

## Admissions Policy and Process

The Hansard Society welcomes applications from individuals who have a genuine interest in politics and a desire to develop a comprehensive understanding of representative democracy. Applicants should have the ability and discipline to work in a highly-charged political environment. The programme assumes no previous knowledge of British politics nor must applicants have any experience of political internships. However, the level of exposure to leading figures in British politics and academia, and the need to sometimes undertake work of a sensitive or confidential nature, make maturity, personal integrity and commitment essential traits both for admission and for success in the programme. In assessing applications, the Hansard Society looks for evidence of academic achievement, intellectual and intercultural curiosity and personal qualities that will contribute both to individual attainment and to the group dynamic of this unique programme.

Hansard Society Scholars is committed to equal opportunities in respect of its admissions and all aspects of programme provision, including teaching, examining and student services. The Hansard Society does not discriminate against any applicant on the grounds of race, nationality, ethnic origin, religious or political belief, gender, sexual orientation or disability. Nor does it discriminate on the basis of age or marital status, notwithstanding compliance with UK immigration law. The Hansard Society at all times seeks to prohibit any form of discrimination and ensure that its staff, students and stakeholders treat others with respect.

Applicants must be in their second or third year of a three or four year undergraduate degree programme and must be registered at a degree-granting institution at the time of the programme. Applicants from North American institutions must have a minimum of 3.0 cumulative grade point average.

Applicants must apply online and upload the following documents to their online application:

- A supporting personal statement of approximately 250-500 words explaining why you want to participate on the programme, what you hope to bring to it and what you hope to achieve from it
- An up-to-date Resume / CV
- A university/college transcript
- A writing sample; this should be a 500 – 1500 word extract from an academic assignment you have previously submitted
- You must arrange for your two referees to upload your recommendations (one academic)

Applicants from non-English speaking countries are required to submit a recent secure English Language Test (SELT) certificate from an approved UKVI test centre, i.e. IELTS, in reading, writing, listening and speaking at CEFR level B2. However, as of 6<sup>th</sup> April 2016, study abroad students who are third party nationals in the USA are exempt from the SELT requirement as long as they meet the following requirements. They must be: 1) studying at degree level at an overseas higher education institution in the USA; 2) applying for a Tier 4 (General) visa for a study abroad programme in the UK as part of their American degree; 3) participating on a study abroad in the UK for six months or less.

Successful applicants who accept our offer of admission must also submit via email or post:

- The photo and personal details page from your passport
- Your high school transcript (for your internship pass security clearance process)
- Signed Terms and Conditions

The Hansard Society operates a rolling admissions process and aims to provide admissions decisions via email within two weeks of uploading of the application and supporting documentation as above.