

Academic regulations

DIGEST

2018/19

Welcome to the regulations digest, a short briefing document to inform staff and students of annual changes to the academic regulations for taught programmes.

This document is intended to highlight changes and provide a brief overview. Please refer to the academic regulations themselves for further details. These can be found at:

dmu.ac.uk/academic-regulations.

For further information please contact your Associate Dean (Academic) in the first instance. Alternatively please contact Sally Lloyd, Department of Academic Quality, 0116 257 7303, slloyd@dmu.ac.uk.

General updates

Some minor changes have been made to improve usability and accessibility, including the presentation format and signposting where content relates specifically to only undergraduate or postgraduate provision. Further cross referencing has been applied to direct to relevant content within other sections. The regulations themselves remain unchanged other than those specific changes outlined below.

Changes for 2017/18 (applied to electronic version)

Following hardcopy publication of the 2017/18 academic regulations, further changes were made to the electronic (definitive) version, as follows:

- **Paragraph 32** – clarification that only failed assessment components within failed modules are eligible to be resat:

“Should a student fail a module, they may only be reassessed in the failed assessment components. Students may not be reassessed in assessment components or modules which have already been passed.”

- **Paragraph 61** – additional wording to regularise progression to placement:

“Students must have passed 120 level 4 credits and a minimum of 90 credits at level 5 to proceed to a placement year. **Where a student has undertaken a sandwich placement the normal regulations for progressing into level 6 apply. A student may not use credit gained from the placement module as a substitute for failed level 5 module(s) in order to progress.**”

Changes for 2018/19

The following changes reflect feedback received during the first year of using the new reworked combined academic regulations. These are mostly additions to further clarify points and do not constitute a change to any of the sense or meaning.

Section 2: Assessment

- [Compensation \(paragraph 21\)](#) – expanded to include explicit reference to the level average criteria, with the maximum credits available now in table format:

“Compensation is available for module failure in undergraduate programmes, provided a student meets the following criteria:

 - An overall module mark of 30-39 per cent has been achieved
 - The remaining number of credits at that level have been passed
 - The average mark for the level is 40 per cent or above”
- [Paragraph 37](#) – capping regulations clarified:

“Where a student has been reassessed in one or more assessment tasks within a module, the mark for the overall module will **normally** be capped at the pass mark. **In the case of extenuating circumstances please refer to section 5 of these regulations.**”
- [Paragraphs 46 + 48](#) – clarification that the substitution of failed modules is only in exceptional circumstances, with confirmation of the impact upon resit opportunities:

“**Occasionally**, a student may **need to** register on and submit assessments in a module which replaces a module which has been failed. This is subject to the suitability of the module within the student’s programme and timetable and resource constraints.”

“The outcome of assessment on the module will be capped at the pass mark, **and be deducted from the number of credits available for reassessment.**”

Section 3: Progression through the programme of study

- [Paragraph 57](#) – compensation content made more generic with reference to main compensation criteria (in Section 2: Assessment) for details.

Section 4: Awards

- Minor reorganisation including separation of specific undergraduate/postgraduate content. Explicit reference added for both generic and award specific eligibility criteria.
- [Paragraph 69](#) – paragraph reinstated from previous regulations (unintentionally removed from the rewritten 2017/18 version) to confirm the position with regards to the re-use of credits leading to a duplication of awards:

“Credits for a completed award cannot normally be used to count towards a second award which is at the same level in a similar subject to the first award. For example, a student who has gained a BSc (Hons) in pre-registration nursing who goes on to study post-registration nursing at honours degree level will be awarded a graduate diploma on the accumulation of 120 level 6 credits.

Section 5: Deadline extensions, deferrals, interruptions and repeat study

- [Paragraph 123](#) – “terminated” changed to “ended” for consistency, and clarification of the approval process:

“The university allows students who have failed level 4 and whose registration would otherwise be **ended** one opportunity to repeat the level. This can be on their original or a different programme, **subject to the approval of the programme leader**. The opportunity is open to students who passed at least 30 credits at the first attempt and 60 credits by the end of level 4, but who can’t achieve enough credits to progress into level 5.”