

# EDEXCEL GCE A LEVEL

## UNIVERSITY RECOGNITION GUIDE



From the  
Pearson Edexcel  
University  
Recognition  
Guide Series –  
2016/2017

Edexcel  
qualifications from  
Pearson unlock the door  
to a world of opportunity.

Our University  
Recognition Guides  
have been written  
for students, teachers  
and parents to  
offer information,  
advice and guidance  
on international  
study options.

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  - Japan
- **Europe**
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## ABOUT PEARSON

Pearson, the world's leading learning company has a simple mission - to help people make progress in their lives through learning.

Whether at home, in the classroom or in the workplace, learning is the key to improving our life chances. Pearson brings together leading names in education to provide a blend of content, curricula, assessment, training and technology making learning more engaging and effective. We educate a global community of over 3.4 million learners across 80 countries.

## PEARSON QUALIFICATIONS

Pearson is the UK's largest academic and vocational Awarding Organisation. Regulated by Ofqual<sup>1</sup>, we offer a wide range of qualifications for those studying at school, college and within the workplace that are globally recognised and benchmarked. Educational excellence embedded throughout all our qualification brands: Edexcel, BTEC and LCCI.

Demanding, rigorous, inclusive and empowering; our programmes benefit from the traditional quality of the British educational system combined with a progressive, international outlook.

Whatever Pearson qualification you choose – you can be guaranteed to gain the skills, knowledge and confidence to reach your goals.

## PEARSON AT A GLANCE



Established over 150 years.



World's largest education company and book publisher.



Employs over 36,000 people across 60 countries.



UK's largest awarding body for academic and vocational qualifications.



Operating in over 100 countries.



Internationally benchmarked qualifications.

<sup>1</sup> The Office of Qualifications and Examinations Regulation (Ofqual): is non-ministerial UK government department that regulates qualifications, exams and tests in England. The role of Ofqual is to maintain standards and confidence in qualifications. Ofqual regulates GCE A Levels taken by students in the UK and round the world. Ofqual regulated GCE A Levels are offered by the following awarding bodies Pearson, AQA, OCR and WJEC.

# ABOUT GCE A LEVELS

WORLD-CLASS | AND  
WORLD-RENOWNED

This guide has been written for students, teachers and parents to offer information, advice and guidance for those undertaking or considering Edexcel GCE A levels as a study option. It explains how these qualifications enable students to progress to universities worldwide.





## WHAT IS A GCE A LEVELS ?

The General Certificate of Education Advanced Level, known as the GCE A Level, is a main school leaving qualification in the UK and is offered by many international schools around the world.

The GCE A level was first introduced in the UK in 1951 to replace the Higher Schools Certificate. GCE A levels are recognised by universities across the globe and are regarded as the 'gold standard' of British education. There are over 30 subjects available for study.

Pearson is one of five main Awarding Organisations offering GCE A Levels in England, Wales and Northern Ireland and the largest awarding body to offer GCE A Levels outside of the UK.

Recognised by the top 100 universities by both the **Times Higher Education (THE)** and **QS World University rankings**<sup>2</sup> (including the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Oxford University, the University of Toronto, National University of Singapore, Hong Kong University and the University of Melbourne).

### GCE A LEVELS ARE:



One of the most respected qualifications in the world leading to university study.



The most widely studied qualification by UK learners at age 16-18.



The most referenced qualification by top ranked UK higher education institutions for progression onto university education and accepted by the world's leading research universities.



Valued by global employers enabling students to progress onto exciting professional careers.

<sup>2</sup> World University Rankings: when deciding where to study it is worth considering how your university of choice was ranked in the world league table. The **QS World University Rankings** and **The Times Higher Education World University Rankings** are two examples of organisations that have been established to help students make informed comparisons of leading universities around the globe by assessing universities on performance indicators such as research, teaching, employability and internationalisation.

# EDEXCEL GCE A LEVEL UNIVERSITY RECOGNITION IN THE UNITED KINGDOM

## Background

GCE A Levels are part of the national academic curriculum in the UK. British universities view GCE A Levels as the standard route to higher education study.

## Study at University

For detailed advice on applying to UK universities with your Edexcel GCE A levels, see Pearson's **“How to Study in the UK” Guide**. This guide contains all the information you need, including how to apply through UCAS, application deadlines, Tariff Points, immigration processes, the average cost of living per region and much more.



## University Recognition

GCE A levels are recognised by all UK universities, however you should understand the course entry requirements for both subject and grade before applying.



## UK UNIVERSITIES OVERSEAS

For many international students, choosing a British degree is about more than just studying in the UK. British universities are world renowned for their quality and traditions of higher education. UK universities also have more control over the subjects they can teach, leading to a greater choice than other universities worldwide.



If you are looking for the high standard that a UK degree can offer you, but are not keen on living so far away from home, you may consider one of the British universities that have branch campuses around the world. A growing number of institutions have set up campuses and partnerships overseas to meet the needs of international students wanting to stay in their home country to complete their degree. This includes the UAE, Hong Kong, Singapore and Malaysia; however contact your local higher education regulator to find out if UK degrees are offered in your country.

# GLOBAL UNIVERSITY RECOGNITION BY REGION

## AUSTRALASIA



## AUSTRALIA

### Background

The top higher education institutions in Australia are known as the 'Group of 8' or 'Go8'. This group is a coalition of the eight leading universities where learner success and retention rates are above the Australian average. A higher percentage of students from all backgrounds will graduate from the Go8 than from an institution outside of this group. Graduates from Australian institutions are highly sought after by employers due to the impressive international reputation of the Australian education system.

### Study at University

Australia offers a diverse range of study options for international students. As an international student on a student visa, you are required to study with an institution and on a course that is registered on the Commonwealth Register of Institutions and Courses for Overseas Students (CRICOS). CRICOS registration guarantees that the course and the institution at which you study meet the high standards expected by international students. It is worth noting when making your application for study that the Australian academic year begins in February.

### Australian Universities overseas

Australian institutions are following the trend of opening campuses around the world. Monash is among the most active in developing its overseas presence with campuses in South Africa and Malaysia and study centres in Italy and India.

Degrees awarded follow the guidelines for quality set in Australia. There are a number of Australian institutions with more students studying overseas than in Australia itself.





## UNIVERSITY RECOGNITION

The Australian educational system bears many similarities to that of the UK and as such transition from studying GCE A Levels and progressing onto a university degree in Australia is a very popular choice for international students. GCE A levels are widely recognised throughout Australia. All Go8 Universities accept GCE A Levels as part of their admissions criteria; The University of Melbourne, The Australian National University, The University of Sydney, The University of Queensland, The University of Western Australia, The University of Adelaide, Monash University and UNSW Australia.



## NEW ZEALAND

### Background

New Zealand is home to internationally prestigious universities, which are ranked among the best in the world. Well known for their pioneering research, New Zealand's universities work with high profile organisations such as NATO to NASA. International students from 160 different countries have chosen New Zealand as the destination in which to continue their studies.

### Study at University

Individual application requirements are dependent on the chosen course and institution. However as a guide those wishing to apply for study in New Zealand should be working towards three GCE A Levels and be expecting at least one qualification at grade C or higher.

## UNIVERSITY RECOGNITION

Like in Australia, the academic year in New Zealand starts in February. Edexcel GCE A Levels are recognised by the top institutions in New Zealand including; University of Auckland, University of Otago, University of Canterbury, Victoria University of Wellington, Massey University, University of Waikato and Lincoln University and Auckland University of Technology.



## EAST ASIA



## CHINA (MAINLAND)

### Background

Chinese Universities are governed by the Ministry of Education and many are listed in the [QS world rankings](#) and [Times Higher Education World Rankings](#). C9 universities are a group of nine institutions known as the Chinese equivalent of the Ivy League or Russell Group. Xi'an Jiaotong University - Liverpool University (one of the C9 group) recognises GCE A levels.

### Study at University

International students who want to study at Chinese universities must meet the requirements set out by both the Chinese government and the university. Applications to study in China can be made online directly with the university or via China's University and College Admission System (CUCAS). Students who are residing in China and studying a Edexcel GCE A level will need to sit China's national university entrance exam, the GaoKao. Every student in China that wants to progress to a university in China must complete the GaoKao, regardless of what curriculum they have studied at secondary school. International students wanting to study in China do not have to take the GaoKao.

## UNIVERSITY RECOGNITION

GCE A levels are recognised at the following Chinese universities:  
New York University Shanghai, Xi'an Jiaotong - Liverpool University,  
Sun Yat-sen University, Peking University, Tsinghua University and the  
University of Nottingham Ningbo China.



## HONG KONG AND MACAU

### Background

Celebrated for its fusion of Eastern and Western cultures, traditional elements and modern competitiveness, Hong Kong has established itself as one of Asia's dominant economic powers and leading study destination. Hong Kong's institutions are world renowned and many are ranked highly in the World University Rankings – some ranking higher than European and North American institutions.

Lying just west of Hong Kong, Macau is a popular holiday destination. Higher education in Macau follows either the Chinese, British or Portuguese education system, and all courses are conducted in one of these languages.

## Study at University

Entry requirements in Hong Kong vary depending on the course and institution. Applications to study can be made via individual institutions. Students looking to study in Macau need to obtain an F1 student visa from the Chinese embassy in their home country. Students need their university admission letter and a JW202 Form when visiting the embassy. The university to which you apply will likely be able to help with this process.

## UNIVERSITY RECOGNITION

In Hong Kong Edexcel GCE A Levels are widely recognised, examples include; The Hong Kong University of Science and Technology, City University of Hong Kong, The University of Hong Kong, The Chinese University of Hong Kong, The Hong Kong Polytechnic University, Hong Kong Baptist University and Lingnan University.

Similarly GCE A Levels are widely recognised in Macau, examples include; University of Macau, Macau Polytechnic Institute, Institute for Tourism Studies and Macau University of Science.



## JAPAN

### Background

Japanese higher institutions are made up of national universities (including The Open University) and local public universities - founded by prefectures and municipalities. Undergraduate degrees courses last four years and the proportion taught in English is increasing.

### Study at University

All universities require evidence of 12 years formal education, as well as evidence of academic achievement. GCE A levels fulfil both of these criteria. International students wishing to apply to a Japanese institution, where the programme is taught in Japanese are often required to sit an entrance examination - 'Examination for Japanese University Admission for International Students (EJU)'. The EJU assesses an individual's proficiency in Japanese in addition to basic academic abilities. However programmes taught in English may not require Japanese language proficiency and students should seek clarification from individual institutions.

## UNIVERSITY RECOGNITION

The following Japanese institutions recognise GCE A levels within the admission criteria; Kyoto University, Nagoya University, Ritsumeikan University, University of Tokyo and Waseda University.



## EUROPE



### Background

With an established history of high quality education, Europe is home to many of the world's oldest and most celebrated universities. European countries and their educational institutions offer great variety for an international student with the opportunity to experience (and learn) different languages, cultures and landscapes. Studying in Europe can offer all the skills needed for a successful career anywhere in the world. It can also be substantially less expensive without a reduction in attractiveness to future employers.

In the **QS World Rankings 2015/16**, 338 European universities featured in the top 800 (around 42%). Similarly in the **THE rankings** European institutions dominate. European countries are working closely together to establish agreements ensuring comparability in the standards and quality of higher education qualifications (for example the Bologna Process, which aims to set up a pan-European higher education system promoting quality assurance and ease of student migration).

### Study at University

Many European universities are starting to deliver undergraduate degree programmes in English. The European University Central Application Support Service (**EUNICAS**) allows you to search for opportunities by university, country, subject and fee.

If you are applying for a course that is not taught in your native language, you will usually be required to take a language test as part of the application process.

Information on applications and eligibility can be found by visiting the university's website or via government-supported organisations, which have been established to help international students understand and apply to European universities.

### UNIVERSITY RECOGNITION

The majority of European countries have signed the Lisbon Convention, which gives mutual recognition of qualification for Higher Education progression. This means students holding GCE A Levels will find a long list of institutions to consider for further study. GCE A Levels are accepted across European countries, examples of this recognition are featured in this guide on the next page.



## IRELAND

Ireland is home to top global universities including Trinity College Dublin and University College Dublin. Both these universities, along with all other universities throughout Ireland recognise GCE A levels. Specific application criteria for Irish institutions can be found on individual university websites.

## NETHERLANDS

EP NUFFIC is an advisory organisation, which offers guidance on the acceptance of international students and assessing foreign qualifications. EP NUFFIC has produced a guidance regarding the minimum GCE A Level entry requirements but it is worth checking individual institutions websites for further information.

## SPAIN

Spain is one of the signatories of the Lisbon Convention<sup>3</sup> and as such GCE A levels are widely accepted. The Ministry states on their website that students progressing from other educational systems within the EU or from other countries with signed international agreements will be considered for higher education study.

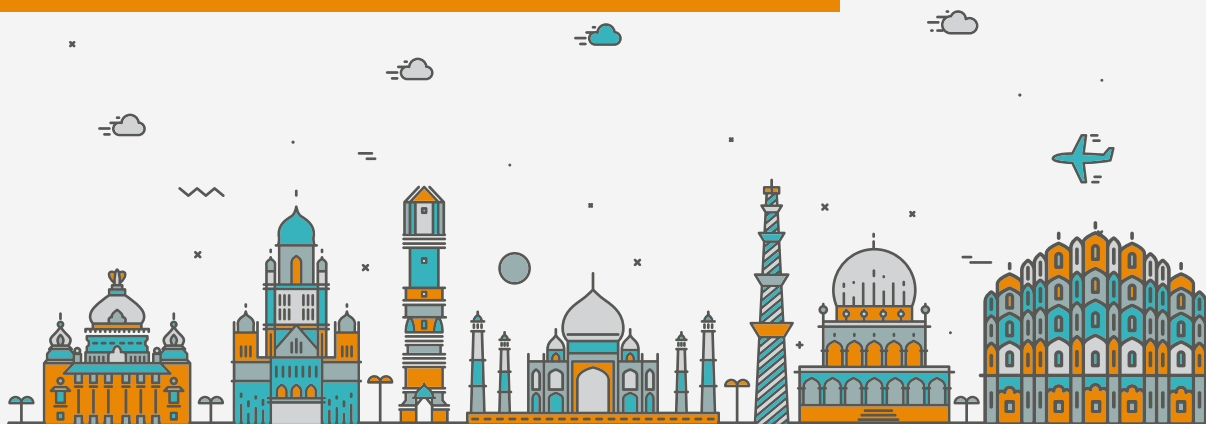
## SWITZERLAND

The [Swiss Universities website](#) confirms that GCE A Levels are recognised throughout Switzerland. GCE A Levels are accepted by universities, including; École hôtelière de Lausanne, École Polytechnique Fédérale de Lausanne, IMI University Centre, Universität Basel and ETH Zurich.

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<sup>3</sup> **The Lisbon Convention:** in 1997 over [50 countries](#) met in Lisbon, Portugal to promote the international mobility of individuals holding higher education qualifications. These countries signed an agreement, making it easier to compare qualifications gained in different higher educational systems. For students with a Pearson qualification, this means applications for study can be made to higher education institutions across all signatory countries.

# INDIAN SUBCONTINENT



## BANGLADESH

### Background

Since gaining independence in 1971, Bangladeshi arts and culture have flourished and its educational sector has grown. Degrees in Bangladesh are delivered in English or Bangla. Private schools and universities tend to favour English while government sponsored schools use Bangla.

### Study at University

In Bangladesh there are 37 public, 94 private and 3 international universities. Students can choose to further their studies in; accountancy, engineering, technology, agriculture and medicine at a variety of universities and colleges. The universities in Bangladesh are affiliated and regulated by University Grants Commission of Bangladesh (UGC). Individual institutions set their own admissions criteria (by converting the Grades into CGPA) based on UGC guidelines. Prospective students are encouraged to contact admissions teams within the universities to understand the exact admission requirements for their chosen course.

### UNIVERSITY RECOGNITION

In Bangladesh, all public and private universities, including specialised ones, accept GCE A Levels. GCE A Levels are recognised by the Ministry of Education and the UGC. Students are encouraged to apply to universities across Bangladesh. Recognition is offered by the following institutions; Dhaka University, Bangladesh University of Engineering and Technology, BRAC University, North South University, Independent University Bangladesh, American International University and the Institute of Business Administration.



## INDIA

### Background

With its fast growing and increasingly influential economy it is not surprising that India's higher education system has seen rapid growth over recent years. India now has one of the largest higher education systems in the world which can also be seen as one of the most complex. There are over 30,000 colleges and more than 800 universities in India to choose from. The University Grants Commission (UGC) coordinates, determines and maintains standards in institutions of higher education. All higher education courses in India are taught in English.

### Study at University

Entry requirements vary between institutions and you need to check with each university or college individually. Admission of foreign students into premier Indian institutions for courses is covered under the Direct Admission of Students Abroad ([DASA](#)) scheme which offers a single processing point for applications.

### UNIVERSITY RECOGNITION

GCE A Levels are widely accepted by Indian universities including the following; Indian Institute of Science, Indian Institute of Technology Delhi, Indian Institute of Technology Bombay, Indian Institute of Technology Madras, Indian Institute of Technology Kanpur, Calcutta University, Jadavpur University, Kerala University, Mahatma Gandhi University and Indian Institute of Technology Kharagpur.



## PAKISTAN

### Background

Pakistan (officially the Islamic Republic of Pakistan) has a great deal to offer students, with rich diversity in its culture, landscapes and people, as well as well-respected universities. Higher education in Pakistan has grown since its independence from the UK in 1947. The Higher Education Commission of Pakistan (HEC) is responsible for funding, research outputs, and teaching quality. The commission recognises 174 universities, including both private and public institutions. Teaching at universities in Pakistan is conducted in English.

### Study at University

Applications must be made to individual universities who will then notify the HEC. For further information on the application process through the HEC please [see here](#). For individuals holding foreign qualifications such as GCE A Levels, the IBCC has been established to grant equivalence with corresponding Pakistani Secondary School Certificate (SSC) (Matriculation), Higher Secondary School Certificate (HSSC) (Intermediate levels) and technical education as well as local certificates / diplomas with the comparable certificates awarded by the Boards. IBCC also converts foreign grades into Pakistani marks at SSC/HSSC level.

### UNIVERSITY RECOGNITION

GCE A Levels are approved and recognised by IBCC. The equivalence issued by IBCC is accepted by all universities and institutions across Pakistan. Further details can be found [here](#).



## SRI LANKA

### Background

University education in Sri Lanka is strictly controlled by the government. There are four types of higher education institutions of learning; public institutions controlled by the University Grants Commission, public institutions not controlled by the University Grants Commission, private non-profit institutions and private institutions. The higher education system in Sri Lanka is similar to that of the UK. First Degrees, Masters Degrees, and Doctoral qualifications are all available for study. Due to this likeness between the education systems of Sri Lanka and the UK, those progressing from GCE A Level study to higher education in Sri Lanka will benefit from a smooth transition in their learning.

### Study at University

Admission to higher education institutions in Sri Lanka is overseen by the University Grants Commission (UGC), which monitors and maintains the standards of university education, allocation of funds to higher education institutions and the admission of students. To find out more about the UGC in Sri Lanka [click here](#).

### UNIVERSITY RECOGNITION

GCE A Levels are widely recognised and as such students holding these qualifications are welcomed to apply to study in Sri Lanka. GCE A Levels are accepted by Private Higher Education Institutions and Higher Education Institutions including; Sri Lanka Institute of Information Technology (SLIIT) and Kotelawala Defence University. State Universities also recognise GCE A Levels however the UGC will admit a limited number of students (Sri Lankan and Foreign) every year. Students wishing to be considered by the UGC must have obtained excellent GCE A Level results and completed their studies outside of Sri Lanka.





## MIDDLE EAST/NORTH AFRICA



### EGYPT

#### Background

There are many reasons to study in Egypt, including well-respected universities and the chance to immerse in the country's unique fusion of African, Middle Eastern and Mediterranean cultures. For many students, studying in Egypt is a chance to explore a culture very different to their own, and indeed unlike any other.

Egypt has 20 state universities (with approximately two million students) and 23 private universities (with approximately 60,000 students). Egypt boasts five institutions in the [QS World University Rankings 2016/17](#).

#### Study at University

To apply to study in Egypt, you will need to provide proof of English proficiency by taking a relevant exam, if you're a non-native speaker wishing to study in English. Further information on the application process can be found on individual university websites.

### UNIVERSITY RECOGNITION

The Ministry of Education has approved the acceptance of GCE A levels by all Egyptian Universities. This recognition includes; American University in Cairo, Cairo University, Ain Shams University, Alexandria University and Mansoura University.



## JORDAN

### Background

Enrolment in higher education programmes has grown significantly in recent years and as such there are many opportunities for study in Jordan for both those who are native to the region, and those from overseas. Many universities in Jordan offer classes in both Arabic and English, making it easier for students from all backgrounds to study in the region. The largest universities in Jordan are located in Amman.

### Study at University

Students considering applying to higher education institutions in Jordan should refer to individual university web pages or the Ministry of Higher Education for detailed information on requirements. GCE A Level students will have to apply for equivalency against the Jordanian Tawjihi (the Jordan School leaving certificate) with the Ministry of Education. Once granted, you can formally apply through the Unified Admission Unit within the Ministry of Education.

### UNIVERSITY RECOGNITION

Most universities in Jordan follow the UK educational system and have links with both American and UK universities. Students who have achieved GCE A Levels will find many opportunities to further their study in Jordan as recognition is widespread.



## UNITED ARAB EMIRATES

### Background

The United Arab Emirates (UAE) boasts some of the best universities in the gulf region according to the [QS world rankings](#). The UAE has a growing higher education sector, which is split between three state-funded institutions and 50 private universities. One of the most popular reasons for studying a degree in the UAE is the large number of foreign universities who have campuses here. Universities from the USA, UK and Europe have set up branch campuses in the Emirates to attract students.

### Study at University

In the UAE the Ministry of Education requires that all students applying to study have completed secondary education and have had a least 12 years of schooling prior to making their application. GCE A Levels are a recognised route to study and will be considered if you have achieved at least two subjects at this level. However, each institution has its own subject specific requirements for admission and as such these must be considered when making your application.

### UNIVERSITY RECOGNITION

Edexcel GCE A Levels are recognised by many of the international branch campus universities operating in the UAE. Universities include; New York University Abu Dhabi, Heriot Watt University, Middlesex University, Murdoch University Dubai, Wollongong University Dubai and Michigan State University Dubai.



## NORTH AMERICA



## CANADA

### Background

Canada is well-established as one of the world's leading study destinations for international learners. Canada's high academic standards and rigorous quality controls mean students benefit from a high-quality education that will open doors into employment. A Canadian degree is globally recognised as being equivalent to those obtained from the United States or Commonwealth countries such as the UK and Australia. For individuals looking to study at an elite university, Canada offers an attractive option with many institutions appearing in the [QS World Rankings](#) and [Times Higher Education World Rankings](#).

### Study at University

In Canada, higher education is administered by individual provinces. The provinces are responsible for their universities through membership to the Association of Universities and Colleges of Canada (AUCC). Undergraduate degrees in Canada generally last for four years. When making your application you will be asked to choose your subject for study which is known as your 'major'. Each university has its own guidelines and admission requirements which can be found on their individual websites.

## UNIVERSITY RECOGNITION

With great similarities in standards between the educational systems of Canada and the UK, GCE A Levels are widely accepted as being a natural progression route to higher educational courses in Canada. The following top ranking Canadian universities offer recognition of GCE A Level qualifications for admission onto their courses; McGill University, University of Toronto, University of British Columbia, University of Alberta, McMaster University, University of Waterloo, Western University, University of Calgary and Queens University.



## UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

### Background

The US higher education system is one of the largest in the world with over 4,500 universities offering undergraduate degrees. Demand to study in the US is growing, in 2014-2015 there was a 10% increase in applications, the highest in 30 years. It is estimated that there are close to 1 million international students studying in the US.

Many international students are attracted to studying at one of the Ivy League Institutions (seen as the most prestigious in the US). There are eight Ivy League schools, which form some of the most selective colleges in the United States and they also rank among the country's top private universities. Each one of the Ivy League universities has world leading academics and award-winning faculty and all accept GCE A Levels as part of their application criteria.

### Study at University

American universities use a 'holistic' approach when considering applicants. Whilst placing high importance on a candidate's grades and prior learning they also value character, extracurricular involvement (like sport and drama that are not part of core learning) and any previous work experience.

### Credit Evaluation Agencies

When applying to a US university, you are likely to use a Credential Evaluator. Due to the diversity of international applicants, Credential Evaluators provide a common ground for assessing educational credentials. They support students who have completed all or part of their studies outside the US. Edexcel GCE A Levels are recognised by top Credit Evaluators including Educational Credential Evaluators (ECE) and International Education Research Foundation (IERF). A university might request that your final Edexcel GCE A Level results be sent directly to a Credential Evaluator and if so this can be done by completion of a simple [form](#) on the Pearson qualifications website.

### University Admission Departments

Universities often have their own in-house trained staff to review international transcripts, especially if they actively recruit learners from outside of the US. GCE A Levels because of their high standards are straightforward to assess. However if in doubt the university will ask for the support from one of the main Credit Evaluator Agencies.

### Common Application Form

Many universities have their own application system. However, there is a centralised application service, which enables students to apply to approximately 700 universities, known as the Common Application (Common App) [www.commonapp.org](http://www.commonapp.org). This process allows students to provide more background as to why they are a suitable applicant and you will most likely have to sit an admissions test.

## GPA

There is no official formula for converting GCE A Level marks to a US Grade Point average (GPA) however the following is provided as a guide:

GCE A Level	US
A*	A+ = 4.00
A	A = 4.00
B	B+ = 3.30
C	B = 3.00
D	C+ = 2.30
E	C = 2.00

You can convert your GCE A Level scores to GPA, but most likely a US university already has a clear statement about the GCE A Level grades they expect for undergraduate degree entry.

## Credit Exemptions

Some universities in the US give credit for advanced standing to students who have completed GCE A Levels. This reduces the cost and time of completing an undergraduate degree.

The university sets its own policy and the amount of credit will depend on the subject and the grade the student has achieved. Typically, this is around 6-8 semester credits, however some universities award up to 10 semester credits. A US degree is typically 120 semester credits.

## UNIVERSITY RECOGNITION

As a general rule, US universities expect to see a similar high standard of GCE A level results as British universities. The most competitive universities will expect to see a minimum of three GCE A Levels, typically at Grade A and above.

GCE A Levels are a recognised qualification across most US universities, however entry requirements for individual courses should always be considered before applying. GCE A levels are recognised by all Ivy League universities; Brown University, Columbia University, Cornell University, Dartmouth College, Harvard University, Princeton University, University of Pennsylvania and Yale University. Recognition is also offered by other top US institutions including; Stanford, CalTech, and MIT.



## SOUTH-EAST ASIA



## MALAYSIA

### Background

Located in the heart of tropical South East Asia, Malaysia has a growing higher education sector and plenty to offer those considering study abroad. The Peninsular Malaysia is where the highest ranked universities can be found.

Higher education institutions in Malaysia are made up of:

- Government universities - There are 20 public establishments (or IPTAs), including: the University of Malaya (UM).
- Private Higher Educational Institutions (PHEIs) - Often referred to as IPTS institutions, these universities and university colleges are established by private sector companies.
- Foreign university campuses - There are currently 10 campuses that have been set up by institutions based in other countries. These include; the University of Nottingham, Newcastle University, and Monash University (Australia).

### Study at University

Whether you are applying to a private university or foreign university branch you must check that they are licensed and approved to accept international students. Private universities need to be approved by the Ministry of Higher Education Malaysia and courses need to be approved by the Malaysian Qualifications Agency. In addition, the institution has to also be licensed by the Ministry of Home Affairs – Malaysia. All public universities can accept international students, depending on the availability of places and the eligibility of the prospective student.

## UNIVERSITY RECOGNITION

With many similarities to the education system in the UK, Malaysian institutions widely recognise GCE A Levels as part of their application process. The following universities accept GCE A levels; Help University College, UNITAR International University, Monash University Malaysia, University of Nottingham Malaysia, Curtin University Sarawak Malaysia, Swinburne University of Technology Sarawak, Newcastle University of Medicine Malaysia, University of Southampton Malaysia, Heriot-Watt University Malaysia and University of Reading Malaysia.



## SINGAPORE

### Background

Singapore is a modern, vibrant country with an excellent educational system and opportunities for individuals who wish to study abroad. A strong emphasis on education began when the British-based education system was introduced by Sir Thomas Stamford Raffles (founder of the Singapore Institution, now known as the Raffles Institution) in 1823. Singapore is today recognised as a worldwide leader in education.

### Study at University

Applications for study in Singapore are made directly to the individual university. Information on entry requirements can be found on individual institutions websites.

### UNIVERSITY RECOGNITION

Due to the strong resemblance to the British educational system, GCE A Levels are widely recognised as a route to university study. Singapore has six universities, the most famous of which is the National University of Singapore (NUS). GCE A Levels are recognised by the following top universities in Singapore; National University of Singapore, Singapore Management University and Nanyang Technological University.



EDEXCEL GCE A LEVEL  
STUDENTS CAN STUDY AT  
UNIVERSITIES WORLDWIDE

- see our infographic below for examples.



### Maria Albitar

COMPLETED

#### Edexcel GCE A level

NOW STUDYING

#### Civil Engineering at the University of British Columbia, Canada

I chose Edexcel because the qualifications are accepted in universities all over the world and provide me with flexibility regarding my higher education choices. Edexcel provides reputable qualifications to applicants who are looking for higher education. I was accepted to every university I had applied to in the USA, Canada, and the UK.



### Irsa Nasir

COMPLETED

#### Edexcel GCE A level

NOW STUDYING

#### Medicine at University of Toronto, Canada

I wanted to study a course that allowed me to learn and think in different ways. I liked the mix of lecture style teaching with interactive elements that enabled me to test my skills in different areas. The course was excellent preparation for university.





**Thomas Schute**

COMPLETED

**Edexcel GCE A level**

NOW STUDYING

**Economics at Cambridge University, UK**

I chose Edexcel GCE A levels over International Baccalaureate in order to specialise in subjects I knew I wanted to follow at university. A broad range of topics were included in the syllabus of each subject, making it a motivating learning experience. Edexcel GCE A levels were accepted by all the universities I applied to and I received multiple offers.

**Taisiya Matrosova**

COMPLETED

**Edexcel GCE A level**

NOW STUDYING

**Finance and Economics at National Research University - Higher School of Economics, Moscow, Russia**

I am now attending one of Russia's leading universities and I am also involved in the University of London International Programme, so my Edexcel qualifications have been very beneficial in helping me achieve my higher education goals. The course was good preparation for university and I would especially recommend it for students wishing to study abroad.



**Tharika Sevvandi Kuda Kankanamlage Don**

COMPLETED

**Edexcel GCE A level**

NOW STUDYING

**Financial Risk Management and Banking and Finance at Victoria University, Australia**

I am now attending one of Australia's leading universities and I am also involved in the University of London International Programme, so my Edexcel qualifications have been very beneficial in helping me achieve my higher education goals. The course was good preparation for university and I would especially recommend it for students wishing to study abroad.

**Cheong Heng Hoe**

COMPLETED

**Edexcel GCE A level**

NOW STUDYING

**Civil Engineering at Imperial College London, UK**

I have developed a greater passion and understanding of the subjects I studied. Edexcel qualifications are the most established and popular in the world and enabled me to progress to the UK university of my choice.



EDEXCEL GCE A LEVEL

UNIVERSITY RECOGNITION GUIDE

To find out more about how to progress to university with Edexcel GCE A level qualifications, visit [qualifications.pearson.com/progress-to-uni](https://qualifications.pearson.com/progress-to-uni)

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