

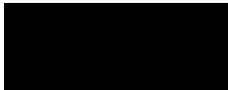


University of East Anglia

Information Compliance (ITCS)

The Library
University of East Anglia
Norwich Research Park
Norwich NR4 7TJ
United Kingdom

Email: foi@uea.ac.uk
Tel: +44 (0) 1603 591143
Web: <http://www.uea.ac.uk>



07 February 2019

Dear 

Freedom of Information Act 2000 – Information request (ref: FOI_19-044)

We have now considered your request of 29 January 2019 for the following information concerning the University’s MA Global Intercultural Communication course:

Question 1 – *‘How many students are taking this course in 2018/19?’*

Question 2 - *How many of the students are international and,*

Question 3 - *From which countries do they come in 2018/19?’*

Our response to your questions is as follows:

Answer 1 – 9 students are attending this course in 2018/19

Answer 2 – 6 students are from outside of the United Kingdom

Answer 3 – *[Information exempted pursuant to s.40(2), Freedom of Information Act]*

On this occasion, it is not possible to provide a response to question 3. The Act contains a number of exemptions that allow public authorities to withhold certain information from release. We have applied the following exemption to this part of your request.

Exemption	Reason
s.40(2), Personal information	Disclosure of some of the requested information would be contrary to the requirements of the General Data Protection Regulation

Information about an identifiable individual’s nationality constitutes their personal data. While we appreciate you have not requested information about these students as individuals, your question relates to only a small number of people, who may be identifiable from this information alone, or in combination with other information made available elsewhere.

When a request is made under FOIA for information that includes personal data we are required to consider whether disclosing those data would breach the data

protection principles contained within Article 5(1) of the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR).

In considering a disclosure under FOIA, the University must also take into account that any information released under the Act will be placed in the public domain, through our own disclosure log or by other means.

We believe that disclosure of the requested information would be contrary to the requirements of Article 5(1)(a) of the GDPR; namely that information must be processed lawfully, fairly and in a transparent manner in relation to the data subjects.

We have followed the Information Commissioner's guidance¹ in assessing whether it is fair to disclose this information under FOIA. This involves considering the nature of the information, the expectations of and potential harm (of disclosure) to the data subjects, and how any legitimate public interest in this information is balanced against the rights and freedoms of the data subjects.

We note that none of the requested information is publicly available. The students would not have had a reasonable expectation that their nationalities would be made public, either now or at the time they applied for the course. Additionally, we have not identified a lawful basis that would allow or require us to disclose this information. We have therefore concluded that disclosure of this information would be in contravention of the GDPR.

We hope this information will meet your requirements, however if you are not satisfied you have the right of appeal. If you wish to appeal, please set out in writing your reasons for appealing and send to the above address. You must appeal within 40 working days of the date of this letter. In line with section 5.3 of the Freedom of Information Code of Practice, we are not obliged to accept internal reviews after this date.

You also have a subsequent right of appeal to the Information Commissioner's Office. Further information is available on their website: https://ico.org.uk/Global/contact_us, or by telephone on 0303 123 1113.

Please note that any material over which UEA has copyright is released on the understanding that you will comply with all relevant copyright rules regarding reproduction and/or transmission of the information provided.

Please quote our reference given at the head of this letter in all correspondence.

Yours sincerely

Paul Cutting
Information Compliance Specialist
University of East Anglia

¹ <https://ico.org.uk/media/for-organisations/documents/1213/personal-information-section-40-and-regulation-13-foia-and-eir-guidance.pdf>