

## **FAQ: Frequently Asked Questions**

### ***Students***

#### **How do I gain OTHM qualifications?**

To gain an OTHM qualification you must have studied an OTHM authorised course at an officially listed OTHM study centre. Only under these circumstances are you able to sit OTHM examinations.

#### **What qualifications do I need to take an OTHM course?**

The Introductory Certificate does not have any formal entry requirements, only that you be interested in tourism and hospitality industry.

Please see the individual course information sheets for information on each level.

However, we recommend English language competence at ILETS 5 when starting the programme. (Students thinking of joining the LSBU using OTHM qualifications will need English Language at IELTS level 6).

#### **How long will it take me to complete each course?**

The minimum guided learning time (lecture and tutorials) for an OTHM module is 45 hours. How and when these 45 'Guided Learning Hours' are taught will depend on the college you apply to.

There is one module on OTHM Intro Certificate, four modules on Certificate, and six modules each on both the Diploma and Higher Diploma.

*In addition, students will need to spend at least a further 15 hours in self guided study.*

#### **Do I need to become an OTHM member in order to study an OTHM courses?**

Yes, you will need to become a Student Member of OTHM. For your first year of membership you will need to pay a registration fee according to the level of course that you will be studying. In subsequent years of study you need only renew your membership.

## **Will I be able to apply to a UK university to study further in tourism and hospitality management?**

Yes, OTHM has established agreements with London South Bank University (LSBU) and Huddersfield University who will confirm your exemptions and entry points into their Bachelor's degree and Master's degree course programmes.

OTHM students need to have completed the OTHM Certificate, Diploma, or Higher Diploma when applying for entry into a particular year of the university programmes.

## **Can OTHM help me get employment in the industry?**

For students studying at UK study centres, OTHM may be able to introduce students to employers in the travel, tourism and hospitality industry as work placements in order to gain valuable experience.

Each employer will complete their own recruitment procedures. Care must be taken that as students you do not exceed the working hours laid down in Home Office guide lines.

(There is an OTHM registration fee of £40.00 for the introduction service via OTHM London).

## **English is not my first language so what level of English will I need to take an OTHM course?**

As a student you will be writing your projects and examinations in the English medium.

We therefore recommend:

1. An IELTS –English language level 5 as a minimum when starting the OTHM Introductory Certificate.
2. IELTS 5 when starting OTHM Certificate with IELTS 6 level on completion of the OTHM Certificate.
3. Students entering at Diploma or Higher Diploma will need IELTS 6 or equivalent as a recommend minimum.

*Students thinking of joining the LSBU using OTHM qualifications will need English Language at IELTS level 6.*

## **How will I enter for OTHM exams and receive my exam result?**

Your exam results will be issued by OTHM but released to you via the delivery centre where you completed your OTHM course.

You will also enter your examinations via your delivery centre. You will sit your exams at your UK OTHM listed centre or at a British Council centre overseas.

## **Do I have to attend every lecture?**

Students on British student visas are expected to achieve 100% attendance, unless on sick absence.

OTHM requires you to attend a minimum of 85% of the 45 hours of classes as stipulated for each module. Poor course attendance is likely to be reflected in low achievement or failure on the programme.

NB: The OTHM 85% requirement is NOT an alternative to the British government requirement of 100% attendance for students studying in the UK.

## **Do I have to sit an exam to gain OTHM qualifications?**

Yes, in order to obtain an OTHM qualification you will need to complete a project and/or an unseen examination depending on the module.

1. For OTHM Intro Certificate you need to complete a project plus an on-line examination.
2. For OTHM Certificate and Diploma you are assessed by written examination.
3. For OTHM Higher Diploma you are assessed by 5 written examinations and a research project.