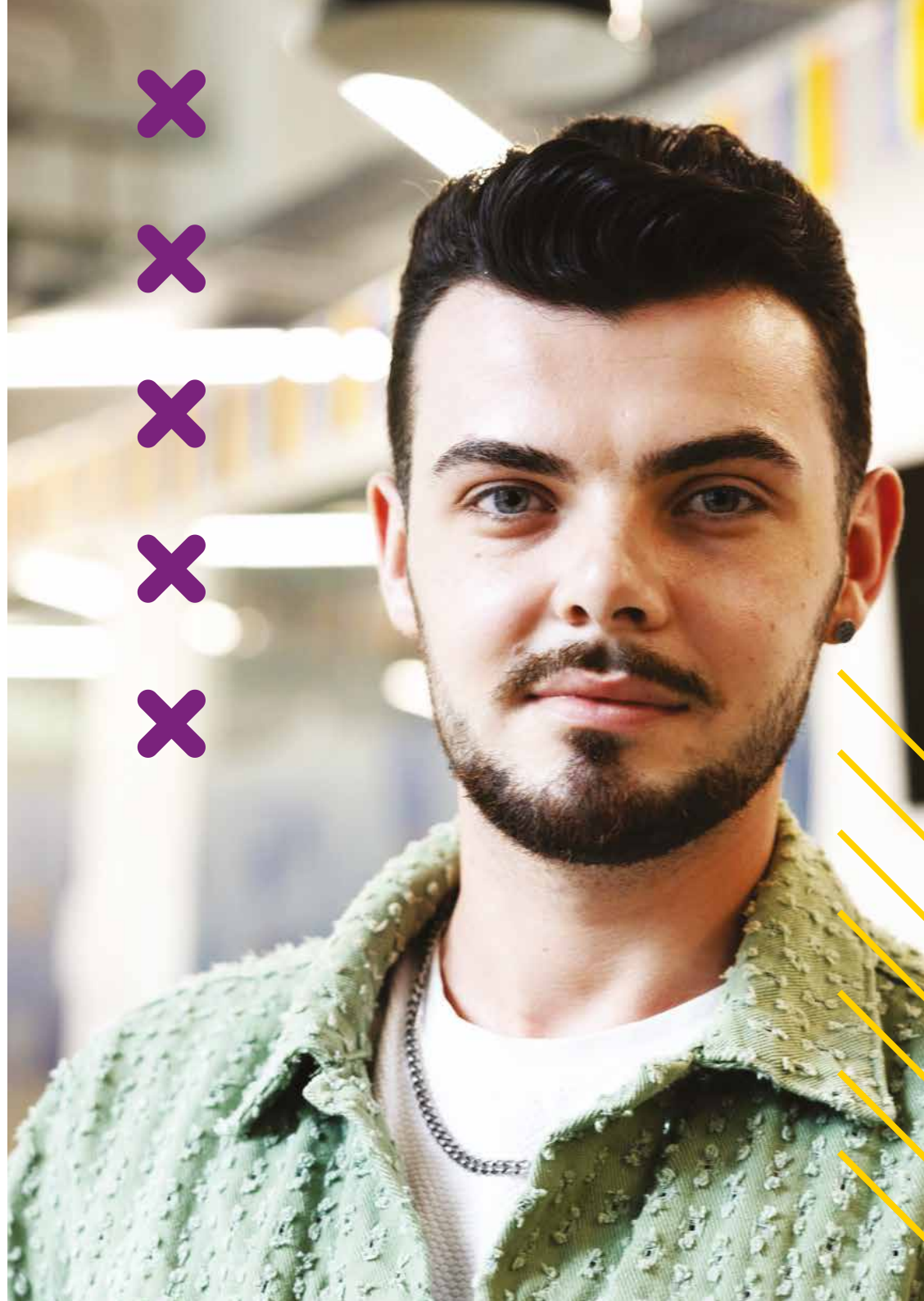
- 2 or 1 semester depending on your IELTS
- Build core subject knowledge and boost your confidence
- Benefit from access to all the university facilities and services you can expect throughout the duration of your postgraduate studies
- Get familiar with UK academic culture



LOCATION AND PROGRESSION OPTIONS

Subjects you can progress onto:

	Northumbria University Newcastle	Northumbria University London
Business	✓	✓
Computing	✓	✓
Construction Management	✓	
Cyber Security	✓	✓
Data Science	✓	✓
Engineering	✓	
Finance Management	✓	✓
Global Logistics, Operations and Supply Chain Management	✓	✓
Human Resource Management	✓	✓
Marketing	✓	✓
Project Management	✓	✓
Psychology	✓	





Being a pathway student in Applied Science is so helpful for me to understand what I should expect in my degree studies. The course is very informative, we have courses in plagiarism, how to avoid academic misconduct. Given there are so many resources at the university and I am allowed to benefit from everything the university has to offer and be a university student from day one.*

**Mitchel Ayaebene - International Foundation
Programme - Applied Science**

NORTHUMBRIA UNIVERSITY

NEWCASTLE AND LONDON

*Quote not relative to imagery



Northumbria is a research-rich, business-focused, professional university with a global reputation for academic excellence. We have pathway options at two of our campuses, Newcastle and London. Our main campus is based in the heart of Newcastle upon Tyne, which is regularly voted the best place in the UK for students. Northumbria University's London Campus is located within a student hub in the heart of the City of London, ideally situated just minutes away from Liverpool Street station.

The university has its origins in the Rutherford College, founded in 1880. Today, by putting students at the heart of an outstanding experience, and with world-leading research and award-winning partnerships, Northumbria is a new kind of excellent university.

Northumbria is ranked Top 30 in the UK for graduates in highly skilled employment (Graduate Outcomes Survey 2020/21 Leavers).



UNIVERSITY OF THE YEAR

(Times Higher Education Awards 2022)



TOP 40 UK UNIVERSITY

(The Guardian University Guide 2024)



TOP 100 GLOBAL YOUNG UNIVERSITY

(Times Higher Education Young University Rankings 2022)



TOP 25 FOR RESEARCH POWER IN THE UK

(Research Excellence Framework 2021). The national system for assessing the quality of research in all UK universities.



PROGRESSION OPTIONS

Successfully pass your pathway programme and progress on to an undergraduate degree in one of the following subject areas:

	IFP-N	IMF-N	IY1-N	IY1-L
Accounting and Finance	✓			✓
Applied Sciences	✓			
Architecture	✓			
Arts (Performance and Visual)	✓			
Built Environment	✓			
Business	✓		✓	✓
Communication and Media	✓			
Computer Science, IT and Digital Technologies	✓			
Design	✓			
Engineering (including Automotive, Civil, Electrical & Electronic, and Mechanical)	✓			
English	✓			
Fashion	✓			
Geography and Environment	✓			
Journalism	✓			
Law	✓			
Psychology	✓			
Medicine		✓		
Social Sciences	✓			
Sport	✓			

IFP-N: International Foundation Programme - Newcastle

IY1-N: International Year One - Newcastle

IY1-L: International Year One - London

IMF-N: International Medical Foundation - Newcastle

Find out more at: northumbria.ac.uk/pathway



I first found it difficult, but later on throughout the programme, I learnt stuff in a steady and clear path that will help me in my next years.

It's a very lovely community! You'll always see a friendly face. You also meet people from different countries. Pathway staff were always supportive.*

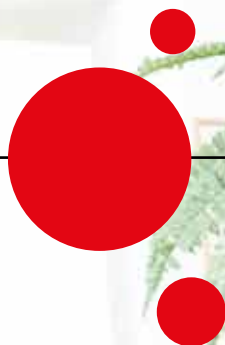
**Jawahir Mohamed - International
Foundation Programme**

SOLENT UNIVERSITY

SOUTHAMPTON

qa.solent.ac.uk/pathway

*Quote not relative to imagery





To get ahead, you'll need more than just the theory. Employers in every industry want experience, practicality and proactive, innovative thinking.

So at Solent, that's what you'll get.

At every stage, on every course, you'll have the opportunity to develop your professional and career skills – alongside practical real-world experience.



SOLENT BUSINESS SCHOOL WON

Outstanding Higher Education Training Provider of the Year at the CMI Awards 2022.



15TH IN THE UK FOR GRADUATE START-UPS

(HESA 2023)



GOLD-STANDARD TEACHING

In the latest Teaching Excellence Framework (TEF) review, we achieved the highest gold rating for our teaching – and not just overall, but in both the student experience and student outcomes subcategories too.



ONE OF THE BEST STUDENT CITIES

Southampton is one of the UK's top 10 student cities, and the best in the southeast. (StudentCrowd, Best Student Cities UK 2023)



PROGRESSION OPTIONS

Successfully pass your pathway programme and progress on to an undergraduate degree in one of the following subject areas:

	IFP
Accounting and finance	✓
Applied sciences	✓
Architecture	✓
Arts (performance and visual)	✓
Built environment	✓
Business	✓
Communication and media	✓
Computer science, IT and digital technologies	✓
Design	✓
Engineering (including automotive, civil, electrical and electronic, and mechanical)	✓
Fashion	✓
Psychology	✓
Social sciences	✓
Sport	✓

IFP: International Foundation Programme

Find out more at: qa.solent.ac.uk/pathway



The International Foundation Programme helped me not only academically but I also had a great opportunity to explore Wales. The programme is well balanced so felt comfortable to do other activities alongside my coursework. I went to explore Wales, started a part-time job, and engaged in a number of activities. I had enough time and space to adapt to the new situation. I got organisation and time-management skills thanks to the programme.*

Rania Ikram Iguer - International Foundation Programme

UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH WALES

GREATER CARDIFF

*Quote not relative to imagery



The University of South Wales focuses on creating a positive and collaborative culture for you to join and tackle real-world problems and challenges. Their practical and applied approach to study means you'll make a difference in practice, not just on paper.

With state-of-the-art facilities, each of their campuses provides you with invaluable hands-on learning. Additionally, their links to industry employers and work experience opportunities ensure that by the time you leave university, you'll be ready for what the future holds.

Employability is at the heart of everything USW does. They seek to ensure that you'll be prepared to start a successful career after graduating from university. They have made employability part of the curriculum, with teaching informed by what happens in the real world and what skills you'll need for the workplace. All of our Pathway courses are delivered at our Pontypridd Campus.



ART AND DESIGN AT USW IS RATED TOP FIVE IN THE UK

for Teaching Quality and Student Satisfaction (Complete University Guide 2023)



SHORTLISTED FOR UNIVERSITY OF THE YEAR

(Times Higher Education Awards, 2023)



87% OF GRADUATES IN EMPLOYMENT/ FURTHER STUDY

within 6 months of graduating
(DHLE Report 2021)



COMPUTER SCIENCE IS RATED TOP 10 IN THE UK FOR TEACHING QUALITY

(Times Good University Guide 2024)



PROGRESSION OPTIONS

Successfully pass your pathway and progress on to an undergraduate degree in one of the following subject areas:

	IFP	IY1
Accounting and Finance	✓	
Applied Sciences	✓	
Arts	✓	
Built Environment	✓	
Business	✓	✓
Communication and Media	✓	
Computing and Cyber Security	✓	
Design	✓	
Education	✓	
Engineering	✓	
Fashion	✓	
Journalism	✓	
Law	✓	
Psychology	✓	
Social Sciences	✓	
Sport	✓	

IFP: International Foundation Programme
IY1: International Year One

Find out more at: qa.southwales.ac.uk

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS



What study option is right for me?

The **Pre-Sessional English** is designed to develop students English skills to meet the language requirements for a degree with one of our partner universities.

The **International Foundation Programme** is designed to support students with English language levels equivalent to IELTS 4.5 (with no single component below 4.0) or higher. For the minimum component scores, please refer to our website.

The **International Year One (IY1)** programmes are designed to support students who have IELTS 5.5 (or equivalent). The programme integrates English language development with content comparative to the first year of an undergraduate degree.

Pre-Master's are designed specifically to support international students who have IELTS from 5.5 (with no single component below 5.5). The programme prepares for studying at Master's level.

What English language level do I need to study a Foundation Programme?

If you have IELTS 4.5 (or equivalent), from a UKVI Approved Centre, you will need to study one of the 3 or 4 term programmes to allow enough time for your language skills to develop to the standard needed to study a UK undergraduate degree.

If you have IELTS 5.0 (or equivalent), from a UKVI Approved Centre, you will be able to study one of the 2 or 3 term programmes.

What start dates are available?

We offer multiple start dates throughout the year depending on the programme and your chosen university. Intakes usually occur in the following months:

Pre-Sessional English programme:
September, October, February, March, June, July and August

International Foundation Programme:
October, January, and March

International Year One:
September, October and January

Pre-Master's:
September, January and May

Please refer to our website for information by university partner as intakes do differ between universities to fit with academic calendars.

What are my accommodation options?

Accommodation options vary depending on which university you choose to study with. All of the universities that we partner with for pathway programmes have student halls of residence available. There are also private halls and houses available.

For students under 18, it is our policy for these students to live in homestays unless we receive signed consent from a parent or guardian, notifying us of an alternative accommodation decision.

Are there scholarships or bursaries available?

We offer a range of scholarships and bursaries based on academic merit and individual applications. You do not need to submit an additional application for these, they are awarded based on your course application. For more information and to discuss your eligibility, please speak to one of our team.

How long is a term or semester?

The words term and semester are used by universities to define a teaching period, usually between 10 and 12 weeks. Your exact course duration will be confirmed on your offer as this will vary between universities.

What do I need to know about studying in the UK?

In addition to developing your academic and English language skills, the pathway programmes are also designed to help you adjust to studying in the UK and UK university life. You will learn the academic skills which will support you throughout the duration of your studies in the UK, learning how to write assignments, reference, give presentations and undertake group work.

You will be taught by academics who are experienced in helping international students adjust to studying in the UK and adapting to UK culture.

If I study an IFP or IY1 programme, when would I start my undergraduate degree?

This depends on when you start your programme and how long your pathway programme is. The table on the next page shows the typical timeframes of when you may start your programme and when you would progress on to your chosen undergraduate degree.

Your exact start dates and course duration will be confirmed in your offer letter as these will vary between university.



START DATES



INTERNATIONAL FOUNDATION

October	2/3 terms	Start your undergraduate degree in September the next year after a study break over summer
October	3/4 terms	Start your undergraduate degree in September the next year
January	2/3 terms	Start your undergraduate degree in September in the same year
March	2 terms	Start your undergraduate degree in September in the same year

INTERNATIONAL YEAR ONE

September	3 terms	Start Year Two of your undergraduate degree in September the next year
October	4 terms	Start Year Two of your undergraduate degree in September the next year
October	3 terms	Start Year Two in September in the following year after a study break over the summer
January	3 terms	Start Year Two of your undergraduate degree in September the same year

PRE-MASTER'S

September	1 semester	Start your postgraduate degree in January the following year
September	2 semesters	Start your postgraduate degree in September the following year
January	2 semesters	Start your postgraduate degree in September the same year
May	1 semester	Start your postgraduate degree in September the same year



HOW TO APPLY

If a pathway programme is for you, we have tried to make the application process as straightforward as possible.

You can find all application forms at: qahighereducation.com/pathway

To process your application quickly, submit the following:

- Application form - you can complete it online by clicking apply online on the course page for your chosen programme and preferred start date
- A copy of your passport
- A copy of your original qualifications and transcripts (and Certified Translation, where applicable)
- References (dependent on your programme choice)
- A personal statement
- Copies of any current and previous UK visas, CAS and copies of exit stamp (if you require a student visa to study in the UK)
- A valid IELTS from a UKVI Approved Centre
- Any previous visa refusals (if applicable)

APPLICATION JOURNEY

Once we receive your application, we will review your documents and check that you are eligible for your chosen programme.



01

02



If you're successful, we'll send you a formal offer of a place. This may be conditional on you sending us additional documents, or transcripts.

Received an unconditional offer? Well done! When you've accepted your place, you'll need to pay a deposit. This will be deducted from your tuition fees and will be detailed on your offer letter.



03

04



Once you have supplied your Pre-CAS documents and paid your deposit, we will send you a CAS (Certificate of Acceptance for Studies) for your visa application.

You will then need to apply for your student visa to study in the UK.



05

06



Before you arrive, you will need to have paid your remaining fee balance, unless otherwise detailed in your offer.

Our team will be able to help you organise accommodation for your studies before you arrive and advise on what you will need to bring with you to the UK.



07

ENROLLED

HEAR FROM OUR STUDENTS



The teaching staff are lovely people. They were my first teachers in the UK and they helped me not only with English but also with other issues I had when I first arrived as everything was so new.*

ZIWEN YAO CHINA
University of South Wales

There are a wide range of business disciplines taught in this course which allows you to explore each field and learn more about what career you want to continue with.*

RUZIMUKHAMMAD MARUFOV
University of South Wales

*quotes not relative to featured imagery





qahighereducation.com

All programmes included in this prospectus are delivered as part of a partnership between QA Higher Education and our university partners. All pathway programmes detailed are validated by the University and taught by QA Higher Education and University staff. Together with our partners, QA Higher Education is committed to being an equal opportunities education provider and will therefore make reasonable adjustments for disabled applicants and students.

The information given in this publication is accurate at the time of publication in January 2024 and the universities and QA Higher Education will use all reasonable efforts to deliver the programmes as described. QA Higher Education and our partners reserve the right to withdraw or change the programmes or programme combinations included in this prospectus. These changes will only be made as a result of UK legal compliance, minimum student number requirements or for course validation reasons and applicants will be contacted by the University or QA Higher Education at the earliest opportunity in the instance of these changes occurring. Please check the website for up-to-date information on our programmes.