Placement Test

Overview:

A placement test is held in the Foundation Program for new students to determine the level to which they will be enrolled. The students are required to take 3 tests - English, Mathematics and Information Technology tests.

FP Placement tests for the new students will be held on four days, as shown in the FP academic calendar. Prospective students will be informed to attend the test on either of these dates through SMS. If the student is not willing to take placement test, he/she shall be placed directly into Level 1. No claims for a higher level will be entertained thereafter.

However, after one week of attending classes and on the recommendation of the instructor, students may be given the opportunity to take a challenge test. Depending on the results of the challenge test, students will be placed in the appropriate level. Students are advised not to miss the placement tests as this may cause them to forfeit the chance to take the test again that term.

English:

The Cambridge English Placement Test is 90 minutes' online test produced by Cambridge English Language Assessment. It is a comprehensive, international test of English ability that covers the core communication skills.

Math and Information Technology:

The Math and IT test is two hours long. It will be conducted on the same day along with the English placement test. This test will include the following:
- Basic Mathematics/Applied Mathematics/Pure Mathematics.
- Basic knowledge of Microsoft Windows and Office.

Placement in and Exemption from the FP

Students are placed in the appropriate level or exempted from the FP based on their results in the placement tests for English, Mathematics and IT.

1. **Placement criteria for English**

Regular Program		
Criterion	**Level**	**Remarks about Exemption**
0-32	1	Students who (a) score 50+ on the Cambridge University Online Placement Test (CEPT) or (b) produce either an IELTS certificate with a band of 5.
33-42	2	
43-49	3	
50+	Exempt	
Law Program, Education Program, Computer Science Program and Social Work Program		**Remarks about Exemption**
0-32	1	Students who (a) score 33+ on the Cambridge University Online Placement Test (CEPT) or (b) produce either an IELTS certificate with a band of 5.
33+	Exempt	

2. Placement criteria for Mathematics

Regular Program		
Criterion	**Level**	**Remarks about Exemption**
0-39	pre	Students who score 60+ on the Moodle-Based Mathematics Placement Test are exempted from the FP's Mathematics program.
40-49	1	
50-59	2	
60+	Exempt	
Law Program, Education Program, Arabic Program and Social Work Program		**Remarks about Exemption**
0-49	1	Students who score 50+ on the Moodle-Based Mathematics Placement Test are exempted from the FP's Mathematics program.
50+	Exempt	
Computer Science Program		
0-39	Pre	
40-49	1	
50+	Exempt	

3. Placement criteria for IT

Criterion	**Level**	**Remarks about Exemption**
0-49	Pre	Students who (a) score 70+ on the Moodle-based IT Placement Test, (b) provide an International (English) IC3 or (c) provide a Domestic (Arabic) IC3 or any other equivalent certificates AND achieve a 60% score on an in-house IT Challenge Test are exempted from the FP's IT program.
50-59	1	
60-69	2	
70+	Exempt	
Law Program, Education Program, Arabic Program and Social Work Program		**Remarks about Exemption**
0-59	1	Students who (a) score 60+ on the Moodle-based IT Placement Test, (b) provide an International (English) IC3 or (c) provide a Domestic (Arabic) IC3 or any other equivalent certificates AND achieve a 60% score on an in-house IT Challenge Test are exempted from the FP's IT program.
60+	Exempt	
Computer Science Program		
0-49	Pre	
50-59	1	
60+	Exempt	

Promotion and Exit Policy

Students are evaluated regularly to help determine their progress and attainment of the set goals. They are provided with every opportunity to be promoted to upper levels based on the promotion policy requirements stated in each syllabus. Students who fulfill the promotion requirements of English Level 3 are eligible to exit the FP and join their desired university majors. However, all English Level 3 students are required to take an Exit Exam as part of the promotion requirements to the University.

Please note the following:

1. The validity of these international tests like IELTS is limited to two years from the date of taking the exam. Applicants must submit the original certificate of test results and the University reserves the right to verify the authenticity of the certificate. Holders of IELTS certificate issued by institutions outside Oman may be asked to take the CEPT.
2. Students can progress to their majors in the College only after successfully completing all FP requirements (English, Maths and IT).
3. Students majoring in Architectural Engineering must score no less than 70% in English, Math and IT to be able to proceed to college.