**University of Wolverhampton statement on UK qualifications reform and the new UCAS Tariff for 2017 entry**

The University of Wolverhampton has always been a place of opportunity – allowing students, whatever their background or circumstances to fulfil their potential and realise their career ambitions in partnership with a supportive community.

The university is keen to ensure that its applicants, prospective applicants and their advisors including parents are aware of its response to the significant reform that is taking place with respect to secondary education provision.

The general information below should be read alongside specific entry requirements for our courses listed on UCAS and our own website (wlv.ac.uk).

**GCSEs**

We expect all students to have successfully completed GCSE level study or equivalent.

Individual courses will specify the minimum GCSE requirement in terms of grades and subjects. (for the majority of courses this will be a grade C or 4). The Admissions team on should be contacted on admissions@wlv.ac.uk or 01902 32 3505 for detail of acceptable GCSE equivalencies (these may vary between courses).

**AS**

The university will continue to follow its established practice of including AS results in satisfaction of offer requirements where this subject hasn’t also been studied at A level.

**A level**

Following careful consideration, we have decided that with effect from the 2017 cycle, our entry requirements and subsequent offers for A level applicants will be expressed in grades rather than the UCAS Tariff. (We have always expressed BTEC and Access qualifications in grade terms)

Standard A level offers require a minimum of at least two full A levels, with the remaining requirement coming from any other Level 3 qualifications. General Studies and Critical Thinking A levels are usually accepted except where detailed on individual course entries.

**BTEC qualifications**

The university welcomes significant numbers of applications from BTEC students who subsequently perform well on their undergraduate studies.

Successful completion of the appropriate Level 3 BTEC qualification with the required grading is considered sufficient for entry to the first year of the majority of undergraduate programmes. Where additional study is required alongside the BTEC qualification, this is listed on individual course entry requirements.

We anticipate that our BTEC offers will be adjusted in response to changes to the delivery of these qualifications from 2017.

**Access to HE Diploma**

The university receives significant numbers of applications from Access to HE students who subsequently perform well on their undergraduate studies. Whilst we are aware that work has taken place to incorporate the Access to HE into the new UCAS Tariff, the university will continue to display entry requirements and offers in grade terms.

**Other Level 3 qualifications**

We also welcome applications from applicants holding Level 3 qualifications including CACHE, Scottish Highers, Irish Highers, International Baccalaureate and any other relevant Level 3 qualifications.

These qualifications are considered acceptable as stand alone or in combination with any of the typical Level 3 qualifications listed above.

If a Level 3 qualification is not listed on course entry requirements, applicants and their advisors should contact the university’s Gateway Team on Gateway@wlv.ac.uk for further advice prior to application.

**Foundation year programmes**

Where appropriate, we may offer a place on our 4-year degree programmes which include an initial foundation year to those that do not meet the entry requirements for entry to year one of the degree programme.

**Mature applicants**

The university is keen to ensure that access to higher education is not limited to applicants presenting themselves with traditional qualifications and/ or experiences.

We will take into account other factors including work experience, non-standard qualifications including learning gained at work in place of more conventional qualifications such as professional courses which may not be formally assessed or certificated.

Where appropriate we may ask such applicants to submit a piece of written work and attend an interview prior to making an offer.

**Offer-making protocols**

The university will generally make offers based on applicants achieving or being predicted to achieve the published entry requirements which will include academic and non-academic requirements such as interviews and auditions.

Where we are unable to make an offer to the applicant on the course they have applied for we will make a suitable alternative offer clearly stating the reason for our decision.

In addition, our standard practice is that we will review applicants’ actual grades at confirmation and potentially accept those applicants where there is a shortfall between the offer made and the achieved grades.

**Further information**

For further information, please contact the Admissions team on 01902 323 505 or admissions@wlv.ac.uk