

## CORE REGULATIONS FOR UNDERGRADUATE PROGRAMMES

### DEFINITIONS

1. In these Regulations, the following definitions will apply:

A *Programme of Study* is an approved pathway of study leading to a particular named award of the University consisting of a defined combination of modules at an appropriate Level or Levels.

An *Integrated Programme of Study* is an approved pathway of study leading to a particular named award of the University consisting of a defined combination of modules at an appropriate Level or Levels, preceded by a period of intensive English Language instruction normally of 4, 8 or 12 weeks in duration.

A *Module* is a defined course of study which is self contained and which receives a specified number of credits. The minimum number of credits that a module is worth is 10 credits, and the credit value of all modules is 10 credits or a multiple of 10 credits. Credits are gained when a student has passed the module by satisfying the Board of Examiners in respect of the assessment requirements for the module concerned. Modules cannot be sub-divided and must be taken and assessed as a whole. Each module is set at a given Level of study appropriate to its learning outcomes and is assessed against appropriate criteria. Certain modules may be defined in Special Regulations as prerequisites for study of certain other modules at a higher Level. **Not all the modules listed in the Programme Regulations for a given degree programme may be available in any one year.** Students are not permitted to register for the same module on more than one occasion.

A *prerequisite* module is one which must be satisfactorily completed (i.e. passed) prior to registration for a defined module.

*Corequisite* modules must be studied together during the same year.

*Excluded combinations* of modules are modules both/all of which cannot be studied within the same programme.

A *Level* refers to the stage of study within a programme and hence to the year in which a particular module would typically be studied. It therefore indicates the intellectual challenge of a module or a year of study within a programme of study. The University's Level Descriptors provide a common framework for this. The following numbering is used in relation to Levels of study:

Level 0 = foundation year;

Level 1 = first year full-time undergraduate, typically equivalent to Certificate level (*FHEQ Level 4*);

Level 2 = second year full-time undergraduate, typically equivalent to Diploma level (*FHEQ Level 5*);

Level 3 = third year full-time undergraduate, typically equivalent to Honours degree level (*FHEQ Level 6*);

Level 4 = fourth year full-time undergraduate, typically equivalent to Master's degree level (*FHEQ Level 7*).

The content of an Integrated Master's programme will typically align with its bachelor programme equivalent during Levels 1 and 2, before diverging from Level 3 onwards.

Part-time students may take 2 or 3 years to complete their studies at each Level.

A *Year* is a period of study consisting of three terms, normally beginning in October. The defined Level of study remains fixed irrespective of the actual year of study of a particular student. So, for example, a student who has spent a year abroad may be studying at Level 3 in his/her fourth year of registration.

The *Assessment* of a module may be by examination alone and/or by other forms of summative assessment such as continuously assessed coursework, practicals, oral examinations and fieldwork. Each of these forms an *assessment component* of the module. The mode(s) of assessment for each module are approved by the relevant Faculty Education Committee and specified in the [Online Faculty Handbook](#). The assessment for a module must be attempted on the first occasion during or at the end of the academic year in which the module has been studied. The results of the assessment at the end of each module will be the basis for allowing students to progress from one Level to the next. The results of the assessment of all modules studied for Final Honours will be used in the classification of the degree to be awarded.

An *assessment element* is a defined piece of assessment which contributes a stated percentage of the mark for the module. This may be an examination paper, a coursework essay, a dissertation, a presentation etc. Several *assessment elements* may make up an *assessment component* (e.g. two exam papers may make up the examination *component* of the assessment; an essay and a presentation may make up the coursework *component* of the assessment).

*University Examinations* comprise the following:

- (a) *Preliminary Honours Examination*: the assessment of modules studied during Level 1 of a programme of study, to a total of 120 credits. This equates to Certificate Level;
- (b) *Final Honours Examination*: the assessment of modules studied during Level 2 of a programme of study (Diploma Level), Level 3 of a programme of study and, where appropriate, Level 4 of a programme of study, to a total of 120 credits per year. This includes examinations for the Ordinary degree where appropriate.

#### PRE-CONDITIONS FOR THE AWARD OF A DEGREE, DIPLOMA OR CERTIFICATE

2. In order to qualify for the award of a first degree of the University, a student must:
  - (a) be admitted to an approved programme of study in accordance with the University regulations for matriculation;
  - (b) study in accordance with the relevant regulations for the period of time required;
  - (c) pass in the period of time permitted the assessment requirements prescribed in the programme regulations of the named award for which he/she is registered.
3. To qualify for the award of a first degree, Diploma or Certificate a student must pass the assessments for the modules for which he/she is registered within the regulations for the programme of study to which he/she has been admitted. All students must register for, study and be assessed in modules to the value of 120 credits at each appropriate Level of study, irrespective of the target award. Thus a student registered for a Certificate, Diploma or Ordinary degree must study and be assessed in modules to the value of 120 credits at the relevant Level irrespective of the fact that the target qualification may be awarded on the basis of passes in fewer than 120 credits at the Level in question.
4. **A student must gain credits as follows subject to any specific requirements in the programme regulations:**  
**Certificate: a total of 120 credits at Level 1 or above;**  
**Diploma: a total of 240 credits including at least 90 at Level 2 or above and no more than 150 at Level 1;**  
**Ordinary Degree: a total of 300 credits including at least 60 at Level 3 or above and no more than 240 at Levels 1 and/or 2;**  
**Bachelor's degree with Honours: a total of 360 credits including at least 90 at Level 3 or above and no more than 270 at Levels 1 and/or 2;**  
**Integrated Master's degree: a total of 480 credits including at least 120 at Level 4 and no more than 360 at Levels 1 and/or 2 and/or 3.**

5. Note:

- (a) notwithstanding the credit values specified above, progression within an Honours degree from Level 1 to Level 2 requires 120 credits, from Level 2 to Level 3 requires 240 credits and from level 3 to level 4 requires 360 credits: see the relevant progression regulations below;
  - (b) a student who fails 20 credits at Level 1 may be awarded an Honours degree notwithstanding failure in 20 credits at Level 1. Such a student may therefore be awarded a Bachelor's degree with Honours having gained only 340 credits or an integrated Master's degree having gained only 460 credits;
  - (c) on an exceptional basis, a student who studied at Level 1 in 2019/20 or 2020/21 may have been permitted to proceed to Level 2 (on the Honours or Ordinary stream) with 80-100 credits in light of the impact of Covid-19. Such a student may be awarded an Honours degree notwithstanding failure in credits at Level 1. Such a student may therefore be awarded a Bachelor's degree with Honours having gained only 320 credits or an integrated Master's degree having gained only 440 credits;
  - (d) a student may exceptionally be awarded a degree, diploma or certificate despite having fewer than the approved number of credits where a concession has been granted or the Board of Examiners has exercised its discretion for the student to progress or to be given an award;
  - (e) credit may be awarded by compensation in accordance with the regulations below.
6. A student may be allowed to take a module whose Level differs from the level of study of the student him/herself (e.g. a student may take a Level 1 module as part of his/her Level 2 study.) This will normally be restricted to:
- (a) adjacent Levels of study such that a module is taken from the Level below the level of the student's level of study or a language module offered by the University's Centre for Language Study;
  - (b) a total of 30 credits at Level 2, and 30 credits at Level 3;
- and should not contravene the credit requirements for the programme of study concerned as set out in paragraphs 4 to 5 above.
7. Full-time undergraduate students will normally be admitted to study for a Bachelor's degree with Honours or an integrated Master's degree. They may, however, be admitted to study for a Certificate or Diploma. They may not be admitted to study for an Ordinary degree.
8. A degree will not be awarded on the basis of credits accumulated in isolation from registration for a named award. However a student may be awarded a named award at a lower level than the award for which he/she registered provided that:
- (a) the student has gained the necessary credits for the lower level award;
  - (b) the lower level award is defined in the regulations as an exit qualification in respect of the award for which the student has registered.
9. **A Certificate, Diploma or degree will be awarded only if the student has undertaken study within the Durham programme of at least two-thirds of the credits for the award.** Thus:
- (a) remission of modules by APL will not normally exceed 40 credits for each Level of study towards the target award;
  - (b) a matriculation concession for direct entry to the second or subsequent Level of a programme will not normally exceed one-third of the credits for the target award based on 120 credits per Level;
  - (c) the award of an exit qualification below the Level of the target award will not be permitted if the student has been remitted more than 40 credits per Level of study for the exit qualification.
10. Unless otherwise indicated in the programme regulations, all named undergraduate programmes:
- (a) lead to a Bachelor's with Honours or Master's degree;

- (b) may be awarded at Certificate or Diploma level;
- (c) may be awarded at Ordinary degree level;

in accordance with the relevant regulations.

11. **The award of a Certificate or Diploma is not conferred on a student progressing directly to the next Level of study.** Should the student leave the University before completing successfully the next Level of award, he/she will be formally awarded the parchment for the award for which he/she is eligible.
12. **Students' choice of modules may be subject to timetable and other constraints and shall be subject to approval by the relevant Chair of Boards of Studies and, in the case of students registered for the Combined Honours/Natural Sciences programmes, to approval by the appropriate Director/deputy to the Head of Faculty.**
13. **Where undergraduate modules are delivered entirely in a single term, students undertaking such modules should be permitted to take no more than 70 credits in total in a single term.**
14. In the case of students registered in the Faculty of Science at Level 1, no more than 80 credits should normally be required in one department.

#### ADDITIONAL PRE-CONDITIONS FOR PART-TIME STUDENTS

15. The following regulations apply to the registration of part-time students in addition to the regulations above for pre-conditions for the award of a degree, Diploma or Certificate:
  - (a) part-time students will be required to study each Level of the programme for which they are registered over a period of not less than two and not more than three years;
  - (b) part-time students may take modules to the value of not less than 40 credits and not more than 60 credits in each year of study;
  - (c) at the start of each Level, each part-time student must state the intensity of study with which he/she wishes to undertake the Level (i.e. either 40 or 60 credits per year). This may not be varied during the period of study for the Level except by concession;
  - (d) part-time undergraduate students at Level 1 will be required to register for the award of a Certificate of Higher Education. Following assessment in the Certificate the student may, subject to the relevant regulations:
    - (i) be eligible for the award of the Certificate;
    - (ii) be eligible to progress to study for a Diploma in Higher Education in the same named programme, subject to the availability of modules in that programme for part-time study at Level 2;
    - (iii) be required to leave the University;
  - (e) part-time students at Level 2 will be required to register for the award of a Diploma of Higher Education. Following assessment in the Diploma the student may, subject to the relevant regulations:
    - (i) be eligible for the award of a Diploma;
    - (ii) be eligible to progress to study for an Ordinary degree at Level 3 in the same named programme;
    - (iii) be eligible to progress to study for an Honours degree at Level 3 and, where applicable, Level 4 in the same named programme;
    - (iv) be required to leave the University;
  - (f) Study at degree level (Levels 3 and/or 4) is subject to the availability of modules in the named programme for part-time study at the relevant Level(s);  
if a part-time student who is eligible for the award of a Certificate or Diploma wishes to register for study for the next Level of award (i.e. Diploma or degree respectively), the award for which the student is eligible will not be made at that time. Should the student leave the University before completing successfully the

- next Level of award, he/she will be awarded formally the parchment for the award for which he/she is eligible;
- (g) a part-time student will not be allowed to progress from one year to the next to study for further modules at the same Level if he/she has not passed the modules already taken in sufficient number and at the standard required to proceed to the award for which he/she is registered or to the award of an Ordinary degree;
  - (h) part-time students may not be admitted to study for an Ordinary degree.

#### ADMISSION

16. All students registered for first degrees, Diplomas or Certificates must have complied with the University's Regulations for Matriculation, unless exempted from this requirement by the relevant programme regulations, and have been accepted by the Board(s) of Studies concerned, or the appropriate Director/deputy to the Head of Faculty for Combined Honours and Natural Sciences, for a named programme of study.

#### ACCREDITATION OF PRIOR LEARNING (APL)

17. See also the Regulations on APL within the Regulations for Matriculation.

#### INTEGRATED PRE-SESSIONAL PROGRAMME

18. Any programme of study may begin with a period of intensive English Language study, normally of 4, 8 or 12 weeks duration, as part of an integrated programme of study. Students undertaking this pre-sessional provision as part of an integrated programme of study will be required, at the end of the 4, 8 or 12 week period, to meet the agreed English Language progression requirements as defined for their main academic programme and published within the Learning and Teaching Handbook. Any student who does not meet this requirement will be required to withdraw. A student who meets the progression requirements at threshold level may be required to undertake a further period of English Language instruction.

#### CENTRE FOR FOREIGN LANGUAGE STUDIES

19. Students are strongly encouraged to undertake credit-bearing languages as optional modules within their programme. Such modules are delivered by the Centre for Foreign Language Studies, and can be identified by the prefix CFLS.
20. All programmes will normally provide students with the opportunity to take a total of 40 credits of CFLS modules across Levels 1-3, with the following caveats:
- (a) programmes with accreditation or other specific requirements may not be able to provide opportunities for 40 credits of CFLS modules. Individual programme regulations will indicate where 20 credits or fewer are available;
  - (b) students may not:
    - (i) normally undertake more than 40 credits of CFLS modules across Levels 1-3;
    - (ii) normally undertake more than 20 credits of CFLS study at Level 1;
    - (iii) undertake more than 20 credits of CFLS study at Level 2 or 20 credits of CFLS study at Level 3;
    - (iv) undertake any CFLS study at Level 4;
    - (v) undertake CFLS study in more than 2 languages;
    - (vi) normally undertake a Stage 1 (Beginner) module at Level 3.

#### RESIDENCE

21. A student registered for a first degree is normally required to study within the precincts of the University either:
- (a) full-time for three consecutive years;
  - or
  - (b) part-time for a minimum of six and a maximum of nine consecutive years;

unless the regulations for a particular programme require either a period of study and/or residence elsewhere, or a fourth year of full-time study (two or three additional years of part-time study) within the precincts of the University.

22. All undergraduate students are required to be members of a College, Licensed Hall of Residence or Society. All students living out of college are required to ensure that the address of their current place of residence is notified to their College and part-time undergraduate students are required to reside within a reasonable distance of the University.

#### PROGRESS AND ATTENDANCE

23. **All students are required to fulfil their academic commitments in accordance with paragraph 1 of Section V of the General Regulations of the University. Failure to do so will result in the student being required to leave the University.**
24. **Students who fail to achieve satisfactory marks in University Examinations, and who are not allowed or qualified to proceed to the next year of a programme of study, will be required to leave the University.**
25. **The interruption of a student's programme of study will not be permitted for a period constituting more than an academic year in any one instance. Further suspensions of study will not normally be granted unless in the case of exceptional circumstances. A student may not suspend their studies for more than two consecutive periods. Students who wish to suspend studies beyond this point should instead be required to withdraw, and advised to re-apply to the University (if they so wish) when they are in a position to do so.**

#### PLACEMENT LEARNING

26. A degree programme may include time spent at an educational institution or a place of work in the UK or abroad to give students additional learning opportunities. Such placement opportunities:
  - (a) may last for a full year or for a shorter period of time;
  - (b) may take place during term-time and/or vacations;
  - (c) may replace a period of study within the University of Durham or offer additional experience;
  - (d) may or may not contribute marks to the classification of the degree but must have an assessment requirement at least at threshold level;
  - (e) must be formally approved by the University through the agreed procedures and documented as appropriate to the type of placement involved.

The regulations for the degree programme concerned must clarify the status of the placement with respect to the options listed above.

27. Unless otherwise specified in programme regulations, all undergraduate and integrated master's programmes should offer the opportunity for students to transfer into the equivalent programme with an additional year abroad at a partner institution, subject to such a year abroad opportunity being available and the student fulfilling any necessary academic or programme-specific commitments. Students who satisfactorily complete a degree programme with year abroad should have this recognised in their degree title. Individual programme regulations will specify how students transfer into the programme with year abroad, where this is possible. Students who fail to satisfactorily complete a with Year Abroad programme will transfer back to their original programme of study, and may exit upon completion with a degree or lower award as appropriate.
28. These regulations do not cover intercalated years taken at the request of the student in addition to the prescribed programme of study. Such years have no status within the University's regulatory framework.

#### PROGRESSION INTO AND FROM PLACEMENT LEARNING

29. To participate in any placement a student must have successfully completed the previous Level of study under the core regulations and the relevant programme regulations for progression to the next Level of study. To proceed to the next Level of study following their placement they must in addition:
- (a) pass the assessment required for the placement;
  - (b) conduct him/herself in an appropriate way during the placement.

**Students who fail to fulfil their academic commitments or who bring the university into disrepute during their placement may be required to leave the University under the regulations for Academic Progress and/or student discipline as appropriate.**

30. The marks for a placement which contributes to the assessment of the student for the purposes of progression or degree classification must be awarded according to the Durham assessment scale or translated by an approved procedure into the Durham scale.
31. Where a placement replaces study at Level 2 in Durham and therefore contributes marks to the classification of the student's degree, a resit opportunity comparable with that offered to students taught at Durham must be provided by the Durham department concerned if it is not routinely provided by the host institution. The form and content of the resit should take into account prerequisites for study at the next Level and the material covered during the year abroad. The resit should be arranged in consultation with the external examiner. The volume of work to be resat should be comparable with the resit provisions of the University of Durham (half of the year's work – 60 credits – being permitted as a resit where not more than two-thirds of the year's work – 80 credits – has been failed).
32. The learning outcomes of a placement which replaces a period of study which would normally be undertaken within the University of Durham must be consistent with the learning outcomes of the programme as a whole and of the modules which would have been taken at Durham, and be subject to assessment comparable in standard with that obtaining for the year of study at Durham. The marks obtained shall stand as marks under the core progression regulations and (where relevant) must be integrated into the Durham degree classification procedure. The marks for such a placement must be awarded according to the Durham assessment scale or translated by an approved procedure into the Durham scale.
33. A placement which provides additional learning experiences but does not contribute to the marks used for the degree classification process must nevertheless be assessed by means of an appropriate test or coursework for the purposes of progression. This assessment may be at threshold level or be graded. The marks obtained are additional to those required in the core progression regulations and students are required to pass this assessment before progressing to the next Level in their chosen programme of study. However a student who fails this assessment must be offered a place on a parallel programme which does not require completion of the placement, on the basis of his/her successful completion of the previous Level of study.
34. Boards of Examiners have discretion to take into account the performance of a student in the assessment at the end of a placement which does not otherwise contribute to the marks for the classification of the degree.

#### PLACEMENT LEARNING – LANGUAGE PROGRAMMES

35. In addition to the above regulations the following apply to placement years abroad for students taking language degrees.
36. Language students taking a year abroad following Level 1 must be assessed in their respective host institutions in May/June of the year abroad by means of a formal examination set and marked by the Durham department. There will be a resit opportunity in Durham during the usual resit period. The assessment will be at threshold level (on a pass/fail basis) and will provide assurance that the student has achieved sufficient competence in the study of the language to progress to Level 2 of the programme. Any student who fails this assessment following a resit opportunity must be offered a place on a

parallel programme of study with less intensive language requirements, on the basis of his/her success in the assessment of Level 1.

37. Language students taking a year abroad following Level 2 must satisfactorily complete an agreed portfolio of work which may consist of essays, formal examinations, course-work and/or a project. This will be assessed and must be passed for the student to progress to Level 3. The terms of this assessment must be specified within the relevant degree programme regulations together with any provision for students failing the year abroad to progress to an alternative programme of study with less intensive language requirements.

#### PRELIMINARY HONOURS LEVEL 1 (CERTIFICATE)

#### PROGRESSION REGULATIONS

38. At Level 1 students shall study and be assessed in a programme consisting of modules to a total of 120 credits, according to the regulations for individual programmes.
39. **A student must achieve a pass of at least 40% in each module taken at Level 1 (to a total of 120 credits) to be allowed to progress to Level 2.**
40. **If a student gains an overall mark of less than 40% in any one or more modules to the value of up to 120 credits, he/she will be required to resit the failed assessment element(s) of any failed assessment component(s) (e.g. where the examinations have been failed overall but the coursework passed, a student must resit the failed examination paper(s) and those only). The student must achieve mark(s) in the resit examination(s) such that the average for the module as a whole (taken together with the marks for any component(s) passed at the first attempt) is at least 40% in order to proceed in that programme of study.** If a student achieves a lower mark in the resit than at the first attempt in respect of any assessment component the higher mark shall prevail for the purpose of establishing an overall mark for the module.
41. **A student permitted to resit one or more module element(s) may do so on one occasion only in the following August/September.** In such cases a student:
- must resit all failed elements of any failed component(s) within the failed module(s) (e.g. a failed coursework assignment where the coursework overall has been failed);
  - may not resit module components or elements in which he/she has achieved a mark of 40% or more at the first attempt;
  - may be assessed at the resit by a mode of assessment different from that by which he/she was originally assessed, provided that this has been approved as part of the module specification;
  - will have a maximum mark of 40% recorded for modules which have been passed at a resit.
42. Part-time students eligible to resit a module must do so in the resit period at the end of the academic year in which study for the module was commenced. They may not defer this to the subsequent year of study at the same Level.
43. **Marks awarded for modules completed for the Preliminary Honours Examination will not count towards the final classification of the degree to be awarded.**
44. **A student who gains at least 120 credits at Level 1 in their Preliminary Honours Examination shall be eligible to progress to Level 2 in the programme of study for which he/she is registered.** If he/she gains 120 credits at Level 1 he/she shall be eligible for the award of a Certificate in the named programme for which he/she is registered. In respect of the award of a Certificate up to 20 credits will be gained by compensation in respect of modules taken during Level 1 provided that:
- a mark of not less than 30% has been obtained in the module to be compensated;
  - the overall average for the modules taken during Level 1 is at least 40%.

45. **A student who gains 100 credits at Level 1 shall be eligible to progress on the Honours degree for which he/she is registered. This is subject to any pre-requisites defined in the programme regulations for such progression. Such progression shall not be permitted if the student has failed any module(s) named as a pre-requisite(s) for module(s), study of which is required at Level 2. Where progression is permitted, the pass list will note that the student carries failed module(s).**
46. **A student who gains fewer than 100 credits at Level 1 will be required to leave the University.**

#### PASS LISTS

47. The Progression list for the Preliminary Honours Examination in June shall list the names of:
- (a) students who are allowed to enter Level 2 of a named Honours degree programme;
  - (b) part-time students who are eligible to study for and be assessed in further modules for the Certificate of Higher Education in the named programme for which they are registered;
  - (c) students who have not reached the required standard. For each such student the Board of Examiners concerned shall specify which module assessment element(s) must be re-examined, and the form of the resit examination.
48. The Progression list for the Preliminary Honours Examination in August/September shall list the names of:
- (a) students who are allowed to enter Level 2 of a named Honours degree programme;
  - (b) students who are eligible for the award of a Certificate but not for progression to Level 2;
  - (c) part-time students who are eligible to study for and be assessed in further modules for the Certificate of Higher Education in the named programme for which they are registered;
  - (d) students who are eligible to proceed within an Honours programme but who do so carrying failed modules.

#### FINAL HONOURS LEVEL 2 (DIPLOMA)

#### PROGRESSION REGULATIONS

49. Unless otherwise stated in the special regulations for the qualification concerned students who successfully complete the Preliminary Honours Examination shall study and be assessed for not less than two further years, in a programme consisting of modules to a total of 120 credits for each Level, according to the regulations for the relevant programme.
50. At Level 2 students shall study and be assessed in a programme consisting of modules to a total of 120 credits, according to the regulations for the relevant programme.
51. **A student must achieve a pass of at least 40% in each module taken at Level 2 (to a total of 120 credits) to be allowed to progress to Level 3.**
52. *For students entering Level 1 before October 2013: A student wishing to progress to Level 3 of an integrated Master's degree must obtain a mark of at least 40% in each module and an overall average mark of at least 50% in the assessment at Level 2, after resits if necessary as set out below.*

*For students entering Level 1 in October 2013 and thereafter: A student wishing to progress to Level 3 of an integrated Master's degree must obtain a mark of at least 40% in each module and an overall average mark of at least 55% in the assessment at Level 2, after resits if necessary as set out below.*

53. **If a student gains an overall mark of less than 40% in any one or more modules to the value of not more than 60 credits, he/she will be required to resit the failed assessment element(s) of any failed assessment component(s) (e.g. where the examinations have been failed overall but the coursework passed, a student must resit the failed examination paper(s) and those only).** The student must achieve mark(s) in the resit examination(s) such that the average for the module as a whole (taken together with the marks for any component(s) passed at the first attempt) is at least 40% in order to proceed in that programme of study. If a student achieves a lower mark in the resit than at the first attempt in respect of any assessment component the higher mark shall prevail for the purpose of establishing an overall mark for the module.
54. **If a student achieves a mark of less than 40% in modules to the value of 80 credits he/she may resit modules to the value of 60 credits for transfer to the Ordinary degree or the award of a Diploma.** The modules to be resat shall be selected by the student in line with regulation 51 above, in the light of advice from the department concerned and taking into account prerequisites for Level 3 of the Ordinary degree if required.
55. **If a student achieves a mark of less than 40% in modules to the value of more than 80 credits he/she may not resit any of the modules and will be required to leave the University.**
56. **A student permitted to resit one or more module elements(s) may do so on one occasion only in the following August/September.** In such cases a student:
- must resit all failed elements of any failed component(s) within the failed module(s) (e.g. a failed coursework assignment where the coursework overall has been failed);
  - may not resit module components or elements in which he/she has achieved a mark of 40% or more at the first attempt;
  - may be assessed at the resit by a mode of assessment different from that by which he/she was originally assessed, provided that this has been approved as part of the module specification;
  - will have a maximum mark of 40% recorded for modules which have been passed at a resit. This is the mark which will be carried forward into the averaging process for the classification of the degree.
57. Part-time students eligible to resit a module must do so in the resit period at the end of the academic year in which study for the module was commenced. They may not defer this to the subsequent year of study at the same level.
58. **Marks awarded for modules completed at Level 2 will count towards the final classification of the degree to be awarded by the University.**
59. **A student who has gained at least 120 credits in his/her assessment at Level 2 shall be eligible to progress to Level 3 in the programme of study for the Honours degree for which he/she is registered.**
60. **A student who gains 100 credits in his/her assessment at Level 2 shall be eligible to progress on the Honours degree for which he/she is registered. This is subject to any pre-requisites defined in the programme regulations for such transfer. Such progression shall not be permitted if the student has failed any modules(s) named as pre-requisite(s) for module(s), study of which is required at Level 3. Where progression is permitted, the pass list will note either that the student carries failed module(s) or, where the student has failed modules which cannot be compensated, that the student is progressing towards an ordinary degree qualification.**
61. **A student who has gained a total of at least 240 credits including at least 90 Level 2 credits and no more than 150 Level 1 credits shall be eligible for the award of a Diploma in the named programme for which he/she is registered.** In respect of the award of a Diploma up to 40 credits will be gained by compensation in respect of modules taken during Level 1 and /or Level 2 provided that:

- (a) a mark of not less than 30% has been obtained in the module(s) to be compensated;
  - (b) the overall average for the modules taken during Level 2 is at least 40%.
62. **A student who gains fewer than 100 credits in his/her assessment at Level 2 will be required to leave the University.**
63. [blank].
64. A Progression List will be issued for the Level 2 Examination in June listing the names of
- (a) students who have not reached the required standard but are eligible to resit assessments. For each such student the Board of Examiners concerned shall specify which module assessment element(s) must be re-examined, and the form of the resit examination;
  - (b) students who are required to leave the University with the award of a Certificate.
65. A further Progression List will be issued for the Level 2 Examination in August/September listing the names of:
- (a) students who are allowed to progress to Level 3 of a named Honours degree programme;
  - (b) part-time students who are eligible to study for and be assessed in further modules for the Diploma of Higher Education in the named programme for which they are registered;
  - (c) students who are eligible to progress to Level 3 of an Honours programme but who do so carrying failed module(s);
  - (d) students who are eligible to progress to Level 3 of an Honours programme but who do so carrying failed module(s), and who will only be eligible for an Ordinary degree award upon completion of their programme;
  - (e) students who are eligible for the award of a Diploma but not for progression to Level 3;
  - (f) students who are required to leave the University with the award of a Certificate.

#### FINAL HONOURS

#### LEVEL 3 (AND, WHERE APPLICABLE, 4) (DEGREE)

#### LEVEL 3 REGULATIONS FOR THREE-YEAR DEGREE PROGRAMMES

66. Students who successfully complete the Level 2 Examination shall study and be assessed for not less than one further year, in a programme consisting of modules to a total of 120 credits at each Level, according to the regulations for the relevant programme.
67. At Level 3 students shall study and be assessed in a programme consisting of modules to a total of 120 credits, according to the regulations for the relevant programme.
68. **A student must achieve a pass of at least 40% in each module taken at Level 3 (to a total of 120 credits) to be awarded a degree with Honours.** Notwithstanding this requirement up to 40 credits will be gained by compensation in respect of modules taken at Level 2 and/or 3 provided that:
- (a) a mark of not less than 30% has been obtained in each of the modules to be compensated;
  - (b) the overall average for all the modules taken at Levels 2 and 3 including the module(s) to be compensated is at least 40%. Level 2 marks shall be weighted 2 and Level 3 marks shall be weighted 3 to derive the average for Levels 2 and 3 together;
  - (c) the achievement of the learning outcomes of the programme is not compromised by failure in the module(s) concerned. The regulations for each programme indicate which module(s) may not be passed by compensation because failure in those modules would compromise the achievement of the learning outcomes of the programme.

The actual mark received for modules passed by compensation will be taken forward to the averaging process for the classification of the degree and will be entered on the student's transcript.

69. **There are no resit opportunities at Level 3.**
70. Marks awarded for modules completed for the Level 3 Examination will count towards the final classification of the degree to be awarded.
71. A student who, following his/her assessment at Level 3, has gained a total of 300 credits including at least 60 credits at Level 3 shall be eligible for the award of an Ordinary degree. No modules may be gained by compensation in respect of this award.
72. A student who, following his/her assessment at Level 3, has gained fewer than 300 credits in total or fewer than 60 Level 3 credits, will not be eligible for the award of a degree. He/she may be eligible for the award of a Diploma in the named programme for which he/she is registered, in accordance with regulation 59 above.

#### PROGRESSION FROM LEVEL 3 TO LEVEL 4 (INTEGRATED MASTER'S DEGREE ONLY)

73. Students registered for a four-year Integrated Master's programme who successfully complete the Level 2 examination shall study and be assessed for not less than two further years, in a programme consisting of modules to a total of 120 credits in each year, according to the regulations for the relevant programme.
74. At Level 3 students shall study and be assessed in a programme consisting of modules to a total of 120 credits, according to the regulations for the relevant programme.
75. **A student must achieve a pass of at least 40% in each module taken at Level 3 (to a total of 120 credits) to be allowed to progress to Level 4, subject to the rules for compensation in regulation 66 above.**
76. Marks awarded for modules completed at Level 3 will count towards the final classification of the degree to be awarded.
77. **A student who has gained at least 120 credits in his/her assessment at Level 3 shall be eligible to progress to Level 4 in the programme of study for the Master's degree for which he/she is registered. This includes the possibility of gaining credits by compensation in accordance with regulation 66 above. There are no resit opportunities at Level 3.**
78. A student who leaves the University at the end of Level 3 having gained 120 credits in his/her assessment at Level 3 (including credits by compensation if applicable) may be awarded an appropriate Bachelor's degree with Honours subject to the regulations of the programme concerned. The degrees of such students will be classified on the basis of the modules taken at Levels 2 and 3 in accordance with the classification conventions for degrees classified on the basis of 12 single modules or equivalent (240 credits).
79. A student who, following his/her assessment at Level 3, has gained a total of 300 credits including at least 60 credits at Level 3, shall be eligible for the award of the Ordinary degree operating in parallel with the Honours degree for which he/she is registered as defined in the programme regulations. No modules may be gained by compensation in respect of this award.
80. A student who, following his/her assessment at Level 3, has gained fewer than 300 credits in total or fewer than 60 Level 3 credits, will be required to leave the University. He/she may be eligible for the award of a Diploma in the named programme for which he/she is registered, in accordance with regulation 59 above.
81. A Progression List will be issued for the Level 3 Examination in June listing the names of students who have not reached the required standard to progress to Level 4 and are required to leave the University with the award of a Diploma or Ordinary degree.

#### LEVEL 4 REGULATIONS FOR FOUR-YEAR INTEGRATED MASTER'S DEGREE PROGRAMMES

82. Students who successfully complete the Level 3 examination shall study and be assessed for not less than one further year, in a programme consisting of modules to a total of 120 credits at each Level, according to the regulations for the relevant programme.
83. At Level 4 students shall study and be assessed in a programme consisting of modules to a total of 120 credits, according to the regulations for the relevant programme.
84. **A student must achieve a pass of at least 40% in each module taken at Level 4 (to a total of 120 credits) to be awarded a degree with Honours.** Notwithstanding this requirement, up to 20 credits will be gained by compensation in respect of modules taken at Level 4 only, provided that:
- (a) a mark of not less than 30% has been obtained in the module to be compensated;
  - (b) the overall average for all the modules taken at Level 4, including the module to be compensated, is at least 40%.
  - (c) the achievement of the learning outcomes of the programme is not compromised by failure in the module concerned. The regulations for each programme indicate which module(s) may not be passed by compensation because failure in those modules would compromise the achievement of the learning outcomes of the programme.

Such compensation may not be applied to any failed modules carried from Level 2 or Level 3, nor may any unused compensation from Level 3 be imported into Level 4.

The actual mark received for modules passed by compensation will be taken forward to the averaging process for the classification of the degree and will be entered on the student's transcript.

85. **There are no resit opportunities at Level 4.**
86. Marks awarded for modules completed for the Level 4 examination will count towards the final classification of the degree to be awarded.
87. A student who has failed to gain 120 credits in his/her assessment at Level 4 but has gained at least 360 credits in total\* including at least 90 at Level 3 or above will not be eligible for the award of a Master's degree but may be awarded an appropriate Bachelor's degree with Honours subject to the regulations of the programme concerned. The degrees of such students will be classified on the basis of the modules taken at Levels 2 and 3 in accordance with the classification conventions for degrees classified on the basis of 12 single modules or equivalent (240 credits).

\* or 340 credits if the student is carrying a failed module from Level 1 under regulations 4 to 6.

#### PASS LISTS FOR FINAL HONOURS (THREE-YEAR AND FOUR-YEAR PROGRAMMES)

88. Pass lists will be issued for Bachelor's degrees and for integrated Master's degrees, listing the names of students who have been awarded First Class Honours; Second Class Honours, division I or II; Third Class Honours and also those who have been awarded an Ordinary degree.
89. A Board of Examiners shall consider the position of students who have missed certain assessments in their Final Honours Examinations, either through ill-health or other sufficient cause.
90. If 75% or more of the evidence, which would have been provided had they completed the examination, is available, Boards of Examiners may award a classified degree or an Ordinary degree as appropriate on the basis of the available evidence. In the case of

integrated Master's programmes, 75% of the evidence for Levels 3 and 4 together must be available.

91. If less than 75% of the evidence is available, subject to the provision of medical evidence or evidence of other good cause, the student shall be considered for the award of an Aegrotat or Posthumous degree. If the chair of the relevant Faculty Education Committee or their delegated nominee, acting on the recommendation of the Examiners and in consultation with the Chair of the Education Committee, considers that the student would have obtained a degree at either Honours or Ordinary standard, an unclassified Aegrotat or Posthumous degree may be awarded.
92. The Certificate issued to students following the award of the degree shall state the name of their Honours School.

#### RIGHT OF APPEAL

93. In accordance with the Academic Appeals Regulations contained in Section VII of the General Regulations printed in the University Calendar, a student registered for a first degree, diploma or certificate of the University may appeal against academic decisions relating to his/her candidature.

## MARKING AND CLASSIFICATION CONVENTIONS

94. The University has approved the following scale for the relationship of marks to degree classes:

Honours Class	%	Generic Assessment Criteria *	
I	70 – 100	86 – 100	The work examined is exemplary and provides clear evidence of a complete grasp of the knowledge, understanding and skills appropriate to the Level of the qualification. There is also ample excellent evidence showing that all the learning outcomes and responsibilities appropriate to that Level are fully satisfied.
		76 – 85	The work examined is outstanding and demonstrates comprehensive knowledge, understanding and skills appropriate to the Level of the qualification. There is also excellent evidence showing that all the learning outcomes and responsibilities appropriate to that Level are fully satisfied.
		70 – 75	The work examined is excellent and is evidence of comprehensive knowledge, understanding and skills appropriate to the Level of the qualification. There is also excellent evidence showing that all the learning outcomes and responsibilities appropriate to that Level are satisfied.
II(i)	60 – 69	65 – 69	The work examined is very good and is evidence of the knowledge, understanding and skills appropriate to the Level of the qualification. There is also very good evidence showing that all the learning outcomes and responsibilities appropriate to the Level are satisfied.
		60 – 64	The work examined is good and is evidence of the knowledge, understanding and skills appropriate to the Level of the qualification. There is also good evidence showing that all the learning outcomes and responsibilities appropriate to that Level are satisfied.
II(ii)	50 – 59	55 – 59	The work examined is sound and is evidence of the knowledge, understanding and skills appropriate to the Level of the qualification. There is also sound evidence showing that all the learning outcomes and responsibilities appropriate to that Level are satisfied.
		50 – 54	The work examined is sound but provides limited evidence of the knowledge, understanding and skills appropriate to the Level of the qualification. There is also sound but limited evidence showing that all the learning outcomes and responsibilities to that Level are satisfied.
III	40 – 49	45 – 49	The work examined is acceptable but provides significantly restricted evidence of the knowledge, understanding and skills appropriate to the Level of the qualification. There is also acceptable but significantly restricted evidence showing that all the learning outcomes and responsibilities appropriate to that Level are satisfied.
		40 – 44	The work examined is acceptable but provides barely sufficient evidence of the knowledge, understanding and skills appropriate to the Level of the qualification. There is also acceptable but barely sufficient evidence showing that all the learning outcomes and responsibilities appropriate to that Level are satisfied.

Fail			
	0 – 39	35 - 39	The work examined narrowly fails to provide sufficient evidence of the knowledge, understanding and skills appropriate to the Level of the qualification. There is acceptable evidence showing that the great majority of the learning outcomes and responsibilities appropriate to that Level are satisfied.
		30 – 34	The work examined provides insufficient evidence of the knowledge, understanding and skills appropriate to the Level of the qualification. The evidence provided shows that the majority of the learning outcomes and responsibilities appropriate to that Level are satisfied.
		20 – 29	The work examined is unacceptable and provides little evidence of the knowledge, understanding and skills appropriate to the Level of the qualification. The evidence shows that only some of the learning outcomes and responsibilities appropriate to that Level are satisfied.
		10 - 19	The work examined is unacceptable and provides negligible evidence of the knowledge, understanding and skills appropriate to the Level of the qualification. The evidence shows that few of the learning outcomes and responsibilities appropriate to that Level are satisfied.
		0 – 9	The work examined is unacceptable and provides no evidence of the knowledge, understanding and skills appropriate to the Level of the qualification. The evidence fails to show that any of the learning outcomes and responsibilities appropriate to that Level are satisfied.
* These assessment criteria are generic and apply to all subject areas at the relevant level across the University. Each department supplements these with its own subject-specific criteria in line with the appropriate subject benchmarks and other requirements relevant to the discipline.			

All summative assessed work should be marked according to this scale and students should be given the percentage mark awarded for each coursework assignment and examination paper. Marks are provisional until they have been confirmed by a Board of Examiners.

95. After the final year examinations, a Board of Examiners will classify the performance of students using the general University conventions as guidelines. A Board of Examiners has the power to exercise discretion to take account of particular circumstances if it considers it right to do so in the proper discharge of its duties. Such circumstances shall include, but not be restricted to, personal mitigating circumstances. Boards of Examiners may also take into account academic factors such as the overall pattern of marks gained by a student and the relative significance of various modules, or additional placement years, for the learning outcomes of the programme. The views of an External Examiner must be particularly influential in the case of disagreement within the Board of Examiners on the mark to be awarded for a particular unit of assessment, or on the final level of award to be derived from the array of marks of a particular student.
96. **Where a student's arithmetic means falls no more than 2% below a classification boundary, the board of examiners must consider whether to award the higher classification by the exercise of discretion. Board of Examiners may only consider exercising discretion to raise a classification for a student whose arithmetic mean falls outside of this 2% range where there are personal mitigating circumstances, or a combination of personal mitigating circumstances and academic factors, that warrant such consideration.**
97. **Only marks for modules taken after the Preliminary Honours will be taken into consideration for the classification of degrees.**

98. Marks for double modules shall be returned as two identical marks and for triple modules as three identical marks.
99. Honours degrees will be classified according to the mean weighted classification scheme.
100. A degree will be awarded to a student who has passed the appropriate number of modules to the required credit value at the required Level with a mark of at least 40% in each module, after a resit if applicable, subject to the Preconditions for the Award of a Degree, Diploma or Certificate and the Progression Regulations above.
101. **For degrees classified on the performance of students in respect of 12 single modules or equivalent (to the value of 240 credits), performance on modules studied in the second and third years shall be differentially weighted 2:3.**
102. **For degrees classified on the performance of students in respect of 18 single modules or equivalent (to the value of 360 credits), performance on modules studied in the second, third and fourth years shall be differentially weighted 2:3:4.**
103. **The Honours classification of an individual student shall be determined as outlined below:**
  - (a) **First Class Honours shall be awarded to a student who achieves an arithmetic mean of 70% or greater.**
  - (b) **Second Class Honours (First Division) shall be awarded to a student who achieves an arithmetic mean of at least 60% but less than 70%.**
  - (c) **Second Class Honours (Second Division) shall be awarded to a student who achieves an arithmetic mean of at least 50% but less than 60%.**
  - (d) **Third Class Honours shall be awarded to a student who achieves an arithmetic mean of at least 40% but less than 50%.**

## UNIVERSITY OF DURHAM UNDERGRADUATE QUALIFICATION DESCRIPTORS

### QUALIFICATION DESCRIPTORS FOR THE FOLLOWING QUALIFICATIONS:

Certificate of Higher Education  
Diploma of Higher Education  
Honours Degree  
Ordinary Degree  
Taught Master's Degree

#### CERTIFICATE OF HIGHER EDUCATION

1. A Durham Certificate of Higher Education is awarded to a student who has demonstrated:
  - (a) an awareness of the major areas of their subject(s), with appropriate knowledge of some of these, a suitably rigorous approach to subject knowledge, and an awareness of the basic concepts, principles and terms associated with their area(s) of study;
  - (b) the ability to summarise relevant subject matter (factual and conceptual) at an appropriate level, to develop lines of argument and select pertinent information to support these, to evaluate the reliability of information, and to reach sound judgements in accordance with basic theories and concepts within their area(s) of study.

Such students will be able to communicate effectively reliable and accurate information about their area(s) of study.

2. Typically, a holder of the qualification will be able to:
  - (a) evaluate the appropriateness of different approaches to solving problems related to their area(s) of study;
  - (b) undertake self-directed learning, and work independently within specified guidelines to acquire further information within the area(s) of study;
  - (c) undertake further education and training and develop new skills within broad guidelines;and will have:
  - (d) qualities and transferable skills necessary for employment requiring the exercise of some personal responsibility.

#### DIPLOMA OF HIGHER EDUCATION

1. A Durham Diploma of Higher Education is awarded to a student who has demonstrated:
  - (a) developed knowledge of selected aspects of their subject(s), including some core areas, and an awareness of their broader contexts within the subject(s);
  - (b) knowledge and understanding of major theories and principles relevant to their areas of study, and of the concepts and terminology associated with these. The ability to apply such concepts and principles to appropriate contexts other than that in which they were originally studied;
  - (c) knowledge of major methods of enquiry in their subject(s), and the ability to evaluate their suitability for the investigation of particular problems within the subject(s);
  - (d) the ability to select, analyse and evaluate varied information appropriate to their area(s) of study;
  - (e) the capacity to access a range of resources appropriate to the area(s) of study and, with minimal guidance, to selectively utilise these for the investigation of particular topics.
2. Typically, a holder of the qualification will be able to:
  - (a) use a range of established techniques to initiate and undertake critical analysis of information, and to propose solutions to problems arising from that analysis;

- (b) undertake self-directed learning, and work independently within broad guidelines to acquire further information within the area(s) of study;
  - (c) effectively communicate information, arguments, and analysis, in a variety of forms, to specialist and non-specialist audiences, and deploy key techniques of the discipline effectively;
  - (d) undertake further education and training, develop existing skills, and acquire new competencies that will enable them to assume significant responsibility within organisations;
- and will have:
- (e) qualities and transferable skills necessary for employment requiring the exercise of personal responsibility and decision-making.

## HONOURS DEGREE

1. A Durham Honours graduate will have developed an understanding of a complex body of knowledge, some of it at or close to current boundaries of an academic discipline or disciplines. The graduate will be able to evaluate evidence, arguments and assumptions, to reach sound judgements, and to communicate effectively.
2. A Durham Honours degree is awarded to a student who has demonstrated:
  - (a) a systematic understanding of their field of study, based upon coherent knowledge of core areas, and advanced knowledge of selected aspects that is informed by research at, or close to, the current forefront of the subject(s);
  - (b) the ability to deploy accurately established techniques of analysis and enquiry within the subject(s);
  - (c) conceptual understanding that enables the student:
    - (i) to devise and sustain arguments, and/or to solve problems, using ideas and techniques, some of which are at the forefront of a discipline;
    - (ii) to describe and comment upon particular aspects of current research, or equivalent advanced scholarship, in defined areas of their programme of study;
    - (iii) to use appropriate theoretical and conceptual frameworks to order and/or interpret new data or kinds of evidence;
    - (iv) to critically evaluate the reliability, validity and significance of data, evidence or interpretations within the field of study;
  - (d) an awareness of current disciplinary boundaries and an appreciation of the uncertainty, limits and contested nature of knowledge within their programme of study;
  - (e) the ability to direct and manage their own learning effectively across a range of topics;
  - (f) the ability to make use of scholarly reviews and primary sources (e.g. refereed research articles and/or original materials appropriate to the discipline);
  - (g) the ability to undertake, with supervision, independent investigation of a defined topic within their programme of study and to report the findings effectively.
3. Typically, a holder of the qualification will be able to:
  - (a) apply the methods and techniques that they have learned to review, consolidate, extend and apply their knowledge and understanding; and to initiate and carry out projects or further enquiry within areas of their programme of study;
  - (b) critically evaluate arguments, assumptions, abstract concepts and data (that may be incomplete); to formulate judgements, and to frame appropriate strategies to investigate topics within defined aspects of their programme of study;
  - (c) communicate relevant information, concepts, ideas and, where appropriate, problems and solutions, within their programme of study to both specialist and non-specialist audiences;

and will have:

  - (d) academic qualities such as flexibility and discrimination, together with personal qualities and transferable skills necessary for employment requiring:

- (i) the exercise of initiative and personal responsibility;
- (ii) decision making in complex and unpredictable contexts;
- (iii) the learning ability needed to undertake appropriate further education and training of a professional or equivalent nature and standard.

#### ORDINARY DEGREE

1. The learning outcomes for the Ordinary degree are as for the Honours degree but across a more limited range of topics which therefore typically enables award-holders to take a less systematic view of the subject as a whole.

#### TAUGHT MASTER'S DEGREE

1. A Durham graduate at master's level will have developed a thorough understanding of a complex and specialised body of knowledge which may be informed by research and original thinking at current boundaries of theoretical knowledge. The graduate will be able to evaluate evidence according to rigorous academic criteria, to contribute to debate at the frontiers of knowledge, and to communicate effectively.
2. A Durham Master's Degree will be awarded to a student who has demonstrated:
  - (a) a depth of knowledge across one or more specialised or applied areas which may be informed by research at the current limits of understanding;
  - (b) the high-level skills needed to understand research findings and contribute to debate at the current frontiers of knowledge;
  - (c) the ability to decide on appropriate advanced techniques of analysis and inquiry within their specialist field, including the ability to modify established techniques where appropriate;
  - (d) conceptual understanding that enables the student:
    - (i) to absorb and evaluate a complex literature and/or body of research results;
    - (ii) to evaluate the advantages and disadvantages of competing methods of inquiry and conceptual frameworks in the discipline;
    - (iii) to identify and solve problems, using appropriate, and sometimes innovative, techniques and methods;
  - (e) a recognition of apparent contradictions and ambiguities in the field of knowledge and of the areas in which further research is necessary;
  - (f) the capacity to take responsibility for their own learning, including the ability:
    - (i) to direct their own study and manage time effectively;
    - (ii) to make critical and discriminating use of primary research literature in the discipline;
    - (iii) to undertake independent investigation of a defined topic in order to reach valid conclusions, some of which may be original, and which are worthy of note by peers; and to report these findings effectively and within the conventions of the academic community to which they belong.
3. Typically, a holder of the qualification will be able to:
  - (a) conduct original research either independently or in a team as the next stage in their career; and in particular to identify appropriate fields of inquiry, determine an appropriate investigative methodology and pursue their research to a conclusion;
  - (b) apply advanced methods and techniques of inquiry to new problems in their field;
  - (c) apply a depth of knowledge so as to make supportable judgements when confronted by new problems within their own specialised or applied area;
  - (d) communicate complex information and detailed argument in a clear and orderly way to both specialist and non-specialist audiences;
  - (e) work autonomously, taking a high level of responsibility for their work, and, where appropriate, for the work of others;
  - (f) make professional or academic judgements which may involve others and which recognise the limits of their own competence;

- (g) observe professional and academic codes of conduct and confront ethical issues with due respect;  
and will have:
- (h) academic qualities such as flexibility, discrimination and resourcefulness, together with personal qualities and transferable skills necessary for employment requiring:
  - (i) the exercise of initiative and personal responsibility;
  - (ii) decision making in complex and unpredictable contexts;
  - (iii) problem posing and problem solving;
  - (iv) identification of and respect for empirical data;
- (i) academic training and the learning skills needed to undertake original research.

These qualification descriptors are generic and apply to all subject areas at the relevant level across the University. Each department supplements these with its own subject-specific descriptors in line with the relevant benchmarks and other requirements appropriate to the discipline.