



### International Foundation Courses and English Language Studies (IFCELS)

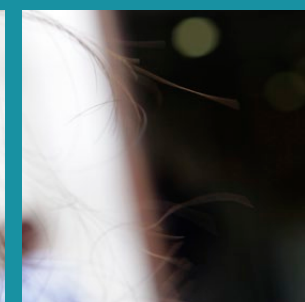
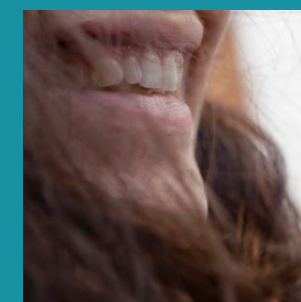
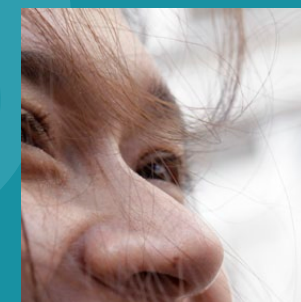
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# ICC

## FOUNDATION PROGRAMME



A foundation year for international students preparing for undergraduate degrees at SOAS and other UK universities in:

- Economics and Finance
- Business and Management
- Law
- Social Sciences
- Humanities

# ICC – at a glance



**SOAS is a college of the University of London and the world's leading centre for the study of Asia, Africa and the Middle East. The library is the UK's most important collection of resources about these regions. SOAS is a vibrant and friendly multicultural community in the heart of London with half its students coming from outside the UK.**

The IFCELS department at SOAS is one of the UK's leading centres for foundation and premasters study. It runs the ICC Foundation as well as the FDPS Premasters and language programmes focusing on academic English, study skills and academic subjects. During the summer (July to September) there are courses in English language, IELTS preparation, pre-sessional English and academic subjects such as Business, Media and International Relations with supporting English language classes.

## **A WELL-ESTABLISHED PRE-UNDERGRADUATE FOUNDATION PROGRAMME.....**

The ICC programme has been running since 1985 and has developed a reputation for high-quality, academic study.

Since then over 2500 of our graduates from all over the world have gone on to degrees at British universities.

## **.....GUARANTEEING A CONDITIONAL OFFER FOR SOAS UG PROGRAMMES**

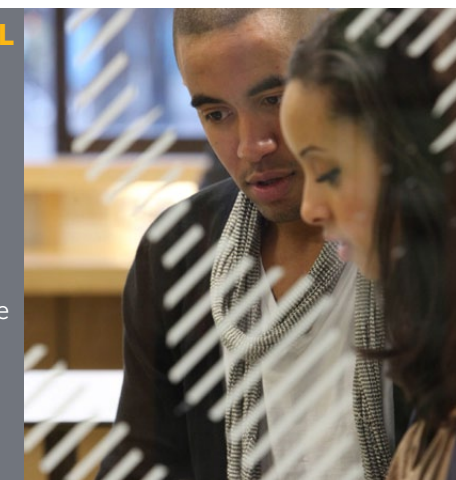
All ICC students are guaranteed a conditional offer for any SOAS undergraduate programme and a 5% discount on the tuition fees for the full period of undergraduate study.



## **.....RECOGNISED BY HIGH-LEVEL UNIVERSITIES ACROSS THE UK**

Over the last three years 80% of ICC students who completed the programme progressed to a Top 30 university\*, including SOAS, UCL, Warwick, Durham, St Andrew's, Edinburgh and Bristol, and 65% went on to undergraduate study at a college of the University of London.

*\* The Guardian University Guide 2013*



## **.....OFFERING A RANGE OF SOCIAL SCIENCE, HUMANITIES AND BUSINESS-RELATED SUBJECT AREAS**

Students can choose from courses covering 10 different study areas:

Law, Politics, Economics, Quantitative Methods, Business Studies, Media Studies, Development Studies, History, World Art, World Literature.

## **.....PREPARING STUDENTS FOR A WIDE RANGE OF UNDERGRADUATE PROGRAMMES**

ICC students progress to a range of undergraduate programmes, including Economics, Law, Business and Management, Politics and International Relations, Development Studies, Finance and Accounting, Anthropology, History of Art and Media Studies.

## **.....DELIVERED ON THE SOAS CAMPUS IN CENTRAL LONDON**

All ICC teaching is delivered by SOAS staff on the college's central London campus on Russell Square, in the heart of the University of London. As full members of the SOAS student community, ICC students have access to all SOAS and University of London facilities, including the world-renowned SOAS and Senate House libraries, giving them a complete university experience.

## **.....THROUGH AN APPROACH WHICH INTEGRATES ACADEMIC ENGLISH DEVELOPMENT AND ACADEMIC STUDY**

The programme combines in-depth academic study with subject-specific English language support to maximise the students' development. By the end of the programme they are prepared both academically and linguistically for demanding undergraduate study.





# Approach to Study

## PROGRAMME AIMS

- To **help** students gain access to undergraduate degrees at British universities in the humanities, social sciences and business-related studies.
- To **provide** students with the linguistic and academic skills they will need for success at university.
- To **broaden** students' knowledge by giving them access to a wide range of academic subjects.
- To **enable** students to experience life as a student at a top UK university.

## STUDENT PROFILE

We are looking for motivated and serious international students with potential to study at undergraduate level.

Typically they are either:

Students who have completed (or almost completed) their high school education in their own country but do not qualify for direct admission to undergraduate degrees in Britain.

or

Students who have been educated partly in English-medium schools in Britain or elsewhere but who have not been able to complete their studies or achieve the grades they require for direct entry to a degree programme.

The ICC aims to provide students with the academic, critical thinking, language and study skills they will require to be successful on a challenging undergraduate degree programme in the UK.

The weekly learning cycle integrates academic and English language study so students develop their academic knowledge, study skills and English ability within each specific subject area.

## ACADEMIC KNOWLEDGE AND SKILLS

Intensive study of academic subjects in much more depth than is usual in most countries' high school systems.

## CRITICAL THINKING SKILLS

Analysing concepts, assessing and interpreting evidence, examining connections between ideas, asking questions, forming opinions, developing arguments and drawing conclusions within academic subject areas.

## LANGUAGE AND STUDY SKILLS

General and academic English with a strong focus on essay writing, academic reading, seminar skills, lecture listening and note-taking. The English classes supporting the academic courses introduce students to subject-specific vocabulary, language and study skills.



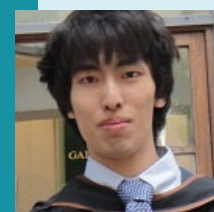
**Natavan Guliyeva**

Azerbaijan

ICC 2012-3 Achievement Prize Winner

Currently BSc Economics, City University

ICC was a great start to my academic life in the United Kingdom. It helped me to prepare to study in a higher education institution and also to make new friends from different parts of the world. A year spent in SOAS was an unforgettable and useful academic experience.



**Chihiro Sasaki**

Japan

ICC 2008-9

BA (2009-2012) and MA with merit (2012-13) at SOAS

History of Art

ICC provides a central focus for the development of academic skills and preparation for UK studies through its well-structured programme which improves essay writing and presentation skills and provides an introduction to academic subjects. I learned a lot through the curriculum and utilised the experiences in my BA and MA studies at SOAS.



# Programme Structure

The programme provides students with a broad range of in-depth knowledge to prepare them for undergraduate study. In order to do this, students follow university-style academic courses with subject-specific academic English support.

Each student studies four subjects – Intensive English for Academic Study and three academic courses, one of which is compulsory and two are chosen from our list of options. The academic courses are led by subject specialists who deliver the lectures and lead the tutorial discussions. All academic courses are supported by English teachers, who focus not only on developing students' grammatical accuracy and fluency, but also on increasing their subject-specific vocabulary and improving their reading, lecture listening and note-taking skills.

Students are assessed throughout the year by means of termly assignments in each academic course, and coursework in the Academic English course. There are "mock" (practice) examinations in each course in March and the final examinations are held in June.

Students have a total of 15-18 hours of academic and English language tuition each week and, as on an undergraduate degree programme, they are expected to study at least as many hours a week outside class reviewing and preparing for classes, reading, completing homework tasks and writing course assignments. Teaching consists of lectures, small group tutorial discussions (8-12 students) and supporting English language classes (maximum 14 students, typically 10-12).



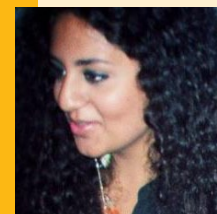
**Joan Lim**

Singapore

ICC 2010-11

Currently BA War Studies at King's College London

The warm support and excellent quality of teaching from the staff of SOAS ICC was invaluable in getting me to where I am today, and I would strongly recommend anybody looking to do a foundation programme to have SOAS as their first choice



**Hanieh Bazargan**

Iran

ICC 2009-10

BA Development Studies and Study of Religions, SOAS 2010-13

Currently MA International Studies and Diplomacy, SOAS

I have been to many universities around the world and undoubtedly SOAS has the most diverse and welcoming atmosphere, alongside some of the world's best and most renowned academics. Attending SOAS ICC programme was without a doubt the best decision that I have made throughout my life. It gave me the courage, confidence and guidance to realise my potential and dreams.

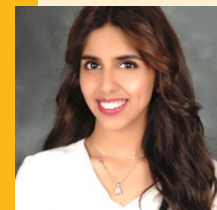


**Tae-woong Seo**

Korea

Current ICC student 2013-4

Studying on ICC has not only given me a unique opportunity to prepare for undergraduate study in a dynamic and multicultural university environment, it has also offers a competitive advantage because the ICC qualification gives me access to many of the best universities in the UK.



**Shahad Almunifi**

Kuwait

ICC 2012-3

Currently BSc Economics, SOAS

The best thing about this programme is the quality of teaching. Not only are the teachers well-qualified and helpful, they were always there to provide us with the support, advice and supervision we needed. Their input and feedback regarding written assignments have truly allowed me to progress and learn from my mistakes. ICC prepares us for undergraduate study by helping us learn the basics of independent learning.





# Programme Content

## Compulsory Courses

### INTENSIVE ENGLISH FOR ACADEMIC STUDY

This course focuses on developing students' general academic English essay writing and oral skills. We address aspects of academic literacy including constructing arguments, evaluating texts and using them to provide evidence and examples, delivering academic presentations and participating in academic discussion. The content is closely linked to the Understanding the Modern World course.

### UNDERSTANDING THE MODERN WORLD

Degrees at UK universities are usually quite specialised but, whatever subject you plan to study, a detailed and in-depth approach still requires a broad background of knowledge about European and World society. We take a global perspective and consider a wide range of issues to explore the development of the modern world and to challenge you to re-assess their pre-existing views. The main themes are:

- social, political and economic change: industrialisation, urbanisation and the development of liberal democracy
- the forces which have influenced the global order: nationalism, revolution, war and colonialism
- current trends such as the decline of religion, multiculturalism and the changing role of the family
- the effects of globalisation on modern society

## Optional Academic Courses students choose two

### BUSINESS STUDIES

An opportunity for students interested in business-related degree programmes – for example Management, Marketing, Finance and Accounting – to gain an understanding of different aspects of the business world including:

- Marketing
- Human Resource Management
- Organisational structure

### ECONOMICS

We provide you with an introduction to the principles of economics through an exploration of five key current global issues:

- Pricing, Markets and Regulation
- Government and National Economies
- International Trade
- Environment and Climate Change
- Globalisation and the World Economy

### QUANTITATIVE METHODS

A chance to develop your numeracy and analytical skills by focusing on the practical application of mathematical theories to Economics, Finance or Accounting. The course includes:

- Financial maths
- Differential calculus and integration
- Statistics and probability



**Kevin Manton**

BA (NCAA), MA MSc PhD (London)

Subject Lecturer for Understanding the Modern World and World History

Winner of the SOAS Director's Teaching Prize 2013-14

The ICC courses I teach present students with interesting information and introduce them to arguments and debates about why the world is structured the way that it is. More importantly the courses help students to learn to think for themselves and therefore to question what they are told.

### MEDIA AND COMMUNICATIONS

Grasp the massive impact of the media on the world today by studying the key theories and concepts behind the subject. Some of the main topics are:

- News and public opinion
- Advertising and the consumer society
- The audience and its response
- Cinema, TV and the new media

### INTERNATIONAL LAW

With globalisation, an understanding of legal issues is now essential in international relations and trade. Explore how international law is made, why states (usually!) obey it and its relationship with society. Some key topics are:

- Treaties and the use of force
- The UN and peace settlements
- International criminal law and terrorism
- Human rights

### POLITICS

Political ideas are a dynamic force in shaping the world today. You will meet key concepts and explore their application in Britain and internationally, including:

- Politics, power and democracy
- Liberalism, Marxism and feminism
- Parliament, parties and democracy
- International politics

### DEVELOPMENT STUDIES

This is an exciting interdisciplinary field drawing on economics, politics, law and other subjects. We survey current hot topics in development and explore their historical background. Key issues introduced are:

- Poverty, health, population and gender
- The environment
- Economic and political issues in post-colonial societies

### WORLD HISTORY

The course provides insights into the events, people and cultures that have shaped the modern world. You will also gain insights into the discipline of history and explore different approaches, themes and schools of history. Topics include:

- The Ottoman, Persian, & Mughal Empires
- New Imperialism
- World Wars I and II

### WORLD ART

Weekly tutorials in London's galleries and museums are part of this survey of Asian, African and Western art which explores their distinctive traditions through common themes such as power and the artist's role in society. The course includes:

- Asian painting traditions
- Contemporary African art
- The renaissance, the baroque and impressionism

### WORLD LITERATURE

A love of reading can be the basis for stimulating academic study! Compare the themes and techniques of European texts and writers with those of other continents. We cover themes such as:

- Realism, romanticism and gothic horror
- Crime and detective fiction
- The writer and the city



**Vasos Pavlika**

BSc MSc (London), PhD (UNL)

Subject Lecturer for Quantitative Methods

I am an applied mathematician with an interest in both the natural and social sciences so I like to ground my teaching in the rich historical context of the subject, an approach which students find inspiring. It is immensely satisfying to see them become accomplished mathematicians in the space of nine months.



# Student Support

## Academic Advice

ICC students apply through UCAS for degree programmes before the mid-January deadline and the IFCELS Academic Advice Unit provides them with guidance throughout each stage of the application procedure.

Students are advised on choices of subject, selection of appropriate programmes and universities, completion of the application form including the personal statement and dealing with the application as it progresses.

## Accommodation, Welfare Support and Visas

Accommodation is available in SOAS or other University of London halls of residence, private student halls and hostels, flats or homestays. IFCELS has its own full-time Accommodation, Visa and Welfare Adviser who can help students with their accommodation needs.

Up to date details of types of accommodation including costs are in the back pocket of this brochure. If you are intending to apply for SOAS or University of London accommodation, you are advised to apply for the programme as early as possible as you need to accept your place before you can apply for accommodation and accommodation bookings open in early March.

You will have a Personal Tutor. He or she is one of your teachers or lecturers who takes a special interest in your studies and is available to meet you to discuss any problems or difficulties confidentially.

IFCELS staff work closely with the SOAS Student Support Team. ICC students have full access to the services provided by the student counsellors, learning advisers, Students' Union and disability officers.

Our Accommodation, Visa and Welfare Adviser also deals with any issues concerning student visas, including giving general advice to prospective students and assisting existing students with visa applications.



**Xinrui Zhang**

China

ICC 2012-3 progress prize winner

Currently BA History of Art (Africa, Asia, Europe), SOAS

It was valuable for me to study on the ICC foundation programme at SOAS because it helped me develop critical thinking and analytical skills for further study. Moreover, it was a really fascinating experience to study in a multicultural environment.

# Entrance Requirements and Application

**Applications should be made direct to IFCELS on the form in this pocket and on the programme webpage. On the front of the form is a list of the supporting documents required and our contact details.**

The English language entry requirement to join ICC is 5.5 IELTS overall with 5 in the writing section or iBT TOEFL 76 with 12 in writing. However, we run entrance tests in London and outside the UK in several countries (such as Japan, China, Korea and Turkey) so it is not necessary for applicants to take an English test before they apply. Students who meet the English language entry requirements can also be considered by telephone/Skype interview and emailed essay.

Please note that any student who is made an offer and requires a Tier 4 visa in order to study in the UK will be required to provide a Secure English Language Test (SELT) certificate, for example IELTS, TOEFL or Pearson Academic, in order to apply for a visa.

We do not have a fixed requirement for high school grades as we believe in looking at each applicant as an individual. We use the interview and essay test, together with the personal statement, high school performance, English score and teacher's reference to consider students' motivation, maturity and ability to study independently in a university environment and assess whether they have the potential to study successfully on ICC and achieve their study goals.

Students who need to improve their English may be made an offer for ICC Plus, starting in late July/early August, which includes 6 weeks intensive English study in a summer vacation term. For students with lower levels of English, IFCELS also offers a preparatory English language programme starting in January and April and a summer programme from July to September.

Applications should be made direct to IFCELS on the form in the back pocket of this brochure and on the programme webpage – [www.soas.ac.uk/ifcels/icc](http://www.soas.ac.uk/ifcels/icc). On the front of the form is a list of the supporting documents required and our contact details. There is a £90 application fee which can be paid online at: [www.soas.ac.uk/ifcels/online-store](http://www.soas.ac.uk/ifcels/online-store). Once the application is complete, we will contact you with details of how we would like to consider your application.