

Foundation Year Programme Specification

<https://www.bradford.ac.uk/courses/ug/foundation-year/>

Programme Catalogue

Academic Year:

2020/21

Qualification Awarding Body:

University of Bradford

Faculty:

Faculty of Engineering and Informatics

Faculty of Health Studies

Faculty of Life Sciences

Faculty of Management, Law and Social Sciences

UCAS Code:

Y006

Programme Duration:

1 academic year, full time

Programme Admissions:

September

Target Award:

Regulated Qualification Framework (RQF) Level 3
Foundation Certificate

Origination Date:

July 2016

Publication Date:

April 2021

Please note: This programme specification has been published in advance of the academic year to which it applies. Every effort has been made to ensure that the information is accurate at the time of publication, but changes may occur given the interval between publishing and commencement of teaching. Any change which impacts the terms and conditions of an applicant's offer will be communicated to them. Upon commencement of the programme, students will receive further detail about their course and any minor changes will be discussed and/or communicated at this point.

This is the general Foundation Year programme for UK students, supporting entry to a range of programmes each year across the University as detailed in the What You Will Study section of the course webpage.

International students can apply to the International Foundation Studies programme:

<https://www.bradford.ac.uk/courses/ug/certificate-of-international-foundation-studies/>

The University of Bradford's faculties also run subject specific Foundation programmes for their programmes:

<https://www.bradford.ac.uk/courses/?q=foundation#results>

Introduction

This Foundation Year is a pre-degree access programme that will provide students with a solid basis for future degree study. It is designed for students who do not currently meet the required entry criteria for their chosen degree programme or who are not yet ready for an undergraduate programme. The programme will help students prepare to meet the demands of learning before embarking on their degree programme.

The degree programmes that students may progress to following their Foundation Year are listed on the Foundation Year course page along with the associated UCAS/GCSE/English proficiency entry requirements, any study requirements and any progression requirements: <https://www.bradford.ac.uk/courses/ug/foundation-year/>

The Foundation Year provides students with an introductory grounding in their chosen discipline whilst at the same time equipping them with study and interpersonal skills which are necessary for successful undergraduate study. These skills are focussed on in one core module on the programme – The Effective Learner in Semester 1.

Beyond this core module, students study a module diet from the remaining optional modules which reflects their own academic interests and intended progression route. There will be opportunities to discuss module choices and progression intentions with members of academic staff.

Programme Aims

The programme is intended to:

- provide students with a supportive route into higher education which will enable them to demonstrate that they are able achieve a university honours degree;
- enable students to acquire the underpinning knowledge understanding and skills needed to tackle the demands of undergraduate study;
- enable students to analyse their own strengths and weaknesses as a learner and develop strategies to maximise their learning.

Applications and Admissions

We take into consideration a number of factors when assessing your application. It's not just about your grades; we take the time to understand your personal circumstances and make decisions based on your potential to thrive at university and beyond.

Academic Admissions Requirements

A typical offer to someone seeking entry through the UCAS scheme would be 72 UCAS points with a GCSE Grade 4 (national Grade C) in English, or an equivalent Key Skills Level 2 Literacy qualification.

English proficiency requirements are expressed as IELTS scores and for most programmes are between 5.0 and 7.0 with no sub-test score lower than .5 below, or equivalent.

Students who do not meet the University's English Language requirement for their proposed follow-on programme, but do possess IELTS at 1.0 below that required for it (or the equivalent in another recognised test), must take the English Language modules English for Academic Purposes and English for Specific Academic Purposes as part of the programme.

Students who do not possess GCSE Mathematics at Grade 4 (national grade C) or above or another recognised Level 2 Numeracy qualification on entry must choose the Mathematics and Statistics for Higher Education module as an option choice if this is required for their follow-on degree programme.

Please note: The information above relates to the contemporary recruitment cycle at time of publication and therefore may now be out of date. The degree programmes that students may progress to following their Foundation Year are listed on the Foundation Year course page along with the associated UCAS/GCSE/English proficiency entry requirements, any study requirements and any progression requirements:

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Recognition of Prior Learning

Applications are welcome from candidates with non-standard qualifications or who, lacking academic qualifications, have significant relevant experience in one of the seven areas.

If applicants have prior certificated learning or professional experience which may be equivalent to parts of this programme, the University has procedures to evaluate and recognise this learning in order to provide applicants with exemptions from specified modules or parts of the programme.

Access and Inclusion

The University of Bradford has always welcomed applications from disabled students, and these will be considered on the same academic grounds as are applied to all applicants. To discuss adjustments or to find out more about support and access, you may wish to contact the Disability Service before you apply at www.bradford.ac.uk/disability/before .

Applications are particularly welcomed from adult learners (those aged 21+ at the start of the programme), armed forces families, carers and care leavers, estranged or orphaned learners, refugees and asylum seekers, and Romani or Traveller families. To find out more about the Progression Scheme visit www.brad.ac.uk/applicants/progression-scheme .

Progression

The Foundation Year provides access to specified degree programmes within the University. However, some of those programmes may have additional entry, requirements, study requirements and/or additional progression requirements. These are listed on the Foundation Year course page: <https://www.bradford.ac.uk/courses/ug/foundation-year/>

Students can seek advice and support about the study and progression requirements for their intended degree route from the University Admissions Team prior to arrival and/or the Programme Team once enrolled onto the Foundation programme.

Programme Learning Outcomes

To be eligible for the RQF Level 3 award of Foundation Certificate, students will be able to:

1. Demonstrate a basic knowledge of key concepts, approaches, texts in a selection of academic disciplines.
2. Explain how people learn and the strategies that can be employed to support effective learning.
3. Identify, assess and undertake preliminary evaluation of information from a range of sources.
4. Construct clear, cogent and coherent arguments in written and spoken form.
5. Demonstrate the ability to use and apply a range of theories and concepts.

6. Demonstrate the value, nature and validity of information sources and how they can support an argument.
7. Identify, access and communicate information in written and oral form.
8. Present information in a variety of formats appropriate to the audience.
9. Engage in team working skills and demonstrate the ability to work effectively with others and solve problems.
10. Demonstrate skills in self-awareness and time management.
11. Reflect on performance.

Learning and Teaching Strategy

This Foundation Year programme of study is one year long (full time) and constitutes the first stage of an undergraduate degree programme. Studying on the Foundation Year students will gain the knowledge, understanding and personal transferable skills which will improve and enhance their ability to excel at university and beyond.

The programme contains a range of core and optional modules and provides foundation level understanding to support the attainment of the programme learning outcomes. The teaching, learning and assessment strategies will facilitate learning and encourage students to develop as an independent learner. Knowledge understanding and skills are developed through the study of specific modules and skills are evaluated through assessment consisting of essays, examinations and /or presentations.

The Effective Learner core module will provide the framework for students' personal goal setting evaluation and review. The module will form a pivotal role in assessing students' individual needs, in identifying the various resources available to support study and in reviewing progress. From studying on this module students will be able to explain how people learn and the strategies that can be employed to support effective learning will enhance their skills in written expression, correct sourcing and use and presentation of information. Students will furthermore be able to identify, assess and undertake preliminary evaluation of information from a range of sources.

A significant part of the Effective Learner module includes a focus on how to develop writing skills to succeed at university. Students will study how to reference correctly, (Harvard Referencing Standard) and develop skills to enable them to write in an academic manner and to reflect on the value and usefulness of the information with which they are presented. With appropriate tutorial support, practice and feedback students will also learn to construct clear, cogent and coherent arguments in written and spoken form.

On the Effective Learner module students will learn how to develop an action plan and to reflect on their strengths and weaknesses, identify areas for development, manage their time and generally develop strategies for improving their research, writing and referencing. Having developed an understanding of their own strengths and weaknesses as a learner, students will possess strategies to maximise their learning. In other modules students will study key concepts, approaches and texts in a selection of academic disciplines.

Assessment Strategy

Students will demonstrate the ability to use and apply theories and concepts (LO5) through a range of formative assessment, summative assessment and through involvement in seminar discussion and debates. Students will also, in the course of studies, be able to demonstrate the value, nature and validity of information sources and will develop the skills to enable them to identify, access and communicate information in oral and written form (LO3, LO4, LO5, LO6, and LO7).

A diverse range of teaching and learning strategies, such as active learning sets, team work, team presentations, lectures, seminars and collaborative learning will be used in the delivery of the foundation programme with specific and appropriate teaching methods employed to meet the learning outcomes of individual modules and the learning outcomes of the programme itself (LO1- LO11). Students will be particularly encouraged and supported to develop an independent style of learning. Reading, problem solving, project work, tutorials and student led seminars will all be a feature of the programme. In general, concepts, principles and theories will be introduced in lectures and explored in more depth in associated tutorials and seminars. Assessment is a crucial component of their learning which is necessary to monitor progress, motivate learning, provide feedback and grade students. Assessment methods, which include essays, examinations and presentations, will reflect the diversity of provision and directly address the desired learning outcomes.

Curriculum

Two pathways are available through the Foundation Year. The required core modules you will study are different depending on the level of English language skill you have had recognised, as judged by the International English Language Test (IELTS).

All students can then choose a selection of optional modules that will best prepare them for their undergraduate degree. If you are not sure which degree you will study afterwards, the course webpage <https://www.bradford.ac.uk/courses/ug/foundation-year/>, University admissions team and Programme Team tutors can offer guidance as to which modules will be most useful for you.

Students with an IELTS score up to 1.0 below their target or equivalent in another recognised test

Module Code	Module Title	Module Type	Credit	RQF Level	Study Period
LAU3001-B	English for Academic Purposes	Core	20	3	Semester 1
LAU3002-B	English for Specific Academic Purposes	Core	20	3	Academic Year
SAC3003-B	The Effective Learner	Core	20	3	Semester 1
Any	Module Option	Option	20	3	Sem. 1 or 2
Any	Module Option	Option	20	3	Semester 2
Any	Module Option	Option	20	3	Semester 2

The curriculum may change, subject to the University's programme approval, monitoring and review processes.

Students with an IELTS score **at or above their target** or equivalent in another recognised test

Module Code	Module Title	Module Type	Credit	RQF Level	Study Period
SAC3003-B	The Effective Learner	Core	20	3	Semester 1
Any	Module Option	Option	20	3	Semester 1
Any	Module Option	Option	20	3	Semester 1
Any	Module Option	Option	20	3	Semester 2
Any	Module Option	Option	20	3	Semester 2
Any	Module Option	Option	20	3	Semester 2

List of available module options

Students choose from the below list depending on which degree you hope to progress to. The University Admissions Team and the Programme Team will advise you on which ones to select in order to meet the requirements of your undergraduate degree programme.

Module Code	Module Title	Module Type	Credit	RQF Level	Study Period
SAC3016-B	Foundations of Psychology	Option	20	3	Semester 1
SAC3004-B	Introduction to Understanding Organisations	Option	20	3	Semester 1
SAC3017-B	Maths and Stats for H.E.	Option	20	3	Semester 1
SAC3010-B	Principles of Marketing	Option	20	3	Semester 1
ARC3000-B	Science in Society	Option	20	3	Semester 1
SAC3008-B	Western Philosophy and the History of Ideas	Option	20	3	Semester 1
FAM3001-B	Creative Industries	Option	20	3	Semester 2
SAC3006-B	Criminology	Option	20	3	Semester 2
CHE3001-B	Foundation in Chemistry	Option	20	3	Semester 2
HES3001-B	Foundation in Human Biology	Option	20	3	Semester 2
SIB3001-B	Global Business Environment	Option	20	3	Semester 2
COS3003-B	Introduction to Computing	Option	20	3	Semester 2
SAC3015-B	Introduction to Law	Option	20	3	Semester 2
SAC3012-B	Literature and Society	Option	20	3	Semester 2
SAC3009-B	Politics and Me	Option	20	3	Semester 2
SAC3002-B	The Sociological Imagination	Option	20	3	Semester 2

The curriculum may change, subject to the University's programme approval, monitoring and review processes.

At the end of the Foundation Year, students will be eligible for the award of Foundation Certificate if they have successfully completed 120 Regulated Qualification Framework Level 3 credits and achieved the award learning outcomes.

Assessment Regulations

This Programme conforms to the standard University Undergraduate Assessment Regulations which are available at the link: <https://www.brad.ac.uk/regulations/>

However, the following exceptions apply:

- Students taking the English for Academic Purposes module LAU3001-B and the English for Specific Academic Purposes module LAU3002-B must achieve a pass mark of 40% or above in these modules to satisfy the requirements of the IELTS and equivalent language tests.
- Students taking the English for Academic Purposes module and the English for Specific Academic Purposes module who pass these modules at 40% will be permitted to take supplementary assessment to improve that pass mark if it is required at a higher level to meet the IELTS equivalent for their proposed follow-on programme. Higher level IELTS equivalent pass marks are: 50% for 6.5 and 60% for 7.0
- To progress to Stage 1 of certain degree routes, students will need to achieve higher academic marks and/or complete additional progression activities (for example, to participate in an interview). A full list of degree routes and progression requirements for the Foundation Year is available on the course page: <https://www.bradford.ac.uk/courses/ug/foundation-year/>

Minor Modification Schedule

Version Number	Brief description of Modification	Date of Approval
1	Update to: Core and Option Modules; Progression programmes	June 2017
2	Added optional modules and updated text	July 2018
3	Amendments made to clarify course details regarding study and progression requirements.	April 2019
4	Specification reformatted and made accessible. Updated admissions and progression scheme section. Changed references to QCF/NQF to RQF	April 2021
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