
Academic Standards and Quality Regulations 2019-20

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Amendments to quality processes were approved by Academic Council in December 2018 and March and June 2019. These amendments are anticipated to reduce the amount of staff time in responding to queries and streamlining quality processes.

All section references refer to the current regulations. The Academic Registrar has oversight of the academic standards and quality regulations and welcomes feedback and suggested improvements from colleagues. If you have any questions or comments, please direct these through Tara Black (tara.black@uhi.ac.uk) in the first instance.

SECTION 6 - FRAMEWORK FOR CURRICULUM DEVELOPMENT

Minor changes.

- Removal of 'must normally be passed in order to progress to the next SCQF level of study' from 6.11, third bullet point
- Relocation of normal duration of programmes (from Section 17b.54 to Section 6.24-25)
 - Removal of reference to maximum period of registration, and related regulations (17b.56-57).

SECTION 7 – PROGRAMME DEVELOPMENT

- Process has been streamlined and to reflect current practice.

SECTION 8 – PROGRAMME APPROVAL

- Process has been streamlined and to reflect current practice.

SECTION 12 – ACADEMIC LEADERSHIP: DEGREE PROGRAMMES AND MODULES

- Process updated to reflect current practice.

SECTION 14B – POSTGRADUATE REGULATIONS

- Clarification on circumstances in which total period of study for a research degree may be reduced (14b.13)
- Clarification on recognition of prior learning (RPL) (14b.12)
- Clarification on thesis submission criteria (14b.28)
- Removal of option to award Distinction for MRes degrees (14b.34)
- Clarification on timeframe for corrections / resubmission of thesis (14b.40).

SECTION 17B – ASSESSMENT AND PROGRESSION REGULATIONS (DEGREE PROGRAMMES)

- Removal of progression requirements associated with core modules (17b.104)
- Revised criteria for exam board consideration (17b.103, 17b.107, 17b.111)
- Amended criteria for the conferment of final awards (17b.18-19)
- Removal of number of modules permitted to be reassessed at SCQF Level 10 (17b.123)
- Permitting students to take (and pay for) alternative module option at SCQF Level 10 (17b.89)
- Exclusion of failed modules from Honours classification calculation (17b.129).

SECTION 18 - ASSESSMENT APPEALS PROCEDURE

- Revised stage 3 – appeal to chair of academic council (18.19, 18.20-23)
- Amended assessment appeals procedure flowchart
- Revised academic appeal proforma.

SECTION 19 - ACADEMIC MISCONDUCT POLICY AND PROCEDURE

- Revised point of contact for appeal to Deputy Principal (19.49-54)
- Addition of penalty to revoke a university award as a potential penalty for academic misconduct (19.57)
- Specific procedures for investigating allegations of academic misconduct involving PGR students, including appropriate penalties (19.33-42)
- Communication with external funding agencies (19.62).

APPENDIX A – SCOTTISH QUALITY ENHANCEMENT FRAMEWORK

- Updated to reflect current practice.