



The University of Sydney

Graduate Studies Committee Agenda

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Supplementary Agenda

for the meeting on **Monday 17 November 2003**

	Pages
1. Apologies Additional apologies have been received from: Professors C Adam, M Behnia and M O'Connor, and Dr M Rogerson.	
11. Postgraduate English Language Requirements	2, 3-5
<i>Recommendation</i> <i>That the Graduate Studies Committee recommend that the Academic Board amend the policy "Postgraduate English Language Requirements", as set out in the report presented.</i>	

Agenda Item 11
Postgraduate English Language Requirements

Postgraduate English Language Requirements

3-5

At its meeting of 15 September 2003 the Graduate Studies Committee considered the proposed new policy relating to Postgraduate English Language Requirements.

During discussion, it was agreed that previous approvals would be checked, particularly in relation to the Master of Teaching in the Faculty of Education and Social Work, and the Physiotherapy courses in the Faculty of Health Sciences, prior to the policy being referred to the Academic Board.

This check has now been completed and the following amendments are recommended to the policy, in line with previous Academic Board approvals:

Faculty of Architecture

The current listing of the overall band score of 7.0 or better is correct, however each of the components should also be listed, as approved by the Academic Board at its meeting of 12 May 1999.

Faculty of Education and Social Work

The superseded policy had listed the Master of Teaching as having an IELTS requirement of 7.5. A search of Academic Board records from 1992 does not indicate the date this was approved, therefore it is recommended that the date of approval be set as the date the previous policy was approved, being 12 February 1997.

Faculty of Health Sciences

The superseded policy had listed all postgraduate courses in Physiotherapy as having an IELTS requirement of 7.0. A search of Academic Board records from 1992 does not indicate the date this was approved, therefore it is recommended that the date of approval be set as the date the previous policy was approved, being 12 February 1997.

Amendments to the policy and/or appendix are indicated by underline for additions and strikethrough for deletions.

Recommendation

That the Graduate Studies Committee recommend that the Academic Board amend the policy "Postgraduate English Language Requirements", as set out in the report presented.



The University of Sydney

Postgraduate English Language Requirements

Approved by the Academic Board on [insert date]

Date of effect: 1 January 2004

1. **Policy**

This policy consolidates and updates the Academic Board's position on English language requirements for applicants for postgraduate award courses.
2. **Background**

The Academic Board has established the minimum English language requirements for postgraduate award course applicants. Faculties may ask the Academic Board to approve specific requirements above the minimum levels. Students should be made aware of the English language requirements at the time of application.
3. **Coverage**

This policy applies to all applicants for postgraduate coursework and postgraduate research award courses.
4. **Procedures**
 - (a) Applicants who have not completed an Australian educational qualification may have to provide proof of proficiency in English through internationally recognized tests such as CULT, IELTS or TOEFL or through satisfactory completion of an appropriate course at the University's Centre for English Teaching unless the applicant has a record of satisfactory achievement in tertiary studies where the language of instruction was in English.
 - (b) All applicants must either have a record of satisfactory achievement in tertiary studies in which the language of instruction was in English or must meet one of the following minimum English language requirements as a condition of entry (scores older than two years are not accepted):
 - (i) IELTS (International English Language Testing Scheme) overall band score of 6.5 with a minimum of 6.0 in each band; or
 - (ii) TOEFL (Test of English as a Foreign Language) 577 plus TWE (Test of Written English) at 4.5; or
 - (iii) CBT (Computer-based TOEFL) 233 plus Essay Rating 4.5; or
 - (iv) Cambridge Certificate of Proficiency in English grade A or B;
 - (v) GCSW English language grade A or B; or
 - (vi) CULT (Combined Universities Language Test) 70.
 - (c) Faculties may request the Academic Board to approve English language requirements above the minimum set out above. Approved requirements are set out in appendix one of this policy.

5. Authority

(1) Development/consultation

Consultation on this policy involved the International Officer, faculties, the Postgraduate Research Training Sub-Committee, Graduate Studies Committee, and the Academic Board.

(2) Management responsibility

Dean of Graduate Studies

(3) Implementation and monitoring

Dean of Graduate Studies

(4) Review

1 July 2006

(5) Communication

Academic Board Officer

(6) Contact

Dean of Graduate Studies

6. Related information

(1) Related University legislation, resolutions, policies and procedures include:

(a) University of Sydney (Amendment Act) Rule 1999 (as amended) at <http://www.usyd.edu.au/publications/calendar/>

(b) Admission to Undergraduate Courses at http://db.usyd.edu.au/policy/policy_index.stm

(2) University policies superseded or replaced by this policy:

(a) English Language Requirements: International Students at http://db.usyd.edu.au/policy/policy_index.stm

Appendix One: Schedule of approved Faculty variations, above the University minimum requirements

Faculty	Course	Requirements (above the University minimum)	Approval Date
Faculty of Agriculture, Food and Natural Resources			
Faculty of Architecture	All postgraduate award courses	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • TOEFL – 600 or better plus TWE at 4.5+ • IELTS – Overall band score of 7.0 or better, with no component being below 6.5 	12 May 1999
Faculty of Arts			
Faculty of Dentistry			
Faculty of Economics and Business	All postgraduate award courses except the Commerce courses	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • TOEFL – 600 or better plus TWE at 4.5+ • IELTS – Overall band score of 7.0 or better, with no component being below 6.0 	12 February 1997
Faculty of Education and Social Work	<u>Master of Teaching</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>IELTS – Overall band score of 7.5 or better</u> 	<u>12 February 1997</u>
Faculty of Engineering			
Faculty of Health Sciences	Doctor of Health Sciences	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • IELTS - Overall band of 7.0, with individual band of speaking and writing of no less than 6.2 	12 June 2002 (effective from 1 January 2003)
	Master of Occupational Therapy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • TOEFL – 600 or better, plus TWE at 5.0+ • IELTS – Overall band score of 7.0 or better, with at least 6 for Speaking and 7 for Writing on each band 	8 December 2000
	<u>All postgraduate Physiotherapy courses</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>IELTS – Overall band score of 7.0 or better</u> 	<u>12 February 1997</u>
Faculty of Law	All postgraduate award courses	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • IELTS – Overall band score of 7.0 or better, with at least 6.0 in each of the components 	12 February 1997
Faculty of Medicine	All postgraduate award courses	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • TOEFL – 600 or better overall, plus TWE at 4.5+ 	13 December 2000
Faculty of Nursing	All postgraduate award courses	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • IELTS – Overall band score of 7.0 or better, with at least 7.0 in each of the components 	14 August 2002
Faculty of Pharmacy			
Faculty of Rural Management			
Faculty of Science			
Faculty of Veterinary Science		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • TOEFL – 600 or better plus TWE at 5.0+ • CBT – 250 plus Essay Rating 5.0 • IELTS – Overall band score of 7.0 or better, with at least 7.0 for Speaking and 7.0 for Writing on each band. 	12 November 2003
Sydney College of the Arts			
Sydney Conservatorium of Music			