



# **Assessment Regulations for Ulster University**

## **Foundation Degree Programmes**

# **ULSTER UNIVERSITY REGULATIONS**

## **1. Examination and Assessment**

- 1.1 The performance of candidates shall be assessed by the Board of Examiners in accordance with the Regulations Governing Examinations in Programmes of Study.
- 1.2 Candidates shall be assessed in the modules for which they have enrolled in each year of study.
- 1.3 Within each module candidates shall be assessed by coursework or a combination of coursework and examination.
- 1.4 The pass mark for the module shall be 40%. Where a module is assessed by a combination of coursework and examination a minimum mark of 35% shall be achieved in each assessment element. Course regulations may specify that a mark of 40% shall be achieved in each assessment element and/or in specified components. Some or all assessment components may be marked on a pass/fail basis.

## **2. Submission of Coursework**

- 2.1 Coursework shall be submitted by the dates specified by the Course Committee.
- 2.2 Students may seek prior consent from the Course Committee to submit coursework after the official deadline; such requests must be accompanied by a satisfactory explanation, and in the case of illness by a medical certificate. This application shall be made to the Course Director.
- 2.3 Coursework submitted without consent after the deadline shall not normally be accepted.

## **3. Progression**

Boards of Examiners shall determine the academic progress of candidates on the basis of their performance in assessments. Programme regulations shall prescribe the conditions under which candidates shall be permitted to proceed from one year to the next.

Subject to 4 hereof, candidates are required to pass all modules in each year of study in order to proceed to the next. Progress from semester 1 to semester 2 is automatic.

#### 4. Re-examination

Candidates who fail to satisfy the Board of Examiners during the programme may be permitted at the discretion of the Board to take such supplementary written examinations and complete such coursework or other assessment requirements as it may prescribe. Such candidates may be exempted at the discretion of the Board from the normal attendance requirements

#### 5. Consequences of Failure

Where candidates are required to repeat coursework or to take a supplementary examination the original mark in the failed coursework component or examination shall be replaced by a mark of 40% or the repeat mark, whichever is the lower for the purpose of calculating the module result.

##### Consequences of Failure in each year, other than the final year

The consequences of failure shall normally be as follows:

###### ***Failure at the First Attempt***

Failure in modules with an overall value of up to and including 60 credit points

Repeat specified examinations and/or coursework in the failed modules (examinations August).

Failure in modules with an overall value of more than 60 and up to and including 80 credit points

Repeat specified examinations and/or coursework in the failed first semester module(s) (examinations January) and of specified examinations and/or coursework in the second semester modules (examinations May) with or without attendance.

Failure in modules with an overall value of more than 80 credit points

Withdraw from the programme.

###### ***Failure at the Second Attempt***

Failure in modules with an overall value up to and including 20 credit points

Provided that the module(s) are not prerequisite(s) which must be passed, proceed to next year and repeat **once only** specified examination(s) and/or coursework in the failed module(s) at the next examination period (January or May).

Failure in modules with an overall value up to and including 40 credit points (except as above)

Repeat **once only** specified examination(s) and/or coursework in the failed module(s) at the next examination period (January or May or August if semester already repeated) with or without attendance (progress to next year not permitted).

Failure in modules with an overall value of more than 40 credit points

Withdraw from the programme.

### **Failure in the Final Year**

In the final year the consequences of failure shall normally be as follows:

Failure in modules with an overall value up to and including 40 credit points

Repeat *once only* specified examination(s) and / or coursework in the failed module(s) (examinations August).

Failure in modules with an overall value of more than 40 credit points

Withdraw from the programme.

## **6. Classification of Final Result**

- 6.1 The results of candidates who have successfully completed the Foundation Degree shall be graded by order of merit as Pass with Distinction, Pass with Commendation or Pass.
- 6.2 The assessment results for the final level of the programme (Level 5) shall determine the overall grading. The weighting of each module's contribution to the final result shall be determined by the module's credit value.
- 6.3 The following shall be the minimum overall percentages used to determine the final gradings of candidates:

Pass with Distinction	70%
Pass with Commendation	60%
Pass	40%

- 6.4 Provided that they have not been exempted for modules amounting to more than 60 credit points, candidates who do not satisfy the requirements for the award of a Foundation degree and have passed appropriate modules at level 4 shall be assessed for the award of a Certificate of Higher Education.

## **Classification of Final Result (exit award)**

The following shall be the minimum overall percentages used to determine the final gradings of candidates.

### **Certificate of Higher Education**

Pass with Distinction	70%
Pass with Commendation	60%
Pass	40%

## **7. Illness and other Extenuating Circumstances**

### **7.1 In any year other than final year**

The Board of Examiners may in the case of candidates who are prevented by illness or other sufficient cause from taking or completing the whole or part of the assessment during the programme, or whose results are substantially affected by illness or other sufficient cause:

- (a) permit the candidate to complete, take, or repeat the assessment in one or more modules at an approved subsequent date, OR
- (b) deem the candidate to have passed and recommend the award of an Aegrotat Certificate of Higher Education where available as an exit award.

### **7.2 Final year**

The Board of Examiners may in the case of candidates who are prevented by illness or other sufficient cause from taking or completing the whole or part of the final stage assessment or whose results are substantially affected by illness or other sufficient cause:

- (a) permit the candidate to complete, take, or repeat the assessment in one or more modules at an approved subsequent date; OR
- (b) deem the candidate to have passed and recommend an Aegrotat Foundation Degree.

7.3 Before an Aegrotat award is recommended a candidate must have indicated that he or she is willing to accept the award.

## **8. Revisions to Regulations**

These regulations may be revised during the student's period of registration in accordance with the procedures approved by Senate.