

July 2020

Dear Student,

### English Language Requirement

We are sending you this letter to draw your attention to the English Language Requirement which you need to fulfill for your undergraduate study at the City University of Hong Kong.

### **English Language Requirement**

To fulfill the University's English Language Requirement, students should complete two Gateway Education (GE) English courses: the GE1401 University English course and a discipline-specific English course. Details of the requirement are available in [http://www.cityu.edu.hk/ug/current/catalogue/catalogue\\_UC.htm?page=B/eng\\_lang\\_requirement.htm](http://www.cityu.edu.hk/ug/current/catalogue/catalogue_UC.htm?page=B/eng_lang_requirement.htm).

There is a pre-requisite for the GE1401 course. Students must achieve at least Level 4 in English Language in the Hong Kong Diploma of Secondary Education (HKDSE) Examination OR successfully complete the LC0200A & LC0200B English for Academic Purposes 1 & 2 courses offered by our Centre.

### **Exemption from Taking the LC Courses**

For students who did not take the HKDSE exam, exemption from taking the LC0200A and LC0200B courses will be granted to those students who provide us with a relevant acceptable alternative qualification (see the list in the table below). Normally, students may also obtain the exemption by passing the English Placement Test offered by our Centre. **However, owing to the COVID-19 situation, the English Placement Test will be suspended for this year.** In line with the University's arrangement ( <https://www.admo.cityu.edu.hk/coronavirus-update/> ), we will instead accept the score 105 or above achieved in the online Duolingo English Test (DET) in case of TOEFL/IELTS test cancellation in your home town. Please note that the DET qualification is subject to review.

### **Acceptable Alternative Qualifications for academic year 2020-21**

Exam/Test	Score required for exemption from LC courses
IELTS	6.5 or above (with no less than 6.0 in the Writing and Reading sections)
TOEFL (internet-based)	79 or above (with no less than 15 in the Reading section and 12 in the Writing section)
Cambridge ESOL examinations e.g. Cambridge Proficiency in English / Cambridge Advanced English / Cambridge First Certificate	CEFR B2 + pass levels in reading and writing
Duolingo English Test (DET), for academic year 2020-21 only	105 or above (with no less than 105 in the 'Literacy' subscore)

If you wish to apply for exemption, you are required to send one of the acceptable qualifications to our Centre before Semester A starts. If exemption is granted, you will be eligible to take the GE1401 course immediately upon starting at CityU. Otherwise, you will be arranged to take the LC courses to fulfill the pre-requisite of the GE English courses.

Please feel free to contact us for any questions regarding the English language requirement or the LC courses.

We are looking forward to meeting you at CityU.

Yours sincerely,

Chan Feng Men-ling Chan Shuk-lin Language Centre