

Undergraduate admissions statement

This statement should be read in conjunction with the University's admissions principles and procedures.

Year of admissions cycle: 2014

Courses covered:

Single Honours

BA Film and Television (4M5N)

Joint Honours

BA Film and Theatre (4KDU)

Joint Honours (offered in conjunction with other Schools)

BA Film and English (6T3X)

BA Film and French (2LK6)

BA Film and German (4F29)

BA Film and Spanish (L288)

BA Film and Italian (4L92)

BA Film and Portuguese (4PP8)

Admissions process

1. Admissions team

Applications assessed by centralised team in close co-operation with Admissions Tutor/s.

2. Application assessment methods

All applications are considered on an equal basis. Applications are not segregated by the type of educational institution attended. All applications are acknowledged by email on receipt (starting in mid-September), to establish contact and inform the applicant of the process to be followed.

Occasionally, the Admissions Office may seek further information from an applicant or their referee when there is an apparent mistake on or omission from the UCAS form that prejudices their application.

All applications are allocated scores on the academic record and the personal statement/reference.

The weighting is as follows:

Academic score: 20%

Personal Statement/Reference score: 80%

Applications will be assessed on the basis of their UCAS application only; we cannot take into account any additional information received from an applicant or institution, unless we have requested it.

Applicants are not discriminated against on the grounds of race, ethnicity, nationality, gender, sexuality, religion, disability, or age.

3. Interview or visit day

Applicants who have received an offer will normally be invited to a Visit Day in the spring. This provides the opportunity to see the city and the university, and to ask questions about the teaching programmes, the year abroad and other aspects of student life in Bristol. While attendance at a Visit Day is strongly recommended, it is not obligatory and plays no role in the selection process; it is also recognised that not all applicants will be able to attend.

4. Correspondence with applicants

All correspondence relating to an application's status will be sent by email. All applicants should be contacted when we receive their application, to establish contact and inform the applicant of the process to be followed. Applicants will then be notified if their application has been successful or unsuccessful, or to inform them that their application has been assessed but that we will not be able to make a final decision until later in the cycle. Applicants who receive an offer will receive an invitation to a visit day.

5. Deferred applications

Deferred entry applications are welcomed, but applicants are expected to explain their reasons for requesting deferred entry and to describe briefly in their personal statement how their 'gap' year might subsequently benefit their university career. Only a very limited number of offers may be made to applicants in this category in order to ensure fairness to those applying in the next admissions cycle. Preference may be given to those with a clear and relevant academic purpose or with significant health or personal issues. Offers for deferred entry may be at marginally higher grades than the typical offers for immediate year of entry.

We urge applicants to submit applications in the current admissions cycle wherever possible.

Criteria for assessing applicants

1. Academic entry requirements

The academic entry requirements for each individual programme can be found in our online prospectus: www.bris.ac.uk/prospectus/undergraduate/2014

We would consider applicants with alternative equivalent qualifications to those listed in our online prospectus. Further information on other qualifications, including international qualifications, is available at: www.bristol.ac.uk/international/countries

A-level General Studies and Critical Thinking are not considered towards offers or academic assessment.

2. Additional academic criteria

Not applicable.

3. Personal statement criteria

The Personal Statement forms a crucial part of the selection process in assessing each candidate's motivation and suitability for the chosen programme of study. When looking at each applicant's Personal Statement, the selectors look for the following:

- commitment to the study of Film and Television in an academic context. For example, you could provide evidence that you have read beyond the A-level syllabus, or have developed a specialised interest within the subject area
- demonstrable motivation and/or achievement in the field of media related arts beyond the syllabus; e.g. the practice of creative skills which may include film making or reviewing
- appropriateness of the department's programme in relation to the candidate's declared interests and ambitions.
- non-academic achievements, interests and/or paid work, especially where this provides evidence of collaborative engagement with the wider community
- evidence of critical thinking; a well-constructed statement demonstrating a good standard of English and clarity of expression.

Joint honours programmes run across schools may have additional criteria specific to the partner department. Prospective applicants for these courses are therefore strongly advised to refer to the other Admissions Statement provided by the partner department for their intended course of study.

4. Reference criteria

The school reference is used as the basis for assessment of the academic performance and as support for the weighted elements of the personal statement.

Assessors will want to consider the accuracy and the consistency of the predicted grades in the light of previous GCSE and AS level achievement (or reason why this is not the case), evidence of effort and a positive attitude towards studies, and if there are any educational or special circumstances.

5. Additional Tests

Not applicable.

6. Interview

Not applicable.

7. Mature applicants

Mature applicants applying before five years have elapsed since taking A levels (or equivalent) will normally be treated as above. Where more than five years have elapsed, mature applicants will normally be expected to have successfully completed an Access course or vocational qualifications (e.g., GNVQ) and/ or employment history may in some instances be taken into account.

We will invite selected applicants to interview in order to assess their academic potential and ascertain their level of commitment to academic study. A decision will be made after the interview. These interviews typically take place in the new year of the application cycle.

All interviews are conducted by two people, including a member of staff with training in fair and effective recruitment techniques, and are undertaken in accordance with the University's policy on equal opportunities.

8. International applicants

International applicants will be subject to the criteria as detailed here:

www.bristol.ac.uk/international/countries

We also consider applications through the Common Application system, and the same criteria and assessment used for UCAS applicants are applied.

9. English Language requirements for non-native speakers

All applicants are required to demonstrate that they have sufficient ability to understand and express themselves in both spoken and written English in order to benefit fully from their degree course.

English Language requirements can be found in the Undergraduate Prospectus and at: www.bristol.ac.uk/ug-language-requirements

The specific IELTS standard required for this programme can be found in our online prospectus:

http://www.bristol.ac.uk/prospectus/undergraduate/2014/sections/XFLM/dept_intro

10. Contextual information

We take a holistic approach to all applications, ensuring that the educational and social context in which an applicant applies is taken into consideration, where supported by clear evidence that this may have adversely affected academic achievement. This may include time spent in Local Authority care, information about which is provided in the UCAS application. Such applications will have one grade lifted for their academic score: e.g. an AAB applicant will be awarded the same academic score as an AAA applicant. Applicants still need to satisfy specific subject requirements.

We also consider evidence of clear motivation to study. This may include attendance at a University summer school, a targeted Access Scheme (such as Access to Bristol or Realising Opportunities), or participation in other higher education outreach activities.

We do not take the following into consideration when making admissions decisions: the school type attended by an applicant, or whether an applicant's parent has any experience of higher education.

Offers

Typical offers for A-levels and other UK qualifications can be found in the entry data in the online Undergraduate Prospectus. Offers to applicants with non-standard qualifications will be made equivalent to the published A-level offer.

We may make lower offers based on whether an applicant is deemed to have experienced educational disadvantage, as defined in section 7.5 of the University's admissions principles and procedures.

Other

1. Transfers

All transfers between courses will be considered on their individual merits, and may involve an informal interview with the Schools Head of Teaching and Learning.

2. Additional information

Not applicable.

Contacts for enquiries

Any enquiries should be addressed to the Undergraduate Admissions Office: arts-ug-admissions@bristol.ac.uk or +44 (0)117 928 8147.