

Find Your Place at St Mary's University

Your tailored guide to St Mary's (SMU)

**Progression Agreement for OCN London
Access to HE Diploma students 2024-2025**



Welcome to St Mary's University, Twickenham (SMU)

St Mary's is a welcoming and diverse student community, where we focus on developing your skills and giving you the support to succeed.

As an Access to HE Diploma student, you're able to progress onto one of our many courses – and we'll help you along the way. We want to make your progression to St Mary's as easy as possible – so this guide provides details of who we are, our courses, the support available and how to visit us at an open day.

You will find our entry requirements for the courses included in the Access to HE Progression Agreement from page 5. We take into account many different criteria when offering places on our courses – you can read about our [contextualised approach to admissions](#).

About St Mary's University

We are a small London campus university, focusing on quality rather than quantity. We provide a great experience for our students, with excellent teaching and outstanding support – the Times Good University Guide 2023 placed St Mary's in the top ten universities nationally, and top two in London, for both teaching quality and student experience. Our small size and our diverse, vibrant campus give St Mary's a wonderful community atmosphere. We pride ourselves on the excellent career prospects of our students, with 98% of graduates in employment, vocation and/or further study 15 months after graduating.

Established in 1850 and with a deep heritage in education, St Mary's has a strong reputation for teaching excellence and a student-centred approach. We continued our outstanding performance in the 2024 National Student Survey (NSS) which surveys graduating

students, ranking in the top five nationally for Learning Opportunities, Academic Support, and Organisation and Management, and top ten for Student Voice.

We also celebrated excellent TEF outcomes in September 2023, with a Gold for Student Experience and Silver for Student Outcomes and an 'Outstanding' Ofsted inspection in July 2024.

The main campus is on Waldegrave Road in Twickenham within the grounds of Strawberry Hill House. It is one of Britain's finest examples of Gothic revival architecture, built by Horace Walpole in 1747, and is accompanied by many heritage sites along the local stretch of the Thames. St Mary's has strong collaborative partnerships with many historical and cultural organisations in Richmond and Twickenham – our Humanities and Liberal Arts students visit these and often work with them too.

On campus, we have halls of residence, many learning and study spaces, a refectory and cafe, and a commuter lounge. Our sports provision is impressive, with an Olympic-size running track, sports pitches and fields on our main campus and Teddington Lock.



Our Ethos

The University has a long tradition of widening access to education, fostering a respectful and inclusive environment where all backgrounds are celebrated. Our Widening Participation team identifies and eliminates barriers where we can, in line with our equality, diversity and inclusion (EDI) ambitions and our staff and student EDI networks work to improve your experience during your time with us.

We have a rich and diverse community, and a culture where students and staff work together and share new perspectives.

Our community spirit makes us distinctive, and our values of generosity of spirit, inclusiveness, respect and excellence set us apart.

We believe that education transforms lives. Inspired by our Catholic foundation, we put students at the heart of everything we do, with a mission to develop the whole person.

Our Access and Participation Plan, which is approved and monitored by our regulator, the Office for Students, sets out our targets and commitments for reducing and eliminating any existing inequalities and addressing barriers that might prevent anyone from achieving their potential.

About the Access to HE Diploma

The Diploma prepares adults (aged 19 and over) who do not necessarily have the qualifications required to enter university. Studying for an Access to HE qualification offers a solid introduction to key areas of subject knowledge and a broad range of study skills required to study at university level.

To gain the Diploma students must achieve 60 credits overall. 45 credits are made up of subject specific units at Level 3 and these units can



be achieved at Pass, Merit or Distinction. The remaining 15 credits are made up of study skills ungraded units at Level 2 or Level 3. The study skills units must be achieved to gain the Diploma.

All applications to study a degree at university are made through UCAS. UCAS provides a Tariff system to accurately compare different qualifications. An Access to HE Diploma with 45 graded credits achieved at a Pass is 48 Tariff points (equivalent to EEE at A level) and a Distinction is 144 Tariff points (equivalent to AAA at A level).

You include all units on your UCAS application so we can see the full range of your experience.

More information can be found below:

1. [The Access to HE Diploma](#)
2. [Calculating your UCAS Tariff points](#)

The Progression Agreement for each Academic Department

Entry requirements for OCN London Access to HE Diploma students are in the following tables. You may find that our requirements are slightly lower than advertised elsewhere – this is so we can support your transition to university life.

Visit our website for our full list of courses available: [Search all courses at St Mary's University \(stmarys.ac.uk\)](https://www.stmarys.ac.uk).

For more information about the different routes into teaching: www.stmarys.ac.uk/teacher-training/about.aspx

English Language

Non-native speakers of English must achieve a score of either 6.0 overall or not less than 5.5 in any section of the IELTS test of English language proficiency (or equivalent).

GCSE equivalencies

Some careers such as teaching require GCSE Maths and English, and sometimes science. We can arrange for you to take GCSE equivalent qualifications if you have not met the GCSE requirements.

Find out more about [equivalent qualifications on our website](#).



Faculty of Education, Theology, and the Arts

Undergraduate Course – running from September 2025	Access to HE Diplomas Accepted (If you do not see your Access course listed below please email: apply@stmarys.ac.uk)	Agreement	Additional requirements
BA (Hons) Primary Education with Qualified Teacher Status (QTS)	Education and Teacher Training	Guaranteed offer if you are awarded the full Access to HE Diploma and with the equivalent of 96 UCAS tariff points, a successful Interview and obtain a DBS and Fitness to Teach check. You can achieve any combination of Pass, Merit and Distinction to achieve 45 Level 3 graded credits giving you 96 UCAS points.	Must have GCSE Maths at Level 4/Grade C GCSE English at Level 4/Grade C GCSE Science at Level 4/Grade C For QTS we may accept equivalents
FdA Early Years Education Foundation Degree	Education and Teacher Training	Guaranteed offer if you are awarded the full Access to HE Diploma with a minimum of 45 Level 3 graded credits at a Pass giving you 48 UCAS tariff points. Must be working or volunteering at least 2.5 days per week in an educational setting from the start of the course. Also required: A successful interview and a supporting Headteacher/ Manager statement.	Must have GCSE English at level 4/Grade C or equivalent qualification
FdA Primary Education Foundation Degree	Education and Teacher Training	Guaranteed offer if you are awarded the full Access to HE Diploma with a minimum of 45 Level 3 graded credits at a Pass giving you 48 UCAS tariff points. Must be working or volunteering at least 2.5 days per week in an education setting from the start of the course. Also required: A successful interview and a supporting Headteacher/ Manager statement..	Must have GCSE English at level 4/Grade C or equivalent qualification
BA (Hons) Education Studies	Humanities and Social Science Education and Teacher Training Health and Social Care Health and Human Sciences Humanities Social Science Social Work Youth and Community Work	Guaranteed offer if you are awarded the full Access to HE Diploma and with the equivalent of 96 UCAS tariff points. You can achieve any combination of Pass, Merit and Distinction to achieve 45 Level 3 graded credits giving you 96 UCAS points.	None

BA (Hons) Theology, Religion and Ethic	Humanities Social Science Humanities and Social Science	Guaranteed offer if you are awarded the full Access to HE Diploma with a minimum of 45 Level 3 graded credits at a Pass giving you 48 UCAS tariff points. * *applicants who do not attain the above will be considered on an individual basis.	None
BA (Hons) Liberal Arts or BA (Hons) Liberal Arts 4 year (with placement year) or BA (Hons) Liberal Arts (Accelerated – 2 years)	Humanities Social Science Humanities and Social Science	Guaranteed offer if you are awarded the full Access to HE Diploma with a minimum of 45 Level 3 graded credits at a Pass giving you 48 UCAS tariff points. * *applicants who do not attain the above will be considered on an individual basis	None
BA (Hons) History or BA (Hons) History 4 year (with placement year)	Humanities Social Science Humanities and Social Science	Guaranteed offer if you are awarded the full Access to HE Diploma with a minimum of 45 Level 3 graded credits at a Pass giving you 48 UCAS tariff points. * *applicants who do not attain the above will be considered on an individual basis	None
BA (Hons) English Literature or BA (Hons) English Literature 4 year (with placement year)	Humanities Social Science Humanities and Social Science	Guaranteed offer if you are awarded the full Access to HE Diploma with a minimum of 45 Level 3 graded credits at a Pass giving you 48 UCAS tariff points. * *applicants who do not attain the above will be considered on an individual basis	None
BA (Hons) Creative and Professional Writing	Humanities Social Science Humanities and Social Science	Guaranteed offer if you are awarded the full Access to HE Diploma with a minimum of 45 Level 3 graded credits at a Pass giving you 48 UCAS tariff points. * *applicants who do not attain the above will be considered on an individual basis	None
BA (Hons) Filmmaking or BA (Hons) Filmmaking 4 year (with placement year)	Media Studies	Guaranteed offer if you are awarded the full Access to HE Diploma with a minimum of 45 Level 3 graded credits at a Pass giving you 48 UCAS tariff points. * *applicants who do not attain the above will be considered on an individual basis	None
BA (Hons) Film Studies	Media Studies	Successful completion of the Access to HE Diploma giving you 48 UCAS points. *applicants who do not attain the above will be considered on an individual basis	None
BA (Hons) Acting	Performing Arts	Successful completion of the Access to HE Diploma giving you 48 UCAS points and a guaranteed offer if you are successful at audition.* *To be accepted on this course all candidates must pass an audition. Please note that if you do not attain 48 UCAS points applicants will be considered on an individual basis.	None

BA (Hons) Creative Production	Performing Arts Theatre Arts	Guaranteed offer if you are awarded the full Access to HE Diploma with a minimum of 45 Level 3 graded credits at a Pass giving you 48 UCAS tariff points.* *applicants who do not attain the above will be considered on an individual basis	None
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Faculty of Sport, Technology and Health Sciences

Undergraduate Course – running from September 2025	Access to HE Diplomas Accepted (If you do not see your Access course listed below please email: apply@stmarys.ac.uk)	Agreement (*If you do not see your Access units listed below please email: apply@stmarys.ac.uk).	Additional requirements or recommendations
BSc (Hons) Sport Rehabilitation	Sports Science Health and Human Sciences Science	Guaranteed offer if you are awarded the full Access to HE Diploma this must include at least 12 credits of biology/human biology from the following units*: Cells or Human Tissues and Systems The Cardiovascular System Transport and Respiration The Musculoskeletal System/ Anatomy & Physiology The Nervous System Recommended to include: Biomechanics Students would need to achieve a minimum of 45 Level 3 graded credits at Merit giving you 96 UCAS points.	Recommended: GCSE Maths GCSE English or equivalent qualifications
BSc (Hons) Sport and Exercise Science	Sports Science Health and Human Sciences Science	Guaranteed offer if you are awarded the full Access to HE Diploma and achieve: For example, a minimum of 45 Level 3 graded credits with 45 credits at Merit. You can achieve any combination of Pass, Merit and Distinction to achieve 45 Level 3 graded credits giving you 96 UCAS points.	Recommended: GCSE Maths GCSE English or equivalent qualification
BSc (Hons) Strength and Conditioning Science	Sports Science Health and Human Sciences Science	Guaranteed offer if you are awarded the full Access to HE Diploma and achieve: For example, a minimum of 45 Level 3 graded credits with 45 credits at Merit. You can achieve any combination of Pass, Merit and Distinction to achieve 45 Level 3 graded credits giving you 96 UCAS points.	Recommended: GCSE Maths GCSE English or equivalent qualifications

BSc (Hons) Nutrition	Sports Science Health and Human Sciences Science	<p>Guaranteed offer if you are awarded the full Access to HE Diploma this must include at least 12 credits of biology/human biology from the following units*:</p> <p>Cells or Human Tissues and Systems The Cardiovascular System Transport and Respiration The Musculoskeletal System/ Anatomy & Physiology The Nervous System</p> <p>Recommended to include: Biomechanics</p> <p>Students would need to achieve a minimum of 45 Level 3 graded credits at Merit giving you 96 UCAS points.</p>	Recommended: GCSE Maths GCSE English or equivalent qualifications
BSc (Hons) Sport and Exercise Nutrition	Sports Science Health and Human Sciences Science	<p>Guaranteed offer if you are awarded the full Access to HE Diploma must include at least 12 credits of biology/human biology from the following units*:</p> <p>Cells or Human Tissues and Systems The Cardiovascular System Transport and Respiration The Musculoskeletal System/ Anatomy & Physiology The Nervous System</p> <p>Recommended to include: Introduction to Nutrition Nutrition & Health Nutrition, Digestion and Excretion</p> <p>Students would need to achieve a minimum of 45 Level 3 graded credits at Merit giving you 96 UCAS points.</p>	Recommended: GCSE Maths GCSE English or equivalent qualifications
BSc (Hons) Physiotherapy	Sports Science Health and Human Sciences Science	<p>Must include at least 12 credits of biology/ human biology from the following units: Cells or Human Tissues and Systems The Cardiovascular System Transport and Respiration The Musculoskeletal System/ Anatomy & Physiology The Nervous System.</p> <p>Students would need to achieve the full Access to HE Diploma with a minimum of 45 Level 3 graded credits at Merit (a minimum of MMM only – no other combination of graded credits/M is the minimum graded credit accepted), giving you 96 UCAS points. A successful interview is also required.*</p> <p>*Please note, once you have achieved the entry requirements, applications are then reviewed for shortlisting for interview (there is no guarantee of an interview). You must be successful at interview to gain a place.</p>	Recommended: GCSE Maths GCSE English or equivalent qualifications

BSc (Hons) Sport Psychology	Sports Science Health and Human Sciences Science Counselling	Guaranteed offer if you are awarded the full Access to HE Diploma and achieve: For example, a minimum of 45 Level 3 graded credits with 36 credits at Merit and 9 at Distinction. You can achieve any combination of Pass, Merit and Distinction to achieve 45 Level 3 graded credits giving you 106 UCAS points.	Recommended: GCSE Maths GCSE English or equivalent qualifications
BA (Hons) Physical Education, Sport and Youth Development	Sports Science Health and Human Sciences Humanities and Social Science Education and Teacher Training Youth and Community Work	Guaranteed offer if you are awarded the full Access to HE Diploma and achieve: For example, a minimum of 45 Level 3 graded credits with 45 credits at Merit. You can achieve any combination of Pass, Merit and Distinction to achieve 45 Level 3 graded credits giving you 96 UCAS points.	Recommended: GCSE Maths GCSE English or equivalent qualifications
BSc (Hons) Psychology	Humanities and Social Science Counselling Social Work Sports Science Youth and Community Work Policing and Criminology Education and Teacher Training	Guaranteed offer if you are awarded the full Access to HE Diploma and achieve: For example, a minimum of 45 Level 3 graded credits with 36 credits at Merit and 9 at Distinction. You can achieve any combination of Pass, Merit and Distinction to achieve 45 Level 3 graded credits giving you 106 UCAS points.	Recommended: GCSE Maths GCSE English or equivalent qualifications
BSc (Hons) Sports Coaching Science	Sports Science Health and Human Sciences Science Sports Science Health and Human Sciences Science	Guaranteed offer if you are awarded the full Access to HE Diploma and achieve: For example, a minimum of 45 Level 3 graded credits with 45 credits at Merit. You can achieve any combination of Pass, Merit and Distinction to achieve 45 Level 3 graded credits giving you 96 UCAS points.	Recommended: GCSE Maths GCSE English or equivalent qualifications
BSc (Hons) Sports Performance Analysis and Talent Identification	Sports Science Health and Human Sciences Science	Guaranteed offer if you are awarded the full Access to HE Diploma and achieve: For example, a minimum of 45 Level 3 graded credits with 45 credits at Merit. You can achieve any combination of Pass, Merit and Distinction to achieve 45 Level 3 graded credits giving you 96 UCAS points.	Recommended: GCSE Maths GCSE English or equivalent qualifications
BSc (Hons) Computer Science	Digital Technologies and Computer Science	Guaranteed offer if you are awarded the full Access to HE Diploma and achieve: For example, a minimum of 45 Level 3 graded credits with 45 credits at Merit. You can achieve any combination of Pass, Merit and Distinction to achieve 45 Level 3 graded credits giving you 96 UCAS points.	Recommended: GCSE Maths GCSE English or equivalent qualifications

Faculty of Business and Law			
Undergraduate Course running from September 2025	Access to HE Diplomas Accepted (if you do not see your Access course listed below please email: apply@stmarys.ac.uk)	Agreement In the Institute of Business Law and Society, we will accept OCN London, Access students, at our lowest point of entry as stated in the agreement below	Additional requirements
BA (Hons) Business Management or BA (Hons) Business Management (with placement year)	An Access Diploma in a relevant subject area for example: Business Studies Business and Finance Business and Law Digital Technologies in Business Management Law	Guaranteed offer if you are awarded the full Access to HE Diploma and with the equivalent of 96 UCAS tariff points. You can achieve any combination of Pass, Merit and Distinction to achieve 45 Level 3 graded credits giving you 96 UCAS points.	GCSE Maths at level 4/ Grade C or equivalent qualification
BA (Hons) Business Management and Entrepreneurship or BA (Hons) Business Management and Entrepreneurship (with placement year)	An Access Diploma in a relevant subject area for example: Business Studies Business and Finance Business and Law Digital Technologies in Business Management Law	Guaranteed offer if you are awarded the full Access to HE Diploma and with the equivalent of 96 UCAS tariff points. You can achieve any combination of Pass, Merit and Distinction to achieve 45 Level 3 graded credits giving you 96 UCAS points.	GCSE Maths at level 4/ Grade C or equivalent qualification
BA (Hons) Business Management and Finance or BA (Hons) Business Management and Finance (with placement year)	An Access Diploma in a relevant subject area for example: Business Studies Business and Finance Business and Law Digital Technologies in Business Management Law	Guaranteed offer if you are awarded the full Access to HE Diploma and with the equivalent of 96 UCAS tariff points. You can achieve any combination of Pass, Merit and Distinction to achieve 45 Level 3 graded credits giving you 96 UCAS points.	GCSE Maths at level 4/ Grade C or equivalent qualification
BA (Hons) Business Management and Marketing or BA (Hons) Business Management and Marketing (with placement year)	An Access Diploma in a relevant subject area for example: Business Studies Business and Finance Business and Law Digital Technologies in Business Management Law	Guaranteed offer if you are awarded the full Access to HE Diploma and with the equivalent of 96 UCAS tariff points. You can achieve any combination of Pass, Merit and Distinction to achieve 45 Level 3 graded credits giving you 96 UCAS points.	GCSE Maths at level 4/ Grade C or equivalent qualification
BA (Hons) Sports Management or BA (Hons) Sports Management (with placement year)	Business Studies Business and Finance Business and Law Sports Science Digital Technologies in Business Management Law	Guaranteed offer if you are awarded the full Access to HE Diploma and with the equivalent of 96 UCAS tariff points. You can achieve any combination of Pass, Merit and Distinction to achieve 45 Level 3 graded credits giving you 96 UCAS points.	GCSE Maths at level 4/ Grade C or equivalent qualification

LLB (Hons) Law or LLB (Hons) Law 4 years (with placement year)	An Access Diploma in a relevant subject area for example: Law Business and Law Business Studies Business and Finance Digital Technologies in Business Management Humanities and Social Science Policing Policing and Criminology	Guaranteed offer if you are awarded the full Access to HE Diploma and with the equivalent of 96 UCAS tariff points. You can achieve any combination of Pass, Merit and Distinction to achieve 45 Level 3 graded credits giving you 96 UCAS points.	GCSE Maths at level 4/ Grade C or equivalent qualification
LLB (Hons) Law with Business Law or LLB (Hons) Law with Business 4 years (with placement year)	Law Business and Law Business Studies Business and Finance Digital Technologies in Business Management Humanities and Social Science Policing Policing and Criminology	Guaranteed offer if you are awarded the full Access to HE Diploma and with the equivalent of 96 UCAS tariff points. You can achieve any combination of Pass, Merit and Distinction to achieve 45 Level 3 graded credits giving you 96 UCAS points.	GCSE Maths at level 4/ Grade C and GCSE English at level 4/ Grade C or equivalent qualification
LLB (Hons) Law with Criminology 4 years (with placement year)	Law Business and Law Business Studies Business and Finance Digital Technologies in Business Management Humanities and Social Science Policing Policing and Criminology	Guaranteed offer if you are awarded the full Access to HE Diploma and with the equivalent of 96 UCAS tariff points. You can achieve any combination of Pass, Merit and Distinction to achieve 45 Level 3 graded credits giving you 96 UCAS points.	GCSE Maths at level 4/ Grade C and GCSE English at level 4/ Grade C or equivalent qualification
BSc (Hons) Criminology and Sociology or BSc (Hons) Criminology with Sociology 4 years (with placement year)	Law Business and Law Business Studies Business and Finance Digital Technologies in Business Management Humanities and Social Science Policing Policing and Criminology	Guaranteed offer if you are awarded the full Access to HE Diploma and with the equivalent of 96 UCAS tariff points. You can achieve any combination of Pass, Merit and Distinction to achieve 45 Level 3 graded credits giving you 96 UCAS points.	GCSE Maths at level 4/ Grade C and GCSE English at level 4/ Grade C or equivalent qualifications

BSc (Hons) Criminology or BSc (Hons) Criminology 4 years (with placement year)	Law Business and Law Business Studies Business and Finance Digital Technologies in Business Management Humanities and Social Science Policing Policing and Criminology	Guaranteed offer if you are awarded the full Access to HE Diploma and with the equivalent of 96 UCAS tariff points. You can achieve any combination of Pass, Merit and Distinction to achieve 45 Level 3 graded credits giving you 96 UCAS points.	GCSE Maths at level 4/ Grade C and GCSE English at level 4/ Grade C or equivalent qualifications
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Please note that foundation year options are available for many of our courses if you do not meet the requirements stated in the above tables.

Before coming to St Mary's

Open Days and Experience Days

We run events throughout the year so you can see if St Mary's is for you. Our Open Days take place between June and November when you're considering where to apply. Experience Days are run between February and April, and are designed for those who have applied to study at St Mary's, to get hands-on experience of life on campus.

Open days and experience days are structured slightly differently from each other. However, both provide a chance to explore the University campus, meet current students and academics, and gain a greater insight into student life.

All open events consist of information sessions, academic subject talks, and campus and accommodation tours.

All of our Faculties and Schools are involved in our open days and experience days, with taster activities, subject talks and demonstrations.

[Find out more and book online](#)

Some of our schools will also host masterclasses on campus, and webinars online, where you can get insight into the courses and ask questions. Check the website for more information.





Starting at St Mary's Academic Study Support

We recognise that you may have been out of academic study for some time or are just not confident in your academic skills. All of our students, including Access to HE students, can have academic skills support at St Mary's. This is delivered online by the Library and the Learning Development Lecturers, and English Language support is provided by English for Academic Purposes tutors. The Learning Development Lecturers (LDLs) offer support drop-in clinics and can also work with your programme lecturers to set up support. They may be able to set up study skills for groups of Access students. Please ask your lecturers

or tutors in the first place as they can help you find the support you need. [Find out more about support available.](#)

You will also be supported by Pastoral Tutors who will help you succeed in day to day life at the University, as well as English for Academic Purposes tutors and Pastoral Tutors all who work together to support you during your time at St Mary's.

Our Commuter Lounge

For students who do not live on campus, we have our lovely, homely Commuter Lounge with comfy sofas and tables to sit at to work, eat or chat. The Lounge has microwaves to heat meals with complimentary refreshments. There are also lockers to store books, equipment or sports gear during the day so you can join sports clubs and other activities. [Find out more about our support for commuting students.](#)

Our Students' Union at St Mary's University (SMSU)

SMSU runs a wide range of events throughout the year for students living on and off campus and is always keen for students to get involved:

www.stmaryssu.co.uk

Widening Participation


The aim of Widening Participation is to eliminate inequalities in Higher Education for people from different backgrounds. In our Access and Participation Plan (APP) we assess and address gaps between groups of people before, during and after their time at St Mary's. This forms part of our regulatory commitment to the Office for Students (OfS). We run a range of events, activities and initiatives for students throughout

the year, from Wobble Week in November through to Student Engagement Awards in June and there are plenty of opportunities for students to join us to make their views known, help us run activities and shape the experience that you and other students have during your studies. [Find out more about what we do.](#)

Paid Work Opportunities

There are a number of opportunities for work on campus that pay the London Living Wage and can fit around your studies. These include roles as a Student Ambassador or Widening Participation Ambassador. [More about becoming an ambassador.](#)





We look forward to
welcoming you to
St Mary's – we're here to
answer any questions:

hello@stmarys.ac.uk



Notes



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