



THE LONDON SCHOOL OF ECONOMICS AND POLITICAL SCIENCE

Advising the Advisers 2017

Applying to a competitive university: LSE's Admissions Policies and Procedures

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LSE Admissions Policy

- The School is committed to admitting students:
 - with the merit, potential and motivation to succeed at LSE
 - who can benefit from and contribute to the LSE community
- UG Admissions seeks to achieve these aims by:
 - providing clear and concise information about entry requirements, application procedures and the admissions process
 - upholding the principles of fairness, transparency and consistency that underpin the admissions process







LSE Admissions Figures

2017 Entry

- 18,428 UCAS applications
- 1,561 registered places
 - 976 UK/EU, 585 Overseas
- Applications to places ratio:
 - 12:1 overall

Highest L	Lowest
18:1 Philosophy817:1 Law816:1 International Relations8	9:1 Geography & Environment 8:1 Statistics 8:1 Mathematics 8:1 Anthropology 7:1 Sociology





- UCAS tariff not used as part of the admissions criteria
- Three 'full' A levels: A*AA AAB
- Fourth AS level may be a requirement for some programmes
- Prefer grades to be achieved at first attempt
- A levels in generally preferred (traditional, academic) subjects or two generally preferred subjects and one 'non-preferred' subject





Non-preferred A Level Subjects

- Any Applied A Level
- Accounting
- Art and Design
- Business Studies
- Citizenship Studies
- Communication and Culture
- Creative Writing
- Design and Technology
- Drama/Theatre Studies
- Film Studies

- Health and Social Care
- Home Economics
- Information and Communication Technology
- Leisure Studies
- Media Studies
- Music Technology
- Sports Studies
- Travel and Tourism



This list is published online and in the undergraduate prospectus



- GCSE and AS grades are taken into consideration minimum B grades required in GCSE English & Maths
- General Studies, Critical Thinking, Thinking Skills, Knowledge and Enquiry, EPQs, – excluded from the conditions of any offer made
- A level in a first/native language may not be counted
- A level Mathematics is required for some programmes





- IB grades: 38(766) 37(666)
- Cambridge Pre-U: D2 D3 D3 D3 D3 M1
- BTECs: considered when offered in combination with A Levels
- Access Courses: considered alongside LSE Undergraduate Admissions Assessment (UGAA)
- Further, specific, qualification and departmental information regarding requirements available on website: <u>http://www.lse.ac.uk/study/undergraduate/howToApply/lseEntry</u> <u>Requirements.aspx</u>





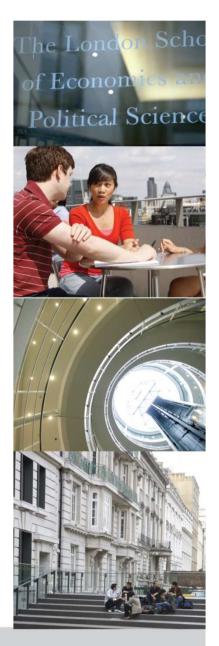
- Meeting or exceeding academic entry requirements does not guarantee an offer
- Personal statement is a very important aspect of admissions criteria – key element of selection process
- Reference is also important particularly helpful when detailed and specific to applicant
- Educational and social context taken into consideration
- Extenuating circumstances also taken into account





LSE Admissions Process

- Equal consideration given to ALL applications received at UCAS by the 15th January deadline
- All applications are first read by Admissions Assessors, who can decline if the application does not meet minimum entry requirements – decisions are verified by Senior Admissions Assessors
- Remaining applications then passed to Admissions Selectors (Specialists and Tutors) for a decision
- Selector decisions are made holistically, usually based solely on the information provided in the application





LSE Admissions Process

- We do not currently interview any applicants
- Some applicants may be asked to sit LSE Undergraduate Admissions Assessment (UGAA)
- Applications may be considered as part of 'gathered field'
 - enables fair and equal consideration of all 'on time' applications
 - may mean earlier applications are held until later in the cycle to be reconsidered alongside later applications
- Applicants are kept informed about progress of application
- We aim to make all decisions by the 31 March UCAS deadline, although many decisions are made earlier





LSE Admissions Process

Confirmation

- Very few 'marginally missed' offers are confirmed
- Relevant additional information is welcomed, particularly regarding extenuating circumstances
 (by 30th June for IB, 31st July for other qualifications)

Clearing

LSE has not been in Clearing for several years

Adjustment period

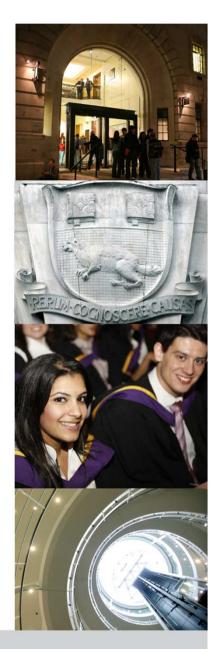
 LSE has not participated in Adjustment since its commencement





LSE Admissions 'Myths'

- "LSE will reject me if I apply to Oxford or Cambridge"
- "I will improve my chances of gaining admission if I apply to more than one programme"
- "LSE will reject me because my predicted grades aren't AAA"
- "LSE will reject me if I don't have 10 A*s at GCSE"
- "LSE will reject me because of the school I attend"





Qualification Reform How are qualifications changing?

- Linear A Levels
- Reformed in 3 Phases from 2015 to 2017
- New GCSEs with a different grading system





GCSE Reform

- New grading system (1 9)
- LSE grade 5 and above is a 'good pass'
- Grade 5 = Grade B
- Grade 7 = Grade A
- Grade 8/9 = Grade A*





Qualification Reform LSE's Position:

- Fierce competition for places
- AS levels are an effective indicator of performance
- LSE will continue to use AS levels in our admissions assessments where possible
- If possible, applicants are advised to sit the new AS levels
- Applicants from schools not offering AS levels will not be disadvantaged







Any questions?

