



## **Credibility Interview - What you might be asked**

*There are no set questions but we understand that you may be asked the following*

### **Why did you choose this course at the University of Essex?**

- Think about your decision process. Did you apply for other courses - why did you choose Essex over them?
- There may be many courses in the same subject area as the one you plan to study at Essex. What is it specifically about the Essex course which you prefer?
- Think about what attracted you to the student lifestyle at your campus.
- Think about how the new course relates to previous studies and how it might build on your previous learning and how they fit into your career plans.
- If the course you plan to study is at a similar academic level to previous studies, how does it represent academic progression, for instance, are the subjects related or do the courses combined help you to achieve your career plans? If this is the case, be prepared to explain this.

### **Why did you decide to study in the UK?**

- Think about why you chose the UK rather than your home country, other English- speaking country or country which other students of your nationality choose to study in.
- You may find it useful to refer to the university's website and prospectus including our information about the Essex campus you will be studying at and the local area.

### **What do you want to do after you finish your degree?**

- Think about what your plans are after you graduate - how will the knowledge and skills you gain from your course at Essex help you with the type of work you hope to do when you graduate?
- Does your course lead to any professional exemptions or qualifications and are these recognised in your country?
- Do you know about the type of work roles and organisations that previous students obtained after graduating?
- Think about how you explain your decision in the context of your long-term career plans. If you have decided to take your career in a different direction and need to study a different subject you should think about your long term goals.
- Think about the advantages that a degree from the UK might give you and why you and/or your family are prepared to make this investment.

### **How will you be funding your studies?**

- As part of your application you may have submitted proof of your finances. Even if you have not had to submit proof of your finances, ensure that you are very clear about the source and availability of your funds, and also how you plan to pay for subsequent year's fees if your course is more than a year in duration. If you have official financial sponsorship make sure you are aware of the amounts and exactly what is covered.
- Have you made a realistic assessment of all the costs involved and how you plan to pay for them? These costs include accommodation and costs of living as well as tuition fees.
- You cannot rely on funds from working to pay your course fees and living costs so you need to be aware of this. The main purpose for being in the UK is your studies so, if you do hope to work, think about how this would enhance your academic studies. You also need to demonstrate an understanding of the hours you are allowed to work and typical rates of pay.
- If you have a loan, how will you afford to pay this back?
- How much will your accommodation cost and are you clear about the cost of living in the UK?

***If you have any questions about your credibility interview, please feel free to contact us. Contact details can be found on our [immigration webpages](#).***