

PPA2. UG - Bachelors Programmes - Rules for Progression and Award

1. Definitions

1.1 Module Mark

Following completion of all assessments for a module, the total mark will be calculated to the nearest integer on a scale of 0-100. This integer mark is used for all subsequent calculations.

1.2 Module Credit

All modules have a credit value. Students will be awarded the credit by achieving the module pass mark or through compensation.

1.3 Module Pass Mark

The module pass mark is 40 for C-level, I-level and H-level modules. For M-level modules the pass mark is 50.

1.4 Marginal Fail

A module failed by a margin of 10 marks or fewer.

1.5 Outright Fail

A module failed by a margin of more than 10 marks. A fail on a "pass/fail" module is also treated as an outright fail.

1.6 Academic Year Average

After completion of the Academic Year a credit-weighted year average is calculated and used for the degree-classification calculation.

1.7 Honours Degree Classification Bands

- First class 70-100
- Upper-second class 60-69
- Lower-second class 50-59
- Third class 40-49

1.8 Academic Year

For these UG programmes, an academic year is equivalent to a year's full-time study, 120 credits.

1.9 Stage

A stage may consist of one or more academic years. In particular:

- Stage 1 consists of academic years 1 and 2
- Stage 2 consists of academic year 3
- Stage 3 consists of academic year 4

2. Progression and Award Criteria

2.1 Progression

Progression from Academic Years 1 or 2 or 3 (Stages 1 or 2) to the next academic year requires all 120 credits specified for that year of the programme to have been awarded.

2.2 Award of Honours Degree

Awarding of an honours degree requires all 120 credits specified for Stage 3 (Academic Year 4) of the programme to have been awarded.

2.3 Ordinary Degree

If the criteria for an honours degree have not been met, an Ordinary Degree will be awarded if 60 credits at Level H at Stage 3 (Academic Year 4) have been awarded.

3. Compensation

3.1 Criteria

3.1.1 If a student fails one or more modules in an Academic Year, they may still be awarded the credit, as long as:

- A. they have failed no more than 40 credits in the academic year; and
- B. there are no outright fails; and
- C. the rounded credit-weighted mean over all modules taken in the academic year (including failed modules) is at least 40.

3.1.2 In the event that a student fails more than 40 credits in Stage 3/Academic Year 4 of a Bachelors programme, they may still be considered for the award of an Ordinary degree, in which case they will be eligible for compensation in a maximum of 20 credits provided that:

- A. they have passed a minimum of 40 credits without compensation; and,
- B. the rounded credit-weighted mean of the 60 credits with the highest module marks in Stage 3 is at least 40.

Students may also be eligible for the lower exit awards of CertHE and DipHE, depending on the number of credits passed.

3.2 Non-compensatable Modules

Compensation is not possible for any module designated as a “pass/fail” module, or as a “non-compensatable” module.

4. Reassessment

4.1 Reassessment for credit

If a student has failed one or more modules, and cannot be awarded the credit through compensation, they may, subject to the conditions below, be offered a reassessment opportunity.

The purpose of reassessment for credit is to enable the student to be awarded the credit for failed modules, either through passing the module or meeting the criteria for compensation.

4.2 Purpose

The purpose of reassessment is to enable the student to be awarded the credit for failed modules, either through passing the module or meeting the criteria for compensation. Reassessment is not offered for any other purpose.

4.3 Reassessment Limits

Students will only be offered a reassessment opportunity for failed module(s) if the total number of failed credits in the stage/academic year does not exceed 80 credits for Academic Year 1 or Academic Year 2 (Stage 1) or 60 credits for Stage 2/Academic Year 3 or Stage 3/Academic Year 4. Reassessment for a module is only allowed on one occasion.

4.4 Student Choice

If a student is offered a reassessment opportunity for a module and elects not to take the opportunity, the first attempt module mark will be used to calculate their progression towards an award. It is not possible for a student to revoke that decision or choose to take the reassessment at a later date.

4.5 Capstone Modules (CPM)

Undergraduate Capstone Modules will be included in standard award rules (i.e. eligible for compensation and reassessment subject to the overall number of credits passed in other modules) unless PSRB or other approved requirements do not permit compensation. In cases where they are non-compensatable, they are only reassessable as a marginal fail (30-39 for UG) with students expected to revise and resubmit within specified timeframe and mark to be capped at the pass mark (see section 14.6 of the [University Assessment Policy](#)).

4.6 Not-for-credit reassessment

Where a student has been awarded all the credits, but some modules have been compensated, they may be offered a reassessment opportunity in those compensated modules, as long as they have not previously been offered such a reassessment. This “not-for-credit” reassessment is optional and the results have no impact on the student’s progression, award mark or degree classification.

5. Treatment of Module Marks after Reassessment

5.1 For the purpose of awarding the module credits

The module mark(s) capped at the pass mark following reassessment will be used to determine if the student passes the module(s).

5.2 For the purpose of compensation

If, following reassessment, the student has still failed one or more modules, the compensation rules above will be applied. For this purpose, the module mark(s) from the best attempt at the assessment (capped at pass mark where a reassessment has taken place) will be used.

5.3 For the purpose of degree classification

In the calculation of academic year averages used for degree classification. Where the reassessment is taken, the module mark(s) from the best attempt at the assessment (capped at pass mark where a reassessment has taken place) will be used. This will be capped at 40 for C-level, I-level, H-level modules and 50 for M-level modules.

6. Calculation of degree classification

6.1 Principles of Classification

- A. Classification of degrees is based on the marks obtained during the student's best attempt at the assessment (capped at pass mark where a reassessment has taken place)
- B. The classification of degrees is performed numerically, based only on module marks, without any further academic judgement.
- C. Stage 1 (academic years 1 and 2) marks do not count towards degree classification..
- D. Only honours degrees are classified.

6.2 Classification

The total award mark will be calculated using the stage/academic year averages for Stage 2/Academic Year 3 and Stage3/Academic Year 4, weighted in the ratio 2:3. The classification is determined by the position of this award mark, rounded to the nearest integer, on the classification scale.

6.3 Borderline Cases

If the unrounded award mark, calculated in the ratio 2:3, falls within a band two marks below a classification boundary, then:

- A. The award mark is recalculated using the Stage 2/Academic Year 3 and Stage3/Academic Year 4 marks in the alternative ratios 1:1 and 1:2
- B. If, and only if, either recalculated award mark, rounded to the nearest integer, lies in a higher classification band, then the next highest classification will be awarded.

6.4 Mark below 39.5 but awarded all required credits

In the event that the rounded award mark falls below 39.5, but the student has met the criteria for award through being awarded all required credits, then the award mark will be set to 39.5 and a third-class honours degree will be awarded.