



2008 agus 2009

2008 and 2009

NUI Matriculation Regulations





Ollscoil na hÉireann
NATIONAL UNIVERSITY OF IRELAND

MINIMUM ACADEMIC ENTRY and REGISTRATION (MATRICULATION) REQUIREMENTS 2008 and 2009



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NUI CONSTITUENT UNIVERSITIES

Na Comh-Ollscoileanna

University College Dublin

An Coláiste Ollscoile, Baile Átha Cliath
Tel: (+353 1) 716 7777 Web: www.ucd.ie

University College Cork

Coláiste na hOllscoile, Corcaigh
Tel: (+353 21) 4903000/4276871 Web: www.ucc.ie

National University of Ireland, Galway

Ollscoil na hÉireann, Gaillimh
Tel: (+353 91) 524411 Web: www.nuigalway.ie

National University of Ireland, Maynooth

Ollscoil na hÉireann, Má Nuad
Tel: (+353 1) 6285222 Web: www.nuim.ie

NUI RECOGNISED COLLEGES

Na Coláistí Aitheanta

Royal College of Surgeons in Ireland

Coláiste Ríoga na Máinleá in Éirinn
Tel: (+353 1) 4022100 Web: www.rcsi.ie

National College of Art and Design, Dublin

Coláiste Náisiúnta Ealaíne is Deartha
Tel: (+353 1) 6364200 Web: www.ncad.ie

Shannon College of Hotel Management

Coláiste Ósta na Sionna
Tel: (+353 61) 712213 Web: www.shannoncollege.com

Institute of Public Administration

An Foras Riaracháin
Tel: (+353 1) 2403600 Web: www.ipa.ie

Milltown Institute of Theology and Philosophy

Institiúid diagachta is Fealsúnachta Bhaile an Mhuilinn
Tel: (+353 1 277 6300) Web: www.milltown-institute.ie

COLLEGE of CONSTITUENT UNIVERSITY

Coláiste de Chomh-Ollscoil

St. Angela's College, Sligo

Coláiste San Aingeal, Sligeach
(College of NUI, Galway/Coláiste d'Ollscoil na hÉireann, Gaillimh)
Phone: (+353 71) 452433 Website: www.stangelas.com

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NATIONAL UNIVERSITY OF IRELAND

Ollscoil na hÉireann

The National University of Ireland was established by the Irish Universities Act, 1908. It was re-structured under the Universities Act, 1997, and now comprises four Constituent Universities, five Recognised Colleges and one College of a Constituent University.

1.1 The NUI Constituent Universities are:

University College Dublin,
University College Cork,
National University of Ireland, Galway,
National University of Ireland, Maynooth

1.2 The NUI Recognised Colleges are:

Royal College of Surgeons in Ireland
National College of Art and Design
Shannon College of Hotel Management
Institute of Public Administration
Milltown Institute of Theology and Philosophy

1.2a College of a Constituent University

St. Angela's College, Sligo (College of NUI, Galway)

1.3 Age at Entry to a Constituent University or Recognised College

Students must normally have attained the age of seventeen years by 15th January following entry to a Constituent University or Recognised College of the University. Where a candidate below that age seeks to enter a Constituent University or Recognised College, special application must be made to the President/Director of the institution concerned.

1.4 Limitation of Entry to Faculties

As admission to most Faculties in the Constituent Universities and Recognised Colleges is competitive, intending students should obtain from the Admissions Office of the College concerned a copy of the admission requirements and procedures. Fulfilling minimum Matriculation requirements does not ensure that students will be accepted automatically into any Constituent University or Recognised College of NUI or meet the entry requirements for any particular course.

Note: *The faculties referred to in this booklet, in relation to matriculation requirements, are as provided in NUI Statutes. Changes in faculty structures in the Constituent Universities do not affect matriculation requirements.*

FACULTIES/COLLEGES OF THE CONSTITUENT UNIVERSITIES AND RECOGNISED COLLEGES AND COURSES TO WHICH THE REGULATIONS APPLY

- 2.1 **University College Dublin**
Colleges of: Arts & Celtic Studies; Business & Law; Engineering, Mathematical & Physical Sciences; Human Sciences; Life Sciences.
- 2.2 **University College Cork**
Colleges of: Arts, Celtic Studies & Social Sciences; Business & Law; Medicine & Health; Science, Engineering & Food Science.
- 2.3 **National University of Ireland, Galway**
Colleges of: Arts, Social Science & Celtic Studies; Business, Public Policy & Law; Engineering and Informatics; Medicine, Nursing, & Health Sciences; Science.
- 2.4 **National University of Ireland, Maynooth**
Faculties of: Arts, Celtic Studies and Philosophy; Social Sciences; Science and Engineering.
- 2.5 **Royal College of Surgeons in Ireland**
Undergraduate and postgraduate courses in Medicine and related Medical Sciences.
- 2.6 **National College of Art and Design**
Undergraduate and postgraduate courses in Design, Education, Fine Art and Visual Culture.
- 2.7 **Shannon College of Hotel Management**
Undergraduate courses in the Faculty of Commerce.
- 2.8 **Institute of Public Administration**
Undergraduate and Postgraduate courses in the Faculties of Arts and Commerce.
- 2.9 **Milltown Institute**
Undergraduate and postgraduate courses in Theology, Philosophy and Spirituality.
- 2.10 **St. Angela's College, Sligo (College of NUI, Galway)**
Undergraduate and postgraduate courses in the Faculty of Arts and in Nursing.

EXAMINATIONS AND SUBJECTS ACCEPTED FOR MATRICULATION REGISTRATION PURPOSES

Students may satisfy Matriculation Registration requirements as follows:

3.1 On the results of the Leaving Certificate examination:

All subjects of the Leaving Certificate Examination are accepted for Matriculation Regulation purposes, with the following exceptions and qualifications:

- (i) Gaeilge - Bonnleibhéal (Irish - Foundation Level) will not be accepted for Matriculation Registration purposes;
- (ii) Mathematics (Ordinary Alternative; Foundation Level) will be accepted for Matriculation Registration purposes, but not as a substitute for the subject Mathematics in faculties or courses for which the subject Mathematics is currently an entry requirement;
- (iii) Home Economics (General) (discontinued after 2003) is recognised only for the BEd degree in St. Angela's College, Sligo.

Combination of Leaving Certificate results for Matriculation Registration purposes

An applicant may combine the results of Leaving Certificate Examinations obtained in different years for Matriculation Registration purposes. (This concession applies to Matriculation Registration only; it does not necessarily apply to the admission requirements of the Constituent Universities or Recognised Colleges. **In particular, it should be noted that from 2009 students seeking to enter Medicine must meet the minimum entry requirements in the same sitting of the Leaving Certificate.**)

Combination of subjects not permitted

- The subject Physics and Chemistry may not be presented with either Physics or Chemistry.
- Only two of the following subjects may be presented: History, Economic History (not available after 2005), Economics.
- Music and Musicianship (now no longer provided) may not be presented with Music.
- Agricultural Economics may not be presented with Economics.
- Classical Studies may not be presented with Latin or Greek.

N.B. *The Leaving Certificate Vocational Programme (LCVP) is not an acceptable qualification for matriculation purposes.*

3.2 On the results of GCE and GCSE examinations

An applicant may combine the results of GCE/GCSE Examinations results obtained in different years, for Matriculation purposes. (This concession applies to Matriculation Registration only; it does not necessarily apply to the admission requirements of the Constituent Universities or Recognised Colleges. **In particular, it should be noted that from 2009 students seeking to enter Medicine must meet the minimum entry requirements in the same sitting.**)

Acceptance of GCE and GCSE subjects for Matriculation Registration purposes

Certain restrictions apply in relation to the combination of GCE and GCSE subjects for matriculation purposes and not all GCE and GCSE subjects are accepted. For further information and the list of the GCE and GCSE subjects acceptable for matriculation consult www.nui.ie/college. Students intending to present a subject not included in the list are advised to contact NUI or the Admissions Office of the Constituent University or Recognised College to which they are applying.

3.3 On joint results

On the joint results of the Leaving Certificate and Matriculation examinations (up to and including the Matriculation examination of 1992)

An applicant may combine the results obtained at the Leaving Certificate and Matriculation (up to and including 1992) examinations, provided the required two Grade C3s are obtained in two different subjects, and also that the Grade C3 requirement at Leaving Certificate is obtained at the Higher Level. The two examinations need not necessarily be passed in the same year for Matriculation Registration purposes.

On the joint results of GCE and GCSE and Matriculation examinations (up to and including the Matriculation examination of 1992)

The combination of joint results will be accepted on the same general conditions as for Matriculation Registration on the joint results of the Leaving Certificate and Matriculation examinations. The results of Leaving Certificate and GCE and GCSE examinations may not be combined for Matriculation Registration purposes, except in the circumstances set out in section 6.3. In certain circumstances, candidates may combine the results of Junior Certificate with GCE/GCSE for matriculation purposes. Candidates wishing to so do should contact NUI in the first instance.

3.4 On the results of other examinations

A list of European and International qualifications accepted for Matriculation purposes with information on the requirements for matriculation relating to each is contained in the Appendices. Students wishing to complete Matriculation Registration on the results of these examinations should contact, in the first instance, the Admissions Office of the Constituent University or Recognised College they wish to enter. The subjects passed and standards obtained must be in accordance with the faculty requirements set out in Section 4. Holders of other qualifications not listed should also make contact with the Admissions Office of the NUI institution they wish to enter. See also Section 5.4 in connection with the International Baccalaureate Diploma and the Irish Language Requirement.

FACULTY/COLLEGE MATRICULATION (MINIMUM ENTRY) REQUIREMENTS

Note: *The faculties referred to in this booklet, in relation to matriculation requirements, are as provided in NUI Statutes. Changes in faculty structures in the Constituent Universities do not affect matriculation requirements.*

4.1 Faculty/College of:

- **Arts**
- **Human Sciences**
- **Philosophy**
- **Celtic Studies**
- **Law**
- **Social Science**
 - (i) Irish
 - (ii) English
 - (iii) A Third Language accepted for Matriculation Registration purposes
 - (iv), (v) and (vi) Any three Matriculation subjects not already selected
- **Commerce**
 - (i) Irish
 - (ii) English
 - (iii) Mathematics
 - (iv) A Third Language accepted for Matriculation Registration purposes
 - (v), (vi) Any two other subjects accepted for Matriculation purposes
- **Science**
- **Food Science and Technology**
- **Medicine (including Dentistry)**
- **Engineering and Architecture**
- **Veterinary Medicine**
- **Agriculture**
 - (i) Irish
 - (ii) English
 - (iii) Mathematics
 - (iv) A Third Language accepted for Matriculation Registration purposes

- (v) A Laboratory Science subject.
The Laboratory Science subjects are:
Chemistry, Physics, Biology, Physics-with-Chemistry,
Agricultural Science
- (vi) Any other subject accepted for Matriculation Registration purposes.

Notes

- For entry to the Faculty of Engineering in NUI, Maynooth, the Bachelor of Engineering degree and the range of Science degrees in UCD listed at * any other subject accepted for Matriculation Registration purposes may be substituted for the Third Language.
* DN008 DN010 DN020 DN030 DN031 DN032 DN033 DN034 DN035 DN036
- Art is acceptable in place of the Third Language for students entering the National College of Art and Design.
- For entry to Nursing, the Faculty Matriculation requirements are those of the Faculty of Medicine. However, any other subject accepted for Matriculation Registration purposes may be substituted for the Third Language.
- Home Economics (General) (discontinued after 2003) is acceptable as a Matriculation Registration subject for students entering the BEd degree in St. Angela's College, Sligo, where Mathematics is an essential Matriculation subject.
- Students from outside the European Union presenting the results of examinations other than those of the European Union countries may substitute two recognised subjects for (a) Irish and (b) the language other than English.
- Students are advised to consult Constituent University or Recognised College admissions literature for details of specific subject/course requirements.

4.2 Standard required

Leaving Certificate examination

Candidates must obtain a pass in at least six subjects selected according to faculty requirements, as set out in 4.1 above, with at least Grade C3 in two subjects on the Higher Course and at least Grade D3 (Ordinary or Higher Course) in four subjects. One Grade E on a Higher Course at Leaving Certificate will be accepted if the candidate has among his/her other subjects three Grade C3 awards on Higher Course Papers or at least one Grade B3 and one Grade C3 on Higher Course Papers at Leaving Certificate or the equivalent Grades at the Matriculation examination (up to and including Matriculation examination of 1992), or on the joint results of both examinations.

GCE/GCSE examinations

Candidates must obtain a pass in at least six subjects, in accordance with faculty requirements as set out in Section 4.1 and obtain the following:

- **GCE Advanced Level**

At least Grade C in two recognised subjects (Grade A with Grade D or Grade E, or Grade B with Grade D are considered the equivalent of two Grade Cs).

- **GCE AS Level/GCSE Level**

At least Grade C in four recognised subjects (GCE Advanced Level Grades A to D, E or O are accepted as GCSE O Level Pass Grades).

Other Examinations

The subjects passed and standard attained must be in accordance with the Faculty/College requirements set out above. (See Appendices for a list of European and International qualifications accepted for Matriculation purposes). Further information on the grades needed to satisfy Matriculation requirements is available from Admissions Offices. Holders of other qualifications not listed should make contact with the Admissions Office of the NUI institution they wish to enter. See also Section 5.4 in connection with the International Baccalaureate Diploma and the Irish Language requirement.

THE IRISH LANGUAGE REQUIREMENT

5.1 The basic requirement with regard to Irish

Candidates born in the Republic of Ireland (26 counties) must pass Irish in the Leaving Certificate or GCE/GCSE Examinations. This requirement applies whether the candidate is presenting the Leaving Certificate or another examination for Matriculation, unless one of the conditions for an exemption, as set out at 5.3 below, is satisfied.

5.2 Exemption from Irish for candidates born in Northern Ireland/ United Kingdom

Candidates from Northern Ireland/United Kingdom presenting GCE/GCSE qualifications will automatically be granted exemption from Irish. It is not necessary for them to apply to NUI.

5.3 Other exemptions from Irish

The following candidates may claim exemption from the requirement of presenting Irish for Matriculation Registration purposes:

(i) Candidates born outside the Republic of Ireland (26 counties)

Candidates (apart from those born in Northern Ireland/United Kingdom as referred to at 5.2) are required to submit a copy of their birth certificate to NUI for verification.

(ii) Candidates born in the Republic of Ireland (26 counties) but,

- whose **primary education up to the age of eleven years** was outside the Republic of Ireland (26 counties); or
- who **resided outside the Republic of Ireland (26 counties)** during at least three years immediately preceding their becoming eligible for Matriculation (see Section 1.3); or
- whose **post-primary education** in the **three years immediately preceding** their becoming eligible for Matriculation (see Section 1.3) took place outside of the Republic of Ireland (26 counties).

N.B. *In all of these cases, a Declaration by the Head of the School attended must be lodged. The required Form of Declaration for this purpose may be obtained from the National University of Ireland, 49 Merrion Square, Dublin 2, or may be downloaded from www.nui.ie/college.*

(iii) Candidates submitting a Certificate of Exemption from Irish in accordance with the Department of Education revision of Rule 46 'Rules and Programmes for Secondary Schools' in relation to exemption from Irish (Circular letter M10/94)

Any candidate who is granted exemption from Irish on this ground and who intends applying for a place in a Constituent University or Recognised College, is required to forward to the National University of Ireland a copy of the Certificate of Exemption, signed by the school manager/principal and accompanied by relevant supporting documentation, viz. the professional psychologist's report. Where the candidate intends to present another language (apart from English) as a Leaving Certificate subject, the rationale for presenting the other language, while seeking exemption from Irish, must be set out clearly with the application for exemption.

Candidates granted exemption from Irish in accordance with this provision will also be granted exemption from the Third Language requirement.

5.4

It should be noted that:

- Candidates who are exempted from Irish may present, as their sixth subject, any other subject accepted for Matriculation Registration purposes.
- Candidates from outside the European Union presenting the results of examinations other than those of the European Union countries may substitute another recognised subject for Irish.
- Candidates born **outside the Republic of Ireland** (26 counties) who have been **granted exemption from Irish**, may nevertheless present Irish as a subject for Matriculation to fulfil the requirement to present a language other than English. (This provision is relevant to students from Northern Ireland, and to other students born outside Ireland who present Irish as a Leaving Certificate, GCE or GCSE subject.)
- Candidates presenting the International Baccalaureate Diploma for Matriculation, and whose primary and post-primary education has been in the Republic of Ireland (26 counties), will satisfy the Irish language requirement by presenting a pass in Irish in the Leaving Certificate.

THE THIRD LANGUAGE REQUIREMENT

- 6.1** As indicated at Section 4.1, all candidates are required to present, in addition to Irish and English, a Third Language accepted for Matriculation Registration purposes with the following exceptions:
- (i) For entry to the Faculty of Engineering in NUI, Maynooth, the Bachelor of Engineering degree and the range of Science degrees in UCD listed at * any other subject accepted for Matriculation Registration purposes may be substituted for the Third Language.
 * DN008 DN010 DN020 DN030 DN031 DN032 DN033 DN034 DN035 DN036
 - (ii) Students entering courses in Nursing may substitute any other recognised subject for the Third Language;
 - (iii) Students entering NCAD may present the subject Art in place of the Third Language;
 - (iv) Students from outside the European Union presenting the results of examinations other than those of the European Union countries may substitute another recognised subject for the Third Language (See Section 5.4);
 - (v) Students from outside Ireland may present Irish as a Matriculation subject. (See Section 5.4). This provision is relevant to students from Northern Ireland, and also to students from outside Ireland presenting Irish as a Leaving Certificate, GCE or GCSE subject;
 - (vi) Hearing-impaired students (See Section 8).

6.2 Students with Dyslexic Conditions

The NUI is also prepared to consider applications seeking exemption from the Third Language requirement from students who are certified by a qualified professional as having a dyslexic condition causing such a learning difficulty in relation to language acquisition as to warrant exemption. Such applications are considered on an individual basis and may be presented to the University at any stage following completion of the Junior Certificate. Applications must be accompanied by a School Record Form completed by the Head of the School attended and a Certification Form completed by a qualified professional. These forms are available from the National University of Ireland, 49 Merrion Square, Dublin 2, or may be downloaded from www.nui.ie/college. It should be noted that psychologists' reports certifying learning difficulty should be no more than three years old.

The NUI has been influenced by the Association for Higher Education Access and Disability (AHEAD) in accepting the following definition of dyslexia:

Dyslexia is one of several distinct learning disabilities. It is a specific language-based disorder of constitutional origin characterised by disabilities in single word decoding, usually reflecting insufficient phonological processing.

These difficulties in single word decoding are often unexpected in relation to age and other cognitive abilities; they are not the result of generalised developmental disability or sensory impairment.

Dyslexia is manifest by variable difficulty with different forms of language, often including, in addition to problems with reading, a conspicuous problem with acquiring proficiency in writing and spelling.

6.3 Students from outside the European Union presenting the Leaving Certificate

The following special arrangements apply in the case of students from outside the European Union whose first language is a language other than English and who present the Leaving Certificate for Matriculation purposes. In general, such candidates will be required to present a language other than English for Matriculation. Candidates in this situation may present a language in the Leaving Certificate or alternative certification in a language acceptable to the University. For example, examinations in non-European Union languages available at GCE/GCSE levels will be accepted as meeting this language requirement. In these circumstances, it is permissible for candidates to combine the results of the Leaving Certificate with the language result in the GCE/GCSE. In the case of examinations other than the GCE/GCSE, applications are considered by the University on an individual basis. Candidates are required to present original certificates or copies authenticated by a relevant authority.

It should be noted that in all cases students are required to present six Leaving Certificate subjects.

THE ENGLISH REQUIREMENT WHERE ENGLISH IS NOT THE FIRST LANGUAGE

All candidates are required to satisfy the English language requirement. Candidates whose first language is not English may satisfy the requirement through any of the following:

7.1 **National University of Ireland Matriculation**

English at Level 4 or above, before 1985; at Level D or above, in or after 1985

7.2 **NUI Certificate in English Language Studies**

(currently awarded at Shannon College of Hotel Management)

7.3 **Leaving Certificate**

English at Grade D Ordinary Level or above

7.4 **University of Dublin (Trinity College)**

English Composition (not English Literature) at Pass Level or above

7.5 **UK Examining Boards/Bodies**

- GCE O Level English Language at Grade C or above
- GCSE English Language at Grade C or above
- GCSE English Literature at Grade C or above
- CSE Grade 1 Pass in English

The following standard in English Language examinations set by certain Examination Boards – any one of:

- Assessments and Qualifications Alliance (AQA) C or above
- Oxford Cambridge and RSA Examinations (OCR) C or above
- Edexcel Foundation C or above
- University of Cambridge ESOL Examinations C or above

7.6 **EU Countries' Matriculation Examination**

Matriculation Examinations from European Union Countries where English is presented as a subject and an acceptable level is achieved

7.7 **Norwegian Certificate of Upper Secondary Education**

A score of 4 or higher in English in the First Part

7.8 **Hong Kong Education Examination Authorities**

- Hong Kong Certificate of Education, English Language Syllabus B Grade C or better
- Hong Kong Examination Authority, Advanced Level Use of English Grade C or better

7.9 Sri Lankan National Certificate in English

Pass level or better

7.10 Other English Language Examinations

(i) *Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL)*

A minimum score of 550 (213 for computer-based tests or 79 for internet-based tests) in the Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL) administered by Princeton University

(ii) *Test of English for International Communication (TOEIC)*

A minimum score of 750

(iii) *International English Language Testing System (IELTS)*

Test Patterns A and B, with an average score of 6.0 over all components

It should be noted that these are the minimum requirements in English and that Faculties/Colleges may set higher requirements.

MATRICULATION FOR HEARING-IMPAIRED CANDIDATES

Students who are certified to the University by an appropriate professional authority as having serious hearing impairment are permitted to matriculate in six subjects as follows:

- Irish or English
- Any other five subjects accepted for Matriculation Registration purposes provided faculty requirements are otherwise satisfied.

MATRICULATION ON MATURE YEARS

Students of mature years (i.e. students who are 23 years of age on 1 January in the calendar year of entry) may be matriculated by the University on the recommendation of the Academic Council of a Constituent University or Recognised College for the purpose of entering on a course of study, in such Constituent University or Recognised College, leading to a degree of the University. In the case of part-time courses, students of 21 years of age may be matriculated. Students are advised to consult the relevant Constituent University or Recognised College admissions literature for additional information governing Matriculation Registration on mature years.

MATRICULATION ON COMPLETION OF AN NUI ACCESS COURSE

Students who have satisfactorily completed an Approved Access Course in a Constituent University, or who enter the University through an Approved Access/Foundation Programme, may be matriculated by the University on the recommendation of the President of a Constituent University. Students are advised to consult the relevant Constituent University for additional information concerning Matriculation Registration on satisfactory completion of an Approved Access Course or Approved Access/Foundation Programme.

MATRICULATION FOR HOLDERS OF HETAC (NCEA) QUALIFICATIONS

Matriculation will be granted to holders of qualifications at level 6 and upwards of the National Framework of Qualifications awarded by HETAC or comparable NCEA qualifications.

MATRICULATION FOR HOLDERS OF FETAC (NCVA) Level 5 and Level 6 awards

Holders of FETAC (NCVA) Level 5 or Level 6 awards with Distinctions in five modules, will be granted Matriculation for admission to degree courses in cognate areas.

Students wishing to complete Matriculation Registration on the results of the FETAC (NCVA) Level 5 or Level 6 awards should contact, in the first instance, the Admissions Office of the Constituent University or Recognised College they wish to enter.

INFORMATION TO CENTRAL APPLICATIONS OFFICE (CAO)

NUI will inform the Central Applications Office of exemptions granted by the University for Matriculation Registration purposes. However, while the NUI is happy to facilitate students by informing CAO of exemptions granted, it is the responsibility of the students to ensure that this information has been correctly recorded on the Statement of Application Record which students receive from the CAO at the end of May (or the amended Statement, where the exemption has been granted by the NUI after the original Statement has been issued by the CAO). In the case of exemptions granted to applicants by the University before CAO numbers are available, candidates are required to inform the National University of Ireland of their CAO numbers when these are known.

APPENDIX 1 / AGUISÍN 1

European and International Qualifications accepted for Matriculation *Cáilíochtaí Eorpacha agus Idirnáisiúnta atá inghlactha don Mháithreánach*

Country / Tír	Qualification / Cáilíocht
Austria / An Ostair	Reifeprüfung/Matura (from Allgemeinbildende Höhere Schulen) Reifezeugnis/Maturazeugnis (from Allgemeinbildende Höhere Schulen)
Belgium / An Bheilg	Certificat d'Enseignement Secondaire Supérieur Diplôme de l'Examen d'Admission Diplôme d'Accès à l'Enseignement Supérieur Diploma van Secundair Onderwijs Abschlußzeugnis der Oberstufe des Sekundarunterrichts
Bulgaria / An Bhulgáir	Diploma za Sredno Obrazovanie (Diploma of Completed Secondary Education) NB this is only accepted with Matriculation [from Professionalni utchilichta schools]
Cyprus / An Chipir	Apolytirion of Lykeoin
Czech Republic / Poblacht na Seice	Maturitní Zkouška / Maturita
Denmark / An Danmhairg	Bevis for Studentereksamen Bevis for Højere Forberedelseksamen
Estonia / An Eastóin	AS level equivalent (meets entry requirement for courses up to 500 points)
Finland / An Fhionlainn	Ylioppilastutkintodistus/Studentexamensbetyg
France / An Fhrainc	Baccalauréat de L'Enseignement du Second Degré Baccalauréat avec Option Internationale
Germany / An Ghearmáin	Abitur / Zeugnis der Allgemeine Hochschulreife
Greece / An Ghréig	Apolytirion of Lykeio
Hungary / An Ungáir	Érettségi / Matura
Italy / An Iodáil	Diploma di Maturità: (up until 1999) Diploma di Esame di Stato (from 1999) <i>Must be from a Liceo of one of the following types:</i> <i>Classica/Scientifica/Tecnica/Linguistica/Magistrale/Artistica</i>
Latvia / An Laitvia	Atestats par visparejo vidojo izglītību (Certificate of General Secondary Education)
Lithuania / An Liotuáin	Brandos Atestatas / Maturity Certificate, at State exam level
Luxembourg / Lucsamburg	Diplôme de fin d'Études Secondaire
Malta / Málta	Advanced Matriculation Certificate
Netherlands / An Ísiltír	Voorbereidend Wetenschappelijk Onderwijs (VWO)
Poland / An Pholainn	Matura Certificate / Świadectwo Dojrzałości
Portugal / An Phortaingéil	Certificado de Fim de Estudos Secundários
Romania / An Rómáin	Diploma de Bacalaureat
Scotland / Alba	Scottish Highers, plus Scottish Advanced Highers
Slovakia / An tSlóvaic	Maturitná skúška / Maturita
Slovenia / An tSlóivéin	Matura / Secondary School Leaving Diploma
Spain / An Spáinn	Curso de Orientacion (COU) / Título de Bachillerato / Selectividad
Sweden / An tSualainn	Avgångsbetyg / Slutbetyg fran Gymnasieskolan
UK (except Scotland) / <i>Ríocht Aontaithe(ach amháin Alba)</i>	GCE A Level
European / Eorpach	European Baccalaureate Diploma
International / Idirnáisiúnta	International Baccalaureate Diploma

APPENDIX 2 / AGUISÍN 2

Information on NUI matriculation requirements for holders of European and International qualifications

Eolas ar riachtanais Mháithreacháin OÉ do sealbhóirí cáilíochtaí an Aontais Eorpaigh agus an Diplóma idirnáisiúnta:

AUSTRIA / AN OSTAIR	
Recognised School Leaving Qualifications	Reifeprüfung/Matura (from Allgemeinbildende höhere Schulen Reifezeugnis/Maturezeugnis (from Allgemeinbildende höhere Schulen)
National Academic Recognition Information Centre (NARIC) rating	GCE A Level equivalent
Format of Examinations	
Number of subjects	Seven (take best six)
Grading System A numerical scale of 1 – 5 is used, with 4 being the minimum pass mark as follows:	Sehr gut very good Gut good Befriedigend satisfactory Genügend pass Nicht genügend fail
Subject pass mark for University purposes	4
Minimum Matriculation	Two subjects at grade 2 and four subjects at grade 4 to include English and another language plus specific programme requirements.
English Language Competence	3 or equivalent competence in English

BELGIUM / AN BHEILG	
Recognised School Leaving Qualifications	Certificat d'Enseignement Secondaire Supérieur Diplôme de l'Examen d'Admission Diplôme d'Acces aux Études Supérieures Diplome van Secundaire Onderwijs Abschlusszeugnis der Oberstufe des Sekundarunterrichts
National Academic Recognition Information Centre (NARIC) rating	GCE A Level equivalent
Format of Examinations	
Number of subjects	There are four streams; number of subjects and subject weighting depends on the stream taken.
Grading System	A numerical scale of 1 – 10 is used, 10 highest, with 5 being the minimum pass mark.
Subject pass mark for University purposes	5
Minimum Matriculation	Minimum score of 5 in six subjects, which includes a minimum of 7 in two subjects, with English and another language plus specific programme requirements.
English Language Competence	7.5 or equivalent English Language Competence

BULGARIA / AN BHULGÁIR																				
Recognised School Qualifications	Diploma za Sredno Obrazovanie (Diploma of Leaving Completed Secondary Education) NB this is only accepted with Matriculation [from Professionalni utchilichta schools]																			
National Academic Recognition Information Centre (NARIC) rating	GCE AS Level equivalent. Acceptable for programmes up to 500 points.																			
Format of Examinations	At the end of the 12th grade, students with an average score of less than 5.0 (Very Good) must sit a final examination (the Matura) which after successful completion leads to the Diploma za Sredno Obrazovanie (Diploma of secondary education). Students with an average score of 5.0 or more are exempt from taking the Matura, and automatically receive the Diploma za Sredno Obrazovanie.																			
Number of subjects	Varies but they specialise in two subjects marked profile on the transcript (ten-twelve seems usual).																			
Grading System	<table><tr><th>Grade</th><th>Point</th><th>Comment</th></tr><tr><td>2</td><td></td><td><i>Slab</i> Poor / Fail</td></tr><tr><td>3</td><td></td><td><i>Sreden</i> Sufficient</td></tr><tr><td>4</td><td></td><td><i>Dobur</i> Good</td></tr><tr><td>5</td><td></td><td><i>Mnogo Dobur</i> Very Good</td></tr><tr><td>6</td><td></td><td><i>Otlichen</i> Excellent</td></tr></table>		Grade	Point	Comment	2		<i>Slab</i> Poor / Fail	3		<i>Sreden</i> Sufficient	4		<i>Dobur</i> Good	5		<i>Mnogo Dobur</i> Very Good	6		<i>Otlichen</i> Excellent
Grade	Point	Comment																		
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4		<i>Dobur</i> Good																		
5		<i>Mnogo Dobur</i> Very Good																		
6		<i>Otlichen</i> Excellent																		
Subject pass mark for University purposes	3																			
Minimum Matriculation	Pass in five subjects which must include both profile subjects and two subjects at grade 5 or better.																			
English Language Competence	IELTS/TOEFL																			

CYPRUS / AN CHIPIR	
Recognised School Leaving Qualifications	Apolytirion of Lykeoin
National Academic Recognition Information Centre (NARIC) rating	Between GCSE Level equivalent (O level) and AS level does not meet entry and matriculation requirements. For consideration, applicants need GCE A level, International Baccalaureate exam, or successful completion of first year in a cognate subject in a recognised third level institution of equivalent standing to the NUI.

CZECH REPUBLIC / POBLACHT NA SEICE							
Recognised School Leaving Qualifications	Maturitni Zkouška / Maturita (<i>Vysvedcení o Maturitní Zkoušce</i> (<i>School Leaving Certificate with Maturita from technical / vocational schools</i>) NOT acceptable).						
National Academic Recognition Information Centre (NARIC) rating	GCE A Level equivalent.						
Format of Examinations							
Number of subjects	Four or five (Czech, a foreign language plus two other subjects based on choice, with possible fifth subject)						
Grading System	<p>A numerical scale of 1 – 5 is used, with 4 being the minimum pass mark as follows:</p> <table> <tr> <td>1 = Vyborny (Excellent)</td><td>4 = Dostatecný (Pass)</td></tr> <tr> <td>2 = Chvalitebný (Very Good)</td><td>5 = Nedostatecný (Fail)</td></tr> <tr> <td>3 = Dobry = Good</td><td></td></tr> </table>	1 = Vyborny (Excellent)	4 = Dostatecný (Pass)	2 = Chvalitebný (Very Good)	5 = Nedostatecný (Fail)	3 = Dobry = Good	
1 = Vyborny (Excellent)	4 = Dostatecný (Pass)						
2 = Chvalitebný (Very Good)	5 = Nedostatecný (Fail)						
3 = Dobry = Good							

CZECH REPUBLIC Continued	
Subject pass mark for University purposes	4
Minimum Matriculation	Average of 3.5 in best four subjects to include English and another language plus specific programme requirements. For programmes with LC points requirement of 500 and over, applicants will be required to present with a minimum of five subjects.
English Language Competence	2.5 or equivalent English Language Competence.

DENMARK / AN DANMHAIRG	
Recognised School Leaving Qualifications	Bevis for Studentereksamen Bevis for Højere Forberedelseksamen
National Academic Recognition Information Centre (NARIC) rating	GCE A Level equivalent.
Format of Examinations	
Number of subjects	usually four at higher level, two at intermediate and ten+ others.
Grading System	A numerical scale of 1 – 13 is used, with 6 being the minimum pass mark. (6 = just acceptable performance and 12 is not used).
Subject pass mark for University purposes	6 in year's work and 6 in end-of-year exam.
Minimum Matriculation	Two subjects with grade 9 and four subjects grade 6 to include English and another language plus specific programme requirements.
English Language Competence	9.5 or equivalent English Language Competence.

ESTONIA / AN EASTÓIN			
Recognised School Leaving Qualifications	Gümnaasiumi lõputunnistus		
National Academic Recognition Information Centre (NARIC) rating	AS Level equivalent [Meets entry requirements for courses up to 500 points.] NB prior to 2006 this was rated GCSE level only.		
Format of Examinations			
Number of subjects	Students are required to pass at least two state examinations, of which one is an essay in the mother tongue. Completion of secondary education is on the basis of the <i>Gümnaasiumi lõputunnistus</i> (Secondary School Leaving Certificate), valid only with the <i>Riigieksamitunnistus</i> (attestation of success in the state entrance examinations). Minimum three subjects must be examined at state level.		
Grading System	90-100	5	Very Good
	70-89	4	Good
	50-69	3	Satisfactory
	25-49	2	Unsatisfactory
	0-24	1	Poor
	Subject pass mark for University purposes: 50% or 3.		

ESTONIA / AN EASTÕIN Continued	
Minimum Matriculation	Pass in six subjects including minimum three at State level and all with minimum six courses.
English Language Competence	4 at State level or equivalent English Language Competence.

FINLAND / AN FHIONLAINN	
Recognised School Leaving Qualifications	Ylioppilastutkinto / studentexamen (Matriculation Examination) Studentexamsbetyg (NB: <i>Ammatillinen perustutkinto / yrkesinriktad grundexamen is not recognised</i>)
National Academic Recognition Information Centre (NARIC) rating	GCE A Level equivalent
Format of Examinations	
Number of subjects	Minimum five, of which one is called ' <i>general subjects</i> ', plus optional extra one or more. In ' <i>general subjects</i> ' students choose questions from nine subject areas: mother tongue (Finnish/Swedish) other national language (Swedish/Finnish) foreign language mathematics general studies/ <i>reaalia</i> (humanities and natural sciences) (<i>reaalikoe/realprov</i>)
Grading System	Ylioppilastutkinotodistus A numerical scale of 0 - 7 is used, with 2 being the minimum pass mark as follows: 7 = Laudatur = Excellent 6 = Eximia cum laude approbatur = Exceptionally Good 5 = Magna cum laude approbatur = Very Good 4 = Cum laude approbatur = Good 3 = Lubenter approbatur = Satisfactory 2 = Approbatur = Pass 0 = Improbatur = Fail
	Studentexamsbetyg marked on a scale of 1- 10 10 <i>Erinomainen</i> Excellent 9 <i>Kiitettävä</i> Praiseworthy 8 <i>Hyvä</i> Good 7 <i>Tyydyttävä</i> Satisfactory 6 <i>Kohtalainen</i> Moderate 5 <i>Välttävä</i> Adequate 4 <i>Hylätty</i> Fail
Subject pass mark for University purposes	2 Ylioppilastutkinotodistus or 5 in Studentexamsbetyg
Minimum Matriculation	Minimum of five subjects with two at Grade 5 and two at Grade 3, to include English and another language, plus specific programme requirements. For programmes with Leaving Certificate points requirement of 500 and over, applicants will be required to present with a minimum six subjects.
English Language Competence	5 or equivalent English Language Competence <i>Studentexamsbetyg</i> Grade 8 in English A1, B1 or B2 – B3 English must have 10.

FRANCE / AN FHRAINC	
Recognised School Leaving Qualifications	Baccalauréat Baccalauréat avec Option Internationale
National Academic Recognition Information Centre (NARIC) rating	GCE A Level equivalent
Format of Examinations	
Number of subjects	Students specialise in one of three ' <i>options</i> ', which can be Scientific or Literary or Economic and Social. Subject choice and weighting vary according to the <i>option</i> , with certain compulsory subjects in all <i>options</i> .
Grading System	A numerical scale of 0 - 20 is used, with 10 being the minimum pass mark as follows: 16 - 20 = Très Bien = Very good 14 - 15 = Bien = Good 12 - 13 = Assez Bien = Satisfactory 10 - 11 = Passable = Pass
Subject pass mark for University purposes	10. Where there is a specific subject mark requirement, that subject must have a coefficient of at least 3 in the particular <i>option</i> taken.
Minimum Matriculation	Overall 10, with English, another language, plus specific programme requirements.
English Language Competence	13 or equivalent English Language Competence.

GERMANY / AN GHEARMÁIN	
Recognised School Leaving Qualifications	Abitur Zeugnis der Allgemeine Hochschulreife
National Academic Recognition Information Centre (NARIC) rating	GCE A Level equivalent
Format of Examinations	
Number of subjects	Subjects are available from three categories: – Languages, Literature and the Arts – Social Science – Mathematics, Natural Sciences and Technology Eight subjects overall must be taken, with the following as core: German, foreign language, Mathematics, Religious Education (RE not necessarily assessed) – two subjects are 'intensive', the remainder are general. Where a subject requirement is at LC Higher Level, then the subject must have been taken at 'intensive' level in the Abitur.
Grading System	Each subject is marked out of 15, and when weighting is applied an overall Durchschnittsnote of 1 to 6 is reached. 13 - 15 = Sehr Gut = Very Good 10 - 12 = Gut = Good 7 - 9 = befriedend = Satisfactory 4 - 6 = Ausreichend = Pass 0 - 3 = Mangelhaft = Fail
Subject pass mark for University purposes	4
Minimum Matriculation	Overall minimum of 3.5 in the Durchschnittsnote, with English, another language plus specific programme requirements.
English Language Competence	11 or equivalent English Language Competence.

GREECE / AN GHRÉIG	
Recognised School Leaving Qualifications	Apolytirion of Lykeion (NB: Apolytirion of Gymnasio is not acceptable) Prior to 2001, a separate certificate <i>General (University) Entrance Examination</i> was also needed.
National Academic Recognition Information Centre (NARIC) rating	GCE AS Level equivalent. Acceptable for programmes up to 500 points. For programmes over 500 points, applicants must also present satisfactory results in a cognate subject at the end of first year in a recognised third level institution of equivalent standing to the NUI.
Format of Examinations	There are three categories: Applied Sciences; Humanities and Social Sciences; Sciences. Nine subjects are assessed externally (nationally) and five are assessed internally, over the last two years at school.
Number of subjects	Fourteen
Grading System	A scale of 1-20 is used. The student must achieve at least 10 in order to progress to the next class. It is still possible to proceed to the next class with a mark of less than 10 (in up to four subjects), but only if the overall average is 13 or above. 18.1 - 20 = Excellent 16.1 - 18 = Very Good 13.1 - 16 = Good 9.5 - 13 = Fairly Good 5.1 - 9.4 = Unsatisfactory 0 - 5 = Poor
Subject pass mark for University purposes	10
Minimum Matriculation	Overall minimum of 17 in Apolytirion, with English, another language plus specific programme requirements.
English Language Competence	18.75 or equivalent English Language Competence.

HUNGARY / AN UNGÁIR					
Recognised School Leaving Qualifications	Erettsegi / Matura (not Erettsegi awarded by Szakközepiskola)				
National Academic Recognition Information Centre (NARIC) rating	GCE A Level equivalent				
Format of Examinations					
Number of subjects	At least five subjects: Mathematics, Hungarian, History, plus one/two options.				
	School evaluation		Intermediate Maturity Examination	Advanced Maturity Exam	
	5	jeles	excellent	80-100%	60-100%
	4	jó	good	60-79%	47-59%
	3	közepes	average	40-59%	33-46%
	2	elégséges	pass	20-39%	20-32%
	1	elégtelen	fail	0-19%	0-19%
Subject pass mark for University purposes	2				

HUNGARY / AN UNGÁIR Continued	
Minimum Matriculation:	Pass in a minimum of two subjects at advanced level and three at intermediate
English Language Competence	3.75 or equivalent English Language Competence

ITALY / AN IODÁIL	
Recognised School Leaving Qualifications	Diploma di Maturità (up until 1999) Esame di Stato (from 1999) Must be from a Liceo of one of the following types: Classica/Scientifica/Tecnica/ Linguistica/Magistrale/Artistica Note: Liceo Professionale <i>not accepted</i> .
National Academic Recognition Information Centre (NARIC) rating	Esame di Stato: GCE A Level equivalent. Maturita: GCE A level equivalent, but not on a subject for subject basis. Due to high numbers achieving maximum scores, and the fact that Italian Universities will often use matriculation/entry exams, for programmes over 500 points, applicants must also present satisfactory results in the entrance exam in a cognate subject, of a university of comparable standing to the NUI.
Format of Examinations	The examinations consist of three written examinations and an oral. The first written examination assesses the candidates' knowledge of the Italian language, along with the second tuition language in bilingual regions/provinces. The second written examination is related to one of the disciplinary subjects characterising the upper secondary study course concerned. The third written examination assesses all the subjects of the last study year (normally the fifth) including a foreign language. The oral examination consists of an interview on a wide range of topics relating to all the other subjects of the last year's curriculum.
Number of subjects	Between ten and twelve.
Grading System	<i>Up to 1998/99:</i> 0-60 (maximum) with 36 as the minimum pass grade. For school work, marking was on a scale of 0-10 with 6 as the minimum pass mark. <i>Since 1998/99:</i> scale 60-100. (15 points per written exam; 35 points for oral exam; remainder for coursework and extra-curricular activities.)
Subject pass mark for University purposes	60%
Minimum Matriculation	Overall 70%, with six recognised subjects taken over the five years of higher secondary school, plus specific programme requirements.
English Language Competence	80% or equivalent English Language Competence.

LATVIA / AN LAITVIA															
Recognised School Leaving Qualifications	Atestats par visparejo videjo izglitibu (Certificate of General Secondary Education)														
National Academic Recognition Information Centre (NARIC) rating	GCE AS Level equivalent. Acceptable for programmes up to 500 points. For programmes over 500 points, applicants must also present satisfactory results in a cognate subject at the end of first year in a recognised third level institution of equivalent standing to the NUI.														
Format of Examinations															
Number of subjects	<p>Students follow one of four programmes, general, natural sciences, humanities and vocational, of which five subjects are compulsory for all students and others are compulsory depending on the programme studied. The compulsory subjects are: Latvian language and literature, Mathematics, a foreign language, History, Physical Education, Applied informatics, Basics of Business.</p> <p>Two different levels – basic (pamatkurss) and advanced (profilkurss) – are offered in each subject.</p> <p>To be awarded an Atestats par visparejo videjo izglitibu (Certificate of General Secondary Education), students have to complete the courses in their chosen programme and pass five final examinations, including two examinations in compulsory subjects (Latvian language and literature and another examination which is set nationally each year) and three examinations to be chosen by the student. One of these five examinations must be chosen at the advanced level of the respective subject. The examinations can be taken in years 10, 11 or 12 if the course has been completed.</p>														
Grading System	<p>The current marking system is based on a 6 point scale, which has replaced a 10-point system, in 2002-3 (this in turn replaced the traditional 5-grade system):</p> <table> <tr> <td>New scale</td><td>Previous scale</td></tr> <tr> <td>A</td><td>10</td></tr> <tr> <td>B</td><td>8-9</td></tr> <tr> <td>C</td><td>6-7</td></tr> <tr> <td>D</td><td>4-5</td></tr> <tr> <td>E</td><td>3</td></tr> <tr> <td>F</td><td>1-2</td></tr> </table> <p>The Certificate of General Secondary Education is accompanied by a list of marks given to twelve subjects, including five compulsory and seven elective. From these subjects at least two must be marked as <i>profilkurss</i> (advanced).</p>	New scale	Previous scale	A	10	B	8-9	C	6-7	D	4-5	E	3	F	1-2
New scale	Previous scale														
A	10														
B	8-9														
C	6-7														
D	4-5														
E	3														
F	1-2														
Subject pass mark for University purposes	Grade D or 4.														
Minimum Matriculation	Grade C in two subjects at Advanced level and remainder at least grade D.														
English Language Competence	Grade B in Advanced level or equivalent English Language Competence.														

LITHUANIA / AN LIOTUÁIN																					
Recognised School Leaving Qualifications	Brandos Atestatas / Maturity Certificate, at State exam level (from a Gymnasium or Secondary School).																				
National Academic Recognition Information Centre (NARIC) rating	GCE AS Level equivalent. Acceptable for programmes up to 500 points. For programmes over 500 points, applicants must also present satisfactory results in a cognate subject at the end of first year in a recognised third level institution of equivalent standing to the NUI.																				
Format of Examinations																					
Number of subjects	Minimum of ten subjects, though not all are examined. There are two streams, Humanities/Arts and Mathematics/Sciences. Many subjects can be taken at two levels, School level and State level.																				
Grading System	At school level, marks are awarded on a scale of 1 to 10 as follows: <table><tr><td>Excellent =</td><td>10</td><td>92-100%</td></tr><tr><td>Very Good =</td><td>9</td><td>82-91%</td></tr><tr><td>Good =</td><td>8</td><td>74-81%</td></tr><tr><td>Highly Satisfactory =</td><td>7</td><td>66-73%</td></tr><tr><td>Satisfactory =</td><td>6</td><td>58-65%</td></tr><tr><td>Sufficient =</td><td>5</td><td>50-57%</td></tr></table> 4 and below is a fail (State exams are marked on a scale from 1 – 100 but convert to 1-10 scale as above).			Excellent =	10	92-100%	Very Good =	9	82-91%	Good =	8	74-81%	Highly Satisfactory =	7	66-73%	Satisfactory =	6	58-65%	Sufficient =	5	50-57%
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Sufficient =	5	50-57%																			
Subject pass mark for University purposes	5																				
Minimum Matriculation	Minimum grade 5 in six subjects, to include English and another language, with minimum grade 8 in two subjects, plus specific programme requirements. Subjects presented must include a minimum of three examined at State level.																				
English Language Competence	8 or equivalent English Language Competence.																				

LUXEMBOURG / LUCSAMBURG																							
Recognised School Leaving Qualifications	Diplôme de Fin d'Études Secondaire																						
National Academic Recognition Information Centre (NARIC) rating	GCE A Level equivalent																						
Format of Examinations	There are seven programme types. Students will take subjects based on the programme type they are following. Subjects with a coefficient of 4 can be considered Higher Level and subjects with a coefficient of 2 can be considered as Ordinary Level.																						
Number of subjects	From seven to ten.																						
Grading System	Marks are awarded on a scale of 1 to 60, with 30 being a pass mark, as below: <table><tr><td>50 to 60</td><td>trés bien</td><td>very good</td></tr><tr><td>40 to 49</td><td>bien</td><td>good</td></tr><tr><td>35 to 39</td><td>bien</td><td>rather good</td></tr><tr><td>30 to 34</td><td>satisfaisant</td><td>satisfactory</td></tr><tr><td>20 to 29</td><td>insuffisant</td><td>unsatisfactory</td></tr><tr><td>10 to 19</td><td>mauvais</td><td>bad</td></tr><tr><td>1 to 9</td><td>trés mauvais</td><td>very bad</td></tr></table>		50 to 60	trés bien	very good	40 to 49	bien	good	35 to 39	bien	rather good	30 to 34	satisfaisant	satisfactory	20 to 29	insuffisant	unsatisfactory	10 to 19	mauvais	bad	1 to 9	trés mauvais	very bad
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1 to 9	trés mauvais	very bad																					

LUXEMBOURG / LUCSAMBURG Continued	
Subject pass mark for University purposes	30
Minimum Matriculation:	One subject at coefficient 4 and minimum grade of 35, one subject at coefficient 3 and minimum grade of 30 plus four subjects at minimum grade of 30.
English Language Competence:	40 at coefficient 3 or equivalent English Language Competence.

MALTA / MÁLTA	
Recognised School Leaving Qualifications	Advanced Matriculation
National Academic Recognition Information Centre (NARIC) rating	GCE A Level equivalent
Format of Examinations	
Number of subjects	Generally two or three at Advanced Level and two or three at Intermediate Level, and Systems of Knowledge.
Grading System	A, B, C, D, E are pass grades
Subject pass mark for University purposes	Grade E
Minimum Matriculation	Two subjects at Advanced Level grade C minimum and three other subjects at Intermediate Level Grade C minimum (not including Systems of Knowledge) to include English and another language plus specific programme requirements.
English Language Competence	C at Advanced Level or equivalent English Language Competence.

NETHERLANDS / AN ÍSILTÍR	
Recognised School Leaving Qualifications	Voorbereidend Wetenschappelijk Onderwijs (VWO)
National Academic Recognition Information Centre (NARIC) rating	GCE A Level
Format of Examinations	
Number of subjects	Take best six
Grading System	A numerical scale of 10-5 is used, with 6 as the minimum pass mark. 10 Excellent 9 Very Good 8 Good 7 Very Satisfactory 6 Satisfactory 5 Fail
Subject pass mark for University purposes	6
Minimum Matriculation	Two subjects grade 8 and four subjects grade 6 to include English and another language plus specific programme requirements.
English Language Competence	8 or equivalent English Language Competence.

POLAND / AN PHOLAINN	
Since 2005	
Recognised School Leaving Qualifications	Swiadectwo Dojrzało ci / Matura
National Academic Recognition Information Centre (NARIC) rating	GCE A Level
Format of Examinations	
Number of subjects	Two Obligatory Subjects (both Oral and Written). Up to three other subjects, although two is normal. All subjects can be taken at basic or advanced level – basic is taken first and advanced is a follow-on.
Grading System	All subjects marked on a percent basis. In order to pass the examination 30% must be obtained at basic level within both the oral and written examinations.
Subject pass mark for University purposes	30%
Minimum Matriculation	Three distinct subjects including two advanced subjects > 55%. For programmes > 450 four subjects will be required.
English Language Competence	60% at advanced level with oral at least 55% or equivalent English Language Competence.
Up To 2004	
Recognised School Leaving Qualifications	Swiadectwo Dojrzało ci / Matura
National Academic Recognition Information Centre (NARIC) rating	GCE A Level
Format of Examinations	
Number of subjects	Minimum four, plus up to two more. Three compulsory at either basic or advanced level: Polish language and a foreign language (both oral and written) plus one more (written exam) from: Biology, Chemistry, Physics with Astronomy, Geography, History, History of Music, History of Art, Mathematics, Knowledge of Dance, Knowledge of Society and, as of 2008, Philosophy and Latin with ancient culture. One to three more subjects which will be examined in writing at both basic and advanced levels from the list above, plus Computer Technology, Greek language, Latin language, Foreign Modern language
Grading System	6 Excellent 5 Very Good 4 Good 3 Satisfactory 2 Mediocre 1 Unsatisfactory
Subject pass mark for University purposes	2
Minimum Matriculation	Three distinct subjects including two at grade 4 or better. For programmes > 450, four subjects will be required.
English Language Competence	5 or equivalent English Language Competence.

PORTUGAL / AN PHORTAINGÉIL																									
Recognised School Leaving Qualifications	Certificado de fim de Estudos Secundários (previously Certidão do Décimo Segundo Ano).																								
National Academic Recognition Information Centre (NARIC) rating	GCE A Level, provided overall of 14 is attained. (For admission to University, students are required to take the <i>provas específicas</i> (specific examination) corresponding to the course of study the applicant intends to follow and the <i>prova de aferição</i> (counter test) corresponding to the secondary education course.)																								
Format of Examinations																									
Number of subjects	Take best six in final year.																								
Grading System	A numerical scale of 10-20 is used, with 10 as the minimum pass mark. <table><tr><td>10</td><td>No score</td><td>16</td><td>75</td></tr><tr><td>11</td><td>No score</td><td>17</td><td>85</td></tr><tr><td>12</td><td>50</td><td>18</td><td>90</td></tr><tr><td>13</td><td>60</td><td>19</td><td>95</td></tr><tr><td>14</td><td>65</td><td>20</td><td>100</td></tr><tr><td>15</td><td>70</td><td></td><td></td></tr></table>	10	No score	16	75	11	No score	17	85	12	50	18	90	13	60	19	95	14	65	20	100	15	70		
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11	No score	17	85																						
12	50	18	90																						
13	60	19	95																						
14	65	20	100																						
15	70																								
Subject pass mark for University purposes	12																								
Minimum Matriculation	Two subjects grade 14 and four subjects grade 12 to include English and another language plus specific programme requirements.																								
English Language Competence	16 or equivalent English Language Competence.																								

ROMANIA / AN RÔMÂN	
Recognised School Leaving Qualifications	Diploma de Bacalaureat
National Academic Recognition Information Centre (NARIC) rating	Comparable to the overall GCE Advanced / Scottish Advanced Higher standard
Format of Examinations	
Number of subjects	The <i>Bacalaureat</i> comprises two or three oral examinations and four or five written examinations.
Grading System	Grading is made on a scale of 1 to 10, with 5 as the minimum pass mark. Each exam (<i>Proba</i>) is marked from 1 to 10 with 10 being the best, using two decimals for written exams (e.g. 9.44 or 9.14 is a valid mark) and an integer for an oral exam.
Subject pass mark for University purposes	5 – to pass overall, a student must obtain an average score of at least 6.00 and at least 5.00 at each of the individual exams.
Minimum Matriculation	Total of five passes including two at 8. Minimum average of 6.
Competence in English Language	90% in BAC

SCOTLAND / ALBA	
Recognised School Leaving Qualifications	Scottish Highers plus Scottish Advanced Highers
National Academic Recognition Information Centre (NARIC) rating	Highers: GCE AS Level equivalent Advanced Highers: GCE A level equivalent
Format of Examinations	
Number of subjects	At Higher level, four or five
Grading System	Scottish Highers A, B, C
Subject pass mark for University purposes	C
Minimum Matriculation	Three subjects at Higher level grade C, plus three other subjects at Standard Level grade 3, to include English and another language plus specific programme requirements. Programmes over 500 points will require results at Advanced Higher Level.
English Language Competence	C or equivalent English Language Competence.

SLOVAKIA / AN TSLÓVAIC	
Recognised School Leaving Qualifications	Maturitná skúška / Maturita
National Academic Recognition Information Centre (NARIC) rating	GCE A Level
Format of Examinations	
Number of subjects	Four subjects to include Slovak language and literature, one modern language or mathematics and two optional subjects.
Subject Grading System	1 vyborný Excellent 2 veľmi dobrý Very Good 3 dobrý Good 4 dostatočný Pass 5 nedostatočný Fail
Subject pass mark for University purposes	4
Minimum Matriculation	Two at Grade 3 and two at Grade 4 to include English and another language plus specific programme requirements. A type can score up to 600 B type can score up to 500 C type not accepted
English Language Competence	3 or equivalent English Language Competence.

SLOVENIA / AN TSLÓIVÉIN	
Recognised School Leaving Qualifications	Matura/Secondary School Leaving Diploma
National Academic Recognition Information Centre (NARIC) rating	GCE A Level equivalent
Format of Examinations	
Number of subjects	Five, three of which are compulsory: mother tongue, mathematics and a foreign language. The two optional subjects are chosen from four different subject areas.
Grading System	A numerical scale of 1 – 5 (maximum) is used, with 2 being the minimum pass mark as follows: 5. Excellent 4. Very good 3. Satisfactory 2. Pass 1. Fail
Subject pass mark for University purposes	2
Minimum Matriculation	Two subjects grade 3 minimum and three subjects grade 2 minimum to include English and another language plus specific programme requirements.
English Language Competence	3 or equivalent English Language Competence.

SPAIN / AN SPÁINN							
Recognised School Leaving Qualifications	Curso de Orientacion (COU)/Titulo de Bachillerato Selectividad, provided an average of 6 has been obtained.						
National Academic Recognition Information Centre (NARIC) rating	GCE A Level equivalent						
Format of Examinations							
Number of subjects	There are four different types of <i>Bachillerato</i> with different specifications. PE, Philosophy, History, Spanish and a foreign language are common core subjects. Additional subjects will be added for each type of <i>Bachillerato</i> . Applicants will also need the university entrance examination, called the <i>PAU, Prueba de Acceso Universidad</i> although it is often referred to under its previous name of <i>Selectividad</i> , in order to gain admittance to University. Students take one of five options related to their previous <i>Bachillerato</i> studies and two compulsory options. The final grade for university admission <i>Calificacion Definitiva</i> combines the <i>Bachillerato</i> with the entrance examination. The <i>Bachillerato</i> is weighted at 60% and the <i>PAU</i> examination at 40%.						
Grading System	A numerical scale of 5-10 is used, with 5 being the minimum pass mark. <table border="0"> <tr> <td>10 Distinction with honour</td><td>6.0 – 6.9 Good</td></tr> <tr> <td>8.5 – 9.0 Distinction</td><td>5.0 – 5.9 Satisfactory</td></tr> <tr> <td>7.0 – 8.4 very good</td><td>< 5 Fail/insufficient</td></tr> </table>	10 Distinction with honour	6.0 – 6.9 Good	8.5 – 9.0 Distinction	5.0 – 5.9 Satisfactory	7.0 – 8.4 very good	< 5 Fail/insufficient
10 Distinction with honour	6.0 – 6.9 Good						
8.5 – 9.0 Distinction	5.0 – 5.9 Satisfactory						
7.0 – 8.4 very good	< 5 Fail/insufficient						

SPAIN / AN SPÁINN Continued	
Subject pass mark for University purposes	5
Minimum Matriculation	Two subjects grade 7 and four subjects grade 5 to include English and another language plus specific programme requirements.
English Language Competence	7.5 or equivalent English Language competence

SWEDEN / AN TSUALAINN	
Recognised School Leaving Qualifications	Avgangsbetyg Slutybetyg från Gymnasreskolan
National Academic Recognition Information Centre (NARIC) rating	GCE A Level equivalent
Format of Examinations	
Number of subjects	Eight core plus optional subjects depending on programme. Subjects can have 50, 100 or 150 point courses. Minimum 2,500 points required to pass the exam.
Grading System	MVG Pass with Special Distinction VG Pass with Distinction G Pass
Subject pass mark for University purposes	G
Minimum Matriculation	Two subjects graded VG and four subjects graded G to include English and another language plus specific programme requirements. For programmes over 500 points specific subjects appropriately weighted will be required.
English Language Competence	VG or equivalent English Language Competence.

UK (except Scotland) / RA (ach amháin Alba)	
Recognised School Leaving Qualifications	A Level
National Academic Recognition Information Centre (NARIC) rating	GCE A Level equivalent
Format of Examinations	
Number of Subjects	Three or four
Grading System	A, B, C, D, E Pass grades
Subject pass mark for University purposes	E
Minimum Matriculation	Two subjects at GCE A Level grade C and four other subjects at GCSE Level Grade C to include English and another language plus specific programme requirements.
English Language Competence	Grade C at GCSE Level or equivalent English Language Competence.

MULTI-NATIONAL QUALIFICATIONS / CÁILÍOCHTAÍ ILNÁISIÚNTA	
EUROPEAN BACCALAUREATE	
National Academic Recognition Information Centre (NARIC) rating	GCE A Level equivalent
Format of Examinations	
Number of Subjects	Eight Core Subjects are taken from Years 1- 7: First Language, first Foreign Language, Mathematics, History, Geography, Science, Physical Education and Ethics/Religion. N.B. Mathematics may be taken at either 5 hours or 3 hours per week. Subjects are graded 1-10
Grading System	Marks out of 100 (coefficient applied).
Subject pass mark for University purposes	6
Minimum Matriculation	Overall 60%, with English, another language, plus specific programme requirements.
English Language Competence	6 in first Language, or in first or second Foreign Language or equivalent English Language Competence.
INTERNATIONAL BACCALAUREATE	
National Academic Recognition Information Centre (NARIC) rating	GCE A Level equivalent
Format of Examinations	
Number of Subjects	Six with three at Higher Level and three at Subsidiary Level. Bonus points (1, 2, or 3) are awarded for an Extended Essay.
Grading System	For each subject, a numerical scale of 7 – 4 is used, with 4 being the minimum pass mark.
Subject pass mark for University purposes	To obtain the Diploma, an overall pass mark of 24 is required. Maximum is 45 points which includes up to 3 bonus points.
Minimum Matriculation	Two subjects grade 4 at Higher Level and four subjects grade 4 at Subsidiary Level, to include English and another language plus specific programme requirements. Applicants presenting the IB through French or Spanish will require 25 IB points to matriculate (see the English Language Competence requirement below), unless they otherwise meet that requirement.
English Language Competence	English A1, A2 or B: 5 at Higher Level (4 at Standard Level if presenting IB through English) or equivalent English Language Competence.