

PREPARATION FOR UNIVERSITY 2023 2024

The English-language *Preparation for University* programmes cater specifically for the language needs of students who intend to study for an undergraduate or postgraduate degree, or study abroad, at the University of Limerick.

Preparation for University is aimed at students who have reached the academic entry requirements for their chosen course but need to improve their English in order to meet the language entry requirements for their chosen pathway at UL. These courses are open to all students with an offer to study in Ireland at a third level institution. They offer students a pathway onto their chosen degree studies and enable them to become familiar with being a student at an institution in an English-speaking country.

These courses are suitable for students who have received a conditional offer from the University of Limerick, and other third-level institutions. Students intending to progress to study at other institutions should be aware of the minimum English language requirements for the programme of their choice.

Start Date	Finish Date	Hours per week ¹	No. of weeks	Minimum IELTS score required	IELTS equivalent of minimum finishing level	Fees ⁴	Last date to apply
11 Sept 2023	17 May 2024	22 22	14 (Semester 1) 15 (Semester 2)	4.5 ²	6.5	€9,500	11 Aug 23
29 Jan 2024	17 May 2024	22	15	5.0 ³	6.5	€5,750	15 Dec 23

1. An hour equals an academic hour, or 50 minutes.
2. The minimum entry requirement for this course is an IELTS score of 4.5 with no less than 4.0 in any skill.
3. The minimum entry requirement for this course is an IELTS score of 5.0 with no less than 4.5 in any skill.
- * The Duolingo English Test may also be accepted if a student is unable to sit an IELTS exam, please contact us for more information.
4. An additional administration fee of €50 applies to all courses.

The Language Centre is closed on all Irish public holidays, for a full list of these public holidays log on to www.ul.ie/languagecentre.

Course Content

The courses will consist of modules on:

- Integrated English-language skills;
- Academic reading;
- Academic writing;
- Academic listening;
- Academic speaking;
- Academic vocabulary and grammar.

Course Outcomes

It is expected that by the end of the course students will have:

- developed their communication skills;
- reached the English language requirements to enter a degree programme at the University of Limerick;
- developed the language and study skills needed for university course work, whether for an undergraduate or postgraduate degree;
- gained a greater knowledge of how to learn independently;
- more awareness of university life.

Progression to Programmes at the University of Limerick

Students who pass the *Preparation for University* programmes will have met the English language requirements for entry onto their chosen course of study at the University of Limerick. For those students it will not be necessary to take an external English language test at the end of their course. Before starting the course, students should check that their academic qualifications will allow them to enter their chosen pathway at the University of Limerick.

Entry Requirement

To gain entry to the English-language *Preparation for University* programmes, students must produce evidence of their English language level in the form of a recent IELTS band score or equivalent. The band score required will depend on the length of the course for which the student is applying. See minimum entry requirements for each course above.

Assessment

Assessment will be continuous, i.e. there will be a number of assessments during the course rather than one final examination. Students may also need to sit an external English exam during the course if an IELTS or Cambridge certificate is required for another institution. Students will be expected to attend and participate in all classes.