

Higher Education Requirements - Year 11 Options Advice Guidance for Tutors and HMs

At Felsted, all pupils are expected to take either the IB Diploma Programme or 3 A Levels and an EPQ for their sixth form studies.

A number of courses in both the UK and abroad require specific subjects to be taken at A Level or IB. Details are in the table below:

Course	UK		International		Additional requirements
	AL	IB	AL	IB	
Medicine	Chemistry and one other science (including Maths. One university specifies Biology)	Chemistry HL and one other science HL	Will depend on the country - most MVD courses are post graduate. All will require UG study in a science field. Most will require maths at AL or HL IB. You also need to check that any international medicine degree is validated by the GMC if you intend to practice in the UK.		Most require UCAT, but a few, including Oxbridge, require BMAT
Dentistry	Chemistry and Biology	Chemistry and Biology HL			UCAT
Veterinary	Chemistry and Biology	Chemistry and Biology HL			NSAA (Cambridge)
Natural Sciences incl Biomedical etc	At least two sciences. Maths preferred for Oxbridge	HL in at least 2 sciences; Maths preferred for Oxbridge	Will depend on the country Most will require maths at AL or HL IB alongside at least one other science.		NSAA (Oxbridge)
Earth Science	2 sciences including Maths	2 sciences at HL specified by some courses			Biomed Oxbridge BMAT
Marine Biology	Bio plus one other science	HL Bio and some specify one other HL science			
Engineering	Maths and Physics	HL Maths and HL Physics	As UK		Strong GCSE results in Maths and Science
Maths	Maths and Further Maths	HL Maths	Maths	HL Maths	Sometimes MAT/ STEP
Economics	Maths/ LSE/ Oxbridge require	HL Maths for competitive courses.	Maths	Minimum SL Maths	May be a GCSE Maths requirement

	Further Maths. Some Economics courses now accepting without AL Maths but will need to look carefully	Some accept SL			
Business/ Commerce	-	-	Maths	Minimum SL Maths	Some UK courses will expect to see minimum of 6 at GCSE in Maths
Architecture	Art or DT - some prefer Art. Maths not specified but some competitive courses keen to see it.	HL Visual Arts preferred by some or HL DT.			Some courses expect to see strong (8/9) Maths or Physics at GCSE
Art	Art (unless they complete a foundation)	HL Visual Arts	<i>Not all international arts courses require an AL or IB HL in Art or Design but will require an excellent portfolio - students will need to conduct their own research. However it would be highly unusual for them not to have completed an Arts course.</i>		All Art and Design based courses will require a physical or digital portfolio, and many students will be best advised to start with a foundation course.
Graphic Design/ Interior design	Art or Dt	Art or DT at HL			
Law	No specified subjects but Maths and an essay subject such as English or History are often seen.		Often a post grad course e.g. USA/ Canada/ Holland. No specified subjects for UG courses		LNAT
Surveying/ Construction etc	Maths/ Physics	Maths/ Physics	<i>Not clear; often not university level courses for construction; surveying/ land management appear to be post grad in several locations or linked to engineering.</i>		
Classics*	Latin (some	Latin HL	Latin (some	Latin HL	

	Greek but offer summer courses)		require Greek)		
Physiotherapy and other healthcare degrees	Biology	Biology HL	Depends on country but for any healthcare degree would be wise to ensure Biology at AL and HL IB		
Psychology	Some specify a science	Some specify a science at HL	At least one science	At least one science at HL	
Sports Science	Top courses require a 7 in science at GCSE. Sports Science OR another science should be studied at A Level	Sports Science or another science eg Biology at HL	<i>Some courses require a science (Chemistry, Biology, Physics only) at A Level or IB Higher</i>		
Languages	Target Language	Target Language NB some Ab Initio languages accepted for joint honours	Target language(s)	Target Language at HL	
Music	Music	Music HL	<i>Not clear; would expect level of instrumental and theory proficiency</i>		Grade 7 minimum for main instrument
Performing Arts	Not always specified but 'related subject' liked		<i>Not clear - would expect to see a related subject</i>		Audition usually required
Social Sciences	-	-	Some universities specify Maths (eg Germany)	Some specify Maths HL (e.g. Germany)	

Subjects such as History, Politics/ International Relations/ Philosophy/ Geography etc do not often specify subjects but studying them at AL or IB HL can be helpful.

Pupils wishing to study Sociology/ Law at A Level and Criminology at University can be advised that Politics and Psychology are good options. Those wishing to study Photography/ Film etc should look at Art and Theatre Studies.

* Some degrees such as Classical Studies and Classical Civilisation have no requirements.

The following website will be useful:

LMS October 2018 (updated October 2020)

<https://university.which.co.uk/advice/a-level-choices/what-a-levels-do-you-need-for-the-degree-you-want-to-study>

Students can also use Unifrog to check which subjects they require for a certain course, in the Subjects Library.

For those who are unsure about future careers, the IB is a good option.

The Russell Group has now abandoned facilitating subject advice. However, for the most competitive universities we would still recommend that students had at least one of the following subjects at AL or HL IB:

- Mathematics and Further Mathematics.
- English Literature.
- Physics.
- Biology.
- Chemistry.
- Geography.
- History.
- Languages (Classical and Modern)

Oxbridge and UCL courses will require a Thinking Skills Assessment for some courses; Oxbridge require subject specific entrance tests.

STUDYING ABROAD:

In addition to this, **GERMAN** universities require four subjects including a language, Mathematics or any of the natural sciences biology, chemistry or physics. At least three of the four subjects must be at A Level, while the fourth can be at AS; therefore as we do not offer 4 subjects, it is advisable for those applying to Germany to do the IB.

Most **SPANISH** universities require a minimum of 4 subjects in a similar way, so a student who does not have 4 AL or 3 plus AS (i.e. Felsted students) must take the IB or the equivalent entrance points will be at a disadvantage to other applicants.

ITALIAN universities require a minimum of 3 A Levels and an A Level in Italian if a non-Italian plans to apply to an Italian taught degree. The A level in Italian cannot be counted among the 3 A levels in the case of students with Italian citizenship or in the case of enrollment in courses delivered entirely in English.

At **US** universities, the IB gains credits which may reduce the length of the degree, so it is advisable for applicants to the US to take IB. They will still consider A Levels favourably however. Most specialised courses such as Medicine, Law, Marine Biology etc are offered only at Masters level and students would be required to Major in science for any science related post-grad, although there are some 'pre-med' and pre-law' routes available.

At **DUTCH** universities there are very specific requirements for BSc (example taken from one university webpage):

A Level:

Required final examinations subject:	For:
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Mathematics	All BSc programmes
Physics	All BSc programmes, except Computer Science and Engineering, and Applied Mathematics
Chemistry	BSc Applied Earth Sciences BSc Clinical Technology BSc Life Science & Technology BSc Molecular Science & Technology BSc Nanobiology
Biology	BSc Nanobiology BSc Clinical Technology

IB:

Bachelor of Science (BSc) Programme	Required IB subjects
Aerospace Engineering (English stream)	Mathematics HL + Physics HL
Applied Earth Sciences (English Stream)	Mathematics HL + Physics HL + Chemistry: SL
Computer Science & Engineering (English Stream)	Mathematics HL
Nanobiology (English Stream)	Mathematics HL + Physics HL + Biology HL

All EU/ EEA students can obtain student finance from the **Dutch** Government to fund study there.

In **Canada**, French passport holders are entitled to favourable fees at universities in Quebec (less than UK fees).

UK student finance cannot be used to fund study outside the UK.

INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS:

Additionally, some students whose native language is not English and are studying A Levels will need to be careful with decision making as some universities do not consider the native language AL when making offers. They should seek further advice from LMS. Most of these students will also have an English Language requirement when studying in English. Particularly, they should check if they will need IELTS so that they can request EAL lessons from DKG in the L6.

EU STUDENTS FEE STATUS - Students from the EU who have settled or pre-settled status by 31st December can apply for Home fees. They can do this using Felsted as their UK address. This is applicable to EU students who are currently studying in Y11 at the school and also to any new students who move to the UK by 31st December 2020. If you have any questions about this speak to LMS or Miss Kilby in Admissions.