

COMPENSATION SCHEME AND PROGRESS POLICY

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the place of useful learning

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COMPENSATION SCHEME AND PROGRESS

In order to maintain academic standards and to ensure consistency of procedures and equitable treatment of students, the University operates a single defined compensation scheme for Undergraduate and Integrated Master degree programmes.

Compensation

- I. Except where not permitted for reasons of professional accreditation, University-wide compensation shall apply to Years 1, 2 and 3 of full-time, part-time and distance-learning programmes provided the total number of credits for the modules under consideration amounts to a minimum of 120. General, Honours and Masters Boards of Examiners will deal with matters relating to years 4 and 5 through individual, Faculty-specific, mechanisms. In respect of part-time study, compensation shall only be applied at the point on the programme at which a student has completed modules that amount to a total of 120 credits.
- II. To be eligible for compensation, a student is required to obtain a credit weighted average of module marks of at least 45%. All modules taken by a student shall be included in the calculation of the credit weighted average and shall be eligible for compensation except where marks are returned as a P or F, in which case these modules shall be discounted from the calculation of the credit weighted average and shall not be eligible for compensation.

If a mark is returned as 'A' for absent this will count as zero and included in the average mark for calculation of compensation.

- III. A student who has achieved a credit weighted average of at least 45% but has failed one or more modules shall be awarded a Pass by Compensation in modules totalling up to 20 credits where the marks obtained are in the 30%-39% range.

In the event of a student who is eligible for compensation obtaining marks in the range 30-39% for modules totalling more than 20 credits, then normally the highest fail marks shall be Passed by Compensation. However, the final decision regarding which mark will be compensated shall be at the discretion of the relevant Board of Examiners.

- IV. Where programme regulations or departmental/ School requirements specify that a Pass in a particular module is required for progress, then a Pass by Compensation shall not be sufficient to fulfil this requirement. A student shall be permitted to take the re-sit examination for a module in which a Pass by Compensation had already been achieved in order to fulfil a specific programme requirement i.e. in situations where a student selects a principal subject that requires a Pass in particular modules.

In the event of a student taking a re-sit examination for a module already Passed by Compensation at the first diet, then both marks e.g. June = 30% (Pass by Compensation) and September = 78% shall be recorded on the student's record, academic transcript and the respective June and September examination schedules.

- V. Compensation shall normally be applied at June meetings of Boards of Examiners only, that is, when the student's first attempts at the examination of the curriculum is being considered. In cases where a student has not obtained all of the credits for the modules in the course curriculum they were taking at the June meetings of Boards of Examiners, then re-sits in all failed modules (i.e. those not passed or passed by compensation) should be attempted at the next available opportunity (normally the August diet of examinations).
- VI. A student shall not be permitted to attempt the re-sit in any class for which credits have already been awarded (unless a pass is required for progress or professional accreditation), simply for the purpose of attempting to increase their credit weighted average.
- VII. Compensation shall only be applied to a student's first attempt at a class unless the student is re-attending the year and taking a full curriculum. A student taking examinations at a second or subsequent attempt as a result of being required to repeat a year, taking a partial curriculum, being registered in academic suspension or in registration with attendance, shall not be eligible for compensation in that session.
- VIII. In the event of a professional body providing written confirmation that it would not accredit a course operating a compensation scheme, then the course concerned may be exempted from the scheme.

Progress

At June meetings of General Boards of Examiners, the decisions 'Pass', 'Resit' or 'Withdraw' are available.

At September meetings of General Boards of Examiners, the decisions 'Pass' or 'May Proceed' are available for a student who has achieved sufficient credits to progress to the next year of study.