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**University of Central Lancashire:**

**Proposal for GCSE entry requirements, 2017**

**University of Central Lancashire’s response to Qualification Reforms - 2017**

The University of Central Lancashire (UCLan) supports and considers a full range and combination of qualifications for entry to our courses, including relevant work experience and certificated professional learning. This commitment continues during this period of change and development.

Changes to both the GCSE and A Level qualifications will be reflected in our offer making practice and we are therefore currently reviewing our entry requirements for 2017 to ensure that the changes are mapped effectively across the full range of qualifications.

**GCSEs**

UCLan requires all undergraduate applicants to have a minimum level of attainment of five GCSEs grade C and above/or equivalent (including Maths and English). In 2017 and beyond we will view the new Grade 4 as being equivalent to a C grade and will therefore require students to achieve Grade 4 or above.

However, if the subject is relevant to our degree programme and requires a higher GCSE grade (e.g. GCSE B grade), and/or includes a Professional body that governs the entry requirements, the proposed new Grade 5 or above may be required.

**AS Levels**

UCLan bases its offers on grades/points achieved from 3 A Levels or equivalent and therefore we do not accept points gained from an AS qualification towards our entry requirements. Successful results in stand-alone AS levels (which are studied in addition to the applicant’s full 3 A Levels) demonstrates the applicant’s commitment and dedication as part of their wider profile but will not count towards the University’s tariff entry points.

**A Levels (also referred to as A2)**

We will continue to ask applicants to present with three good A Levels, or equivalent, to meet our standard entry requirements.

**Extended Project**

UCLan values the broader research and independent study skills developed by these qualifications and we are happy to include the points gained from EP’s in our overall assessment.

**Pearson BTec/Cambridge Technicals/International Baccalaureate**

We welcome applicants with the vocational and other ranges of Level 3 qualifications and will assess each case and qualification package against our benchmarked A2 entry requirements level.

**Welsh Baccalaureate**

We will continue to make offers on the basis of 2 A Levels plus the Welsh Baccalaureate. However, in cases where the Welsh Baccalaureate points are having an disproportionate effect on your overall point score we may request achievement of a specific grade in either the A2 qualifications, the Welsh Baccalaureate, or both.

**Mixed Packages**

UCLan recognises the increase in applicants presenting a mixed package of both A Levels and vocational programmes of study. We welcome applications from students with these combinations and will assess each applicant individually, taking into account the whole context of each case.

**New Tariff - summary**

We will continue to monitor developments and update this information as curriculum changes develop and grading decisions are reached. Our entry requirements are designed to ensure we recruit students who have the ability to benefit from, succeed in and are committed to, higher education. To that end, alongside our standard entry requirements, we are accustomed to assessing applications based on the full range of information before making our final decision.

Candidates who have been unsuccessful in their first choice of course, but who meet the entry requirements for another programme within UCLan, will be contacted and/or made an alternative course offer wherever possible, thereby maximising opportunities for the applicant.