



Human Sciences Admissions Feedback 2021-22

Summary

Applications		218
Shortlisted		108
Offers	2022 entry	34 [including 5 open offers]
	2023 entry	0

Mansfield made four offers for 2022 entry, including one open offer.

Shortlisting

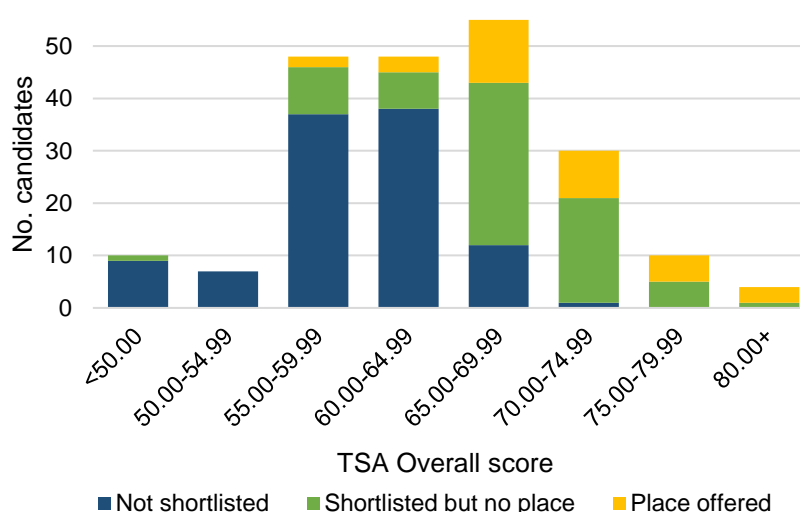
Candidates were shortlisted using their scores on the Thinking Skills Assessment and their UCAS applications, including any relevant contextual information. 108 applicants were shortlisted, which was approximately 3.2 candidates per place.

Thinking Skills Assessment

All candidates were required to sit the Thinking Skills Assessment on 4 November 2021. The Thinking Skills Assessment is a single two-hour test consisting of two sections: the first section (90 minutes) contains multiple choice questions which test problem-solving skills such as numerical and spatial reasoning, and critical thinking; in the second section (30 minutes) candidates are asked to choose one essay question from a choice of four and write a response. More information about the test can be found [here](#).

The mean TSA multiple choice score for all Human Sciences applicants (excluding those who did not sit the test) was 64.0. For shortlisted applicants the mean was 68.6, and 70.2 for those who went on to receive an offer.

The distribution of marks was as follows:



Note: graph excludes candidates who did not sit the TSA (n=6).

UCAS Application

Tutors assessed candidates on the basis of their qualifications and predicted grades, personal statement, and reference. Tutors looked for: high marks or predictions at GCSE (A*/9/8s) and A level (AAA+) or equivalent; a reference recommending the applicant as outstanding among their peers; a personal statement suggesting strong evidence of interest and enthusiasm for their current studies or activities, extending beyond what they had done at school. Each candidate's individual circumstances were considered when assessing their application.

A shortlist was created using TSA scores and assessment of the UCAS application and any relevant contextual information. The shortlist was then discussed at a meeting of Human Sciences tutors from across the colleges, and a final list was agreed. A number of candidates were reallocated to a different college at this point, to ensure that the ratio of shortlisted applicants per place was approximately the same at each college.

Interview

All shortlisted candidates were asked to attend two interviews remotely with two different colleges. Some applicants also received a third interview from a panel of Human Sciences tutors from across colleges.

In the interviews tutors looked for: potential for independent thinking; ability to follow an argument; skill in communication and listening; evidence of ability to respond in a thoughtful way to unpredictable questions and ideas; intellectual curiosity; openness of mind; enthusiasm for their current studies or activities; evidence of interest beyond current studies; evidence of ability to cope successfully with both the quantitative and the essay-based components of the course.

Offers

Offers were made to candidates who demonstrated the most potential to perform well on the course, on the basis of their UCAS form, TSA scores, interview performance and any other relevant contextual information. The final list of offers was agreed at a meeting of Human Sciences tutors from across the colleges.

As part of the process, some candidates were reassigned to a college other than the one they had applied to or been allocated: 32.4% of candidates who were made offers received their offer from a college other than their first-choice college. Most candidates were made a conditional offer; for details of the standard offer please see [here](#).