

## **GRADUATE ADMISSIONS CRITERIA**

Course Title: MSc (by research)/DPhil in Engineering Science

### **1. Introduction**

In relation to the admission of students wishing to undertake a graduate programme, and in the context of giving appropriate attention to relevant equal opportunities principles and legislation, the University regards as an overriding priority:

- (I) For taught course degrees, the admission of the most suitably qualified candidates well-matched to their chosen course;
- (II) For research degrees, the admission of the most suitably qualified candidates for whom the University can provide appropriate research opportunities and supervision;
- (III) The selection of the most academically able set of candidates who meet the admissions criteria for the available places.

### **2. Criteria**

Applications will normally be considered in the light of a candidate's ability to meet the following criteria:

#### **2.1 Academic Ability**

- a) The applicant has provided appropriate indications of proven and potential academic excellence. Appropriate indicators include two or more confidential references, academic transcripts or their equivalent, an outline research plan, and performance at interview, where this is held.
- b) The applicant has provided sufficient evidence, in the view of the assessor, to suggest that they have the academic ability, motivation and commitment to pursue the chosen programme to a successful conclusion within the required time limits.
- c) Applicants are normally expected to have achieved a 2:1 or First Class Honours Degree (or equivalent) in Engineering or a related subject.

#### **2.2 English Language Requirement**

Applicants whose first language is not English are required to provide evidence of proficiency in English. Candidates are normally expected to meet the following criteria:

For IELTS an overall score of 7.5 *or* at least 7.0 in each component.

For TOEFL an overall score of 630 with a TWE of 5, or for the computer-based test, an overall score of 267 and an essay writing score of 5. Applicants who have taken the new Internet-based TOEFL test must achieve an overall score of 109.

The Cambridge Certificate of Proficiency in English (CPE) Grade B.

## 2.3 Suitability

- a) The programme of study that the applicant wishes to pursue is well suited to the academic interests and abilities to which they have drawn attention in their application and (where appropriate) the applicant has undertaken any preliminary academic work or course which is normally considered indispensable to acceptance on the proposed programme of study.
- b) The relevant faculty/department is able to provide appropriate supervision and facilities for the candidate's chosen programme of work (the allocation of graduate supervision is the responsibility of the department/faculty and it is not always possible to accommodate the preferences of incoming graduate students to work with a particular member of staff).

Well qualified candidates may not be offered a place because:

- secure funding is not available (places offered on an conditional basis will not be confirmed without a financial guarantee);
- there are constraints on the availability of research facilities (especially laboratory and library space) and on supervision;
- there are limitations on the size of taught graduate courses;
- there are limitations on the numbers of students who can be admitted onto research programmes;
- other candidates have been judged to match more closely the admissions criteria.

It should also be noted that acceptance on a particular course gives no guarantee of final success, and all courses require the student to develop their learning and skills to new levels in order to pass taught course examinations or successfully to undertake all the assessment hurdles of a research programme.