

7. AWARD CLASSIFICATION

7.1 General Regulations

1. Module Assessment Boards will determine module marks and report them to Progression and Award Boards as described in Section 3 of this Framework.
2. Unless stated otherwise in the approved programme specification, the Progression and Award Board will recommend classifications of its degrees and other academic awards in accordance with these regulations.
3. Where there is insufficient evidence to determine the class of an award but the Progression and Award Board is nevertheless satisfied that the student would have qualified for the award for which he or she was a candidate, had it not been for illness or other sound reason, an *unclassified Aegrotat award* may be recommended.

7.2 Honours Degree Classification (current version)

1. These regulations apply, with effect from 1st October 2013, to the classification of all bachelor degrees with honours.
2. If a student first registered before 1st September 2014 and has not interrupted his or her studies, the Progression and Award Board may also consider the regulations in force on the date of the student's first registration (see Section 7.3 of this Framework) and recommend the higher of the two possible classifications. A student who interrupts his or her studies will be subject to the classification regulations in force at the time of the resumption of studies.
3. All module marks at Levels 5 and 6 for non-top-up degrees will be presented to the Progression and Award Board as a whole number with any decimal below x.50 being rounded down and any decimal of x.50 or above being rounded up. For top-up degrees, all module marks at Level 6 will be presented in the same way.

4. If exceptionally a student has acquired more than the credits required at each of these levels, the Progression and Award Board will first take account of the marks in all compulsory modules for the award and title for which the student is registered, then the student's best performance in optional modules associated with that award and title, up to the total credit requirement. The Board will disregard all other marks.
5. The Progression and Award Board will recommend the classification calculated from all credits obtained at the applicable levels in accordance with the following classifications:

70+ First Class

60-69 Upper Second Class

50-59 Lower Second Class

40-49 Third Class

The overall weighted average will be presented at the Progression and Award Board as a whole number with any decimal below 0.5 being rounded down and any decimal of 0.5 or above being rounded up. The classification will then be determined by the following formula:

- The best marks achieved in 80 credits pursued at Level 6 will be given a weighting of 3 (i.e. they will count three times).
- The marks achieved in the remaining credits pursued at Level 6 and the best marks achieved in 40 credits pursued at Level 5 will be given a weighting of 2 (i.e. they will count twice).
- The marks achieved in the remaining credits pursued at Level 5 will be given a weighting of 1 (i.e. they will count once).

In exceptional circumstances, where a programme includes more than 120 credits pursued at Level 6, a proportional calculation will be applied.

6. If a student is admitted to Level 6 (whether to a top-up degree or, with credit, to a non-top-up degree), the classification will be determined by the following formula with regard to credits pursued at Level 6 only:
- The best marks achieved in 40 credits pursued at Level 6 will be given a weighting of 3 (i.e. they will count three times).
 - The marks achieved in the next best 40 credits pursued at Level 6 will be given a weighting of 2 (i.e. they will count twice).
 - The marks achieved in the remaining credits will be given a weighting of 1 (i.e. they will count once).

In exceptional circumstances, where a programme includes more than 120 credits pursued at Level 6, a proportional calculation will be applied.

7. If a student was admitted with credit other than as described in Sections 7.2.6 above, mean values will be calculated on the remaining credits *pro rata* and the Progression and Award Board will recommend the highest classification available, following as closely as possible the formula described in Section 7.2.5 above.
8. Modules that are not assigned a numeric mark, e.g. pass/fail modules, or are rated at Levels other than 5 or 6, do not count towards degree classification. Mean values will be calculated on the remaining credits *pro rata* and the Progression and Award Board will recommend a classification, following as closely as possible the formulae described in Section 7.2.5 above.
9. Where the overall weighted average falls within 1% of a higher classification, the higher classification will be applied.

7.3 Honours Degree Classification (previous version)

1. The previous Honours Degree Classification regulations may be applied to a student who first registered before 1st September 2014 and has not interrupted his or her studies. As explained in Section 7.2.2 of this Framework,

the Progression and Award Board may consider both the classification of Honours using the current regulations (as set out in Section 7.2 of this Framework) and the regulations in force on the date of the student's first registration (as set out below) and recommend the higher of the two possible classifications. However, in the great majority of cases the current regulations have proved to be more favourable.

2. Eligible students can obtain further details of the previous classification system by request to Registry Services.

7.4 Foundation Degree Classification

1. The credit-weighted mean of all module marks at Level 5, and the three best module marks at Level 4, will be presented to the Progression and Award Board as a whole number with any decimal below x.50 being rounded down and any decimal of x.50 or above being rounded up.
2. If exceptionally a student has acquired more than the credits required at Level 5, the Progression and Award Board will first take account of the marks in all compulsory modules for the award and title for which the student is registered, then the student's best performance in optional modules associated with that award and title, up to the total credit requirement. The Board will disregard all other marks.
3. The Progression and Award Board will condone modules in accordance with Section 6 of this Framework whether or not there are valid extenuating circumstances relating to their assessment, up to the maximum value of 20 credits.
4. The Progression and Award Board will recommend the classification calculated from the equally weighted mean of all Level 5 credits, and the three best module marks at Level 4, as follows:

70+ Foundation Degree with Distinction

60-69 Foundation Degree with Merit

5. Modules that are not assigned a numeric mark, e.g. pass/fail modules, do not count towards degree classification. Mean values will be calculated on the remaining credits *pro rata* and the Progression and Award Board will recommend a classification, following as closely as possible the formulae described in Sections 7.4.4 above.
6. Where the overall weighted average falls within 1% of a higher classification, the higher classification will be applied.

7.5 Masters Degree Classification

1. The credit-weighted mean of all module marks will be presented to the Progression and Award Board as a whole number with any decimal below x.50 being rounded down and any decimal of x.50 or above being rounded up.
2. If exceptionally a student has acquired more than the credits required for the award, the Progression and Award Board will first take account of the marks in all compulsory modules for the award and title for which the student is registered, then the student's best performance in optional modules associated with that award and title, up to the total credit requirement. The Board will disregard all other marks.
3. The Progression and Award Board will condone modules in accordance with Section 6 of this Framework, up to the maximum of value stated therein.
4. The Progression and Award Board will recommend the classification calculated from the equally weighted mean of all credits as follows:

70+ Masters Degree with Distinction

60-69 Masters Degree with Merit

50-59 Masters Degree Pass

5. If a student was admitted with credit, mean values will be calculated on the remaining credits *pro rata* and the Progression and Award Board will recommend the highest classification available, following the formula described in Section 7.5.4 above.
6. Modules that are not assigned a numeric mark, eg pass/fail modules, or are rated at levels other than Level 7, do not count towards degree classification. Mean values will be calculated on the remaining credits *pro rata* and the Progression and Award Board will recommend a classification, following as closely as possible the formula described in Section 7.5.4 above.
7. Where the overall weighted average falls within 1% of a higher classification, the higher classification will be applied.

7.6 Integrated Masters Degree Classification

The classification system applicable to Integrated Masters Degree awards will be determined by the student's point of exit. If a student exits with a Level 6 award (i.e. a Bachelor's Degree or Bachelor's Degree with Honours), then the undergraduate algorithm will apply as set out in Sections 7.2 and (where applicable) 7.3 of this Framework. If, however, a student exits with a Level 7 award (i.e. an Integrated Masters Degree) then the Masters Degree algorithm will apply, as set out in Section 7.5.1 of this Framework, and the classification will be determined by the credit-weighted mean of all module marks at Level 7 only.

7.7 Classification of other awards of the University

1. The Progression and Award Board will classify other academic awards of the University defined in the Regulations for Academic Awards as follows.

2. The credit-weighted mean of all module marks will be presented to the Progression and Award Board as a whole number with any decimal below x.50 being rounded down and any decimal of x.50 or above being rounded up.
3. If exceptionally a student has acquired more than the credits required for the award, the Progression and Award Board will first take account of the marks in all compulsory modules for the award and title for which the student is registered, then the student's best performance in optional modules associated with that award and title, up to the total credit requirement. The Board will disregard all other marks.
4. The Progression and Award Board will condone modules in accordance with Section 6 of this Framework whether or not there are valid extenuating circumstances relating to their assessment, up to the maximum of value stated therein.
5. The Progression and Award Board will recommend the classification calculated from the equally weighted mean of all credits as follows:

70+ with Distinction

60-69 with Merit

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