

## REGULATIONS

A student admitted onto a programme leading to an award must follow the instructions issued on behalf of the relevant School or Institute and be aware of the content of the Programme Document (often referred to as the Programme or 'Course' Handbook) which will contain further details on the Programme including, in some cases, further requirements associated with the award.

### 1. Application of Regulations

- 1.1 These regulations apply without modification to the degrees listed in §11 below.
- 1.2 These regulations apply also to the degrees listed in §12 below subject to alternative requirements described in the relevant Programme Document. The requirements for these degrees may vary only in respect of duration of study (§3) or progress (§7) to reflect the requirements of professional or statutory bodies.
- 1.3 These regulations also apply to the degrees listed in §13 below subject to alternative requirements described in the relevant Programme Document. The requirements for these degrees may vary only in respect of progress (§7) to reflect specific requirements as to the ability and preparedness of the candidate to undertake the particular types of independent work required within that programme.
- 1.4 In these regulations the taught courses and the dissertation(s) or other substantial pieces of work which comprise a programme are referred to as courses. References to a dissertation or dissertations in the remaining regulations include a reference to other substantial independent work.

### 2. Admission

Before being considered for admission to study for an award to which these Regulations apply, a candidate must normally have obtained a degree or equivalent.

### 3. Duration of Study

The minimum period of study for the award of a Masters degree is 12 calendar months. The maximum period for full-time study is 24 calendar months of registered study. The maximum period within which all students must complete the programme is five years from the date of initial registration.

### 4. Programme Components

- 4.1 In order to qualify for an award in respect of the programmes specified in §11, §12 and §13, a candidate must complete minimum credits as follows:
  - (i) For the award of a Masters degree: 180 credits, which includes both taught courses (amounting to at least 60 credits) and at least 60 credits in the form of one or more dissertations.
  - (ii) For the award of a Postgraduate Diploma: 120 credits.
  - (iii) For the award of a Postgraduate Certificate: 60 credits.
- 4.2 Taught courses will normally be undertaken during Semesters 1 and 2 (September – May) and are specified in the relevant Programme Document. The length and nature of each dissertation is as specified in the relevant Programme Document.

### 5. Minimum Requirement for the Award of Credits

Credits for courses contributing to a candidate's curriculum shall be awarded subject to the fulfilment of required conditions. The minimum requirements for the award of credits are set out in the Code of Assessment at §16.40 – §16.44 of the chapter *University Fees and General Information for Students* in the *University Calendar*.

### 6. Assessment

- 6.1 Regulations for assessment are, insofar as not modified by these regulations, governed by the Code of Assessment which is contained in the *University Fees and General Information for Students* chapter of the *University Calendar*.
- 6.2 Courses for which the candidate has registered must be counted towards the calculation of the candidate's grade point average for the purposes of regulations 7, 9 and 10 unless other provision is justified by good cause circumstances affecting the candidate.

This regulation applies where course registration continues:

- (a) on the date on which the first summative assessment for that course is to be submitted; or

(b) on such other date as may be specified in the course document for that course.

## **7. Candidates for a Masters Degree: Progress**

7.1 Subject to 7.2 below, a candidate will be permitted to progress to the remaining course(s) required for a Masters degree only if he or she has obtained a grade point average of 12 (equivalent to C3) or above in the courses assessed by the end of the second semester of study with at least 75% of the credits at Grade D3 or better and all credits at Grade F or above. The Programme Document may specify a course or courses in respect of which a specific grade is a minimum requirement of progression. Exceptionally, a candidate may be permitted to progress where it is judged that the candidate's performance offers a reasonable prospect of that candidate's reaching the standard required for the award of the Masters degree following reassessment.

7.2 A candidate who has commenced study in Semester 2 will be permitted to progress to the remaining course(s) required for a Masters degree only if he or she has obtained a grade point average of 12 (equivalent to C3) or above in the courses assessed by the end of Semester 2, with at least 75% of the credits at Grade D3 or better and all credits at Grade F or above. The Programme Document may specify a course or courses in respect of which a specific grade is a minimum requirement of progression. Exceptionally, a candidate may be permitted to progress where it is judged that the candidate's performance offers a reasonable prospect of that candidate's reaching the standard required for the award of the Masters degree following reassessment.

## **8. Reassessment of the Dissertation**

Where a candidate requires a higher grade in any dissertation in order to satisfy the requirements set out in §9.1 or §9.2 below, reassessment of that dissertation will be permitted on one occasion only, under such conditions as the Examiners may prescribe in each particular case. Normally, resubmission should be no later than 3 months after the date of the meeting of the Board of Examiners. There is no automatic entitlement to repeat any previous practical work associated with a dissertation or to undertake further practical work.

## **9. Requirements for the award of a Masters degree and rules for award of distinction and merit**

9.1 Where the structure of the programme includes 120 credits of taught courses a candidate will be eligible for the award of the degree on obtaining a grade point average of 12 (equivalent to C3) or above in the taught courses described in Regulation 4, with at least 75% of these credits at Grade D3 or better, and all credits at Grade F or above, and obtaining a grade D3 or better in the dissertation.

9.2 In other cases candidate will be eligible for the award of the degree on obtaining a grade point average of 12 (equivalent to C3) or above in 120 credits (including all taught courses) with at least 75% of these credits at Grade D3 or better, and all credits at Grade F or above, and obtaining a grade D3 or better in the remaining credits involving a dissertation.

9.3 A candidate will be eligible for the award with Merit if he or she has achieved at the first attempt a grade point average of 15 (equivalent to B3) or above for the taught courses and either:

- (a) a Grade B3 or above for the dissertation where there is only one dissertation; or
- (b) a Grade B3 or above for each dissertation where there is more than one .

Where the grade point average for the taught courses falls within the range 14.1 and 14.9 the Board of Examiners shall have discretion to make the award with Merit. No discretion can be applied in relation to the grade required for a dissertation.

9.4 A candidate will be eligible for the award with Distinction if he or she achieved at the first attempt a grade point average of 18 (equivalent to A5) or above for the taught courses and either:

- (a) a Grade A5 or above for the dissertation where there is only one dissertation; or
- (b) a Grade A5 or above for each dissertation where there is more than one .

Where the grade point average for the taught courses falls within the range 17.1 to 17.9 the Board of Examiners shall have the discretion to make the award with Distinction. No discretion can be applied in relation to the grade required for a dissertation.

## **10. Requirements for the award of a Postgraduate Diploma or Postgraduate Certificate and rules for award of distinction and merit**

10.1 The requirement for the award of a Postgraduate Diploma is a grade point average of 9 (equivalent to D3) in 120 credits, with not less than 80 of these credits at Grade D or above.

10.2 The requirement for the award of a Postgraduate Certificate is a grade point average of 9 (equivalent to D3) in 60 credits, with not less than 40 of these credits at Grade D or above.

10.3 These awards may be granted with Merit or Distinction according to the criteria specified in §9.2 and §9.3 above.