The evaluation and approval of an “articulation”[[1]](#endnote-1) is a process approved the Academic Strategy Group (ASC)[[2]](#endnote-2), through which the University determines that the successful completion of the whole, or part of a, course of study offered by a provider or partner institution, is equivalent to FHEQ level 4 (Year 1) and suitable for admission to FHEQ Level 5 (Year 2) of specified BUL undergraduate programmes, or equivalent to 50% of the taught part of assessed credit and suitable for admission to specified postgraduate programme(s). An articulation agreement[[3]](#endnote-3) between the provider and BUL is issued subject to successful evaluation outcome and approval outcome.

**The Approval Process and Completion of the Articulation Proposal Form**

The process for approval of articulation agreements entails 3 stages, **(1)** Advanced Entry Proposal and Non-Academic Risk Assessment Form is completed by the proposing department with the support of the College, **(2)** A Preliminary Evaluation is undertaken by the Vice-Provost – International & Academic and **(3)** following the successful outcome of the Preliminary Evaluation, the College is required to carry out a Curriculum Mapping, to evaluate and approve the correspondence of BUL learning outcomes with the partner’s provision. This includes study level and credit equivalency for credit exemption, and the completion of an Academic Risk Assessment based on the Curriculum Mapping carried out by the College.

**Stage 1 - Part 1 of The Articulation Proposal Form - (Internal Use Only)**

The Articulation Proposal Form is for internal use only and is designed to collect sufficient information about the partner and their curriculum. All applicable sections of the form should be completed with summary information text provided where required. In addition to the key details about the provider, the additional information required is follows:

1. The provider must be authorised as an educational provider and subject to the oversight and recognition by the relevant Educational Oversight body. Please select one. (See links to Educational and Statutory Oversight Organisations below)[[4]](#endnote-4)
2. An indication of the provider’s ranking where it is available will help determine the reputation and academic standing of the institution. Please select one (See links to University Rankings below)[[5]](#endnote-5)
3. Information about any third parties (BUL agents or other intermediaries) that may have brokered or proposed the opportunity to establish an articulation with the provider is required.
4. A formal or informal reference from a UK university with whom the provider has established articulation agreements can be supplied in support of the proposal. (Please see a link to Confidential Reference Template [[6]](#endnote-6)below)
5. The Non-Academic Risk Assessment provided should be completed and submitted with Part 1 of Articulation Proposal Form to enable Vice-Provost (International and Academic Partnerships) to review the risk profile of the articulation.
6. The provider’s course Information for curriculum mapping should be attached to Part 1 of the Articulation Proposal Form. This may include module specifications, course descriptions or syllabi, and other information setting out learning outcomes, learning, and teaching strategies, module marking scheme and contact hour

**Stage 2 Preliminary Evaluation**

Part 1 of the Articulation Proposal Form and Non-Academic Risk Assessment Form is reviewed by the Vice-Provost (IAP) who will evaluate the risk profile of the arrangement presented and may require further information and/or propose mitigations for any areas of risk identified. At this stage of evaluation, any arrangement that is likely to extend beyond articulation may be referred for further consideration as a strategic academic partnership proposal. Additional due diligence may be required.

**Stage 3: Part 3 College Approval Form - Curriculum Mapping**

Subject to a Stage 2 Preliminary Evaluation outcome, the GEO will request that the College undertakes Stage 3 (Curriculum Mapping and College Approval). The Curriculum Mapping for evaluation of Learning Outcomes will be carried out by an authorised member of academic staff and approved by the College.

1. In accordance with the University Exemption Policy, “the recognition of credit involves an evaluation of equivalence of achieved learning outcomes, credit equivalency and level of study together with a mapping of grade/classification scales and the academic standards of the institution based the information provided with this form.
2. The leaning outcomes and credit equivalencies evaluation should be based on the provider’s course documentation, which include the provider’s module specifications, course descriptions or syllabi, and other information setting out learning outcomes, learning, and teaching strategies, module marking scheme and contact hour.
3. The achieved learning outcomes and credit equivalencies between the provider course(s) and BUL programmes are for:
   1. FHEQ Level 4 (Year 1 of undergraduate study) only;
   2. 50% of the taught part of assessed credit for FHEQ Level 7 postgraduate study;
   3. Ungraded exemptions.
4. Additional evidence of the provider’s quality assurance for the course to be evaluated may be assessed by the provider assessment arrangements including the split of examination and continual assessment, previous examination papers and redacted course work if required.
5. Please complete the Academic Risk Assessment Form in conjunction with the evaluation learning outcomes and credit equivalences.
6. Please note it is important to consider and specify any Professional, Statutory, and Regulatory Bodies (PSRBs) indications if applicable and their impact upon the student and/or the award.

**Approval and Monitoring**

Subject to College’s approval, the GEO will prepare an agreement based on the University’s approved template for this type of agreement and this will be issued to the provider (academic institution). The admission of student admitted for advanced entry through articulation is subject to academic performance monitoring. Details on the monitoring and reporting are under review and will be provided in due course.

1. Articulation: “An arrangement where learners enrolled on a designated course at a partner provider are automatically entitled (subject to academic criteria) to be admitted with advanced standing to a subsequent part or year of a degree-awarding body’s course. ‘Advanced standing’ is the recognition of previous successful study, reducing the number of modules needed to complete the course.” [Higher Education Credit Framework for England: Advice on Academic Credit Arrangements May 2021](https://www.qaa.ac.uk/docs/qaa/quality-code/higher-education-credit-framework-for-england.pdf?sfvrsn=527fd781_8) [↑](#endnote-ref-1)
2. Academic Strategy Committee (AC) Paper ASC0156 [↑](#endnote-ref-2)
3. An articulation agreement is legally binding agreement between two academic institutions, under which a student is admission admitted to specified undergraduate and postgraduate programme subject to meeting the academic criteria set out by the College. [↑](#endnote-ref-3)
4. **Educational and Statutory Oversight Links**

   |  |  |
   | --- | --- |
   | [The Register – Office for Students](https://www.officeforstudents.org.uk/advice-and-guidance/the-register/) | [International Quality Assurance Agencies and Networks](https://intra.brunel.ac.uk/s/GEO/_layouts/15/WopiFrame.aspx?sourcedoc=%7b29938FAB-91F7-4118-90F1-FA608EA2026A%7d&file=Directory%20of%20International%20Quality%20Assurance%20Agencies%20and%20Networks.pdf&action=default) |
   | [UK Quality Assurance Agency (QAA) Reports](https://www.qaa.ac.uk/en/reviewing-higher-education/quality-assurance-reports) | [British Council Services for International Marketing](https://education-services.britishcouncil.org/) |
   | [UK ENIC (Formally NARIC)](https://www.enic.org.uk/) | [UK Sponsor Register of Student Sponsors](https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/1034421/2021-11-18_-_Student_and_Child_Student.csv/preview) |
   | [Useful Reference for Education Ministries Worldwide](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_education_ministries) | [UK.GOV Company Information](https://find-and-update.company-information.service.gov.uk/) |

   [↑](#endnote-ref-4)
5. **University Rankings**

   |  |  |
   | --- | --- |
   | [Times Higher World University Rankings](https://www.timeshighereducation.com/world-university-rankings) | [ISR Chinese University Rankings](https://intra.brunel.ac.uk/s/GEO/_layouts/15/WopiFrame.aspx?sourcedoc=%7bB3416694-6F3F-4D06-A81F-0142E4A80D94%7d&file=ISR_Chinese%20Uni%20Rankings_%20NETBIG%202.xls&action=default) |
   | [QS World University Rankings](https://www.topuniversities.com/university-rankings/world-university-rankings/2022) | [Shanghai Ranking](https://www.shanghairanking.com/rankings/arwu/2021) |

   [↑](#endnote-ref-5)
6. Confidential Articulation Agreement Reference Template. Please note that you an informal reference supported by email may also be submitted if appropriate. [↑](#endnote-ref-6)