

University of Glasgow

Academic Standards Committee - Friday 18 February 2011

**Report from Meeting of Academic Regulations Sub-Committee – 1
November 2010 (ASC/2010/19)**

Mrs Ruth Cole, Clerk to the Sub-Committee

New and Amended Regulations for 2011-12 University Calendar

1. Definition of Joint Honours (ASC approval October 2010) and Principal with Subsidiary Honours degree (ASC approval November 2010)

For incorporation into Glossary of Terms and Generic Undergraduate Regulation

16. Award of an Honours Degree

16.1 To be eligible for the award of an Honours degree, the candidate must have obtained at least 480 credits, including at least 120 at level H, achieved a grade D3¹ or better for a piece of independent work worth at least 20 credits, and complied with the other requirements set out in the degree's supplementary regulations.

16.2 A Joint Honours degree is awarded following successful completion of an Honours programme in years three and four in which two subjects are studied in depth. At least 120 credits but no more than 140 credits are studied in each subject, and the subjects are normally equally weighted in the calculation of the final classification.* †

16.3 A Principal with Subsidiary Honours degree is awarded following successful completion of an Honours programme in years three and four where 180 credits will normally be in one subject with 60 in another, the weighting of the programme's scheme of assessment reflecting the respective credit values of the two subjects.*

16.24 A scheme of assessment may permit a candidate for Honours in a single subject to be assessed in not more than 25% of the total assessment for Honours from the scheme of assessment in one other subject.

16.35 Courses at level 3 or above which form a candidate's Honours programme must be counted towards the calculation of the candidate's Honours classification unless other provision is justified by good cause circumstances affecting the candidate.

This regulation applies where level 3 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.

*. [Additional footnote] The overall total number of credits undertaken in the Honours programme for programmes involving Law will be less than 240, as further described in programme documentation.

† Note to be included in the Guide to the Code of Assessment that where the total credits contributing to Honours exceeds 240 (up to a maximum of 280) all credits will contribute to the overall classification though each subject will be weighted as 50%.

¹ Any penalty imposed for the late submission of the piece of independent work will be ignored when determining whether this requirement has been met.

2. Provisions concerning Reassessment

The following change has been approved by ASC (November 2010) and the amended regulation is shown below:

- Threshold grade for reassessment on postgraduate certificate and diploma programmes to be C.

Amended regulations will be brought to the April meeting of ASC concerning the following proposed changes :

- Reassessment opportunity to be available on all assessment components of relevant course.
- Opportunity for coursework reassessment should be offered unless case made by Head of School. Opportunity to be available in same academic session.
- Format of reassessment.

Provision for Reassessment

16.6 In §16.7 - §16.8 below, the 'threshold grade' shall, unless otherwise specified in the regulations for a particular programme, be:

- (a) for undergraduate programmes, grade D;
- (b) for programmes governed by the generic regulations for taught masters degrees [and for programmes governed by the generic regulations for postgraduate certificates and diplomas](#), grade C.

16.7 A candidate who, by the end of the course, has failed to attain the threshold grade in that course shall normally be afforded the opportunity described in §16.8 below to improve that assessment result. There shall be no such opportunity in respect of courses which contribute to the candidate's honours classification except where permitted under the regulations governing a particular award; in such cases the original grade only shall contribute to the honours classification.

16.8 A candidate who has failed to attain the threshold grade shall, subject to the provision of §16.9 below, normally be permitted not more than one further attempt at each component of the assessment in which a grade lower than the threshold grade has been awarded. A second further attempt shall not be available as a matter of right but may be permitted at the discretion of the College responsible for the programme in accordance with its policies and procedures which shall be published in the relevant course documentation.

16.9 A candidate's right under §16.8 to a second opportunity to submit coursework for assessment may be constrained by the nature of the coursework, the context in which it may be generated, the feasibility of its being regenerated, and the integrity of the assessment as a whole. Any such constraint shall be published in the relevant course documentation.

16.10 Where, under §16.45 - §16.53 below, a Board of Examiners is satisfied that a candidate has been prevented by good cause from completing an assessment, that assessment shall not be counted as an attempt made by, or available to, the candidate.

16.11 Where a second or permitted subsequent attempt at an assessment is not available to the candidate until a subsequent academic session, the candidate shall not be entitled to assume that the content of the course will be unchanged, and it shall be the responsibility of the candidate, in conjunction with the School responsible for the course, to make appropriate preparation for that assessment.

16.12 Unless otherwise specified in the regulations for a particular programme, the final grade awarded for a course following reassessment shall be subject to the following provisions:

- (a) for undergraduate programmes, the number of grade points derived from a reassessment shall be not more than 10 and not less than the number of points determined by the grade originally achieved;

- (b) for programmes governed by the generic regulations for taught masters degrees, reassessment results for taught courses shall be capped so that the aggregation score² contributing to the final award shall not be greater than 12 and not be less than that achieved at the first attempt; there shall be no capping in relation to reassessment of the dissertation or other substantial independent work.

16.13 Further to §16.7 above, and notwithstanding §16.12 above, a candidate who, by the end of the course, requires an improved assessment result in order to complete a graduating curriculum in that academic session, shall normally be afforded the opportunity described in §16.8 above irrespective of the result obtained on completion of the course. This entitlement shall be limited to courses totalling no more than 60 credit points. On completion of the reassessment, the candidate shall be awarded the number of grade points corresponding to the grade achieved in the reassessment or, if higher, that corresponding to the grade achieved in the original assessment.

² Aggregation scores are aligned with primary grades and secondary bands in Schedule A, and an aggregation score of 12 corresponds with the grade/band C3.